

**ZION NATIONAL PARK
COMMERCIAL USE AUTHORIZATION**

**2018 OPERATING PLAN FOR
GUIDED PHOTOGRAPHY AND PAINTING WORKSHOPS**

1. Authorized Use:

Photography Workshops: An organized group of one to twelve visitors (plus two instructors for a maximum total of 14) using an itinerary that has been package, priced, or sold as a guided photography instructional session. Photography Workshops embrace the scenic, cultural, and/or natural resources of Zion National Park to create an instructional based experience designed to improve a photographer's skills and/or photography techniques. A Painting Workshop is an organized group of one to twelve visitors (plus two instructors for a maximum total of 14) using an itinerary that has been packaged, priced, or sold as a guided painting instruction session. During these sessions, visitors are given painting and related art instruction that embrace the scenic, cultural, and/or natural resources of Zion National Park. Instructors/Guides provide safety information and messages that encourage visitors to preserve and protect park resources in conjunction with the management objectives of Zion National Park. If workshop groups split, there should be no more than two groups with no more than seven people per group.

2. Unauthorized Use:

Public Use Obstruction: Permitted groups are sharing visitor facilities with the general public. This permit does not convey any priority use of any park areas including park trails, road side pullouts, parking areas, picnic areas, etc. Permittees are responsible for the conduct of their clients and must advise clients to stay on trails, walk single file, and allow the public to pass. The use of tripods on trails is prohibited by permittees or clients (monopods are authorized). **Tours must not interfere with the general visiting public.**

Laws and Policies: A Commercial Use Authorization does not authorize permittees to facilitate any activities or actions that are prohibited in the park. For more information on park regulations visit: <http://www.nps.gov/zion/learn/management/lawsandpolicies.htm>. Permit violations can result in punitive action (fine, revocation of permit and or arrest) against both the representative (guide), and the permittee.

Use of Models/Props: The use of models/props in Photography/Painting Workshops is not authorized.

3. Guide/Instructor Requirements:

All Guides/Instructors must be identifiable as employees of the permittee: This can be accomplished by nametags and/or company identifiable clothing/accessories/hats. Company vehicles must also be identifiable.

Acknowledgement of Permit Conditions: All guides/instructors/drivers are required to submit an online acknowledgement of CUA permit conditions before leading and/or driving workshops into Zion National Park. This acknowledgement form is available by visiting: <https://docs.google.com/a/doi.gov/forms/d/1iFXekYSgD4RwqiFPZ8oBnjWaDYYpRoVTQp9bKT6JGbk/edit?usp=sharing>

Medical Certifications: All guides must have current certifications at minimum in basic first aid and CPR.

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4. Speed Limits and vehicle requirements:

Speed Limits: Zion-Mount Carmel Highway and Zion Canyon Scenic Drive: 35 miles per hour, as posted by signs. The vicinity of the entrance stations, Zion Canyon Visitor Center, Zion Lodge, and approach to Temple of Sinawava: 25 miles per hour, as posted by signs. Parking and Campground areas: 15 miles per hour, as posted by signs.

Parking: All vehicles must park in designated parking spaces. 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 must be no interference with pedestrians or other traffic in the park. **Parking and stopping in shuttle bus stops is prohibited.**

The passing of motor vehicles is prohibited throughout the park.

Gear may be tied to the top of the vehicle, carried inside of the vehicle, or transported in a trailer, but must not be attached to the sides of the vehicle.

5. Closures and Public Use Limits:

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 administrative offices, employee housing areas, behind locked gates, near water tanks, beyond fences, on service roads, and in construction areas.

6. Accidents/Injuries/Illness:

All accidents involving property damage, injuries, and/or medical problems must 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.

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7. Resource Protection:

All permittees are required to communicate the following messages to clients receiving interpretive service:

- Group leaders should be aware of current local conditions, flood levels, and flash flood warnings. This information can be obtained by stopping at the Visitor Center.
- Collecting or removing from the park any natural or cultural resource, or damaging or defacing any natural or cultural resource is prohibited.
- Stay on the trail in order to protect delicate vegetation and soils.
- In developed areas the disposal of human waste anywhere other than in designated locations or fixtures provided for that purpose is prohibited. In non-developed areas, the disposal of human waste within 100 feet of a water source, high water mark of a body of water, a campsite, or within sight of a trail is prohibited (36CFR 2.14). The preferred option for human waste disposal is a removal system such as a “[Restop 2](#).” If a removal system is unavailable a 4- to 8-inch deep “cat hole” can be used. Toilet paper must be carried out.
- Take only pictures - leave no evidence of your visit.
- 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.
- Smoking on trails is highly discouraged. Smokers must use caution when smoking to prevent igniting a wildfire. Cigarette butts are trash and must be packed out for proper disposal. Trip leaders/guides should check fire conditions for current restrictions.
- 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.
- Vegetation: Photographic/painting workshop participants must be made aware of the values and sensitivities of biological soil crust soils and avoid trampling on them. Participants should also respect signs or other obvious indications that an area is being revegetated or restored – staying on designated pathways or areas already impacted by human use.
- Wildlife: Photographic/painting workshop participants must be made aware that approaching or enticing wildlife is illegal and dangerous. Participants should respect wildlife at a distance and avoid harassing the wildlife.

