Photography, Filming and Drones in the Gardens:

Sunken Gardens is home to tropical plants and trees in a subtropical environment. There are many backdrops that make beautiful photo and film opportunities.

We allow the use of Sunken Gardens’ property for film, TV commercials and still photography shoots based upon certain criteria. To discuss the use and the availability of the Gardens, please contact 727.892.5715 or email sarah.carvalis@stpete.org to receive a copy of the reservation form.

Please note: wedding photography is only allowed for our contracted clients.

Photography Policy

Visitor and Amateur Photography

Visitors to Sunken Gardens are permitted to take photographs and shoot videos for personal use. Photography may not block, disrupt or hinder visitor access or circulation of paths and walkways. Personal photographs and videos are not to be used for commercial purposes. Use of lamps, reflector shades, tripods or change of outfits, constitutes Professional Portrait Photography (see below).

Professional Portrait Photography

Portrait photographers and those taking photos for engagements, quinceaneras, and other events, are subject to certain rules and restrictions. Reservations and fees are required. Reservations required at least 3 business days in advance. Contact 727.892.5715 or sarah.carvalis@stpete.org

Please note: Sunken Gardens reserves the right to turn away photographers who meet any of the above criteria if they have not booked in advance, and has the right of refusal based on community standards/content.

Drone Policy

Sunken Gardens is a no drone zone. Due to strong safety concerns and protection of our National Historic Landmark, drone flight or photography (or flight of unmanned, and/or remote controlled aircraft of any kind) originating from or flying over Sunken Gardens property, is strictly prohibited, except in collaboration with Sunken Gardens’ Marketing Department and with express written permission. Contact 727.892.5715 or sarah.carvalis@stpete.org

In an effort to preserve the beauty and history of Sunken Gardens as well as for your safety, we require all guests to refrain from climbing or hanging from trees, bushes, ponds, waterfalls or animal enclosures. Such actions will result in removal from the Gardens. All visitors should enjoy the Gardens while remaining on the designated paths and walkways. If at any time a volunteer or staff member witnesses behavior that puts the other visitors, the Gardens, or animals at risk, visitors may be asked to leave the premises and forfeit their garden experience.

All photography sessions must pay admission including members. Groupons and other coupons are not valid for photography sessions.