



Yosemite National Park

The Oregon S2000 Owner's Forum: [HTTP://OREGON.S2KI.COM](http://OREGON.S2KI.COM)

This 3-day drive will take you to one of the most spectacular scenic areas on the west coast. You will travel down to **Sacramento** for the first night. Then the second day you will travel up to **Yosemite** and spend the day there before finishing at **Mono Lake**. The third day brings you back to **Portland** by way of **Reno**. And to top off the scenery, you will have some great twisties!



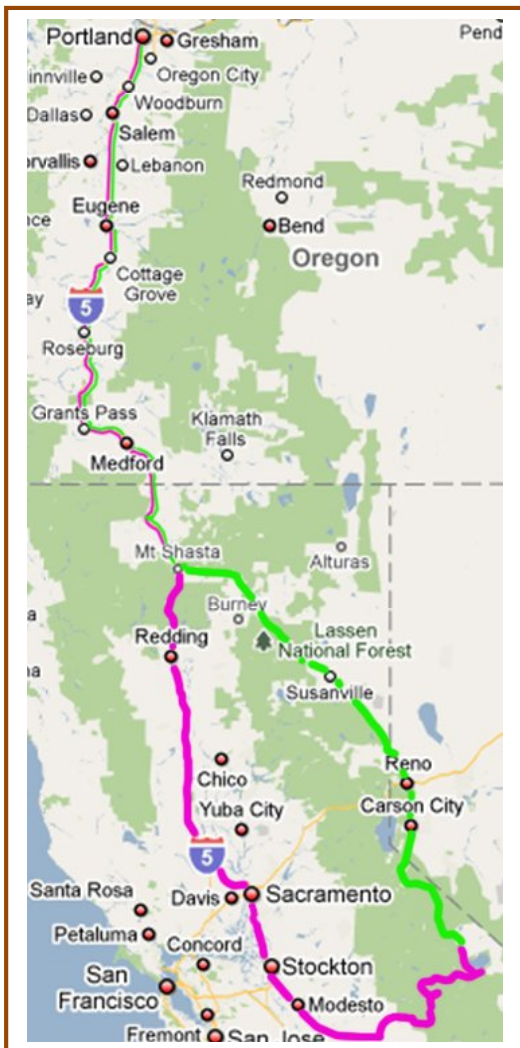
Driving = 75% 1, 15% 2 and 10% 4



Scenery = 5

Total Driving Time: 22 Hrs 30 Mins. / 1640 Miles

Portland to Sacramento - Driving Time: 7 Hrs. 15 Mins. / 582 Miles



Find your way to *I-5* southbound.



Stay on *I-5* to **California** and on down to **Sacramento**. Watch for the **CHP** hiding in those median bushes!

