

This list is compiled of current information

Please check with local authorities before you enter any adventures abroad.

When hunting abroad, the "reciprocity rule" indicates that each hunter must fulfill his/her national requirements before venturing on a hunt abroad. The International Bowhunter Education Program (IBEP) is an additional, advanced course for those who choose bow and arrow as his/her hunting tool.

Europé

EC regulations

The EC regulations, specifically the 6th Annex in the "Habitat Directive 9243" do not forbid any member state to adopt the use of bow and arrow as a means to harvest game.

France

Legalised in 1995, following a long period during bowhunting was not regulated. All game animals can be hunted with bow and arrow. A current estimate gives in excess of 14.000 bowhunters in France.

As of 2003 01 01 the use of a release aid is now allowed as well as shorter bows.

As of the 13th September 2003 the EBEP/IBEP bowhunter education program is mandatory in France

Finland

Bowhunting have always been allowed for small game, this was formalised in 1993. §20 in the Finnish hunting law govern the bow and arrow as a hunting tool. As of 2001 04 01 the addition of game up to and including Roe deer (*Capreolus capreolus*) and beaver (*Castor fibris*) was made. Regulations state that the force of the bow must be min 180 Newton pull force (40# draw weight), "point must be direct killing when a good hit is made" For Roe deer and beaver must a broadhead with at least 22 mm diameter be used. When you hunt beaver must your arrow be attached to the to the bow with a tracking string.

Beaver and Roedeer Min Ø 22-mm cutting edged hunting point

When hunting beaver the arrow must be attached to a retrieving string.

Lesser game: "Direct killing point"

Denmark

Legal for game up to and including roedeer.

Hunting with bow and arrow was made illegal in 1967 but was immediately put on a dispensation system until legalised in 1999 for Roedeer & lesser game.

Roedeer, fox, hare and geese: Minimum Kinetic Energy 40 Joules (29,5 Ft/lbs.) Broadhead: min 25mm (1") diameter and three or more razor-sharp edges. Minimum arrow weight: 25 grams.

Smallgame: Minimum Kinetic Energy 40 Joules (29,5 Ft/lbs.) Broadhead: min 22mm (7/8") diameter and two or more razor-sharp edges. Minimum arrow weight: 20 grams.

There are no restrictions to bow type. Presently all hunters must take Danish Bowhunter exam in Denmark as well as pass a proficiency test. Five out of six hunting arrows have to hit within the vital area of respectively Roedeer, fox, hare, goose, pheasant and duck. Distance varying from 5 to 25 meters. The bow must fulfil the requirements for hunting.

Suggested changes for 2004: when using mechanical points the energy of the arrow has to be 70 Joules or more.

A study is underway on the effects on hunting Roedeer (*capreolus capreolus*) with bow and arrow. The first three years have shown a wounding rate of less than 5,6%

Lithuania:

Legalised 1992 08 20. All game can be hunted with bow & arrow as well as crossbow. No restrictions.

Germany

Currently is a study being done on the possibility to allow Bowhunting for small game.

Hungary

Legalised, 1993 all game. In the case of big game (Reddeer, Roedeer, Fallowdeer, Moufflon, Wildboar) the minimum draw weight is 222,7 N (50#) and an arrow with hunting point, i.e. broad-head is required.

The use of crossbow for hunting purposes is not allowed.

For Hungarian Bowhunters additional to the general hunting state exam (which is required for each Hungarian sporthunter) specific bowhunting exam is required. This exam covers theoretical knowledge and practical skills

(target shooting with a required minimum score). In general the bowhunters are under the same hunting regulations as the gun-hunters with some small privileges (as an example, the bowhunter is allowed to shoot at a sitting/standing hare also, however generally only the running hare is a legal target). In Hungary more than 400 bowhunters have passed the specific bowhunting state exam already.

Italy

All regions except three allow bowhunting. Although in one of the three, Emilia Romagna, a public subscription has been accepted by the local government to cancel this law.

Hunting big game is in most regions ruled by special "selection criteria's" and bow is in most of the case non contemplated as hunting weapon. Exception to this are Tuscany and Lombardia, where hunting with bow and arrow is allowed for Wild Boar.

Small game is possible to hunt all over Italy.

It is also legal to hunt in fenced preserve (wild boar and Fallow deer mainly).

NBEF Italy, are keeping up with courses and information, and we can honestly say acceptance is increasing.

Portugal

Possible for all game, Legalised in 1986. Must have International Bowhunter Education (IBEP)

Austria

Not legal

Romania:

Not legal

Belgium:

Not possible, Belgian Bowhunters Ass: n was stopped in 2005 in an effort to make it possible to hunt.

