



Photography Sessions at the Paine

The historic Paine estate is flourishing with art, gardens and beautiful vistas. Characterized by European-style architecture and more than three acres of botanical gardens, our breathtaking property offers an unforgettable setting for engagement, family, wedding, or other special occasion photos.

At the Paine, we treat all photography sessions as special events. During your session, an event staff member will greet you and show you and your photographer the most popular spaces with the best scenery. We'll also be available to answer any questions you may have throughout your session.

Advanced scheduling is required, with rates included below. To reserve a date and time for a photography session at the Paine, please connect with us at weddings@thepaine.org or 920-235-6903.

Garden Photography

The Paine estate features twenty garden areas. In concert with the historic architecture, the garden designs create outdoor "rooms" showcasing a wide variety of plants, and are designed to create a variety of intimate and grand settings. Set against the backdrop of the mansion, the gardens showcase perennials that are especially hardy in Wisconsin's climate, as well as trees, shrubs, and wildflowers native to the state. Displays of annuals and bulbs change each year, presenting new varieties and unusual combinations.

Garden Photography Rates

Engagement: \$100/hour

Wedding Day or Family Portraits: \$150/hour

*Garden photography is included in all Paine wedding ceremony and reception reservations

Prom Photos (Gardens only)

\$150/hour groups of up to 25 people

\$300/hour groups of up to 50 people





Paine Mansion Photography

Nearly 100 years old, the Paine Art Center and Gardens is a Tudor Revival-style country estate. The mansion features arches, doorways, columns, window panes, and chimney stacks that create the appearance of being built over three centuries in evolving English styles. Much of the estate's architecture, décor, artworks, and landscaping derives from English country houses while utilizing and accentuating the natural resources and beauty of Wisconsin.

The hand-carved wood, Kasota limestone, exceptional furnishings, and art provide an unmatched backdrop for special occasion photos. Because the mansion is filled with precious collection pieces and works of fine art, photography areas have been designated by our Curator of Collections and Exhibitions. Photos may be taken in the following authorized spaces:

Main Entry & Stair Hallway

The Main Entry and Stair Hallway, with a magnificently hand-carved oak staircase, form the central corridor of the house. Although this space does not represent one specific historical period, the staircase's acorn and oak leaf motif was popular in the 1500s. The staircase was hand carved in the Michigan workshop of Alois Lang, a Bavarian born master craftsman. The Main Entry to the house features three sets of doors and the ceiling of the entry's foyer is vaulted in a Gothic-inspired style.

Gothic & Mears Galleries

Originally intended to serve as an echo chamber for the pipes of an organ in the Great Hall located directly below, this space remained empty for many years. It was extensively renovated during the 1970s and early 1980s to serve as a gallery for decorative objects. All of the stone and wood construction is new, including the large bay with benches and a window in the gallery.

Mansion Photography Rates

Engagement: \$200/hour

Family portraits: \$250/hour

*Wedding day photography inside of the Mansion is limited to the Ceremony in the Castle or Majestic Evening in the Mansion Packages





Frequently Asked Questions

What is a photography permit?

A photography permit allows your group to take professional photos on the Paine grounds during specific times scheduled with our events team. Upon arrival, a member of the events staff will greet you and remain available for the duration of your reservation.

If I am hosting an event at the Paine, do I need a photography permit too?

A complimentary photography permit for the gardens is included with all event rentals (including weddings). Mansion photography may be added to a ceremony or reception rental (additional fees apply for Mansion photography).

How far in advance should I reserve a photography session?

Photography sessions are based upon availability and may be reserved up to three months in advance. We kindly ask for a minimum two-week notice. Please note that we are not able to reserve photography sessions during another wedding or other rental on our estate.

Where can I find available dates and times for a proposal or photography session?

Please email us at weddings@thepaine.org and we can send you a link to our calendar of available dates and times.

Is a deposit due to book a photography session?

The full rental fee is due at the time of the reservation with a signed rental agreement. The rental fee is non-refundable.

What happens if it rains?

In the event of inclement weather, photography may still take place under the Loggia, on the back side of the mansion. This is a covered area with beautiful European architecture. You may also borrow umbrellas for the Paine for some fun and whimsical photography in our gardens. In the event of severe weather, please contact us prior to your event to arrange an alternative date for your session (based upon availability).

How long can our photography session last?

Photography sessions are reserved for a minimum of one hour, with 30-minute increments to follow.





Frequently Asked Questions

Can I reserve time both in the mansion and in the gardens?

Absolutely. Your reservation fee will be divided accordingly.

Do I need to be a member of the Paine to host a photography session?

You do not need to be a member of the Paine to host a photography session.

Are there certain places where we can and cannot take photos?

In the mansion, there are four spaces that have been approved by our Curator of Collections and Exhibitions for photography. For preservation purposes, furniture, draperies, sculptures, décor, and artworks are not allowed to be touched, moved, or adjusted for photos. In the gardens, there are dozens of wonderful locations for photography. The events team member accompanying your group is a great resource if you have questions about spaces on the day of your session.

Do you provide a photographer?

The Paine does not provide a photographer for photo sessions. You may choose any photographer you wish to take your photos.

