



## Yosemite Winter Fun & Sport!

January 15-18, 2010 (MLK 3-day weekend)

Trip Leader: Klaus Gerhart

**Yosemite in the winter:** A season of snow & solitude. Cold, yes ... but our tent cabins are HEATED! Come join me and up to 14 others for a weekend in this snowy wonderland. The organized events will include some cross-country skiing on Saturday and a bit of snowshoeing on Sunday, and instead of 'tea', we'll probably all meet for an hour of skating at the outdoor ice rink followed by (I hope!) some hot cocoa from their coffee shop. And, each evening we'll convene at the Dining Hall or one of their restaurants for a group dinner. After dinner you're on your own ... but maybe we can organize some board games or card games together ... or grab a cocktail in one of the lodges/bars.

**"Snowshoeing?!!!"** Snowshoeing is just like hiking, no experience is necessary and snow shoes can be rented for about \$15/day. Most of Yosemite's regular trails are hikeable in snowshoes; though I plan on taking the free shuttle up to Badger Pass and doing one from there (The Sunday guided snowshoe hike to Dewey Point is \$50 and includes snowshoes.)\* For the Cross-Country Skiing, again, it's a free shuttle up to Badger Pass where we can rent our XC Skis/boots/poles for \$21.50/day.

If you'd rather buy a Lift ticket for some Downhill Skiing or Snowboarding, they are available for \$42/day. Downhill skis/boots/poles \$31/day. Snowboard \$35/day (They also have lessons of both, if you'd like some instruction!) If you'd rather sit by a fire and sip some hot toddies, try one of the Lodges. And, the free shuttle does loops around the valley and ascents up to Badger Pass for some easy sightseeing. Water levels tend to be low, but Yosemite Falls is said to flow nearly all year. Mariposa Grove may be open (accessible only by shuttle). Wandering through those giants sprinkled with snow ... sounds pretty awesome! ...or a hike to Mirror Lake .. or ... !!!**About our accommodations:** We've got 4 HEATED tent cabins in Curry Village, so no

need to bring a tent. Camp Curry provides bedding, but you will want to bring your sleeping bag. 4 tent cabins; 4 people/cabin. Curry Village doesn't allow cooking or campfires, so no need to bring stoves, kitchen items, lanterns or firewood. Bring a flashlight (very important!) and, you may bring food for lunches or cereal and snacks which must be stored in bear boxes. There are also free showers in Camp Curry as well as stores, cafés and restaurants. If you plan on hiking and xc-skiing with me (or with a buddy), remember to bring a day-pack with your 10 essentials and something for lunch. (Cell phones work in most of Yosemite, so bring it too ... just in case.)

**NOTES:** Yosemite is about 7 hours drive from Los Angeles. CARPOOL! (I'll happily facilitate connections between drivers and riders.) You must have a set of tire chains with you and know how to use them or you will not be allowed in the park. (I'm available to show you how, anytime BEFORE the trip.) Winter in Yosemite is snowy and cold, though sunny and chilly days are not uncommon. Yosemite Valley (4,000 ft) 53F/28F ... the surrounding mountains are colder, dress appropriately. Nat'l Park Fees: \$20/car or \$80/year (the \$80/year is a bargain ... it gets you into most California State Parks and Forests as well.) No Pets in the Park. Yosemite is a bear habitat; Proper food storage is required by law.

**Bear Boxes:** Bears are a part of the park's wildlife, but can be a nuisance to visitors. Bears are attracted to food and scented articles, like toiletries, so they must be locked in the metal bear boxes adjacent to each of the tent cabins. Space in bear boxes is very limited (and you're sharing it with 3 others!); they are to store food and toiletries only ... leave large coolers at home! Do not store food in your vehicle! Bears are smart, strong and have a keen sense of smell; they can recognize an ice-chest, and may pry open a car door to get to it.

**\*Guided Snowshoe Hike To Dewey Point:** Join the Yosemite Mountaineering School and Guide Service on an epic day of snowshoeing through Yosemite's winter wonderland. Our professional guides will lead you through meadows, fir and pine forests on the way to one of Yosemite's most breath-taking views, Dewey Point, located at the rim of the valley. From this vista, Yosemite's icons can be seen: El Capitan, Half Dome, Mt. Hoffman, Mt. Conness and the Clark Range.

**\*\*Yosemite Cross-Country Skiing:** Experience some of the best opportunities to cross country ski in California. Yosemite offers winter visitors access to the most beautiful vistas on earth, and the Badger Pass Ski Area is the gateway to Yosemite cross-country adventure. Beginning at Badger Pass are over 90 miles of marked trails and 25 miles of machine-groomed track. Cross country track and skating lanes are groomed from Badger Pass to Glacier Point (a 21-mile round trip), and a three-kilometer track is set to the scenic Old Badger Summit. From tranquil snowy day-trips to overnight adventures, the novice and expert alike can create their perfect trip.

