

Montecito Escort FAQ

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 advanced reservations into the resort at three times per day: **11am, 3pm, and 6pm**. The escort caravan meets at the **Grant Grove Marketplace**. 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. If you are coming from the North, find take Hwy 99 to 180 through Fresno. See the [Directions](#) page for complete instructions.
2. When you transition onto Hwy 180 call the Front Desk at (559) 565-3388 and we will sign you up for a specific escort time. The times are set at 11am, 3pm, and 6pm and cannot be changed to accommodate individual needs. You will not be escorted in unless you have called us prior to your arrival at Grant Grove.
3. Continue on 180 past the Big Stump picnic area until you hit a three-way junction. To the right is the "Sequoia" road and a locked gate. To the left is "Kings Canyon/Grant Grove." Go left at this junction. See this [Map](#) for details.
4. Four miles past the junction you'll come to Grant Grove village on the right hand side. Pull into the parking lot near the Post Office and Marketplace. This is where the escort will meet. 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, 4x4, or Snow Tires 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 condition dependent and determined by the 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 three times per day at 11am, 3pm, and 6pm. If you are unable to arrive on one of these three scheduled times, you will be unable to access our resort. These times are not flexible and cannot be changed under any circumstances. If you miss the 6pm escort, we may be able to move your first night's reservation to the John Muir Lodge in Grant Grove. Please call the Montecito front desk for further information.