



Eight of these are federal. One is a Puerto Rico statute, it is on the back of this card, and it is the one that surprises a visiting pilot.

A Weeks out — what cannot be fixed on the day

- ☐ Remote pilot certificate current, and recurrent training inside 24 calendar months. 107.65
- ☐ Aircraft registered, registration marked on the airframe, certificate reachable in flight. 107.13
- ☐ Remote ID broadcasting — standard drone or an attached module. Part 89
- ☐ Airspace class read at the point of flight, not at the town. 107.41
- ☐ If controlled: LAANC authorization held, or a further coordination request already filed. That one runs in weeks. 107.41
- ☐ If people will be under the aircraft: the category the aircraft actually holds, checked on the FAA declaration list. 107.39 / subpart D
- ☐ Written consent from the owner of the property being recorded. Signed. Before the flight. Ley 68-2021 Art. 3
- ☐ Land manager cleared if a refuge, park or forest sits under the flight path or the launch point. 50 CFR 27.34

B The morning of — the two that expire

- ☐ TFRs checked today. Disaster, VIP and firefighting restrictions appear overnight. tfr.faa.gov
- ☐ NOTAMs checked for the location, today. notams.aim.faa.gov
- ☐ Ceiling from the nearest METAR. Cloud base minus 500 ft is the real ceiling, often under 400. 107.51(d)
- ☐ Visibility at or above 3 statute miles, judged from where the control station will stand. 107.51(c)
- ☐ Official sunset for this date and place, and the civil twilight window written down. 107.29(c)
- ☐ Anti-collision strobe fitted and lit if any part of the flight falls inside that window. 107.29(b)

C On site, case open

- ☐ Aircraft inspected for safe operation, and the whole operating area walked. 107.15 / 107.49
- ☐ Ground hazards, people and vehicles located. Where they will move to, not only where they are. 107.49
- ☐ Launch point elevation noted against the highest ground the aircraft will cross. 107.51(b)
- ☐ Visual observer briefed if the frame will pull the aircraft past comfortable sight. 107.31 / 107.33
- ☐ Non-participants who wander in: hold, or reposition. The category does not change mid-flight. 107.39
- ☐ Frames taking in the neighbouring parcel: planned on the ground, not cropped later. Ley 68-2021 Art. 3

G Written down before the props turn

SITE	DATE	AIRSPACE AUTH.
SUNSET	TWILIGHT ENDS	CONSENT ON FILE



D The numbers that decide a go or a no-go

400 ft AGL	Above the ground under the aircraft, not above the launch point. The screen measures from take-off, so flying a ridge outward from a high pad climbs without anyone touching the sticks.	107.51(b)
400 ft radius	The structure exception needs both halves at once: inside a 400 ft radius of the structure AND no more than 400 ft above that structure's own top. It buys height for a tower, none for the field beside it.	107.51(b)
± 30 minutes	Civil twilight is a fixed clock, not a judgment about how dark it looks: the 30 minutes before official sunrise, and the 30 minutes after official sunset. Strobe lit through both.	107.29(c)
500 / 2,000	Five hundred feet below the cloud and two thousand feet horizontally from it. A trade-wind base at 800 ft leaves 300 ft of legal air, and the 400 ft flight is gone.	107.51(d)
3 statute miles	Minimum flight visibility, observed from the control station. Haze that still reports three miles can lose a small grey aircraft at a fraction of it.	107.51(c)
10 days	A safety event that causes serious injury, loss of consciousness, or property damage above the threshold is reported to the FAA within 10 calendar days.	107.9

E The land underneath is a separate permission

National wildlife refuges 50 CFR 27.34
Five in Puerto Rico, on the main island and the outlying islands. Unauthorized landing or take-off on a refuge is prohibited, and so is operating at altitudes that harass wildlife.

National Park Service Policy Memo 14-05
San Juan National Historic Site and every other unit is closed to launching, landing and operating without the superintendent's written approval.

National forest fs.usda.gov/elyunque
El Yunque sits under the Forest Service, with designated wilderness inside it carrying restrictions of its own.

F The one Puerto Rico adds

“En ausencia de una orden de registro, ninguna persona, entidad o agencia estatal, utilizará un sistema aéreo no tripulado para llevar a cabo vigilancia de, recolectar evidencia o información acerca de, o fotografiar o electrónicamente grabar, personas o propiedades privadas específicas, sin su consentimiento.”

Law 68-2021, Article 3, as amended by Law 62-2025. A violation is a misdemeanor under Article 5, and Article 6 gives the injured party a civil cause of action with attorney fees. Consent covers whoever signs it and nobody else — the neighbouring parcel is not included.

Planning aid, not legal advice and not an authorization. The regulations and the statute govern; an operation's own authorizations and any local conditions sit on top of them; and the remote pilot in command stays responsible for every flight under 14 CFR 107.19. Read against the source texts on 6 September 2026.