

PHOTOGRAPHY AND THE LAW



NO LAW AGAINST TAKING PHOTOGRAPHS

Many legal
restrictions on the
right to take a photo

So the correct
saying should be

'You're free to take
photographs except
where the law says
otherwise'

PRIVATE PROPERTY

Not normally any rights for property owner if photos taken from public place.

No general restrictions if you have permission to be on property

Owner can impose restrictions as a condition of entry....museums, concert venues etc.

Rules of trespass apply if you have permission to enter property but restrictions apply and you take a photograph.

PHOTOGRAPHY IN CERTAIN PUBLIC PLACES

- Trafalgar Square
- Parliament Square
- Royal Park
- Prohibition applies to photographs in connection with business or employment (fees are payable)
- Not tourist photographs



HARASSMENT & INVASION OF PRIVACY

Harassment is usually behaviour that causes alarm or distress...a course of action...e.g. stalking or repeatedly thrusting a camera in their face.....

Use of long lens to photograph somebody in the home even from a public place is an invasion of privacy.

More issues around the publication of rather than the taking of shot.

Generally, o.k. to take pictures of people at public events...remember the rules on model release.

OBSTRUCTION AND PUBLIC ORDER

Criminal offence to obstruct free passage on roads, cycle paths or footpaths...e.g. setting up a tripod on a busy street.

Obstructing police officer by photographing an incident and impeding them in the course of their duties

Danger whilst shooting riots or demos that you could be confused with those taking part



CHILDREN



- Harassment, invasion of privacy and data protection applies equally to children as it does adults....but a child does not have legal right to consent, must be the parent or guardian.
- Criminal offence to take a indecent photo of a child under 18 or make an image appear so.
- Children under 16 cannot be used as paid models unless licence is granted by local council
- It is not illegal to photograph children in public places but it is advisable to get consent from their guardian.
- Many organisations as part of there own child protection policies restrict photography....so even if you are a relative best to check first

NATIONAL SECURITY



- Recent years more fears over security and terrorism.
- The Terrorism Act makes it an offence to take or possess a photo useful to a person preparing an act of terrorism

**Photographs of U.K.
bank notes is an
offence
unless permission is
given in writing by
appropriate authority**



WILDLIFE

Many wild animals including insects and birds protected by Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981

No restriction on taking of photos but offence to disturb.



DRONES



Drones & Some Basics Rules

- Keep your drone in your line of sight
- Stay below 400ft (120m)
- You must follow the manufacturer's instructions
- Keep your distance (50m from people and property, 150m from crowds and built-up areas)
- You are responsible for each flight
- Keep at least 4.63 km away from aircraft, airports and airfields
- Need to be registered Flyer and Operator ID required
- Different rules for different weights of drones
- Consider the weather and not just at ground level
- It is more about where you take off (check websites & Bye laws) not where you fly over but even then (e.g. NT own the land not the airspace), but considerations need to be made:
 - Privacy
 - Wildlife
 - Scientific Area
 - National Security

Lots of apps to support flights

Here's a couple

- Drone Assist
- Drone Scene

