

INFORMATION BOOKLET ON WATER SAFETY AT LAKE BALATON



Balatoni Vízürendészeti Rendőrkapitányság

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VIHARJELZÉS

STURMWARNUNG

STORM WARNING



Fokozat Stufe Grade	Fény Licht Light	Szél Wind Wind	Szabályok Regeln Regulation
I.	45/min	40 km/h	max. 500m    
II.	90/min	60 km/h	   

ATTENTION BATHERS!

- Bathing is allowed in the designated bathing areas or where bathing is not prohibited!
- The boundary of the designated bathing area is marked on the shore by a white board with a black upper body on a white background measuring 60x30 cm in blue rippling water, and on the water by red and white vertical striped cylindrical buoys measuring at least 50x50 cm.
- A sign indicating the boundary of the designated bathing area shall indicate the length of the bathing area in a blue field with a white arrow and the distance (metres, kilometres). The boundary of water deeper than 120 cm is marked on lakes by a sign with the inscription '120 cm'.
- Animals are not allowed in the bathing area! Fishing is not allowed in the bathing area during the bathing season!



- The use of flotation devices (water bikes, rubber mats or other inflatable devices) is also considered bathing, so the rules for bathing apply to their use. Floating equipment may only be used in the vicinity of bathers in such a way that it does not endanger them.
- Children under the age of six and children under the age of 12 who cannot swim may only swim in open water under the direct supervision of an adult.
- Bathing is prohibited in fairways, harbours, boat ramps, water sports facilities, and at night and in restricted visibility, unless the water surface is illuminated and up to the edge of deep water.
- A storm warning service is in operation on Lake Balaton from 31.01.04 to 31.10.04 each year. Storm warning stations are located around the shore of Lake Balaton in 36 locations and in the middle of the lake in 3 locations, clearly visible from several directions.
- During a level I storm warning - a yellow light flashing forty-five times a minute - bathing is prohibited more than 500 metres from the shore.
- Bathing is prohibited during a level II storm warning, which is a yellow light flashing ninety times a minute.

FOR SURFERS, WATER SPORTS EQUIPMENT USERS!

- water sports equipment not subject to registration may be driven by persons who: are over 14 years of age, can swim, have sufficient experience in driving, are familiar with the provisions of the Navigation Regulations published by the NFM Decree 57/2011 (XI. 22.) and the characteristics of the water area used.
- It is permitted to start and change course from the shore or from another mooring point with water sports equipment if this does not disturb other participants in water traffic and does not endanger any person on the water.

- All persons using water sports equipment must wear life jackets. On man-powered personal watercraft, if the user is a swimmer over the age of 14, at least a buoyancy aid vest or an ankle safety harness (leash) must be worn.
- Life jackets need not be worn when learning to use sailing boats and PWC in bathing areas and on open waters where bathing is allowed, provided that it is carried out without disturbing bathers, directly on the shore, with the assistance of a person capable of assisting.
- - The use of water sports equipment is prohibited at night and in conditions of reduced visibility.
- - It shall be prohibited to cross the path of a large vessel in motion within 1 000 m and to approach such vessels from behind at a distance of less than 60 m and from the side at a distance of less than 30 m, provided that the dimensions of the waterway so permit.
- Sailing craft may operate in winds of less than 6 on the Beaufort scale up to a maximum of 1 500 m from the shore, or in winds of 6 on the Beaufort scale but less than 8 on the Beaufort scale up to a maximum of 200 m from the shore, excluding the designated bathing area, and may not operate in winds of 8 or more on the Beaufort scale, except in an emergency.
- - All other man-powered personal watercraft shall not navigate in waters up to 500 m from the shore during the storm-free period, or in winds of Beaufort 4 to 6 during a storm warning of degree I and during the lull in the storm warning, in winds of Beaufort 4 to 6 up to 100 m from the shore, or in winds of more than degree 6 during a storm warning of degree II and during the lull in the storm warning.
- - Water sports equipment may be used in a bathing area if it is moored in this area. In such a case, the watercraft must travel through the water area at a speed of no more than 5 km/h by the shortest route.
- A person in the water must, except in the case of rescue, be evacuated by a sailing craft at a distance of at least 10 m from

another non-mechanically propelled craft at a distance of 30 m, so that he remains between the craft and the nearer shore or the craft accompanying him. The occupant of the water shall also be warned of the approach of the craft by shouting, if necessary.

