



Plan For Our Kids

Climate Friendly Travel Operations

Guide 2026





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Dear Colleague and Member of the CFT Collection

We are delighted to offer you this free easy to follow guide and its complementary video lecture.

We have designed it for in house training to support your engagement from CFT committed when you sign on to the Registry and secure our basic eco-Badge, to the time you agree to develop a CFT Action Plan and secure our eco-Badge Plus with the SDG Ring (see Below).

This progress is important to maintain positioning on the UN's Global Climate Action Portal, where all Registered Hotels are featured, giving an increased positioning of your 'clean & green tourism action.

We hope you find this useful and please don't hesitate to contact us with any question. Should you want help in developing your CFT Action Plan – we have established a small unit – Climate Friendly Travel Services that can provide support at nominal cost

Geoffrey Lipman President SUNx

Hans Friederich CFT Registrar

Olly Wheatcroft CFT Services





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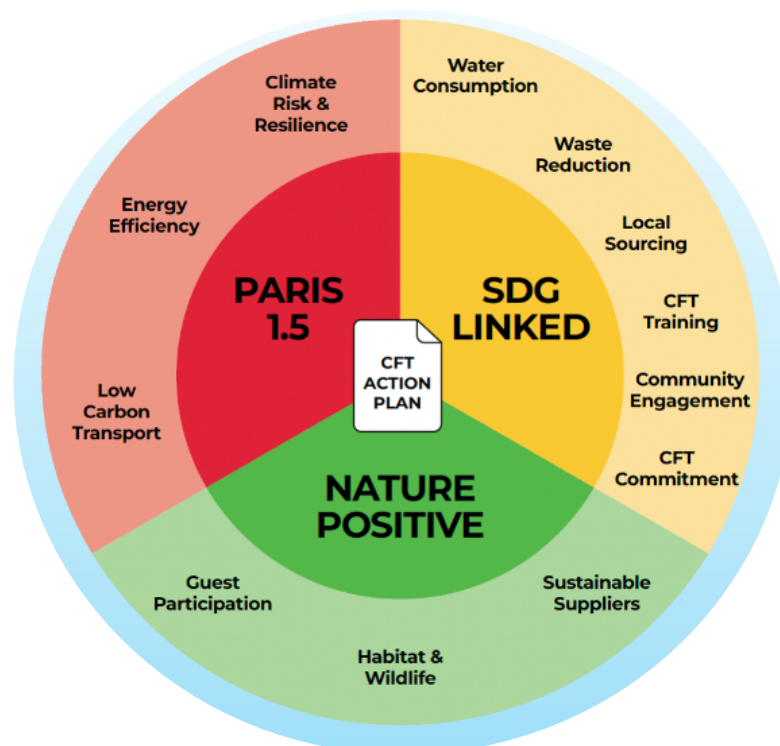
Introduction

This Guide for CFT Registry Members is designed to help CFT teams in Registered Companies better deliver on Climate Friendly Travel Climate Resilient: Sustainable and Nature Positive.

It follows the elements in our 'CFT Action Plan' via curated downloadable articles using AI to seek best practice across the sector.

It will help you better understand the broad action areas and suggest some approaches which might be useful in your own particular operational situations.

There is an introductory video that can be accessed here and below we show the key elements



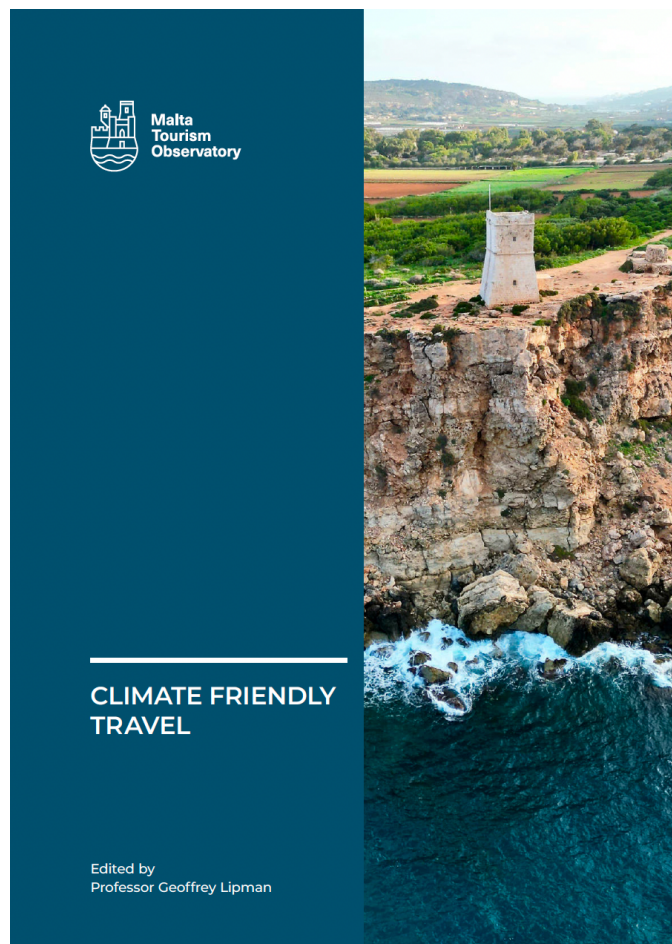


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Overview Climate Friendly Travel

