Land of Many Uses

The Sierra National Forrest is known as the land of many uses and likewise it is a land of many activities. We believe in nature’s awesome ability to rejuvenate, invigorate and connect. That’s why we have compiled a list of some of our favorite activities around Beautiful Bass Lake, Yosemite and the surrounding area.

If you would like more detail or further information on activities available please contact us at the Pines Resort or call our partners at the Visit Yosemite Madera County visitor’s bureau.

Pines Resort (559)-642-3121
Visit Yosemite Madera County (559) 683-4636

Come and experience why Sunset magazine rate Bass Lake as one of the best lakes in the west! Cheers to the great outdoors!
Things-to-do: Bass Lake & Yosemite Area

Area: Bass Lake

**Willow Creek & Angel Falls** 1 mile from The Pines Resort
Angel Falls is one of many cascading waterfalls located along Willow Creek. The base of the falls that feeds into Bass Lake is located about a mile west of The Pines Resort. You can follow the trail up and see many other cool waterfalls and pools, rock formations, moss-covered trees, and vistas.

**Bass Lake Watersports** On-site of The Pines Resort
Bass Lake Watersports is located next to Ducey's Restaurant, on-site at The Pines Resort. It is open year-round and has just about every type of boat and watersport equipment that you can think of.
- Kayak
- Canoe
- Jet Ski
- Pontoon and BBQ
- Wake board
- Water Ski
- Tubing

**Fishing** On-site of The Pines Resort or around the lake
Bass Lake is home to the annual Bass Lake Fishing Derby. You can catch Trout, Bass, Kokanee Salmon, Catfish, Crappie, Carp and Bluegill in Bass Lake.

**Hiking Bass Lake** There are many trails surrounding Bass Lake. The three most popular trails are listed below.

**Willow Creek** - HIKE 7 mile from The Pines Resort
Willow Creek Trail has a safer trail high above the creek, as well as the more dangerous option of climbing the rocks that line the creek. It is a very beautiful trail with lots of unique things to see, including plenty of waterfalls. There are also places to play in the creek, but some of the rocks are very slick and caution is advised.

**Way of the Mono** - HIKE 2 miles from The Pines Resort
Way of the Mono trail is a very short 1+ mile loop with a scenic vista called Mono Rock, which overlooks Bass Lake. This is a great photo spot, and the very easy trail is perfect for hikers of all ages and experience levels.

**Goat Mountain** - HIKE 3 miles from The Pines Resort
Goat Mountain is the mountain that is located directly across the lake from The Pines Resort. It has 2 starting points, including one at Forks Campground and one at Spring Cove Campground. The trail is 4+ miles round-trip with a gain of 1,700+ ft.
Bass Lake Continued

Bass Lake Scenic Drive Distance: Around Bass Lake
The drive around Bass Lake offers many places to see the lake from different perspectives. On the north side, there are many million-dollar homes and several waterfalls. On the south side, there is a beautiful lakeside drive through the Sierra National Forest with day-use beaches and more. The drive around Bass Lake is about 10 miles, but unfortunately you can not drive over the dam on the east end.

Biking Distance: Bass Lake Region
Bass Lake is home to some of California’s best mountain biking trails.

Around Bass Lake Paved Road
Many people bike around Bass Lake with road bikes on local roads. People who want a challenge bike up Beasore Road, which is a very steep road that climbs up to 7,500 ft and is located directly north of The Pines Resort.

007 Off-road
007 is a famous downhill mountain bike trail known around California for its flowing path and scenic mountain views. This is an advanced trail and typically would require a higher-end mountain bike with front and rear shocks.

Willow Creek Off-road
This is a very technical trail in a beautiful setting. You will see Angels Falls as well as Devil’s Slide, as well as many more waterfalls and quiet areas. All of the different rock formations, trees and moss makes this trail very unique.

Goat Mountain Off-road
As explained on the previous page, this trail is about 4+ miles round-trip and leads to a lookout tower with spectacular views of Yosemite.

