

VISTA FOUNDATION 48HOURS - FILMING GUIDELINES - ACROSS AOTEAROA

Across Aotearoa covers a large area of New Zealand located outside the main centres of Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch. Filming guidelines and information will vary from region to region. Where possible please get in touch with your local council or regional film office if you are planning to film in public spaces or want advice on where to film. We have linked to a number of these offices at the end of this document.

We have also created some general guidelines for you to follow -

Locations / Public Spaces

- Make sure you have permission to film from the owner of your location.
- Public spaces may require permits - you should get in touch with your local council or screen office as soon as you can.
- DOC land will require permits - [more info here](#) - it won't be possible to obtain these over the 48Hours shoot weekend so you will need to avoid DOC land.
- Avoid filming on Mana Whenua sites or areas of significance unless you have explicit permission.
- Respect cemeteries urupā and memorial sites, it isn't appropriate to film in these locations.
- If filming in public spaces, please be courteous to the public and try not to impede their movement. Make some cool signage so the general public know what you're up to.
- Get permission from any private organisation or business you are filming in front of or near to and be careful to allow free access for customers.
- If you have access to a drone your pilot must comply with Civil Aviation Authority rules and log your activity with Airshare.

Safety

- Producing is an important role! The Health & Safety of your crew and the public is paramount. Follow the [Health & Safety](#) guidelines on the 48Hours website and be aware of The Health and Safety at Work Act 2015. Check out the [Screensafe](#) website for H&S guidelines specific to filming.
- Once you have a script - Access the hazards - have a plan on how you will eliminate or minimise the risks of any accidents or incidents.
- Follow NZTA road rules at all times. Filming on the road, obstructing traffic, or attempting to control traffic without proper traffic management is a big no go. Always try to get your shot from the footpath, without obstructing the walkway for pedestrians.

- Weapons or guns are props that can get you into trouble, plan ahead so the only place you're causing a scene is on camera. Check out this [important advice](#).
- If your film involves pyrotechnics, think ahead and be smart about how you will pull it off safely. Watch this video for some [useful tips](#)
- Some films may require heights to achieve the best shot, make sure you give your cast and crew the best shot of avoiding injury on set.

Respect

- Consider filming content of a disturbing nature on private property. Away from the public.
- People need their sleep. Try to refrain from noise and light pollution in residential areas between 10pm and 6am. Keep noise to a reasonable level at all other times.
- Keep your wits about you all weekend long, if you want to have a drink save it for the wrap party.
- Leave all locations as you found them.
- Please be respectful of your environment at all times.

Ko au ko te taiao, ko te taiao ko au
I am my environment, and my environment is me

FILM OFFICES

See the list below for links to your regions filming information or go to the RFONZ website to find your local film office <https://www.filmoffices.nz/>

NORTHLAND REGION

(District Councils: Far North, Kaipara, Whangarei)

See general filming guidelines.

TARANAKI REGION

(District Councils: New Plymouth, Stratford, South Taranaki)

<https://www.venture.org.nz/sector-development/film-and-screen/>

Enquiries: Contact Melissa Devine from Venture Taranaki

melissa.devine@venture.org.nz

WAIKATO REGION

(District Councils: South Waikato, Hauraki, Otorohanga, Waipa, Waitomo, Matamata-Piako, Hamilton)

<https://www.waikatoscreen.nz/>

Filmmakers from the Waikato region need to get in touch with their councils preferably two weeks before the shoot weekend for potential filming permits and access to public places.

COROMANDEL REGION

See general filming guidelines.

BAY OF PLENTY REGION

(District Councils: Tauranga, Western Bay Of Plenty, Rotorua, Kawerau, Whakatane, Taupo, Opotiki)

<https://filmbayofplenty.com/why-film-in-the-bay-of-plenty/filming-permits/>

For Information about filming permits and production in the seven Waikato districts

EAST COAST REGION

(District Councils: Wairoa, Napier, Hastings, Central Hawkes Bay)

Filming in these districts are supported by the Eastern Screen Alliance

<https://ngatoihawkesbay.co.nz/eastern-screen-alliance/>

GISBORNE

(District Councils: Gisborne)

See general filming guidelines.

MANAWATU REGION

(District Councils: Rangitikei, Manawatu, Tararua, Horowhenua, Palmerston North City)

1. *Depending on the equipment you may intend to use (e.g. marquees, vehicles, loud noises etc) you may need to get in touch with our Events Team, to manage the risks of these kinds of activities. Similarly if you are needing to access power or lights or other Council assets. The best person to contact is our Manager of Venues and Events Partnerships Luke McIndoe – luke@venuespn.co.nz*
2. *If anyone is using a drone for filming, then there are some rules to follow. We have information on our website about this - [Flying drones in Palmerston North | Palmerston North City Council](#)*
3. *We don't issue permits for exclusive use of public places for filming. This means that the general public can't be stopped from accessing any filming locations in public places.*

Otherwise - see the general filming guidelines.

WANGANUI REGION

(District council: Wanganui, Ruapehu)

<https://www.filmwhanganui.nz/>

Apply for filming permits [here](#) or contact Emma.Bugden@whanganuiandpartners.nz

WAIRARAPA REGION

(District Councils: Masterton, Carterton, South Wairarapa)

See general filming guidelines.

MARLBOROUGH REGION

(Councils: Marlborough, Tasman, Nelson)

<https://marlboroughnz.com/screen-marlborough/>

Enquiries: screen@marlborough.govt.nz | +64 3 520 7400

CANTERBURY REGION

(District Councils: Kaikoura, Hurunui, Waimakariri, Selwyn, Ashburton, Timaru, Mackenzie, Waimate, Waitaki)

<https://www.christchurchnz.com/business/growth-sectors/screen-canterburynz>

Fill out the online [enquiry form](#) or email welcome@screencanterbury.nz

OTAGO - SOUTHLAND

(District Councils: Queenstown, Dunedin, Central Otago, Waitaki, Clutha, Gore, Southland, Invercargill)

<https://www.filmotagosouthland.com/assets/FOS-Guidelines-and-Protocols-30.5.25.pdf><https://www.filmotagosouthland.com/>

Or go to the Film Otago Southland website for more information

[filmotagosouthland.com/](https://www.filmotagosouthland.com/)

WEST COAST REGION

(District Councils: Buller, Grey, Westland)

See general filming guidelines.