

UNUSUAL LAWS AROUND THE WORLD



A. No camouflage clothes in the Caribbean ! Many Caribbean countries, such as Barbados and St. Vincent, ban the wearing of camouflage clothing, including by children.



B. You can't bring vaporisers, such as e-cigarettes into Thailand. These items are likely to be confiscated and you could be fined or sent to prison for up to 10 years.

C. Smoking and drinking alcohol in Ukraine's public places (including transports, bus stops, sports and government establishments, playgrounds and parks) is officially banned.



D. In 2009, the French town of Granville banned elephants from its beach after animals from visiting circuses were caught on the sandy shore.



E. You could face a fine for feeding pigeons in St Mark's Square, Venice. This law was enacted to reduce pigeon numbers and associated damage to historic buildings and statues.



A sumo wrestling tournament

F. In Japan, it is technically forbidden to be obese : lawmakers set a maximum waistline of 80 cm for men aged 40 and over. If they breach this limit, men will be given dieting guidance.

G. Historic sites, such as the Acropolis, have banned the wearing of high heels in Greece for fear of causing damage to ancient monuments.



H. Some people regard chewing gum as ill-mannered, but in Singapore it's a criminal offence to chew gums unless it's medicinal.



I. It's illegal for men with moustaches to kiss women in Eureka, Nevada (Nevada is a state in the USA).



J. No spitting in Barcelona ! It's generally frowned upon in many countries, but you could face a fine for spitting in this Spanish city.

Abridged and adapted from www.telegraph.co.uk : 23 unusual laws around the world you probably didn't know about

1) Vocabulary – find the English equivalents : Trouver la traduction dans les lois ci-dessus

- | | |
|---|---|
| interdire : _____ (A – verbe de 3 lettres en anglais) | devoir payer une amende : _____ (texte B) |
| aires de jeux : _____ (texte C) | littoral : _____ (texte D) |
| donner à manger : _____ (texte E) | dégâts : _____ (texte E) |
| législateurs : _____ (texte F) | régime (alimentaire) : _____ (texte F) |
| talons hauts : _____ (texte G) | crainte : _____ (texte G) |
| impoli/grossier : _____ (texte H) | infraction / délit : _____ (texte H) |
| Etat / territoire : _____ (texte I) | cracher : _____ (texte J) |

2) True or False ? Chercher et recopier une phrase en anglais pour justifier si c'est vrai ou faux

- a. You could go to jail if you bring e-cigarettes in Thailand. TRUE - FALSE
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- b. In singapore, you can eat chewing-gums only if your doctor prescribed it. TRUE - FALSE
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- c. You can wear high-heeled shoes if you want to visit historic monuments in Greece. TRUE - FALSE
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- d. It's legal to feed pigeons in Venice. TRUE - FALSE
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- e. In Ukraine, it's prohibited to drink alcohol in public places. TRUE - FALSE
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- f. In many countries, it's forbidden to wear camouflage clothes. TRUE - FALSE
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- g. It's banned for men with moustaches to kiss women in every US state. TRUE - FALSE
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3) Have a look at these signs. What will happen if you don't take any notice ?

You can use these ideas to complete the sentences :

- be arrested / pay a fine / go to prison / be eaten by ... / be killed be ...
- be used to feed dragons / be forced to go to school to become intelligent
- be kidnapped by aliens



- 1) If children get lost, they will _____
- 2) If you go beyond this point, you will probably _____
- 3) If you don't take notice of sign n°3, you will probably _____
- 4) If you don't take notice of sign n°4, you will probably _____
- 5) If you don't take notice of sign n°5, you will probably _____
- 6) If you don't take notice of sign n°6, you will probably _____