



## *Sustainable Accommodation Policy*

As a responsible tour agency, **Adventure International Trekking** is dedicated to promoting sustainable accommodations for its clients. Wherever possible, all staff members, including management and team members, are encouraged to follow the principles outlined below:

### **Criteria for selecting accommodations:**

We actively seek out establishments that aim to minimize their environmental and social footprint in the local community. The following criteria are prioritized when selecting accommodations:

- **Human well-being:** We collaborate with accommodations that ensure fair working conditions for their staff (minimum wages, reasonable working hours, proper meal breaks, etc.).
- **Plastic reduction:** Preference is given to establishments that avoid single-use plastic items, such as plastic water bottles, and instead offer refill stations for guests' bottles and room carafes.
- **Waste management:** We verify that the accommodation at least separates organic waste for composting and plastic for recycling. Establishments that go beyond these basic practices are especially favored.
- **Energy efficiency:** We look for accommodations implementing energy-saving measures, such as energy-efficient appliances and light bulbs. We also value places that encourage guests (through signage or automated systems) to turn off lights and appliances when not in use.
- **Water efficiency:** Priority is given to establishments with water-saving features (e.g., low-flow toilets and showers) or those using bucket systems that promote controlled water usage.
- **Child protection:** We ensure that children's rights are respected. If children under 14 are employed, special conditions must be in place to protect them (e.g., part-time or internship arrangements).
- **Local sourcing:** We encourage accommodations to purchase locally produced, fair trade, and sustainable food and products.
- **Biodiversity protection:** We prioritize accommodations that minimize harm to local and global biodiversity (e.g., not serving endangered species).

- **Authentic character:** We appreciate establishments that incorporate elements of local art, architecture, or cultural heritage into their design.
- **Community contribution:** We value accommodations that respect the intellectual property rights of local communities and contribute to local initiatives (such as sponsoring events, supporting local artists' performances, or donating to heritage preservation).

**Client communication:**

We encourage and guide our clients in choosing accommodations that meet these standards.

**Communication with accommodation providers:**

**Adventure International Trekking** uses several methods to communicate about sustainability issues with accommodations:

- Frequent communication via email and phone, focusing on sustainability whenever possible. For key partners, we formalize our expectations through contracts that include codes of conduct and sanctions.
- We motivate accommodation providers to pursue sustainable certifications and to improve their practices.
- Whenever possible, we conduct in-person visits to discuss how accommodations can enhance their sustainability. Our guides also share these messages during their stays.

**Key messages we promote:**

**Adventure International Trekking** actively promotes:

- Child labor prevention
- Anti-corruption and anti-bribery policies
- Responsible waste management
- Biodiversity conservation

**Encouraging continuous improvement:**

We maintain a long-term commitment to helping our accommodation partners progress in sustainability. We also collaborate with other tour operators and stakeholders to promote best practices across the sector. Additionally, we provide:

- Information on hotel certifications like Travelife for Hotels

- Self-assessment tools
- Training materials and manuals

**Sanctions:**

If an accommodation supplier is found to be engaging in unsustainable practices, **Adventure International Trekking** will first issue a warning. If the practices are not rectified, we will terminate any collaboration (formal or informal) and exclude the supplier from any future business.

**Incentives:**

We prioritize working with accommodations that take responsibility for their environmental and social impacts. Where feasible, we offer added benefits, such as featuring these properties on our website or providing them with favorable contract conditions.