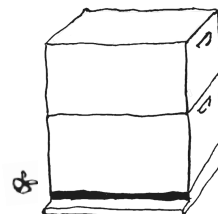


Etiquette around your on-site beehive

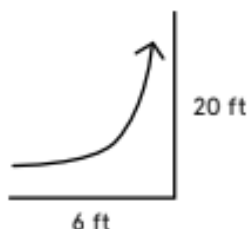
Coexisting with bees in our environment is easy and natural, there are just a few best practices to keep in mind when working around your on-site beehive.

The hive entrance and how to *bee* around it

Honey bees are very docile, focused mainly on bringing floral resources back to their colony. Bees are not aggressive, but they can be defensive, and it's best to give the bees a bit of space to allow them to carry out their duties without interference.



- Each of our hives has an entrance located at the front of the bottom box about six inches off the ground. You may notice bees congregating here in the summer months in an effort to cool off. It's at this entrance that you'll likely see bees entering and exiting the hive, carrying nectar or pollen, following their upward flight path.
- If you want to give the hive entrance a closer look, it's always best to approach a hive from the back or sides and avoid walking directly up to the entrance.
- We always recommend standing about ten feet back from the entrance of the hive to sufficiently avoid interfering with their flight trajectory
- Bees take off and land much like airplanes at your local airport. No matter the elevation of the hive they'll take off and fly upward reaching an altitude of twenty feet at a maximum of six feet in front of the hive.



Flight Trajectory

Bees reach an altitude of 20 feet at a maximum distance of 6 feet in front of the hive. Most of the activity of bees on a property is concentrated in this space.

Landscaping

We understand that you want your hive to look it's absolute best, whether you choose to weed whack around your hives for a clean-cut look, or embrace your wild side by allowing the area around your hive to grow wild, here are a few tips and ideas for maintaining the area around your hive.

- Bees are most active when the sun is shining on the hive during daylight hours. If possible, conduct maintenance around the beehive early in the day or late in the afternoon.
- Never move or open the honeybee hive without an Alvéole team member present.
- Consider allowing the area around your hive to re-wild by allowing grass to grow longer and/or by planting adjacent pollinator friendly plants. This can eliminate the need to weed whack directly around the hives.
- Adding gravel, mulch, paving stones, or sand beneath the hive can reduce the need for landscapers to maintain the area directly around the hive.
- Consider using landscape edging to create a visual barrier around the hive.