

<p>Your rights as a photographer in the UK</p> <p>Private property: You can take photos of private property from a public space. If you wish to go inside the property, you will require the permission from the owner. The owner has the right to impose any restrictions whilst you're on their property. Some events and institutions state that no photography is allowed and entry requires you to follow this.</p> <p>Security guards: If you are on the property, the owner of the property has very limited rights of self-help against a trespasser. They can use reasonable force to remove a trespasser (this law is still open to discussion as to what reasonable force is) They are NOT allowed to damage, or confiscate, a photographers camera or other equipment.</p> <p>If you are outside of the property, the owner is not allowed to physically stop you from taking photos or try and confiscate your equipment.</p>	<p>Certain public places: Taking photos in Trafalgar Square and Parliament Square is not allowed if its connected with any business or employment. Tourist photos are allowed. This also applies in the Royal Parks.</p> <p>General Behaviour</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Be polite at all times - Explain what you are doing and why - Don't get aggressive - Don't get into an argument - Remember security guards are just doing their job, so respect them as you expect them to respect you. <hr/> <p>LONDONPHOTOBLOGGERS</p>
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<p>Sensitive subjects and places: Prohibited places are: Defence establishments, factories, dockyards, mines, ships and aircraft belonging to the crown, Munitions stores, any place belonging to the Civil Aviation Authority and any telecommunications office such as a BT exchange. In addition, the photograph must have been taken for a "purpose prejudicial to the safety or interests of the stage". Generally this is not an area we recommend you test as the Terrorism Act of 2000 gives police many powers.</p> <p>Court Proceedings: You are not allowed to take any pictures in a law court. The penalty is £1000 and this restriction extends beyond the courtroom to anywhere in the building and the surrounding area.</p> <p>Wildlife: The Wildlife and Countryside Act of 1981 protect many animals. There is no restrictions on taking photos but its an offence to "disturb" them when they are at, or near, nesting places or shelter.</p> <p>Copyright & Trademarks: A tricky section when it comes to the law and we advise that if you are in doubt of the content you are photographing, don't do it.</p> <p>Bank Notes: Taking pictures of bank notes is illegal unless you have written permission by the Bank of England.</p>	<p>Going too far: You are breaking the law if you harass a person when trying to take their picture. Harassment is essentially behaviour that causes another person alarm or distress. The law refers to a course of conduct and not one single event.</p> <p>Invasion of privacy: The UK has no law, which recognises the general right to privacy, but the European Convention on Human Rights gives everyone the right to privacy. Currently photographers are free to take photos of people in public places and use those photos as they wish.</p> <p>Stopping traffic and people: Try and not stop people and traffic from passing, as this would be seen as an obstruction. Examples of this would be setting up a tripod on a busy street at 9am.</p> <p>Police: You are not allowed to obstruct a police officer from doing their job. The police may also stop you from taking photos of a crime scene.</p> <p>Disclaimer: The information found here is of a general nature and does not include an in-depth discussion of the law. If in doubt consult a legal representative.</p>
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