Federations Focus October

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"Naturism in Switzerland"



Today might be the hottest of the year. Of course you would like to tear off your clothes. But: is this really permitted by the Swiss Legislation?

It is not that easy to reply to this question. The legislation in Switzerland varies from Canton to Canton. What is permitted in Zurich might be forbidden in the Half-Cantons of Appenzell.

In general public nudity is not forbidden in Switzerland. There is no law stating that one must not leave home without any clothes. However, nudity must not be motivated by sexual purposes. Actively showing one's genitals or taking sexual actions in public is explicitly punishable. Naturists, nude artists as well as politically motivated nude protesters do not act unlawfully according to the Government Council of Schaffhausen.

WHAT IS "INDECENT BEHAVIOUR"?

Well, skinny-dipping in the lake? Topless enjoying the day at the public outdoor pools? Nude Sunbathing in one's birthday suit on the balcony? In principle all that is possible, if no other person is hereby disturbed. But there are laws in many cantons forbidding "indecent behaviour" in public. So being nude on the park lawns usually is forbidden, because walkers might get disturbed.

If then a report is made to the police, it may turn very expensive. This is established latest since a verdict by the Federal Supreme Court regarding nude hikers in the year 2011. In a case of a man walking by a fire-place in the Canton of Appenzell-Ausserrhoden, where small children were present, the judges talked about a "serious violation of morals and manners".



May all cases fall? The Swiss rules are cantonally very different. How much nudity is allowed? (Symbolpicture: Keystone)

The question what is considered being "indecent behaviour" has been regularly treated at the courts. SRF Radio reported two exemplary cases: a nude jogger in Zurich was not convicted, but he had to bear the legal costs. He was well aware that he would provoke a report due to his behaviour. However, in the Canton of Bern, a man has been sentenced because he had been cycling all naked, which had been rated as indecent behaviour.

BEING NUDE AT ONE'S OWN RISK

On the balcony or in the garden: Here being nude is permitted. But when the balcony or the garden is clearly visible to other people, you should act in discretion and perhaps cover up one or other part of the body.

At the public baths: in most public baths nudity is expressively forbidden by the user regulations. In some exceptional cases topless sunbathing is tolerated.

Outdoors: Here nude people act at their own risk and may be sentenced, as shown by the verdict of the nude hikers. Unlike in Germany, it is not recommended to walk nude through the forest. But at the lakes you may safely hop all nude, if you are alone. If other persons are coming, it is recommended to quickly put on your bikini or swimsuit, so to avoid troubles.

THE MOST BEAUTIFUL SWIMMING AREAS IN SWITZERLAND

You may find a list of swimming areas and public outdoor pools in the Internet website *www.badi-info.ch*, (in German only) where nude swimming is permitted and desirable. The most beautiful ones are Werdinsel in Zurich, in Choller at the Lake of Zuger and the river Sense in the Canton of Bern. Some public pools have separated naturist zones or secluded areas for topless sunbathers.

Source: www.bluewin.ch/de/news/schweiz/der-badeseeruft-wie-nackt-darf-man-in-der-schweiz-sein-130723.html

"Naked cycling in Madrid"

Last 9th June was kind of a dream came true, to me. I took part on Madrid's ciclonudist event, something that was denied by the Portuguese authorities in 2011, 2012, 2013... So, since the chance came, I've decided that I could no longer waste it.

Challenged by a Spanish friend living in Madrid, I got a bla-bla car (shared ride), and arrived in Madrid, later at night, on the eve of the event.

Woke up the next morning and moved to the gathering point, right in the center of the city, Plaza Cibeles. Looked for others, and saw nobody, until a few minutes later, when I started to realize the presence of some cameramen, and a nudist guy with a marvellous body painting, and on rollerblades. Stayed around, chatted with other people coming, and soon began to take off my clothes, which I packed in a backpack. First time naked in a city, and felt wonderful! Not strange at all, just comfortable, with so many people passing by, cars, public transports...

It was almost Summer, and we're talking about Madrid, but it was cloudy and a bit cold, so not too many people came to the ciclonudist, however, that was a first time to me, and it seemed fantastic, being no able not being able to compare it with other years. Well, at least 100 people took part, most of them naked, only a few ones with body painting, about 10 women, some with clothes on, others fully naked, others with pants (and others started with clothes on and by the middle of the course were naked).



The event lasted for three hours, or a bit more, crossing some important roads right in the center of Madrid, including the most busy avenue (Gran Via), and one of the main squares (Puertas del Sol), and it was amazing riding there completely naked, with so many people taking pictures, shouting at us, chatting, making questions (what's the purpose?, why naked?), and some people clapping and honking in their cars!

There are always some people who don't like it, of course, I've seen a few girls looking the other way, or looking down, and a woman covering the eyes of her child, but most people were happy and smiling, taking pictures (mainly when traffic lights moved changed green for them, and red for us!).



I should say that I saw no policemen, no police forces in front of us with their vehicles, and all the whole event was peaceful and safe. There was a guy with an electric generator playing music, and that was also fun and helpful, it's totally different riding with music and without it.

The event got over in front of the royal palace, where there were a lot of tourists, again some more questions, a lot of pictures more, and a nudist picnic took place a few minutes later, in a nearby garden, behind a church, with some children playing around, with clothes on, with their parents, while we were sitting naked, and eating. All in a peaceful harmony!

