
Sustainable Accommodation Policy

Date of approval: August 2026

This policy forms part of Gosheni Safaris Africa's Sustainability Policy (Section 4.5 — Supply Chain & Accommodations) and is maintained as a standalone document per Travelife requirements.

Gosheni Safaris Africa is committed to promoting sustainability throughout our accommodation supply chain. As a private safari operator, we select accommodations directly for our clients across the Northern Circuit, Great Migration routes, and Zanzibar extensions (delivered via partner operators). Because we are directly involved in selecting where our clients stay, we recognise this gives us real influence — and real responsibility — to raise sustainability standards among the lodges and camps we work with.

Sustainability of an accommodation establishment is of key importance, as it allows us to extend sustainable practice through a core part of our supply chain. Where we have a choice between comparable properties, we give strong preference to establishments that follow sustainable practices throughout all aspects of their operation.

Scope

This policy applies to the selection, contracting, and ongoing management of all accommodation suppliers Gosheni Safaris Africa collaborates with, including lodges, tented camps, and hotels used on Northern Circuit, Great Migration, and Zanzibar itineraries.

This policy is effective immediately upon approval by the Managing Director (Peter Robert) and circulation to staff. It will be formally reviewed every 2 years to ensure relevancy. Any deviation from this policy must be approved by the Managing Director or a delegated officer.

Sustainable Accommodation Principles

The right comfort for the right price

The establishment is hygienic, sanitary, and safe, and offers a standard of comfort and service appropriate to our clients' expectations. Sustainable practices can be found across all price ranges, so we look at practices first rather than price point alone.

Fair business

The establishment follows fair business practices, including transparency and adherence to Tanzanian law, human rights, economic and social equity, and environmental and animal protection.

Minimizes impact on the environment and society

The establishment places high priority on sustainable practices, aiming to minimize its effect on the surrounding environment and local community.

Preferential Policy for New Accommodations

When evaluating a new accommodation supplier for the first time, sustainability is assessed alongside quality, safety, and location as a core selection criterion — not an afterthought once a property has already been chosen. Before a new property is added to our supplier list, we take the following steps:

- We request information on the property's environmental and social practices as part of the initial evaluation, using the considerations set out below.
- Where two or more properties are comparable in quality, location, and price, preference is given to the property with stronger sustainability practices.

-
- New suppliers are informed from the outset that Gosheni Safaris Africa is a Travelife-committed operator, and that we expect continuous improvement on sustainability over the course of our working relationship.
 - Where a promising new property has gaps in its sustainability practices, we prioritise properties willing to improve over time, and support them with the guidance described in this policy, rather than excluding them outright.

General Sustainability Considerations

Internationally certified accommodation remains limited in Tanzania, though a growing number of establishments are known for good practice. Because sustainable practices can be found across all budget ranges, our evaluation focuses primarily on actual practices at each property.

Evaluations of accommodation are made through:

- Site visits by our team
- Observations reported back by our guides
- Client feedback

The following considerations inform our evaluation and preference:

Human care

We assess whether the establishment provides fair labour conditions for its staff — minimum wage, reasonable working hours, and proper rest periods.

No plastic policy

Preference is given to properties that minimise single-use plastic, for example by avoiding disposable water bottles and instead offering refill stations for jugs and reusable bottles.

Waste management

We check that the accommodation separates at least organic waste for composting and plastic for recycling. Properties that go beyond these basics are strongly preferred.

Energy efficiency

The establishment uses energy-saving lighting and equipment, and encourages guests (through signage or automated systems) to switch off lights and appliances when not in use.

Water efficiency

Preference is given to properties with water-saving systems on toilets and showers, or that use bucket-flush/bucket-shower systems that give guests clear control over consumption.

Child protection

The establishment safeguards children's rights. Where employees under 18 are employed, appropriate special working conditions (such as part-time or internship arrangements) must be in place, in line with Tanzanian labour law.

Local supplies

Accommodations are encouraged to purchase and use local food products, produced on a fair-trade and sustainable basis, supporting local farmers and producers.

Biodiversity care

The property limits its negative impact on local and global biodiversity wherever feasible — for example, not offering red-listed species on the menu.

