

CAPTURE GUIDE

One visit. That's the whole job.

Bridge360 is built so anyone with a 360° camera can capture a bridge in about an hour, flying it with a drone or walking it with the camera on a pole. Follow this page and the model takes care of itself.

1 hour

On site with a consumer 360° camera: a DJI Avata 360 in the air, or an Insta360 on a pole

4

Passes: each side of the deck, under it, and around every pier

1

Upload. Drop the files in the portal and you're done

BEFORE YOU START

Lock the camera first. It's the one thing that can't be fixed later.

Under the deck is dark. On automatic, the camera pushes the ISO up and the soffit comes out noisy and hazy. Set these once, before you start, and leave them.

Camera settings (Pro or Manual mode, drone or handheld)

ISO	Locked at 400 to 800. Never automatic.
Shutter	1/200 to 1/400 s. Faster if it's bright.
Resolution	Highest available (8K on the Avata 360 and Insta360 X5/X6).
White balance	Locked, any daylight preset.
Clips	Record continuously. Pausing between passes is fine.

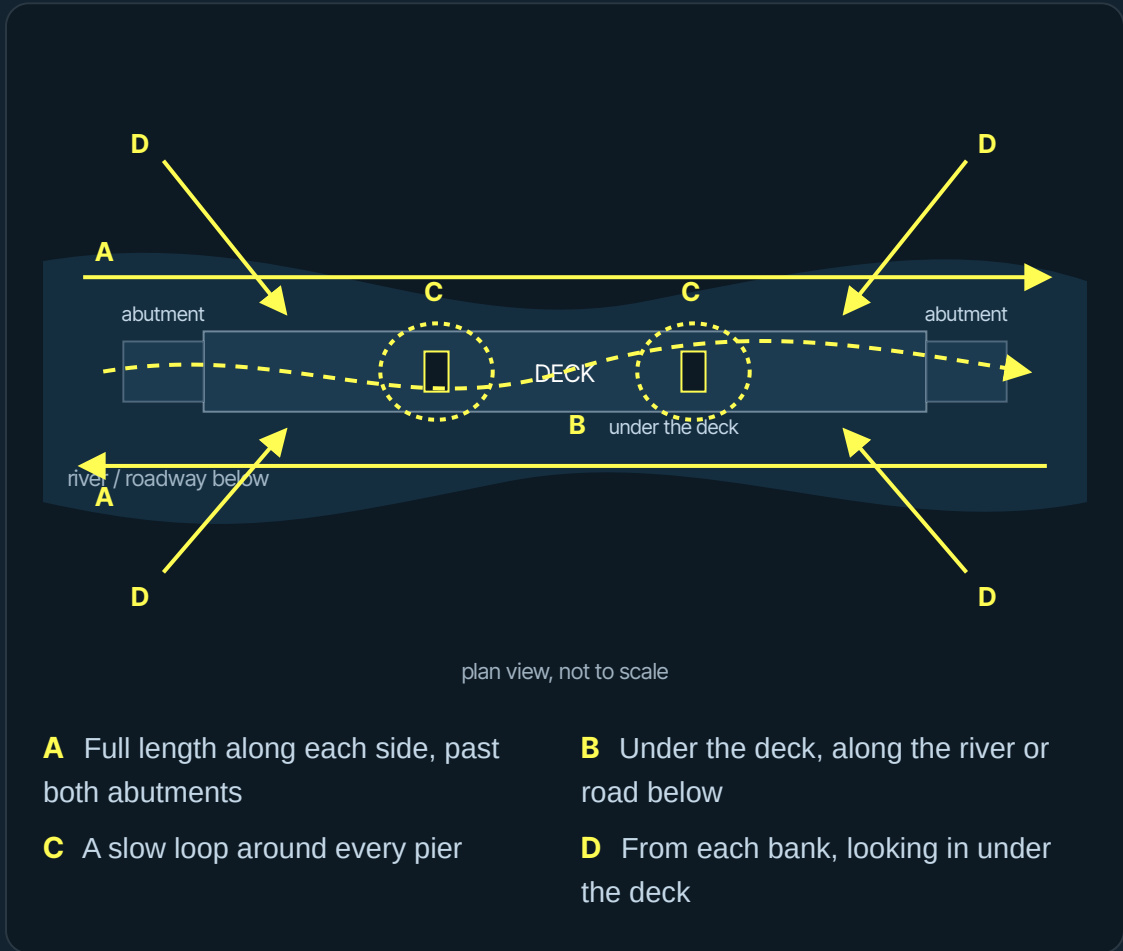
Site and timing

Overcast is best: no hard shadows under the deck. Keep people and vehicles off the bridge if you can; Bridge360 masks them out of the model, but fewer in frame means fewer gaps. Start recording before you reach the bridge and let the camera settle for a few seconds. The same settings apply whether the camera is on a drone or a pole.

THE CAPTURE

Four passes. Slow, steady and from more than one distance.

Walking pace, about 1 m/s, gives far more overlap than you think you need. The model is built from how many angles see each spot, so distance and variety matter more than getting close. The passes are the same whether you fly them or walk them.



BY DRONE

- **A:** level with the deck, 5 to 8 m out from the railing, then a second pass at about half pier height.
- **B:** a low pass 3 to 8 m below the soffit. Keep your distance: close-ups alone leave the ground behind the steel unseen.
- **C:** loop each pier once at 3 to 5 m, top to bottom, at a steady pace.
- **D:** hover at half pier height on each bank, then drift in under the deck and back out.

ON FOOT

- **Camera on a pole** held about 3 m up, slightly ahead of you so you're not in the shot. Walk at a normal pace, no stopping to turn the camera: it sees everything.
- **A:** walk the sidewalk or shoulder on each side with the camera held out past the railing. Add a second lap with the pole low if the railing blocks the view.
- **B and D:** walk the bank, the creek bed or the road under the bridge, end to end, then back along the other bank. Raise the pole toward the soffit.
- **C:** walk once around each pier you can reach, 2 to 4 m away, then once more close for the base.

Pier bases and banks get the fewest views either way: give them a slow extra pass. Pause for 3 seconds anywhere you want a 360° station the client can step into.

ALSO WORKS WITH PHOTOS

Have a normal drone or a DSLR? Those photos go in too.

Upload a photo set on its own, or add drone photos to a 360° flight in the same project. The 360° video builds the model, and every photo is placed on it so the client can click a spot and see the pictures that captured it.

Photo sets

Overlap	At least 70% between neighbouring shots.
Mix	Overviews from 10 to 15 m plus close-ups. Never only close-ups.
Exposure	Locked, same as video. Shoot JPEG, highest quality.

Uploading

Open the portal, create the project, drop in the video and photo files together and press Submit. Choose whether people, or people and vehicles, are masked out of the model. The portal shows progress while it processes, and the model is ready to walk when it says delivered.

BEFORE YOU LEAVE THE SITE

Ten-second check

- ☐ **ISO and shutter** were locked for the whole capture
- ☐ **Under the deck** from below and from each bank
- ☐ **Steady pace**, no fast turns, nothing blurred
- ☐ **Both sides** covered end to end, past both abutments
- ☐ **Every pier** looped, bases and banks covered
- ☐ **Files** copied off the camera before you drive away

THAT'S IT

Capture it once. Walk it forever.

Questions about a tricky site? Email us before you go and we'll suggest a plan. Your model will be ready to walk in the portal within a day.