I shall return next year, or as soon as possible!

Rui Fidalgo









LE BETULLE Villaggio Naturista

Near the Alps, at 25 km from the center of Turin, 20 minutes from the airport Caselle. Caravans, plots for Recreation Vehicles and tents, completely equipped bungalows, caravans with chalet.

Pool, solarium, jacuzzi and sauna. Clubhouse restaurant, petanque, mini-tennis, table tennis, Volleyball. Mountain bike circuits and trails in the Park Mandria

Sights: Venaria Royal Palace and Park, St. Michele Abbey, Rivoli Castle, Mole Antonelliana, Egyptian Museum, Piazza S. Cario, Basilica of Superga.

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"POSER OR CHATTERBOX -What type of naturist are you?"

Are naked people all the same? Wrong. At least, that is what a representative study in Germany is claiming - and lists six common naturist characters.

Be it at the beach, on the camping ground or during hiking - besides the sun and the relaxation naturist holidays guests enjoy above all the feeling of a free body. According to a representative survey by the evaluation and booking portal "HolidayCheck" nearly 20 per cent of the Germans have once spent naturist holidays.

32 per cent of the so far inexperienced people can image trying it out. For them and for all others still hesitating to ask what to expect from such a clothing-free break: there are six naturist types as follows:

THE NEWCOMER: ARE THEY REALLY ALL NUDE?

One can recognize the Newcomer already when he enters the naturist beach: Being uncertain, he checks whether he is at the right area and whether all others actually are naked there. What a proof of love for his partner - as he himself is rather shy when dressed. As naturist newcomer he is looking conspicuously long for the appropriate place to lie and, still being dressed, probes the situation on site.

He has taken the best precautions against his uncertainty: he artfully drapes all his bags as a wall and the parasol shall protect him from supposed looks. From time to time he catches himself watching other bathers. After a short period of adjustment the tension decreases and a first hesitant love for clothing-free holidays starts developing.

THE PROFESSIONAL: LIKES TO SHARE HIS CONCENTRATED KNOWLEDGE

The professional appears deeply relaxed, for him naturism is a life-style. He knows the rules of the naturist beach inside out with all the No-Goes. Accordingly he is not afraid at all to address less experienced naturist holidays guests for their mistakes and to share his concentrated knowledge.

Wrapped in a towel, standing at the sea and watching the waves like other bathers do, or accidentally keeping his bath suit on? Not so the professional. Also, he would never take his camera or his mobile phone to take a picture of the sunset or even take a selfie. Who would like to involuntarily be visible, unclothed, in the background of another's picture? The knowledge of the nude body cult is often placed into the cradle of the professional: his parents already were naturists.

THE POSER: IMPRESSES WITH HIS THOROUGHLY TRAINED FIGURE

The Poser impresses the entire beach public with his thoroughly trained figure. For him the training for his perfect body is a year-round program. The free exercise: The summer holidays. Ideally, he books naturist hotels, where he does not need to be covered and where he presents his body in all splendour - he just isn't half bad!



The Poser impresses the entire beach public with his thoroughly trained figure. Picture: iStock

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The situation is similar with the female counterpart, whose specialty is basking in the sun. Her ambition during naturist holidays is the seamless tan on her trained body. During the search of a place with the greatest sun exposure the beach quickly turns into a catwalk.

THE SPORTSMAN: LIKES TO MOVE HIS MUSCLES

Just like the Poser, the Sportsman also likes to show his muscles. Yet, he does not present them when lying in the sun, but in motion. Be it beach volleyball, badminton or football on the beach - he is there.

In a team or on his own, the sportsman likes to demonstrate endurance and he likes to put up with a red head and a shiny body. He masters like no one



The Sportsman also likes to show his muscles. But he does not present them when lying in the sun, but in motion. Picture: Keystone

else to passionately throw himself to the sand, to avoid losing any point.

During the holidays it is not only about being naked, but also about exercising and keeping oneself fit. Textile-free or not: As the sportsman is aware of the dangers of a sun-stroke, a headgear is of course part of his birthday suit.

THE CHATTERBOX: LOOKING FOR NEW NATURIST FRIENDS

The nude Chatterbox, too, is always on the move. After all, he is always looking for new naturist friends. Be it during a walk on the beach or when swimming in the waves: the chatterbox always has a conversation topic ready and is not afraid of stopping at the towel of other holidays guests and



The Chatterbox is always on the move. After all, he is always looking for new naturist friends. Picture: iStock

of starting a conversation. Safety distance is a unknown word to him.

The Chatterbox is quite persistent in his plan. He does not accept excuses like "I was about to go for a swim" or "I was about to go to the beach bar" and he just joins. After all, chatting while bathing or drinking is double as good.

THE UNINHIBITED: HE DOES NO BOTHER WHEN HE DISTURBS NON-NATURISTS

The Uninhibited is very well experienced in nudity, too. He does not like clothes at all and he eagerly uses any opportunity to get rid of them. Accordingly he is not afraid of being the only nude man on a lawn in the city park every now and then.

His frank lying position unmistakably expresses his self-confidence. For the uninhibited the birthday suit is that normal that he contacts dressed people without any scruple. That he thereby irritates nonnaturists does not bother him at all.

Source: https://www.bluewin.ch/de/leben/reisen/poser-oder-schwaetzer-welcher-fkk-typ-sind-sie-140169.html

