



Drone Access Policy

Commercial flights

Commercial drone operators are welcome to film in Bristol subject to the terms of this policy. **Commercial production companies and drone operators taking off and landing drones/UAVs from sites managed by Bristol City Council require a filming permit issued by Bristol Film Office.** Please read the following in full and apply for a filming permit **at least seven days in advance** of your planned activity.

The process for applying for a filming permit for drone activity is as follows:

1. Ensure all crew members have read and understood the [Civil Aviation Authority Drone Code](#).
2. Plan the proposed flight in full. Carry out a full risk assessment and write a method statement advising how you plan to safely manage the take-off and landing areas. Seek advice on any control measures, e.g. flight timings, road closures or traffic control.
3. Submit a filming permit application to Bristol Film Office **at least seven days in advance** via the online portal: <http://filmbristol.co.uk/homepage/filming-permission/drone-filming/>
Include the following **mandatory documents** in your application:
 - Map/site plan of your flight, pinpointing take-off and landing points, cordoned areas and proposed flight path.
 - A full risk assessment and method statement.
 - A copy of your public liability insurance certificate (minimum £5million).
 - A copy of the drone pilot's A2CofC, GVC or PFCO.
4. Bristol Film Office will review the application and documents supplied and make the necessary arrangements with Bristol City Council land managers. We aim to confirm permission to film within 5 working days of receipt of the permit application.

PLEASE NOTE:

- Drone permits cost £200-£400 per day, depending on locations used. (These costs are subject to annual review).
- Specific [bylaws](#) dictate permissible drone activity at Bristol Parks and Green Spaces. Please contact Bristol Film Office for more information.
- Bristol Film Office will only consider applications for drone filming at locations where CAA guidelines and public health and safety can be maintained throughout the flight.
- Drone activity on Bristol Highways requires a [road closure and/or traffic control](#). Please contact Bristol Film Office for more information.
- Regretfully, Bristol Film Office is unable to issue filming permits for non-commercial/amateur, surveys and research flights.

Bristol Film Office

The Bottle Yard Studios, Whitchurch Lane, Bristol BS14 0BH

T: +44 (0)117 922 3958 E: bristolfilmoffice@bristol.gov.uk www.filmbristol.co.uk



Recreational Flights

Bristol City Council has designated four areas of parkland that may be used for the take-off and landing of drones and model aircraft: **Blaise Castle Estate, Dundry Park, Hengrove Park and the Downs**. These areas may be used by hobbyist pilots for recreational flights subject to compliance with the following rules:

1. Fly within **designated areas only** and always comply with the UK Drone Code.
2. Only fly drones and model aircraft weighing up to 7kg without fuel.
3. Hold a valid Flyer ID and Operator IDs for all drones.
4. Hold valid third-party liability insurance (minimum £5 Million)
5. If flying under the A2 subcategory:
 - Hold a valid CAA A2 Certificate of Competence (A2 CofC)
 - OR hold a valid CAA General VLOS Certificate (GVC)
 - OR hold a valid Permission for Commercial Operation (PfCO)

Recreational drone flights at these sites, carried out in compliance with the rules listed above, *do not* require prior permission. Commercial flights at these sites *do* require prior permission from Bristol Film Office.

Bristol Film Office is a division of Bristol City Council

Office Line: +44 (0)117 922 3958

bristolfilmoffice@bristol.gov.uk

Opening hours: Monday to Thursday: 9am – 5pm

Friday: 9am – 4.30pm

For more information about filming in Bristol, please see our website: filmbristol.co.uk

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