

Chapter 1 : Yosemite National Park - Wikipedia

*Yosemite in Winter* by John Muir () Originally published as "In the Yo-semite: Holidays Among the Rocks," *New York Tribune*, January 1, (later published as "Yosemite in Winter").

Winter has taken Yosemite, and we are snowbound. The latest leaves are shaken from the oaks and alders; the snow-laden pines, with drooping boughs, look like barbed arrows aimed at the sky, and the fern-tangles and meadows are spread with a smooth cloth of snow. Our latest visitor fled two weeks ago. He came via Mariposa, and was safely conducted over the mountain snows by Galen Clark, the well-known pioneer and guardian of the Valley. The total number of visitors to the valley in was near 1., which was about more than on any previous year. This season, about 2, entered the valley. As soon as bipeds left Yosemite, bears came in; not to grunt flattery to the falls, but to dine upon ridden-to-death horses. One burly old chief was killed at Nevada Falls by a party of Mono Indians. He was a brown or cinnamon bear, the prevailing species of the region. Another of the same kind was seen down the valley on the meadow of the Bridal Veil, and another on the Mariposa trail, near the hermitage, and the smooth sand which rims Mirror Lake is grandly printed with their matchless paws. These bears are our grandest game, noblest expressions of mountain power. They deserve a Yosemite home, and the Sierras require them to companion their rocks and domes, and to blend in with their brown sequoias and cedars, and tangles of chaparral. Our winter populationâ€™not including the bearsâ€™totals twenty-six, employed as follows. Making lumber, ten; making a trail, two; feeding poultry, two; building fences, one; rebuilding a house, one; women, two; children, six, and a pair of Digger Indians with no visible means of support. The 20th of November first brought us signs of winter. Broad, fibrous arcs of white cloud, spanned the valley from wall to wall; grand, island-like masses, bred among the upper domes and brows, wavered doubtfully up and down, some of them suddenly devoured by a swoop of thirsty wind; others, waxing to grand proportions; drifted loosely and heavily about like bergs in a calm sea, or jammed and wedged themselves among spiry crests, or, drawing themselves out like woolen rolls, muffled the highest brows sometimes leaving bare summits cut off from the walls with pine tops atop, that seemed to float loose as the clouds. Tissiack was compassed by a soft, furry cloud, upon which her dome seemed to repose clear and warm in yellow light. At the end of these transition days, the whole company of valley clouds were marshaled for storm; they fused close, and blended, until every seam and bay of blue sky was shut, and our temple, throughout all of its cells and halls, was smoothly full. Rain and snow fell steadily for three days, beginning November 24th, giving about four feet of snow to the valley rim. The snow line descended to the bottom of the valley on the night of November 25th, but after-rains prevented any considerable accumulation. Then the rocks began to fall. During our equable rainless summers, atmospheric disintegration goes on with the greatest gentleness, and scare a rock is cast down, but the first rains find many a huge mass ripe for change, and after-slopes made slippery, seams washed out, and water-wedges driven. Constant thunder proclaims the magnitude of accomplished work. We ran repeatedly from the house to hear the larger masses journeying down with a tread that shook the valley. Thin strips of sunshine slid through momentary seams that were quickly blinded out. The darkness deepened for hours, until every separating shade and line were dimmed to equal black, and all the bright air of our gulf was sponged up, and fastened windless and pulseless in universal cloud. Before dark they accomplished a most glorious work of gentle, noiseless beauty. Twelve inches of snow fell during the night and when morning opened our temple, there was more of beauty than pen can tellâ€™from meadow to summit, from wall to wall, every tree and bush, and sculptured rock was muffled and dazzled in downy, unbroken, undrifted snow. Transparent film-clouds hung in the open azure or draped the walls, the gray granite showing dimly through their fairy veil. This after-storm gauze is formed when vapor is made by sun-rays upon exposed portions of the wet walls, which is of higher temperature than the air with which it drifts into contact. One day usually is sufficient to dry the warmest portions of the wall and to lave and mix the air until it is about equal in temperature to the rocks which contain itâ€™then that reeky storm-tissue disappears. In general appearance they resemble waterfalls of the highest free-falling kind, being like them, close, opaque, white in color, and composed of companies of comets shooting downward with