Please could the responsible management person in your team read this report before starting this program

Climate Friendly Travel - by Malta Tourism Observatory





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Water Consumption

- [Thirsty for Change? Why Hotels Must Rethink Water](#)

A comprehensive business case for water management, detailing how **smart water meters** and AI-driven irrigation can reduce outdoor water use by up to 50% and save a mid-sized hotel thousands in annual utility bills.

- [Promoting Sustainability in Hotels: Do Guests Commit and Save?](#)

A fresh academic study from late 2025 that uses digital meter data to challenge traditional behavioral interventions. It suggests managers shift focus from simple guest "commitment" cards to **technical infrastructure improvements** for more effective conservation.

- [Hotel Manager's Guide to Water Efficiency :](#)

This authoritative handbook provides a detailed operational checklist for staff, including instructions on **minimizing rinse cycles** in laundry and using "water-saving placards" to encourage guest participation

- [Hotels Face 2026 Deadline Under New EU Sustainability Rules](#)

This report details how hotels must now use 2026 as a target for mandatory **Environmental Social and Governance (ESG)** reporting. It emphasizes measuring water consumption per guest-night to pass upcoming "show the data" audits.

- [Sustainable Hotel and Resort Development in the Caribbean](#)

This article highlights critical onsite treatments for resorts, including **rainwater harvesting** and **greywater reuse** for irrigation



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Waste Reduction

- **Clean The World - Waste Management**

This **article** provides a broad overview of how hospitality businesses can adopt **five** simple strategies to minimize **waste**. It focuses on recycling discarded soap & plastic amenities, transforming them into new hygiene products, while providing supplies to vulnerable communities worldwide.

- **Hotel Waste Management – Bio-apply**

A structured approach aimed at handling, reducing, and recovering the waste generated within an establishment.

- **Viable Waste Management Strategies for Hotels – Forbes**

Key actions include bulk dispensing amenities, using biodegradable alternatives, conducting waste audits, and educating everyone on proper sorting and water conservation.

- **Global Roadmap for Waste Management – One Planet Network**

Techniques to get rid of waste **for hotels and other tourism suppliers**

- **Tourism Waste Management - MEWS**

Lays out 6 different areas for action -packaging; energy; zero waste; food waste; paper waste; training. It also explores techniques to get rid of waste like landfill, incineration, compacting and, composting; as well as exploring partnering with local disposal entrepreneurs.



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Local Sourcing

- **[5 Ways Tourism Companies Can Support Local Economies - WTTC:](#)**

In depth review of smart sourcing approaches from around the world for efficiency, sustainability and local community benefits

- **[7 Ways To Support The Local Economy - Good Tourism Institute:](#)**

Supporting-local-suppliers-key-sustainable-tourism-development. Hiring local guides, booking local accommodations, buying local souvenirs, eating at local restaurants helps ensure spending stays in the community

- **[Supporting Local Suppliers - Key to Sustainable Tourism- LinkedIn:](#)**

Focusing on the vital role of local suppliers for sustainable development and authentic experiences, connecting to broader industry trends.

- **[6 Reasons to Shop Locally while Travelling - Ecobnb:](#)**

Explains benefits for travellers, like cost-effectiveness and deeper cultural immersion, by engaging with local markets and small businesses.

- **[The Tourism Industry: Importance, Sectors & Examples - Study.com:](#)**

Identifies key sectors (transport, accommodation, food, etc.) for understanding where local sourcing opportunities exist beyond just hotels and restaurants



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CFT Training

- **[Hotel Staff Training for Better Service and Efficiency - Mews.](#)**
Comprehensive guide to essential training areas (guest service, tech, cultural sensitivity) and practical tips for effective training
- **[Tour Guide Training 101: Best Practices.. GuestFocus](#)**
Provides best practices for tour leaders, emphasizing real-life scenarios, communication, and building a strong team culture
- **[Training Development in The Tourism Industry: ResearchGate](#)**
Delves into the strategic importance of training, globalization's impact, and the need for skilled, innovative staff to meet economic & quality service demands.
- **[Which Training Method is Most Effective For Hotel Staff?, LinkedIn](#)**
Highlights methods like micro-learning, continuous feedback, and experiential learning tailored to real contexts to boost satisfaction and service quality,
- **[Top 8 Tourism and Hospitality Management Skills You Need - TUA](#)**
Focuses on customer service, cultural awareness, problem-solving, adaptability, and attention to detail, crucial for management and overall staff development.



