

Yosemite National Park

Wedding/Commitment Ceremony Application

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Yosemite National Park
P.O. Box 577
Yosemite, CA 95389



Instructions:

(Applications will be accepted up to 1 year in advance of the event.)

1. Complete the attached application and email to:

yose_special_use_permits@nps.gov

Note: email subject line should say Wedding Application

Next, mail the original application and payment to:

**National Park Service, Yosemite National Park (SPU)
Attn: Catherine Carlisle-McMullen, P.O. Box 700, El Portal, CA 95318**

The application fee (\$50) & permit processing fee (\$100) are non-refundable, with no exceptions. (We are unable to accept credit card payment or wire transfers at this time.) Mail a check, bank draft or money order for **\$150**, made payable to "National Park Service".

2. Please take note regarding the following application sections on the attached application form.

Instructions for filling out the application are listed below:

- **"Applicant Names"** Enter both names (first and last) of the couple.
- **"Telephone #"** Include area code, and international code if outside of U.S.
- **"Street/Address"** Enter mailing address.
- **"Proposed Activity"** Enter "Wedding Ceremony", "Commitment Ceremony" or "Vow Renewal Ceremony".
- **"Preferred Location"** due to the large number of requests for outdoor areas at least one alternate location should be considered for the event date.
- **"Preferred Time"** (e.g. 10am-12pm) Include time for set up, clean up and event photos (may request up to 2 hours maximum for outdoor events).
- **"List of equipment"**: Contact the Office of Special Park Uses for information on equipment that may be authorized for outdoor events.
- **"Credit Card Authorization"**: Do not enter your credit card information. We are unable to process credit cards or wire transfers at this time. Fees must be paid using a check, bank draft or money order.

3. Once the original application and payment is received by this office, and after favorable review, a Special Use Permit will be **emailed** to the applicant for review and signature. The signed permit must be emailed or faxed back to the Special Park Uses office for final authorization (See email address below). The valid permit will be emailed to the permittee once authorized.

- If the requested wedding location is not available, a park representative will work with the applicant to secure a new location. An additional application fee will not be required.
- For more information please email Catherine_Carlisle-Mcmullen@nps.gov or phone 209-379-1858 during regular business hours, Monday – Friday, 9am-5pm, Pacific Standard Time. Note, in the email address above there is an underscore symbol between Catherine and Carlisle.

Approved Wedding locations include:

- **Yosemite Hospitality, Inc.; Majestic Yosemite Hotel, Big Trees Lodge, Yosemite Valley Lodge and Tuolumne Lodge.**
Schedule (reserve) use through The Majestic Yosemite Hotel, special events office, (801) 559-5050. Maximum time period for events is 4 hours.
- **Yosemite Community Chapel**
Must be scheduled (reserved) through the Chapel secretary. Please call and leave a message at **(209) 372-4831 or email to YosemiteChapel@sbcglobal.net.**
-Maximum time period for Chapel events is **90 minutes.**
-Maximum capacity of Chapel is **125 people.**
- **Outdoor Locations**
-Select a site from the **Wedding/Ceremony Locations** list posted on this website.
-Maximum group size varies based on the locations, refer to location list.
-Maximum time period for outdoor ceremonies is **2 hours.** (Includes set up, clean up, ceremony & photos only.)
- Depending upon the location and group size a Ranger monitor may be assigned to monitor the event. The permittee will be responsible to reimburse the National Park Service for the cost of the monitor's time at the event and travel to and from the wedding site at a rate of **\$50** per hour. Please review the **Wedding/Ceremony Locations List** for specific monitoring requirements.

General Information:

