



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
Grand Teton National Park
Moose, Wyoming

2022 Commercial Use Authorization (CUA) Program Portrait Services

Category Defined:

Portrait Services is an in-park visitor service in which business operators are hired to take portraits of a person or group of people in Grand Teton National Park (GRTE) and John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Memorial Parkway (JODR) for special occasions. This service includes the use of photography, videography, and other commissioned media for wedding ceremony photography, elopement photography, engagement photography, individual and family portraits, family vacation photography, school/graduation portraits, and pet portraits (must abide by park pet regulations). When a business operator is commissioned for a wedding ceremony and associated wedding photography, a separate wedding permit (special event permit) must be obtained by the couple through the Visitor Services Office if the wedding ceremony is taking place in the park. Information on obtaining a wedding permit may be found at [Weddings in the Tetons - Grand Teton National Park \(U.S. National Park Service\) \(nps.gov\)](#).

Specific Statement of Appropriate Use:

Portrait Services is an appropriate use of GRTE and JODR because it provides a means for visitors to enjoy and record memories of the fundamental resources and values of GRTE and JODR. Portrait services document visitors in spectacular settings in way that does not impair or threaten park resources and values.

Management Objectives:

The GRTE Foundation Document describes the park as providing an excellent area in which visitors may “immerse themselves in the spectacular natural setting of the Teton Range” in its ‘Fundamental Resources and Values’ document.¹ Portrait services provide an opportunity for visitors to document and remember that immersion in park resources. Portrait Services adhere to the management objectives of GRTE, JODR, and the National Park Service (NPS) by assisting the park in meeting the NPS mission standards of providing excellent visitor services.

Operating Plan

Conditions of Use:

- Group size is limited to 12 people including photographer/s. This group size limit does not apply when portrait session is conducted in association with a fully executed wedding permit or other special use permit and is then limited to the location and number of guests stated on the special event permit. Group sizes larger than 12 people will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Proposals should be submitted at least 10 business days in advance to grte_business_resources@nps.gov with group size, number of vehicles, requested locations, date, and time proposed.

¹ GRTE: Foundation for Planning and Management, PG 7, PG 35



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- Portrait services are permitted in front country areas open to the public and on hiking trails within ½ mile of the road. Portrait services are not permitted in areas managed as wilderness, the boundary of which is generally located along the west side of the lakes at the base of the mountains. A map of areas managed as wilderness may be viewed by clicking here [Wilderness - Grand Teton National Park \(U.S. National Park Service\) \(nps.gov\)](#).
- Portrait services may be conducted in caravans of up to five vehicles which may include up to one commercial vehicle and up to four private vehicles for each group.
- Portrait services may not be conducted on roads and/or areas which are not open to the general public. Commercial use of the RKO/River Road is not authorized north of the Bar BC Ranch.
- CUA holders are prohibited from conducting activities in or from entering areas that could be considered residential in nature to include administrative areas, service areas, employee housing areas, lodging/cabin areas, campgrounds and along campground entrance roads. In-park pickups are allowed at concessions lodging areas with prior written permission by concessions operators.
- All commercial use and activity on the Laurance S. Rockefeller Preserve is prohibited.
- Walks of ½ mile or less are authorized on official trails originating from official trailheads and designated turnouts and parking lots. Walking to Hidden Falls or Inspiration Point is not permitted.
- All representatives and employees of CUA holders must conduct themselves in a professional manner at all times.
- The name and employing company of all CUA representatives and employees, must be identifiable through the use of uniforms, name tags and logos while conducting portrait services. Commercially owned, leased, and rented vehicles must be identifiable on the outside of the vehicle with a company name.
- Any information provided about the park must be accurate and unbiased.
- Portrait sessions must be conducted in a way that allows for the free flow of traffic on roads, in parking lots, and on trails and must not conflict with the public's normal use of park areas. Visitors may not be asked to move, and areas may not be closed to accommodate portrait sessions. Portrait services may not encroach upon or disrupt scheduled special events, such as weddings, authorized by a Special Use Permit.
- Artificial lighting beyond that which is handheld may not be used. Authorized lighting equipment includes but is not limited to on-camera flash/TTL flash, handheld light modifiers, handheld flash brackets, handheld flash heads, handheld reflectors, and handheld diffusers.
- The following is prohibited: erecting tents, arches, arbors, canopies, tables, and chairs; using props or placing decorations that cannot be carried at all times such as rugs, vases, flower stands, and lights. Attaching or placing decorations or equipment (e.g., balloons, banners, flower stands, lights, objects, signs, streamers) to any natural or historic object or any National Park Service sign, bench, post, building, or facility. Only handheld items that can be carried at all times are permissible.
- Operators and subjects must comply as directed by NPS staff engaged in administering wildlife management operations or managing wildlife viewing opportunities.
- Photography authorized by this permit must be conducted so as not to attract, harass, or disturb wildlife. Operators and clients are prohibited from using or possessing elk bugles, varmint calls, audio attractants or other artificial means or natural methods of attracting or disturbing wildlife as described in §2.2(a)(2) Grand Teton National Park & John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Memorial Parkway Superintendent's Compendium.



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- Flash photography or use of artificial lighting to view wildlife is prohibited as described in §2.2(e) Grand Teton National Park & John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Memorial Parkway Superintendent's Compendium.
- Operators commissioned for both portrait services and conducting photography, videography, or painting workshops must obtain a CUA for each activity category.
- 'Non-low Impact' filming is not authorized within this CUA. The definition of 'Non-Low Impact' filming and information about filming permits may be found at [Film, Photography, and Sound Recording Permits - Grand Teton National Park \(U.S. National Park Service\) \(nps.gov\)](#).
- All business transactions must take place outside of Grand Teton National Park (GRTE) or the John D. Rockefeller Jr. Memorial Parkway (JODR).