



Naturist
Action
Group

The legal framework for naturism in Bavaria, Germany

There is a law in Bavaria about permitted naturism. Jürgen B. a German naturist, has kindly provided this comment.

Allowing naturism at certain places, such as reported in the website by Munich's local council, is in accordance with that special federal law of that rather special state of Bavaria. That federal law declares in the "**Bayerische Badeverordnung**" (Bavarian Bathing Regulation) that naturism is illegal everywhere where it is not explicitly permitted, just as it was with the regulation of 1942 for the whole of Germany, signed by the notorious Heinrich Himmler.

The text of that "**Bayerische Badeverordnung**" being a close successor to the one of 1942, can be read at:

<http://www.gesetzebayern.de/jportal/portal/page/bsbayprod.psmlshowdoccase=1&doc.id=jlr-BadVBY1993rahmen&doc.part=X>

"Bayerische Badeverordnung" of 1993 *[translated by Jürgen]*

§1

- (1) A person who bathes in public must wear bathing costumes. This applies to water-, air-, and sunbathing.
- (2) A person bathes in public when being at a place where general access is possible or may be possible or which can be looked into without special measures.

§2

- (1) §1 does not apply
 - 1. for children before the age of 6
 - 2. for sauna baths that cannot be looked into without special measures
 - 3. for places where the person bathing can expect due to circumstances that he/she cannot be seen by uninvolved persons.
- (2) Local Councils can allow exemptions from §1 (1) by decree for certain places if
 - 1. at the access to this place the exemption from §1 (1) is clearly indicated
 - 2. the owners or otherwise beneficial owners of the place consent
 - 3. a sufficient number of other public bathing opportunities are available to the public
 - 4. interests of common welfare, especially of nature protection, landscape planning and planning of recreation areas are not conflicting.

§3

According to Art. 27 Abs. 4 Nr. 2 LStVG that person can be fined who bathes without bathing costume contrarily to §1 (1).

§4

This regulation will come into effect on October 1st, 1993, it will expire on the end of September 30, 2013.

Munich, August 30, 1993
Bavarian Ministry of the Interior
Dr. Günther Beckstein, Minister of State

[end of Jürgen's translation]

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