

# HOSPITALITY INDUSTRY GOES GREENER AND GREENER



Green tourism is a widely used term these days. It has many forms but the main thing is that it involves behavior that is environmentally friendly. The existence of human caused global warming is no longer questioned. Many travelers want to be environmentally friendly and therefore they choose green hotels.

There exist many web pages these days that offer lists of green hotels. A green hotel is equipped with energy-efficient light bulbs; it also may have some programs to reduce consumption. Some hotels have recycling programs, low-flow toilets and showers or alternative energy sources like solar or wind power. It is also often very lucrative for hotels to be green as they than consume less and therefore they spend less.

Being a green tourist is a lifestyle. Most of green tourists are people who are environmentally responsible in everyday life. "People recycle at home," Glenn Hasek, editor of Green Lodging News, an online newsletter dedicated to greening the hospitality industry says. "They use compact fluorescent bulbs, and they expect to see the same on the road. In fact, they are disappointed if they don't." Being a green tourist does not mean that you have to give up all comfort. In fact it is rather easy. A green tourist prefers taking train to flying, while on shorter trip. When renting a car, they choose the smallest vehicle that can comfortably accommodate them and they also prefer hybrid cars. A green tourist uses public transportation instead of taxis or rental cars. The most devoted just walk or bike. They take only short showers and shut off the water while brushing their teeth. To save electric energy they always make sure to turn off the air conditioning, heat, television, lights or any other electric devices when leaving the hotel room.

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