

Kings Canyon National Park – Summer Fall Itinerary

The expansive canyons in Kings Canyon National Park offer true moments of peace and quiet throughout the summer and into fall. Relax in the serenity of Mother Nature and experience those quiet moments you've been searching for.

Driving in Kings Canyon National Park:

Travel to Kings Canyon National Park is simple throughout the summer and fall seasons, but always be prepared for early winter weather. The Kings Canyon Scenic Byway (Hwy. 180) which leads to Cedar Grove, partially closes during the later fall months and is closed in the winter until late spring/early summer. For road conditions inside the park, call 559-565-3341. Call 800-427-7623 or visit www.dot.ca.gov for highways/roads that connect to Kings Canyon National Park. Visit www.nps.gov/seki for trip-planning information.

Take a breathtaking drive to Cedar Grove after the road opens (date of gate opening varies each year.) For details, visit <http://byways.org/stories/55888>. To check if it is open, call 559-565-3341 or visit www.nps.gov/seki.

KINGS CANYON IN A DAY:



Stop 1: KINGS CANYON VISITOR CENTER

Stop in at the visitor center to watch an award-winning movie about Kings Canyon National Park, view exhibits (in English/Spanish), shop at the bookstore, and obtain the latest updates on what's happening in the park. Be sure to ask about available ranger-led programs.

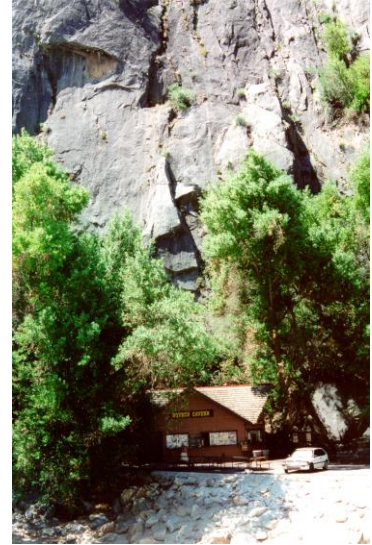


Stop 2: GENERAL GRANT TREE

The General Grant Tree—the second largest tree on Earth (by volume)—is the guardian of the grove. It is 268 feet tall, 40 feet in diameter, and has a circumference of 107 feet. At the ripe old age of 1,700-2,000 years old, it stands near several other giant sequoias that range 250-300 feet tall with a diameter of 15 feet or more. Bring your camera and be sure to stop at the exhibits along the trail to the General Grant Tree. Did you know...In 1926, the General Grant Tree was proclaimed by President Coolidge as the Nation's Christmas Tree? In addition, in 1956, the General Grant Tree was designated by Congress as a national shrine in memory of the men and women of the Armed Forces who have served, fought, and died to keep America free.

Stop 3: BOYDEN CAVERN

Underneath the sky-piercing forests and beauty of the Park's wide canyon, Boyden Cavern gives visitors a different perspective of the National Park. Featuring gorgeous stalagmites and stalactites, this tour takes guests from the Pancake Room to the Upside Down City on a whirlwind tour to discover the underground world.



Stop 4: ROARING RIVER FALLS

Roaring River Falls is located just off Highway 180 inside the Kings Canyon Valley and welcomes visitors with a spectacular show. The falls take a 40 foot dive over a narrow ledge, frothing and churning to give visitors an up-close view of Mother Nature's astonishing marvels.



Stop 5: ZUMWALT MEADOW AND ROAD'S END

Visit this stunning meadow with high granite walls for one of the best day hikes in Kings Canyon National Park. The short 1.5 mile trail offers visitors views of the canyon, meadows, wildflowers, rushing river, Giant Sequoia trees and more! Then end your visit with a trip to Road's End. It really is what it sounds like! Reach the end of this road in Kings Canyon for a permit "jumping off" point for many of the National Park's most famous and beautiful back-county trails: Bubbs Creek Trail, Woods Creek Trail, Copper Creek Trail Lewis Creek Trail, and more!

OTHER THINGS TO SEE AND DO IF YOU HAVE MORE TIME:

HIKE, MARK TWAIN STUMP, PANORAMIC POINT- For more outdoor adventures, check at the visitor center for suggestions (1.5- to 10-mile trails).

TAKE A TOUR: Local naturalists and skills-based guides collectively have thousands of hours of experience on over 800 miles of park trails. They've been to the highest point in the continental U.S. They've explored the parks on trail and off. They've kayaked, fished, floated, walked, run, climbed, skied, backpacked, birded, caved and sauntered in every corner of these parks. They provide pre-trip tips and tricks, consultation, permits, excellent instruction, support and top-notch fun for those preparing for a trip of a lifetime. Contact Sequoia Parks Conservancy for more information. <http://www.sequoiaparksconservancy.org> or call 559-561-4803

GRANT GROVE VILLAGE RESTAURANT, GIFT SHOP, AND MARKET - After playing outdoors, guests can enjoy food or drink, shop for souvenirs, or buy supplies.

For Lodging, Tours & More Information visit:

VISALIA CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

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SEQUOIA AND KINGS CANYON NATIONAL PARKS

www.nps.gov/seki or 559-565-3341