



Seward House Museum Photoshoot Policy & Agreement

About Your Seward House Museum Photography Shoot

Congratulations on choosing the Seward House Museum for your photography needs. Whether you are using the Museum for wedding pictures, an engagement, family photographs, celebrating a graduation, a prom, or other any occasion, we are pleased to offer you a setting capable of framing memories and mementos to last a lifetime. A session at the Seward House comes complete with a Museum staff person to ensure an optimal personalized experience. Since the SHM's public schedule is often busy, it is advisable to plan ahead with the Museum's Director of Development, Allison Hinman, in advance of your private visit. Allison can be reached at 315.252.1283, ext. 3, or @ development@sewardhouse.org.

The Seward House Museum features a pair of unique backdrops, which may be booked individually or in combination. They are:

Inside the Historic House at 33 South Street

The historic interior of the Seward House Museum is breathtaking. The two-hundred-year-old structure is not only remarkably well preserved, but contains an inimitable collection of original furniture, décor, woodwork, and fixtures that flow together in an elegant mosaic from the American past. Though the atmosphere is deeply historic, it is also warm and inviting. The home retains its spirit of a family dwelling, blending the intimacy of cozy lived-in space with a stately splendor. Among the popular sites for posing are the grand staircase and around the immaculate 1872 Steinway Piano, surrounded by fine artwork. But the house has rooms to enchant all tastes and styles. From the opulence of the formal Parlor, to the book-lined Library, the decadent Dining Room, the regal Drawing Room, several charming bedrooms, a Nursery, or even the nooks and crannies of the sizeable Servant's Wing, the interior of Seward House offers something for everyone. With sufficient notice and safeguards in place, your Seward House Museum escort can take your party behind many of the rope-lines to help craft the perfect photoshoot.

Majestic Grounds and Gardens

The two-acre property surrounding the Seward House includes a variety of idyllic outdoor views. The iconic silhouette of the yellow-bricked home lends itself nicely as a majestic background, especially its gracious Italianate south porch veranda or griffin-adorned front steps. Likewise, such historic exterior buildings as the stone barns, gazebos, and Mr. Seward's Summer House are often used to frame an elegant outdoor scene. For a touch of nature, the SHM's sprawling grounds and gardens offer a treasure trove of possibilities. Depending on the season, beauty can be found in abundance: rose gardens, ample flower beds, wandering botanical pathways, marble benches, copses of tall shade trees, original historic statuary, 1840s-era accent fences, and a Victorian fountain and pool, among others. While the gardens bloom brightly in spring and shine in summer, they are also transformed with pumpkins and autumnal signs of harvest in autumn.

and festooned with cheery decorations for the holidays. Even the snows of winter are made lovely on the Seward House grounds

Rules and Policies

A Seward House Museum staff member will be assigned to each photoshoot group. We are a public garden so there is no guarantee of privacy during the times that we are open to the public. If your photoshoot is not after hours in the Museum, please note that there will be public tours taking place in the house and Museum staff will do its best to make your photoshoot as private as possible. Food and drink will not be permitted in the Museum during the photoshoot. Photoshoots within the Museum are limited to 20 people or less in a group. Photos can be taken outside the historic barns, but no photography is permitted inside these spaces. Each photoshoot is for a 1.5 hour time slot, any requests for an increase in that time must be made 2 weeks before your appointment.

Cost

Below is the donation amount for the photoshoot spaces available at the Seward House Museum:

Museum-\$200

Gardens & Grounds-\$75

Gardens & Grounds-\$250

The deposit necessary to reserve a date is 50% of the total cost and is due at the time that the Rental Agreement is signed. The balance is due one week before the photoshoot.

Directions and Parking

The Seward House Museum is located in Auburn, NY, approximately 8 miles south of the village of Weedsport, Exit 40 off the New York State Thruway, Interstate 90, approximately 25 miles west of Syracuse, and 50 miles east of Rochester.

Take Route 34 south until you enter the city limits of Auburn. Route 34 becomes North Street until it crosses Genesee Street, at which it changes to South Street. After the next traffic light heading south, with City Hall to the left, the Seward House is located immediately on the right. For directions and maps from your location, click [here](#).

There is limited free parking behind the Museum. Handicapped and additional parking spaces are available in the municipal lot next to the Museum.

Visitors who use wheelchairs/and or walkers may enter through the handicap entrance at the rear of the house. This door is secure, so please ring the doorbell and someone will assist you.

Public restrooms with accessibility features are available.

Name(s) of Couple
or Group:

Photographer's
Name and Studio:
Couple or Groups
Primary Address:

Primary Phone:

() _____

Email:

Time

Date Requested:

Requested:

Number of People

Attending

Photoshoot:

Gardens Only

Museum Interior Only

Gardens and Museum Interior

Museum Interior photography for \$200: \$ _____

Grounds & Gardens for \$75: \$ _____

Museum Interior and Grounds & Gardens Photography for \$250: \$ _____

TOTAL: \$

Deposit due with contract (50% of total payment): \$ _____

Remainder due two weeks before the event / / : \$ _____

Photography party:

Authorized Signature

Date

Print Name

Seward House Museum:

Authorized Signature

Date

Print Name

For Seward House Museum Use:

Prior to the Photoshoot:

Deposit received on: _____ Payment method: _____ Amount: \$ _____

Balance received on: _____ Payment method: _____ Amount: \$ _____