

You're welcome ...

➔ **GO PLACES IN
NEW ZEALAND**



WHEN IT COMES TO MAKING FILMS, SHOOTING PICTURES, IMPRESSING VISITORS AND JUST BEING HERE, OUR LAND HAS BECOME AS SIGNIFICANT AS OUR CHARACTERS, SO IT'S LITTLE WONDER THAT NEW ZEALANDERS REGARD THEIR LANDSCAPE AS A PLACE OF GREAT SIGNIFICANCE AND VALUE.

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FILM NEW ZEALAND IS A MEMBER OF THE AFCI

Private citizens, population groups and organisations, along with local and national government bodies, have put various protocols and guidelines in place so that filmmakers and photographers understand their responsibilities and duties on location.

The system is designed to be practical and clear and, while not burdensome, does require some knowledge of the different kinds of land use and ownership in New Zealand.

Filming on private land

Permission to film is required from the landowners of all locations. If a private dwelling is tenanted, you may require both the tenant's and the landowner's permission. Many location owners may ask to sight the production's Health and Safety Plan (to comply with Occupational Health and Safety Regulations) and evidence that the production company has adequate public liability insurance prior to giving consent.

If any structure needs to be built on land, a building consent or resource consent may need to be obtained.

A draft location agreement for private landholders can be downloaded from the Film New Zealand website: www.filmnz.com/production-guide/permissions.

Filming on Department of Conservation (DOC) land

Around one-third of New Zealand's land mass is protected in national parks and reserves that contain a huge variety of landscapes and vegetation. They contain some of New Zealand's most popular and iconic filming locations.

DOC administers New Zealand's national parks, and, if you want to film in an area managed by DOC, you need to apply for a concession. A Code of Practice (Code of Practice: Filming on Public Conservation Lands) provides both film crews and DOC with guidance on protecting conservation land during filming. In 2009, DOC committed to improving the permit process by streamlining the Code of Practice: Filming on Public Conservation Lands, setting up a national 'Screen Desk' and indicating that it is keen to 'fast track' the applications for permits to film.

Filming on local government land

Use of council-owned land, parks, open spaces, facilities and roads needs approval from the relevant local or regional council. Many councils have implemented 'film-friendly' policies, and work within the guidelines set out in the Local Government Filming Protocol.

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Filming on pastoral lease land

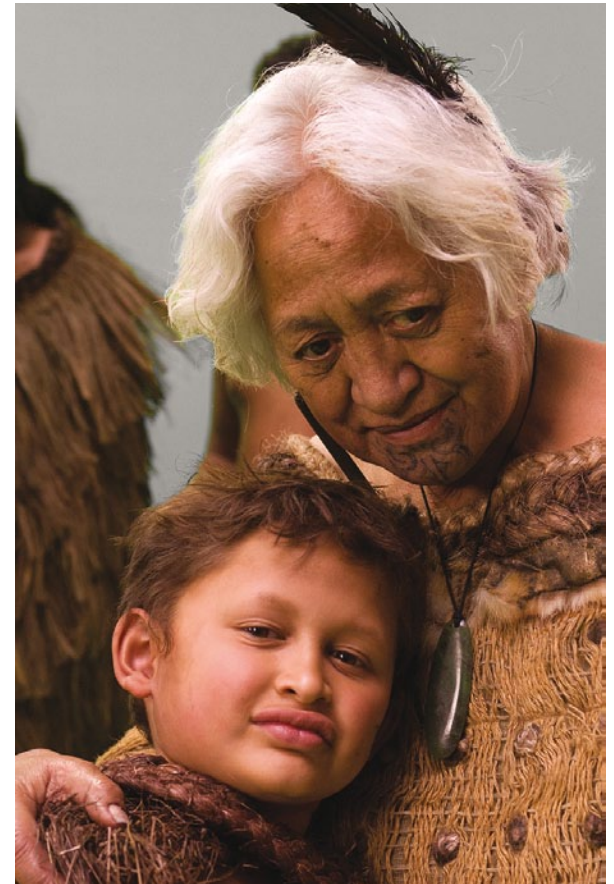
Use of some South Island high-country pastoral land will require permission from the Commissioner of Crown Lands through Land Information New Zealand (LINZ) and the leaseholder. Information on the process to be followed can be found on the LINZ website: www.linz.govt.nz.

Filming on Maori land

Many locations throughout New Zealand, particularly in rural and coastal areas, have cultural significance and may require consultation beyond that of the owner. The land may be owned by Māori, or have an important cultural value to Māori groups. The concept that land is taonga (treasure) is the principle on which Māori protocols and guidelines for filming are based. Any filming undertaken in areas of significant importance to a local iwi (tribal grouping) particularly mountains, rivers, sea/lakes and bush/forest areas, requires the approval of that iwi. Filmmakers must consult with local iwi about proposed projects in their area, including the possible impact of their work on the environment: for instance, on indigenous species.

The use of indigenous knowledge, including use of iwi history/stories/legends and culturally significant images also requires consultation with the iwi. If your project contains indigenous themes or content you will need to consult closely with the community.

The local council should be able to put you in touch with the relevant iwi/tribal group.



Kaitangata Twitch © Production Shed.TV. Photographer: Helen Mitchell.

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Access and permission

New Zealand-based location scouts and managers will be familiar with the conditions applying to all available locations, and will significantly ease the time and effort required to secure and negotiate location use. A New Zealand-based location scout or manager will also be able to identify and obtain the permits required.

