

**ZION NATIONAL PARK
COMMERCIAL USE AUTHORIZATION PROGRAM**

**2019 OPERATING PLAN FOR
COMMERCIAL MOTORCYCLE TOURS**

1. **Pass Through Only:** Authorized Use - Continuation of one-way regional (southwestern Utah and northern Arizona) leader accompanied motorcycle tours through designated portions of Zion National Park, including Kolob Canyons. Said motorcycle tours within Zion National Park are contingent upon conformance with, and subject to, all conditions included herein. No motorcycle activities or business limited to and/or focused upon Zion National Park are authorized by this permit.

Authorized Area of Use – Zion-Mt. Carmel Highway (NPS Route 10) through Zion National Park, which connects sections of Utah State Route 9, and associated park facilities in Zion National Park; and those portions of the Kolob Terrace Road between the Town of Virgin and the Kolob Reservoir within Zion National Park.

2. **Roadways Only:** In accordance with 36 CFR 4.10, motorcycle use within Zion National is prohibited except on established paved roads and parking areas.
3. **Closures and Public Use Limits:** The following areas are closed or restricted as indicated below. Additional locations may be closed or restricted by the posting of appropriate signs.

The Zion Canyon Scenic Drive is limited to pedestrians, bicyclists, shuttle buses, and private vehicles driven by Lodge guests with lodging reservations, and 26+ capacity passenger buses during the shuttle season (typically mid-March through November). Travel in Zion Canyon above the Lodge is restricted to all motor vehicles except shuttle buses. The permittee's support vehicles are prohibited from traveling up the Zion Canyon Scenic Drive during the shuttle season (unless in possession of overnight lodging reservations as stated above). Visit www.nps.gov/zion for more information on the park's shuttle system.

Additional closed areas: Behind the administrative offices, in the employee housing areas, behind locked gates, near water tanks, beyond fences, on service roads, or in construction areas.

Parking and stopping along park roads is prohibited except at designated parking areas or pull-offs. All vehicles must be kept on established roadways, and there shall be no interference with pedestrians or other traffic in the park. **Parking and stopping in shuttle bus stops is prohibited during the shuttle season.**

4. **Speed Limits:**

Permittee and permittee's employees must follow all applicable traffic laws and posted speed limits throughout the park. Operating a vehicle at a speed in excess of the speed limit is prohibited.

Passing motor vehicles is prohibited throughout the park.

5. **Accidents/Injuries/Illness:** All accidents involving property damage, injuries, and/or medical problems should be reported to the park immediately at a ranger contact station or by calling (435) 772-3322. All such information must also be relayed by the permittee to the CUA program manager within 24 hours via email to zion_commercialservices@nps.gov.
6. **Tour Leaders:** An employee of the permittee designated as a tour leader shall ride at the rear of the group to assist with motorcycle adjustments and other touring concerns. Tour leaders shall brief the participants of each ride on safety concerns relevant to each day's ride on the morning of that riding day. Tour leaders shall be well acquainted with park regulations and support compliance with said regulations.

_____ Signature

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Acknowledgement of Permit Conditions: All guides and drivers are required to submit an online acknowledgement of CUA permit conditions before leading and/or driving tours into Zion National Park. This form is available by visiting: <https://goo.gl/forms/FQ4Cr9lmFpS1sxFO2>

7. **Support Vehicle:** A support vehicle shall accompany each tour and be accessible to the needs of the motorcycle riders. **Support vehicles will be prohibited from traveling up the Zion Canyon Scenic Drive during shuttle operation season.** All support vehicles used during the provisions of this service must have company identification visible on the driver's side of the vehicle. The park reserves the right to refuse entry to any previously undeclared driver or vehicle.
8. **First-Aid Supplies:** Adequately sized first-aid kits shall be carried by both the motorcycle riding tour leader at the rear of the tour group and in the support vehicle.
9. **Permittees must post a safety notice and advise all participants to read this notice (and/or provide a safety talk before activities begin).** Information contained in this notice must include, but not be limited to, water safety, environmental hazards (weather, floods, sun, temperature, etc.) and resource protection. Leaders should remind participants that heatstroke is a real danger in the desert. Participants should be advised to drink lots of water, eat snacks, and wear hats/sunscreen to minimize sun exposure. Safety information and weather conditions are available at park visitor centers and by visiting www.nps.gov/zion
10. **Commercial Interpretive Services:** This authorization does not allow guided hiking, interpretive, or instructional services on park trails. Leading interpretive talks or walks without proper permitting is a violation of your permit and may result in revocation of permit privileges. Park policy prohibits commercially guided backpacking, climbing, and canyoneering within the park.
11. **Safety Equipment** The permittee shall make helmets available to each of its riders free of cost.
12. **Spacing of Motorcycle Riders** After entering the park, the permittee shall regulate participant riders on its motorcycle tours so that the entire group is broken into groups of no more than four riders per group, each group spaced apart by approximately one-half mile. When stopping for any reason, participants will pull completely off the roadway and will not bunch up or block traffic in any other way.
13. **Entrance Fees:**

