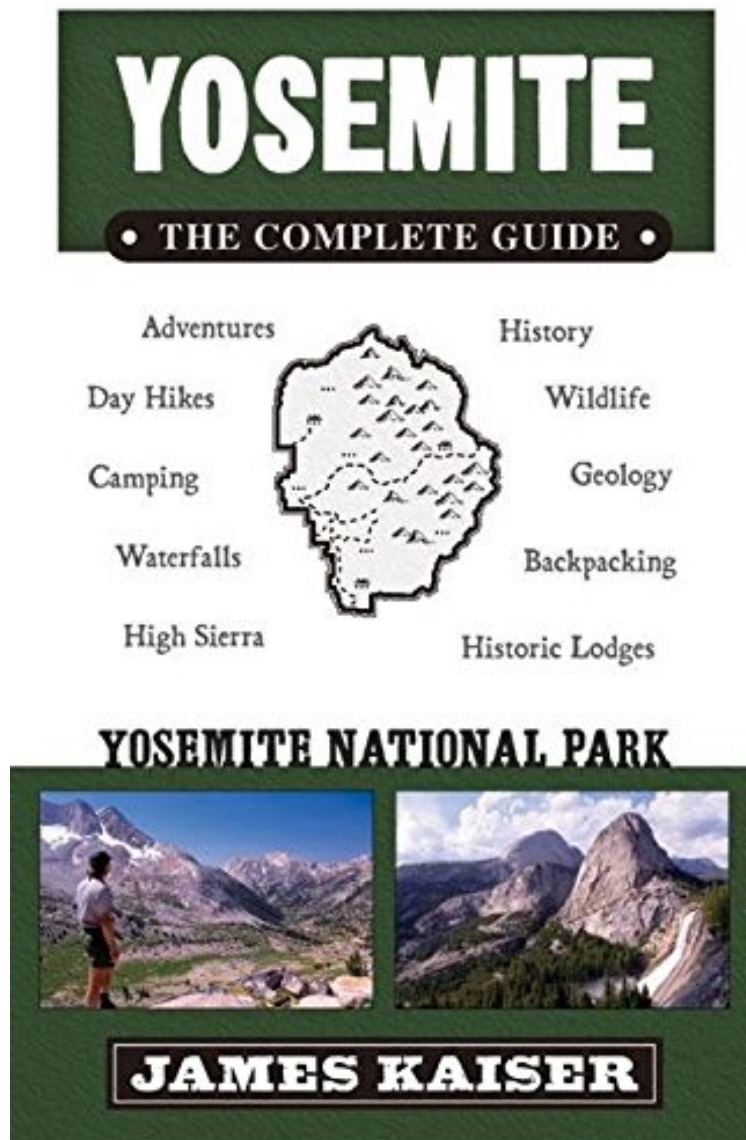


Yosemite: The Complete Guide: Yosemite National Park (Color Travel Guide)

James Kaiser

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James Kaiser : Yosemite: The Complete Guide: Yosemite National Park (Color Travel Guide) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Yosemite: The Complete Guide: Yosemite National Park (Color Travel Guide):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Fantastic guidebookBy staplesWe really enjoyed using this book when we were in both the Yosemite Valley as well as up in the Tioga Road/Pass area. It was far more useful than the David Page Yosemite book we bought (that one was much more about surrounding areas).This book, on the other hand, had a good overview of lodging, food and hiking options. The only element we would have liked more of is a slight expansion of the pages about the flora and fauna of Yosemite. The maps were useful as well. In sum, it seemed like a carefully researched and well-designed guidebook, so it really enhanced our visit.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Essential guide for planning a yosemite vacation.By JoshualVery useful, essential. We got this book after going to Acadia national park and using his Acadia book on that area as a guide. We were deciding on places to go in and around california and just the fact that he had a book helped us confirm a decision on Yosemite. Same experience as before... perfect suggestions and a great attention to detail. The book is also packed full of history concerning the park and the major players who helped it become what it is today. hits all the notes you would expect but also hides little gems in and along the way. One of the days we had time to completely devote a day to Yosemite valley and his somewhat cautious suggestion(one day is not enough) on what a "perfect day" at yosemite would be turned out to be great, as well as "another great day". I wish i had the time to pour over details for hours and painstakingly develop an amazing experience crafted all on my own... but i don't have that kind of time or experience in national parks to hold a candle to his guidance. Weather permitting, getting up nice and early and going to mariposa grove before the crowds, when the trees released some kind of chocolatey sweet aroma... was just a crazy good moment. If you go to see the sequoias, do it at the right time... the smells of that place were transcendant - plus the trees are gigantic.This book is great for the spontaneous vacation type, but deep enough to pull you in on a nice long planning session.72 of 74 people found the following review helpful. I LOVE this book!By E. SinnokrakBought this book back in March for a trip in early May. At the time, there was only one review, but I bought it anyway as it was the most recently published guide available.Wow - the day it arrived, I sat down and read it front to back. The history of the park, the geology, the history of the Native Americans who lived on the land ... I was so impressed that it was more than just a "camp here" and "eat here" kind of guide.What this book has over the others out there:- The most gorgeous photos. It made me giddy with excitement to go and see those places for myself!- a small but helpful section with pictures of the most common wildlife and plantlife that you encounter in the park (ended more than one debate about "what flower is this?!")- Information about the native tribes' names and legends for the features in the park, or other important history of a particular place, highlighted in boxes set off from the main text.- A sizeable section on the High Sierra Camps and hikes around them. Absolutely made me want to do the whole circuit (maybe next year...)- This guidebook was clearly a labor of love for the author. This wasn't compiled from a bunch of staff travel writers ... it was written by someone who obviously knows the park extremely well and has chosen to highlight only the best parts, to give readers the best experience in Yosemite.Why this might not be the book for you:- There are no compass markings on the detailed mini-maps. This bothered others in my group more than me.- Very few details on lodging. Not a problem for me, as I already had accomodations booked, and the lodging choices in the park are few anyhow, but this book is better for planning your TRIP, not your STAY.- The descriptions of the hikes are kind of vague. If you are going to Yosemite to back-country hike, this isn't the book for you. If you want the best day (or 2-day) hikes, he hits the great ones. I was relieved to see how well-marked they are once you're on the trail.I thought this guidebook was absolutely cream of the crop. So did my mother and sister-in-law - they each wanted to steal it from me and keep it as a coffee table book! (I bought them each a copy once we returned home)

Filled with vivid color photography and informed writing, Yosemite: The Complete Guide puts the best of Yosemite National Park at your fingertips. Fully updated to include current travel info (including the new rules for hiking Half Dome), the second edition offers expanded chapters on geology, ecology, wildlife, and history. James Kaiser takes readers on a joyous romp through Yosemite, revealing the fascinating story behind the scenery. From the thundering waterfalls of Yosemite Valley to the sparkling granite of the High Sierra, Yosemite: The Complete Guide equips travelers with everything they need to know. Lodging, camping, and dining are covered in-depth, as well as outdoor adventures (hiking, biking, rock climbing, rafting, skiing), transportation issues, and seasonal weather patterns. Over 20 hikes are listed, with trail descriptions, topographical maps, and photos.

"Hands down, these are the best travel guidebooks I've ever read." --Wandering EducatorsAbout the AuthorJames Kaiser