

Guidelines for Conducting Formal/Private Photography Sessions and Commercial Filming at Grey Towers

Hours and Location Availability: See [map](#)

Fees:

Unless a Special Use Permit is required, there are no fees associated with conducting formal/private photo sessions.

Obtaining Approval for Photography/Filming:

1. Read all information, guidelines and provide the information included in the **Request Form**. This will help you and Grey Towers staff determine how, when and if your request can be approved. No photo sessions or filming events can occur until the process is complete.
2. Your request will be reviewed and you will be notified of the determination.
3. If the session is for personal use (such as graduation, engagement or wedding photos) the US Forest Service (USFS) staff at Grey Towers will work with you to determine the best location/time for your session. If the proposed activity requires a Special Use Permit, a USFS staff at Grey Towers will work with you to obtain the appropriate Special Use Permit.

Event Day:

- Bring the permit or approved request form with you on the day of the photo/filming session; you will be required to show it to Grey Towers' staff upon request. If no one in your party has the permit or approved request, you may not be allowed to proceed with the planned activity.
- You and your party are responsible for following all site regulations and the conditions of your approved request.

General Information:

- Your photo/filming session cannot interfere with normal site functions, visitors or programs/tours in and around the mansion.
- Even with permission to take your photos, you do NOT have exclusive rights to the gardens and grounds – other visitors are free to use the grounds and will not be asked to leave or move.
- Please use the existing beauty of Grey Towers as your backdrop—do not add props, banners, flags, etc. to set a “stage-like” presence.
- No tents, chairs, stools, canopies, ropes, stanchions, amplifiers, and tables are allowed during your session. Rice, birdseed, confetti, streamers, balloons, bubbles or the release of any type of live animals are forbidden.
- Food and alcohol are not permitted.
- No flammable materials, open flames, or pyrotechnics. No weapons/firearms.
- No nudity or indecent exposure.
- If the proposed activity requires a Special Use Permit, proof of liability insurance will also be required.
- No plants or flowers may be picked or damaged during or after your session. No one is allowed to stand in the flowerbeds or move/interfere with garden equipment or landscape features for any reason.
- Climbing trees, playing or running along the tops of walls or the aprons of the Long Garden Pool, Finger Bowl or any other stone structure, and standing on the Pool Terrace and Moat perimeter wall is forbidden. Entering into any of the water features is prohibited. You may sit but do not stand on the millstones.
- The historic walkways and stairs are uneven and irregular; individuals in your party should walk with caution and use handrails where available.

- The covered Visitor Pavilion is the only facility available in case of inclement weather. Please plan accordingly.
- Notify Grey Towers' staff immediately if there are any injuries, damage to government property, safety hazards or security concerns.
- The US Forest Service, Grey Towers National Historic Site, is not liable for loss or damage to personal property or personal injury that may occur as a result of the activity.
- Vehicles must depart from the site prior to gate closing at 5:30 p.m. (May 1 through October 31) and 4:30 all other times. If you park outside the gates and walk into the site, do not block the fire lanes.

Please call 570-296-9630 or send an email to greytowers@fs.fed.us for more information. All information, procedures, guidelines and map are available on the web at www.fs.fed.us/wo/gt.