

Viking International Phototours LLC
7171 Nolensville Rd.
37135 Nolensville, Tennessee

Reykjavík, June 26th 2024
UST202406-196/S.V.
09.04.00

Subject: Photography and cinematography in protected areas - Fjallabak

The Environment Agency of Iceland has received an application from Viking International Phototours LLC, dated, 25th of June 2024, for a Photography and cinematography project within Fjallabak Nature Reserve and Vatnajökull National Park.

Fjallabak is protected as a nature reserve, cf. regulation no. 354/1979. Construction work, extraction of minerals, disturbance to geological formations, vegetation and wild animal life in the protected area is prohibited. The use of unmanned aircraft (drones) within the nature reserve from June 15th - September 15th is subject to a permit from the Environment Agency of Iceland.

Vatnajökull National Park is not under the supervision of the Environment Agency. The applicant needs therefore to apply direct to [Vatnajökull national park](#).

Description of the project:

The Company applies to travel with 7 participants for Photography and cinematography project with 7 drones within Fjallabak Nature Reserve with the aim of photographing and filming around sunrise and sunset during the time period June 27th - July 4th. The Company's goal is i.e. to teach responsible droning, staying within limits. They intend to fly the drones mostly around Landmannalaugar but never near people

Impact assessment:

The Environment Agency of Iceland considers the project not likely to have negative impact on nature and conservation. The flight might have negative impact on other visitors but if conditions are followed the impact can be reduced. Drones should never be flown above or in the direct vicinity of other guests or wildlife in the area and flight time should be kept at minimum. Flying drones is also not allowed in the direct vicinity of the

hut areas and campsites within the nature reserve.

Conclusions and conditions:

The Environment Agency of Iceland hereby grants Viking International Phototours LLC permission on its behalf for Photography and cinematography project within Fjallabak Nature Reserve as described above during the time period June 27th - July 4th 2024, on the following conditions:

- Keep this letter with you on site during the project. The permit conditions should be introduced to the staff of the project before work begins.
- The applicant shall inform rangers in the area about their arrival and departure. This is to be done 24 hours before entering the area and again before leaving it.
- If the project dates or description changes the Environment Agency shall be notified as soon as possible.
- Members of the project must follow rules of conduct that apply to the area.
- If any complications occur during the project, please contact the ranger or the Environment Agency of Iceland, tel. +354 591 2000.
- If the use of unmanned aircraft causes disturbance to wildlife in the area, its use should be ceased at once.
- The conductor of the unmanned aircraft is responsible for the aircraft within the protected area. This includes taking responsibility of any possible risk of harm to people, fauna and nature and leaving no permanent marks on the site in question. Should the aircraft crash, all components from it must be collected and removed from the area.
- If falcons or eagles are seen in the area, it is not allowed to fly the drone there.

If the developer causes damage to nature, according to art. 87 in the Nature Conservation Act no. 60/2013, the Environment Agency of Iceland can, according to the Nature Conservation Act, f.e. order the licensee to fix damage to nature and vegetation and/or stop the project.

The Environment Agency of Iceland can according to art. 89 in the Nature Conservation Act no. 60/2013 change conditions of the permit, add new conditions or withdraw the permit in order to prevent damage to nature if environmental conditions change.

According to art 89. in the Nature Conservation Act no. 60/2013 the Environment Agency can withdraw the permit if conditions of the permit are not complied to.

Unmanned aircraft should take off and land in a safe distance from other visitors according to regulation 990/2017 on unmanned aircrafts.

The usage of a drone shall be according to regulation no. 990/2017 on the operation of remotely piloted aircraft (<https://www.icetra.is/aviation/drones/>).

Please note that according to the regulation all drones used for commercial flight need to be registered at the Icelandic Transport Authority.

Permission fee:

Environment Agency of Iceland charges a fee for processing applications for permits in protected areas based on Article 92 of Act no. 61/2013 on Nature Conservation. The fee for cinematography is **83.200 ISK** according to art. 29. b. in the agency's tariff no. 1410/2023.

Sincerely

Daníel Freyr Jónsson
advisor

Sigrún Valgarðsdóttir
advisor