

# Yosemite Adventure

Kehau Kali September 19, 2014



**Yosemite National Park in California is known for its majestic mountain peaks, cascading waterfalls and broad valleys. This year we vacationed there in late May before it got crowded, so we could hike, bike and explore to our hearts content.**

([Newswire.net](http://Newswire.net) -- September 19, 2014) Langley, BC -- This year on our annual vacation we flew out of Vancouver International Airport to San Francisco, California, picked up our rental car and drove to Yosemite National Park. I've always wanted to visit this park, hike the trails, climb the mountains and explore this ancient valley.

I still remember the first time I saw Ansel Adams' photos of Yosemite Valley's majestic mountains, verdant valleys and cascading waterfalls. I wanted to visit Yosemite for myself and be immersed in its lushness and amazed by her grandeur.

Our first view of a majestic waterfall was at the entrance of the valley. We saw Bridalveil Falls, a 620 foot high waterfall that was extremely full. The falling water thundered so loud you could hardly hear our neighbors. Fortunately for us, there were not a lot of other people there in late May.

We stayed in Camp Curry in a housekeeping tent with a communal bathroom and great big fire pits next to the Merced River. We could see Half Dome and Glacier Point from our tent and the valley floor. We watched rock climbers climb El Capitan and sleep overnight hanging thousands of feet high.

On our first hike, we hiked to Vernal Falls and then on to Nevada Falls. Nevada Falls was impressive with water falling 594 feet. At both Vernal and Nevada Falls were drenched from the spray, which felt good because we would feel hot from hiking. Other than the thunder from the rushing waters flowing in the Merced River over the falls and down the river, we didn't hear much other than our breathing, the wind rushing through the trees and bird calls. . We decided to take the John Muir trail back to our starting point.

The next day we visited the Yosemite Valley visitor center and museum in Yosemite Village. We bought supplies and enjoyed the peacefulness and serenity of the valley. Our third day we set out to Glacier Point and hike over to Sentinel Falls. As we drove up we noticed the snow patches on the side of the road, as the snow was still melting. Good thing we came prepared for cold weather. On our hike we didn't meet other hikers, but were entertained by all sorts of birds and squirrels and chipmunks. I had never seen squirrels and chipmunks before and now can easily tell them apart.

The reward on our long hike was viewing Sentinel Falls up close. At one point we couldn't pass over Sentinel Creek because of the rushing water and instead realized we had an impressive view of the falls from above. We had to turn back and hike back the way we came. I was startled by the gorgeous view of Sentinel Dome rising over 8000 feet above us.

Our last long hike was up the cables on Half Dome. We'd been training for months so we would be in good enough shape to hike up the cables to the Summit We prayed that it wouldn't rain so we'd stay dry (and so would the cables and rocks). When we made it to the top we just sat there and marveled at the view. Simply amazing!

On our drive back to San Francisco Airport and flight home to Vancouver, my partner and I reminisced about our adventures. Thanks to Cathy and Sandy at Walnut Grove Travel, we are planning our next vacation!

## About Walnut Grove Travel

Walnut Grove Cruise & Travel first opened its doors in 1991 to serve the traveling population of the growing Langley area. Our agency is a full service office affiliated with IATA, ACTA, and registered with the Business Practices and

Consumer Protection Authority of British Columbia (BPCPA) as well as the Better Business Bureau in good standing. Each of our in-house consultants have been formally trained and are continually upgrading and specializing in various areas.

## **Walnut Grove Travel**

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