

Salvation Mountain – Filming Packet 2025

Salvation Mountain, Inc. is committed to maintaining a safe, family-friendly environment. Please follow the guidelines below to ensure both visitor safety and the preservation of the Mountain. Caretakers and Docents are always present—please follow their guidance respectfully.

1. For any commercial filming, refer to pages 3 and 4. Written permission and/or licensing may be required for using any imagery of Salvation Mountain.
2. Complete the Filming Application (found at www.salvationmountain.org) and email it to sue@salvationmountain.org. A Licensing Form is also required for any public-facing use of the artwork.
3. Film crews should check with the Imperial Valley Filming Commission to determine if county permits are required.
4. Salvation Mountain remains open to the public during filming. Be mindful of other visitors—especially on weekends and holidays. For a quieter setting, we recommend filming on weekdays.
5. Open hours are sunrise to sunset daily. Entry is NOT permitted before sunrise, and all guests must exit BEFORE dark. The inner areas ('The Museum' and 'Hogan's') remain closed for repairs. The Yellow Path may be closed at the Caretaker's discretion. Painted surfaces will remain closed after rainfall until fully dry—this may take days or weeks.
6. Crews may be asked to send a representative to meet with a Caretaker in advance to coordinate logistics. The Filming/Event Coordinator may not be present during your event, but Caretakers and Docents will assist onsite.
7. Before arriving, check Niland, CA weather forecasts. Summer temperatures often exceed 120°F. Bring ample water and prepare for desert conditions.
8. Climbing or standing on the Mountain is strictly prohibited. Only the flat ground and Yellow Path are walkable (when open). Despite photos that suggest otherwise, climbing is NOT permitted. Also, do NOT climb on Mountain vehicles.
9. For safety and preservation, spiked or high-heeled shoes are NOT allowed. Soft-soled footwear is recommended.
10. Nudity, vulgar content, and drug references are NOT permitted.

11. Special effects (e.g., smoke, flame, pyrotechnics) are NOT allowed.
12. Drones may be flown in 5-minute intervals only. They must not disturb the peaceful setting or fly over the Caretaker residence's. Stay 30' above art/surfaces at all times.
13. Pets must be leashed and monitored at all times. Summer heat can be dangerous for paws. Unleashed animals may become lost in the desert.
14. For music videos, send lyrics in advance for review. Keep music at a respectful volume. Offensive language is NOT allowed. The site must remain family friendly.
15. We kindly request you credit 'Salvation Mountain and Leonard Knight, Niland, CA' and include our website www.salvationmountain.org in your project credits.
16. If possible, please provide a copy or link to your final product for our archives.
17. Salvation Mountain, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. All proceeds support the preservation of Leonard Knight's artwork. For commercial or non-commercial filming, we recommend donations be made in advance. Donation options include check (payable to Salvation Mountain, Inc.), PayPal, Venmo, or Zelle, links at www.salvationmountain.org. Do not hand money directly to staff. Please use the donation box at the Visitor Center. Tipping is discouraged.
18. If you share your project on social media, we kindly ask that you tag us using [@salvationmountainofficial](https://www.instagram.com/salvationmountainofficial) and mention our location in your caption or post. This helps more people discover Leonard Knight's message of love and creativity.
19. By submitting an application, you acknowledge and accept these guidelines. Questions can be directed to sue@salvationmountain.org.
20. Please note: There is no expectation of privacy during any activity on-site. Staff and visitors may take photos or videos at any time.

Filming and Event Coordinator: sue@salvationmountain.org

Call or Text: 760-624-8754

Website: www.salvationmountain.org

General Info: info@salvationmountain.org

COMMERCIAL FILMING GUIDELINES FOR SALVATION MOUNTAIN

Salvation Mountain, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit dedicated to preserving and promoting Leonard Knight's life work and message of Universal Love. These guidelines apply to all commercial and student filming requests, including projects such as music videos, documentaries, television, still photography, or digital media. Amateur photos for personal use are exempt.

APPLICATION:

All filmmakers must submit a written request and complete the application prior to scheduling production. Email or text the Film Coordinator.

PERMITS & INSURANCE:

Filmmakers must obtain permits from the Imperial County Film Commission and Niland Fire District. Proof of \$1,000,000 liability insurance is required.

SUGGESTED FILMING DONATIONS:

½ day (up to 6 hours): \$600

Full day (up to 12 hours): \$1,000

Hourly rate: \$150

OVERSIGHT:

A Location Manager must be present throughout the production (including setup and breakdown) to ensure permit compliance and to serve as liaison with the Film Coordinator and Caretakers.

ARCHIVING:

To help us preserve Leonard Knight's legacy, we kindly request copies of final photos/videos for our records. All uses will be credited.

NOTE:

This is a public space. There is no expectation of privacy. Visitors and staff may record your production.

This agreement provides access and outlines use of Leonard Knight's intellectual property. Donations are used exclusively for preservation and may qualify as charitable contributions under IRS Code 170.

SALVATION MOUNTAIN FILMING PERMIT APPLICATION

Production Company: _____

Producer/Director: _____ Cell: _____

Location Manager: _____ Cell: _____

Production Assistant: _____ Cell: _____

Company Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Crew Size: _____ # of Vehicles: _____ Stills___ Video___ Film___

Dates of Filming: _____

Production Description: _____

Project Summary: _____

Special Effects (if any): _____

**Pyrotechnics, smoke cannons, and oil-based machines are NOT permitted.*

LICENSING:

Minimum license fee is \$250 for small businesses or stock art postings, plus 2% royalty on sales or reproductions.

Submit a written proposal or complete the following worksheet:

Standard license fees you've paid for similar projects: _____

Term of those projects: One-time average: _____ Royalty: _____% over _____ years

Estimated project revenue for this project: _____

One-time use: Y / N Ongoing or recurring use: Y / N

Anticipated run time: _____ months / years End date of this license: ____ / ____ / ____

Are you a freelancer reselling this work? Y / N

If yes, describe intended use or client: _____

I acknowledge and agree to all guidelines.

Signature: _____ Date: _____