

1 DAY ON
SPIRIT OF EAGLE

2 au 6
Août
2006

Les Diablerets

Benne Boogie

BASE JUMP

Jump your best love the rest

ECOLE DE PARACOUTISME
DE
CHÂTEAU-D'ŒZ

Atlantic

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What is it?	"THE DAY ON" , Benne Boogie 2006. The biggest BASE jump event outside the United States.
When is it?	August 2nd til 6th, 2006
Where is it?	Les Diablerets, Cable Car of Col du Pilon.
Who does it?	Ecole de parachutisme de Château-d'Oex, Diablerets Tourism and Glacier 3000.



What is BASE jump?

This new sport, born from skydiving, consists in free falling and then opening a parachute. « BASE » jumping is a new sport, which derives its name from the first letters of the four main take-off spots you jump from:

B : Building

A : Antenna

S : Span

E : Earth

But BASE is not limited to these 4 categories. Dams and cable cars, like the one of the Glacier 3000 for example are particularly exciting to Base Jumpers.

BASE is almost as old as skydiving (which has existed for over 200 years) but it has seen a tremendous development in these last 10 years. This development can be measured by the thousands, and indeed tens of thousands of jumps registered each year from « spots » as well-known as Lauterbrunnen (CH), les Gorges du Verdon (F), le Brento (I) or the mythical Kjerag cliff (NO)... Today many manufacturers both in Europe and the United States, produce and sell specific gear for this activity.

Why then, is BASE jumping not more recognized?

There are many explanations to this:

First of all, BASE jumpers are very often private and because of legislations which thwart their passion, are discreet about what takes them all over the world in search of virgin spots, some of which are often difficult to access.

The shared motto within this sport is to discourage erratic and inexperienced users. It is all about pleasure, cooperation and respect. It is not about rivalry or competition and we protect ourselves by using signs and dress codes.

Nevertheless, these last years, many highly publicized events have started to open this sport to the public: for example, the jumps from the Petronas towers in Kuala Lumpur for the Millennium celebrations. Bridge Day, in the USA, where more than 300 participants were able to jump legally during one day; Group Jumps from a television antenna in Moscow and, last year, the first world championship, once again in Kuala Lumpur.

Is BASE jumping for whackos?

It is indeed the first thought that springs to the mind of an average citizen whose idea of risk taking is driving at 90mph on the motorway.

However, when you take a closer look, most BASE jumpers have nothing to do with "Jackass" or any other adrenaline-thirsty freaks.

Jumpers come from a wide spectrum of professions and nothing, outside the spark in their eye will distinguish them from Joe Bloggs. There is no BASE "fashion", just like there is no BASE "talk". The only place where you can find the "BASE attitude" is at the top of a mountain or on the parapet of a bridge. And who do we meet there? A serious sportsman who is not at all scared by the long walk to get to the spot and who respects the environment in which he or she practices his or her passion. As an example, it is not rare, on base jumping internet sites to see warnings such as : "Do not use this spot in spring to avoid disturbing nesting raptors". Have you ever heard of such awareness from other mountain-lovers?

Most BASE jumpers have done skydiving before, which is what taught them to respect, not to exceed limits. They are the ones who teach new comers who start directly with BASE jumping without doing any skydiving first.

BASE spots are much lower than a plane for skydiving is. BASE jumpers are particularly careful when folding their parachute, all the more so because there is no safety parachute. This is not out of bravado or imprudence, but simply because from such heights, it would be pointless. Whereas it will take a para less than 5 minutes to fold his gear, it will take a BASE jumper almost an hour. And all that for only a couple of seconds free falling.... I told you it was a real passion...

DAY ON in Diablerets ... What's the program?

In order not to miss the unprecedented and unforgettable pictures, here is some information for you to get ready for the **DAY ON of August 2nd til 6th, 2006**:

Not far from **200 BASE jumpers**, coming from foreign countries such as **south Africa, New Zeeland, Australia** and the **United States** but also from **all over Europe** and of course **Switzerland**, will meet in the Vaud resort to jump from the "**Glacier 3000**" cable car.



This "**Benne Boogie**" journey (since it is the cable car that will be used for transport) will take place as follows: the cable car that links the Col du Pillon to the Sex Rouge is in two parts. The upper section hangs above the Combe du Dar at about **200 meters** height. That is more than enough for a BASE jumper! Everyone will jump, whether is solitary, in small groups or in combinations and will land at the Col du Pillon. Four jumps per person are scheduled between 9am and 6pm.

Why "Boogie"?

"Boogie" is the term parachute jumpers use to describe a meeting. Bikers call it a "Concentration" And it is an apt name: there is no competition, no challenge. Nobody will leave the Diablerets with a cup or a prize. Everyone will have paid for their trip, merely for the pleasure of these four jumps. Is there not an intriguing mystery in this passion that will drive fans to travel to the other side of the world for a few seconds worth of adrenaline thrill?

Benne Boogie 2006 is a unique chance for you journalists to meet these unusual sportsmen and women and to get a glimpse of their world. Don't miss it! Come and discover the "**Spirit of Eagles**".