Bulgaria

Not legal

Croatia

Allowed at some private and fenced grounds.

It is forbidden to hunt with any cold weapons and air weapons, It is forbidden to hunt with crossbows and similar devices, unless the special law states differently (as of 22.nd. Nov. 2005)

Croatian law for use of hunting dogs from 8.th May, 1996: It is forbidden to hunt with birds of prey or with bow and arrow unless at least one appropriate hunting dog is available per use per 3 falconers/ bowhunters. So, you probably can legally bowhunt in Croatia. (Interpretation issues?).

Slovakia

Allowed at some private and fenced grounds.

Serbia

Allowed at some private and fenced grounds (these are mainly larger 300 -600 ha enclosures)

Slovenia:

Allowed at smaller fenced in grounds.-in reality: Hunting with bow and arrow is prohibited in free nature and in hunting game enclosures. (these are enclosures that are over 200 ha large). Hunting in enclosures between 30 and 200 ha large is not defined and thus bowhunting in such enclosures is possible.

Sweden

Bowhunting was banned in 1938. In 1998 the Swedish Bowhunting Association was granted a period to try bowhunting and the publics attitudes towards the hunting method. The hunts were only conducted in fenced off areas. The hunters have to pass very stringent qualifications to participate. The periods up until June 2002 have

showed a good attitude and excellent results for the hunters who mostly have taken Fallowdeer and Wildboar. The report is as of 2004 01 10 submitted to the Swedish Environmental Agency for evaluation.

Switzerland

Not legal

Spain

Legal since 1987, possible to hunt all game. Need International bowhunter education. Minimum 50 pound of pull, no barbed points.

Czech republic

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Greece:

Turkey:

Possible to bowhunt.

Aaland

This independent community is located in the Baltic Sea. A change of the current hunting regulations have been approved by with government, this have lead to the implementation of hunting with bow in 2006.

Regulations as of 2006 08 01: The hunter must have a International Bowhunter Education or an equivalent education. An Aalandic proficiency test is required on a yearly basis. This test consists of a short round with six animal targets at varying distances up to 25 meters, were five of the six have to be hit in the vital area/lungs-heart. The arrow must possess a minimum energy of 40 joule (29,5 Ft/lbs.), the arrow must weigh at least 25 grams, the hunting point must have at least two cutting edges with a minimum diameter of 25 mm.

All game except moose can be harvested by bow and arrow.

AFRICA

South Africa

Legal for all game, Big six need a special permit. This was the first country to regulate the kinetic energy of the arrow in relation to the hunted game species.

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| Category 1. | 25 ft/lbs-34 Joule
Smallgame up to and including Blesbocks (i.e. weights -60kg) including Nyala female but <u>not</u> the male, warthog or predators larger than black backed jackal. |
| Category 2. | 40 ft/Lbs-54 Joule
Medium game including Kudu, warthog, bushpig, and all predators (i.e. weights -200kg) <u>except</u> lion, leopard, crocodile gemsbok and sable antelope. |
| Category 3. | 65ft/Lbs-88 Joule
Larger game including eland antelope, lion, leopard, crocodile, gemsbok and sable antelope. (I.e. weights -800 kg) Not including Buffalo! |
| Category 4 | 87 ft/Lbs-109 Joule
Buffalo and Giraffe* (i.e. weights 600-2000 kg) |
| Category 5 | 105 ft/Lbs-142 Joule
Elephant, black and white rhinoceros and hippo. (i.e. weights +1500 kg) |

Category 1-3 must have a point with at least Ø 25-mm cutting with.

Category 4-5 must have a point with at least Ø 28-mm cutting with and be two bladed.

* This is very marginal on a giraffe, go one category up to ensure penetration on very tough ribs.

Namibia

Namibia have a recent legislation on bowhunting, all antelopes can be hunted with bow and arrow. The guide must have a special permit to accompany bowhunters. Just as RSA, Namibia have chosen the arrows kinetic energy as a rule for the various sizes of game.

South America

Most countries allow hunting with bow and arrow.

Oceania

Australia

Hunting with bow & arrow is legal for all legal game.

New Zealand

Hunting with bow & arrow is legal for all legal game.

Asia

Russia

Possible with special permit, bow is considered a weapon and therefore may not be brought into Russia with out a license.

Malaysia

Bowhunting allowed.

Mongolia

Legal

Footnote:

Any modern compound pulling 70# at 30" will produce in the vicinity of 90 Joules energy in the arrow.

A modern recurve pulling 70# at 30" will produce 65 Joules of arrow energy.

A modern longbow pulling 70# at 30" will produce 59 Joules of arrow energy.

260ft/s-30 gram arrow

200ft/s-35 gram arrow

190ft/s-35 gram arrow