

# Flying drones near our terminals and vessels

AUGUST 2025

To help ensure the safety, privacy, and uninterrupted operation of our fleet and terminals, drones are not permitted to take off, land, or fly within 75 metres of:

- Any BC Ferries vessel (docked or underway)
- Any BC Ferries terminal (including parking lots, ramps, and holding compounds)

## Important

BC Ferries terminals and vessels are private property. Drone operations on or above these sites without written permission is not permitted under any circumstances. BC Ferries does not permit recreational drone use on its terminals or vessels.

## Transport Canada Regulations

All drone operators must follow the rules set out by Transport Canada, including:

- Registering your drone if it weighs more than 250 grams
- Holding a valid drone pilot certificate
- Maintaining visual line of sight
- Not flying closer than 30 metres horizontally from people for basic operations
- Avoiding flights over crowds, roadways, or moving vehicles

Not following these rules may put people, vessels, and property at risk. If negligence in the operation of a drone can be established, criminal charges may apply under federal aviation law. For full details, visit: [www.tc.canada.ca/drone-safety](http://www.tc.canada.ca/drone-safety)

## If You Are a Commercial Operator

Drone operators hired to film or survey on BC Ferries property must:

- Obtain written approval
- Submit a flight plan including pilot certification
- Provide evidence of insurance
- Complete a privacy and environmental impact assessment
- Use only approved equipment
- Complete a [BC Ferries film request form](#) to start the process

## Enforcement

Violations of these rules may be reported to Transport Canada and local law enforcement. Operating a drone in a reckless or negligent manner can result in fines or criminal prosecution under the Canadian Aviation Regulations Part IX.