unequal velocity, amid a casing atmosphere of whirling dust. The avalanches of the Summit Mountains often-times descend below the thick zone of pines that grow upon their bases, cutting straight gaps, without leaving a single tree. The latter half of December was one vast snow-storm, stained and washed by torrents of rain. We have had only one mail in two months, and if our everlasting mountains are to have such everlasting storms, you may not receive this before June or July. Also owing to the difference in height and angle of the various parts of the valley walls and to the irregular form of the bottom of the valley, both north and south sides have a number of well-marked climates. A grand intercampal Christmas dinner was devised on a scale and style becoming our peerless valley; heaps of solemn substantials were to be lightened and broidered with cookies, and backed by countless cakes, blocky and big as boulders, and a craggy trough-shaped pie was planned for the heart and soul of the feast. And some purple granite for me, cut smooth from the cliffs of El Capitan. In my last [illegible] I gave you a list of our inhabitants, together with their various employments; now you may peep at our social life, quarrels, amusements, etc. Of course you will guess that in our glorious home we gather on the meadow when our work is done, to feast on the moonlit rocks or dark pines spiring up in the stars, and to drink song from the falls like water, and breathe the deep spirit-hush of the winter. We only quarrel and gossip, and [illegible] whisky! And, to show you how much our rocks and quarrels correspond in magnitude, I will give you our last in detail, which is, perhaps, one of average size. Now, in winters of ordinary severity, sheep can care far themselves with but little attention from the shepherd, and at first our sheep seemed to have promise of a mild winter. They had rich, sunny days with noontimes dreamily warm. They nibbled the willow bushes on the meadows and silver lupines beneath the pines, and gathered bunch grass and later eriogonums up on the rugged debris, but a month ago, when heavy snow fell, they had to be cared for, and trouble began. But this union could not be effected, because the three sheep were not equal in size, and moreover, Mr. But by brain-racking diplomacy, and a profusion of bloodless blixen, our pastoral sky was cleared, and now all goes heartily well, and each sheep eats its own sedge in its own barn, tended by its own shepherd. All this beneath Tutocahnula and the domes. Ruskin who deals in the relationships of men and mountains, may find some difficult problems here. In striking contrast with these diminutive wranglings are the broad, loving harmonies of our whisky soirees of which about seven are held weekly. Each of the two bars now open has its own particular friends and patrons, but neither between dealers nor patrons does there exist the faintest trace of opposition or jealousy. This dealer A gathers up his patrons and repairs to the whisky of B which, together with cards, and bear stories, and shooting scrapes of early days, are freely discussed. Next evening B gathers his patrons and repairs to the whisky of A. More shingle houses are being built, one of which is to be a saloon. At the present rate of progress, flimsy buildings will soon bedraggle the valley from end to end, making it appear like the raw pine towns of a new railroad. But happily, by far the great portion of Yosemite is unimprovable. Her trees and flowers will melt like snow, but her domes and falls are everlasting. I have said that one-half of last month was filled with storm, but the first gift of December weather was a ripe cluster of golden days filling up all the other half. Days and nights glowed past in equal splendor, and not until the afternoon of the 16th was there any sign of coming storm. On the night of the 17th we had a light rain, which changed to snow, and in the morning about ten inches remained unmelted on the meadows. Torrents of warm rain were washing the walls, and melting the snow of the surrounding mountains, and the liberated meltings joined with the rains, sang jubilee in glorious congregations of cascades and falls. On both sides [of] the Sentinel foamed a splendid cascade, and over on Three Brothers, half concealed by the pines, I could see fragments of an uncountable company of snowy falls and cascades of every form and voice, and I ran for the open meadows to see the whole circumference of living rocks at once. The meadow between Blacks and Hutchings was full of green lakes, edged and islanded with floating snow, but after fording many a young torrent, I succeeded in groping along the debris to a wadeable meadow between Hutchings and Laymans, in the open midst of the most glorious assemblage of waterfalls ever laid bare to mortal eyes. Between Blacks and Hutchings, there were ten majestic cascades and falls, around Glacier Point, six; on the shoulder of South Dome, facing the main valley, three; on South Dome, facing Mirror Lake, eight, between Mt. Watkins and Washington Column, ten; between Arch Falls and Three Brothers, nineteenâ€”fifty-six newborn falls occupying this upper end of the valley, beside countless host of silvery arteries gleaming everywhere. In the

whole valley there must have been nearly a hundred. And be it remembered that those falls were not mere momentary transient gushes, but noble-mannered waters, shooting from an average height of near three thousand feet—the very smallest with notes audible at a distance of several miles. From this meadow standpoint only one fall is normally seen, but on this jubilee day there were forty, all perfect and distinct. The Upper Yosemite Fall is queen of all these mountain waters yet in the first half day of this jubilee her voice was scarcely heard and her manners betrayed no warmth of sympathy with the gushing enthusiasm that encompassed her. I ran from the house thinking that a rock avalanche had started, but quickly discovered that all this outbreak of overmastering sounds came from Yosemite Fall. On November 28th came one of the most picturesque snow storms I have ever seen. It was a tranquil day in Yosemite. About midday a close-grained cloud grew in the middle of the valley, blurring the sun; but rocks and trees continued to cast shadow. In a few hours the cloud-ceiling deepened and gave birth to a rank down-growth of silky streamers. These cloud-weeds were most luxuriant about the Cathedral Rocks, completely hiding all their summits. Then heavier masses, hairy outside with a dark nucleus, appeared, and foundered almost to the ground. Toward night all cloud and rock distinctions were blended out, rock after rock disappeared, El Capitan, the Domes and the Sentinel, and all the brows about Yosemite Falls were wiped out, and the whole valley was filled with equal, seamless gloom. There was no wind and every rock and tree and grass blade had a hushed, expectant air. The fullness of time arrived, and down came the big flakes in tufted companies of full grown flowers. Not jostling and rustling like autumn leaves or blossom showers of an orchard whose castaway flakes are hushed into any hollow for a grave, but they journeyed down with gestures of confident life, alighting upon predestined places on rock and leaf, like flocks of linnets or showers of summer flies. The trees, and bushes, and dead brown grass were flowered far beyond summer, bowed down in blossom and all the rocks were buried. Every peak and dome, every niche and tablet had their share of snow. And blessed are the eyes that beheld morning open the glory of that one dead storm. In vain did I search for some special separate mass of beauty on which to rest my gaze. No island appeared throughout the whole gulf of the beauty. The glorious crystal sediment was everywhere. From wall to wall of our beautiful temple, from meadow to sky was one finished unit of beauty, one star of equal ray, one glowing sun, weighed in the celestial balances and found perfect. Other New York Tribune articles.