Beasore Road Paved road with many off-road turnoff trails along the way
The paved Beasore Road is a 12.46 mi Bike Ride in Bass Lake, CA, United States. The Bike Ride has a total ascent of 3685.62 ft and has a maximum elevation of 6,997.77 ft. Due to the elevation, the road may not be suitable for driving or biking until May or June once the snow has melted. There are also many off road trails that you will pass along the way.

Beasore Road activities Distance: Starts across the street from The Pines Resort
Besides bike riding, Beasore Road is also a very popular spot for all sorts of other off-road activities, including ATV four wheeling, dirt bikes, snowmobiling, truck excursions, hiking and more.

Beasore Road is part of the Sierra Scenic Byway. There are many great lookouts overlooking Bass Lake and the Sierras. One of the most popular sites is Globe Rock.

Jones store
This historic store is set within a beautiful meadow pasture where cowboys used to bring their cattle for greener pastures during the dry summers. The store has no electricity and is closed during the winter season. They are known for their famous home made pies.
Area: Surrounding Mountain Area

**Sky Ranch**

**Nelder Grove of Giant Sequoia** - Shadow of the Giants Trail 🏞️
Distance: 15 miles from The Pines Resort
This dog-friendly trail around a giant sequoia grove is a hidden gem located in the Sierra Forrest between Bass Lake and Yosemite. Trail is an easy one-mile loop.

**Louis Creek Waterfall Trail** - Distance: 15 miles from The Pines Resort
This is easy, well-groomed trail that follows a creek that has several waterfalls. Hiking time: 1 - 2 hours (Red Rock Falls); 15 - 30 minutes (Corlieu Falls)

**Yosemite Zip** - Temporarily closed for reconstruction

**Fish Camp**

**Sugarpine Rail Road** - Closed in Winter and early spring
Distance: 15 miles from The Pines Resort
Take a guided tour on this steam-powered locomotive. There other activities and a museum for the whole family to enjoy.
ymsprr.com | (559) 683-7273

**Horseback riding with Yosemite Trails Saddle & Sleigh Co.** - Closed in Winter and early spring. Distance: 15 miles from The Pines Resort.
Explore the Sierra and Yosemite backcountry just like a cowboy in the days of the wild west.
yosemitetrails.com

**Sierra Jeep Tours** - Distance: 15 miles from The Pines Resort
There are so many lookouts, rock formations, lakes, Sequoia trees and more in the Sierra National Forest. Go off-reading in a guided jeep tour of the Sierra Mountains. ATVs are also available for rent.
sierrajeep tours.com | (559) 479-5915

**Mariposa**

**Zephyr White Water Rafting** - Closed in Winter and early spring.
Distance from Pines 56 miles (1 hr 30 min)
There are half-day and full-day trips with the starting point only 40 minutes from Yosemite Valley. This is an intermediate course.
zrafting.com | (800) 431-3636
Area: Surrounding Mountain Area

**Oakhurst**

*Southgate Brewery* Distance 10 miles from the Pines Resort (15 min)
This is a local, small-batch brewery that has won many prestigious awards for their beer. They also offer a full menu.
Southgate beer is sold both at Ducey’s as well as The Pines Bar.
www.southgatebrewco.com | (559) 692-2739

**Met Cinema** Distance 10 miles from the Pines Resort (15 min)
Met Cinema is a local movies theatre that plays the latest box office films. Tickets are half-price after the first ticket.
www.movieheroes.com | (559) 683-3456

**North Fork**

*Bandit Town* Distance 12 miles from the Pines Resort (17 min)
Open only for special events.
Bandit Town is a recreation of an old western town and saloon. They have events with music and camping.
www.banditbrand.com/events/

**The Buckhorn Bar**
In the late 1800s, Les Smith opened the Buckhorn Saloon in North Fork. Over one hundred years later, the Buckhorn Saloon is still around. With taxidermy, old guns, and other artifacts, it is something straight out of an old western movie.
www.buckhornsaloon.net | 559-877-8700

