

# Outside

## How to See Yosemite's Firefall Without the Crowds

### Book a Guided Trip With a Local Lodge to Skip Busy Parking Lots

Amidst growing concerns about overcrowding, Groveland-based [Rush Creek Lodge](#), and [Evergreen Lodge](#) are offering a shuttle for the third year in a row, which includes a guided tour from a naturalist, and dinner to a limited number of participants who want to see the firefall via the [Yosemite Firefall Express](#). A guided service like this one, helps to simplify the travel process while ensuring that visitors are comfortable and in the right spot for the spectacle when the sun dips below the horizon. Participants do not have to stay at either property in order to take advantage of the shuttle services.



A view of the Firefall effect on El Capitan during sunset at Horsetail Fall as hundreds of tourists and photographers flock in Yosemite National Park, California. (Photo: Tayfun Cokun/Anadolu via Getty Images)

In the past, these shuttle services allowed visitors to bypass traditional reservations for the firefall event. While visitors no longer have to obtain reservations, they are still required to pay for admission into the park, which can be purchased for \$20 per adult or in the form of an annual Yosemite or America the Beautiful Pass for \$80 for U.S. citizens, and \$250 for non U.S. residents. The park entry fee is not included in the Yosemite Firefall Express experience.

Those who use the shuttle can expect to pay \$120 for adult participation and \$90 for children. Trips depart from Rush Creek Lodge on February 7 to 8th, 14th to 16th, and 21st to 22nd. The Evergreen Lodge offers trips on February 14th to 15th, and 21st to 22nd. But spots are competitive and can be tough to snag.