



SUSTAINABILITY VETTING CHECKLIST

This high-level checklist is designed to help travel advisors vet new suppliers for alignment with sustainable travel principles. Use these questions when speaking with supplier partners to gain a deeper insight into their operations.

1. Environmental Sustainability

- ☐ Energy Efficiency: Do you use renewable energy sources or implement energy-saving measures (e.g., solar panels, LED lighting)?
- ☐ Waste Management: What policies do you have in place for reducing, reusing, and recycling waste? Do you have a composting facility or program?
- ☐ Water Conservation: Do you have water-saving systems in place, such as low-flow fixtures or rainwater harvesting?
- ☐ Biodiversity Protection: What efforts do you make to protect local ecosystems and wildlife?

2. Social Responsibility

- ☐ Community Engagement: How do you support local communities through job creation, partnerships, or sourcing local products?
- ☐ Cultural Respect: How do you ensure that local cultures and traditions are respected and integrated into your operations?
- ☐ Diversity and Inclusion: What steps do you take to promote gender equality and inclusivity in your hiring and daily operations?

3. Economic Impact

- ☐ Fair Wages: Do you pay employees fair wages and provide safe working conditions?

- ☐ Local Economy Support: How do you prioritize local vendors and small businesses in your supply chain?
- ☐ Transparency in Pricing: Are sustainability fees or charges clearly explained to customers?

4. Certifications & Accountability

- ☐ Sustainability Certifications: Do you hold any reputable sustainability certifications (e.g., B-Corp, Green Globe, EarthCheck, ISO 14001, 1% for the Planet, LEED, Green Key, Biosphere Certification, Rainforest Alliance Certified, etc.)?
- ☐ Regular Audits: How often are your sustainability practices reviewed and updated by third-party auditors?
- ☐ Public Reporting: Do you publish sustainability reports or share key sustainability metrics?

6. Guest Experience

- ☐ How do you integrate sustainable practices into the guest experience without compromising luxury (e.g., eco-friendly amenities, sustainable dining options)?

This checklist ensures that suppliers are not only minimizing environmental impact but also contributing positively to local communities and economies while aligning with global sustainability goals.

Just starting on your sustainability journey? If these questions feel a little too in depth for you, start small with something like “Sustainability is something that is important to me and my clients. Can you tell me a little bit about what you are doing as a company to support sustainability efforts in the industry?” This gets the conversation started in a comfortable way, but beware of greenwashing! Try to dig a little deeper past reduced housekeeping and removing single use plastics.