

GoVacation

Dominican Republic

SUSTAINABILITY POLICY: GO VACATION - DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

A. Objective

This document describes Go Vacation Dominican Republic's policies and procedures for conducting its operations and activities in an environmentally responsible and sustainable manner.

B. Responsibilities

As a travel company that engages with various tourism stakeholders, namely consumers, tour guides, travel agencies, hotels, transportation companies, restaurants and attractions, we understand our key role and influence in the sustainable development of tourism. Therefore, we are committed to promoting sustainability. We aim to follow, implement and promote good sustainability practices to maximize the positive and minimize the negative impacts on tourism of our operations and influence our customers and partners to do the same.

Our sustainability policy is divided into 8 themes. Each theme consists of a set of principles and practical actions accordingly.

1- Sustainability management and legal compliance

Go Vacation is committed to continuous improvement of sustainability practices, including ongoing monitoring and evaluation of our sustainability policy, with dedicated staff and resources to achieve our sustainability goals.

Go Vacation complies with all local, regional, national regulations related to human resources, human rights, children's rights, land rights, environmental stewardship and wildlife. We follow a strict Code of Ethics, which includes a zero tolerance policy for corruption, bribery, forced labor and discrimination.

2- Internal management: social policy and human rights

- Go Vacation supports both career-related and job-related professional development activities.
- Go Vacation is committed to the principle of fair and equal pay for similar work and for work of equal value for all its employees and contractors, regardless of gender, race, national origin, marital status, age or religion.

- Go Vacation is committed to fostering a safe, healthy and inclusive workplace/work culture in which all employees can perform their roles/recognize their potential.
- Go Vacation is committed to a zero tolerance policy for acts of bribery, corruption, discrimination and human rights violations, including forced labor, human trafficking and all children's rights.

3- Environmental management of office operations

- We are committed to minimizing the direct footprint of our business operations as much as possible and actively follow the principles of discard, reduce, reuse, recycle for the protection of the environment. We have the following measures in place:
 - Comply with all local and national regulations regarding environmental legislation.
 - Measure, control and evaluate the use of all raw materials and purchased products, especially in terms of water and energy. In particular, we have installed solar panels and collect rainwater.
 - Purchase local, seasonal, fair trade, bulk, limited packaging and certified sustainable office supplies whenever possible.
 - Print only when absolutely necessary, and when printing, always print double-sided and in grayscale. Paper should always be FSC certified or equivalent, with a preference for higher percentage post-consumer materials.
 - Energy saving measures are applied in all common areas.
 - All equipment and lighting are energy efficient and are turned off/off/standby when not in use.
 - Water saving measures are in place in all common areas and restrooms, including water harvesting in outdoor areas.

4- Carbon management of office operations

- Go Vacation is committed to reducing its carbon footprint and strives to reduce the amount of travel as much as possible:
 - Reducing the amount we travel as much as possible.
 - Encouraging telecommuting whenever possible.
 - Installing energy efficient equipment and appliances [where appropriate/possible].

Activities and excursions

- All excursions and activities organized by or on behalf of Go Vacation respect local customs, traditions, cultural integrity and natural resources.
- Go Vacation undertakes not to offer any excursions that harm humans, wildlife, the environment or natural resources such as water and energy.

- Go Vacation gives preference to excursions and activities that benefit local communities, respect animal welfare and support environmental protection.

5- Tour leaders, local representatives and guides

- Go Vacation is committed to hiring guides, porters, drivers or other qualified local staff, paying them decent wages and providing them with safe and fair working conditions. We expect the same from our suppliers who hire local staff on behalf of Go Vacation.

- Go Vacation understands that guides are the intermediaries between guests and the socio-cultural and environmental context of the destination, conveying appropriate behavior to them. Therefore, we ensure that all guides hired by or leading tours on behalf of Go Vacation receive regular training and are aware of the destination's sustainability issues.

- Our guides receive specific training on the critical issue of sexual exploitation of children in tourism.

6- Contribution to local communities / local economic network

- Go Vacation is committed to contributing positively to the destinations in which it operates by:

- Sourcing locally and responsibly, and supporting local and traditional arts and culture.

- Encouraging visitors to shop responsibly and informing them about illegal and prohibited souvenirs.

- Respecting and upholding all human rights (children's rights, women's rights, labor rights, etc.), as well as land rights.

7- Communication and customer protection

Privacy

- The protection of our customers is our priority. Therefore, we maintain a clear privacy policy to ensure:

- Legal compliance in all aspects

- Protection of customers and their data

8- Marketing and communication

- Go Vacation strives to be truthful in all situations and at all times. We offer products and services that deliver what we claim in our communications.

- We deliver on our explicit and implicit commitments and promises.

- We are anti-greenwashing and stand behind our sustainability claims 100%.

- We strive to be inclusive and representative in our marketing, and to always take cultural, religious and ethnic sensitivities into account.