

EXPEDITION DOSSIER SAMPLE

Glacier Point to Yosemite Valley

Illustrative 3-day backpacking plan | Route, logistics, decision gates, and keepsake-ready structure

Distance	Gain / loss	Nights	Primary planning issue
~30 mi illustrative	Route-dependent	2 backcountry	Permit, shuttle, snow/water, solo margin

One-page brief

This sample demonstrates the structure of a Rodfather Expedition Dossier. Distances, dates, and operational details are intentionally illustrative. A real dossier is rebuilt from the customer's permit, exact dates, current agency notices, official trail data, transportation bookings, and risk profile.

Mission

Link an iconic high-country start to a valley finish while preserving enough schedule margin for a solo traveler to react to weather, water, navigation, or transportation failures.

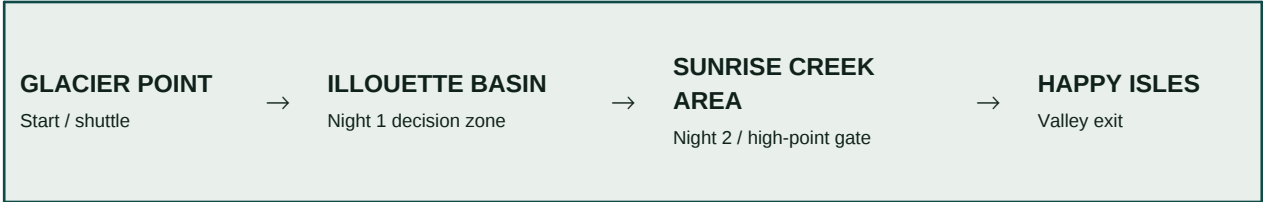
Decision gates

When	Decision	Go condition	Fallback
Before leaving home	Trip remains viable	Permit and access confirmed; route conditions acceptable	Rebook or select lower-risk route
Day 1 trailhead	Enter backcountry	Shuttle/parking solved; weather and water confirmed	Valley day / alternate trail
Day 2 morning	Commit to high point	Visibility, energy, water, and timing all support it	Stay on lower route / shorten day
Final descent	Use primary exit	Trail open and footing/weather acceptable	Agency-approved alternate exit

ROUTE PLATE

Map and waypoint logic

The production dossier uses sourced maps and customer route files. This sample uses a schematic route plate so it cannot be mistaken for a navigational map.



Waypoint table

Waypoint	Why it matters	Verification source in live product
Start / shuttle pickup	Transportation is a single-point failure	Operator confirmation + park notice
First legal camp zone	Controls pace and water strategy	Permit terms + wilderness rules
High-point junction	Turnaround and weather gate	Official trail/closure source + forecast
Valley exit	Vehicle, food, lodging, emergency access	Park transportation and road status

DAY 1

High-country entry to first camp

Plan element	Illustrative brief
Goal	Enter conservatively, solve water early, and reach a legal camp with daylight margin.
Primary risk	Late transportation or slower-than-planned start compresses camp-search time.
Water	Confirm current source reliability; carry enough to bridge the first uncertain segment.
Turnaround	If the first major junction is reached after the planned cutoff, use the designated shorter option.
Camp decision	Legal zone, water strategy, drainage/weather exposure, bear-storage compliance, low-impact surface.

Field schedule

Time band	Action
Morning	Final weather/closure/water check; stage vehicle and shuttle.
Midday	Move deliberately; verify junctions; record water observations.
Afternoon	Evaluate pace against camp-search and daylight margin.
Evening	Camp, food storage, next-day weather and decision-gate review.

DAY 2

Core expedition day and high-point decision

The dossier separates the route everyone hopes to do from the route the conditions actually support. The high-point objective is conditional on weather, visibility, footing, energy, water, and turnaround time.

Signal	Proceed	Modify / stop
Weather	Stable window with acceptable wind/visibility	Storm growth, smoke, exposed wind, poor visibility
Body / pace	On schedule, eating/drinking normally	Cumulative fatigue, pain, pace erosion
Route	Open and understood	Closure, snow/crossing uncertainty, navigation ambiguity
Margin	Return/descent before cutoff	Objective would consume emergency reserve

Fishing and optional equipment verdict

The real dossier treats optional gear as a mass/volume decision. It identifies where the activity is plausible, what time it would consume, and whether the equipment earns its place. The Pack Lab recipe can be attached to the dossier so recommendations are calculated rather than generic.

DAY 3

Exit day: waterfalls, descent, and valley logistics

Exit days can be deceptively risky: fatigue, crowds, wet stone, heat, and a mentally “finished” party. The plan protects a conservative descent pace and separates the trail exit from post-trip driving obligations.

Gate	Check
Trail choice	Open status, surface, water exposure, crowd pressure, personal comfort
Descent timing	Enough daylight and no pressure from a nonrefundable post-trip booking
Vehicle / transit	Exact vehicle location, shuttle status, keys, offline confirmation
Recovery	Food, hydration, clean clothes, safe lodging or driving limit
Closeout	Contact check-in, photos/track backup, actual conditions recorded

LOGISTICS

Permit, access, transport, and source ledger

Operational fact	Status in sample	How live product verifies it
Wilderness permit	Customer-provided / not shown	Permit image + issuing agency terms
Shuttle	Illustrative only	Operator booking + current pickup instructions
Trail closures	Not current	Managing-agency alerts checked and dated
Parking	Illustrative only	Official lot/road rules and current access
Food storage	Rule not reproduced here	Official wilderness regulation
Emergency contacts	Not shown in marketing sample	Current park/county/agency contacts

Source confidence legend

Status	Use
Confirmed	Direct official source or customer document; checked date shown.
Expected	Forecast/model or stable operational expectation; verify near departure.
Conditional	Depends on weather, route, permit, party, or field observation.
Unverified	Lead requiring confirmation; never presented as settled fact.

PACK + OUTFITTERS

Equipment as a system

A dossier does not dump a universal checklist. It links equipment to route hazards, weather, water, legal requirements, and the customer’s measured pack recipe.

System	Decision
Shelter / sleep	Temperature, wind, precipitation, campsite constraints, packed volume
Food / water	Days carried, reliable sources, treatment, required storage
Navigation / communication	Offline maps, battery, redundancy, emergency signaling
Optional fishing / camera	Measured mass/volume versus opportunity and schedule
Pack selection	Calculated usable volume, load shape, starting weight, torso/hipbelt fit

Commercial boundary

Gear recommendations are separated from safety requirements. A product link never turns an unverified item into a requirement, and affiliate economics do not replace fit, limitations, or current product data.

KEEPSAKE EDITION

After the trip: the plan becomes the story

The as-completed edition replaces forecasts with what happened: actual track, camps, conditions, decisions, photos, catches, quotes, and lessons. The same source ledger remains, but the document becomes a permanent expedition record ready for a book, poster, or framed chart.

Before-trip dossier	As-completed edition
Planned route and decisions	Actual track and decision story
Forecast weather	Observed conditions and photos
Proposed camps/stops	Actual camps/stops and notes
Gear plan	What worked, failed, or was unnecessary
Blank image positions	Curated photo narrative and captions

Important

This sample is not a current Yosemite plan and is not navigational. It demonstrates product depth, layout, uncertainty labeling, and the verification workflow. A customer dossier is built for the customer’s exact dates, permits, route, party, and current official sources.