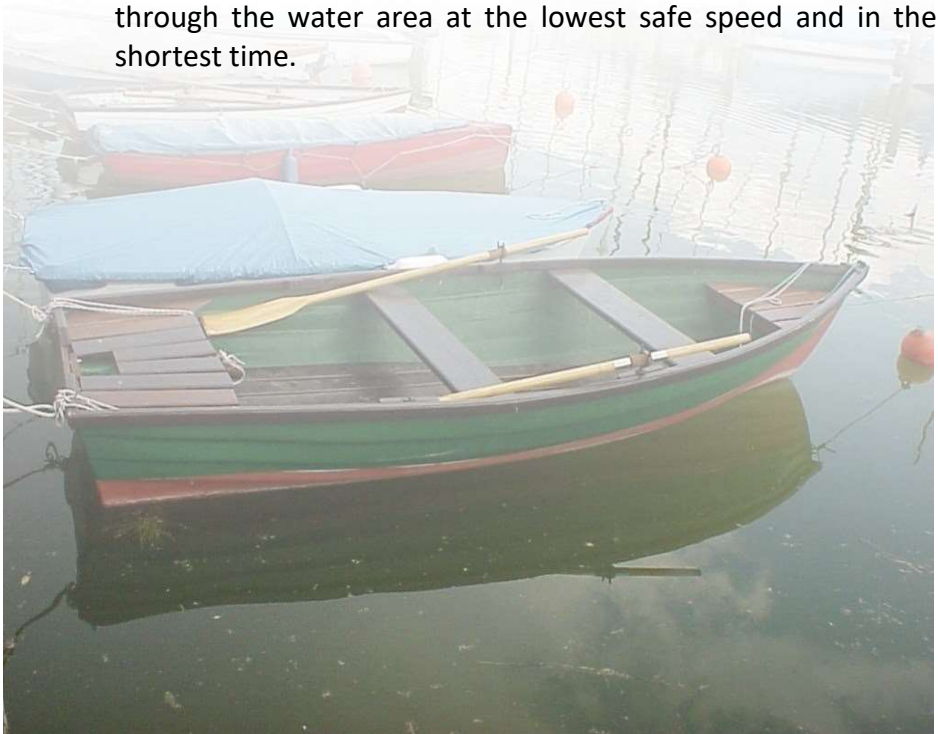


ATTENTION BOATERS!

- A person may drive a boat if he/she is: over 14 years of age, can swim, has sufficient experience in driving, is familiar with the provisions of the Navigation Regulations published by the NFM Decree 57/2011 (XI. 22.) and the characteristics of the water area used. If there is more than one person in the boat, at least the driver who is 16 years of age must be designated before the boat departs. For power-driven boats and water sports equipment, the driver must be at least 17 years old. The boat may be launched from the shore or from another mooring and may change direction only if this does not interfere with other water traffic or endanger any person on the water.

- fire extinguisher - 1 fire extinguisher
- - The boat must be equipped with:
- ⑦ life jacket, 14. The boat must have at least 1 oar - according to the number of people in the boat and the propulsion of the boat, but at least 1 oar, 1 anchor - according to the number of people in the boat and the propulsion of the boat, but at least 1 anchor, an anchor equal to at least 5% of the weight of the boat without anchor (the anchor may be replaced by another device or object of non-hazardous design suitable for temporary anchorage to the shore), rope or chain suitable for mooring and anchoring and in good condition - at least 10 fm, a watermarking device of at least 1 litre capacity - 1 electric light source of normal intensity, white, capable of being turned in the direction required, during the period from sunset to sunrise, to enable the boater to signal an approaching craft, a sign permanently affixed to the hull of the boat giving the name and contact details of the boat operator, if the boat is carrying flammable or explosive material, an appropriate fire extinguisher with extinguishing capacity 8A or 34B - 1 extinguisher.
- Equipment for kayaks, canoes, keelboats, rowing boats and racing boats: life jackets, 14. paddles - according to the number of persons in the boat and the propulsion of the boat, but at least 1, an electric light source of normal intensity, white light, reversible as required, during the period from sunset to sunrise, to enable the boater to signal an approaching craft. A zárt testű, ráülős, körben kapaszkodó kötéllel ellátott csónakok felszerelése a mentőmellény helyett legalább úszást segítő mellény vagy biztonsági bokapánt (leash) is lehet, amennyiben a használó 14. életévét betöltött, úszni tudó személy.
- If the minimum safety distance allowed (30 cm on Lake Balaton) cannot be maintained - temporarily - when using the boat, the persons in the boat must wear life jackets. Before leaving the boat and, if necessary, during the trip, the boat must be drained of any water that could affect its stability and buoyancy.