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Community Engagement

- **[Community Engagement, Win-Win for Business & Locals - ResearchGate](#)**

Explores symbiotic relationship & transformative potential of active community collaboration, leading to mutual benefits for businesses and communities.

- **[Economics, Culture & Authenticity Impacts - Taylor & Francis Online:](#)**

Links economic support & deep cultural participation (workshops, heritage) to increased tourist satisfaction & perceived authenticity,

- **[8 Good Tourism Trends for 2025 - Good Tourism Institute:](#)**

Highlights Experiential Travel, urging businesses to design immersive cultural & nature workshops (crafts, food) to connect travelers with locals & places

- **[Strategies for Boosting Local and Tourist Engagement LinkedIn:](#)**

Offers practical steps like hiring locally, sourcing locally, using local guides, & creating give-back opportunities to build authentic connections & brand loyalty

- **[Top 10 Benefits For Tourism Business & Sustainability - Travel Foundation:](#)**

Discusses how sustainability and local connections build guest loyalty, enhance brand reputation, and frgt lead to increased bookings by offering "guilt-free" and memorable experiences, reports The Travel Foundation.



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CFT COMMITMENT

- **[Support Eco-Friendly Stays & Local Communities: Biofriendly - Greenly.](#)**

Companies should select certified green hotels and engage in community-based tourism that benefits locals.

- **[Incorporate Sustainable Practices in Business Travel: STI](#)**

Practical applications - suggests providing reusable water bottles, offering plant-based dining, and reducing single-use plastics for corporate trips.

- **[Leverage Certifications & Frameworks:](#)**

Organizations can align with UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and adopt standards like [Green Key](#) for verifiable eco-responsibility, Greenly & [UN](#).

- **[Focus on Measurement & Policy:](#)**

For comprehensive engagement, discusses increasing awareness, implementing smart policies: rewards for green choices, and measuring carbon footprints.

- **[Seven Ways To Make Your Travel Climate Friendly - UNFCCC](#)**

Discusses concrete steps for reducing the environmental impact of travel, including local travel and, where possible, reduced travel.



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SUSTAINABLE SUPPLIERS

- **[Nature Positive Tourism In Action - UN Tourism & WTTC.](#)**

A roadmap for businesses to become "Guardians of Nature." to support the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. 30 Case Studies.

- **[Reducing Impact by Working with your Supply Chain - WTTC.](#)**

Addressing how tourism companies can influence suppliers to follow nature-positive principles, for biodiversity protection tourism value chain flows.

- **[The Need for Nature-Positive Value Chains \(WTTC/IPBES\)](#)**

Focuses on identifying and partnering with *nature-positive suppliers* to ensure sustainability flows through the value chain, addressing risks & responsibility

- **[Nature Positive Tourism: Prospective Regional Models - ResearchGate](#)**

Exploring regional organizational and technical solutions for implementing nature-positive tourism. It offers algorithms for restoring biodiversity

- **[Nature Positive Transitions: Role of the Port Sector - WEF](#)**

Vital for cruise and maritime tourism suppliers, it outlines priority actions for nature-sensitive planning, sustainable materials, and ecosystem restoration.



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HABITAT & WILDLIFE

- [Nature-based Tourism: And world bioeconomy - European Forest Institute](#)

Noting it accounts for about 7% of global tourism & some \$600 billion revenue. Shows how business can tap rising consumer preferences & create green jobs

- [Operationalizing Ecotourism & Wildlife Ethics: FiST and ResearchGate](#)

Offers frameworks for responsible wildlife watching, setting limits, and minimizing disturbance, essential for hotels near natural areas

- [Tools and Resources for Nature-Based Tourism – World Bank](#)

Provides an overview of sustainable **wildlife tourism** experiences, the types of social, economic, and environmental impacts, community participation

- [Strengthening Sustainable Tourism's Role in Biodiversity Conservation](#)

Examines how the industry-led Nature Positive Tourism Partnership can drive conservation

- [Biodiversity – My Hotel in Action – IUCN](#)

Describes what individual hotels can do to help conserve nature, wildlife and biodiversity



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Guest Participation

- [Nature Tourism: Motivations, Satisfaction & Behavior](#)

Explores how a tourist's intrinsic love for wildlife and natural scenery directly predicts their satisfaction and willingness to engage in conservation-oriented behaviors.