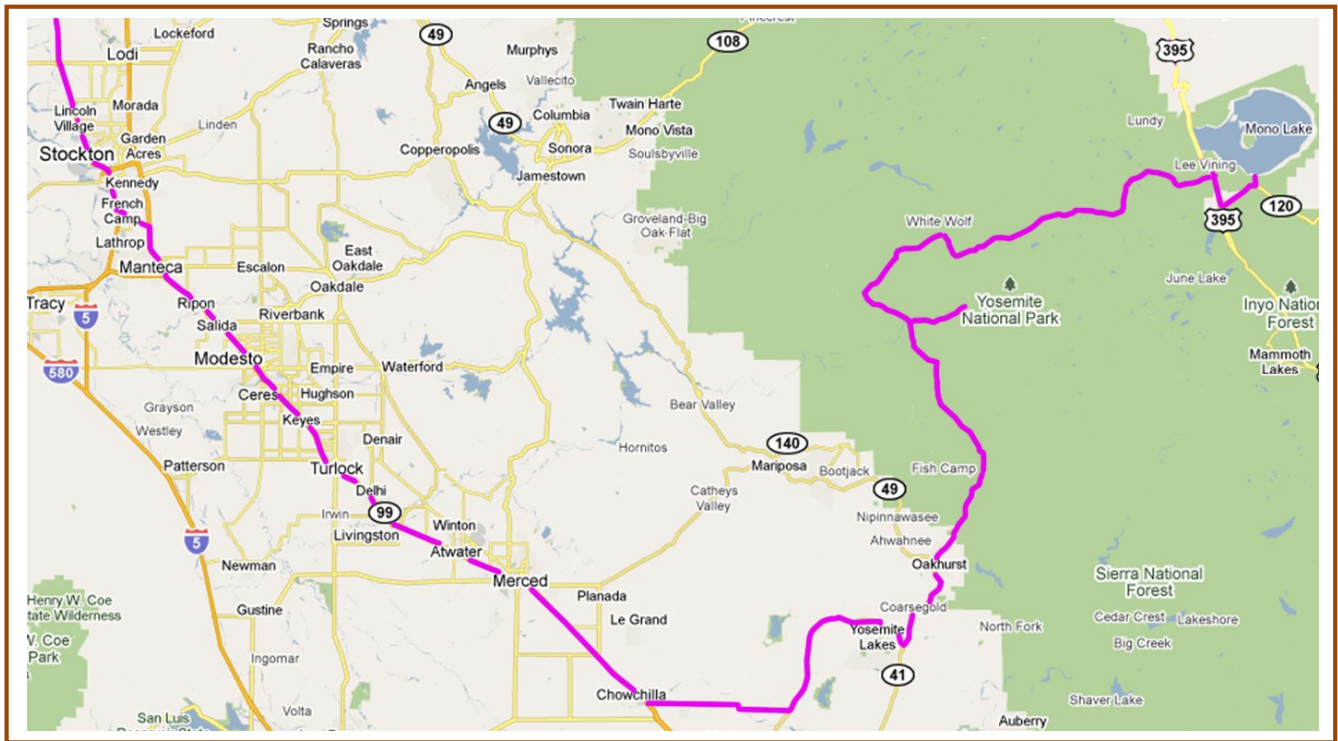


Find a motel in the **Sacramento** area for the night.

Sacramento to Lee Vining - Driving Time: 5 Hrs. 15 Mins. / 325 Miles



Zero your odometer trip gauge as you pass by the **Elk Grove Blvd Exit** – about **15 miles south of Sacramento** (the mileage points are based on this). Proceed south on *I-5*. It is suggested that you leave **Sacramento** at **7:00 am** in order to see the park and **Mono Lake**. This will put you into **Lee Vining** at about **5:30 pm**.



Looking at a map, the directions to the park below may seem to be a roundabout way. However, this is the route into **Yosemite on Hwy. 41**. You may **think** you came down to see **Yosemite**, but you **really** came down to drive **Hwy. 41!** 45 miles of great twists and turns – many banked!

Take **Exit #468** off of *I-5* (**mile 38.3**). Turn **left** under the freeway and follow *CR-J9 / East French Camp Road*. At **mile 43** take a **left** turn to the on-ramp for *Hwy. 99 South*. Follow *Hwy. 99 South*. At **Chowchilla**, take **Exit #170** from *Hwy. 99* (**mile 120.1**). Turn **left** on *SR 233 / Robertson Blvd*. *Robertson Blvd*. becomes *Avenue 26 / Webber Road*.

At *Road 29* (**mile 133.2**) turn **right**. Go ½ mile and turn **left** on *Daulton Road / Road 603*. At *Raymond Road / Road 600*, turn **left** (**mile 138.8**). Continue on *Raymond Road / Road 600* – which becomes *Road 415*. At *Hwy. 41 / Southern Yosemite Highway*, turn **left** (**mile 160.7**).

At **mile 168.4** you will arrive at **Oakhurst**. You should fuel up here as it is your last chance before heading through the park and over the **Sierras**. You may want to pick up a picnic lunch here as well for later.

Continue north on *Hwy. 41*. Enjoy one curve after another for the next 45 miles. Most people drive this early in the morning to spend more time at **Yosemite**. You should be going through here at about **10:00 am** – with little traffic to get in your way.



Just past **Fish Camp** is the entrance to the park (**mile 183.2**). The entrance fee is **\$20** for the car and occupants. Continue to enjoy those twisties on *Hwy. 41*.

At **mile 210.2** you will come to the entrance to **Yosemite Valley**. Turn **right** on *Hwy. 140 / Southside Drive*. To minimize congestion, the road through the park is one way. There are many scenic viewpoints along this road you will want to stop at.