Authentic charm

The property's architecture and interiors incorporate elements of local art, design, or cultural heritage.

Community value

The establishment respects the intellectual property rights of local communities and contributes to the local community, for example through employment, sponsorship of local events, or support for local heritage.

Stimulating Enhanced Sustainable Practice Among Destination Partners

Gosheni Safaris Africa follows a long-term strategy to raise the sustainability of the accommodation suppliers we work with regularly, and more broadly across our destination partners in Arusha and the Northern Circuit.

- We speak directly with accommodation owners and managers — through our office team or through our guides — about their current practices and what they could improve.
- We share best-practice standards and guidance with accommodation suppliers, including information on hotel sustainability certification (such as Travelife for Hotels), self-evaluation tools, and training resources.
- Where relevant, we support or participate in collaborative sustainability initiatives with other Tanzanian tour operators and destination stakeholders.
- We are formalising a written communication (see Communication section below) to be sent to our regular accommodation suppliers, introducing our sustainability expectations and available resources.

General Conditions for Accommodation Suppliers

Gosheni Safaris Africa does not currently use a single standardized supplier contract across all accommodation partners. For our regularly used accommodation suppliers, we apply the following General Conditions:

Social welfare and human rights

- Fair business practices, including transparency and adherence to Tanzanian law.
- Fair labour conditions for staff, including minimum wage, reasonable working hours, and rest periods.
- No employment of children under 14. Employees aged 14–18 are given appropriate protective working conditions.

Environment and biodiversity

- Minimizing plastic use, managing waste responsibly, and using energy and water efficiently.
- Limiting negative impact on local and global biodiversity, including not serving red-listed species.

Socio-cultural

- Purchasing and using local food products where possible, supporting local livelihoods and fair trade.
- Respecting and, where possible, incorporating local art, architecture, and cultural heritage.

Monitoring

- The supplier allows Gosheni Safaris Africa and its representatives, including our guides, to observe practices and provide feedback during the course of our collaboration.

These General Conditions are communicated to our frequently used accommodation suppliers by email at the start of the working relationship, and reinforced through in-person visits by our guides and office team. Where supplier volume justifies a formal written agreement, these conditions are included as a signed annex to the supplier contract.

Sanctions

If it is revealed that an accommodation supplier is acting on clearly unsustainable practices, Gosheni Safaris Africa will issue a warning. If the supplier does not amend its practices, we will end all collaboration — informal and contractual — with that supplier.

Communication to Accommodation Providers

Email

Our most common form of communication with accommodation suppliers is via email and phone. We use these channels to raise sustainability topics directly with our partners.

Contract



Where we work with a supplier on a regular basis and with sufficient client volume, we formalise the relationship through a contract that includes our code of conduct and sanctions, which the supplier reads and signs.

In-person visits

Where possible, our team or our guides visit accommodation partners in person to discuss how they could improve their sustainability practices.

What we communicate as mandatory expectations to our accommodation suppliers:

- No child labour
- Anti-corruption and anti-bribery practices
- Responsible waste management
- Protection of biodiversity

Incentives

Gosheni Safaris Africa gives preference to accommodation establishments that operate sustainably and take responsibility for their environmental and social impact. Properties that actively engage in sustainable practices are eligible for the following incentives:

Marketing and visibility

- A “Sustainability Partner” badge or listing tag — to be introduced once this feature is available on our upcoming website.
- Feature in Gosheni Safaris Travel Guide blog content, such as property spotlight articles.
- Features on Gosheni Safaris social media channels (Instagram and Facebook), where the property's practices align with our storytelling guidelines.
- A Gosheni Safaris “Sustainability Partner” digital logo, which the property may display on their own website, social media, or printed materials.

Contract and business terms

- Preferred supplier status, with priority consideration for future bookings within a given area or category.
- Priority allocation during high-demand periods, such as calving season and river crossing season.
- Longer contract terms and rate stability instead of annual renegotiation.
- Reduced monitoring requirements once a property has demonstrated consistent compliance.

Recognition

- A signed letter of recognition from Gosheni Safaris Africa acknowledging the property's sustainability commitment.

Approved by

Peter Robert, Managing Director — Gosheni Safaris Africa

Signature: _____ Date: _____