

Joshua Tree National Park Special Use Permit Information

<https://www.nps.gov/jotr/planyourvisit/permitsandreservations.htm>

Joshua Tree National Park Maps

<https://www.nps.gov/jotr/planyourvisit/maps.htm>

Special Use Permits

A special use permit is required for activities that provide a benefit to an individual, group, or organization, rather than the public at large, and that require some degree of management from the National Park Service in order to protect park resources and the public interest.

Special-use permits are required for events such as: weddings, ceremonies, First Amendment activities, festivals, concerts, cultural programs, sporting events, and public spectator attractions. Please contact the Special Park Use Coordinator, Jeannie Wilson, at (760) 367-5518 or jeannie_wilson@nps.gov.

Weddings and Engagement Photos

Joshua Tree National Park is an amazing location to have your wedding or take engagement photos. A Special Park Use Permit is required for both of these activities.

Weddings

Basic Information

All weddings require a Special Park Use Permit regardless of size. The cost of the wedding application is \$120.00 and is non-refundable. Additional cost can vary depending on the size of your wedding and location. If you are hiring a professional photographer or cater they are required to obtain a separate Special Use Permit.

Locations

Indian Cove Amphitheater; No more than 100 people total and only 1 vehicle. You must shuttle your guest in and out of this location.

Hidden Valley Picnic Area; No more than 35 people total and up to 8 vehicles.

Turkey Flats; No more than 35 people total and up to 8 vehicles.

Cap Rock; No more than 25 people total and up to 8 vehicles.

Rattlesnake Picnic Area; No more than 20 people and 8 vehicles.

Quail Springs Picnic Area; No more than 15 people and 8 vehicles.

Split Rock; No more than 15 people and 5 vehicles.

Porcupine Wash; No more than 12 people and 4 vehicles.

Queen Valley Mine Intersection; No more than 10 people and 5 vehicles.

Lost Horse Parking Lot; No more than 10 people and 5 vehicles.

Live Oak Picnic Area; No more than 5 people and 3 vehicles.

What can I have at my wedding?

Items that are permitted for a wedding

Arch, must be free-standing

Small table for guest book

Cooler with water

Live flowers

Battery-powered candles

Runner

Rug

Cake

Champagne

Items NOT permitted for a wedding

Drones

Dried flowers

Non-battery powered candles

Bubbles

Any live animals, including doves, butterflies, etc

Confetti

Rice
Birdseed
Balloons
Smoke Bombs

Permit Information

Please complete the [NPS Form 10-930 Short Form](#). You can email your application to [e-mail us](#) or mail it to the address listed on the application.

Once your application is reviewed we will send you instructions on making your payment online. Joshua Tree National Park does not accept checks.

Please note if a permit is not obtained for this activity you are subject to a citation fine up to \$500.00

Engagement Photos

Basic Information

A Special Park Use Permit is required for all photos in the park. The cost for a permit is \$120.00 and is non-refundable.

Locations

Permits for filming/photography are only granted in the following locations:

- Hidden Valley Picnic Area (Not available February–May)
- Quail Springs (Not available February–May)
- Cap Rock
- Rattlesnake Picnic Area
- Live Oak
- Split Rock

What can I have at my engagement photos?

The following items are strictly prohibited in Joshua Tree National Park and are NOT authorized for the use in photos

Smoke Bombs, drones, dried flowers, open-flame candles, campfires outside of a designated location, butterflies, doves, confetti, rice, chalk, balloons, colored-water tablets, hanging or attaching anything to a tree or bush, or in the ground, and gathering of branches, plants, or flowers within Joshua Tree National Park is not authorized.

Items that are permitted for use in photos are listed below

Blanket, rug, picnic scene, small chalk board and/or small sign with date or message written on it, battery-operated candles, small arrangement of flowers.

Any other items not listed on the above list will require a photo be submitted to Special Park Uses Office for approval.

Permit Information

Please complete the **NPS Form 10-930 Short Form**. You can email your application to **e-mail us** or mail it to the address listed on the application. Once your application is reviewed instructions on making your payment online will be emailed to you. A copy of the receipt must be emailed to e-mail us. Joshua Tree National Park does not accept checks.

Please note if a permit is not obtained you are subject to a citation up to \$500.00.

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