

Alliance DMC Sustainable Accommodation Policy

Review Cycle: Every 2 years

At Alliance DMC, we are committed to integrating sustainability into all aspects of our operations, including the selection and management of accommodation providers. We recognize that accommodations play a crucial role in the sustainability of the tourism industry and are essential to delivering responsible travel experiences. This policy outlines our principles, goals, and expectations for our accommodation partners to ensure that we uphold our commitment to sustainable tourism.

1. Policy Objectives

This policy aims to:

- Promote and prioritize sustainable practices in accommodation providers.
- Ensure all accommodation partners meet specific sustainability standards in environmental, social, and economic areas.
- Set measurable sustainability goals and continuously improve the sustainability of our supply chain.
- Communicate our sustainability expectations clearly to accommodation providers and provide them with the necessary support for improvement.

2. Key Sustainability Principles

We evaluate our accommodation partners based on the following core principles:

1. Environmental Responsibility

- **Energy Efficiency:** Preference for accommodations that use energy-efficient systems (e.g., LED lighting, energy-saving appliances) and promote energy conservation to guests.
- **Water Efficiency:** Prioritize accommodations that implement water-saving practices, such as low-flow toilets, showers, or greywater systems.
- **Waste Reduction:** Establishments must have clear waste separation policies, including recycling. Those exceeding basic practices are highly preferred.
- **Plastic Reduction:** Accommodations should minimize single-use plastics, such as plastic water bottles, and provide refillable options for guests.

2. Social Responsibility

- **Fair Labor Practices:** We require accommodations to provide fair wages, reasonable working hours, and safe working conditions for staff.
- **Child Protection:** No child labor or exploitation. If children are employed (above the legal age), the establishment must ensure protective working conditions.
- **Community Engagement:** Accommodations should demonstrate active support for local communities, such as sourcing local products, sponsoring community events, or contributing to local development.

3. Cultural Sensitivity and Authenticity

- **Local Culture & Biodiversity:** Preference for accommodations that respect local cultural heritage, use local materials in construction and design, and avoid offering endangered species.
- **Authentic Charm:** Accommodations should reflect the cultural uniqueness of the destination, incorporating local art, architecture, or traditions.

3. Selection and Evaluation Criteria

Accommodation providers are selected based on the following criteria:

- **Sustainability Certifications:** Preference will be given to accommodations with recognized sustainability certifications such as Green Key, Travelife, ISO 14001, or similar standards. However, establishments without certification will still be considered if they demonstrate strong sustainable practices.
- **Sustainability Practices:**
 - **Waste Management:** Sorting and recycling of waste, reduction of disposable items.
 - **Energy and Water Management:** Use of energy-saving equipment, water-saving devices, and efforts to reduce consumption.
 - **Fair Business Practices:** Transparent operations, adherence to local labor laws, and no involvement in corrupt or exploitative activities.
- **Site Evaluation:** Accommodations are evaluated via:
 - **In-person Visits** by our sustainability team or local guides.
 - **Client Feedback** forms, assessing guest experiences regarding sustainability.
 - **Surveys and Self-Assessment** completed by accommodation partners.

4. Goals & Measurable Targets

To guide continuous improvement, we set clear targets for our accommodation partners:

- **Energy Reduction:** Reduce energy consumption by 10% over the next 3 years.
- **Waste Reduction:** Achieve a 15% reduction in waste sent to landfills through improved recycling initiatives by 2027.
- **Water Conservation:** Decrease water usage by 15% per guest by 2027.
- **Plastic-Free Commitment:** Achieve a 50% reduction in plastic use (e.g., eliminating single-use plastics like bottles, straws, and packaging) by 2026.

5. Collaboration and Support for Suppliers

We recognize that improving sustainability is a journey. Our approach includes:

- **Support for Certification:** We will guide accommodations towards obtaining recognized sustainability certifications and provide resources such as self-assessment tools and training manuals.
- **Knowledge Sharing:** We will share best practices and resources to help partners improve their sustainability efforts.
- **Incentives:** Accommodations that demonstrate strong sustainability performance may receive marketing support on our website, additional business, or special contract terms.

6. Communication and Reporting

We will maintain clear communication with our accommodation partners, including:

- **Regular Updates:** Ongoing email correspondence and calls to discuss sustainability efforts, share resources, and resolve issues.
- **Sustainability Agreements:** A formal contract, signed by both parties, outlining sustainability expectations, practices, and sanctions for non-compliance.
- **Incentives for Improvement:** Regular reviews of sustainability practices with opportunities for further collaboration or incentives for exemplary performance.

7. Conclusion

Alliance DMC is dedicated to fostering a sustainable tourism ecosystem by working with accommodations that share our commitment to minimizing environmental impact and promoting social responsibility. Through collaboration, clear communication, and continuous improvement, we aim to create a positive and lasting impact on the destinations we serve, supporting both local communities and the global environment.