Bans and Regulations on the Use of Exotic/Wild Animals Worldwide*

AUSTRALIA

Local bans on the use of animals in circuses in several towns including Hobsons Bay, Surf Coast Shire, Parramata and Lismore.

ASIA

India
Nationwide ban on the use of certain species in circuses.

Singapore
Nationwide ban on the use of wild animals in circuses.

Taiwan
Nationwide prohibition on the import or export of protected species for circuses.

CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA

Argentina
Local bans on the use of wild animals in circuses in over 20 cities including a ban in the city of Buenos Aires.

Bolivia
Nationwide ban on the use of wild and domestic animals in circuses.

Brazil
Local bans on the use of wild and domestic animals in circuses in the districts of Rio de Janeiro, São Paulo, Pernambuco, Paraíba, Rio Grande do Sul, Espírito Santo, Mato Grosso do Sul, Alagoas and a number of bans in cities within another four Brazilian states.

Chile
Local bans on the use of wild and domestic animals in circuses in the city of Santiago.

Colombia
Local ban on the use of animals in circuses in the capital, Bogota.

Costa Rica
Nationwide ban on the use of wild animals in circuses.

Ecuador
Nationwide ban on the use of native wild animals; restrictions on the use of exotic animals; ban on the import of both native and exotic wild animals with circuses.

El Salvador
Nationwide ban on the “Income, use or abuse of wildlife species in all kinds of entertainment.”

Guatemala
Nationwide ban on the use of wild animals in circuses.

Honduras
Nationwide ban on use of all wild animals.

Panama
Nationwide ban prohibiting “entry of wild animals for use in static and travelling circuses and similar shows.”

Paraguay
Nationwide ban on the use of wild animals in circuses.

Peru
Nationwide ban on the use of wild animals in circuses as well as a local ban on all animals in Magdalena del Mar.

EUROPE

Austria
Nationwide ban on the use of wild animals in circuses.

Belgium
Nationwide ban on the use of most wild animals in circuses. (Parrots and camel are classified as domestic.)

Bosnia and Herzegovina
Nationwide ban on all animals in circuses.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Ban Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>Bulgaria</em></td>
<td>Total ban on wild animals.</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Croatia</em></td>
<td>Nationwide ban on the use of wild animals in circuses.</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Cyprus</em></td>
<td>Nationwide ban on all animals in circuses.</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Czech Republic</em></td>
<td>Nationwide ban on the use of certain species in circuses.</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Denmark</em></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Estonia</em></td>
<td>Nationwide ban on the use of wild-born animals in circuses.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Finland</em></td>
<td>Nationwide ban on the use of certain species in circuses.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>France</em></td>
<td>Local bans in more than 50 towns and cities.</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Germany</em></td>
<td>Local bans on more than 90 towns and cities.</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Greece</em></td>
<td>Nationwide ban on all animals in circuses.</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Hungary</em></td>
<td>Nationwide ban on the use of wild-caught animals in circuses, the purchase and training of elephants and primates for circus performances and the purchase, training and use of CITES (Appendix 1) listed species in circuses.</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Italy</em></td>
<td>Nationwide ban on all animals in circuses.</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Latvia</em></td>
<td>Ends the use of tigers, lions, bears and other wild animals in circuses, as part of the country’s new Animal Protection Act.</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Luxembourg</em></td>
<td>Nationwide ban on the use of wild animals in circuses.</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Malta</em></td>
<td>Nationwide ban on all animals used for exhibitions, performances, shows or training for the circus.</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Netherlands</em></td>
<td>Nationwide ban on the use and transport of animals in circuses, with exemptions for certain species (mostly domestic).</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Norway</em></td>
<td>Nationwide ban on the use of elephants in circuses. Local ban on wild or exotic animal shows in Tromsø municipality.</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Poland</em></td>
<td>Nationwide ban on the use of wild-born animals in circuses. Beginning in 2017, elephants and other exotic animals were banned from use in circuses.</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Portugal</em></td>
<td>Nationwide ban restricting the use of Great Apes in circuses and the acquisition and breeding of CITES listed species. A 2018 law banning use of wild animals in circus acts will take effect in 2024.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Romania</em></td>
<td>Nationwide ban on the use of wild animals in circuses.</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Serbia</em></td>
<td>Nationwide ban on the use of wild animals.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Slovakia</em></td>
<td>Circus/performance ban on species listed by CITES. There are no Slovakia-based circuses; foreign circuses entering the country with restricted species will not be allowed to perform.</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Slovenia</em></td>
<td>Nationwide ban on the use of wild animals in circuses.</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Spain</em></td>
<td>Local bans on the use of wild animals in circuses in more than 400 cities and towns including Madrid and Barcelona.</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Sweden</em></td>
<td>Nationwide ban on the use of certain species in circuses.</td>
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</table>
Ukraine
Nationwide ban on mobile menageries and the transportation of wild animals for use in circus performances.

United Kingdom
Over 200 local authorities have bans on animal circuses (more than two thirds of these ban all performing animals, the remainder ban just wild animals).

