



ACORN TOURISM CONSULTING

CLIMATE ACTION PLAN 2024



acorn

TOURISM DEVELOPMENT
CONSULTANTS

Glasgow Declaration on Climate Action in Tourism

Tourism, when managed correctly can drive sustainable development in a positive manner. It can help with mitigating climate action, reducing poverty, as well as providing economic and social benefits to the host communities. However, there are also many negative impacts from tourism, some of which include, high emissions from flying and negative socio-economic impacts from over tourism.

Tourism is an essential lifeline for many and therefore, the whole industry needs to come together to make a positive change.

The Glasgow Declaration was created in November 2021, at COP 26. It identifies 5 pathways that are essential for making this change:

- Measure
- Decarbonise
- Regenerate
- Collaborate
- Finance

Acorn Tourism Consulting are proud to be both signatories and part of the working group for the Glasgow Declaration since October 2021. Over the last year we have been developing our climate action plan, helping us to measure, set, goals and work on reducing both our own carbon emissions, alongside goals to help and support the wider industry to advance their own actions on climate.

The following document provides information on Acorn's Tourism's climate action goals, alongside the dates each action was developed, how we plan to measure them and dates in which they were achieved.

We aim to publish a transparent impact report at the end of 2023 to provide a detailed review of our progress on our actions.

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MEASURE

ACTION	DESCRIPTION	DATE SET	METHOD	DATE ACHIEVED	2023 Usage
Carbon tracking and reporting	To measure and disclose all travel/tourism related emissions. Acorn has produced an annual flight checker for the last 5 years to monitor and reduce our Scope 3 flight emissions each year which we will publish on our website.	16.01.23	<u>My Climate</u>	Ongoing	27.9 tonnes of CO2
Carbon tracking and reporting	To measure office carbon emissions on the Ecosphere+'s carbon calculator. This covers energy consumption, commuting and travel, waste produce, events, and deliveries. Acorn has produced an annual data sheet for 2022 through a carbon calculator and will compare with 2023.	23.01.23	<u>My Climate</u>	Ongoing	37kg of CO2
Water consumption	Acorn has a very low water consumption; however, we are developing a scheme for monitoring water consumption, to help set reduction targets. We use of a small, eco-friendly dishwasher to help to reduce water and detergent usage from hand washing. Water pressure is turned right down in the office to conserve.	23.01.23	Excel template	Ongoing	20 cubic meters
Paper usage	Measure, track and set targets to reduce	23.01.23	Excel template	Ongoing	10,000 sheets
Printer Ink usage	Measure, track and set targets to reduce	23.01.23	Excel template	Ongoing	21 cartridges

DECARBONISE

ACTION	DESCRIPTION	DATE SET	METHOD	DATE ACHIEVED	2023 Usage
Office Building	The office was bought 15 years ago as an eco-friendly building. Our EPC is A rated showing the building is very energy efficient. (More information on our office can be found on the last page)	2009	NA	2009	NA
Offsetting	To offset our Scope 3 carbon flight emissions Acorn support Atmosfair, a non-profit organisation which offsets greenhouse gases emitted by aircraft and long-distance travel. We donate €50 per month to this charity at present.	01.01.21	Year end calculation and donation to Atmosfair	Ongoing	€600 donated
Procurement	We use the Miniml a range of refillable eco cleaning products. We aim to use more of their products in 2023. We buy them from a local shop, reducing mileage and supporting local businesses.	10.01.22	NA	Ongoing	NA
Clients Location	In 2023 we aim to grow our client base within the UK, helping us to reduce our flight carbon footprint. We are actively searching out UK tenders.	10.01.23	Research and marketing	Ongoing	Worked on - 6 projects Bid on (didn't win) - 3 projects
Lighting	Use of 100% LED lights in the office.	01.01.20	NA	31.12.21	NA
Kitchen Appliances	Kitchen appliances A* energy rated where possible.	01.01.20	NA	04.05.21	NA

