



# DRONE ONE VIDEO -COMMISSION STEPS

Hello,

We are often asked for quotes for Drone video and photography shoots. Our Drone One rates are determined by a great number of independent factors and so will vary from job to job. Some projects are complex and require weeks of planning and permissions from air traffic control, depending upon where they are.

Other drone shoots can be very straightforward and can be turned around relatively quickly. We will not know which scenario applies until further information is processed.

It is important to have accurate information so the flight plan can be assessed accurately.

## THE PROCESS

A client will express an interest in drone footage of a property or subject.

A pre-flight assessment with required information is required to assess the flight plan accurately.

A short briefing form is then sent to the client and filled out as well as possible.

### **Information required:**

**1/ Exact location.** (Ideally a Grid Reference, name and postcode)

Minimum requirements are - the exact name of the place (e.g. the Old Mill, East Hatley, Bedfordshire. SG19 3JA.

If in countryside it may be only the nearest village/town, the post code, the county, and any other useful information. This is to ensure there is no confusion in the case of there being 2 towns with the same name (such as Ashford in Kent, or Ashford in Middlesex )

**2/ Shoot requirements** ( 4K UHD/ 2k video, MOV or Mpeg4 delivery.or stills).

Multiple properties / subjects. ( a row of houses individually recorded, for example)

Likely height requirements if known ( a chimney stack, for example could be over the 400ft max height limit of the drone)

**3/ Intended date.** ( The more notice the better, as some requests for flight can take time to approve) some need no request if permission,

**4/ Any other requirements?** E.g. ground-based video or stills material.

How is the material going to be used?

**5/ Delivery requirements.** Finished drone footage or stills.

**6/ This information will then be discussed with a trained CAA UAV Pilot.**

A preliminary general check of the area is made on the Internet, also looking at pilots specialist maps and also O/S maps and a quote is produced for the client based on what has been discussed.

**7/ The quote for the job is produced.** Terms agreed by the client.

**8/ A full pre-flight assessment is then produced.** This can involve some considerable time in preparation required before the flight day.



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**Assessments and measurements are taken on such factors as:**

- a/ How close to a road, railway, power lines, glider schools, trees?
- b/ Are there airports, military airfields, aerodromes, power stations, wind farms, or wild fowl areas in the vicinity where we wish to fly?
- c/ Are there any NOTAMs required from airports or aerodromes?
- d/ Are there suitable areas to safely take off and land?
- e/ Is there good access and also possibility to control access of the area?
- e/ Do we have permission from the landowner to film?

**This is not a complete list but gives an idea of the level of detail required.**

**9/ The PIC (drone pilot) then applies for any permissions (if needed).**

Often they are NOT required for flights to take place.

Local and National weather forecasts are noted, and a risk assessment is carried out based on pre-site information . All the details are combined into a working sheet document to be used on the day

## ON THE DAY OF THE SHOOT

- 1/ The PIC needs to take the worksheet and carry out an additional on-site survey. Such areas as gates and fences are shut, livestock secured, is a cordon required, and a safe takeoff and landing area is clear, along with an alternative emergency landing area. Wind direction and speed is measured along with air temperature. If the windspeed is over limits the flight is not possible at that time, it needs to subside.
- 2/ A full pre-flight briefing is done with ALL involved on the production. Everyone is briefed of the procedures in the event of a flyaway, loss of control, fire potential and what to do, and RHAL (Return Home and Land) feature of the craft in the event of an emergency. What happens in case of the incapacitation of the PIC due to any reason is also covered.
- 3/ The shots are discussed in detail with the client and the PIC before take-off and a suitable sequence plan is then agreed.
- 4/ The craft is then assembled, calibrated for GPS, and deemed ready to fly. The shoot then takes place, and the magic happens!
- 5/ On landing (This will likely happen several times to change batteries) the only person allowed near the drone is the PIC or a designated assistant. If the first landing place is compromised for any reason (children, animals or other possibilities) the 2nd pre-allocated landing place is then used.
- 6/ The craft is only deemed safe to approach when the battery is taken off and announced safe by the PIC.
- 7/ Data is downloaded and transferred, or left to be delivered to the client at a suitable time



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## SAFETY RULES

Most are unaware of the possible dangers involved, yet drones can be very safe if flown within their limits and flown by a trained PIC who adheres to the rules. We have to remember we are under the rules of the UK Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) when it involves commercial shoots. We have to adhere to the rules to ensure safety of people and property on the ground as well as other professional air-space users in the vicinity.

