

Mesa Verde Country Local Lens Photo & Video Contest Rules

About the Contest:

The Local Lens Photo & Video Contest celebrates the people, places, and stories that make Mesa Verde Country unique—including Cortez, Dolores, Mancos, and Mesa Verde National Park.

This contest is open exclusively to local businesses, organizations, and community partners who help shape the visitor experience.

How It Works:

- Submit your original photo(s) or video(s) that highlight your connection to Mesa Verde Country.
- Add a short caption or “field note” telling the story behind your image. Entries with captions that share a unique perspective or story will receive more points.

Entries will be featured across Mesa Verde Country’s website, social media, and newsletter throughout the year.

Contest Dates & Seasonal Awards:

To celebrate our region year-round, seasonal winners will be selected during each phase of the contest:

- Winter Round: January 1 – March 31
- Spring Round: April 1 – June 30
- Summer Round: July 1 – September 30
- Fall Round: October 1 – December 31

Each round will feature one seasonal winner, with all entries automatically entered for the Grand Prize at year’s end.

Prizes:

- Runner-ups: Featured on Mesa Verde Country’s website and social media channels.
- Grand Prize (1 per season): A half-page ad in the 2027/2028 Mesa Verde Country Travel Planner (Valued at \$2,500).

Judging Criteria (60 Points Total):

1. Relevance (0–10 pts): Strong connection to Mesa Verde Country.
2. Quality (0–10 pts): Sharp, clear, and visually appealing.
3. Storytelling (0–20 pts): Captivating caption or narrative.
4. Creativity (0–10 pts): Unique perspective or composition.
5. Impact (0–10 pts): Inspires pride, curiosity, or emotion.

Rules & Requirements:

- Photos/videos must be taken within the contest timeframe (no archival assets).
- Entrants must be local businesses, organizations, or community partners of Mesa Verde Country.
- Submissions must be the original work of the entrant.
- By submitting, entrants grant Mesa Verde Country permission to feature their content in marketing materials with credit given.

Each participant may submit multiple entries per season.

How to Enter:

1. Capture your photo or video within Mesa Verde Country.
2. Add a caption that connects it to your business, organization, or story.
3. Upload via the Local Lens submission portal at mesaverdecountry.com/local-lens-photo-video-contest, or use the QR code here.

