

ECO-TOURISM



Eco-tourism is a form of sustainable travel that supports the local environment instead of putting more pressure on it and exploiting its resources.

- There are a few definitions which stand out. The one which is generally accepted in most circles is the one from the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) says that ecotourism is environmentally responsible travel to natural areas, in order to enjoy and appreciate nature (and accompanying cultural features, both past and present) that promote conservation, have a low visitor impact and provide for beneficially active socio-economic involvement of local peoples.
- Another, simpler and more to the point definition is given by The International Ecotourism Society (TIES), which says that ecotourism is “responsible travel to natural areas that conserves the environment and improves the well-being of local people.
- It means that tourists should be aware of their impact both on the local environment and on the local community and should try, within reasonable limits, to reduce this impact.
- Furthermore, the tourist should not only try to do as little damage as possible, but also to support the local community whenever this is possible.



Eco-Tourism in Bhutan

Unlike many areas of the world, Bhutan has been incredibly successful at preserving its local culture.

Located between China and India, Bhutan is nestled in the Himalayan Mountains, making some regions a bit challenging to access.



Eco-trips to Bhutan often involves exploring Jigme Dorji National Park, viewing snow leopards and musk oxen, and visiting ancient monasteries. Many ecotourism opportunities here fall within the luxury travel category and are targeted at high-end clients. To help preserve the landlocked country, each visitor must pay a daily tax.

Eco-Tourism in Ecuador

In effort by the government and the visionary Yachana Lodge and Center for Geotourism Training, the institute dedicated to rainforest conservation, the country has been extensively promoting eco-tourism by educating local communities.

It is not surprising that Ecuador had righteously been accredited with the honor of being World's leading Green Destination and that too in a row for two years. Picturesque combination of national parks and heritage sites had turned this Latin American country into a coveted tourists' dream.



Eco-Tourism in Madagascar



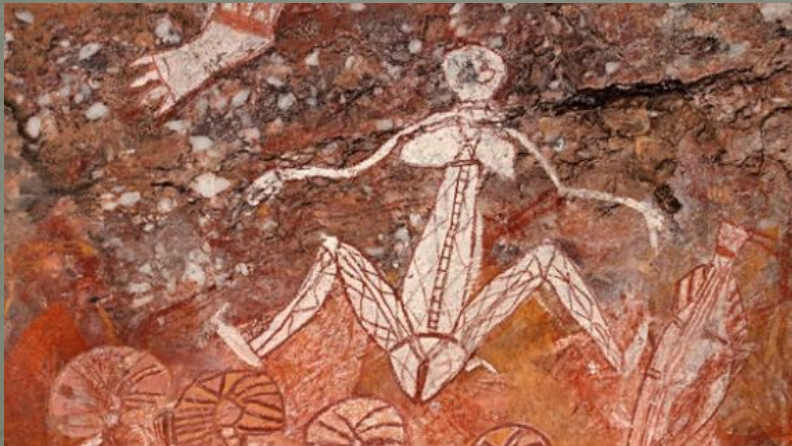
Madagascar, the world's fourth largest island, is a land of environmental superlatives. It is home to around 200,000 known plant and animal species, 90 percent of which are endemic, and it is the only place in the world to see up to 70 species of lemur. Vacations in Madagascar are best suited to adventurous travelers willing to sacrifice some comfort for the chance to explore the island's remarkable ecosystems.

According to National Geographic, 90 percent of Madagascar's species are not found anywhere else on Earth.

There are 11 National Parks in Madagascar, six of which comprise the Rainforests of the Atsinanana UNESCO World Heritage Site. All eco-tours there showcase the wildlife of Madagascar, but some concentrate on spotting lemurs, birds or marine creatures, or on particular activities like camping, kayaking, hiking or diving.



Eco-Tourism in Australia



Australia leads the world in adventure tourism, with its vast areas of completely uninhabited wilderness, tropical jungle, and rainforests – all waiting to be explored. The laws in place in Australia to protect the environment here are very necessary, given the popularity and sensitivity of its ecological wonders. These include the deserts which are home to wild camels that were introduced by early settlers and now allowed to roam freely in the outback, the jungles which are home to the largest crocodile in the world, the infamous saltwater crocodile, and the many aboriginal rock paintings/carvings which date back 28,000 years!

Eco-Tourism in New Zealand

Tourism is a major foreign revenue earner for New Zealand. However, this country in the South Pacific has an extremely fragile natural environment. Certainly some of the attractions of a visit include adventure activities such as rafting, kayaking, bungee jumping, and skiing. Nevertheless, What is unique to New Zealand is its national parks, forest areas, and reserves.



From the sub-tropical rainforests of the far north, to the alpine ranges and large glacial lakes in the south, there are many places which could be mentioned, such as Mount Cook National Park, The Geothermal Region, Tongariro National Park, Fiordland National Park , Abel Tasman National Park and any many other beautiful places.

Eco-Tourism in Russia

Ecotourism becomes more and more popular in Russia. It is no wonder. The cultural and environmental heritage of the country is so very rich and various, that Russia can be called one of the most promising countries for the development of the ecotourism. The ecological tours give a possibility to discover the country, which could seem familiar. The monuments of nature are available in almost each region of Russia, from Kaliningrad to the Far East.



The Kaliningrad Region, the westernmost region of Russia is famous with the Curonian Spit. Curonian Spit is the smallest national park in Russia and one of the oldest nature reserves in the country. It is a sandy peninsula, 98 km length and 35 m – 3, 8 km width. It isolates the freshwater Couronian lagoon from the Baltic Sea. The Curonian Spit is the longest sand tombolo in the world.



One third of the Kamchatka Peninsula is a specially protected natural area. There are many natural parks and one of them is located in the valley of the Nalychevo River and has many springs with mineral water of low and high temperatures, known for its healing power.

Thank you for attention!

The world absolutely needs more ecotourism.

Probably, it is no coincidence that such a direction of outdoor activities as ecotourism appeared. Love and respect for nature, the development of eco-culture becomes the main goal of such travels. It teaches travelers to be more attuned to the pristine areas of the world, it helps educate people, it provides funds for conservation as well as for local communities (often indigenous). Also, because a state of respect and awareness is awakened in the tourist, ————— the quality of his travels is also increased significantly. —————