

Aerial Drone Location Scout Checklist

The success of your drone mission begins with a thorough location scout. Use this checklist to ensure you've covered all essential aspects during your scouting process, whether you're conducting an on-site visit or an online assessment:

Mission Objectives

- Define the purpose of your drone mission and the specific data requirements.
- Clarify the goals and deliverables with the client to align your scouting efforts.

Regulatory Compliance

- Research local drone laws and regulations for your intended location.
- Identify any no-fly zones, restricted airspace, or permitting requirements.

Online Tools and Satellite Imagery

- Access reliable satellite imagery through platforms like Google Earth or GIS services.
- Examine the terrain, topography, and potential obstructions.
- Plan preliminary flight paths, considering altitude and data collection objectives.

On-Site Inspection (when possible)

- Visit the location to assess real-world conditions and changes.
- Capture visual and environmental details not visible in satellite imagery.
- Engage with locals or stakeholders to gather insights about the site.

Risk Assessment

- Identify physical obstacles such as buildings, trees, power lines, or other structures.
- Recognize environmental factors like weather patterns, seasonal changes, and wildlife activity.
- Note any potential risks related to the local community, public events, or construction projects.

Flight Planning

- Determine optimal flight paths and altitudes for data capture.
- Plan waypoints, flight duration, and mission parameters.
- Develop contingency and emergency procedures for unforeseen challenges.

Documentation

- Document all scouting findings, including identified risks and flight paths.
- Ensure you have obtained any necessary permits or clearances for the mission.
- Create a comprehensive mission plan outlining objectives, safety protocols, and regulatory compliance measures.

This checklist ensures that your location scouting process is methodical, compliant with regulations, and well-prepared for a safe and productive aerial operation.