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Which hosting plan for a private photo gallery for clients

Plans for Creators & Personal Sites

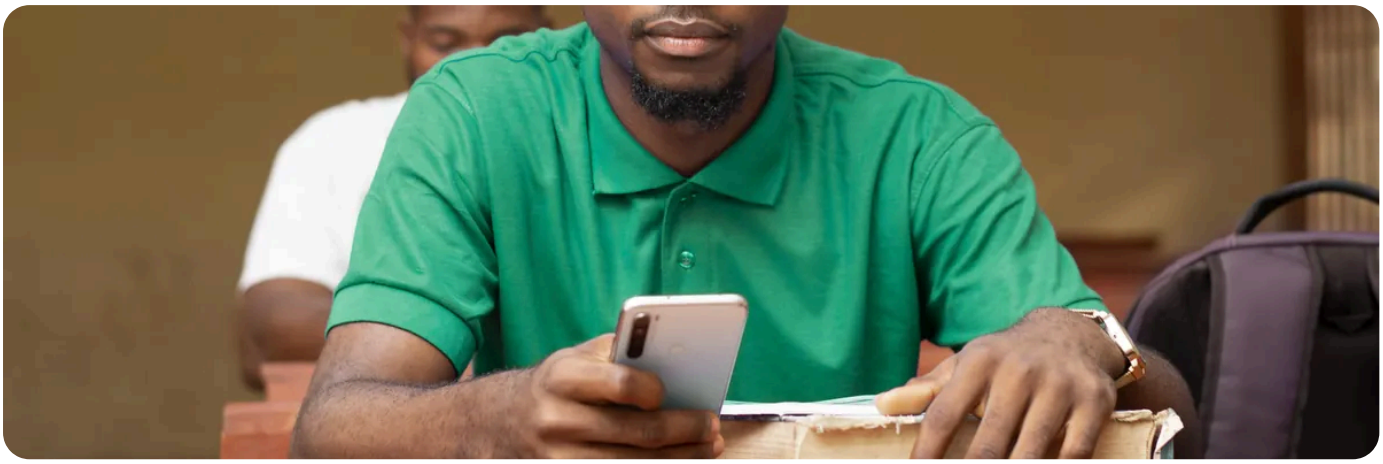
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Which hosting plan for a private photo gallery for clients

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The short answer: a private gallery, where each client views and picks their photos, is different from a public portfolio: it has **many large images** and **password access**. For a few galleries, **a shared plan will do**; what usually runs out first is **space**, not speed.

What weighs, and what does not

Part of the site	What to do
Space	Each shoot can have hundreds of large photos. See what weighs in **Disk Usage** and work it out before promising each client an archive period.
Image versions	Show reduced versions in the gallery (quick to open) and keep the originals off the site. See **Image optimisation**.
Private access	A password per gallery or per client. For a simple folder, see **Password protecting a folder**; a gallery plugin or service offers more (picking favourites, downloads).
Clients' privacy	Photos of people (especially children and private events) are personal data. Do not leave private galleries open to Google and delete them when the period ends. See **Personal data protection**.
Delivering originals	High-resolution files are heavy. A file-sharing service is usually better than your plan for this.

How to choose, step by step

1. **Start with the entry plan** and measure the space after the first galleries.
2. **Decide how long** you keep each gallery online (one month, three) and tell the client.

3. **Set the dimensions** of the images you show, before uploading, so the disk is not filled with originals.

4. **Test a gallery on a phone** and with a client's link, in a private browser window.

5. **Review the plan** when space or your clients' visits grow, or if you start selling prints: **Which plan for a shop**.

Do not use your public portfolio for the private galleries.
What is in the portfolio can be indexed and copied; clients' galleries must not be. Also keep a copy of the shoots off the site: **Your own backup**.

For the public portfolio, see **Which plan for a portfolio**. The private gallery is a complement, not a replacement.

NEED A HAND?

Want to add a private gallery to your photography site? Tell us how many shoots you do a month.

Open a support ticket →

In our plans

Situation	Plan	Why
A few galleries at a time, reduced versions, password per client	Pro	10 GB NVMe SSD, 1 site and unlimited databases, enough while few shoots are online
A steady flow of shoots, galleries kept for months	Plus or Ultra	20 or 30 GB NVMe SSD, and sites for the public portfolio and the private galleries kept apart
A large archive of shoots online, or selling prints	Business Pro, Plus or Ultra	50, 100 or 200 GB NVMe SSD, unlimited sites

WHEN TO MOVE UP: see what fills the account in cPanel, in Disk Usage, after the first galleries. Move up when the space left no longer covers the shoots of the coming weeks and the period you promised each client, or when you start selling prints. The originals do not have to live on the plan: a file-sharing service delivers them better. If the volume of images is so large that no shared plan is enough, the next step is a VPS (virtual server with 40 GB NVMe on the VPS1 and more on the larger ones). Moving up can be done at any time and the site is not lost.

SEE ALSO

- **Disk Usage: finding what fills your account**
- **Password protecting a folder with Directory Privacy**
- **Personal data protection: what applies to your website**
- **Which hosting plan for a portfolio or photography site**

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