Chapter 2 : Yosemite and Sequoia: John Muir's California by Tauck | Reviews by Stride Travel

*Yosemite in Winter Yosemite in Spring John Muir () was a Scottish-American naturalist, author, environmental philosopher and early advocate of preservation.*

A March sunrise over Donohue Pass. But winter is less forgiving for the wilderness traveler, and some extra precautions are in order. Expect winter conditions at least from December through April. Most winter travel is cross-country travel; trails and trail markers are covered with snow, requiring advanced navigation skills. Few trails are marked for winter use. Travel is by ski or snowshoe. You may need a stove to melt drinking water; streams may not be accessible. Weather can change rapidly and dramatically. Check weather forecasts before your trip, but be prepared for a wide range of conditions. Some areas are prone to avalanches. Be sure you have the equipment and skills to travel through avalanche zones. Days are shorter; night comes quickly and is cold. Campfires are often impractical: Fires are only allowed in existing fire rings, which are typically buried under several feet of snow, with no way to locate them. Human waste must be buried in a hole six inches into the ground: That means you have to dig through snow, then dig six inches through the frozen soil to bury human waste. Alternatively, you can pack out your waste. Snow is a durable surface. Finding a site to set up camp can be easier in winter, as snow is a durable surface. Just ensure you are still feet from trails and water sources. Where Can I Go? From December through April, backpacking in Yosemite nearly always involves snow camping and travel by skis or snowshoes. Roads are maintained in these areas, although chains are often required. Each area has beginner, intermediate, and advanced trails, which range in length from less than one mile to over 20 miles round-trip. These trails are marked with colored triangular or rectangular signs in trees. Most summer trails cannot be seen or easily followed in winter. You can download winter trail brochures for these three areas. Overnight wilderness users must get a free wilderness permit at the Badger Pass Ranger Station and leave their vehicles in the area designated for overnight parking. Another popular trip for more advanced skiers and snowshoers leaves from Yosemite Valley and heads toward Tuolumne Meadows via the Snow Creek Trail. Due to increased popularity, the Snow Creek Cabin now has a quota six people per night in effect. This limit on the number of people staying at the cabin provides for visitor safety and preserves natural, cultural, and wilderness values. Permits are available one day in advance of your trip. Reservations are not available. The cabin is closed at other times of the year. There is a potential for avalanche hazard along this route and users should be competent in avalanche assessment, winter backcountry travel, routefinding, and winter camping. This trip requires intermediate ski skills and winter survival competency, at a minimum. You must register at the station closest to your starting point. From November through April, wilderness permit reservations are not necessary or available. In general, winter wilderness users must camp at least one mile away from a plowed road. Camping is also not allowed at Summit Meadow, Dewey Point, or Glacier Point camping is permitted near both points, but not at the points themselves. Camping is not allowed in the Tuolumne Grove. Check for winter trail closures before your trip. Ostrander Ski Hut Ostrander Ski Hut is a two-story stone structure beautifully crafted in by the Civilian Conservation Corps for cross-country skiers. Very basic overnight accommodations and cooking facilities are available at the hut. Solar powered lamps provide light. Depending on snow conditions and weather, the ski or snowshoe in can be either a perfect glide through the piney woods or extremely difficult. We strongly recommend that only skiers at the intermediate level or above and in good physical shape make the trip. The hut is typically open from late December until early April. A hut keeper lives at Ostrander during the winter. Reservations are required to stay at the ski hut. Yosemite Hospitality also operates guided cross-country ski trips to the hut and provides food and lodging to other self - guided skiers reservations required. Additionally, Yosemite Hospitality offers guided cross-country ski trips to other areas of the park. Minimum Impact In order to maintain the pristine quality of the Yosemite Wilderness, please follow these guidelines when camping during winter: Camp out of sight of all trails, water sources, and one mile from any plowed road. Use a portable stove for any cooking. Open fires should be used for emergencies only. Pack out all trash. Pets and over-snow vehicles are not permitted. Do not cut tree limbs or boughs. Dispose of human waste properly. Use the "well" or indentation

