



California Yosemite Valley Hiking Lodge Based

5 Days




The Adventure Company | EST. 1969
MT+SOBEKTM
MOUNTAIN TRAVEL SOBEK

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS
AS THE PIONEER OF ADVENTURE TRAVEL

➤ California Yosemite Valley Hiking Lodge Based

Visitors have come from far and wide to see Yosemite Valley ever since it became an established landmark in 1890. The classic granite features, thunderous waterfalls and stunning landscapes are much revered by adventurers and naturalists alike. This trip provides a chance to explore the storied valley from end to end. Each sunrise brings a new hike to conquer and a new natural wonder to behold. Gaze up at the vertical 3,000' granite face of El Capitan. Take in the impossibly high waterfalls as they plummet thousands of feet from the rim of the valley. This adventure focuses on celebrating the changing seasons in Yosemite. Our visits are timed to coincide with peak waterfall flow in the spring and the kaleidoscopic display of fall color from the park's aspen, dogwood, oak and maple trees. From the granite monuments to the valley meadows, spring blossoms to fall colors, this adventure is perfectly designed to showcase the very best of Yosemite Valley.

Details

Arrive:	Fresno, California
Depart:	Fresno, California
Duration:	5 Days
Group Size:	4-12 Guests
Minimum Age:	18 Years Old
Activity Level:	

Testimonials

We have traveled throughout the world, but never experienced a level of service and attention to detail as we did with MT Sobek.

Dennis G.

MTS delivers remote adventure with the smoothest logistics and unrivaled depth of local experience. One call and you are expedition ready. Booking our eighth trip now!!

Helen S.

GOT QUESTIONS? SPEAK WITH AN EXPERT.

☎ 1-800-974-0300

✉ info@mtsobek.com

Why Take This Trip With Us?

REASON #01

MT Sobek has been exploring US National Parks for more than 50 years, placing a strong emphasis on responsible travel practices that protect the natural environment.

REASON #02

In five spectacular and well-paced days, you'll hike Yosemite's best trails and see the park's iconic sights - granite domes, plunging waterfalls, alpine meadows, and giant trees.

REASON #03

Hike with our top-notch local guides, who have expert knowledge of this remote and expansive mountain region. Plus, all logistics are covered.

What to Expect



ACTIVITIES

Moderate to strenuous hiking on rocky paths, covering up to 9 miles at elevations ranging from 4,000 to 8,000 feet.



LODGING

Comfortable lodge-style accommodation in a five-star alpine setting.



CLIMATE

Expect sunny days with temps in the 70s to 90s; morning and nighttime temps can drop into the 40s. Be prepared for rain showers.

Meet Our Guides

Our expert guides and trip leaders are truly the key to our trips' success. Many are locals who live in-country year-round; others have made it their second home—all are passionate, enthusiastic and endlessly knowledgeable. Meet two of the guides that might be on your trip.

Preston grew up frolicking in the fields and forest of northwest Wisconsin before completing a B.S. in outdoor education, guiding and teaching in the remote wilderness everywhere from Arkansas to Hawaii. He is a certified Wilderness First Responder. He enjoys all kinds of outdoor adventure, whether running the Front Range trails or rollerblading near his home in Boulder, Colorado, surfing in Mexico, or climbing in Cuba.

Preston Hopkins

Based in the mountains of Lake Tahoe, a setting where outdoor adventure comes with the territory, Javier loves nothing more than sharing the thrill and beauty of nature with others. He is a certified Wilderness First Responder and enjoys leading backcountry snowboarding guiding clinics and spending his free time splitboarding in winters. Summers mean managing a camp retreat, exploring other corners of the world, and guiding guests to new experiences.

Greg Beardsley

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Itinerary

DAY 1

HIKE TO A HIDDEN VIEWPOINT TO SEE YOSEMITE VALLEY'S NATURAL WONDERS

We meet our guides in Fresno, California, this morning and transfer to Yosemite National Park, where we enjoy a picnic lunch at the iconic Tunnel View entrance. We enjoy a picnic lunch with incredible views into the Valley as our guides provide insight and interpretation. Our first hike from El Captain Meadow along the old Big Oak Flat Road is an ideal introduction to a park where grandeur is the norm and awe is the expectation. In the afternoon we settle into our private lodgings in Yosemite West and gather for a home-cooked dinner and orientation of the week ahead. Lunch and dinner included.

Activity: 3 miles hiking with 700' elevation gain and loss

Meals: L, D

DAY 2

HIKE TO MIRROR LAKE AND ALONG TENAYA CANYON WITH VIEWS OF HALF DOME

This morning we circumnavigate the valley floor beneath the soaring granite walls of Tenaya Canyon. Beginning at the Ahwahnee Hotel, we hike to Mirror Lake on a trail sheltered by the cover of quiet woods. Mirror Lake offers a jaw-dropping view of Half Dome soaring 5,000' directly above us. Exploring in the spring months, we see that Mirror Lake has plenty of water and the reflections of the surrounding cliffs are excellent. Trips in the autumn provide beautiful colors that create captivating reflections along Tenaya Creek. Our hike takes us to the very end of Tenaya Canyon, below Clouds Rest, where we gaze up at the steep granite walls around us. Returning to our cozy cabins, we have dinner and perhaps sit out on the deck for stargazing. All meals included.