ACTION	DESCRIPTION	DATE SET	METHOD	DATE ACHIEVED	2023 Usage
Energy Supplier	Our energy supplier is Good Energy one of the original green energy suppliers – 100% renewable electricity.	01.01.20	Good Energy	02.03.20	NA
Travel	Acorn has been working to reduce the amount of work travel, by increasing the use of video conference/zoom calls. This will proceed into 2023	10.01.22		Ongoing	30kg of CO2
Procurement & Reduction	Measure, set targets and reduce paper usage. We source our paper from sustainable forests (FSC). The paper is made at the same mill where the wood is sourced, any CO2 emissions are offset by tree planting by the Woodland Trust charity in the UK.	10.01.22	Excel template	Ongoing	10,000 sheets
Transport	Acorn's website has clear links to local and national transport providers e.g. www.traveline.info to allow visitors to make an informed choice of transport options when visiting the office.	09.01.22	View Here	09.01.22	NA
Transport	We have an electric vehicle charging station on site for staff and visitors.	01.01.22	NA	04.06.22	NA
Transport	Acorn's Directors have invested in electric bikes, used to travel to work.	02.05.22	NA	01.01.23	NA
Kitchen Appliances	Kitchen appliances A* energy rated where possible.	01.01.20	NA	04.05.21	NA
Heating Policy	In 2023 we have turned down the thermometer 2oC on our Nest thermostat compared to 2022.	01.01.23	NA	Ongoing	NA

REGENERATE

ACTION	DESCRIPTION	DATE SET	METHOD	DATE ACHIEVED	2023 Usage
Donation	Acorn helps reduce activities in the tourism value chain that contribute to destruction of natural habitats by donating to Atmosfair, which provide efficient cooking stoves in Lesotho. These stoves save 80% of energy, produce less smoke and avoids deforestation by reducing the need for firewood.	01.01.21	Find out more	Ongoing	£600 donated
Our Projects	Acorn is working on a range of projects, based around regeneration and sustainability. Some of these projects include; • VisitEngland - Sustainability Landscape • Jordan Sustainable Tourism Programme 2021-25, CBI Netherlands • Falkland Islands – Green Tourism Scheme – ongoing • Sustainable branding and marketing guide for national tourism boards	01.01.22	Record and publish projects based on SDGs	Ongoing	NA
Our Projects	In 2024 we aim to build a wider project base that are geared towards regenerative tourism and supporting the SDGs.	10.01.23	Record and publish projects based on SDGs	Ongoing	NA
Training	Encourage and support employee training on regeneration and sustainability. Helping to keep up to date with knowledge and trends.	10.01.23	NA	Ongoing	2 training courses undertaken

COLLABORATE

ACTION	DESCRIPTION	DATE SET	METHOD	DATE ACHIEVED	2023 Usage
Increase external support & knowledge sharing	Acorn provides tourism stakeholders with access to tools, blogs and resources required to up-skill and address knowledge gaps on Sustainable tourism.	01.03.22	View here	Ongoing	NA
Increase external support & knowledge sharing	Acorn aims to develop and publish 6 free resources in 2023.	01.01.23	View here	Ongoing	2 resources published
Increase external support & knowledge sharing	Our Director, Alison Burgh is part of the Board of the Tourism Management Institute (TMI) as Head of Sustainability. Promoting good practice and supporting TMI members. Alison is due to extend her position for another two years.	01.01.22	Find out more here	14.07.22	NA
Increase our green representation	Our Director, Alison Burgh is a Green Destinations representative, working to promote sustainable destination management to international clients and destinations across the UK.	01.01.22	Find out more here	11.09.22	NA
Increase our green representation	In 2023, we aim to train one member of staff to become an auditor for at least one sustainability certifications programmes, helping to support the scheme's growth and access to stakeholders	29.01.23	NA	Ongoing	1 staff member trained as Green Travel Seal auditor

FINANCE

ACTION	DESCRIPTION	DATE SET	METHOD	DATE ACHIEVED	2023 USAGE
Donations	Monthly donations of €50 to Atmosfair for carbon offsetting and £50 per month to a local conservation programme, Bellhurst Nature Conservation Trust, whose aim is to manage their woodlands and farmlands in an appropriate and environmentally responsible way	01.01.21	Find out more here	Ongoing	€600 donated to Atmosfair and £600 to Bellhurst
Eco investments	Investments have been made to procure and use more environmentally products and services. All listed above.	01.01.21	NA	Ongoing	NA
Investment in training	Acorn will fund staff training on sustainability.	10.01.23	NA	Ongoing	2 training courses completed



ABOUT OUR OFFICE

The office was bought 15 years ago as an eco-friendly building. It is constructed from sustainable, local sweet chestnut timber and clad in Douglas Fir. The office space is designed to help provide natural light, helping us reduce the use electrical lighting.

Heating is generated onsite through a Solid Biomass automated 45kW Arimax Boiler using wood chips as fuel sourced from the on-site woodland management and chipped at the Centre. This has cut down on our heating and hot water bills and is considered energy efficient as the boiler serves several premises. We have reduced our office temperature in 2023 to reduce fuel consumption.

Our EPC is A rated showing the building is very energy efficient. (see below[AB1]) The office is fully insulated with sheep wool.

New kitchen appliances purchased are A* energy rated where possible.

