



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
SEQUOIA & KINGS CANYON NATIONAL PARKS
47050 GENERALS HWY
THREE RIVERS, CA 93271-9651



Weddings in Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks

A **Special Use Permit** is required for **any** wedding held at any location within Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks. The permit application fee is \$50 and is non-refundable. The permit fee is an additional charge of \$125 to be paid upon application approval. Weddings may be scheduled up to one year in advance. Please read the attached information and complete the attached wedding permit information form. Include your telephone number, address, email address, number of people, date, time, and exact location. Also, include any special needs of the wedding party (i.e. handicapped access, elderly guests, etc.)

To pay by personal checks, money orders or cashier's checks, make the payment out to:

Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks

Mail to:

Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks

Attn: Special Use Permits

47050 Generals Highway

Three Rivers, CA 93271-9700

To pay by credit card, debit card or direct debit, make an electronic payment by accessing www.pay.gov and input "SEKI" into the search bar. Choose "Continue to the Form" under the "Sequoia and Kings Canyon NP Wedding Permit Fees" form and then choose "Continue to the Form" again to submit payment. Submit the application along with a copy of proof of payment via mail or scan the application and email it to seki_concessions@nps.gov.

The approved permit must be in your possession at the time of the wedding.

Entrance fees into the park are **NOT WAIVED** for either wedding participants or guests.

National Park Service Weddings/Receptions

A visit to the park is highly recommended prior to finalizing your plans in order to decide on a site for your wedding. Attached is a list of possible sites along with group size restrictions. For additional questions contact the park office at (559) 565-4235.

The wedding permit does not allow your ceremony to restrict other park visitors from your chosen location nor does it guarantee you a specific site. It is recommended that you avoid sites that attract a large number of visitors or schedule your ceremony for early or late in the day. By doing so, your wedding will have more privacy. The maximum time allowed for outdoor events is three hours. Wedding permits will not be issued for heavy use periods—Memorial Day weekend, Fourth of July, and Labor Day weekend.

Receptions may be held only in concessioner facilities or private property. Delaware North Companies (DNC) Parks & Resorts at Sequoia have facilities in Wuksachi, Grant Grove and Cedar Grove. DNC provides food service, lodging, grocery and gift shops as well as catering services for receptions. DNC Parks and Resorts at Sequoia contact the Special Functions department at (801) 559-5050 or visit their website at www.visitsequoia.com. Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks have a website that may contain additional information, www.nps.gov/seki/index.htm.

Campgrounds are available in Lodgepole, Dorst, Grant Grove, Cedar Grove, Potwisha, and Buckeye Flat as well as other sites throughout Sequoia National Forest.

You will need to provide your own officiant for your ceremony. Refer to <http://www.cdph.ca.gov/certlic/birthdeathmar/pages/marriagelicenseinformation.aspx> for information on marriage laws in California.

Transportation

- All vehicles, including motorcycles, must be parked in designated areas only; no off-road traffic is permitted. Parking is limited in most areas so it is recommended that all wedding participants and guests carpool to site.
- Special conveyances, including but not limited to horse drawn carriages and hot air balloons, are prohibited.
- Any activity not allowed to the general public will not be allowed to a wedding party.

Conditions of Special Use Permit

1. The permittee is prohibited from giving false information; to do so will be considered a breach of conditions and be grounds for revocation: [36 CFR 2.32(a)(3)].
2. The permittee shall exercise this privilege subject to the supervision of the Superintendent or designee, and shall comply with all applicable federal, state, county and municipal laws, ordinances, regulations, codes, and the terms and conditions of this permit. Failure to do so may result in the immediate suspension of the permitted activity or the termination of the permit.
3. If any provision of this permit shall be found to be invalid or unenforceable, the remainder of this permit shall not be affected and the other provisions of this permit shall be valid and be enforced to the fullest extent permitted by law.
4. The permittee is responsible for making all necessary contacts and arrangements with other Federal, State, and local agencies to secure required inspections, permits, licenses, etc.
5. Failure to comply with any of the terms and conditions of this permit may result in the immediate suspension or revocation of the permit. All costs associated with clean up or damage repairs in conjunction with a terminated permit will be the responsibility of the permittee.
6. This permit may be revoked at the discretion of the Superintendent upon 24 hours' notice, or without notice if damage to resources or facilities occurs or is threatened, notwithstanding any other term or condition of the permit to the contrary.
7. This agreement is made upon the express condition that the United States, its agents and employees shall be free from all liabilities and claims for damages and/or suits for or by reason of any injury, injuries, or death to any person or persons or property of any kind whatsoever, whether to the person or property of the (Permittee/Grantee), its agents or employees, or third parties, from any cause or causes whatsoever while in or upon said premises or any part thereof during the term of this agreement or occasioned by any occupancy or use of said premises or any activity carried on by the (Permittee) in connection herewith, and the (Permittee) hereby covenants and agrees to indemnify, defend, save and hold harmless the United States, its agents, and employees from all liabilities, charges, expenses and costs on account of or by reason of any such injuries, deaths, liabilities, claims, suits or losses however occurring or damages growing out of the same.
8. Permittee agrees to carry general liability insurance against claims occasioned by the action or omissions of the permittee, its agents and employees in carrying out the activities and operations authorized by this permit. The policy shall be in the amount of \$____0_____ and underwritten by a United States company naming the United States of America as **additionally insured**. The permittee agrees to provide the Superintendent with a Certificate of Insurance with the proper endorsements prior to the effective date of the permit.
9. Permittee agrees to deposit with the park a bond in the amount of \$____0_____ from an authorized bonding company or in the form of cash or cash equivalent, to guarantee that all financial obligations to the park will be met, including the restoration and rehabilitation of the permitted area.
10. Costs incurred by the park as a result of accepting and processing the application and managing and

