

Newsletter No 11

We are pleased to present you with one of many newsletters gathering the best sustainability practices from Croatia, Greece, Poland, the Netherlands and Latvia. Join us weekly in the discovery of new tips to meet with Travelife criteria!

Best of Travelife sustainability practices

Supporting environmental and biodiversity protection

Travelife criteria: **The company intends to include excursions and activities which support local environment and biodiversity (e.g. visiting protected areas, visiting environmental protection projects) in its packages or promote them to clients.**



One of the tours that the company offers is the Slītere National Park "Tourist Days" which are organized every year at the beginning of June. The company brings people with a bus and gives them the opportunity to choose tours they are interested in. During Soviet times this territory was closed, which helped to preserve an untouched environment. Besides wild beaches, pine woods and cultural attractions which are available to everyone now, the national park has several preserved areas and other interesting nature places that are opened to the public once a year during "Slītere Tourist Days". During these two days a lot of excursions by local guides are offered, emphasising natural

processes and education. For example, one of the tours includes a visit to a bog to demonstrate how nature changes after a forest fire.

Skaisto Skatu Aģentūra (Latvia) in brief: „Skaisto Skatu Aģentūra“ has been operating since 2012 and focuses on local tourists by offering 1-2 day trips in Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia. It's emphasis is on offering tours which include not only significant sights, but also a wide variety of "countryside bounties," like craftsmen, traditional food producers, etc. Most of the tours are for groups (~30 persons) traveling by bus, but it also offers guided tours in Riga and Jūrmala.



<http://skaistieskati.lv/site/lat/>

Sharing is caring

Travelife criteria: **Collaboration - the company is actively involved in external forums and working groups which are supportive to sustainability in tourism.**

PerfectMeetings is actively involved in a working group for sustainable tourism established as a non-formal group of members of the Association of Croatian Travel Agencies and educational institutes. Within the working group the company's sustainability coordinator is actively sharing their own experiences with sustainability along with information and educational materials that could be of use to other colleagues, as well as additional education materials in schools and universities.



PerfectMeetings (Croatia) in brief: PerfectMeetings.hr is Croatia's premier company specializing in meeting management, sales incentive and performance motivation programs. We are a privately owned PCO, DMC & EMC (Professional Congress Organiser, Destination Management Company & Event Management Company) based in Zagreb, Croatia's capital. We arrange a wide variety of events: from small intimate gatherings for senior staff and board members to events with over 1,000 participants across Croatia and neighbouring countries (Slovenia, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Serbia, Montenegro, Macedonia).



www.perfectmeetings.hr

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Mobile yet sustainable

Travelife criteria: **Employee incentives - Employees are (financially) stimulated to use public transport or sustainable means of transport (e.g. bicycles).**

Transport reduction - Transport is reduced by tele-work, tele/video meetings and other means.



We have significantly reduced employee travel with organisation of conference call meetings. It has proved to be cheaper to organise and easier for employees. When travel can't be avoided we try to use sustainable means of transport as much as possible. When going to our Ljubljana office we use the train. Employees are stimulated to use bikes and we are proud that half of our staff is traveling by bike to work.

Globtour Event (Croatia) in brief: We are one of the leading Croatian fully-licensed travel agencies with more than 36 years of experience in the travel industry. Since 1997 we have been the Carlson Wagonlit Travel partner for Croatia. Together we have successfully implemented the highest standards of services as required by business and leisure travellers worldwide. As well as corporate travel, we have a longstanding tradition in luxury individual and group travel, serviced by incoming and outgoing divisions. To keep up with the growing demand for Meetings and Events, we have specialized as a Destination and Event Management Company and Professional Congress Organizer offering only the very best from Croatia and the region.



<http://www.globtour.hr>

SZOT – IN THE MIDDLE OF WILDLIFE

Travelife criteria: **Customer communication and protection, Codes of conduct/ guidelines for sensitive excursions**



Kayak trips in Augustow Lake District – a green and still wild region in north-east Poland - are very popular among tourists who, have chance to observe wild life – unique species of fauna and flora enjoying wellbeing in this protected area – during their kayak trips. Before every, even individual, trip tourists are informed by trained guides about recommended behavior in the protected area and legal regulations in order to minimize the negative impact of visitors during wildlife watching. Also, everyone has to sign a declaration to respect safety rules while kayaking.

SZOT (Poland) in brief: SZOT offers kayaking trips with a passion. Our services also include organized events, water equipment rental and assistance in planning kayaking trips. We also organize a wide range of trips to Lithuania, Belarus, Latvia, Estonia and Russia. Before and after the kayak trip our guests are also offered sustainable accommodation in our Villa Skomanda or in wooden houses located in the SZOT Base area. <http://www.szot.pl/>



LIFELONG LEARNING PROGRAMME, LEONARDO DA VINCI
Transfer of innovation
CSR TOUR „Corporate Social Responsibility Training
and Certification in the Travel Sector“
Project Nr: 2012-1-HR1-LEO05-01703

This project has been funded with support from the European Commission.

This publication reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.

Project is co-financed by the Office for Cooperation with NGOs of the Government of the Republic of Croatia.

The contents of this publication can under no circumstances be regarded as reflecting the position of the Office for Cooperation with NGOs of the Government of the Republic of Croatia.



GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA
Office for Cooperation with NGOs

