

European Southern Observatory Release Form for Media Visits

ESO's observatories are in continuous operation 365 days a year and 24 hours a day. To ensure the undisturbed and continued operation of the observatory during the visit, this release form specifies the requirements and commitments of the parties.

Media products

ESO welcomes visits from media representatives at its sites. These visits however imply a significant investment of resources on the part of the organisation in the form of planning, guided tours, travel, support on site, accommodation, food, etc.

To be able to continue to offer this service to the media and justify the costs implied by this service, the education and Public Outreach Department (**ePOD**) *requires* the **Media Visitor** to:

- Produce one or more media non-fiction products in the form of articles, pictures, news pieces, blog posts, documentaries, books or similar (hereafter known as **products**).
- All **products** shall as a minimum mention “European Southern Observatory (ESO)” as well as the name of the observatory visited. Whenever possible, the ESO logo should be included as well.
- When referring to ALMA, the **products** shall as a minimum mention the following: “ESO is the European partner in ALMA” and that “ALMA is an international astronomy facility which is a partnership of Europe, North America and East Asia in cooperation with Chile”.
- Whenever possible, the following information should be added: “ALMA is led on behalf of Europe by ESO, on behalf of North America by the National Radio Astronomy Observatory (NRAO), and on behalf of East Asia by the National Astronomical Observatory of Japan (NAOJ).”
- The Media Visitor shall inform **ePOD** in advance about the release date of the **products**.
- The Media Visitor agrees that **ESO** may report on the visit on its website and/or in its publications and distribute a press release with **ESO's** own videos and photographs or with material received from the Media Visitor. If the **products** have to remain confidential before official launch, the Media Visitor will inform ePOD within three days of signing this release.

ePOD *invites* the Media Visitor to:

- Send an electronic copy of the product to **ePOD** to be indexed in our archive.
- Provide parts of the footage/photographs to **ePOD** to be uploaded in the ESO gallery and distributed under a [Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 Unported license](#).
- Link up with **ePOD** for a win-win partnership in terms of promotion by requesting **ePOD's** support in advance of public release or at launch. **ePOD** can offer

significant exposure for media productions, as well as targeted promotional campaigns for suitable projects. **ePOD** can also offer assistance in terms of scientific input for scripts and texts.

- Link to eso.org where ever possible

Safety Rules

While safety is a top priority for ESO for workers, visitors and equipment, you may encounter potentially hazardous conditions or dangerous situations due to construction and/or maintenance.

Please respect the following guidelines:

- You must remain with your ESO contact and follow instructions at all times. Overnight visitors will be instructed on correct procedures.
- Use of light sources and photographic flash lights in night-time external shots is not allowed at La Silla and Paranal in order to comply with ESO's policy concerning light pollution and protection of the dark sky.
- ESO will provide the necessary safety equipment, which must be used as instructed.
- Seat belts must be used and speed limits must be followed while on site.
- You should be aware of your surroundings while walking in the telescope area.
- Smoking is not allowed in buildings and public areas.
- The average humidity on Paranal is between 2 and 10%. It is important to drink plenty of bottled water or juice to avoid dehydration.
- Do not drink water from the taps.
- Please do not throw bottles, garbage or drop any other litter while at the observatory.
- The observatories are located on a remote site in the middle of the driest desert in the world. You may be exposed to strong winds, high solar radiation and dust from construction or maintenance areas. Please wear appropriate clothing such as trousers, walking shoes (no sandals), sunglasses, etc. We recommend a jacket or sweater for the enclosures, which are kept at 5–11°C. For ALMA, you should be prepared for temperatures as low as -20°C at the high site.
- The observatories are located at altitudes from 2400 metres to 5100 metres:
 - We recommend that you do not walk quickly.
 - The altitude may impair your mental capabilities and judgement due to low oxygen.
 - It is recommended for people with anaemia to avoid medium or high altitudes.
 - ESO has a small clinic in the Paranal, La Silla and ALMA basecamps for emergency situations.
 - If you experience any of the following symptoms, please inform your ESO contact or the paramedic immediately: Acute headache, dizziness, nausea, breathing problems, ringing or blocking of ears, heart pains, acute muscular pains, seeing "stars".

Liabilities

The Media Visitor and **ESO** each agrees to indemnify, reimburse, defend and hold the other party harmless from and against any proceedings, claims, losses, damages, costs and expenses, including court costs and reasonable outside legal fees that such other party may suffer, as a result of any material breach of this agreement and/or resulting from any third party claim, action or suit that arises from any breach of this agreement, to the extent based upon, or arising out of or attributable to, any wilful misconduct or grossly negligent act or omission of such party, its directors, officers, employees or agents, its staff or any contractor.

Acceptance

I have read and understood the Safety Rules and further agree to abide by all ESO regulations.

I understand the potential hazards and the possible harmful effects of the altitude. I confirm that to the best of my knowledge I do not suffer from any illness which would render my stay in the specific conditions of the Observatory (altitude, atmospheric conditions) hazardous. I accept that ESO shall not be held responsible for any adverse effects to me resulting from my visit to the ESO Observatory.

In the case of an accident or sudden illness, and if I am not able to make a decision myself, I authorise the Director of the Observatory or the person to whom he has delegated this authority to take all required emergency measures as possible — after consultation with appropriate medical services.

Name: _____

Media outlet: _____

Address: _____

ID / passport number: _____

Telephone: _____

email: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

In case of an accident/emergency, please notify:

Name: _____

Relationship: _____

Phone: _____

email: _____

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