

2025 PHOTOGRAPHY SESSION RESERVATION POLICY



SCHEDULING YOUR PHOTOGRAPHY SESSION:

We require any photo shoot being hosted at the Garden to obtain a photography session permit, so that they will have access to spaces normally open to the public for photo shoot purposes. This includes any shoot involving wardrobe changes/specific attire (i.e. prom, engagement, graduation etc.), and all forms of photography (i.e. smartphone, professional cameras, amateur photographers, etc.)

Photo sessions are welcome everyday during our normal operating hours. When you arrive, walk into the Robins Visitor Center and let the admissions desk know that you are here for a photography session. Please note, we accept walk-ups only and cannot schedule a photography session in advance.

These sessions include complimentary admission for up to six guests; all others must pay regular Garden admission. You will be responsible for bringing in your own photographer as we do not provide photographers, but their admission is included within the six complimentary guests that are part of your reservation.

If you are planning a proposal and would like to keep the photography session a secret, please contact the Facility Events Department directly at (804) 262-9887 ext. 345. For all other photography permit questions, please call our Guest Services Department at (804) 262-9887.

RESTRICTIONS AND COURTESIES:

We encourage you to take photos with our beautiful Garden spaces as your backdrop in any available outdoor Garden space. Please be mindful that we are unable to reserve any specific Garden areas for photo sessions. We also do not allow photo sessions to occur in any interior buildings, including the Conservatory.

We ask that photographers and clients be courteous to Garden guests (including event guests) and their enjoyment of the Garden at all times. We do not allow the obstruction of Garden pathways, guest common areas, building entrances and exits and areas being used for private or Garden-wide events.

In order to protect our plant displays we do not allow photographers, clients, or equipment in any of our plant beds while taking photographs. The intrusion on exhibits is also prohibited.

Garden staff members are not available to accompany groups during these sessions but we do encourage you to pick up Garden maps at the Admissions Desk, located in the Robins Visitors Center, to familiarize yourself with our Garden spaces. This photography session is strictly for engagement photos, bridal portraits, save-the-dates, and family photos. Private ceremonies are prohibited with this package. Wedding inquiries may be directed to the contact information provided above.

FEES

Photography Session (1 1/2 hours)	\$100
Member Rate (1 1/2 hours)	\$50
Additional Hours	\$50

LATE ARRIVALS

No adjustments to session times will be made due to late arrivals the day of the reservation.

Garden hours of operation are 9am – 5pm Friday - Tuesday / 9am - 9pm on Thursdays from mid-May to mid-October, and are strictly enforced. There are no refunds for late arrivals.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

A photography session may be rescheduled due to inclement weather through the Facility Events Coordinators under the terms above (within two hours minimum of their scheduled photography session). There are no refunds for photography sessions (to include non-rescheduled shoots or no-shows).

PHOTOGRAPHY SESSION RESERVATION POLICY CONTINUED



Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden is a private botanical garden that charges admission and photography session fees for guests and members accessing our garden areas. These fees are critical in directly supporting our Garden's mission.

The Garden would like to ensure you have a wonderful experience while capturing your special memories with us so we do require that all photography sessions, both personal and promotional, to have a photography session permit. These sessions include any bridal, engagement, prom, maternity, graduation, and family photography.

Please note: we do not allow wedding ceremonies at the Garden to use photography sessions. To have your ceremony at the Garden, please contact the Facility Events Department about our available package options.

We truly appreciate and thank you for your support.

For your convenience, the following is a list of nearby public parks that do not charge fees for admission or staged photography needs:

JOSEPH BRYAN PARK

Richmond, VA 23227

Start out going southwest on Lakeside Avenue toward Hilliard Road/VA-161/VA-356

Lakeside Avenue becomes Hermitage Road/VA - 161

Turn right onto Joseph Bryan Lane

Take the first left onto Rosinas Lane

Welcome to Brian Park

BYRD PARK

600 S Blvd, Richmond, VA 23220

Start out going Southwest on Lakeside Avenue toward Hilliard Road/VA-161/VA-356

Lakeside Avenue becomes Hermitage Road/VA-161

Merge onto I-95 S

Merge onto I-195 S via Exit 79 toward Powhite Pkwy/US-60/US-360-W

Keep right to take I-195 S/Downtown Expy toward Downtown

Merge onto Rosewood Avenue

Turn right onto McCloy Street

Take the first right onto Idlewood Avenue

Turn right onto VA-161/S Boulevard

Make a U-turn at Grant Street onto S Boulevard

FOREST HILL PARK

3900 Forest Hill Ave. Richmond, VA 23225

Start out going Southwest on Lakeside Avenue toward Hilliard Road/VA-161/VA-356

Lakeside Avenue becomes Hermitage Road/VA-161

Merge onto I-95 S

Take Exit 76B toward US-1/US-301/Belevidere St

Turn left onto W Leigh St/VA-33

Take the second right onto US-1 S/US-301 S

Continue to follow US 1 S/US-301 S

Turn right onto Semmes Ave/US-60 W

Continue to follow US-60-W

Forest Hill Park is on the left!

JAMES RIVER PARK SYSTEM

4301 Riverside Dr, Richmond, VA 23219

Start out going Southwest on Lakeside Avenue toward Hilliard Road/VA-161/VA-356

Lakeside Avenue becomes Hermitage Road/VA-161

Merge onto I-95 S

Take Exit 76B toward US-1/US-301/Belevidere St

Turn left onto W Leigh St/VA-33

Take the second right onto US-1 S/US-301 S