# Sunbed wars escalate into heated disputes at Lanzarote resort



# Sunbed Wars Escalate: A Disturbing Trend Among Holidaymakers

An unsettling clash has emerged at a three-star resort in Lanzarote, spotlighting the ongoing tensions among holidaymakers competing for sunbeds. This particular incident, involving two British women, epitomises the so-called "2025 sunbed wars", a term that has been circulating as complaints about poolside disputes escalate. Eyewitness accounts reveal a chaotic scene, where one woman, visibly frustrated, confronted another couple over a sunbed she claimed to have been using "all week".

Witness Callum Lines, relaxing by the pool, recorded the confrontation, reporting that the accusing woman, dressed in a pink cover-up, insisted she was the rightful occupant of the sunbed in question. This altercation, characterised by raised voices and sharp exchanges, highlights a surge in such disputes in holiday spots across Europe. As Lines noted, a clear sign was apparent nearby, stating that reserving sunbeds was prohibited, yet the tensions unfolded nonetheless.

In the video, Lines can be heard pressing the woman on her claims while she defiantly maintained her position, declaring to her rivals, "You've picked on the wrong person." The surrounding atmosphere shifted as bystanders witnessed the heated exchanges, drawing attention to a troubling trend of competitive behaviour among tourists. The frustrated sunbather attempted to rally support by threatening to report the matter to hotel management, although critics argue that such outbursts are detrimental to the holiday experience.

This phenomenon of "sunbed wars" is not an isolated incident. In August 2023, similar confrontations were reported in Fuerteventura, where British tourists allegedly pushed a Spanish mother off her sunbed, prompting significant fallout and police involvement. This incident not only raised concerns about safety but also led to the Spanish family considering legal action, illustrating how these disputes can escalate dangerously.

The situation has been exacerbated by reports of increasingly aggressive tactics among holidaymakers, such as aggressively "hogging" sunbeds by laying down towels at dawn, a practice seen recently in the Canary Islands. Guests at various resorts have resorted to extreme measures to ensure a prime sunbathing location, including early morning queues and even hiring services like "Hold My Sunbed", which allows guests to pay someone to reserve their spots.

Despite calls for civility, many tourists seem undeterred, leading to consequential debates about acceptable behaviour on holidays. Commentators have described these actions as "pathetic," underscoring a growing disillusionment with the competitive and often confrontational culture surrounding holiday leisure.

The rise of the sunbed wars suggests a deeper societal issue regarding entitlement and relaxation on holiday. As therapists have pointed out, this kind of behaviour often goes hand-in-hand with stress and anxiety, implying that individuals are failing to disconnect from the daily grind, even in the picturesque settings of popular resorts.

As the trend continues, many are left to ponder: is securing the perfect sunbed worth the raucous disputes and public spectacles that often ensue? As the sunbed wars rage on, holidaymakers are urged to remember the fundamental purpose of a vacation—rest, relaxation, and, most importantly, peace.

## Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-14690651/Let-sunbed-wars-begin-Moment-two-furious-British-women-row-poolside-lounger-one-screaming-you-picked-wrong-person-three-star-Lanzarote-hotel.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-14690651/Let-sunbed-wars-begin-Moment-two-furious-British-women-row-poolside-lounger-one-screaming-you-picked-wrong-person-three-star-Lanzarote-hotel.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490)
* Paragraph 3 – [[2]](https://www.canarianweekly.com/posts/Sunbed-wars-turn-nasty-as-British-tourists-tip-Spanish-mother-off-sun-lounger), [[3]](https://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/1798946/Spain-hotel-pool-sunbed-war-canary-islands)
* Paragraph 4 – [[4]](https://www.euronews.com/2023/08/11/sunbed-wars-costa-chaos-as-tourists-fight-for-a-place-by-the-pool)
* Paragraph 5 – [[5]](https://www.heart.co.uk/news/sunbed-wars-holiday-pool-seats-fight-video/), [[6]](https://www.themercury.com.au/lifestyle/sunbed-wars-turn-violent/news-story/e1114bd7b353b64230e93e6c6df4cbea)
* Paragraph 6 – [[7]](https://www.metro.co.uk/2023/07/08/therapists-message-after-sunbed-wars-break-out-50-metres-from-beach-19085031/)