Entrance Fees: Each time a permittee enters the park, they must identify themselves at a park entrance station or at the Kolob Visitor Center and must present a valid Commercial Use Authorization Permit (in full) to park staff (and must be able to present to park staff upon request at other park locations). This will enable park personnel to verify holders are on the approved list for commercial activities.

Fee Schedule (subject to change):

\$30.00 per motorcycle entrance fee will apply to each motorcycle. Participants may use annual or lifetime federal recreational land passes for entry of the pass holder (valid ID required) until September 30, 2019. Signature on annual or lifetime pass MUST MATCH valid photo ID of individual riding the motorcycle (driver or passenger).

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Annual or Lifetime passes will NOT be valid for commercial entry into the park after October 1, 2019.

Guides are exempt from entrance fees when facilitating a commercial activity.

Individuals or groups who have previously paid an entrance fee must show proof of prior payment.

No fee will be collected from permittee's support vehicle entering the Park for the purpose of facilitating the Commercial Motorcycle Tour.

Tunnel permit fees are required for all vehicles over 7' 10" wide and/or 11' 4" high.

14. Monitoring: The superintendent shall have the right to monitor for compliance with all aspects of this permit. Tour leaders shall carry a valid copy of their Commercial Use Authorization at all times and present it to any park official upon request. **Monitoring costs will be charged for groups exceeding thirty participants.** These costs start when the permittee arrives in the area to perform the permitted use and ends when the permitted use is over and the permittee leaves the area. This includes all costs for personnel and material, as well as all follow-up needed in returning the area to its original condition. Monitoring costs would vary depending on park staff involved. A Park Ranger would cost approximately \$50.00 per hour for a minimum of three hours monitoring.

15. Driver & Guide Responsibilities: It is the responsibility of the permittee to ensure that all employees are informed of, understand, and abide by the conditions of the permit. Any permit condition violations can result in punitive action (fine, revocation of permit and or arrest) against both the representative (guide), and the permittee. The individual designated as the leader shall be certified in CPR and First Aid.

16. Resource Protection Message

- Collecting or removing from the park any natural or cultural resource, or damaging or defacing any natural or cultural resource is prohibited.
- All food scraps (fruit peels, nut shells, etc.) are considered trash and must be disposed of properly. It is a violation to feed the wildlife, including squirrels.
- Take only pictures - leave no evidence of your visit.
- Vehicles must not idle their engines when parked. Vehicles that sit with engines idling create unacceptable amounts of noise and air pollution within Zion National Park.
- The permittee shall take adequate measures, as directed and approved by the superintendent, to restrict and prevent soil erosion on the lands covered hereby and shall so utilize such lands as not to contribute to erosion on adjoining lands.

17. Soundscape Management:

Commercial motorcycle tours are not authorized to have modified exhausts or any other modification that increases the noise level over factory specifications. Motorcyclists are not authorized to amplify sounds from integrated (or other) radio/music systems.

Please note that Zion's Soundscape Management Plan lists the following management actions related to motorcycles: Encourage quiet and courteous riding through education, discourage use of modified exhausts that increase noise levels, require groups of organized riders to acquire a special use permit, any

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applications for organized rides must go through the appropriate NEPA analysis, and enforce existing noise ordinances (36 CFR §2.12: noise levels may not exceed 60 decibels measured at 50 feet).

18. Camping:

If the permittee requires camping within the park, reservations must be made through <http://www.recreation.gov> or by calling 877-444-6777. Permittee groups are limited to Group sites in the E Loop of Watchman Campground and group sites A, B, C and D in the South Campground. Each company regardless of the number of CUA permits held is restricted to one group site per campground, per night. Group campsite maximum capacities are strictly enforced. Arriving with a group beyond the maximum capacity for the site reserved will result in the cancellation of your reservation.

Permittee's groups of 6 or less people may reserve one individual campsite at either campground per night, per company.

Group size is defined by the itinerary the group is traveling on. Splitting of groups is not permitted.

Violations of camping regulations will be considered a violation of this permit and may lead to the revocation of your company's campsite reservations and/or Commercial Use Authorization.

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