

What is sustainable tourism?

Tourism is currently booming. Its profits are often unfairly distributed and a great deal of developing countries hosting tourists do not benefit from its fruitful income.

Sustainable tourism relies on the 3 pillars of sustainability : economic, social and environmental. It takes into consideration the positive and negative impacts tourism can have on the local population and its environment.

Sustainable tourism creates fair and ethical working conditions, and protects the environment. It can be a powerful tool for development and help impoverished countries.



Take the Road less Travelled By

Taking the less trodden Road is the best way to travel. The essence of travelling is not simply moving from one place to another. It is about meeting people and discovering their culture, their way of life...

Taking the road less travelled creates mutual respect and open-mindedness. Alternative tourism entails solidarity, responsibility and fairness. It is accessible to all who wish to enjoy its ample rewards.



A few tips on being a sustainable traveler

- Open your mind to others people and cultures. Respect diversity and foreign traditions.
- Respect human rights, wherever you are. Any form of human exploitation is reprehensible. Sexual exploitation of women and children is reprehensible and may be punishable not only in the destination country but also in the perpetrator's home country.
- Respect cultural resources. Your touristic activities must not undermine local art, archaeology or culture.

- Help to preserve the environment. Protect local fauna and flora. Do not purchase products made from endangered plants or animals.
- Before travelling, get some information about the sanitary situation in your destination country and how to access emergency services. Make sure you have the required shots, have adequate insurance and recorded the local embassy or consulate contacts.
- Your travel can contribute to social and economic development. If possible buy hand-crafted objects and local products to support the local economy. Bargaining is a tradition in certain countries (Maghreb, Africa, the Middle East), however try to obtain a fair price.
- Inform yourself on local customs and traditions before your trip. Research social customs to avoid any accidentally offensive behaviours.
- Find out about local laws and penalties to avoid committing any punishable acts.

MOST IMPORTANTLY, TAKE THE TIME TO THINK ABOUT YOUR TRIP, ITS MEANING AND ITS POSSIBLE CONSEQUENCES.

Our association

Tourisme *autrement* was created in 2005 to promote sustainable tourism.

Our aims are :

- to raise awareness around the issues created by mass tourism (environment, human rights, culture,)
- To create and foster sustainable practices in tourism
- To build and liaise with networks active in the same field

We gladly host interns and volunteers of all nationalities.



Contact information

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Events

Along our conferences and traditional attendance of various cultural events, Tourisme *autrement* is offering this year a wider range of activities to complement our annual Tourism Fair. These events will bear the collective name of “**Meetings for Sustainable Tourism**”. We are pleased to announce the following events:

- **The 4th edition of the Sustainable Tourism Fair (objective: 150 exhibitors)**
- **a scientific conference on “Tourism: victim or accomplice of global warming?”**
- **travel writers’ encounters**
- **a travel-themed film festival**
- **an educational day on the theme “tourism and biodiversity”**
- **numerous activities about cultural diversity**



The Sustainable Tourism Fair

The 4th edition of the Sustainable Tourism Fair will once again present ethical projects that foster sustainable development in the field of tourism. The previous success of our fair has proved the strong demand for sustainable tourism:

- **More than a hundred exhibitors from all over the world**
- **8.000 people visited the last event**
- **1.000 student visitors for the educational day**
- **Numerous conferences and presentations.**
- **Strong media coverage (papers, radio, TV and internet)...**

The forthcoming edition will take place during the Belgian presidency of the European Union and will therefore focus on **European regions and soft mobility in particular.**

Do not miss this wonderful opportunity to learn more about sustainable and alternative tourism and to meet important actors in the field !