

# Regulations and guidelines for the establishment of 'Temporary Tented Structures', 'Luxury Camps' & 'Glamping Sites'

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## 1. Introduction

These regulations and guidelines were put in place to support the growing need and demand for responsible and sustainable luxury nature tourism. The intention is to create regulations and guidelines for tourism investors in the new and upcoming Glamping and Luxury Camping sector in accordance with the Ministry of Environment and Urbanisation, The Ministry of Culture and Tourism and the National Glamping Committee.

## 2. Definition of Glamping/ Luxury Camping in a Responsible Tourism environment

### a. Definition of the term 'Responsible Tourism'

According to the Centre for Responsible Tourism, responsible tourism can be defined as, "tourism that maximizes the benefits to local communities, minimizes negative social or environmental impacts, and helps local people conserve fragile cultures and habitats or species."<sup>1</sup> Responsible tourism incorporates not only responsible for the physical environment, but also an incorporation of awareness for the economic and social interactions whereas, sustainable tourism focuses more on the environmental impacts. Responsible tourism is regarded as a behaviour. It is more than a form of tourism as it represents an approach to engaging with tourism, be that as a tourist, a business, locals at a destination, or any other tourism stakeholder. It emphasizes that all stakeholders are responsible for the kind of tourism they develop or engage in. This ensures that the tourism service providers and purchasers or consumers are held accountable.<sup>2</sup> Whilst different groups will see responsibility in different ways, the shared understanding is that responsible tourism should entail an improvement in tourism. Tourism should become 'better' as a result of the responsible tourism approach.<sup>3</sup>

Focusing in particular on businesses, it has the following characteristics:<sup>4</sup>

- minimizes negative economic, environmental, and social impacts
- generates greater economic benefits for local people and enhances the well-being of host communities, improves working conditions and access to the industry
- involves local people in decisions that affect their lives and life chances
- makes positive contributions to the conservation of natural and cultural heritage, to the maintenance of the world's diversity
- provides more enjoyable experiences for tourists through more meaningful connections with local people, and a greater understanding of local cultural, social, and environmental issues
- provides access for people with disabilities and
- is culturally sensitive, engenders respect between tourists and hosts, and builds local pride and confidence.

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<sup>1</sup> CREST (2016). "The Case for Responsible Travel: Trends & Statistics 2016" (PDF).

<sup>2</sup> Leslie, David (2012). *Responsible Tourism: Concepts Theory and Practice*. Cambridge, MA: CABI. pp. 1–17.

<sup>3</sup> Apollo, Michal (2018). "Ethics in tourism as a key to development, prosperity and well-being of all stakeholders: 3rd International Congress on Ethics and Tourism, Krakow, 27–28 April 2017". *International Journal of Environmental Studies*.

<sup>4</sup> "Cape Town Declaration on Responsible Tourism". Responsible Tourism Partnership. 20 October 2014. Retrieved 9 September 2020.

Responsible tourism and sustainable tourism have the same goal, that of sustainable development. The pillars of responsible tourism are therefore the same as those of sustainable tourism – environmental integrity, social justice and maximising local economic benefits. The major difference between the two is that, in responsible tourism, individuals, organisations and businesses are asked to take responsibility for their actions and the impacts of their actions.

Sustainable development in general goes along with the concept of sustainability which, as stated by contains three main definitions: <sup>5</sup>

- Not using non-renewable resources faster than the renewable substitutes can be found for them.
- Not using renewable resources faster than they can be replenished.
- Not releasing pollutants faster than the biosphere can process them to be harmless.

### **b. Definition of the term ‘Glamping’**

A form of camping involving accommodation and facilities more luxurious than those associated with traditional camping.<sup>6</sup>

Glamping is a recent and yet unexplored concept that derives from Nature Tourism. It emerges as a new trend where glamor is combined with camping. As a result, holidaymakers want to experience memorable moments in which they are in contact with nature without losing their essential comfort and the luxury of higher quality accommodation. <sup>7</sup>

### **c. The relationship between Responsible (Sustainable) Tourism and Glamping**

The relationship between Sustainable Tourism and Glamping is the most effective means for the correct sustainable development of a tourist destination. Sustainable Tourism is a way to develop activities in the context of environmental space, without harming natural resources. Sustainability is driven by the operationalization of a planning model that aims to privilege all its dimensions, joining the concept of Sustainable Development and Accessible Tourism.