around a tree trunk and dig down into the soil to bury human waste. Be sure you are not in or near an area used in summer or near any sort of water source or drainage. Pack out all toilet paper. Protect water quality by disposing of wastewater by scattering it at least feet from water sources. All drinking water taken from open sources should be purified by boiling for at least five minutes, or by chemical treatment with an iodine based purifier let purify for one hour in icy water , or a Giardia-rated filter. Safety Dangers do exist in the Yosemite Wilderness and even small problems can become deadly if winter users are not prepared. Use common sense and caution when planning a trip, keeping the weakest member of your group in mind. Altitude and cold weather sap more energy. Choose a reasonable route—know your limitations. Keep in mind your physical condition and winter travel experience In winter, the consequences of an unplanned night out are more severe, so it is even more important to tell someone responsible where you are going and when you plan to return. Group dynamics are even more important in winter. Do not separate from your group. Watch out for signs of hypothermia, exhaustion, or dehydration in others as well as yourself. Make decisions based on the weakest party member. Prevent hypothermia by managing clothing as needed. Take off a jacket before getting sweaty; warm up your fingers before they are too stiff to work a zipper. Carry and know how to use a map and compass even if you have GPS. Most winter travel is cross-country travel; the trails are covered with snow. Make sure your navigational skills are up to the challenge. Even following the marked ski trails in the park requires care and attention in new snow, at night, or in stormy conditions. Be prepared for sudden changes in weather. Wear proper clothing no cotton. Synthetic or wool clothing keeps you warm when wet and will help keep you alive. Be prepared to spend a night out if necessary. Drink plenty of water and carry extra. Eat and carry high energy food. If you are not trained in avalanche avoidance and rescue, stay out of avalanche terrain. Plan for the unexpected. A foot of new, heavy snow can drastically affect the speed one can travel, make route finding more difficult, and greatly increasing the avalanche hazard. Weather Winter in Yosemite is typically a mixture of beautiful, sunny days interrupted by cold, snowy days. Conditions can change from one to the other in a matter of hours, so you should be prepared for both each time you go out. Winter conditions generally exist from November through April, although early and late storms may occur at any time. Temperatures at 4, feet in Yosemite Valley are usually in the 40s to 60s during the day and 20s at night, with temperatures in the high country from 10 to 25 degrees cooler. Storms vary in length but can last for days and can be followed by another. Up to 15 inches of snow may fall in a short time. The high country generally averages three to ten feet of snow on the ground through the winter.

**Chapter 3 : John Muir's Yosemite Valley cabin had a stream running through it - Yosemite Lodging**

*The Sierra Club. John Muir founded the Sierra Club in , whose main goal was to "do something for nature and make the mountains glad." The Sierra Club is the oldest, largest and most influential conservation organization in the United States.*

His works and written accounts were distributed nationally, and an art exhibition of his drawings was held in New York City. He had simple lodgings built, and roads to the area. In , the Wawona Hotel was built to serve tourists visiting Mariposa Grove. As tourism increased, so did the number of trails and hotels developed by people intending to build on the trade. When a carriage-wide tunnel was cut through the tree in , it became even more popular as a tourist photo attraction. Everything from horse-drawn carriages in the late 19th century, to automobiles in the first part of the 20th century, traveled the road which passed through that tree. The Wawona Tree fell in under a heavy load of snow. It was estimated to have been 2, years old. It bought out or built hotels, stores, camps, a dairy, a garage, and other park services. Administrators in the National Park Service felt that limiting the number of concessionaires in each national park would be more financially sound. Yosemite Grant[ edit ] Map of rail and stage routes to Yosemite in Concerned by the effects of commercial interests, prominent citizens including Galen Clark and Senator John Conness advocated for protection of the area. Tourism significantly increased after the First Transcontinental Railroad was completed in , but the long horseback ride to reach the area was a deterrent. John Muir was a Scottish-born American naturalist and explorer. One of the most significant camping trips Muir took was in with then president Theodore Roosevelt. Muir was one of the first to theorize that the major landforms in Yosemite Valley were created by large alpine glaciers, bucking established scientists such as Josiah Whitney , who regarded Muir as an amateur. Landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted emphasized the importance of conservation of Yosemite Valley. Increased protection efforts[ edit ] Theodore Roosevelt and John Muir on Glacier Point Overgrazing of meadows especially by sheep , logging of giant sequoia, and other damage caused Muir to become an advocate for further protection. Muir convinced prominent guests of the importance of putting the area under federal protection; one such guest was Robert Underwood Johnson , editor of Century Magazine. Muir also helped persuade local officials to virtually eliminate grazing from the Yosemite high country. The cavalry could not intervene to ease the worsening condition of Yosemite Valley and Mariposa Grove. The cavalry left another legacy in the park, the ranger hat. On that trip, Muir convinced Roosevelt to take control of Yosemite Valley and Mariposa Grove away from California and return it to the federal government. In , Roosevelt signed a bill that did precisely that. Located in the Hetch Hetchy Valley , its purpose was to provide water and hydroelectric power to San Francisco. Muir and the Sierra Club opposed the project, while others, including Gifford Pinchot , supported it. Traffic congestion in Yosemite Valley during the summer months has become a concern. Two electric buses commenced service in September The buses are quiet and do not emit pollutants. Eventually, all the buses in Yosemite will be electric. Ackerson Meadow was originally included in the proposed park boundary but never acquired by the federal government. On September 7, , the National Park Service accepted the donation of the land, making the meadow the largest addition to Yosemite since Three wilderness areas are adjacent to Yosemite: These joints and fracture systems do not move, and are therefore not faults. Erosion acting on master joints is responsible for creating valleys and later canyons. Exfoliation caused by the tendency of crystals in plutonic rocks to expand at the surface acting on granitic rock with widely spaced joints is responsible for creating domes such as Half Dome and North Dome and inset arches like Royal Arches. The Tunnel View is the first view of the Valley for many visitors and is extensively photographed. El Capitan , a prominent granite cliff that looms over Yosemite Valley, is one of the most popular rock climbing destinations in the world because of its diverse range of climbing routes in addition to its year-round accessibility. The park has three groves of ancient giant sequoia *Sequoiadendron giganteum* trees; the Mariposa Grove trees , the Tuolumne Grove 25 trees , and the Merced Grove 20 trees. Yosemite is famous for its high concentration of waterfalls in a small area. Numerous sheer drops, glacial steps and hanging valleys in the park provide many places for waterfalls to exist, especially during April, May, and June

the snowmelt season. Wapama Falls in Hetch Hetchy Valley is another notable waterfall. Hundreds of ephemeral waterfalls also exist in the park. All glaciers in the park are relatively small glaciers that occupy areas that are in almost permanent shade, such as north- and northeast-facing cirques. Instead, they were formed during one of the neoglacial episodes that have occurred since the thawing of the Ice Age such as the Little Ice Age. Snow does not typically persist on the ground until November in the high country. It accumulates all winter and into March or early April. The combination of dry vegetation, low relative humidity, and thunderstorms results in frequent lightning-caused fires as well. The wettest year was with The snowiest year was with The most snow in one month was