England: Ban on the use of wild animals in circuses as of 2020.

Ireland: The use of wild animals in circuses banned as of January 2018. Local bans also existed on the use of animals in circuses in Arklow, Clonakilty, Cork, Drogheda, Dublin, Fingal, Galway City, Kildare, Limerick, Monaghan, Moyle, South Dublin, Waterford and Wicklow.

Scotland: Bans the use of non-domesticated animals for performance or exhibition in travelling shows, does not apply to static circuses.

Wales: Bans the use of exotic animals in circus. The ban goes into effect on December 1, 2020.

MIDDLE EAST

Israel
Nationwide ban on use of all wild animals.

Iran
Use of wild animals in circuses effectively banned nationwide (no permits issued).

Lebanon
Nationwide ban on the use of certain species in circuses.

United Arab Emirates
Nationwide ban on exotic pets.

MEXICO

Nationwide ban on performing animal acts.

NORTH AMERICA

Canada
Local bans on the use of animals in circuses in 38 jurisdictions.

British Columbia
Burnaby, Castlegar, Chilliwack, Coquitlam (city), Cowishan, Delta (municipality), Kamloops, Kelowna, Langley (township), Maple Ridge (regional district), Nanaimo (city), New Westminster (municipality), North Cowichan, North Vancouver, Parksville, Prince George, Salmon Arm, Sannich, Surrey, Vancouver, Victoria

Newfoundland
Mount Pearl, St. John's

Nova Scotia
Argyle, Bridgewater, Cape Breton, Digby, Shelburne, Yarmouth

Ontario
East Gwillimbury, Erin, Guelph, Manitouwadge, Puslinch, Cobourg, St. Catharines (bans circuses on City property), Windsor

Quebec
Mont Royal, St. Laurent

United States
93 municipalities in 37 states in the U.S. have bans or regulations on the use of wild/exotic animals.

City: 72
County: 21

Restrictions include public contact with wild/exotic animals, possession of wild/exotic animals, use of bullhooks and methods that cause pain, and use of certain/all performing wild and exotic species. Some restrictions are by legislation, and some come through agency regulation.

There are 20 statewide bans: on public contact with wild/exotic animals; on use of wild animals in circuses or for displays; or elephant bullhook bans (some bans exempt certain species).

Arizona
Statewide ban on public contact.

Arkansas
- Eureka Springs (bans all shows featuring wild/exotic animals)
- Sherwood (bans possession of wild/exotic animals)
California
Statewide ban on the use of elephant bullhooks. Statewide ban on the use of wild animals for entertainment in circuses.
- Corona (bans display of wild/exotic)
- Encinitas (bans display of wild/exotic)
- Huntington Beach (bans display of wild/exotic animals)
- Irvine (bans display or wild/exotic animals)
- Los Angeles (bans wild animals acts and the use of wild animals as party props)
- Los Angeles (bans use of the bullhook/other tools designed for inflicting pain; bans the use of wild animals for entertainment or amusement, including in circuses, other wild animal exhibitions, and rentals for house parties)
- Marin County (regulates animal acts, bans keeping of wild or undomesticated animals)
- Newport Beach (by mayoral proclamation, no display or wild or exotic animals for entertainment)
- Oakland (bans use of the bullhook and other tools designed for inflicting pain)
- Orange County (prohibits elephant rides at the Orange County Fair)
- Pasadena (ban on the display of wild/exotic animals)
- Rohnert Park (ban on display of wild/exotic animals)
- Rolling Hills Estates (ban on performances with wild/exotic animals)
- San Francisco City/County (bans all exotic animals from performing in the city, includes motion pictures)
- Santa Ana (ban on display of wild/exotic animals)
- West Hollywood (ban on the display of wild/exotics)

Colorado
- Boulder (bans display of exotic animals)

Connecticut
- Stamford (bans carnivals, circuses and wild west shows)

Delaware
Statewide ban on public contact (contact with elephants allowed).

Florida
- Clearwater (bans keeping wild animals)
- Hallandale Beach (bans the use of bullhook on elephants)
- Hollywood (bans all displays or exhibits)
- Lauderdale Lakes (bans display of wild/exotic animals)

Georgia
Statewide ban on public contact.
- Atlanta (bans certain mistreatment of elephants)
- Fulton County (bans the use of bullhooks and any device or instrument that inflicts pain on, or is likely to cause injury to, an elephant)
- Union City (bans the use of bullhook on elephants)

Hawaii
Statewide ban on performing wild animals. Also prohibits the import of dangerous wild animals for circuses and other public exhibitions.
- Maui County (bans exhibit of cetaceans)

Idaho
- Ketchum (bans the use of traveling non-domestic and exotic animals from performing)
- Blaine County (bans the use of wild animals in circuses)

Illinois
Statewide ban on the use of elephants in traveling shows, including circuses.
- Collinsville (bans training of wild/exotic animals for performance)
- Peoria (ban on public contact)
- Waukegan (ban on public contact)

Indiana
- St. John (bans performing animal exhibitions/bullhooks/instruments of pain)
- Fort Wayne (bans bullhooks/instruments of pain)
- Blaine County (bans the display of certain exotic and non-domestic animals county-side)

