

Photography Policy

Photographs are a lovely way to remember your visit to the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden. We encourage visitors to take casual photographs of their visit for their own personal use. However, there are some instances in which you will need a photography permit and pay the accompanying location fees in addition to admission prices:

- 1. Commercial/Promotional Photography Permit:** This permit is used by professional, commercial or promotional photography shoots. For the purpose of this policy, a professional photographer is defined as someone who is being paid to take photographs on Garden property. Promotional/commercial photography refers to photography that will be sold, distributed, or used in promotional material.

By contract – please contact our [Development Assistant](#) with details.

- 2. Professional Personal Use Photography Permit:** This permit is used by one professional photographer who is being paid to take posed photographs on Garden property. This category includes wedding photos, family portraits, maternity, engagements, celebrations, quinceañeras and the like.

Fee: \$100

- 3. Amateur/Student Photography Permit:** This permit is for an amateur or student photographer using the Garden as a location to take photos that will be used personally or in a project or portfolio.

Fee: \$25

General Photography Guidelines:

- The nonrefundable fee—upon granting of permit—is either \$100 or \$25 for the day. Please note that this is separate from the price of admission.
- Proof of photo permit should be kept on hand then returned to Guest Services Kiosk at end of shoot
- The photography session must occur within regular Garden hours.
- Pathways may not be obstructed by the photographer or members of the party so as to impede visitor traffic.
- Party must remain on pathways only. Photography is not permitted in exhibit areas, on rocks, etc. Party will be billed accordingly for any damage to plants or Garden property.
- Nudity/firearms are not permitted on Garden property.
- Drone photography is not permitted on Garden property.

The Garden reserves the right to refuse photographic privileges to anyone or to rescind privileges if guidelines are not followed or if conditions are deemed unsafe.

Help to promote the Garden by tagging us in social media posts. We love seeing and hearing your stories! Please tag us on Instagram @sbbotanicgarden #sbbotanicgarden

All fees directly support the mission of the Garden in developing and maintaining plant collections for display, education, conservation, research, and enjoyment. Thanks to your generosity, we are able to work to conserve California native plants and habitats for the health and well-being of people and the planet.

Please provide the following information:

Type of permit

Commercial/Promotional Photography: To be negotiated by contract

Professional Personal Use Photography: \$100

Posed Photography: \$25

Permit Requested By: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Day/Date of Event: _____ Arrival Time: _____

Number in Party: _____ Area(s) of Garden Requested: _____

Description of Onsite Activities: _____

Equipment to be Used: _____

On behalf of my party, I have read and agree to follow all Garden guidelines referenced above. I agree to hold harmless the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden in the event that any of the photographic or other equipment is damaged, lost, or stolen while at the Garden. I also agree to hold harmless the Botanic Garden in the event that injury should occur during the act of photography.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Permit is Approved Permit is Denied, Reason: _____

By: _____ Date: _____

This permit is valid for date and time issued only.