



# Yosemite & the Sierra Nevada

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## Best Places to Eat

- » Mountain Room Restaurant (p407)
- » Lakefront Restaurant (p436)
- » Yosemite Bug Rustic Mountain Resort (p413)
- » Convict Lake Resort (p438)
- » Narrow Gauge Inn (p411)

## Best Places to Stay

- » Yosemite High Sierra Camps (p409)
- » Ahwahnee Hotel (p405)
- » Sierra Sky Ranch (p411)

## Why Go?

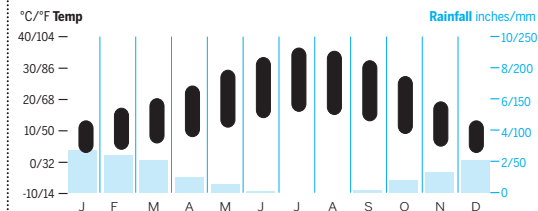
An outdoor adventurer's wonderland, the Sierra Nevada is a year-round pageant of snow sports, white-water rafting, hiking, cycling and rock climbing. Skiers and snowboarders blaze through hushed pine-tree slopes, and wilderness seekers come to escape the stresses of modern civilization.

With fierce granite mountains standing watch over high-altitude lakes, the eastern spine of California is a formidable but exquisite topographical barrier enclosing magnificent natural landscapes. And interspersed between its river canyons and 14,000ft peaks are the decomposing ghost towns left behind by California's early white settlers, bubbling natural hot springs and Native American tribes that still call it home.

In the majestic national parks of Yosemite and Sequoia & Kings Canyon, visitors will be humbled by the groves of solemn giant sequoias, ancient rock formations and valleys, and the ever-present opportunity to see bears and other wildlife.

## When to Go

### Yosemite National Park



**May & Jun** The Yosemite waterfalls are gushing and spectacular in spring.

**Jul & Aug** Head for the mountains for wilderness adventures and glorious sunshine.

**Dec–Mar** Take a wintertime romp through snowy forests.

## Yosemite & the Sierra Nevada Highlights

- Marvel at the waterfall gush in spring at **Yosemite National Park** (p396)
- Whoosh down the wintertime heights of snow-draped **Mammoth Mountain** (p432)
- Gaze heavenward through the celestial sequoia canopies of **Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks** (p414)
- Kayak the rapids at **Truckee River Whitewater Park** (p445) in Reno, Nevada
- Amble around the evocative ghost town of **Bodie** (p428)
- Canoe or kayak **Mono Lake** (p430) amid its haunting tufa