- Bathers shall not leave the craft for bathing without the permission of the driver, and shall be followed - in readiness for rescue - until they are completely safe. Persons unable to swim and persons under 14 years of age in a boat must wear a life jacket.
- Watercraft may be used for bathing in a water area with red and white vertical striped cylindrical buoys if the watercraft is moored in this water area or if it is carrying out water work in this area with a permit. In such cases, the vessel must pass through the water area at the lowest safe speed and in the shortest time.



- The person who hires out a recreational craft without crew is responsible for the operational condition of the hired craft. The person who hires out the vessel without crew or a person authorised by him/her must obtain a declaration from the hirer (user) that he/she can swim, knows the rules of navigation and has taken delivery of the vessel marked with identification data and the necessary life-saving equipment.
- The rental organisation or its agent shall demonstrate the operation of the craft, ensure that the hirer has the necessary knowledge for the safe use of the craft and that his knowledge of the water area to be used during the hire period is up-to-date and sufficient. He shall provide the lessee with an information sheet or booklet on the use of the vessel and the water area, documented in a way that can be verified afterwards.
- The rental body or its agent shall refuse to hand over the watercraft if the hirer is under the influence of alcohol or other mind-altering substances and, on the basis of an assessment of the hirer's abilities and knowledge, is unfit to participate in water transport.
- Boats may only operate in an area of water up to 1500 m from the shore. This prohibition does not apply to boats with a category A, B or C certificate, the skipper of which is at least a qualified apprentice sailor or small boat skipper as defined in the Ministerial Decree on nautical qualifications.
- A boat may only sail within 500 m of the shore when a "Precautionary Warning" is given (a Category I storm warning) or during an off-season lull in the storm warning in the event of winds of force 4 on the Beaufort scale but not exceeding 6.
- Boats shall not be allowed to sail when there is a "Danger Warning" (a Category II storm warning) or during a lull in the storm warning in the event of winds exceeding 6 on the Beaufort scale.
- The equipment of a boat leaving the 1 500-metre lane shall be supplemented, in addition to the compulsory equipment set out in Annex II-2, by a mobile telephone or a mobile marine radio,

which is charged, connected and in working order, in a waterproof version or in a case, and a life jacket and spare oars equal to the number of persons in the boat.

- The recreational craft shall not leave the 1500 m zone from the shore at night and in restricted visibility conditions. During a storm warning or in the event of an adverse change in weather conditions, the boat shall immediately move to within 500 metres of the shore.
- Boats powered by an electric motor of at least 7.5 kW may operate without restriction if the boat driver is at least qualified as a small boat driver. It is prohibited to operate a boat with an internal combustion engine on Lake Balaton.
- During the night, a person operating a boat shall draw the attention of approaching or nearby vessels to his presence by displaying a white light.

TAKE CARE OF OUR VALUES

1. Do not leave boats, small boats, other bathing equipment (beach kayaks, water bikes, surfboards, etc.) unattended for long periods of time, especially overnight.
2. Store vessels preferably in guarded harbours protected by asset protection devices.
3. Take photographs of watercraft, bathing equipment and water sports equipment (water bikes, kayaks, surfboards, surfboards, etc.) used and stored on the water so that they can be more easily and effectively traced in the event of theft or loss due to drifting in a storm.
4. mark the above individually in some indelible, indelible way in a place known only to you and take a photograph of it.
5. Keep the identification details (exact type, engine number, etc.) of the electric or internal combustion outboard engine on the boat or small craft separately and take photographs of these

items, highlighting the unique identification marks (damage, replaced parts, wear, unique paintwork, etc.).

6. If possible, dismantle the outboard engine on the vessel after use and take it to a secure place or at least put it in a lockable cabin on the vessel.

USEFUL ADVICE FOR BATHERS

1. If you can't swim, don't go into the natural waters, or maybe just cool off in the shore!
2. Weak swimmers should only swim in very shallow water!
3. Never go far from the shore with equipment you are just getting used to using!
4. Avoid jumping into the water suddenly from water bikes or other bathing equipment, as you may not be aware of the water depth and the water temperature can have a sudden shock effect on your body!
5. If you are unsure of your swimming ability and are going out on the water with watercraft or bathing equipment, always use a life jacket, and always provide a life jacket for children on bathing equipment or water bikes.
6. Avoid being in the open water during extreme heat peaks (between 11am and 4pm).
7. Try not to consume alcohol to be physically able to handle an emergency!
8. Avoid swimming alone and using bathing equipment far from the shore!

Have a nice time and relax:
Balaton Water Police Department

The Balaton Water Police Station is open 24
hours a day, every day of the year, at the
following numbers
the general emergency numbers 112 and 1817
Balaton Water Emergency.

