

# Montecito Escort FAQ

## NEW Escort Times to Montecito

**IN: 5:00 pm OUT: 10:00 am**

*Q: What is an 'Escort'?*

A: An escort is a caravan of guest and resort vehicles that is often required by the Park Service due to narrow and icy roads. It is not a shuttle or van service. You will be arriving at Montecito in your own car.

*Q: If Montecito requires an escort, where do I go and what do I do?*

A: We escort Montecito guests with advance reservations into the resort at a set time. It is important that you **call 800-843-8677 before leaving home** for weather and road conditions. The escort caravan meets at the **Grant Grove Village**. In order to be part of an escort, you must follow these steps exactly:

1. Travel eastbound on Highway 180. If you are coming from the South, Route 63 is the most efficient way to reach Highway 180 East. If you are coming from the North, take Hwy 99 to 180 East through Fresno. See the directions page for complete instructions.
2. When you transition onto Hwy 180 call the Front Desk at (559) 565-3388 to confirm escort time and to sign you up for the escort. **There will be only one escort time** to get into Montecito. Do not miss it. You will not be escorted in unless you have called.
3. Continue on 180 past the Big Stump picnic area until you hit a three-way junction. To the right is the "Sequoia" road (Rt 198) and a locked gate. To the left is "Kings Canyon/Grant Grove." Go left at this junction to meet our Escort at Grant Grove.
4. Two miles past the junction you'll come to Grant Grove Village on the right hand side. Pull into the parking lot in front of the Post Office and Market. This is where the escort will meet. The Registration Desk is located between the Restaurant and Gift Shop. Let them know you are there for the Escort Service. If required, please put on your chains at this time. Unfortunately, our escort staff cannot assist you in putting on your chains. If you have a prolonged wait, feel free to make use of the Grant Grove Market, Restaurant and Gift Shop.

*Q: If an escort is required, do I need my chains?*

A: The Park Service requires that all vehicles carry snow chains regardless of drive-train. Translation: even if you have 'All Wheel Drive', '4-Wheel Drive', or 'Snow Tires' you are required by law to carry chains that fit (cable type chains are also permitted). However, if you have AWD, or 4x4, you will most likely not need to use your chains when driving into the Resort, however **chains must be carried** (just in case) at all times. Chain use requirements are dependent on conditions and will be determined by Park Service as indicated on roadside signs.

*Q: What happens if I can't make the escort?*

A: The park service permits our use of the road **ONE TIME PER DAY** in each direction. Once **at 5:00 pm** for incoming guests and **10:00 am** for departing guests. If you are unable to arrive at this time, you will be unable to access our resort. These times are not flexible and cannot be changed. If you miss the 5:00 pm escort, we may be able to move your first night's reservation to the John Muir Lodge in Grant Grove Village.