



Half Dome Permit Process

1. 300 permits will be available for day hikers going to the top of Half Dome on Fri, Sat, Sun and Federal holidays. No permits required on other days – for now pending experiential studies. A new 2012 Procedure being developed. 100 more permits are reserved for Wilderness Permit holders hiking on routes that will include the HD cables, e.g. Little Yosemite Valley.
2. The cables are usually up (weather dependent) from the 3rd Friday in May thru Columbus Day Monday.
3. Book at www.recreation.gov or by calling 877-444-6777. 7 am to 7 pm. No mail or in-person.
4. Cost is \$1.50 non-refundable per permit with 4 obtainable with each call/internet request. You cannot get one within 7 days of your requested hike. NO refunds for any reason. Permits are transferable (no names on them) or given away – no resale or auctioning.
5. Everyone must have a permit on them to go beyond Sub Dome. This is the 400 ft granite-step hill just before the cables. Half Dome face climbers can come down the cables without a permit.
6. Rangers at Sub Dome will check permits and enforce this with a possible misdemeanor / \$5K fine / 6 months in a federal jail levied for abuse.
7. No onsite in-park (or walk-up) permits given. No permits given within 7 days of trip. No refunds, no exchanges.
8. To hike in May or June, the website and operators will available on March 1. To hike in July and August - April 1; For Sep and Oct - May 1.

Links:

1. NPS Half Dome permits Press Release (and links from here)
www.nps.gov/yose/parknews/hdpermits1.htm
2. 2008 Half Dome visitor study (102 page PDF)
www.nps.gov/yose/naturescience/upload/half-dome-study-2010.pdf

Learn more:

"One Best Hike: Yosemite's Half Dome" (Wilderness Press)

MrHalfDome.wordpress.com/

HikeHalfDome.com