Activity: 7 miles hiking with 300' elevation gain and loss

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 3

THE MIST TRAIL'S GRANITE STAIRS BRING US TO VERNAL AND NEVADA FALLS

We transfer to Happy Isles to tackle what is arguably Yosemite's signature hike: the Vernal Fall and Nevada Fall Loop. We follow our guides up the park's "giant staircase" where we are rewarded with close-up views of these two falls and numerous geological features. Negotiating hundreds of granite stairs that take us through the misty rainbow created by the 317' Vernal Fall, we continue on to the top of 594' Nevada Fall. The vistas of two famous rock monuments, Liberty Cap and the back side of Half Dome, combined with the sweeping scenery of Yosemite Valley, are spectacular. Hiking back to the valley floor, we follow a short stretch of the fabled John Muir Trail and relish a final glimpse of Yosemite's impressive granite formations. We return to our accommodations for dinner.

Activity: 7 miles hiking with 2,000' elevation gain and loss

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 4

FOLLOW THE SWITCHBACKS TO THE TOP OF YOSEMITE FALLS FOR DRAMATIC VISTAS

Our goal is the top of Yosemite Falls, a one-of-a-kind hike with panoramic views of the Valley and the lower and upper falls. We hike one of the park's oldest trails, built between 1873 and 1877, to the top of North America's tallest waterfall. The falls cascade 2,425 feet to the valley floor and, if the sunlight and water droplets cooperate, we may see a single or even a rare double rainbow. En route to the top, we pause at Columbia Rock for a snack and to take in the rewarding views of the valley, Half Dome and Sentinel Rock. The trail is rocky and steep with numerous switchbacks, so we take our time. Reaching the top, we pause to appreciate the surrounding views while listening to the sounds of the massive waterfall. Returning to the Valley floor, we transfer back to our accommodations for another delicious dinner prepared by our guides. All meals included.

Activity: 7.2 miles hiking with 2,559' elevation gain and loss

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 5

HIKE THE MARIPOSA GROVE OF GIANT SEQUOIAS, THEN RETURN TO FRESNO

We load our luggage into the support vehicle, then drive to the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoia, the largest and most impressive grove of giant sequoias in the park. After our hike through the grove we say farewell to Yosemite National Park and return to Fresno. Breakfast and lunch included.

Activity: 5 miles hiking with 1,200' elevation gain and loss

Meals: B, L

Dates

May 12 - 16, 2025

May 11 - 15, 2026

May 19 - 23, 2025

May 25 - 29, 2026

Jun 2 - 6, 2025

Jun 8 - 12, 2026

Jun 9 - 13, 2025

Sep 28 - Oct 2, 2026

Sep 29 - Oct 3, 2025

Oct 12 - 16, 2026

Oct 6 - 10, 2025

Oct 13 - 17, 2025

Oct 20 - 24, 2025

Apr 27 - May 1, 2026

For full terms and conditions please visit www.mtsobek.com/terms. Please note that our itineraries may be subject to change.

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Inclusions & Exclusions

PRICE INCLUDES

- Expertise and services of our experienced adventure guides
- All accommodations as noted in the itinerary
- All breakfasts, almost all lunches and dinners as noted in the itinerary
- Snacks and water between meals
- Additional regional guides and experts on many trips
- Comprehensive Trip Planner with detailed pre-trip information
- Private guided tours at historic sites, museums, wineries and other select attractions as noted in the itinerary
- Special events and other select attractions as mentioned in the itinerary
- All gratuities at hotels and restaurants
- Equipment and experienced guides for activities as described in the itinerary
- Park and other entry fees (unless otherwise noted)
- Fares for trains, ferries and other modes of travel as listed in the itinerary
- Select transfers as mentioned in the itinerary
- Baggage transfers and portorage

PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE

- International airfare, airport taxes, and excess baggage fees
- Alcoholic beverages (MT Sobek provides wine at select events)
- Gratuities for MT Sobek guides and guide-drivers
- Travel Protection Program
- Personal expenses

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► The World of MT Sobek

At Mountain Travel Sobek, we believe life is an adventure and adventure is life.

As the originators, innovators and leaders in adventure travel for more than five decades, we passionately create, craft and share indelible, transformative journeys to the world's most memorable places. Our more than 200 unique and once-in-a-lifetime trips are designed to inspire and exhilarate, enliven and excite--opening eyes and minds through profoundly personal connections with nature and culture.

Our small group and custom adventures span the globe, and the spectrum—of interests, environments and activities—every one expertly planned and knowledgeably and passionately guided. And our commitment to making every experience a remarkable one has earned us preferred travel outfitter status for National Geographic Active Expeditions, Active New York Times Journeys, and Smithsonian Active Journeys.

We are *the* adventure company.

Awards



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