

Busking Guidelines within the City of Mandurah

The City of Mandurah greatly values the vibrancy and diversity of entertainment that buskers and street performers provide to public spaces. We are also committed to providing a safe, accessible and culturally sensitive environment for all visitors, workers and residents.

What is busking?

A busker is considered an entertainer who is actively providing a performance in the public place in exchange for a donation. Busking is defined as, but not limited to: sounding or playing a musical instrument, singing, comedic routines, giving a recital or performing any conjuring, juggling, puppetry, mime, or dance act.

What is not considered busking?

- Vendors of any kind – including glow sticks, flowers, jewellery and other merchandise sellers;
- Fundraising, events or promotions even if they involve any element of performance as listed previously;
- Touting or spruiking;
- Political rallying;
- Religious spruiking;
- Tarot card reading, palmistry and fortune telling;
- Massage, chiropractic treatment or any other physical manipulation;
- Face or body painting;
- Artists selling pre-fabricated work – pavement artists must be actively engaged in producing their artistic medium and not simply selling displayed goods;
- Temporary tattoo applications; and
- Solicitors of money for any purpose.

How can I be involved?

A busker must have a permit to engage in busking in Mandurah. There is no fee for a busking permit and it is valid for twelve months. All applicants must apply online for one of four permit types, detailed below.

Online applications must be supported by one of the following forms of proof of identity:

- Driver's Licence;
- Passport;
- Student ID;
- Proof of Age card; or
- Another document containing a signature, a recent photography and date of birth which establishes the person's identity to the satisfaction of the City of Mandurah.

Buskers must ensure they have their permit available at all times when carrying out busking, either a physical copy or a digital version.

Permit Types

There are four permit categories for busking in the City of Mandurah.

STANDARD BUSKING PERMIT (BLUE)

This is a generic busking permit that is issued to acts that are considered low impact, in that they do not require a large amount of space, nor do they engage with passers-by for long periods of time.

Standard busking permit holders are permitted to busk at all blue circles marked onsite by the blue floor decal.



ADVANCED BUSKING PERMIT (GREEN)

Advanced busking permits will be issued to those with a verified level of ability.

In the application process, applicants will be required to supply video or audio files of previous performances for consideration.

Advanced busking permit holders will be able to busk in both green and blue circles marked onsite by the green floor decal.



CIRCLE SHOW PERMIT (YELLOW)

Circle show permit holders will be issued to Circle acts and larger group acts that have the potential to gather large crowds, requiring more space, or a higher level of volume than would be acceptable in the low impact spaces.

Applicants for a yellow permit will need to detail the specifics of their performances, with evidence if possible.

Circle show permit holders are permitted to busk in yellow circles marked onsite by the below floor decal.



ADVANCED CIRCLE SHOW PERMIT (RED)

In line with local laws, this permit will be issued for performances that require individual written approvals. For shows that involve flammable substances, weapons or more than four people, a red permit is required.



Applicants for such shows will be required to submit a copy of their public liability insurance.

Advanced circle show permit holders are permitted to busk in yellow circles marked onsite by the yellow floor decal.

Where can I perform?

Busking can be carried out in the following local-government controlled areas within the Mandurah City Centre:



The map is colour coded to reflect the different permit types.

The City of Mandurah does not control busking on private property. Should a busker wish to use privately owned premises, a separate arrangement will need to be established with the property owner.

Busking by Minors

Any busker under to age of 18 years must have a parent or guardian complete and sign the Parental Consent section of the Application Form.

Any busker under the age of 16 must have parent or guardian supervision at all times (including throughout performances). A person under the age of 16 years should not perform:

- During school hours
- Between 7pm and 6am

Busking Terms and Conditions

- Busking is not allowed during any City of Mandurah events/festivals unless authorised by the City of Mandurah.
- Buskers can perform in any one location for two hours.
- Busking is not permitted between 10pm and 7am.
- The use of amplification during a performance must not create noise levels that adversely impact on the operation of adjacent retail outlets or the enjoyment of the public or surrounding tenants. The volume should be appropriate for an audience viewing the performance from up to five metres away and should not be intrusive above background levels to the degree that a passer-by would need to strain their voice to be heard over the sound.
- All amplifiers used must be battery operated.
- Buskers must perform in the designated locations so as not to impede pedestrian movement or obstruct entrances to shops and buildings.
- Buskers must not use discriminatory/offensive language or behaviour in their performance
- A busker must not perform wearing dirty or ragged clothing.
- All performances must not include any cruelty to animals.
- The selling of music tapes, recordings, compact discs or merchandise is not permitted unless this is specified in the individual permit.

All applicants are asked to read these Busking Guidelines and agree to the terms and conditions before a permit is issued.

By accepting the permit, the applicant agrees to fully comply with all of the terms and conditions of the permit and the Busking Guidelines on the understanding that failure to obtain a permit or non-compliance with the permit conditions could result in a breach of the City of Mandurah Local Government Property and Public Places Local Law 2016.

A breach of the local law could result in the permit being revoked and/or an infringement notice being issued.