- Using the **Wedding/Ceremony Locations List** please note time-frame and months in "*parenthesis*" listed for various beach locations in Yosemite Valley. These time-frames indicate the best options for weddings to occur on the beach so as not to conflict with rafters during rafting season. The month-frame listed indicates the months during which the rafting season typically occurs although it varies considerably each year. It is estimated that after the month of June or as late as September, the rafting season will end and weddings may then be scheduled at any time of day or evening (to dusk only) within beach areas.
- In general a wedding/ceremony may be scheduled for anytime from sun-up to sun-down with exception to beach locations, as many beach sites are closed at early dusk.
- Wedding/Ceremonies held within picnic/beach locations must occur on the beach.
- If a group consists of a total of **10 people or less** (including minister, photographer(s), wedding party, guests, etc.) a specific location not listed on the **Wedding/Ceremony Locations List** may be requested by the applicant. A group size of more than 10 is strictly prohibited from using areas not listed on the location list.
- Groups of **10 or less** are restricted to boardwalks, paved paths, hiking trails and viewing areas. The use of meadows is strictly prohibited with the exception of El Capitan Meadow. Contact Catherine_Carlisle-Mcmullen@nps.gov (209-379-1858) to learn more about possible wedding sites.
- Flowers and Boutonnieres: The National Park Service encourages applicants to select flower species indigenous to Yosemite such as, Indian Paintbrush or Black-eyed Susan's, or to select Bouquets and Boutonnieres that include hardy or closed bud species such as roses or tulips so seeds do not revegetate the park with non-indigenous species. **Call (209) 379-1858 for more information.**
- Any sections on the application that show gray highlights (grayed-out type) are not applicable such as Equipment and Credit Card information (see form).



Application for Special Use Permit
(Wedding/Commitment Ceremony)

Please supply the information requested below. **Attach additional sheets, if necessary, to provide required information.** A nonrefundable processing fee of **\$150.00** must accompany this application unless the requested use is an exercise of a First Amendment right. You must allow sufficient time for the park to process your request; check with the park for guidelines. You will be notified of the status of the application and the necessary steps to secure your final permit. Your permit may require the payment of cost recovery charges and proof of liability insurance naming the United States of America as also insured.

Applicant Names:	Telephone #:
Organization Name:	Cell phone #:
Social Security or Tax ID #:	Fax#:
Street/Address:	Email:
City/State/Zip Code:	

Proposed activity: _____

Preferred Date	Preferred Location	Preferred Time
Alternate Date(s)	Alternate Location(s)	Alternate Time(s)

Alternatives will be considered if first choice is not available.

Maximum Number of Participants _____ Maximum Number of Vehicles _____

List of equipment *(i.e. tables, chairs, grills, sound system, etc.)*

Individual in charge of activity onsite (include cell phone number) and authorized to make decisions related to the permitted activity:

Have you visited the requested area? Y N

Is this an exercise of a First Amendment rights? Y N

The applicant by his or her signature certifies that all the information given is complete and correct, and that no false or misleading information or false statements have been given.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Note: This is an application only, and does not serve as permission to conduct any special activity in the park. The information provided will be used to determine whether a permit will be issued. Send the completed application along with the application fee in the form of a check or money order made payable to **National Park Service** to **Office of Special Park Uses - Weddings** at the Park address found on the first page of this application.

If your request is approved, a permit containing applicable terms and conditions will be sent to you. The permit must be signed by the responsible person and returned to the park for final approval by the Park Superintendent before the permitted activity may begin.

Credit Card Authorization: All credit card information is protected under the Privacy Act.

Name as it appears on the card (print clearly):

(Circle One): VISA MasterCard Discover

No. _____ Exp. __ / __ Security Code _____
(Month/Year)

Total Amount Authorized: \$ _____

Notice to Customers Making Payment by Personal Check: When you provide a check as payment, you authorize us either to use information from your check to make a one-time electronic fund transfer from your account or to process the payment as a check transaction. When we use information from your check to make an electronic fund transfer, funds may be withdrawn from your account as soon as the same day we receive your payment, and you will not receive your check back from your financial institution.

NOTICES

Privacy Act Statement: The Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. 552a) provides that you be furnished with the following information in connection with information required by this application. This information is being collected to allow the park manager to make a value judgment on whether or not to allow the requested use. Applicants are required to provide their social security or taxpayer identification number for activities subject to collection of fees and charges by the National Park Service (31 U.S.C. 7701). Information from the application may be transferred to appropriate Federal, State, and local agencies, when relevant to civil, criminal or regulatory investigations or prosecutions.

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: We are collecting this information subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501) to provide the park managers the information needed to decide whether or not to allow the requested use. All applicable parts of the form must be completed in order for your request to be considered. You are not required to respond to this or any other Federal agency-sponsored information collection unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 15 minutes per response, including the time it takes to read, gather and maintain data, review instructions and complete the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Information Collection Clearance Officer, National Park Service, 1849 C Street, NW (1237), Washington, D.C. 20240.

Title 18 U.S.C. Section 1001 makes it a crime for any person knowingly and willfully to make to any department or agency of the United States any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or representations as to any matter within its jurisdiction.