



SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

At Italian Travel Consultant (ITC), excellence has always been our hallmark. As we continue to deliver flawless services, creative excursions, and exceptional event venues, we are equally committed to safeguarding the environment, enhancing the welfare of local communities, and celebrating our rich cultural heritage. Sustainability is not just a component of our operations—it is at the core of everything we do.

VISION

We envision a world where extraordinary travel experiences are intertwined with the preservation of our planet, the empowerment of communities, and the celebration of cultural heritage. By embracing sustainable practices, we strive to create a brighter future for generations to come.

OUR COMMITMENT

1. CERTIFICATION:

We have successfully obtained Travelife Certification for our company and key personnel and are currently in the process of renewing this certification (2024). We utilize Travelife tools to ensure continuous improvement in our sustainability practices.

2. INTERNAL OPERATIONS:

We recognize that change starts from within. Our internal operations are continuously reviewed and enhanced to achieve the following objectives:

- *Cultural Respect and Preservation:* We commit to respecting and preserving the cultural heritage of the destinations we manage, in line with our internal code of conduct inspired by the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism (UNWTO). This includes honoring local customs and traditions, ensuring our operations contribute positively to the cultural identity of the communities we serve.
- *Sustainable Resource Management:* Aligned with the Global Sustainable Tourism Council (GSTC) Criteria, our operations minimize environmental impact through sustainable practices such as reducing waste, conserving natural resources, and maximizing recycling and reuse of materials. We also commit to purchasing only necessary and sustainable supplies to support eco-friendly initiatives.
- *Ethical Community Engagement:* We ensure that our interactions with local communities are fair, ethical, and supportive of social and economic development, reflecting our commitment to the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. We prioritize working with local businesses and artisans, contributing to the growth and well-being of the local economy.
- *Wildlife and Habitat Protection:* Inspired by the WWF Principles for Sustainable Tourism, our internal practices are designed to protect wildlife and natural habitats. We adopt responsible tourism practices that avoid disturbing ecosystems and educate our clients on preserving the natural environment.
- *Responsible Tourism Education:* Guided by the Travelife Sustainability System, we

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continuously educate our team and clients on responsible tourism practices, promoting awareness of environmental, cultural, and social issues related to tourism.

- *Continuous Improvement and Accountability:* In line with ISO 26000 Guidelines on Social Responsibility, we are committed to the ongoing improvement of our ethical and sustainable practices. Our internal guidelines are regularly reviewed and updated to align with evolving industry standards, ensuring we maintain our commitment to responsible tourism.

3. TOUR OPERATIONS:

We understand the pivotal role tour operations play in promoting sustainability. Our tour planning and operations are continuously refined with the following goals:

- *Hotels:* Verify and encourage the sustainability practices of our partner hotels.
- *Transportation:* Prioritize transportation suppliers with strong sustainability credentials and certifications, favoring the use of newer, low-emission vehicles. Promote group transfers and meticulously plan tours to minimize unnecessary travel.
- *Guides and Tour Leaders:* Share our sustainability policy through regular meetings, comprehensive training, and ongoing communication to empower them as ambassadors of sustainability.
- *Restaurants, Farmhouses, Vineyards:* Partner with local businesses offering sustainable and authentic food and products. Expand offerings that foster genuine culinary experiences.
- *Tour Planning:* Promote and increase visits to lesser-known sites in Italy, supporting local communities and reducing pressure on major tourist attractions.
- *Communication:* Minimize paper waste by reducing printed materials during tours, providing digital resources that are accessible and convenient for guests.
- *Gifts & Souvenirs:* Select locally sourced and sustainable gifts, guiding guests on making eco-friendly souvenir choices to support local artisans.
- *Welfare:* Ensure that all parties involved in our operations, including employees, suppliers, and local communities, work in the best possible conditions.
- *Awareness:* Contribute to the development of local communities and raise sustainability awareness through educational initiatives, collaborations with local organizations, and support for environmental and social responsibility projects.

By implementing these initiatives, ITC will continue to lead the way toward a more sustainable future, demonstrating our commitment to excellence while preserving our planet.

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