



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

2024 Commercial Use Authorization (CUA) Program Guided Vehicle Tours

Category Defined:

A Guided Vehicle Tour is a single vehicle tour, traveling on an itinerary which has been packaged, priced, or sold as an interpretive tour for up to fourteen people. Vehicle size for Guided Vehicle Tours may not exceed a manufactured capacity of 15 passengers. These activities take visitors through the park's road system with a focus on interpreting the parks features and wildlife. Guides provide an educational forum for the preservation and protection of park resources in conjunction with the management objectives of Grand Teton National Park (GRTE), the John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Memorial Parkway (JODR), and the mission of the National Park Service. Guided Vehicle Tours allow for photography opportunities that do not include instruction. Step on Guides provide the same services from a visitor's personal vehicle or from the vehicle of another commercial operator. There is no maximum group size for step-on guide services. Guided Vehicle Tours comprise the largest number of CUAs issued.

Specific Statement of Appropriate Use:

Guided Vehicle Tours provide a means through which visitors can enjoy and gain inspiration from the fundamental resources and values of GRTE and JODR. They provide an easily accessible way for visitors to be introduced to the scenery, landscapes, ecological communities, and cultural resources of the Teton Range and the Jackson Hole Valley. ¹

Management Objectives:

Guided Vehicle Tours adhere to the management objectives of GRTE, JODR, and the NPS. Working with other organizations to extend the benefits of resource conservation and outdoor recreation is part of the NPS mission. Commercial vehicle tours are listed in the Superintendent's Compendium as an approved commercial activity.² Guided Vehicle Tours may help to mitigate vehicle traffic congestion on park roads, parking areas, and at trailheads. The park has conducted public transportation studies which identify traffic congestion and parking as a concern. ³

¹ 2006 GRTE foundation document

² 2014 GRTE Superintendents Compendium section 1.6

³ GRTE: Transportation Plan Final Environmental Impact Statement September 2006, Chapter one, Purpose of and need for the plan.



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Operating Plan

Conditions of Use:

- Single vehicle tours (no multiple vehicle caravans from the same company) packaged, priced, or sold as an interpretive tour for 14 clients or less.
- Vehicle size limit is a maximum manufactured capacity of 15 passengers.
- Operating a vehicle more than 100 inches wide, measured at its widest point and more than 280 inches long, measured at its longest point, is prohibited on the Moose-Wilson Road.
- Upon obtaining a Guided Vehicle Tour CUA, the permit holder is subject to pay the CUA entrance fees and is prohibited from utilizing the Commercial Entrance Fee when entering in a 15-passenger vehicle or smaller.
- Tours must be conducted in a way that allows for the free flow of traffic on roads, in parking lots, and must not conflict with the public's normal use of park areas. Tours parking along the roadside must park beyond the white line and may only use existing road-side pullouts and gravel or hardened surfaces. Creating new road-side pullouts or pulling into undisturbed vegetation is prohibited.
- Vehicles shall not be left idling in parking areas or park across multiple parking spaces. Loading zones must not be occupied longer than necessary to load and unload passengers.
- 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 is not permitted.
- All tours must provide accurate and unbiased park information, safety messaging, and bear food storage education.
- Operators must follow all NPS food storage regulations.
- Operators and clients must comply as directed by NPS staff engaged in administering wildlife management operations or managing wildlife viewing opportunities.
- Tours 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.
- 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 tours. Commercially owned, leased and rented vehicles must be identifiable on the outside of the vehicle with a company name.
- 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, in campgrounds and along campground entrance roads. In park pickups are allowed at concessions lodging areas with prior written permission by concessions operations.
- Erecting tents, canopies or tables is prohibited.
- Carrying or storing a bottle, can or other receptacle containing an alcoholic beverage that is open, or has been opened, or whose seal is broken or the contents of which have been partially removed, within any motor vehicle in park areas or within park boundaries is prohibited.



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- Winter Travel: When Road conditions are deemed No Unnecessary Travel inside Grand Teton National Park, secondary roads will be closed to CUA vehicular travel to allow for clearing and maintenance of the roads. CUA holders must contact guides operating tours inside the park to inform them of the change in road status in a timely manner.
- All business transactions must take place outside of Grand Teton National Park (GRTE) or the John D. Rockefeller Jr. Memorial Parkway (JODR).
- The Conservation Easement over the Laurance S. Rockefeller Preserve (“the Preserve”) prohibits any commercial activities on the Preserve property. Guided Vehicle Tours may only provide drop offs and pickups to the Preserve. Guides may not accompany clients beyond the parking lot.