



Policy Document: Elopements and Professional Photography Permit for Betty Ford Alpine Gardens

522 S. Frontage Road East, Vail, CO 81620

"To protect the alpine environment through education, conservation and living plant collections"

Thank you for choosing Betty Ford Alpine Gardens to create your everlasting memories. The Gardens is a nonprofit botanic garden located in Ford Park. We house a world-renowned collection of alpine plants, some extremely rare. Please be thoughtful about the type of event you are looking to hold at this special place. We reserve the right to determine if an event or session is suitable for our space and mission. Please read policies carefully.

1. Introduction

- Purpose of the Policies- All policies are in place to ensure the success and safety of your event, to protect the experience of park users and to ensure the Gardens and the important plant collections in it remain a remarkable destination for years to come.

2. Elopement, Proposal and Photography Permit Policy

- Eligibility and Event Criteria
 - Definition of Elopements -a simple exchange of vows in the Gardens. No vendors are permitted other than your officiant and photographer. Guest Limit -up to 6 guests. Officiants and photographers are not part of your guest count. \$300
 - Definition of Proposal -asking your loved one to marry you in the Gardens. \$125
 - Definition of Photography Permit -use of the Gardens to capture professional photography of friends and loved ones. \$125. Seasonal photography permit available. You may use the Gardens for multiple sessions for up to 6 months. Please book each session with a staff member. \$300

- Reservation Process
 - Application Submission -After submitting your event request, submission of the Facility Use Agreement and payment of the Facility Use Invoice will confirm your date and time.
- Fees and Payment
 - Permit Fee Structure -Payment to be made in full. Once completed, staff will be made aware of your use of the Gardens. You do not need to check in at the Education Center.
 - Payment Methods -Payment must be made through the secure invoicing link.
 - Refund and Cancellation Policy - While rescheduling is a possibility, there are no refunds for the Gardens facility use.
- Permitted Areas and Restrictions
 - Locations -As elopements and proposals are small, there are several locations throughout the Gardens that they can be held. See map below for suggested locations. Photography can be taken throughout the Gardens.
 - Access Restrictions - We remind all guests and photographers to stay on the paths and refrain from climbing on the rocks. This ensures the health of our important collection and the longevity of the Gardens for all to enjoy. While every effort is made to make sure the water features are fully functional for your event, the operation of the water features cannot be guaranteed due to unforeseen circumstances such as maintenance, repair, seasonal or water conservation. Water features are turned off October through May. While visitors are mindful, this is a public park and cannot be blocked off entirely from public access.
- Rules and Guidelines
 - Regulations - Staking in the ground, glass, food, alcohol, loose petals and open flame are not permitted in the Gardens. Booking your session guarantees there will be no other events occurring in the outdoor gardens. We cannot guarantee our Ford Park neighbors will not be hosting events such as concerts, soundchecks, sporting events or maintenance. There is no event setup permitted. Chairs are not provided and some sites offer benches for seating. There are no time blocks and sections of the Gardens cannot be closed off. The Gardens' staff we let you know if there are any time constraints. Drones are not

permitted in Ford Park without a permit from the Town of Vail. Large props are not permitted.

- Music Policy -A small speaker is permitted.
- Parking - There is no parking directly outside of the venue. We are a 5-minute walk from the Ford Park parking lot and a 10-minute walk from the Vail Village parking structure. There is one-hour free parking at both locations and \$2 an hour after that. During sporting events at the recreational fields and concerts at the Gerald R. Ford Amphitheater, there is a \$20 town-enforced parking fee at the Ford Park parking lot. We can also be accessed by free in-town bus service (Golden Peak or Ford Park bus stop). Your hotel may have a shuttle that can transport your guests to these locations. There is ADA parking with handicap permit displayed in Ford Park parking lot and across from the Gerald R. Ford Amphitheater. It is recommended to alert guests with limited mobility that there are uneven rock pathways, altitude and inclines.
- Duration and Timing
 - Event Time Slots -Time slots are not allotted. Elopements and proposals typically last 30 minutes and photography sessions an hour. Staff will let you know if there is a time constraint based on the Gardens' programming.

3. Contact Information

- Office Contact Details -970.476.0103
 - 522 S. Frontage Road East, Vail, CO 81657
- Hours of Operation -the outdoor gardens are open dawn-dusk. The Education Center is open 10am – 4pm.

4. Map of Suggested Locations Below



MAP LEGEND

Garden Regions Key

- A** Taming the Mountain West
- B** Alpine Plants of the World
- C** Rocky Mountain Ecosystems
- D** Pollinator Garden
- E** Visitor Center

Garden Interpretation Key

- 1** Taming the Mountain West
- 2** Well Outfitted
- 3** Lean and Rocky
- 4** A Great Aridness
- 5** "Alpine" started here
- 6** Silk Road
- 7** The Roof of the World
- 8** Alpine Plants of the World
- 9** Flowers amid the Dragons
- 10** Rocky Mountain Ecosystems
- 11** Popular Pine
- 12** Pygmy Forests
- 13** Calling Colorado Alpines
- 14** Drought Survivors
- 15** Hot and Dry
- 16** Ancient Conifers
- 17** Alpine Look-alikes
- 18** Wetland Wonderland
- 19** Trembling Forests