



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

2024 Commercial Use Authorization (CUA) Program Photography/Videography/Painting Workshops

Category Defined:

A Photography/Videography Workshop is an instructional opportunity for one to ten visitors using an itinerary that has been packaged, priced, or sold as a guided photography or videography instructional session. Photography/Videography Workshops embrace the scenic, cultural, and natural resources of Grand Teton National Park (GRTE) and John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Memorial Parkway (JODR) to create an instructional based experience designed to improve a photographer's skills and/or photography techniques. A Painting Workshop is an instructional opportunity for one to ten visitors using an itinerary that has been packaged, priced, or sold as a guided painting instructional session. During these sessions, visitors are given painting and related art instruction. Guides provide messages that encourage visitors to preserve and protect park resources in conjunction with the management objectives of GRTE, JODR, and the mission of the National Park Service (NPS).

Specific Statement of Appropriate Use:

Photography and Painting are appropriate uses of GRTE and JODR because they provide visitors with recreational and instructional opportunities to capture a unique combination of rare geological landscapes found in the Teton Range, an array of wildlife found in one of the earth's largest intact temperate ecosystems provided by the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, and cultural/historic resources unique to this area.

Management Objectives:

Recreation through photography and painting are in line with the "Heritage Education" principles of the NPS mission statement.¹ GRTE is committed to preserving its cultural history and resources.² Working with other organizations to extend the benefits of resource conservation and outdoor recreation is part of the NPS mission.

Operating Plan

Conditions of Use:

- An instructional opportunity for one to ten visitors that has been packaged, priced, or sold as a guided photography, painting, or videography instructional session.
- Maximum group size is 10 participants plus a group leader.
- Workshops may be conducted in caravans of up to five vehicles which may include up to one commercial vehicle and up to four private vehicles for each group. Five private vehicles are authorized if the workshop leader is acting in a step-on capacity.

¹ <http://www.nps.gov/aboutus/mission.htm>

² GRTE: Foundation for Planning and Management 2006, PG 7, PG 30



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- Workshops are permitted in front country areas open to the public and on hiking trails within ½ mile of the road. Workshops are not permitted in areas managed as wilderness, the boundary of which is generally located along the west side of the lakes at the base of the mountains. A map of areas managed as wilderness may be viewed by clicking here [Wilderness - Grand Teton National Park \(U.S. National Park Service\) \(nps.gov\)](#).
- 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.
- 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 road. In park pickups are allowed at concessions lodging areas with prior written permission by concessions operations.
- All commercial activity on the Laurance S. Rockefeller Preserve is prohibited.
- Workshops must be conducted in a way that allows for the free flow of traffic on roads, in parking lots, and on trails and must not conflict with the public's normal use of park areas. Visitors may not be asked to move, and areas may not be closed to accommodate portrait sessions. Workshops may not encroach upon or disrupt scheduled special events, such as weddings, authorized by a Special Use Permit.
- The use of models, props, sets, lighting, and other specialized equipment is not allowed under this authorization. Individuals wishing to utilize models, props, sets, lighting, and other specialized equipment may be required to obtain a still photography permit.
- The following is prohibited: erecting tents, arches, arbors, canopies, tables, and chairs; using props or placing decorations that cannot be carried at all times such as rugs, vases, flower stands, and lights. Attaching or placing decorations or equipment (e.g., balloons, banners, flower stands, lights, objects, signs, streamers) to any natural or historic object or any National Park Service sign, bench, post, building, or facility. Only handheld items that can be carried at all times are permissible.
- Artificial lighting beyond that which is handheld may not be used. Authorized lighting equipment includes but is not limited to on-camera flash/TTL flash, handheld light modifiers, handheld flash brackets, handheld flash heads, handheld reflectors, and handheld diffusers.
- Photography 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.
- Operators and clients must comply as directed by NPS staff engaged in administering wildlife management operations or managing wildlife viewing opportunities.
- Flash photography or use of artificial lighting to view wildlife is prohibited as described in §2.2(e) Grand Teton National Park & John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Memorial Parkway Superintendent's Compendium.
- For nighttime photography, illuminating park features and landscapes in any way for the purpose of photography and light painting are not authorized due to the sensitivity of nighttime resources in Grand Teton National Park.
- Workshops must provide accurate and unbiased information, safety messaging, and bear food storage education.



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- 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.
- 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.
- No onsite chemical development or processing of films is permitted.
- All business transactions must take place outside of Grand Teton National Park (GRTE) or the John D. Rockefeller Jr. Memorial Parkway (JODR)
- All representatives and employees of CUA holders must conduct themselves in a professional manner at all times.