

# Maryville College Sustainable Travel

## Educate

We are committed to educating student/leader travelers on sustainable travel practices. Some of the ways we do this include:

- Sustainable Travel Principles in Pre-departure orientation (CGE Webinar)
  - a. Carbon emission information & Carbon calculator (CGE tracking & available to students & faculty)
  - b. UN Sustainable Development Goals introductory information
  - c. Resources available on sustainability and international education
  - d. Information on MC sustainability efforts and priorities
- Published [Core Values & Commitments](#)
- Published [Fit.Green.Happy Travel](#) designation information. All faculty-led programs have this designation
- Sustainable Practices embedded in Student Travel Conduct Policy
- Prioritize Sustainability in Faculty Proposals & Course Topics

## Collaborate

- We commit to communicating strong and clear [expectations to partners](#), including:
  - MC Faculty are asked to collaborate with partners to ensure local hiring, paid living wages, and hiring across genders.
  - We request, where possible, to use locally-owned hotels and restaurants
  - We ideally want to expand our tourism footprint - go off the tourism beaten track to have a greater economic impact on locals
  - Use local transportation where possible - prioritize lower-carbon means of travel for physical mobility or human powered alternatives, recognizing that this must be balanced with cost, safety and other factors.
  - Seek mutual commitment to sustainability in all relationships
  - We ask partners to identify what actions are being taken to ensure sustainability
  - We are committed to being sensitive to the impact of our travel on the local community

## Practice

- Establish operational practices that align with program goals to have a positive impact on Climate Change & Sustainability.
- Require student to bring water bottles and ban single-use plastics from your programs. (water bottles provided)
- Balance cost-effectiveness with Carbon Offsetting options.
  - Seek partners who build in carbon offsetting
  - Choose destinations factoring in Co2 usage
  - Budget carbon offsetting
- Offer Sustainability Action Days.

- o E.g. in Spring 2023, the CGE partnered with Friends of the Woods to help on Campus Woods clean up days. (2 dates) [SDG 13]
- Travel Gear Swap – encourage REUSE by getting travel gear donations and allowing students to swap items for gear they need to travel. [SDG 12]
- Buy local – use small locally owned hotels, eat at locally owned restaurants.
- Get off the beaten path
- Tracking carbon emission for airfare for students faculty and staff affiliated with education abroad.
- **Local Living Moments: STAY LOCAL IMMERSION** experiences are designed to get students off the bus and experience the local city by interacting with local citizens and places in an active exchange. Each location is selected to bring a variety of new encounters to students, allowing them to experience the city from the perspective of a local. (SDG4: Quality Education - Local learning opportunities & Enhanced understanding of local history and traditions)
- Include courses that address UN SDGs / Sustainability as course topics in portfolio of faculty-led programs abroad

### **We Have Goals ...Building Toward Future Goals**

- Measuring carbon emission for students faculty and staff affiliated with education abroad.
- New Campus Carbon/Environmental Footprint Projects for Travelers. (reconciling travel emissions with commitments to environmental sustainability)
- Establish sustainability goals and draw direct concrete connections to actions.
- Explore programs that knowledge-share across borders
- Considering carbon footprint of location choice
- Seeking funding/partnerships to re-initiate sustainable travel airfare grant
- Building programs that knowledge share across borders
- Developing mutually beneficial long-term relationships with host communities

### **Resources**

- [Articles \(MS Teams Travel Study Leaders\)](#)
- <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/takeaction/>
- <https://forumea.org/resources/guidelines/advancing-the-un-sdgs/>
- [CANIE \(Climate Action Network for International Educators\)](#)
- [Social Justice and International Education, chapter on 'Sustainable Development Goals, Social Justice, and Global Learning](#)
- [Advancing the UN Sustainable Development Goals through Education Abroad](#)
- [Creating a Path Forward: International Education, Climate Change, and Sustainability](#)
- [NAFSA White Paper Sustainability in International Education: Extended Reflections](#)
- [Social Justice and International Education, chapter on 'Sustainable Development Goals, Social Justice, and Global Learning'](#)
- [Advancing the UN Sustainable Development Goals through Education Abroad](#)
- [Creating a Path Forward: International Education, Climate Change, and Sustainability](#)

- [NAFSA White Paper Sustainability in International Education: Extended Reflections](#)
- [Article:"Sustainable Travel and Study Abroad," by Astrid Jirka, \*Transitions Abroad\*](#)
- [\*Transitions Abroad's\* Responsible Travel Handbook \(1.9Mb !\[\]\(7e19807c61da14f515588e95cd49886c\_img.jpg\)\)](#)
- [Second Nature's Climate Leadership Network](#)
- [The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change](#)
- [An Inconvenient Truth: Take Action](#)
- [Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education's Sustainability Tracking and Rating System \(STARS\)](#)
- [Sustainable Travel International](#)
- [United Nations Sustainable Development Goals Index \(per country\)](#)
- [Earth Deeds](#)
- [Climate Action Network for International Educators \(CANIE\) Resources](#)
- [Intercultural Outreach Initiative \(IOI\) Resources](#)
- [Tourism for SDGs](#)
- <https://centerclimatejustice.universityofcalifornia.edu/what-is-climate-justice/>