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## Bibliography

1. <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-14690651/Let-sunbed-wars-begin-Moment-two-furious-British-women-row-poolside-lounger-one-screaming-you-picked-wrong-person-three-star-Lanzarote-hotel.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.canarianweekly.com/posts/Sunbed-wars-turn-nasty-as-British-tourists-tip-Spanish-mother-off-sun-lounger> - In August 2023, two British tourists in their 60s and 30s allegedly pushed a Spanish mother off a sunbed at a hotel in Corralejo, Fuerteventura, after she occupied a lounger they claimed was theirs. The incident left the woman on the floor by the pool, prompting her family to consider pressing charges. The hotel staff intervened, and the family requested to be moved to a different hotel due to safety concerns. The incident highlights escalating tensions over sunbed reservations among holidaymakers.
3. <https://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/1798946/Spain-hotel-pool-sunbed-war-canary-islands> - In August 2023, a violent altercation occurred at a hotel in Fuerteventura, Canary Islands, when two British tourists allegedly tipped a Spanish mother out of her sunbed, claiming it was their spot. The incident, witnessed by other guests, led to police intervention. The Spanish family, feeling threatened, requested a room change and considered filing an official complaint upon returning home. This event underscores the intensifying 'sunbed wars' among tourists in popular European destinations.
4. <https://www.euronews.com/2023/08/11/sunbed-wars-costa-chaos-as-tourists-fight-for-a-place-by-the-pool> - In August 2023, a chaotic scene unfolded at the Paradise Park Hotel in Spain’s Canary Islands, where guests rushed to secure sunbeds by laying towels early in the morning. This behavior, part of the ongoing 'sunbed wars,' has led to tensions and confrontations among tourists. To mitigate these issues, some Spanish hotels have introduced services like 'Hold My Sunbed,' where individuals are paid to reserve spots for guests, highlighting the lengths to which tourists will go to secure prime poolside locations.
5. <https://www.heart.co.uk/news/sunbed-wars-holiday-pool-seats-fight-video/> - In June 2023, a video emerged showing a 'sunbed hogger' sprinting to lay down towels at a Canary Islands resort. The footage, shared by a TikToker staying at the Paradise Park Hotel in Los Cristianos, depicted a man racing to secure multiple sunbeds, highlighting the competitive nature of 'sunbed wars' among holidaymakers. The incident sparked discussions about the lengths tourists go to in order to claim prime poolside spots, leading to debates on social media about the appropriateness of such behavior.
6. <https://www.themercury.com.au/lifestyle/sunbed-wars-turn-violent/news-story/e1114bd7b353b64230e93e6c6df4cbea> - In August 2023, reports emerged of escalating 'sunbed wars' in European holiday destinations, with incidents turning violent. In the Canary Islands, two British men allegedly tipped a Spanish mother off her sunbed, leading to police intervention. Similar confrontations were reported in Majorca, where a tug-of-war over a daybed between a French couple and a British couple was filmed. These incidents underscore the intensifying competition for sunbeds among tourists, prompting concerns about safety and decorum in popular resorts.
7. <https://www.metro.co.uk/2023/07/08/therapists-message-after-sunbed-wars-break-out-50-metres-from-beach-19085031/> - In July 2023, therapists Russ and Nicki Pearson observed holidaymakers at a Balearic resort waking at dawn to reserve sunbeds around a pool, despite being less than 50 meters from the beach. They criticized the behavior as 'ridiculous' and emphasized the need for tourists to 'de-stress.' The hotel management acknowledged the issue and apologized for the 'uncivic behavior of some customers,' indicating a growing concern over the 'sunbed wars' affecting holiday experiences.