

BS ISO 17680:2015



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Tourism and related services — Thalassotherapy — Service requirements

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National foreword

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A list of organizations represented on this committee can be obtained on request to its secretary.

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

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For an explanation on the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the WTO principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT), see the following URL: [Foreword — Supplementary information](#).

The committee responsible for this document is ISO/TC 228, *Tourism and related services*.

Introduction

Thalassotherapy comes from the Greek word for “sea”, and refers to the medical use of the beneficial properties of the sea (which includes coastal climate, seawater, marine mud, seaweed, sand, and other substances extracted from the sea) in a preventative and remedial aim.

The curative qualities of seawater and seaside climate have been used for therapeutic purposes since Roman times; today thalassotherapy is also seen as a veritable aid to wellbeing.

Along with recharging batteries, taking care of one self and reducing stress, thalassotherapy helps to find harmony with the body and spirit as well as to solve a specific problem, such as: tone up muscles, trouble sleeping, blood circulation, arthritis, menopausal or respiratory system disorder.

Thalassotherapy comes in a bewildering array of packages: mud and sea water baths, underwater showers, hydro-massage, aromatherapy, inhalation and drinking, seaweed and mud wraps. All those exists to help restore your body to a state of serenity fit for a mermaid.

For a treatment to be successful, it is important to get advice from trained professionals and the aim of this standard is to ensure good quality services in thalassotherapy centres with health treatments always supported by the medical opinion.

Tourism and related services — Thalassotherapy — Service requirements

1 Scope

This International Standard establishes the requirements for the provision of services in thalassotherapy centres using marine environment's beneficial effects with curative or preventive purposes, aiming at ensuring

- Good quality services responding to customer's implicit and explicit needs,
- The respectful use of the thalassotherapy concept,
- Very specifically, the implementation of hygiene and safety principles, and
- The comfort to the customers.

This International Standard does not deal with the therapeutic virtues supposed to be offered by thalassotherapy nor does it cover decisions that correspond to the medical profession.

This International Standard does not apply to accommodation nor to catering services.

It is understood that all national legal obligations especially regarding hygiene, health, consumers, and employees are to be fulfilled by the thalassotherapy centre.

2 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply:

2.1

bath

body immersion in sea water that provides pain release and relaxation effects

Note 1 to entry: Bath can result in peripheral vasodilatation or vasoconstriction depending on the customer's status of health and the medical prescription.

2.2

customer

client receiving thalassotherapy centre services

2.3

cosmetic product

any preparation containing micronized seaweed or extracts of marine seaweed used in thalassotherapy services

2.4

hydro-therapist

person in charge of practicing and providing care services prescribed by the doctor, with the exception of medical massages and specific re-education care, undertaken by a physiotherapist and technician in thalassotherapy and/or hydrotherapy

2.5

marine mud

cataplasm of natural sedimentary sludge, made up of a mix of alluvia, planktons, seaweed, minerals, and trace elements