Tourism plays an important role in the world economy due to the potential of territories (material and immaterial resources). With the natural evolution of tourism comes sustainable tourism and, within the concept of sustainable tourism, ecotourism. This tourism segment is increasingly important and one of the fastest growing new types of tourism. <sup>8</sup>

Take only pictures, leave only footprints. Glamping is, by its nature, inclined towards sustainability and glamping operators are to not have this as an afterthought, but as a core tenant of their enterprises. By keeping the number of units down, one is able to focus on real ecology and growth of quality rather than quantity. This environmentalism is a core principle of glamping.<sup>9</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> Harris & Leiper 2001

<sup>6</sup> Oxford dictionary

<sup>7</sup> Fernandes, Sara & Ferreira, Daniela & Alves, Tatiana & Sousa, Bruno. (2020). Glamping and the Development of Sustainable Tourism: a preliminary approach in the Portuguese context.

<sup>8</sup> Fernandes, Sara & Ferreira, Daniela & Alves, Tatiana & Sousa, Bruno. (2020). Glamping and the Development of Sustainable Tourism: a preliminary approach in the Portuguese context.

<sup>9</sup> <https://www.glampingbusiness.com/2020/09/03/the-growth-of-glamping-in-portugal/>

### **3. Requirements of Glamping/ Luxury Camping sites in a Responsible Tourism environment**

- Environmental survey of the proposed site to be approved by the Ministry of Environment and Urbanisation, The Ministry of Culture and Tourism and the National Glamping Committee.
- The master site plan to be approved by the Ministry of Environment and Urbanisation, The Ministry of Culture and Tourism and the National Glamping Committee.
- Site specifications
  - Protection of biodiversity - Nature vs. development zoning for positive carbon footprint. Guideline: 30% allocated development area (plots) vs. 70% untouched natural environment - or as advised by the Ministry of Environment and Urbanisation, The Ministry of Culture and Tourism and the National Glamping Committee.
  - Minimum distance between plots:
  - Minimum plot size for
    - a single or double unit: 187.5 m<sup>2</sup>
    - a triple unit:
    - a suite/ quadruple/ family unit:

### **4. Requirements of Glamping/ Luxury Camping accommodation units ('temporary tented structures') in a responsible tourism environment**

#### **a. Definition of the term 'Glamping Tent' / 'Luxury Tent' / 'Temporary Tented Structure'**

A glamping tent is a temporary, one-level, removable, tented structure based on a permanent foundation or decking, setup for seasonal or permanent use for the main purpose of sustainable luxury accommodation in a natural environment. Tents with loft design are prohibited.

#### **b. Product requirements of Glamping Tents/ Luxury Tents/ Temporary Tented Structures**

- Fully sealed, insect proof sleeping cabin with en-suite bathroom; equipped with basin, toilet and shower.
- Minimum cabin size for a
  - single or double unit: 16 m<sup>2</sup>
  - triple unit:
  - suite/ quadruple/ family unit:
- Minimum bathroom size for a
  - single or double unit: 6 m<sup>2</sup>
  - triple unit:
  - suite/ quadruple/ family unit:

- Minimum shaded and waterproof outdoor living space for a
    - single or double unit: 12 m<sup>2</sup>
    - triple unit:
    - suite/ quadruple/ family unit:
  - Minimum cabin frame / peak height: 2.3 m / 3 m
- c. Required fire safety and wind stability certifications**
- Recognised fire certifications are German B1, UK 7837:1996, French M2, Spanish M2, USA (Californian fire Marshalls). Valid Test certificates can only be issued by the Bureau of standards' accredited test labs in the country of origin of the related test method. Test reports issued by other countries are invalid.
  - EU building Book of tents with a minimum wind certification of 113km/ per hour in combination with rain fall. EU regulations calculating with a safety factor of 1.5.
- d. Minimally invasive installation process**

The tent structure must be completely removable, leaving no damage to the environment. A minimally invasive setup installation in accordance with the EU building book of tents is required.

## **5. Operational requirements of Glamping / Luxury Camping projects**

### **a. Waste management & recycling**

Proposed waste management & recycling solutions are to be approved by the Ministry of Environment and Urbanisation, The Ministry of Culture and Tourism and the National Glamping Committee.

### **b. Energy solutions**

Proposed energy solutions are to be approved by the Ministry of Environment and Urbanisation, The Ministry of Culture and Tourism and the National Glamping Committee.

### **c. Wastewater & greywater management**

Proposed wastewater & greywater management solutions are to be approved by the Ministry of Environment and Urbanisation, The Ministry of Culture and Tourism and the National Glamping Committee. Traditional self-built septic tanks without water treatments are prohibited in Turkey. Applicable options are:

- Closed, removeable wastewater systems with storage tank
- Wastewater treatment plant
- Municipal wastewater system