

Naturalist Guide

Position type: Seasonal, part-time (non-exempt) **Reports to:** Director of Outdoor Programs **Location:** El Portal, CA / Yosemite National Park

Conservancy Naturalist Guides lead an array of programs from public excursions to private customized experiences. Picture leading a stargazing group of 25 people, a private half day walk to Sentinel Dome, stepping on as a guide for a bus tour, or co-instructing a multi-day backpack trip into the high country. Naturalist Guides need to have a deep understanding of Yosemite's natural and cultural history, along with the ability to comfortably create or adapt itineraries on the spot. Strong outdoor leadership and risk management skills are necessary. Naturalist Guides also serve as ambassadors to the Conservancy's fundraising work, helping foster a sense of stewardship and philanthropy among program participants. When not leading programs, you will have opportunities to create enriching educational materials for public enjoyment, including blogs, videos, and other content.

Who We Are

We're passionate about Yosemite — and about helping all people connect with, learn about, and take care of the park. As a member of the Conservancy team, you'll be making a difference for Yosemite every day. We work together to provide enriching visitor programs and services, and to support projects that protect wildlife, restore trails and habitat, advance scientific research, inspire visitors, and much more.

What You'll Do

The Naturalist Guide reports to the Director of Outdoor Programs and is responsible for the following:

- Instruct visitors and participants in high level natural and cultural history programs in Yosemite National Park.
- Lead customized field excursions for individuals, travel companies, and corporate groups.
- Provide interpretive programs for donor cultivation events, evening programs, and outings.
- Continued study and expert level understanding of the natural and cultural history of Yosemite.
- Grow understanding of interpretive methods and skills in reaching diverse audiences.

Who You Are / Keys to Success (the must-haves)

To be successful in this job, you will excel in these areas:

Hard skills:

- College diploma preferred or related experience (biology, forestry, environmental studies or similar).
- At least three years of related experience in an outdoor leadership role.
- CPR and first aid certification and wilderness travel skills required.



- Extensive knowledge of the natural and cultural history of the Sierra and interest in Yosemite National Park.
- High level of proficiency in public lands interpretation.
- Demonstrated ability and experience with facilitating groups and making presentations.
- Well-rounded understanding of safety measures for backcountry travel; able to teach, guide and monitor participants to prevent and minimize accidents in a wilderness setting.
- Ability to quickly learn software and monitor schedule electronically.
- Current knowledge of scientific research within the park.
- Valid California Driver's license.

Soft skills:

- Committed to continual learning and teaching, to the Conservancy mission, and to advancing a culture of inclusion in the organization and in Yosemite.
- Effective communication skills with an engaging, interactive style.
- Ability to establish rapport and engage with a variety of individuals of all cultures and ethnicities.
- Well-organized with trip planning and itinerary management.
- Ability to work independently and in a group setting.
- A strong logistical sense, flexibility, and sense of humor.

The following are plusses, but not requirements:

- Wilderness First Responder
- Leave No Trace certification

Working Conditions

- Mostly an outdoor work environment
- Able to stand, bend, stoop, crouch, walk and camp while working
- Often will have evening, weekend, and overnight work
- Able to lift, carry objects weighing up to 45 pounds when backpacking
- Able to walk, ski or snowshoe on uneven ground at high elevation and in challenging weather
- Sometimes sits at a computer station and operates electronic equipment



What Else You Should Know

We value diversity among our staff just as we value it among park visitors. As such, Yosemite Conservancy is an equal opportunity employer, and we encourage people of all backgrounds to apply to join our team. We especially encourage people of color, LGBQ people, transgender and gender non-conforming people, and people with disabilities to apply.

The position is based in Yosemite National Park with your work locations ranging from Yosemite Valley, Tuolumne Meadows, Mariposa Grove, and anywhere in between. This is a field-based position with some opportunities for content creation and professional development.

This is a seasonal position for 6 months of the year, spring through autumn. Limited housing is available. This position requires that you have your own transportation to reach the range of work sites.

The compensation for this position ranges from \$23-\$26/hour, depending on experience. This position averages 32-40 hours a week for the duration of the 6 month season.

Benefits include:

- workers' compensation
- 24 hours of sick leave
- annual National Parks pass

How to Apply

Please send a cover letter and resume in a single PDF file to kchappell@yosemite.org Deadline for application is January 31, 2022.

COVID-19 update: Please be aware that Yosemite Conservancy currently requires all employees to be fully vaccinated against the COVID-19 virus as a condition of employment.