**Chapter 4 : John Muir - Wikipedia**

*Typically the Four Mail Trail, and sections of the John Muir and Mist Trails, are closed during the winter (portions of the John Muir and Mist Trails remain open, so it's still possible to hike to the tops of Vernal and Nevada Falls and to Little Yosemite Valley, though these trails are often snowy or icy).*

Early life[ edit ] Boyhood in Scotland[ edit ] Muir was born in the small house at left. His father bought the adjacent building in , and made it the family home. His parents were Daniel Muir and Ann Gilrye. He was the third of eight children: His earliest recollections were of taking short walks with his grandfather when he was three. It was during this time that he became interested in natural history and the works of Scottish naturalist Alexander Wilson. Although he spent the majority of his life in America, Muir never forgot his roots in Scotland. He held a strong connection with his birthplace and Scottish identity throughout his life and was frequently heard talking about his childhood spent amid the East Lothian countryside. He greatly admired the works of Thomas Carlyle and poetry of Robert Burns ; he was known to carry a collection of poems by Burns during his travels through the American wilderness. He returned to Scotland on a trip in , where he met one of his Dunbar schoolmates and visited the places of his youth that were etched in his memory. It has been designated a National Historic Landmark. He wrote, "I never tried to abandon creeds or code of civilization; they went away of their own accord There, under a towering black locust tree beside North Hall , Muir took his first botany lesson. A fellow student plucked a flower from the tree and used it to explain how the grand locust is a member of the pea family, related to the straggling pea plant. Fifty years later, the naturalist Muir described the day in his autobiography. Records showed his class status as "irregular gent" and, even though he never graduated, he learned enough geology and botany to inform his later wanderings. With his money running low and winter coming, he reunited with his brother Daniel near Meaford, Ontario , who persuaded him to work with him at the sawmill and rake factory of William Trout and Charles Jay. The file slipped and cut the cornea in his right eye and then his left eye sympathetically failed. When he did, "he saw the worldâ€”and his purposeâ€”in a new light". Muir later wrote, "This affliction has driven me to the sweet fields. God has to nearly kill us sometimes, to teach us lessons. He had no specific route chosen, except to go by the "wildest, leafiest, and least trodden way I could find. One evening in early January , Muir climbed onto the Hodgson house roof to watch the sunset. He saw a ship, the Island Belle, and learned it would soon be sailing for Cuba. Seeing it for the first time, Muir notes that "He was overwhelmed by the landscape, scrambling down steep cliff faces to get a closer look at the waterfalls, whooping and howling at the vistas, jumping tirelessly from flower to flower. Muir built a small cabin along Yosemite Creek , [29]: He lived in the cabin for two years [30]: He was sustained by the natural environment and by reading the essays of naturalist author Ralph Waldo Emerson , who wrote about the very life that Muir was then living. On excursions into the back country of Yosemite, he traveled alone, carrying "only a tin cup, a handful of tea, a loaf of bread, and a copy of Emerson. As the years passed, he became a "fixture in the valley," respected for his knowledge of natural history, his skill as a guide, and his vivid storytelling. In , after Muir had lived in Yosemite for three years, Emerson, with a number of academic friends from Boston , arrived in Yosemite during a tour of the Western United States. The two men met, and according to Tallmadge, "Emerson was delighted to find at the end of his career the prophet-naturalist he had called for so long ago. Muir soon became convinced that glaciers had sculpted many of the features of the Yosemite Valley and surrounding area. This notion was in stark contradiction to the accepted contemporary theory, promulgated by Josiah Whitney head of the California Geological Survey , which attributed the formation of the valley to a catastrophic earthquake. The quake woke Muir in the early morning, and he ran out of his cabin "both glad and frightened," exclaiming, "A noble earthquake! Muir had no such fear and promptly made a moonlit survey of new talus piles created by earthquake-triggered rockslides. Botanical studies[ edit ] In addition to his geologic studies, Muir also investigated the plant life of the Yosemite area. In and , he made field studies along the western flank of the Sierra on the distribution and ecology of isolated groves of Giant Sequoia. Muir Glacier was later named after him. He traveled into British Columbia a third of the way up the Stikine River , likening its Grand Canyon to

