

Photography

Descanso Gardens welcomes visitors, commercial photographers and members of the media to take photographs on our grounds according to the policies and procedures outlined below.

All posed photography, both commercial and non-commercial, require a reservation.

Non-commercial, posed photography includes: Wedding & engagement photography, graduation & prom portraits, quinceañeras, maternity & family portraits*

Availability & Reservations

- Couples and families are able to acquire a permit for a (2) hour photography session between 9am and 4pm on Mondays - Thursdays or 9am and 2pm on Fridays - Sundays
- Sessions cannot be scheduled during closed hours or ticketed and/or member-exclusive events
- Reservations must be made at least two days in advance, walk-ins are not allowed
- Descanso Gardens reserves the right to all photography site locations at any given time with or without notice. Some sites may not be available the day of your reservation due to unforeseen circumstances or garden maintenance and seasonal restrictions may apply

Permit Fees are based on the number of people entering the gardens for the shoot. This number must include any photographers and/or videographers.

1 - 10 people: \$300

11 - 20 people: \$400

21-30 people: \$500

To apply for a photography permit and reserve a session time, please email specialevents@descansogardens.org

"Vacation-style" or impromptu photography is permitted throughout the gardens without a reservation. Amateur photographers may not use their representations of the gardens for public or commercial use unless approved by Descanso Gardens.

Photography Guidelines

- Tripods are allowed but cannot be placed in plant beds or on benches
- Additional photographic equipment is prohibited except under commercial contract. This includes: drones, lights, reflectors, props, costumes and models
- All persons included in the shoot must come 'camera ready' as dressings rooms are not available and county ordinance prohibits the use of public restrooms for dressings and/or changing. All garden activities such as classes, filming and tours will have exclusive rights to that reserved area
- No activities are permitted that may disturb or limit the experience of other visitors (i.e. music or games)
- Photography is not permitted inside any buildings on the property, this includes the Boddy House and the Stuart Haaga Gallery

Commercial Photography & Filming is permitted on weekdays only. For rate information and scheduling please contact the special events office at specialevents@descansogardens.org or 818.949.4291

Student Portfolio Photography & Filming is permitted, however commercial filming & photography fees, as well as certain restrictions, do apply. For additional information, please contact the special events office at specialevents@descansogardens.org or 818.949.4291

Press Inquiries should be made prior to visiting whenever possible and can be arranged through the public relations department by calling 818.949.7984 or emailing pr@descansogardens.org

***Descanso Family Sponsoring Level Members are eligible for one family portrait session each year free of charge. Certain restrictions do apply. For more information please call 818.949.4291. To apply for a Sponsoring level Membership call (818) 952-4390 or email at membership@descansogardens.org.**