



Sustainability

our partners





Groove-X is an organization that stands for exclusivity in many forms. We aim to promote freedom, responsibility and innovation in an indescribable group atmosphere. Together we create amazing journeys in which we want to stay close to nature and local community, with a minimal footprint along the way.



Sustainability policy

Vision: We aim to contribute to the worldwide acceptance that tourism can be sustainable. We want to let every coworker, partner and guest of our company be like a root to keep the sustainability tree growing in which Groove-X provides a fertile climate.

Mission: In actively collaborating and sharing knowledge between the company, the travel chain and the destination countries, we aim to be part of accelerating sustainability in the travel sector. We want to achieve sustainability goals which were jointly put in place together with our partners.

Policy: As a travel agency we recognize the importance of the environment and local communities. We only want to leave an impact behind that will benefit both: people and nature. Therefore we are committed to work closely together to inform, inspire and facilitate in every part of our organization to reduce the negative impacts and enhance the positive ones. In that way we will be able to give our costumers better service to create wonderful experiences with less impact on the destinations, the people and the planet.





Picture is owned by Pejo Funivie, <https://www.skipejo.it/en/skiarea/pejo-plastic-free/>

Sustainability for our partners

Accommodation: We prioritize accommodations which are locally-owned and managed, preferably with employees living in the local community. A lot of our accommodations are preoccupied with sustainability through own green energy production, energy saving measures and plastic reducing actions. We encourage all kind of sustainability measures by talking about it and asking about local sustainability initiatives in which they are or could be involved.

Excursions: Groove-X carefully selects the provided excursions themselves. In our decision, we take into account the sustainability standards, particularly those that demonstrate respect to local traditions, animal welfare, and the environment. We make sure that our partners do not offer products or services that harm humans, animals, plants, natural resources (e.g., water/energy), nor does they offer products that may be considered socially/culturally unacceptable. We like to search for excursions from which the products and services provide economic benefits to local communities, including a fair and equitable working environment for local employees.

For activities concerning captive wildlife, we make sure that they comply with local, national, and international law. The excursions, which include interactions with wildlife, are accompanied by our guides who ensure a proper behaviour according to the specific codes of conduct. Any disturbance of natural ecosystems is minimized.

Transport: We work closely together with our bus partner, while 95% of our trips are organised by bus or public transport. They drive no busses older than 10 years, which secures less CO2 emission. Almost every busdriver has completed an eco driving training. We believe that traveling by bus is not only good for nature but also creates a great group atmosphere.

Sustainable excursion principles

The core principles which influence our selection of excursions:

- The right product for the right price
- Fair business: Including transparency and adherence to law, human rights and economic/social equity, and environmental and animal protection.
- Minimizes impact on the environment and society: aiming at minimizing its effect on the surrounding environment and society.

Our ways to evaluate excursions

- Mostly we do site visits by our company's sustainability coordinator / manager
- Observations from our guide
- Client feedback form

Important principles the company prefers in its organised excursions

- Human care: We aim to plan excursions to places with sound care for their human resources. We assess if the supplier maintains good labor conditions for their staff (minimum wage, reasonable working times, proper lunch hours, etc.).
- No plastic policy: During the excursion we minimize the use of plastic. For example: we search for available places where guests can re-fill their own bottles.
- Waste management: We search for excursions where waste is separated: at least organic waste for composting and plastic for recycling where possible.
- Child protection: We ensure that the rights of children are respected and safeguarded in all excursions we organise. If children are employed below the age of 14, the business should ensure that there are special working conditions put in place to safeguard them (for example part-time or on internship basis).
- Local supplies: The company preferably chooses excursions with the use of local food products, which are produced based on fair trade and sustainability principles.
- Biodiversity care: We only plan excursions which limit their negative effect on local and global biodiversity wherever feasible (e.g. do not offer red listed species on the menu).
- Community value: In our excursion selection we pay special attention to respecting the intellectual property rights of local communities and contributes to the local community in whichever way they can.
- Stimulating sustainable practice: We stimulate our excursion partners upon request or self-initiative to provide more sustainable excursions.

Every sustainability detail is talked about in open dialogue, preferably in person. When there are disagreements we try to come to an agreement through constructive discussion with respect and understanding for one another. We do not end collaborations for years at once because of small disagreements.



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