Permits for the use of animals

You will need to obtain an animal permit for all animals being taken onto DOC land, commercial forestry land and regional parks. For privately owned farmland, you must seek permission from the farmer.

Fire permits

Local councils issue permits for any fires or smoke effects on farmland, regional parks, beaches or other private property during times when risk of fire is high.

Firearms permits

The special-effects co-ordinator and production manager have responsibility for arranging firearms permits for any filming that involves weapons, whether that be on private or public land. The armourer must have a firearms permit.

Other permits

Permits and permissions are required for the wet-down of streets, traffic control, special-effects explosions and fires.

Building consent

If any structure needs to be built as part of your filming, then a building consent may need to be obtained from the relevant local authority.

Resource consent

The Resource Management Act (RMA) exists to minimise activities that may have potential harmful effects on the surrounding area and on the environment. Councils set out the activities that do (and do not) require resource consent. Key factors impacting on whether or not resource consent is required and how it will be determined include 'what kind' of activities, 'how big' and for 'how long'. It is recommended that you consult with the local council as early as possible to ascertain if you will need to obtain any resource consents.

Greening the Screen

Greening the Screen is a website owned by the Ministry for the Environment and managed by Film New Zealand as part of its commitment to the long-term sustainability of New Zealand's film industry.

As a sustainability tool kit for the screen production industry, *Greening the Screen* also presents filmmakers with highly practical production service and resource guides for the Auckland, Rotorua, Taranaki, Wellington, Canterbury and Dunedin regions.



Home By Christmas. Dir Gaylene Preston, prods Gaylene Preston and Sue Rogers, photographer Chris Coad.

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Become empowered

There are some key steps you can take to empower yourself as you look into permits and permissions:

- Do your own research and understand special considerations, landholder permission, environmental issues and cultural protocols in relation to the land and locations you want to access
- Document your requirements and expectations and consider how you intend to mitigate impacts on people and the environment
- Contract an experienced New Zealand location manager to manage permits and permissions
- Make sure you have appropriate public liability insurance and that your Health and Safety Plan is available for viewing at any time
- Ensure you have budget allowance and adequate lead time to secure permits and permissions and resource consents where required.

And finally, we suggest that you talk to Film New Zealand first and, where required, throughout the process.

For more on sustainability and the environment

Greening the Screen
www.greeningthescreen.co.nz

Department of Conservation
www.doc.govt.nz

Local Government New Zealand
www.lgnz.co.nz

For more on seeking permission

New Zealand Police
www.police.govt.nz

New Zealand Fire Service
www.fire.org.nz

Maritime New Zealand
www.maritimenz.govt.nz

New Zealand Transport Agency
www.nzta.govt.nz

Regional Councils
www.newzealand.govt.nz

Housing New Zealand
www.hnzc.co.nz

KiwiRail
www.kiwirail.co.nz

Land Information New Zealand
www.linz.govt.nz

For more about Māori and connection with land

Te Kāhui Māngai
www.tekahuimangai.govt.nz

Te Puni Kōkiri
www.tpk.govt.nz

Filming activity and seeking permission

Contact the relevant Regional Film Office first for advice and assistance.

Activity	Permission/documentation that may be required	Contact
Filming on any part of a public road where no road closure is required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Temporary traffic management plan • Discontinuation of parking controls 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local council
Filming on a local road where stopping of traffic is required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Temporary road closure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local council
Filming on a state highway involving either roadside filming or causing traffic delays	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Temporary traffic management plan or temporary road closure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Zealand Transport Agency
Crew filming from a moving vehicle on a road, and/or filming actors in a moving vehicle mounted on a towed low-loader	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Film permit • Health and safety plan • Traffic management plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Zealand Police (Traffic Safety) • Local council
Filming in municipal buildings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Film permit/permission 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local council
Filming in a local reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Film/temporary occupation permit • Possible resource consent 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local or regional council
Filming in a national park or other lands managed by DOC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concession 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Department of Conservation
Filming in forests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consent/agreement • Possible resource consent 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check with the local authority or council for ownership details
Filming in or around power stations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consent/agreement • Possible resource consent 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The appropriate electricity-generating company

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Activity	Permission/documentation that may be required	Contact
Filming on railway land or stations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consent/agreement • Possible resource consent 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KiwiRail or local rail network operators
Filming on other Crown land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Film permit/location agreement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relevant government department
Filming on Māori land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Iwi consent 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check with Te Kāhui Māngai for the appropriate iwi
Filming in beach areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compliance with council by-laws • Permission from adjacent landowner if access required 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local council • Landowner
Filming on private land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consent/agreement • Possible resource consent 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Landowner • Local or regional council
Filming a freehold property/dwelling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consent/agreement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Landowner
Filming a government-owned property/dwelling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consent/agreement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Housing New Zealand representative
Filming government buildings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consent/agreement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The building's tenants
Filming on water – lakes, rivers, harbours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Landowner permission • Alteration to navigation by-laws/rules • Use of vessel • Resource consent if structures or alteration to natural features involved 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Landowner • Harbour master • Maritime New Zealand • Regional council

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Activity	Permission/documentation that may be required	Contact
Construction of sets/structures	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Possible building consent/resource consent	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Local council
Use of overweight or over-dimension vehicles	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Permit	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Local council
Use of firearms	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Film armourer must have appropriate licence	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• New Zealand Police (arms officer)
Fire, fireworks, pyrotechnics, smoke effects	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fire permit• Notification • Fire suppression insurance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Local council• New Zealand Police• New Zealand Fire Service• Insurance Broker