



A GENERAL GUIDE TO ON LOCATION FILMING IN THE SCOTTISH BORDERS

You do not need a permit to film in the Borders. However you do need to ensure that you, your crew and your equipment have the appropriate amount of public liability insurance cover. Check with your insurance company before you start filming.

Where filming will have an impact on a street location, ie large crew, lights, requirement for crowd control etc, film-makers are advised to work closely with the Police and Roads departments so that all filming activities can be carried out safely and with the appropriate health and safety measures in place. Police and Roads departments are happy to give advice from the earliest stages of identifying locations. Their knowledge and insight may affect final location decisions.

Once you are in a position to pin down locations and schedules are available, a planning meeting involving Police and Roads may be necessary. If so this will be coordinated through Scottish Borders Film Focus (SBFF). Early notice in these matters is always preferred.

Smaller productions should notify SBFF of their locations and schedule and the film office will notify the Police and Council.

LOTHIAN AND BORDERS POLICE

The Scottish Borders are covered by one police force: Lothian and Borders Police. 'A' Division Events Planning office will deal with your initial enquiry at their Headquarters in Edinburgh. Thereafter a contact in a local division will deal with your day-to-day requirements in their area.

Special police services may be requested by the filmmaker or recommended if considered necessary by the relevant Council. Lothian and Borders Police will endeavour to facilitate these requirements subject to operational commitments.

Where special police services are deemed necessary, dedicated Police personnel will be assigned to a Production Company each day that they are required and will be available for your full shooting day if necessary.

Police Costs

Minimum shift is five and half hours approx £148

Thereafter charges are on a per hour basis approx £27 per hour

The above costs include VAT.



A Police presence is not always necessary for a road closure but will be essential should "stops and holds" of vehicular traffic be required.

ROAD CLOSURES AND ROAD RELATED REQUESTS

Any requests will be looked at by Council and Police departments. Very few things are impossible given enough warning and adequate planning (see separate guidelines on Road Closures).

Filming on pavements or footpaths is permissible as long as pedestrian flow is not affected unduly and appropriate health and safety measures are taken (ie signage/security and flying or guarding of cables etc).

It should be noted that permits are required for the laying of track, erection of platforms or other semi-permanent placements. "Obstruction of the Footpath" permits (£18) can be obtained at the appropriate Roads department, given one week's notice. Call SBFF for details.

PARKING

Parking in the Scottish Borders isn't really too much of a problem, however if you have any questions please talk to us.

STREET FURNITURE

See separate guidelines on removal of bollards, lights, signs etc.

If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact us
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