

# NUDE BEACH ETIQUETTE

## A Guide to Courtesy & Common Sense Behavior at Beaches and Hiking Trails Supporting Clothing-Optional Use

Free beach etiquette is not much different from the same good manners that you should exhibit wherever you go. Be polite and respect the rights of others and others will do the same for you.

### GAWKING IS IMPOLITE

Gawking, or staring at nude sunbathers, is impolite. It is always rude to stare at others, but it is especially so when you use binoculars or a camera to look at nude people. If you came to a clothing-optional (CO) beach to see for yourself what the experience is like, please, join in. You will have a great time. If you came to "look at the nudies," do yourself a favor and buy a magazine and read it at home.

### OBEY ALL PARKING RULES AND REGULATIONS

Park only in designated areas. In some areas parking is limited and fills up early. If this is true at your beach you can:

- Arrive Early - before the crowds.
- Carpool - saving both gas and parking spots.
- Help others carry their stuff from the parking area to the beach. Someone may do the same for you.

### RESPECT THE ENVIRONMENT

Keep out of areas that may be environmentally sensitive. Leave any wild animals (seagulls, sea lions, etc.) alone. We can lose access to CO areas by impairing the environment or preventing the wild animals from roaming free.

### HELP KEEP THE AREA CLEAN

Bring and use trash bags. Always try to carry out more trash than you carried in. Leave nothing but footprints, take only memories.

### GET DRESSED WHEN LEAVING ESTABLISHED CO AREAS

Many of the clothing optional beaches, while not strictly legal, are accepted by the local population. To avoid offending people, do not go nude into parking lots or textile beaches. Always be dressed if taking a stroll outside the boundary of the CO area.

### AVOID ANY SEXUAL ACTIVITY

Avoid any hint of sexual activity in clothing-optional areas. Complaints about sex in public have caused problems at some CO beaches. Please, do not give the pruders an excuse to close down another CO recreation site.

### RESPECT PRIVATE PROPERTY

Show respect for the private property of others as you go to and from the beach. Don't litter or park on private property. That means don't park your blanket directly alongside or below another person if there is plenty of other space left on the beach.

Respect the privacy of others. Many folks come to the beach to enjoy nature and do not want to be disturbed. It is OK to be friendly, but if someone doesn't seem to respond, please respect their right to privacy. It is okay to ask someone to apply sunscreen to areas you cannot reach. It is not okay to ask to apply sunscreen to another without *them* asking you first. Remember: "No" means "No!"

### AVOID TAKING PHOTOS OR MOVIES

We recommend you leave the camera at home - including the one in your cell phone. If you insist on taking a picture, confine it to just the people in your party, and that means avoiding having anyone in the background without their verbal (if not written) consent. Also, totally avoid taking photos of nude under-age children at the beach as it just isn't worth the confrontation you will be inviting.

### BE PREPARED

Most CO beaches are remote and do not offer the services and amenities found at textile beaches. Therefore you should bring everything you may need including: water/beverages, food, cooler, sunscreen, towel, chair or mattress. Use the bathroom in the parking lot before coming down the ramp to the beach.

### SPEAK UP FOR STANDARDS

If you see someone who is violating the accepted standards, please explain to them clearly and politely just how they are violating the rules and just what the proper behavior is. You will find most voyeurs will leave immediately after being discovered.

---

Distributed by the **SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA NATURIST ASSOCIATION and the NUDE BEACH ALLIANCE**

23679 Calabasas Rd #940, Calabasas, CA 91302 Voice Messages: (818) 225-2273

Web Sites: [www.socalnaturist.org](http://www.socalnaturist.org) and [www.nudebeachalliance.com](http://www.nudebeachalliance.com) Email: [scna@socalnaturist.org](mailto:scna@socalnaturist.org)