"a Yosemite that was a hundred miles long". He documented this experience in journal entries and newspaper articles—later compiled and edited into his book *The Cruise of the Corwin*. Activism and controversies [ edit ] Yosemite Valley and the Merced River Establishing Yosemite National Park [ edit ] Muir threw himself into the preservationist role with great vigor. He envisioned the Yosemite area and the Sierra as pristine lands. In June , the influential associate editor of *The Century* magazine, Robert Underwood Johnson , camped with Muir in Tuolumne Meadows and saw firsthand the damage a large flock of sheep had done to the grassland. Johnson agreed to publish any article Muir wrote on the subject of excluding livestock from the Sierra high country. He also agreed to use his influence to introduce a bill to Congress to make the Yosemite area into a national park, modeled after Yellowstone National Park. On September 30 , the U. Congress passed a bill that essentially followed recommendations that Muir had suggested in two *Century* articles, "The Treasures of the Yosemite" and "Features of the Proposed National Park", both published in *Co-founding the Sierra Club* [ edit ] Main article: John Muir will preside. One week later Muir was elected president, Warren Olney was elected vice-president, and a board of directors was chosen that included David Starr Jordan , president of the new Stanford University. Muir remained president until his death 22 years later. The Sierra Club was active in the successful campaign to transfer Yosemite National Park from state to federal control in *The fight to preserve Hetch Hetchy Valley* was also taken up by the Sierra Club, with some prominent San Francisco members opposing the fight. Eventually a vote was held that overwhelmingly put the Sierra Club behind the opposition to Hetch Hetchy Dam. Pinchot was the first head of the United States Forest Service and a leading spokesman for the sustainable use of natural resources for the benefit of the people. As a professional forester, his view was that "forestry is tree farming," without destroying the long-term viability of the forests. In one essay about the National Parks, he referred to them as "places for rest, inspiration, and prayers. Both men opposed reckless exploitation of natural resources, including clear-cutting of forests. Muir confronted Pinchot and demanded an explanation. When Pinchot reiterated his position, Muir told him: Their contrasting views were highlighted again when the United States was deciding whether to dam Hetch Hetchy Valley. Pinchot favored damming the valley as "the highest possible use which could be made of it. He later relied on his friendship with Harriman to pressure Congress to pass conservation legislation. Muir joined Roosevelt in Oakland, California , for the train trip to Raymond. The presidential entourage then traveled by stagecoach into the park. Even before they entered the park, he was able to convince Roosevelt that the best way to protect the valley was through federal control and management. After entering the park and seeing the magnificent splendor of the valley, the president asked Muir to show him the real Yosemite. Muir and Roosevelt set off largely by themselves and camped in the back country. The duo talked late into the night, slept in the brisk open air of Glacier Point, and were dusted by a fresh snowfall in the morning. It was a night Roosevelt never forgot. His earliest encounters, during his childhood in Wisconsin, were with Winnebago Indians , who begged for food and stole his favorite horse. In spite of that, he had a great deal of sympathy for their "being robbed of their lands and pushed ruthlessly back into narrower and narrower limits by alien races who were cutting off their means of livelihood. Muir wrote to President Roosevelt pleading for him to scuttle the project. Muir felt a great loss from the destruction of the valley, his last major battle. The destruction of the charming groves and gardens, the finest in all California, goes to my heart. Four additional books were published posthumously. Several books were subsequently published that collected essays and articles from various sources. Miller writes that what was most important about his writings was not their quantity, but their "quality". He notes that they have had a "lasting effect on American culture in helping to create the desire and will to protect and preserve wild and natural environments. The piece was published anonymously, identified as having been written by an "inspired pilgrim". He often compiled and organized such earlier writings as collections of essays or included them as part of narrative books. They first met in the fall of , when, at age 22, he entered a number of his homemade inventions in the Wisconsin State Agricultural Society Fair. She thought they did and "saw in his entries evidence of genius worthy of special recognition," notes Miller. According to Muir biographer Bonnie Johanna Gisel, the Carrs recognized his "pure mind, unsophisticated nature, inherent curiosity, scholarly acumen, and independent thought. In , he left Wisconsin to begin exploring the Canadian wilderness and, while there, began corresponding with her about his activities. Carr wrote Muir in return and

encouraged him in his explorations and writings, eventually having an important influence over his personal goals. It was the story of a man whose life she hoped would "metabolize in Muir," writes Gisel, and "was a projection of the life she envisioned for him. During those years, Muir and Carr continued corresponding. She sent many of her friends to Yosemite to meet Muir and "to hear him preach the gospel of the mountains," writes Gisel. The most notable was naturalist and author Ralph Waldo Emerson. The importance of Carr, who continually gave Muir reassurance and inspiration, "cannot be overestimated," adds Gisel. It was "through his letters to her that he developed a voice and purpose. Muir came to trust Carr as his "spiritual mother," and they remained friends for 30 years. After obtaining copies of their private letters from Carr, and despite pleadings from Muir to return them, he instead published articles about their friendship, using those letters as a primary source. Each sentence, each phrase, each word, underwent his critical scrutiny, not once but twenty times before he was satisfied to let it stand. Muir had a strict, Scottish Presbyterian upbringing. In his book, *The Story of My Boyhood and Youth* , he writes that during his childhood, his father made him read the Bible every day. Muir eventually memorized three-quarters of the Old Testament and all of the New Testament.

### Chapter 5 : John Muir - Yosemite National Park (U.S. National Park Service)

â€”*John of the Mountains: The Unpublished Journals of John Muir "Going to the mountains is going home."* Please follow below the fold for a bit of background on John Muir and much more winter in.

