

# TOP 5 TIPS FOR SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS TRAVEL



Every year, more than 500 million domestic business trips are made in the U.S. alone, massively polluting the environment. Even though sustainable business is a high priority for most companies, the opportunities offered by business travel for sustainability are often overlooked. Tourism-review.com presents the best tips for sustainability.

## Smart Travel Planning

It is particularly important to ensure that as many appointments as possible are coordinated in a timely manner. This reduces unnecessary journeys together with the burden on the climate and environment. Furthermore, it should always be checked whether a personal meeting is really necessary. In individual cases, meetings can be replaced with video conferencing.

## Green Hotels

Companies preferring sustainable business travel now have more options to book the so-called "green hotels" which usually carry an environmental seal. For example, Green Globe or ISO 14001. Unfortunately, certified companies are usually noticed only by a reference to their website, as many sustainable improvements are not necessarily visible to the guest. Often it turns out that many regional goods are offered on breakfast. Biohotels offer an overview of suitable conference and business hotels.

## CO2 Compensation

In addition to responsible behavior, companies have the option of using their business travel agency to offset CO2 compensation for climate damage caused by emission avoidance elsewhere. When air travel cannot be avoided, it calculates the CO2 emissions for the route and the equivalent price. This is then invested in reducing CO2 elsewhere, such as renewable energy or energy efficient technologies.

## Eco-friendly Car Hire

If you cannot avoid a rental car at the destination during your business travel, it is advisable to think about renting an electric car or a model with hybrid drive. For short distances, e-car sharing is also a good alternative. It is flexible and widely available in major cities.

## Sustainable at Home and on the Road

Sustainable behavior starts at home. For frequent travelers it is advisable to turn off all electrical appliances, except for freezer and refrigerator, on departure so as to save power and money. Heating or thermostat should also be down regulated to a minimum. You should always travel with small luggage, because the weight of the luggage is also reflected in the CO2 emissions. Furthermore, it is recommended to use a reusable to-go cup or a plastic bottle to act sustainably on

the go. In hotels, water consumption can be reduced by multiple use of towels and bed linen and the air conditioning should always be used in short intervals.

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