



# Using drones over Norah Head Lighthouse Reserve

## Information for recreational users (personal use)

Drones – also called remotely piloted aircraft – are small aircraft covered by civil aviation laws. When using a drone in or over the Norah Head Lighthouse Reserve, visitors must comply with the rules outlined on the website. [norahheadlighthouse.com.au/drones](http://norahheadlighthouse.com.au/drones)

Norah Head Lighthouse Reserve is overseen by the NSW State Government Office of Environment and Heritage as a public space and managed by the Norah Head Lighthouse Reserve Land Manager Board. The Reserve Land Manager Board is responsible in for aligning its regulations for the use of unmanned aircraft in and over the Reserve in accordance with the provisions of Section 13 of the Crown Land Management Regulation 2018 to protect the public space.

### Can I fly a drone in the Reserve?

Flying private drones in and over the Reserve can potentially cause irreparable damage to the unique heritage listed structures in addition to compromising the safety and privacy of visitors to the site and of tenants and guests staying in the quarters. Drones can also dangerously interfere with fighting bushfires and with other activities for managing and restoring the historic space. For these reasons their use over the Norah Head Lighthouse Reserve is restricted, without prior consent of the Land Manager Board.

### Can a Plan of Management prohibit drones?

Yes, as part of NSW Environment and Heritage by-laws if a Plan of Management states that drones are not to be used this will be adhered to. Norah Head Lighthouse Reserve has erected signs on the Reserve and can further inform visitors by:

- giving tenants and visitors a written notice
- speaking to tenants and visitors

### When can I fly a drone in the Reserve?

You CANNOT fly a drone without prior consent from the Land Manager Board. The Land Manager Board may grant consent for the use of a drone if:

- it will not annoy or cause risk to tenants and visitors, or invade their privacy
- it will not be a nuisance or cause risk to wildlife
- it will not be flown nearer than 30 metres from the Lighthouse and Tower or the boundaries of the Keeper' Quarters
- it will not interfere with management operations on the day

If you're granted consent to fly, you're restricted to only flying the drone at the date and time and in the area covered by the consent.

## General information on flying drones in public spaces

For further advise please go to:  
[www.casa.gov.au/modelaircraft](http://www.casa.gov.au/modelaircraft)  
[www.environment.nsw.gov.au](http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au)

### How do I gain permission to fly a drone in and over the Norah Head Lighthouse Reserve?

**I'm flying my drone for personal use** - Go to our website and fill in the *Application for Drones (personal use)* Form.

### I am flying my drone to Commercially Film or Photograph

If you will be filming or photographing for Commercial purposes with your drone, you should review the Commercial Filming and Photography page on our website. You will also need to fill in the *Application for Commercial Film and Photography* Form.

A representative of the Reserve Manager Board will be in contact with you via email. Due to the historical preservation of the Reserve as well as flying over public space, you must be covered by Public Liability Insurance.

### What to do if I am granted consent to fly a drone on the Reserve?

If you are granted permission to fly a drone, before you start flying you should follow the guidelines from the Civil Aviation Safety Authority for drone use. These say that for personal use drones must:

- always be in sight of the operator
- not fly over populous areas
- stay at least 30 metres from other people, vehicles, boats and buildings
- stay at least 5.5 kilometres from an airfield
- carry your drones license at all times whilst flying your drone

The Land Manager Board will provide you with a written letter stating you have been granted permission. You are required to carry this letter when using your drone at the Norah Head Lighthouse Reserve. You must provide this letter as proof of authority to fly. If you cannot provide the written authority you will be asked to cease immediately.