**Sierra Mono Museum**
The Sierra Mono Museum is home to the largest display of Mono Indian basketry in California. Inside the Museum, there are many artifacts and baskets on display, donated and on-loan by members of the Mono Tribe. Other collections on exhibit include weapons, ceremonial items, tools, and beautiful beaded crafts.
www.sierramonomuseum.org | 559.877.2115

**Coursegold**

*Chukchansi Casino:* Distance: 21 miles from the Pines Resort (30 min)
Chukchansi Casino is the largest hotel in the region, with slots, blackjack, poker, roulette and more.
chukchansigold.com | 1-866-794-6946

**Surrounding Sierra Wilderness**

*Scenic Sierra Scenic Byway* – 100 miles of scenic drive through Yosemite's back yard, often called the "Hidden Yosemite." The Sierra Vista Scenic Byway is an 82.7-mile route through the Sierra National Forest. Many examples of the Sierra's most distinctive granite domes, meadows and glacial valleys can be seen along the way.
www.fs.usda.gov/detailfull/sierra/maps-pubs
Area: Yosemite National Park

**Scenics Stops**  
*Yosemite South Entrance is 17 miles (30 min) from The Pines Resort*

There are many scenic vistas, waterfalls, and other interesting places to stop along the drive through Yosemite that don’t require hiking. Below are a few of our favorites.

Getting there: We recommend taking HWY 41 to go into Yosemite and coming back through HWY 120 (Route HWY 120 will add approximately 20 minutes to your drive back to The Pines Resort).

**Glacier Point:**  
*Distance is 54 miles (1hr 35min) from The Pines Resort*

Up close and personal eye-level view of Half Dome. This spot, along with Tunnel View, are the most popular views in Yosemite. There is a shuttle bus and a waiting line for people at Badger Pass during the peak times of visitation.

Pro tip: Go to Taft Point first. Here, you can bypass the line as they will let passengers stand at Taft Point, and then go on to Glacier Point.

**Tunnel View:**  
*Distance is 43 miles (1hr 15min) from The Pines Resort*

This is the best place to get a view of the entire Yosemite Valley and most of the major mountains and peaks. This is the iconic postcard picture of Yosemite. They say it looks different every time you see it because of weather, sunlight, clouds, and the changing season.

**Bridal Veil Falls:**  
*Distance is 44 miles (1hr 20min) from The Pines Resort*

Located near Tunnel View, this waterfall is very easily accessed, allowing you to get close to the base of the falls. For the more adventurous, there are boulders that you can climb to get right under the falls, but it can be dangerous as the rocks are slippery when wet. Do so at your own risk, and please read and follow all warning signs.

**Lower Yosemite Falls:**  
*Distance is 50 miles (1hr 30min) from The Pines Resort*

Located in Yosemite Valley, this will get you to the base of Yosemite Falls, the tallest waterfall in North America. Hikers can go on to climb to the very top of Yosemite Falls.

**Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoia:** Closed until Fall 2017

**Yosemite Valley Attractions**  
*Distance is 47 miles (1hr 25min) from the Pines Resort*

**Ansel Adams Museum:** Ansel Adams is the most famous photographer of Yosemite and has a museum, studio, and camera store located in the Village.

**Yosemite Visitors Center:**  
Year-round facility offering Yosemite maps & brochures, nature exhibits, a theater and a bookstore.

**Ahwahnee Hotel (now called The Majestic Yosemite Hotel)**  
Built in the 1920s the Majestic Yosemite is an architectural gem with huge rock columns, wood beams, high ceilings, massive fire places, and a beautiful setting. It looks like something straight out of Harry Potter or Game of Thrones. This is a nice place to grab lunch or a drink, even if you are not staying here.
Area: Yosemite National Park

Hikes
One of the things Yosemite is most famous for are the epic hikes. Hiking is one of the best ways to experience Yosemite in an intimate way, away from the crowds. It’s a great bonding experience as well as a wonderful, therapeutic workout.

