

# SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS & RULES

*Open all year round*



**BEATUS**

MERLIGEN-THUNERSEE

Wellness- & Spa-Hotel

# Safety Instructions and Rules for the Use of our Canoes / Stand Up Boards (SUP) / Pedalos and Rowing Boats

Dear guests,

The BEATUS Wellness- & Spa-Hotel is the ideal basecamp for your water sports holiday as it has direct access to the lake. Here you can bathe in Lake Thun in a relaxed atmosphere and use the hotel's sports equipment such as canoes, rowing boats, stand up paddleboards and pedalos. Your health and safety are of paramount importance to us. We therefore encourage you to follow the instructions below whilst you are on and in the water for your own safety.

## Safety

1. You may only participate in water sports if you are a competent swimmer.
2. It is compulsory to wear a life jacket whilst engaging in water sports.
3. Only go into the water if the weather, wind and swell permit it. Swimming and water sports are prohibited if there is a storm or thunderstorm.
4. Check the temperature of the water of the lake before commencing any water sports.
5. When swimming or engaging in a water sport, remain near the shore.
6. Avoid overexerting yourself on the water when it is sunny and hot (risk of heat stroke).
7. If you are in distress in the water, make others aware of your situation by calling out and waving clearly.
8. The BEATUS is right next to a public jetty. Be alert and watch out for the regular passenger boats and do not get too close to them.

## Weather warning (orange flashing light)

Precautionary message (40 times per minute) or storm warning (90 times per minute): Please get to the shore immediately. Swimming and water sports are prohibited.

## Rules governing right of way

1. Passenger boats\* have right of way over everyone else.
2. Sailing boats
3. Fishermen with a white or yellow ball
4. Canoe, SUP, rowing boats, pedalos
5. Motor Boats

\*Caution Passenger Boat Route

Keep a minimum distance of 200m in front and behind the passenger boats and 50m on the sides. Anyone who disregards these safety distances and obstructs the route of the boats will be putting themselves and others at risk and thereby committing a criminal offence. Passenger boats often produce high waves, which are capable of capsizing canoes or SUPs.

## Water sports equipment (canoes/SUPs/pedalos)

Please carry water equipment carefully when on land (the equipment can be damaged if it makes contact with the ground). Let our hotel staff help you in and out of the water. Avoid collisions with stones and rocks in the water in the immediate vicinity of the shore. Canoes and pedalos are provided for your use just next to the BEATUS. Travelling to other ports or shore areas is only permitted in an emergency.

Canoes, SUPs or pedalos must not enter areas of water marked with yellow, spherical buoys. These are reserved for bathing or are nature protection areas. The person responsible is liable for damages caused as a result of improper conduct.

### **Stand Up Paddleboard (SUP)**

If you are a beginner, our hotel staff will gladly give you lessons before you go into the water with the SUP. It is not unusual for beginners to fall off the board. Follow these rules if you fall:

1. Stay calm
2. Hold on to the board.
3. Grab the paddle.
4. Climb back on the board.
5. Remain kneeling on the board if you cannot balance enough to stand up right away.

### **Canoes**

If you are using a canoe, please observe the following rules:

1. Stay calm
2. Take hold of the canoe.
3. Turn the canoe back over so that the open side is facing upwards again.
4. Push a tip of the canoe under the water and then push the canoe as far as possible into the air so that the water can drain out.
5. Scoop out the remaining water in the canoe by cupping your hand.
6. If you are travelling in pairs, both of you need to climb back into the canoe at the same time from opposite sides.
7. Return to the shore.

### **Swimming**

You are not allowed to swim in the vicinity (< 100m) of the jetty for the passenger boats. It is dangerous and therefore prohibited to hold on to boats whilst they are moving.

### **Measures / help in the event of an emergency**

If you witness an emergency in or on the lake, please take the following steps:

#### **A An emergency situation near the shore**

- Call more people over to help.
- If the emergency situation seems critical, you or another person should contact the general emergency services (No. 112) and the ambulance services (No. 144).
- If you are an experienced swimmer, you can go into the water to offer your assistance. You must always use the rescue ring on the lakeside or a life jacket.
- Take emergency measures after the rescue.

#### **B An emergency situation not near the shore**

- Remember the scene of the accident and the distance to the shore as accurately as you can.
- Call more people over to help.
- You or another person should contact the maritime police (No. 112). Inform them about the exact scene of the accident.
- Inform the hotel staff (phone no. 033 252 81 81)
- Make other boats on the lake aware of the emergency situation by waving and calling out.

**By signing below, you confirm that you have been informed of and understand these rules and notices.**

You use the rental equipment at your own risk. The hotel BEATUS does not accept any liability for the guests' valuables and bags, especially electronic devices such as mobile phones, cameras, car keys, etc.

The person responsible is liable for any damages caused as a result of gross negligence.

Date

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Number of guests

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Name and room number

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Departure time

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Arrival time

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Borrowed water sports equipment

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Signature guest

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