Drones

Filming with Drones

Aviation regulations for Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) are based on harmonized EU law. For film productions, this means there is no longer a regulatory distinction between private and commercial use. Instead, the legal requirements are determined by the weight, technical specifications (C-classifications), and the planned flight scenario. The vast majority of camera drones up to 25 kg operating within Visual Line of Sight (VLOS) fall into the "Open" category.

For comprehensive legal guidelines, visit: https://www.adac.de/news/drohnen-faq/

Important Change for Legacy Drones:
Drones over 250 g without an EU class identification label are considered legacy drones and are permanently assigned to Category A3. Due to the mandatory minimum distance of 150 meters from residential, commercial, and recreational areas, they are unsuitable for commercial filming in the "Open" category. Therefore, drones with C1 or C2 certification, along with the appropriate drone pilot license, are mandatory for urban shoots.

No Fly Zones

The following maps can assist with orientation and advance planning:

- DJI Geo Zone Map
- Map Dipul

Flying over crowds or individuals should be avoided. Flying is strictly prohibited in the following circumstances: Over crowds of people, hospitals, nuclear power plants, embassies, consulates, emergency response locations (police/rescue services), industrial facilities, federal highways, federal waterways, railway facilities, correctional facilities, and military installations

- Over nature reserves and national parks
- Above altitude of 120 metres
- At night without green flashing light
- Over residential properties (including takeoff and landing) without explicitly granted permission

Sources: https://www.lba.de/DE/Drohnen/FAQ/Uebersicht_FAQ_node.html
https://www.adac.de/news/drohnen-faq/

DFS Drone App

The German Air Traffic Control (DFS – *Deutsche Flugsicherung*) provides up-to-date maps, location-based regulations, and logbook features in its proprietary app, "DRONIQ-TRAX":
droniq.de/pages/droniq-app

Flying in Bavaria

Munich: Taking off and landing on public land in Munich must be approved by the city's Service Office for Film (*Servicebüro Film*). We strongly advise scheduling takeoffs and landings on private property instead.

- Contact Servicebüro Film, Department of Mobility, City of Munich

Nuremberg: The city defers to the regulations and restrictions set by the Aviation Authority North Bavaria and the German Air Traffic Control (DFS). For physical structures or traffic disruptions in public space, applications must be submitted to the Real Estate Office (*Liegenschaftsamt*) or the Public Space Service Department (*Servicebetrieb Öffentlicher Raum*).

- Information on drone flights: Communications Office Nuremberg (Kommunikationsamt Nürnberg)

Bavaria (General): Requirements and local bylaws may vary across different cities and municipalities. If in doubt, please contact us for details regarding the relevant local contacts.

Permit Authorities for Special Airspace Clearances

Aviation Authority South Bavaria - **Luftamt Südbayern**
Government of Upper Bavaria, responsible for Upper Bavaria, Lower Bavaria, and Swabia

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