Mirror Lake Trail
This is one of the only trails in Yosemite that is open year-round. It starts at the very end of the Yosemite Valley and is located at the base of Half Dome.
Distance: 2 mi round-trip
Difficulty: Easy, Time: 2-3 hours, Elevation gain: minimal

Mist Trail (Vernon Fall, Nevada Fall) ⭐
This is one of the most popular trails in the park. Here you can see two waterfalls, that flow from the same river. The lower portion is open year-round, but the upper portion closes depending on weather in the winter.
- Up to: Vernal Fall Footbridge
  Distance: 1.6 mi (2.6 km) round trip
  Difficulty: Moderate, Time: 1-1.5 hours, Elevation gain: 400 ft
- Up to: Top of Vernal Fall
  Distance: 2.4 mi (3.9 km) round trip (via Mist Trail)
  Difficulty: Strenuous, Time: 3 hours, Elevation gain: 1000 ft (300 m)
- Up to: Top of Nevada Fall
  Distance: 5.4 mi (8.7 km) round trip (via Mist Trail)
  Difficulty: Strenuous, Time: 5-6 hours, Elevation gain: 2000 ft (610 m)

Yosemite Falls Trail
Being the tallest waterfall in North America makes this a very strenuous hike, but very doable for anyone of a moderate fitness level. The top portion is very vertical and filled with switch backs going up the mountain side. It is all south-facing, meaning there is a lot of sun, so bring a hat and sunscreen. Open year-round, depending on weather conditions.
- Up to: Columbia Rock
  Distance: 2 miles (3.2 km) round-trip, Difficulty: Moderate,
  Time: 2-3 hours round-trip, Elevation gain: 1,000 ft (328 m)
  Begin at: Camp 4 area (near shuttle stop #7 and El Capitan Shuttle stop #E2)
- Up to: Top of Yosemite Falls
  Distance: 7.2 miles (11.6 km) round trip
  Elevation gain: 2,700 ft (823 m), Difficulty: Strenuous,
  Time: 6-8 hours round-trip, Elevation: 1,000 ft (328 m) elevation gain

Taft Point: 🙈
This is one of the most breath-taking lookouts in Yosemite. It is an easy hike through the woods that opens up to a sheer 1 km cliff looking out over Yosemite Valley. The sunsets here are amazing.
Distance: 2.2 miles (3.5 km) round-trip, Difficulty: Easy
Time: 1-2 hours, Elevation gain: 200 feet (60 meters) descent
Closed to hiking in winter (roughly Nov-May)
*Pro tip: You can bypass the line for the shuttle to Glacier point if you say you are going to Taft Point in the summer time when it is busy. You can also continue the trail in the other direction to Sentinel Dome which is about the same distance hike.
Area: Yosemite National Park

Hikes

Clouds Rest: 👍
One of the most beautiful 360-degree lookouts in Yosemite. This is a strenuous hike along a narrow ridge, and is not for the faint of heart. We recommend starting at Tenaya Lake, which is located along Tioga Pass.
Distance: 14.5 miles (23.3 km) round-trip, Clouds Rest Elevation: 9,926 feet (3,025 meters), Elevation Gain: 1,775 feet (540 meters)
Closed winter-spring

Mariposa Grove of Sequoia Closed for renovation until fall or 2017

Winter

Yosemite is open year-round with access from HWY 41 (south gate) and HWY140 (west gate) open all year. The trails and lookouts above 6,000 ft elevation are closed in winter through mid spring due to snow. There are still many activities that you can do during the winter.

Badger Pass Ski Resort
Snowboard, Ski, Tubing
Cross country ski rentals,
Snow show rentals
(209) 372-8430

Guided Tours

Discover Yosemite
Discover Yosemite is a small bus tour that will pick you up in front of The Pines Registration and take you on a guided tour throughout Yosemite, stopping at various lookouts and attractions.
www.discoveryosemite.com | (559) 642-4400

Southern Yosemite Mountain Guides
If you’re looking for a more rugged adventure, off the beaten path, then Southern Yosemite Mountain Guides are your people. They can arrange everything from day trips to multi-day excursions. With over 25 years of experience, they can take you places that you may not be able to get to on your own.
www.SYMG.com | 800-231-4575