



Sustainability Code of Good Practice

Backcountry Snow Sports

As part of our commitment to advancing sustainable tourism, we encourage our tourism partners to improve their sustainability performance by providing them with the guidance below.

- ✓ Ensure applicable legal **permits & permission** to access the activity area are in place
- ✓ Ensure **insurance** is in place for guests and team
- ✓ Identify **health & safety** risks, implement management systems, and provide appropriate safety equipment
- ✓ Ensure enough team members are available in case of **emergency**
- ✓ Monitor activity **area conditions** (including weather) in advance & during the activity
- ✓ Plan activities to only take place when **adequate snow cover** can reasonably be assured
- ✓ Be familiar with activity area and ensure that **navigation and communication** tools are in good working order
- ✓ Maximise local **economic benefits** through employment and purchasing
- ✓ Avoid single use & disposable items, pack out what you take in, and pick up any **rubbish** found along the way
- ✓ Use **eco-friendly products**, e.g., cleaning products, ski wax, etc.
- ✓ Be **waterwise** and take pro-active measures to use water sparingly
- ✓ Minimise **energy** used in the activity as part of a climate action strategy
- ✓ Provide **information in advance** about your sustainability actions, activity accessibility, what to expect, and what to bring with
- ✓ **Screen participants** ahead of time to make sure that the activity is well suited to their fitness & level of ability
- ✓ Manage **group size** to minimise impacts on people & the planet, and ensure safe guide : participant ratio
- ✓ Obtain written confirmation, e.g., via **indemnity**, that participants are aware of activity risks
- ✓ **Brief participants** before the activity begins about do's and don'ts, safety, hazards to be aware of, what to expect, logistics, conduct, group pace and communication, not disturbing / removing flora and fauna, rubbish collection and disposal, 'winter bush toilet' etiquette, and rules regarding alcohol and fires
- ✓ **Share information** about local nature & culture, as well as social development / conservation projects that participants may want to support
- ✓ Show **respect** for the land, waterways, wildlife, and other activity area users, including right of way and overtaking considerations
- ✓ Avoid **sensitive areas**, e.g., lakeshores, riverbanks, wetlands, meadows, and avalanche risk areas, and crossing frozen waterways
- ✓ If **muddy patches** are visible (e.g., during shoulder season), stay on snow, where possible, and on the track
- ✓ Repair and compensate for any **damage** caused to the activity area
- ✓ Participate in conserving activity area **integrity**; notify authorities of concerns and participate in rehabilitation projects

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Sustainability in tourism

For more sustainable tourism guidance and to provide feedback, visit www.travelife.info/sustour/codes

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