

Yosemite

Travel Thursday, ISS News Letter



UC Merced's World-Renowned Backyard

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"The gateway to Yosemite", a phrase that's often seen within the city of Merced. UC Merced is also proud of its geological location that puts the campus so close to one of the world's greatest natural marvels: Yosemite National Park.

Read on for facts and tips to explore Yosemite's immense beauty.

DID YOU KNOW?

All of the UC Merced residential buildings are named after significant locations in Yosemite (ex. Granite Pass, Glacier Point, Half Dome, etc.)

Images taken of Half Dome have also been used as the featured desktop image for OS X Yosemite released in 2014. (source: Apple)

The perfect escape awaits

Distance from UC Merced campus: 71.5 Miles

Travel Time: ~1hr 34mins (driving)

Lodging: [Micro Cabins](#) (Starting from \$75 per night)

Explore the [Yosemite Lodging Website](#) for other interesting options for lodging inside the park and the [camping grounds website](#) for more information

"Must-see" attractions: Half dome, Glacier point, Yosemite Falls, El Capitan, Tunnel View, Vernal Fall, Fire Fall (Horsetail Fall), Sugar Pine Railroad

Weather: Highs of 59°F and lows of 34°F in March

History: A Scottish writer, John Muir, also considered as the father of National Parks, established Yosemite as first nationally protected property in the US. President "Teddy" Roosevelt later expanded the park's protection.

More the [400 species](#) live in Yosemite.

[Monty Python and the Holy Grail](#) and [Star Trek--The Final Frontier](#) were filmed in Yosemite.

Vibe: Hiking through the oldest and largest living sequoias in the world, all the while catching a few waterfalls during the day. Camp fires and s'mores at night under the stars.

Easy/Short Hikes: Mariposa Grove, Bridalveil Fall, Mirror Lake ([click here for more](#))

Difficult/ Long Hikes: Half Dome, Mist Trail, Four-Mile Trail ([more](#))

3.5 million people from all over the world visit Yosemite each year, you could be next...



UC Merced and Yosemite National Park are almost synonymous at this point. If you attend UC Merced, you've got to go to Yosemite, at least once during your tenure here, if not every weekend...

Before you even step into the park, the drive to the main entrance of the park is incredibly beautiful. The natural splendor and the grandeur of all the glacier formations from mother nature's careful chiseling and crafting over millions of years are truly astonishing. During the warmer season, you'll see daisies painting the walls that lay beneath the rocks, as if laying a carpet full of colors to welcome you into its arms. The sheer size of the falls, the peaks of the rocks... It will perhaps provide you with a realization about just how small we are in this world.

