

Condé Nast Traveler



NATIONAL PARKS

A Complete Guide to Visiting Yosemite National Park

From the best hikes to comfy Airstreams to rent.

BY EMILY PENNINGTON

May 1, 2023

Hotels, glamping, and vacation rentals

As one of the most-visited sites in the NPS system (over 3.6 million visited in 2022), Yosemite has a wealth of posh accommodations just outside the park boundary. [Rush Creek Lodge & Spa](#), located a mere five minutes from the Big Oak Flat Entrance, is a haven for foodie families looking for a post-hike massage and epic cocktail menu (there's even an on-site pool and zip line for the kiddos). Discerning travelers seeking white glove service and excellent fine dining should head south for [Château du Sureau](#), a European-style castle with a phenomenal restaurant ([The Elderberry House](#)), set on nine private acres in the mountain town of Oakhurst.

GUIDE

Top-notch Yosemite National Park hotels to plan your visit around

Caroline Lascom

April 27, 2023 · 15 min read

Rush Creek Lodge

Groveland, California, USA



KIM CARROLL/RUSH CREEK LODGE AND SPA AT YOSEMITE/FACEBOOK

Best for: Families with young kids and teens who will love the pools, zip line, nightly s'mores, hiking and biking trails, and day and nighttime programming led by the on-site recreation team.

Why stay here: This classic summer resort is close to Yosemite National Park's southern entrance and has accommodations that can work for groups of all sizes, including two-bedroom hillside villas that sleep up to six guests.

Best way to book: Book directly with the lodge for the best rates, deals and packages.

Nestled amid 20 acres of woodlands, less than a mile from Yosemite's west entrance, the 143-key Rush Creek Lodge combines rustic charm with modern conveniences and a fun-loving summer camp vibe.

Impressive amenities and round-the-clock programming are what really distinguish this property. There are zip lines for kids, a 60-foot embankment slide, bocce ball, nightly s'mores around the fire, live bands, themed parties and karaoke. By day, the fantastic pool area is the hub of the action, with a 2,400-square-foot saltwater pool and a large family-friendly hot tub. The guided recreation program includes full-day and half-day Yosemite hiking tours, horseback riding and mountain biking, among other wilderness adventures.

GUIDE

Top-notch Yosemite National Park hotels to plan your visit around

[Caroline Lascom](#)

April 27, 2023 · 15 min read

Evergreen Lodge at Yosemite

Groveland, California, USA



EVERGREEN LODGE YOSEMITE/FACEBOOK

Best for: Travelers of all ages looking for great value and a lively, summer camp-style ambience.

Why stay here: A variety of comfortable, well-equipped cabins, activities galore and resort-style amenities, just a mile from Yosemite National Park.

Best way to book: Book directly for the best rates, discounts and seasonal packages.

Just a mile from the western entrance of Yosemite National Park, surrounded by the towering pines of Stanislaus National Forest, Evergreen Lodge (a sister resort to Rush Creek Lodge, listed above) is a classic Yosemite resort built in the 1920s.

Significantly upgraded and expanded since the early 2000s, it's one of Yosemite's most popular family resorts with a surfeit of amenities, including zip lines, a large saltwater swimming pool and a hot tub.

A FAR

For a Wild West Adventure, Head to These 10 Family-Friendly Ranches and Lodges

These are the 10 best ranches and lodges for families in the American West.



Evergreen Lodge is right outside Yosemite National Park. Courtesy of the Evergreen Lodge

9. Evergreen Lodge

- **Location:** Groveland, California
- **Book now**

Nightly s'mores by the campfire. Zip lines built into a ponderosa pine forest. A saltwater swimming pool and hot tub. Sweet log cabins with modern conveniences. These are a few reasons why families of all ages return to the **Evergreen Lodge**, a mountain resort just outside the west gate to California's Yosemite National Park.

With a history that dates back more than 100 years, the Evergreen is now stewarded by two Stanford Business School grads who put social responsibility initiatives at the core of their hospitality. A youth employment program brings in high-potential young adults from cities as paid seasonal interns focused on job skills, life skills, one-on-one support, and outdoor adventures. And the lodge, a certified B Corp, has Tuolumne County's first commercial graywater system.