KML Overview Yosemite Valley in California gets packed with tourists for a reason, and inspired people whose names are known to school children and adults alike. Amongst them are naturalist, writer, founder and president of the Sierra Club and national park visionary John Muir. Roosevelt, with the sweat and labor of human perseverance and further spotlighting the park. With sheer granite cliffs rocketing out of the valley, abundant wildlife, waterfalls, sequoia groves and over miles of trails, Yosemite National Park should be on your short-list of U. Getting Started One of the most important things to take into consideration is that Yosemite National Park gets packed during the summer months. Whatever your plans, try to base your trip around the free shuttle service , operated by the park year-round. Check out this page for details on public transportation to the park, and within the park itself. Visit Wawona and Mariposa Grove regions, near the south entrance to Yosemite, and take in the towering sequoia grove along the easy Mariposa Grove Loop trail. Check out other hikes not to miss in the hikes section below, as there are many less crowded trails to explore as well. Make sure to make camping or lodging reservations well in advance, and plan on spending at least a few days exploring the area, if not longer. When to Go The park is beautiful all year, but beware of winter conditions, chain requirements and closed roads in the winter months. While the Yosemite Valley and Wawona areas can be accessed by car year-round, Tioga, Glacier Point and Mariposa Grove Road close for the winter, generally between November to May depending on snow conditions. Consider visiting in the spring to visit waterfalls, wildflowers in June, or in the fall for less crowds and the changing of the colors in the few, but lovely, deciduous maple, dogwood and oak trees. In the winter, enjoy winter sports at Badger Pass. Permits Like most national parks, fees are required to visit Yosemite, and can be purchased upon arrival or in advance, here. Wilderness permits are required for any overnight stay in the Yosemite Wilderness. Details can be found here. Day-use permits are not required on trails, except for Half Dome. Dog Info Dogs are allowed on a leash no more than six feet long, and only in developed areas, fully paved roads, sidewalks and campgrounds excluding walk-in campgrounds, like Camp 4. Get more information on pets in Yosemite, here.

**Chapter 6 : John Muir Trail: Guided Trip from Yosemite to Mt Whitney**

*Yosemite in Spring* by John Muir () "Yosemite in Spring," *New York Tribune*, May 7, *Yosemite in Spring. The Reign of the Earthquake -- The Beauties of the*.

X Difficulty descriptions are by nature very subjective. The categories below represent generalized distinctions in terrain, level of commitment, time spent at elevation and overall trip duration. Level of commitment refers to the ability to opt out of activities such as peak ascents from a base camp. A committing trip requires a daily mileage to be completed each day. Leisurely These trips typically travel on groomed trails at a leisurely pace. You can expect maintained trails, gentle grades and more flexibility in terms of your destination for the day. Hikers will carry mainly the essentials in a light daypack and travel anywhere from 3 to 8 miles depending on the trip or preference. Moderate- Basecamps These include hiking, backpacking, or stock-supported trips that take place mostly on maintained trails to get to camp. These trips hike into a set basecamp and then offer optional destinations with varying degrees of challenge. You can expect modest climbs on uneven terrain. Total distances are often miles of hiking per day over days of hiking. Moderate These trips include on- and off-trail hiking or backpacking or stock-supported trips. These trips are typically days in duration but can be longer. For backpacking trips, they can include carrying a fully weighted pack lbs and travel miles per day. Challenging These trips include on- and off-trail hiking, backpacking or stock-supported trips with uneven terrain and steep grades and passes. These trips are more physically and mentally challenging and usually days in duration. For backpacking trips, pack weight will consist of lbs. Because these types of trips have a required mileage to complete each day, the level of commitment is high. The most successful people on these trips have some prior overnight backcountry experience. Strenuous These trips include on- and off-trail hiking or backpacking on uneven terrain with steep grades. Given the mileage and duration, there is an increased amount of physical and mental challenge throughout the trip. Pack weights will consist of lbs depending on the resupply schedule. Because these types of trips have a required mileage to complete each day, the level of commitment to reach your destination is high. The most successful people on these trips have extensive overnight backcountry experience. We supply all group camping gear stoves, cookware, water filters, group first aid kit, etc. We can also supply personal camping equipment backpacks, sleeping bags, ground pads, trekking poles, and tents upon request with no additional fee. You are welcome to bring your own personal camping equipment if you prefer. A detailed gear list will be sent to you upon registration. We provide all backcountry meals starting with dinner on Day 1. Front country meals are not provided more specifics can be found on individual trip itineraries. Our "Backcountry Gourmet" meals have been acclaimed in *Sunset Magazine* and we take pride in providing excellent meals even in remote surroundings. If you have a specific dietary need or allergy, let us know and we will do our best to accommodate your request. Due to the nature of this rigorous and long expeditionary trip, there may be some limitations to what we can accommodate. Please reach out to our friendly office staff if you have any questions or concerns about this. Meals as noted above , group camping gear as noted above , personal camping equipment as listed above , remote food drops depending on itinerary , accommodations as listed above , transportation to and from the remote trailheads, applicable permits, professional mountain guides , pre-trip planning packet, redundant emergency communication devices, and trip support from our friendly, knowledgeable office staff. We strongly encourage having recent backpacking experience or practice before embarking on the JMT. The most successful people on these trips have completed several backcountry trips carrying a fully weighted pack lbs for at least 5 days. If you do not have this experience, we recommend joining us on a "shake-out" trip prior to joining the John Muir Trail trip. The JMT is our most difficult trip. It travels long distances over high mountain passes with uneven terrain for trail days. Not only do we want you to complete the trail with us, but we want you to have fun doing it! Training is paramount to the success and enjoyment of your trip. Day hikes with a weighted backpack, preferably on hilly, off road terrain, is the best way to train for our trips. Activities such as cycling and step-master type machines or stadium stairs are excellent for training as well and are preferable to a routine comprised solely of running. Be sure to include

