DE ZAANSCHE MOLEN

Drone Policy – Our Windmills, Their Surroundings and Historic Landscapes (ENG)

Vereniging De Zaansche Molen | The Zaan Windmill Association

Protecting our heritage, preserving its unique character

Our historic windmills are among the most remarkable examples of the Netherlands' industrial heritage. For centuries, they have shaped the landscape of the Zaan region. They are not merely monuments to admire, but living, working structures, places of traditional craftsmanship, and an important part of the natural and cultural landscape.

At Vereniging De Zaansche Molen, we are committed to safeguarding these exceptional places for present and future generations. This includes protecting our historic buildings, their surroundings, local wildlife, and the safety and enjoyment of everyone who visits or works at our sites.

Flying drones at our windmills

We appreciate that our windmills and their picturesque surroundings offer wonderful opportunities for aerial photography and filming. However, **we kindly ask visitors, photographers and drone operators not to fly drones over or in the immediate vicinity of our windmills and grounds without contacting us in advance.**

The launching, landing or operation of drones from land owned or managed by Vereniging De Zaansche Molen is only permitted with our prior written consent.

We also ask anyone planning to fly a drone above or near our windmills from another location to contact us beforehand, so that any potential risks and restrictions can be considered.

Why do we take this approach?

There are several important reasons for our policy:

- **Protecting historic heritage:** our windmills are delicate historic structures, often containing centuries-old machinery and moving sails.
- **Ensuring safety:** drone operations may pose risks to millers, volunteers, staff and visitors, particularly when the windmills are operating.
- **Safeguarding wildlife:** our windmill landscapes provide habitats for birds and other wildlife, which may be disturbed by drones, especially during the breeding season.
- **Preserving peace and enjoyment:** visitors come to experience the distinctive atmosphere, beauty and tranquillity of our historic sites.
- **Respecting privacy:** we are committed to protecting the privacy of our visitors, staff, volunteers and neighbouring residents.

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Requesting permission

In certain circumstances, we may consider requests for drone operations, including professional photography, commercial filming, heritage surveys, inspections and educational projects.

Each request will be assessed individually, taking into account the purpose and location of the proposed flight, safety considerations, the protection of wildlife and historic structures, and all applicable legislation.

Permission may be subject to specific conditions. Drone operators remain responsible for complying with all applicable aviation regulations and obtaining any additional permits or authorizations required.

Would you like to request permission or discuss a proposed drone flight?

Please contact:

Resi Veenman-Pranger
Vereniging De Zaansche Molen
Mobile: +31 (0)75-6215148 - select option 5
Email: info@zaanschemolen.nl

When making an enquiry, please include the proposed location, date, time, purpose of the flight and details of the drone operator.

Preserving our heritage together

Our windmills are places to discover, appreciate and cherish. By respecting our drone policy, you help us protect these extraordinary monuments and their surroundings for generations to come.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

The finest views are those captured with respect for the heritage we share.