



## Be a Responsible Visitor

### *Eight things you can do to help save the planet.*

During the Covid Pandemic our guests proved to be both respectful and responsible visitors. As we emerge from this global crisis we have re-doubled our efforts to 'build back green'. To be as sustainable as possible we need your help. We can all reduce our impact on the environment by making choices. As a visitor you have a very important role to play in helping **Argyll** conserve its natural assets and become a more sustainable destination.

Here are some ideas on how you can help while you are with us:

1. **Conserve Energy** – reduce energy by switching off lights and closing windows if heating is on. If you're staying in one of our lodges which has already been upgraded with new electric panel heaters the automatic energy saving controls will turn the heater off if you open a window or an outside door. The Energy Saving Trust provides information on what you can do while with us and at home. [www.est.org.uk](http://www.est.org.uk)
2. **Give the car a rest** – Leave the car behind, if only for a day. Walk, cycle or hitch a lift with a fellow guest or a member of staff that's heading into town. You can walk to Oban but you'll need decent walking boots as our recommended route is cross-country to avoid the main A816. And with The Bar on site you don't need to head into town for dinner or drinks when you're taking a break from self-catering.
3. **Shop Local** – Use local products, they give you a flavour of the real Argyll and help support local communities. We are fortunate to have some fantastic producers of food, drink and arts and crafts. Ask us about local markets or local and regional produce and eat in the Barn – A Taste our Best accredited restaurant which guarantees over 40% local provenance.
4. **Reduce, Reuse, Recycle** – Try to avoid overly packaged goods and say no to that extra carrier bag. You can also support us in our efforts to recycle – please sort your rubbish and use the containers provided. [www.recyclenow.com](http://www.recyclenow.com)
5. **Be Water Wise** – Water is a precious resource and should be used wisely. Ours is a private supply so it's important that you conserve water and don't leave taps running when not in use. It's the reason we don't have hot tubs or dishwashers in the lodges – they would quickly drain our tanks dry.
6. **Respect nature** – Help us to look after the landscape and wildlife by not littering, guarding against fire and using footpaths and cycle-ways responsibly. Ensure you follow the Scottish Access code – and the Countryside Code [www.countrysideaccess.gov.uk](http://www.countrysideaccess.gov.uk)
7. **Protect yourself and others** - Do not travel if you have COVID-19 symptoms – and if you feel unwell during your stay self-isolate or return home if you can do so without using public transport. Socialise outdoors where possible and if face coverings are recommended, please wear them. Regularly use hand sanitiser and wash your hand frequently.
8. **Green Tourism** - This is the go-to standard for sustainability, look out for the symbol and please support those businesses that are working to reduce their carbon footprint. The award is also open to tour operators, visitor attractions, activity providers, accommodation providers, restaurants, and other businesses. <http://www.green-tourism.com/>

**And most importantly have a great time when you are here, we'd like you to come back!**

And finally, if you feel there is anything else we could be doing to reduce our environmental impact please let us know.