hill and steep climbs wherever possible on all training. More detailed information about training will be sent to you upon registration. Itinerary Overview Day Southbound: By joining the day trip, you will complete additional miles of the coveted John Muir Trail route including the stunning section from Yosemite to Tuolumne Meadows. Our first two days help to acclimatize as we travel below the Clark Range. Whitney, before exiting along the Pacific Crest Trail. Why hiking the JMT Southbound matters: Starting in Yosemite and ending at the summit of Mt. Whitney is the classic way to complete this journey. This way provides a better chance to acclimatize and work up to the biggest passes. Whitney with a heavy pack at the start of your hike. Our first miles along the JMT travel northeast toward the high country of Yosemite for a scenic campsite at Cathedral Lakes. With views of glaciated Mt. The trail then passes beneath Mt. In this section we will pass by the volcanic Red Cones, lovely Virginia lake and down into Tully Hole. A bridge over Piute Creek and a few switchbacks lead us to McClure Meadow and Evolution Lake, one of the most spectacular sections of the trail. Our next milestone is ascending the Golden Staircase to our high camp at Palisade Lake. We will have our last resupply drop at Vidette Meadow below Forester Pass. Our final section of trail is just as spectacular as the rest. We begin by crossing the superlative Forester Pass 13, , the highest pass on the trail and the entrance to Sequoia National Park. The culmination of our trip is an attempt at Mt. Our private shuttle will meet us at the trailhead to bring us into the desert town of Lone Pine. A well-earned hot shower will be followed by a farewell dinner together. On our final day we will take our private shuttle back to the Fresno airport. You will be notified before departure.

### Chapter 7 : John Muir and his beloved Yosemite in winter

*John Muir's Birthplace is a four-story stone house in Dunbar, East Lothian, calendrierdelascience.com parents were Daniel Muir and Ann Gilrye. He was the third of eight children: Margaret, Sarah, David, Daniel, Ann and Mary (twins), and the American-born Joanna.*

All other travel is mere dust and hotels and baggage and chatter. Born in Scotland in 1838, Muir immigrated to Wisconsin with his family when he was 11 years old. Life on the homestead did not inspire him, and Muir soon found employment in a factory. The change proved to be inspiring but in an entirely unexpected way. After he was nearly blinded by an industrial accident, Muir found himself driven to learn everything he could about a world unaltered by man or machine. Sunday-Wednesday in Yosemite Valley. Muir first visited Yosemite in 1850. While Muir guided a flock of 2, sheep to the Tuolumne Meadows in the High Sierra, he studied the flora and fauna and sketched the mountain scenery. His experiences and illustrations were later published in *My First Summer in the Sierra*. After a stint as a shepherd, Muir found regular work at a newly constructed sawmill alongside the present-day Lower Yosemite Fall trail in the Valley. During the two years he worked at the mill owned by James Mason Hutchings, Muir started building his own Yosemite Creek cabin, if only so he could hear the sound of the water as he slept. Tempers flared, and Muir quit in 1852. In September, two months after leaving the sawmill, Muir wrote his first article for publication on glaciers, published in the *New York Tribune*. McChesney and John Swett, and photographer J. Reilly all became early confidants. The prolific writer became particularly concerned about natural landscape preservation. During the 1850s, he focused his attention on the destruction of natural resources in areas surrounding the state-administered Yosemite Grant, set aside in 1850. John Muir arrives in Yosemite at age 18. Muir convinced Johnson that the area could only be saved if it was incorporated into a national park. Congress that proposed creating a new federally administered park surrounding the old Yosemite Grant. Yosemite National Park became a reality in 1890. Muir married Louisa Strentzel in 1864. The wedded Muir continued to pursue his scientific study with fervor, and just three months after his marriage, he traveled to Alaska as a correspondent for the *San Francisco Bulletin* and again the following year with the *Bulletin* team to look for the lost naval exploration ship *USS Jeanette*. Continuing adventures out of state, Muir achieved an historic ascent of Mount Rainier in Washington in 1870 and numerous journeys to Alaska. He lobbied successfully for the creation of Yosemite Park in 1864 and then asked for additional protections when he toured President Theodore Roosevelt in the park in 1890. His published writings were also instrumental in the creation of Grand Canyon and Sequoia national parks. This was reportedly the first major battle of the environmental movement. Even though he died in a Los Angeles hospital, the great wanderer had remained active and on the move until the last few months of his life. Although Muir only truly lived in Yosemite for a few years, from 1850 to 1890, his short time in the Sierra changed him forever more. Muir has inspired us to protect natural areas not for their beauty alone but also for their ecological importance. In *The Yosemite*, published in 1873, he wrote: Every rock in its wall seems to glow with life.

### Chapter 8 : 10 Yosemite Quotes That'll Make You Rush to the Valley - Hiker Adventures

*Yosemite's first concession was established in 1864 when John Degnan and his wife established a bakery and store. In 1865, the National Park Service granted a year concession to the Desmond Park Service Company.*

### Chapter 9 : Yosemite in Winter by John Muir () - John Muir Writings

*Stretching from Yosemite Valley in Yosemite National Park to Mt. Whitney near Sequoia National Park, the John Muir Trail is a favorite among backpackers and long-distance hikers.*