monitoring the permitted activity will be reimbursed by the permittee. Administrative costs and estimated costs for activities on site must be paid when the permit is approved. If any additional costs are incurred by the park, the permittee will be billed at the conclusion of the permit. Should the estimated costs paid exceed the actual costs incurred; the difference will be returned to the permittee.

11. The person named on the permit as in charge of the permitted activity on-site must have full authority to make any decisions about the activity and must remain on-site at all times. He/she shall be responsible for all individuals, groups, vendors, etc. involved with the permit
12. As a condition of acceptance of this permit by the permittee and pursuant to 41 U.S. C. 22, "No Member of Congress shall be admitted to any share or part of any contract or agreement made, entered into, or accepted by or on behalf of the United States, or to any benefit to arise thereupon."
13. Nothing herein contained shall be construed as binding the Service to expend in any one fiscal year any sum in excess of appropriations made by Congress or administratively allocated for the purpose of this Agreement for the fiscal year, or to involve the Service in any contract or other obligation for the further expenditure of money in excess of such appropriations or allocations.
14. This permit may not be transferred or assigned without the prior written consent of the Superintendent.
15. The Permittee shall exercise this privilege subject to the supervision of the Superintendent, Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks, and shall comply with all applicable laws and regulations of the area.
16. **Damages:** The Permittee shall pay the United States for any damage resulting from this use which would not reasonably be inherent in the use which the Permittee is authorized to make of the land described in this permit.
17. **Assignment:** This permit may not be transferred or assigned, and pursuant to the National Parks and Recreation Act of 1978 (Public Law 95-625), it is issued only to those persons who were Permittee's of record on the date of said Act.
18. Permittee will comply with applicable public health and sanitation standards and codes.
19. This special use permit for a wedding does not allow the ceremony to restrict other park visitors from any location.
20. The variety of ecological sites located within the Park boundaries are all important components of the Park's renowned resources as well as important habitats for a host of plants and animals. Some of these areas, such as The General Sherman Tree, The General Grant Tree, Moro Rock and Crystal Cave, attract a great deal of visitor use, which results in considerable environmental impact. To minimize such impacts and to maintain the scenic and ecological integrity of these sites, no special activities such as weddings, formal meetings or parties are permitted at these sites.
21. Weddings are not allowed around the bases of Sequoia trees.
22. For the purposes of this agreement the District Ranger within Kings Canyon National Park shall represent the National Park Service. He can be contacted at (559) 565-4330. If the wedding takes place in Sequoia National Park, the Sequoia District Ranger can be reached at (559) 565-3710.
23. Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Park Rangers strictly enforce all laws relating to excessive drinking. The Permittee and guests must comply with all applicable federal, state and county regulations.
24. The Code of Federal Regulations (CFR-36, 2.12) addresses audio disturbances and prohibits the following: radio, television sets, tape deck or musical instruments, in a manner that exceeds a noise level of 60 decibels measured on the A weighted scale at 50 feet. No amplified music or public address systems are allowed.
25. The use of balloons or any other artificial decorations that would distract from the public enjoyment of the area or that threaten the resources are prohibited. No event or directional signs are allowed.

26. The release of butterflies is prohibited.
27. Birdseed or rice may not be thrown within the Park, as this provides an unnatural food source for park wildlife.
28. All bouquets, boutonnieres or any other flowers – cut or live – brought into the parks must either leave the park with the wedding party or may be disposed of in any locked park trash receptacle.
29. Receptions may be held only in concessioner facilities or on private property. Picnic areas may not be reserved and are only available on a first-come, first-serve basis. Permittee is responsible for the clean up of all its trash.
30. Vehicles must be parked in designated areas only; travel off of established roads is not allowed.
31. Pets are prohibited except in campgrounds and must be leashed at all times.
32. Folding chairs will only be approved on a case by case basis.
33. Permittee(s) and guests coming to the Parks for the wedding must pay the usual entrance fee of **\$30.00 per vehicle**. All National Park passes will be accepted.