Protection of Park Resources: Alteration of any park features (to allow set-up of equipment, enhance setting, etc.) is strictly prohibited. Littering is prohibited. Participants are to leave as little evidence of their workshop use as possible and properly dispose of refuse. The permittee shall be liable for any damages to park resources or property.

Dumping of painting materials is not authorized and no onsite chemical development or processing of films is permitted.

Cultural Resources: Photography/painting workshop participants must not set up within the boundaries of known prehistoric archaeological sites. Rock art sites are potentially sensitive to photographic equipment, such as flashes, and use of this equipment should be avoided in these types of sites. Contact the park archaeologist for more information about cultural resources, as necessary.

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Nighttime Photography: Due to the sensitivity of nighttime resources in Zion National Park, all requests for nighttime photography must be made at least three weeks ahead of time to zion_commercialservices@nps.gov. All requests must include all proposed locations and dates/times of proposed nighttime activities. Since nighttime photography requires the use of tripods and tripods are not authorized on park trails, nighttime photography is not authorized on park trails.

8. Safety Precautions:

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

Each guide must carry and maintain a kit for emergency medical care. The kit must be appropriate for group size and the nature of the activity and include a flashlight.

9. 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 night. If your group size does not meet the minimum people requirement as listed on recreation.gov, and a smaller group site is unavailable, companies under this 2018 Operational Plan for Guided Interpretive Services may reserve a larger site. Reservations can be made six months in advance. As this requirement has been updated for 2018, reservations for individual campsites made before June 1, 2018 will be honored (**Individual sites have a maximum of 6 people, 3 tents and 2 vehicles per site**). **Group and individual campsite maximum capacities are strictly enforced. Arriving with a group beyond the maximum capacity for the site(s) reserved will result in the cancellation of your reservation. Violations of camping regulations will be considered a violation of this permit and may lead to the revocation of your companies Commercial Use Authorization.**

10. Entrance Fees:

Each time a permittee enters the park, they must identify themselves at a park entrance station or at the Kolob Visitor Center by presenting a valid Commercial Use Authorization Permit 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.

Individuals or groups who have previously paid an entrance fee must show proof of prior payment. No fee will be collected from an empty vehicle entering the Park for the purpose of picking up passengers. Tunnel permit fees are required for all vehicles over 7' 10" wide and/or 11' 4" high.

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Fee Schedule (subject to change):

Multiple Vehicle Caravan: Visitors traveling in private vehicles will be charged the standard vehicle entrance fee and may use passes according to instructions listed on the back of the pass.

Groups Arriving in a Single Vehicle: \$15.00 per participant individual entrance fee will apply to each participant (children 15 and under are free). Participants may use annual or lifetime federal recreational land passes according to instructions listed on the back of the pass.

Guides may not use personal passes to admit clients (Guides are exempt from entrance fees when facilitating a commercial activity.)

11. Permitted Areas:

Services for this permit are authorized at the following trailheads/trails. Guiding in any other area of the park is a violation of this permit. Hiking in wilderness areas or to cultural/archeological resource sites is prohibited. No two groups from any one company are authorized to guide (or be on) on any one trail at the same time. Groups may travel on foot up to 100 feet off of designated trails, using existing disturbances or staying on hardened surfaces.

- Angels Landing Trail
- Canyon Overlook Trail
- Court of the Patriarchs
- Grotto Trail
- Kayenta Trail
- Lower, Middle and Upper Emerald Pools
- Narrows but not into or above Orderville Canyon (1.5 miles north of Riverside Walk)
- Pa'rus Trail
- Riverside Walk
- Sandbench Trail (November to March)
- Timber Creek Trail
- Watchman Trail
- Weeping Rock Trail
- Weeping Rock Trailhead to Observation Point
- Weeping Rock Trailhead to mouth of Echo Canyon (not into canyon)
- Weeping Rock Trailhead to mouth of Hidden Canyon (not into canyon)

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