The procedures here are based on safety and as such are vital to follow. We have to mitigate any issues as much as possible before they happen, and a plan to follow if an emergency happens.

A drone we use weighs in around 3 Kg, or 7 pounds weight. It has 4 rapidly spinning propellers that can cut very effectively. We need to make sure nobody comes into contact with these propellers when it is taking off or landing, so the procedures are in place for a reason to minimise this possibility.

Similarly, if there is a catastrophic battery or a structural failure of the drone for whatever reason, it will come down quickly and uncontrolled. We don't want it landing on anyone, hence the precautions taken and the very precise pre-flight checks we have to take. There is also rigorous airframe and battery logging and maintenance schedules, with batteries able to advise of lack of capacity.

All flights are logged automatically in the control software. This is exactly what a commercial aircraft is expected to maintain.

All of the people in our control need to be fully safety briefed before any drone shoot.

## WHAT A DRONE CAN DO, AND CANNOT DO

### **We CAN**

Fly up to 400ft (120 metres high) This is about as high as the top of the London Eye

Fly within line of sight

Fly up to 500 metres away from the PIC

Fly for approximately 15 minutes at a time.

Fly near or over people ( **only** when they are under our control and have been briefed ).

Fly over water and land on a suitable boat.

### **We CANNOT**

Fly near to roads, railways, around airfields, overhead power lines and in some other areas

Overfly crowds of people who are **not** under our control

Fly at night

Fly behind buildings or out of line of sight.

Fly when it is raining/ snowing / too windy

This is not an exhaustive list of restrictions.

### **LEGAL**

The responsibility of the flight lies **with the PIC**. If a drone endangers the safety of an aircraft it is a criminal offence. **It is for these reasons the final decision for the flight MUST be with the PIC and must be adhered to at all times.**



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## TYPICAL COSTS (FOR GUIDANCE)

### 1-DAY DRONE SHOOT in UK.

1/Initial consultation with client to discover the specific requirements. Whether video, stills, formats and final material delivery, date, likely time of shoot and duration.

2/ Preliminary off-site survey using Pilots Navigation maps of UK, Internet and O/S maps, Google maps for measurements etc.

3/ Estimate based on the available information

4/ Full Assessment of the suitability and ability to fly at the location specified, full details of local emergency numbers, weather reports and includes NOTAM request and application to local Air Traffic Control if required. An 8-page pre-site report is prepared with all information for use on the day of the shoot.

5/ Shoot day-on site evaluation, establish of cordons, safety briefing of all participants, and checks on drone aircraft.

6/ Discussion of clients requirements. Video and / or stills shoot.

7/ Download and backup of digital material on shoot day or at base.

8/ Post production (depending upon clients requirements) Delivery of finished material to client. Backup of original data offsite

#### **Includes :**

DJI Inspire 4K Video drone (with 4K resolution capable video camera)

1 x PIC (CAA PfcO) self-operating

Delivery by digital We Transfer or transfer on the day of the shoot to clients hard drive

Fully insured for commercial operations

#### **Additional costs**

Transport (mileage) at £0.45p per mile from base

#### **Possible additional costs**

Assistant / spotter

Camera operator No.2 (for more intricate camera video shots)

Assistant for crowd control ( if required )

Hotels for overnights stays ( if needed)

Media cards / hard drive for transfer

**Typical Shoot** £850 + costs / per day

Quotations are valid for 30 days, and are based upon the information we are given.

**All prices are subject to VAT at 20%**

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