SFGATE

From cabins to camping: Here's where to stay near Yosemite National Park



Megan duBois, Special to SFGATE

May 1, 2023



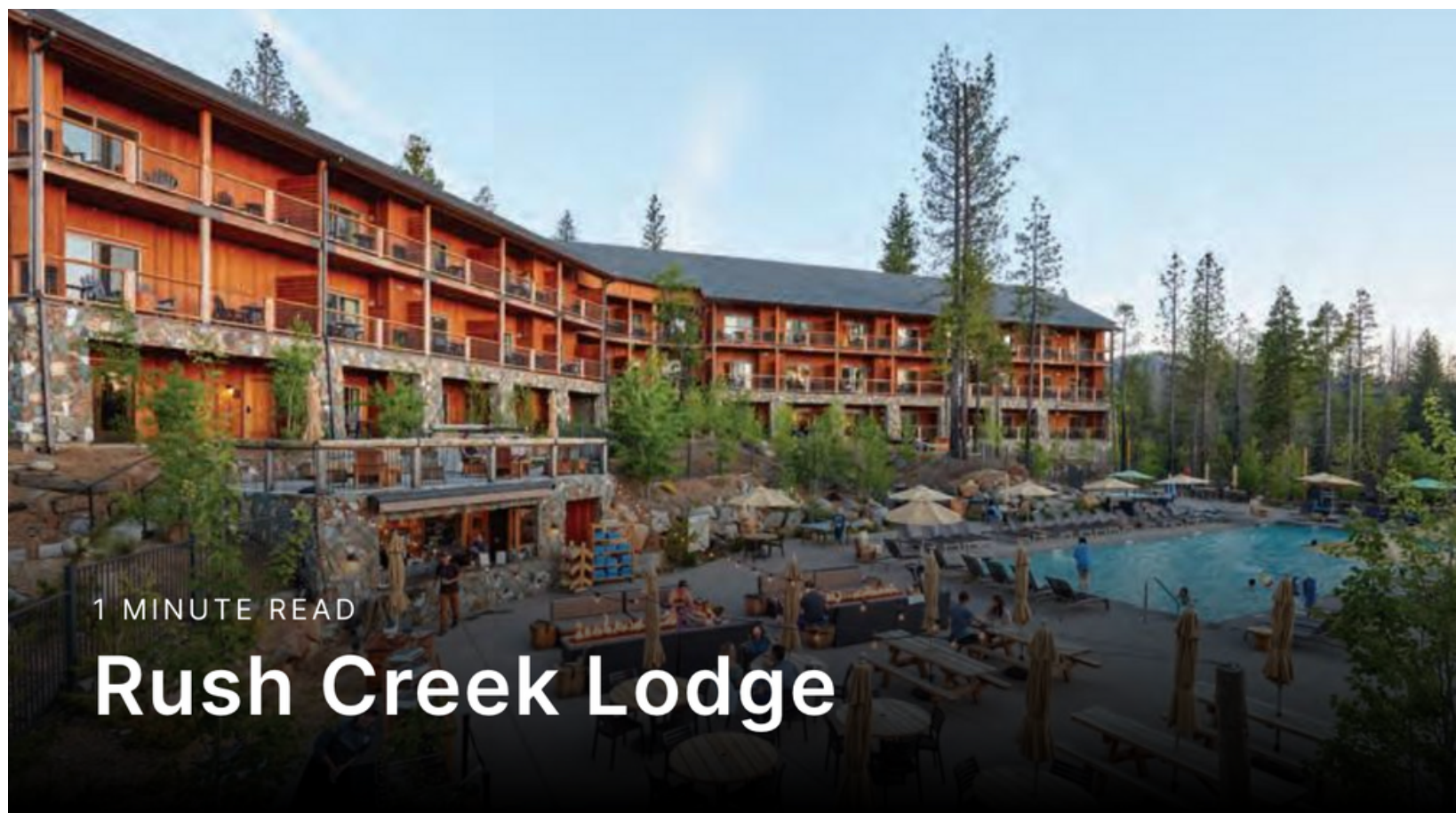
The century-old Evergreen Lodge offers more traditional cabins as well as glamping options for guests.
Courtesy of Evergreen Lodge

Evergreen Lodge at Yosemite Custom Camping

Less than a mile from Yosemite's Hetch Hetchy is Evergreen Lodge. While the lodge does have small cabins and cottages, its custom camping sites are what set this accommodation apart from the rest on our list. Here, you'll arrive at a tent site that's already set up and fully furnished for your group. Inside the tent, you'll find foam mattresses with sleeping bags, liners and pillows. Other amenities include towels, toiletries, camping chairs and a lantern.

Sacramento

MAGAZINE



1 MINUTE READ

Rush Creek Lodge



from Sacramento Magazine May 2023

by Sacramento Magazine



Just outside park boundaries on Highway 120, Rush Creek Lodge is the newest addition to Yosemite's indoor lodging options. Opened in 2016, it's a beautiful property that lies about a 40-minute drive from Yosemite Valley and provides easy access to Hetch Hetchy. With 143 rooms, including villas that are spread throughout the compound, Rush Creek is well set up for couples or families: saltwater pools open 24/7, year-round; evening s'mores; a game room with pinball, pool, foosball and more; an outdoor play area with a doughnut swing, climbing tunnels, zip line and a fabulous hillside chute slide; and a dedicated recreation desk where you can sign up for activities including stargazing, arts and crafts and nature tours. Although the address for Rush Creek says Groveland, it's actually 20-plus miles up the mountain from Groveland proper, and the only place around for miles. So its restaurants and tavern are convenient (the burgers and Philly cheesesteak are especially good!), and the general store comes in handy for snacks, over-the-counter medications, espresso drinks and plenty more (T-shirts, water bottles, locally made jewelry and artwork). One of Rush Creek's best assets is its spa, which has been designed to replicate the Yosemite experience with waterfalls to sit beside and stand beneath, heated tile beds (like lying on sun-baked granite), an aromatherapy sensory room, a hot/cold shower, a 165-degree Himalayan salt dry sauna and a eucalyptus steam room that will clear your sinuses. The spa menu includes massages, magnesium foot soaks and other delights.