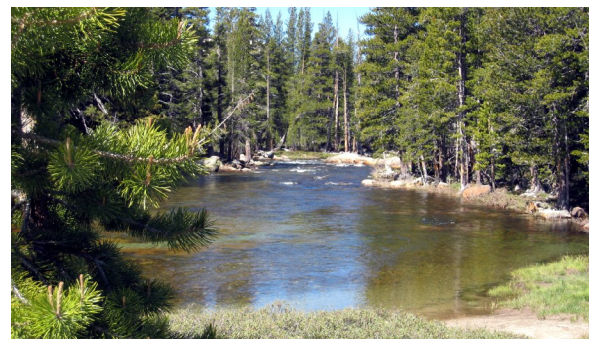
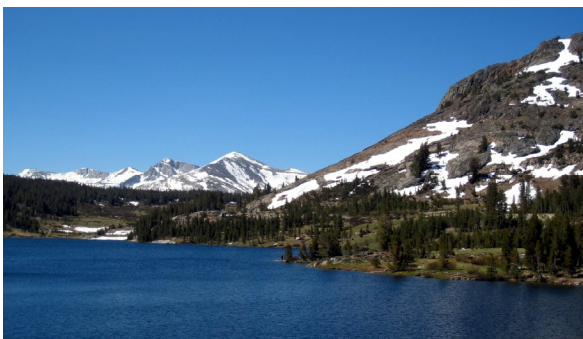
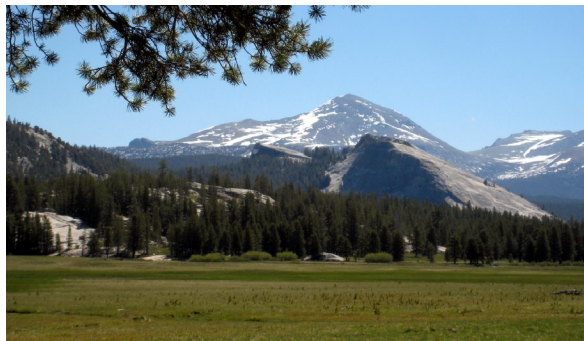
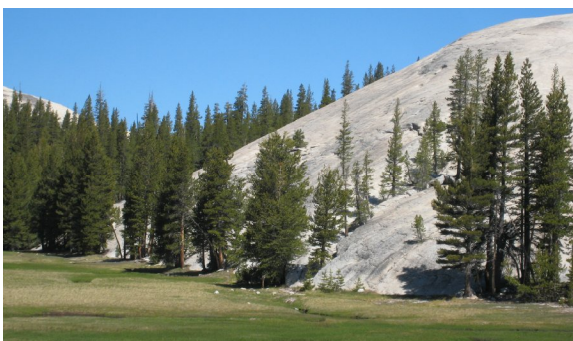


Hwy. 140 will take you to **Yosemite Village (mile 215.2)**. There will be a lot of congestion in this area, but it is the place that gives you a close-up view of **El Capitan, Yosemite Falls** and **Half Dome**. This would be a great place to enjoy that picnic lunch!



Don't dawdle too long as there is much more to see further on. Continue on *Hwy. 140* around the north side of the valley. At **mile 221.8** you will exit the valley. Turn **right** / north on *Big Oak Flat Road*. At the intersection with *Hwy. 120*, turn **right** / north (**mile 270.7**).

Highway 120 / Tioga Pass Highway will take you on through the park for some amazing vistas. Don't miss **Tuolumne Meadows**.



Continue east on *Hwy. 120*. You will crest the **Sierras** on **Tioga Pass** – at nearly the height of **Mt. Hood** - 9,941 feet!



Once down the east side of the **Sierras** you will arrive at **Lee Vining (mile 289.9)**. Turn **right** on *Hwy. 120 / Hwy. 395*. At **mile 294.7** turn **left** on *Hwy. 120*. This will take you down to **Mono Lake**. At **mile 299.4** turn **left** toward the lake and park. Dusty road ahead...



The “Tufas” rising out of the lake are fascinating. Spend some time here checking them out.

Return to *Hwy. 395*. Turn **right** on *Hwy. 120 / Hwy. 395* and head north. At **Lee Vining**, find your motel (**mile 309.6**). [**GPS:** *Lee Vining* address is 54411 US Highway 395, Lee Vining CA]

Lee Vining to Portland - **Driving Time: 10 Hrs. / 733 Miles**

Leaving **Lee Vining** at **7:00 am** will put you back into **Portland** between **6:30** and **7:30 pm** depending on your stops along the way.



Zero your odometer trip gauge as you leave **Lee Vining**. (the mileage points are based on this).

Head north on *Hwy 395*. Now you may think that you are in for a long boring day. Well, it will be long, but we can do something about the boring part.

At **mile 65.7** turn **left** on *Hwy. 89*. This will take you up across **Monitor Pass** – and give you some fun twisties along the way. At **mile 94.5** turn **right** on *Hwy. 88*. At **mile 100.7** you will enter **Nevada**. At **mile 108.5** bear **left** onto *Hwy. 395*.

Continue on *Hwy. 395* through **Carson City**, **Reno** and all the way to **Susanville**.



Just outside of **Susanville** continue straight ahead on *Hwy. 36* toward **Susanville (mile 238.8)**.
At **mile 244.9** turn **right** on *Hwy. 44*. At **mile 290.7** turn **right** on *Hwy. 89* toward **McCloud**.



At **mile 368.4** take the on-ramp onto *I-5* north. That's it – just follow *I-5* back to **Portland (mile 733)**.



Sacramento Motels: **\$33** to **\$249** per night
www.kayak.com

Yosemite National Park: **\$20.00** per car
<http://www.nps.gov/yose/index.htm>

Mono Lake Tufa State Natural Preserve: No admission charge
http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=514

Lee Vining Motels: **\$48** **\$229** per night
www.kayak.com or:
http://www.tripadvisor.com/Hotels-g32617-Lee_Vining_California-Hotels.html

Lee Vining:
<http://www.leevining.com/>

This is merely a suggested drive. You can shorten it – lengthen it – reverse it – modify it – deviate from it or just stay home and detail your car.

Enjoy and Drive Safely! S2Ki Oregon -  The fun starts here!

Revised 1/1/2010