

Empuriabrava

Why do so many jumpers return to Empuriabrava for Christmas year after year?

Friendly staff, first class facilities, fast aircraft, expert organisers, great skydives, bars flowing with beer and superb parties. Plus numerous visiting jumpers and stunning freefall views provided by an idyllic location where mountains meet the coastline. You really have to come to appreciate it.

The Christmas Boogie this year was deliberately shortened to just one week to make it more intense and concentrate the buzz. We enjoyed about 400 registrations from 16 countries. Christmas boogie jumps brought Empuria's annual total to an impressive 104,249 skydives, and certainly kept the three Twin Offers very busy!

Load Organising

Once again this year's boogie saw the provision of top quality (free) load organising in both FS and freefly. Ian (Milko) Hodgkinson led the FS organising assisted by Carsten, Regan, Billy, Caroline and Livio. As in previous years the boogie attracted enough quality FS jumpers to build two high experience 18-20-way groups (both consistently achieving 4-5 points), plus a number of successful smaller groups (up to 14-way) catering for all levels of skydiving skill. Freefly load organising was led by world champion Stefan Fardel, assisted by the rest of Babylon staff.

Load organisers worked hard so individuals and groups progressed throughout the week. The camera team made sure that everyone had their moment of fame in the boogie video on the big screen at the end of each jumping day!



Christmas Boogie



Surf Inn Speed Star Competition

The sun shone brightly on the traditional 10-way Speed Star competition sponsored by the Surf Inn. Seven teams participated and completed both rounds. The trophy-winning team, *Skydive Empuriabrava*, (Empuriabrava staff and some FS load organisers) had an impressive total of 23.98 seconds over the two competition rounds. They were closely followed by *In the Hedge*, only 0.95 seconds behind over the two rounds.

Helicopter

For the second year in a row Pierre and Julie bought their helicopter to the boogie and offered jumps from 5,000 feet for those who were keen on jumping from something different. The skydive from the helicopter was not the only new experience; the ride up to altitude was also quite a thrill. All the skydivers enjoyed take-off and the low level flight over the town and beach providing amazing visuals.

Christmas Tombola

The famous annual tombola had total prizes worth in excess of €10,000. The top three prizes included a complete system (PD canopies and Sunpath container), an Aerodyne canopy (Pilot) and a complete 2K Composites camera helmet with Pro-Dytter. Other super prizes were sponsored by Babylon, Gath, Sonic Flywear, Bonehead, Alti-2 and The Shop at Skydive Empuriabrava.

Regan Tetlow and his band of helpers expertly hosted the tombola evening. It was deliberately made snappier than in previous years, and the atmosphere was electric, until finally all the fabulous prizes had found their new homes. It would be lying to say that anyone went away disappointed – how could you not be after convincing yourself for a week that you were soon to be the proud owner of a brand new system. The excitement of the final winner certainly made up for it all though!

Top Notch

It's always great to see familiar faces drawn back to a boogie that never fails to deliver great skydiving and parties against a backdrop of superior views, fantastic jumpships and top notch facilities. This is definitely a boogie for everyone! Seeing smiles on all the faces (new and old), and in particular, the skydiving skills of lower experience jumpers accelerate as the boogie gets into full swing, is what Skydive Empuriabrava is really all about.

Thanks once again to the Skydive Empuriabrava staff for the effort they put into delivering another great boogie. Hope to see you all at the next Christmas Boogie... or perhaps the Empuriabrava Easter Boogie (March) or the Beach Boogie (May) if you can't wait that long!

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