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40pc travellers call for more nudist beaches

MORE than 40 per cent of travellers believe more nudist beaches in Australia would help boost tourism numbers, according to a new survey.

The totaltravel.com survey, which attracted 1257 respondents, asked the question 'should more nude sunbathing beaches be allowed around Australia to boost tourism?'

Over 40 per cent of voters (523 people) were happy for people to strip down at the beach to help attract more tourists and believed nudity 'was natural and beautiful'.

Thirty-three per cent (418 people) of respondents said nude sunbaking was 'yuck' and should be banned. Anti-nudists claimed they 'didn't want to see it all hang out'.

A quarter of those polled (316 people) didn't care whether bathers were naked or not as long as they 'didn't block the sun'.

totaltravel.com global marketing manager Paul Fisher said the survey clearly revealed that Australians were a tolerant bunch.

However, he said a number of respondents who agreed to have more nudist beaches in Australia called for appropriate signage.

"While a leading proportion of voters agreed that a little bit of flesh never hurt anyone, a few did comment that if more nude beaches were introduced there would have to be appropriate signage to alert families or children to what kind of beach it was," Mr Fisher said. "Some also called for nude beaches to be secluded and away from beaches where families congregated.

"Online comments from respondents who were against having more nude sunbathing beaches revealed they didn't like the idea of seeing 'fat bellies, wobbly legs and all the droopy bits' that hang out when people go nude."

Mr Fisher said it was important that everyone, whether they attended nudist beaches or non-nudist beaches, were aware of the dangers of skin cancer and applied 30+ sunscreen, wore hats and long-sleeved cover-ups.

The survey was conducted over the past four weeks.

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About totaltravel.com

totaltravel.com was established in 2002 and is Australia's leading online travel marketplace for travellers and travel suppliers. Travellers can research destinations, read the opinions of other travellers, find travel offers and then deal directly with travel suppliers to save money.