Kansas
- Douglas County (bans ownership or possession of dangerous/exotics, barred in certain areas)
Kentucky
- Jefferson County (bans methods that cause pain or suffering)

Maine
Statewide ban on public contact (except elephant rides).
- Portland (bans use of wild animals in traveling shows)

Maryland
- Beech Grove (prohibits the use of chemical, electrical or mechanical devices on performing animals)
- Gaithersburg (prohibits wild animal exhibits in traveling shows)
- Montgomery County (prohibits the exhibition of performance animals)
- Takoma Park (bans animal displays)

Massachusetts
Statewide ban on public contact - contact with elephants allowed.
- Braintree (ban on using non-domesticated animals for entertainment)
- Cambridge (ban on wild and exotic animals)
- Pittsfield (ban on the display of non-domesticated animals for entertainment)
- Plymouth (full ban on wild and exotic animals in traveling shows)
- Provincetown (bans the display of wild animals for entertainment)
- Quincy (prohibits the use of non-domesticated animals in circuses, carnivals, rides and competitive races)
- Revere (ban on display of wild animals for entertainment)
- Somerville (ban of the display of exotic animals in circuses and carnivals)
- Weymouth (bans circuses with animal acts)

Michigan
Statewide ban on public contact with bears.
- Ferndale (ban on the use of wild and exotic animals in displays and performances)

Mississippi
Statewide ban on public contact - contact with elephants allowed.

Missouri
- Richmond (bans display of wild/exotic animals)

Montana
- Missoula (bans the use of wild and exotic animals in shows and non-educational displays)

New Jersey
Statewide ban on the use of elephant bullhooks; statewide ban on exotic and wild animals in traveling shows.
- Bergen County (ban on exotic or wild animal shows)
- Cumberland County (ban on the exhibition of wild or exotic animals on county-owned land)
- Jersey City (prohibits the use of certain exotic animals in performances, including circuses, fairs, petting zoos and carnivals)
- Passaic County (ban on traveling shows that feature performances by "wild or exotic" animals)

New Mexico
- Santa Fe (bans use of wild animals in traveling shows)

New York
Statewide ban on the use of elephants in entertainment acts, including circuses, carnivals, parades and trade shows; statewide ban on public contact with elephants (per permit requirement of N.Y. Dept. of Environmental Protection).
- Greenburgh (bans wild or exotic animals from circuses; prohibits all rodeos on town property; bans exotic and wild animal species from "parades, carnivals, races, rides, public shows, trade shows, photo opportunities, or similar undertakings in which animals perform tricks, fight or participate in performances for amusement")
- New York City (prohibits the use of wild animals for circuses)
- Plattsburg (bans circuses or other traveling shows that use captive animals)
- Southampton (bans wild or exotic animal displays)
- Wallkill (bans public contact with exotic cats and bears)
- Westchester County (bans use of performing wild animals in circuses)
North Carolina
- Asheville (local arena prohibits performing animal acts)
- Chapel Hill (bans display or wild/exotics)
- Orange County (bans display or wild/exotics)

Ohio
Statewide ban on use of electric prods.

Oregon
- Clatsop County (bans bullhooks, whips and electric prods)
- Multnomah County (prohibits traveling animal displays that include wild or exotic animals for live public entertainment or amusement)

Pennsylvania
Statewide ban on public contact (contact with elephants and chimpanzees allowed).
- Pittsburgh: (Outlaws certain tools used for training or controlling wild animals, including bullhooks, electric prods, whips, or other instruments capable of “inflicting pain, intimidating or threatening pain.” This action essentially prohibits the use of wild animals in circuses and other shows. It also affects the Pittsburgh Zoo.)

Rhode Island
Statewide ban on use of the elephant bullhook.

South Carolina
Statewide ban on the display of marine mammals
- Aiken County (bans use of bullhook)
- Chester (bans display, exhibition of dangerous animals)

Tennessee
Statewide ban on public contact (contact with elephants and with big cats under three months of age allowed).

Texas
- Austin (city prohibits the use of painful devices such as bullhooks, pitchforks and baseball bats on circuses animals)
- Simonton (prohibits the possession of wild/exotic animals)

Vermont
- Burlington (bans display of non-domesticated animals)

Virginia
Statewide ban on public contact with dangerous animals, including bears, big cats and nonhuman primates.
- Fairfax (regulates public display of animals)
- Falls Church (bans public contact)
- Richmond (bans public contact; bullhook ban)
- Fairfax County (bans contact between people and exhibited exotic animals; elephants used for rides are exempted)
- Spotsylvania County (bans contact between people and exhibited exotic animals)

Washington
- Port Townsend (bans display of wild/exotics)
- Redmond (bans display of wild/exotics)
- Spokane (bullhook ban)

Wisconsin
- Green Bay (bans use of exotic animals in traveling shows, circuses)
- Madison (bans public displays of cougars and bears)
- Dane County (bans use of elephants in performances)

*Revised 7/2020*