



Table: The Core criteria of the Green Destinations Standard (summary texts)

Green Destinations Core Criteria	
Sustainability coordinator	A person has been assigned the responsibility and authority for the adequate implementation and reporting of sustainable destination management.
Tourism policy	The destination has an up-to-date, publicly available, multi-year tourism policy or strategy addressing all important issues.
Nature protection	The protection of natural sites, habitats, species, and ecosystems is effectively addressed and enforced. Nature degradation is addressed.
Animal Ethics	The use of animals in tourism is effectively controlled in order to decrease the risk of unnecessary suffering, disease, and death.
Landscape & Scenery	Natural and rural scenic views are protected and the sense of place is maintained; landscape degradation and urban sprawl is avoided.
Waste water treatment	Waste water treatment is adequately organised and relevant regulations are enforced, aimed to minimise impacts to people and the environment.
Solid waste reduction	Any solid waste is monitored, reduced, separated and recycled, and quantitative goals are set, especially regarding the reduction of plastic waste.
Reduction fossil fuel dependency	Adequate measures and incentives exist to reduce reliance on fossil fuels and to encourage renewable energy technologies.
Cultural heritage conservation	The conservation, authenticity and aesthetic presentation of cultural resources, sites and built heritage, is adequately organised and enforced.
Intangible heritage	Intangible cultural heritage and local life and culture, are adequately protected and respected.
Protection of people	The destination takes adequate measures to protect all people legally and effectively against commercial, sexual, or any other form of exploitation.
Inhabitants involved in tourism	Inhabitants are regularly involved in discussions on opportunities, challenges and sustainability of tourism development.
Promoting local products	The inclusion of local artisans, producers and service providers in the tourism value chain is supported; local and sustainable products are promoted.
Health & safety prevention	Crime, safety, and health hazards are adequately prevented and addressed.
Accessibility	Access to tourism sites is supported for individuals with disabilities, where appropriate, whilst not harming the sites and their sense of place.