

The EU Ecolabel for Tourist Accommodation

The EU Ecolabel is the official European Union label for environmental excellence

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Awarded to sustainable goods and services encouraging **eco-innovation**, the **EU Ecolabel contributes to the EU goal of climate neutrality by 2050** and **to the circular economy**.

Tourists are increasingly looking for accommodations that care for the environment.

The EU Ecolabel is a tool for tourist accommodation and campsite services to engage in a sustainable recovery, together with their staff and their customers. With the EU Ecolabel, it is possible to offer **an eco-friendly and high quality alternative** to conventional hotels and campsites.

The time has come to promote tourism differently! Because quality and environment matter.

Stringent criteria, focusing on the main environmental impacts of the services, ensure that EU Ecolabel tourist accommodations are among the best on the market in terms of environmental performance. Specifically, the EU Ecolabel guarantees:

- an optimised environmental management of the tourist accommodation
- reduced energy consumption and CO₂ emissions through energy savings, use of efficient devices and of renewable energy sources
- reduced water consumption
- reduced use of chemicals as well as of pesticides
- reduced waste generation and optimised waste management
- reduced emissions from transport
- limitation of food waste

Environmental excellence can also mean excellent savings!

Tourist accommodations worldwide can apply for the EU Ecolabel, if their service is offered on the European market.



Environment

Overview of EU Ecolabel criteria for Tourist accommodation

To receive the EU Ecolabel, tourist accommodations have to comply with 22 mandatory criteria, and receive at least 20 points from compliance with additional optional criteria. Moreover, as a pre-requisite, the services shall meet all respective legal requirements of the country(ies) in which the tourist accommodation is located, including the obligation for staff to be legally employed and insured.

See below how EU Ecolabel criteria guarantee excellent environmental performances. For the full list of requirements, please refer to the official <u>EU Ecolabel criteria for Tourist Accommodation</u>.

EU Ecolabel guarantees		What do EU Ecolabel criteria require?
An optimised environmental management	 ✓ ✓ 	The setting and implementation of an environmental management system Engagement of staff and customers through training and provision of information on environmental practices
	√	Monitoring of energy, water, food and product consumption data per guest/night as well as the number of cleaning products used
	\checkmark	EMAS and/or ISO 14001 registration (optional)
Reduced energy	\checkmark	Preventive maintenance of appliances and devices
consumption and CO ₂ emissions	~	Water heating appliances, household air conditioning and air-based heat pumps as well lighting to respect at least a certain energy class
	\checkmark	Automatic switch off options to regulate the temperature in common areas
	\checkmark	No heating or air conditioning in outside areas
	~	Up to 100% of electricity from renewable energy sources (depending on the number of contractors in the region)
Reduced water	V	The average water flow rate of taps and toilet flushing to respect certain thresholds
consumption	\checkmark	No daily change of sheets and towels unless explicitly requested by guests
	~	Optimized pool management policy, recycling rainwater and grey water and efficient irrigation systems (optional)
Reduced use of chemicals as well as of pesticides	✓	Outsourcing of laundry and cleaning services to providers awarded with an ISO Type I ecolabel (optional) $% \left($
	~	Purchase of products such as detergents, and rinse-off cosmetics with the EU Ecolabel or other Type I ecolabels (optional)
	✓	The use of at least two organic farming produce in daily meal preparations, and banning all use of pesticides in outside areas (optional)
Reduced waste generation and optimised waste	~	No single dose packages for nonperishable food stuffs, and disposable toiletries items unless requested by guests (or prescribed at national level under specific circumstances)
management	\checkmark	Disposable food service items only allowed if there is an agreement with a recycler
	~	No disposable towels and bed sheets
	~	Adequate containers for waste separation in the rooms or on all floors
	\checkmark	Waste separation
Reduced emissions from transport	~	Information on environmentally preferable means of transport to reach the accommodations provided to guests
	~	Special agreements with transport agencies as well the offer of eco-friendly transportation such bikes or electric vehicles (optional)
	\checkmark	No combustion motor vehicles for the maintenance of the grounds (optional)
	✓	At least two locally sourced and not out of season food products provided at each meal and collaboration with local producers (optional)
Limitation of food waste	\checkmark	The implementation of a documented 'food waste reduction plan'

For more information, also on how to apply, visit www.ecolabel.eu

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