- [5 Ways to Help Hotel Guests Get Back to Nature - Gem Journal](#)

Explains how giving travelers a taste of nature can help them de-stress and truly enjoy their stay. Regular contact with nature has recently become a proven way of combating stress and promoting wellbeing,

- [Nature Tourism and Hotels: This is How You Can Succeed – HBX Group](#)

Considers ways that interaction with nature brings **economic and social benefits** to local communities by generating employment and supporting conservation efforts. Additionally, this type of tourism helps fund the preservation of national parks, protected areas & key ecosystems

[3 Steps to Maximise Guest Participation in Hotel Sustainability - WSHA](#)

World experts explain how better understanding guests & helping them see the benefits of engagement in hotel sustainability can be good for the planet

- [Balancing nature-based tourism and sustainable well-being: the role of biodiversity and aesthetic quality](#)

Examines how high biodiversity levels enhance guest satisfaction and emotional gratification.



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Low Carbon Transport

- [**Sustainable Travel in 2026: How You Make a Difference**](#)
This beginner-friendly guide offers practical tips for 2026, such as avoiding short domestic flights in favor of train connections and using digital tickets to reduce waste.
- [**The Green Horizon: Travel and Tourism Trends for 2026**](#)
An accessible look at how "eco-friendly transportation is the new normal." It highlights the "Rail Renaissance"—where high-speed trains are replacing short-haul flights—and the rise of walking and cycling routes as the ultimate "slow travel" experience.
- [**Which Form of Transport Has the Smallest Carbon Footprint?**](#)
A highly visual, data-driven article that simplifies complex emissions stats. It explains that taking a train instead of a domestic flight can reduce your journey's footprint by approximately 86%.
- [**Low Carbon Transport: What Are the Options?**](#)
A straightforward breakdown of shared transport options. It provides easy-to-digest facts, such as how switching from a car to a bus can reduce CO2 emissions by 42%, while switching to a train can cut them by 73%.
- [**5 Ways to Travel Greener**](#)
This article focuses on the "experience" of low-carbon travel. It introduces interactive tools like **Chronotrains**, which helps travelers visualize how far they can get across Europe by rail in under eight hours.



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Energy Efficiency

- [The Ultimate Guide to Eco-Friendly Accommodations](#)
This article is great for travelers and explains what to look for when choosing a hotel. It covers essential energy-saving measures like **LED lighting**, **renewable energy use** (solar panels), and **smart thermostats**, and highlights the importance of third-party certifications like LEED or Green Key.
- [10 Tips to reduce energy consumption in hotels](#)
While aimed at hoteliers, this straightforward, tip-based article is very easy to read. It breaks down practical steps such as using **occupancy sensors** in rooms and hallways, optimizing **HVAC (Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning) systems**, and ensuring water heaters are set efficiently to 60°C to save energy and costs.
- [Eco-Friendly Hotels: Choose a Green Stay Without Sacrificing Comfort](#)
This guide helps guests identify genuinely sustainable hotels by detailing features like energy-efficient technology, such as smart climate control and solar power, and explains how these choices benefit both the environment and the guest experience.
- [Sustainable Hotel Practices: 5 Methods for Eco-Friendly Hotels](#)
A concise article focusing on key practices. It highlights that switching to **LED lighting** can cut energy consumption by 90% compared to traditional bulbs and emphasizes the role of renewable sources like **solar panels** in reducing reliance on conventional power grids.
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Climate Risk & Resilience

- **5 Ways Climate Change Alters How People Travel In 2026**

Article explores emerging trends driven by environmental necessity, such as "coolcationing" (to avoid extreme heat) and "last-chance tourism". Highlights tour operators shift toward regenerative practices, including habitat restoration and community-led ecotourism, to build long-term destination resilience.

- **Climate Risk Index 2026: Highlights & Rankings**

Provides summary of human & economic costs of inaction. Critical tool for travelers & business to understand destinations most vulnerable to extreme weather events, helping them make informed, risk-aware travel choices.

- **Greener in 2026: Build a Smarter Sustainable Travel Policy**

Practical guide beyond basic sustainability to create "climate-smart" policies. Recommends digital platforms for low-emission transport, stressing resilience requires a mindset shift where sustainable choices become the default.

- **Tourism & Climate: Navigating Through a Resilience Lens**

Breaks down specific climate risks facing the industry, such as water scarcity and habitat destruction. Provides a framework for adaptation

Plan B Framework: Climate Friendly Travel Services

- Outlines a practical framework for tourism businesses to build "adaptive capacity". Emphasizes immediate actions like energy efficiency and low-carbon transport.



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