Cost for this trip: Members \$140 / Non-Members \$160

Questions: Klaus Gerhart – [LAGoodGuy@gmail.com](mailto:LAGoodGuy@gmail.com)

## Directions:

Los Angeles to Yosemite: Yosemite Valley is 320 miles from Los Angeles; allow 7 hours to get there.

Take the 5N to the 99N towards Fresno.

In Fresno take the 41N ... this takes you all the way into the park and on to Yosemite Valley. Gas up in Oakhurst; there aren't any gas stations in Yosemite. You enter the park just beyond Fish Camp. To enter the park you must pay a \$20 admission fee per car (which is not included in the price of the trip) or show a National Park Pass (or buy one there for \$80/year). Note: Carpoolers share the park entrance fee as well as fuel.

Continue through the valley past House Keeping to Curry Village and park. Our tents aren't pre-assigned, so you'll have to check with the reception office for the tent assignment.

Our reservation is under my name: Klaus Gerhart. Once you've parked, you may not want to move your car again until you leave. The best way to visit the sights or get to the trailheads is the tram, which makes continuous loops around the valley floor.

**Don't forget to pack your sense of adventure!**

## Itinerary/Activities:

There is so much to see and do in Yosemite; it would be impossible to include every scenic hike, vista point, alpine lake and meadow in one snowy weekend. While you're encouraged to join our organized activities, feel free to explore Yosemite on your own.

**Friday: 1/15 – Arrival:** you may check into your tent cabin any time after 3:00pm. Inquire at the Registration Desk for the location of our units (or call me from your cell phone 323-493-0104). Advise me if you're arriving late (after 8pm) so I can reserve your bed. **8PM:** quick dinner at the cafeteria for anyone already settled. **9PM:** Greet late arrivals and discuss Saturday's activities.

**Saturday: 1/16 – 7:30AM:** Breakfast/coffee on your own. **8:30AM** Shuttle to Badger Pass for those interested in cross-country skiing for half-a-day-ish. **5:00PM(?)** Meet for hot cocoa at the Ice Rink (TBD) **7PM:** dinner at one of the restaurants. **9PM:** on your own for cocktails or cards.

**Sunday: 1/17 – 6:30AM:** Breakfast/coffee on your own. **7:30AM** Shuttle to Badger Pass for those interested in the guided snow-shoe to Dewey Point (8:30-3:00). **5:00PM(?)** Meet for hot cocoa/toddy at Lodge (TBD) **8PM:** dinner at one of the restaurants. **10PM:** on your own for cocktails or cards.

**Monday: 1/18 (MLK) – 8:30AM:** Breakfast/Brunch at the Awahnee Hotel(?) reservations required, so let me know if you're interested. **11:00AM:** Check-out time! If there's no hurry to get home, park in the designated area for the shuttle to Mariposa Grove ... it really shouldn't be missed.



## New to camping? Not sure what to bring?.

Email the Trip leader at [LAGoodGuy@gmail.com](mailto:LAGoodGuy@gmail.com). Great Outdoors members can help you figure out what to bring and in many cases loan you equipment for this event.

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Make check payable to **Great Outdoors** and mail to:  
Klaus Gerhart, 427 S Serrano, Los Angeles, CA 90020

Name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

GO Member # \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Medical Insurance Carrier: \_\_\_\_\_

Group/Policy # \_\_\_\_\_

Physician: \_\_\_\_\_

Physician's Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

I am carpooling with \_\_\_\_\_

I need a ride? Yes or No I Can offer a ride? Yes or No

Registration Fee

Member \$140

Non-member \$160  
(includes 1 yr. E-membership)

Total Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Please note: we cannot accept  
cancelations on this trip. Our  
reservations are firm.

For trip leader's use

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Check#: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

I'm interested in:  Snow shoeing  Cross Country Skiing  Ahwahnee Hotel Brunch  
Letting us know will help us secure reservations.

## **WAIVER OF LIABILITY, MEDICAL RELEASE AND ASSIGNMENT**

I am aware that my participation in this GREAT OUTDOORS Inc. trip may include potentially hazardous activities, and I am voluntarily participating in these activities with the knowledge and understanding that I will use my best judgment to avoid injury to others and myself. I agree to follow the directions of the trip leader and abide by the rules of the facility I am using. I hereby release GREAT OUTDOORS Inc. including its officers, trail or trip leaders, agents or other persons working with GREAT OUTDOORS Inc. from any liability for injuries, physical or mental, which I may suffer by reason of participation in these activities.

I recognize in waiving this liability that I assume sole responsibility for my actions and cannot blame any injuries or losses on any other persons connected with GREAT OUTDOORS Inc. Our registration & cancellation deadline is one week prior to the first day of each outing. I hereby agree to assume full financial responsibility for any bills incurred by me for medical treatment as a result of my participation this GREAT OUTDOORS Inc. activity. In the event that I am unable to consent to medical care, I hereby authorize the trip leader to consent to emergency medical treatment for me, including hospitalizations and surgery, as may be determined under the circumstances.

Health problems/allergies: It is the responsibility of participants to carry on their person a record of significant allergies, medications, and medical history in the event of a medical emergency.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_