

Vikings Retreat



Sustainability Vision

At Vikings Retreat, we are committed to creating a harmonious balance between comfort and sustainability. Our mission is to provide an exceptional short-stay holiday experience while preserving and enhancing the natural beauty that surrounds us. We believe that sustainable practices are essential for the well-being of our planet and future generations.



The Vikings Retreat is surrounded by a landscaped garden which has been developed over time to sustain diversity such as no-mow areas and margins, a large pond fed by rainwater and currently we are trying to renovate a native species hedgerow. The pond is home to frogs and water nymphs as well as newts and acts as a complete ecosystem for the surrounding garden.

Key Principles:

Environmental Stewardship

We strive to minimise our environmental footprint through energy-efficient practices, waste reduction, and the use of eco-friendly materials. Our goal is to protect and nurture the natural environment that makes our retreat unique.

Community Engagement

We support local communities through sourcing goods and services from nearby suppliers, promoting local culture, and contributing to regional economic development. We believe in fostering strong relationships with our neighbours and guests.

Sustainable Design

Our facilities are designed with sustainability in mind, incorporating renewable energy sources, water conservation measures, and sustainable building materials. We aim to create a space that is both beautiful and environmentally responsible.

Education and Awareness

We are dedicated to educating our guests and staff about sustainable practices and the importance of environmental conservation. Through our website and informational materials, we inspire others to adopt eco-friendly habits.

Waste Management

We implement comprehensive waste management strategies to minimise our impact on the environment. This includes:

- **Recycling Programs:** We have extensive recycling facilities for paper, plastic and glass. Guests are encouraged to participate in our recycling initiatives.
- **Composting:** Organic waste from our kitchen and garden is composted and used to enrich our landscaping, reducing landfill waste and promoting soil health.
- **Waste Reduction:** We prioritise reducing waste at the source by choosing products with minimal packaging, e.g. cleaning materials by Purdy and Fig; using reusable items, and encouraging guests to do the same.

- **Hazardous Waste Disposal:** We ensure that hazardous materials, such as batteries and electronics, are disposed of safely and responsibly through local certified disposal services.

Guest Participation

We provide clear information and convenient options for guests to separate and dispose of their waste correctly, making it easy for everyone to contribute to our sustainability goals.

Energy Conservation

We are committed to reducing our energy consumption and utilising renewable energy sources. Our energy conservation efforts include:

- **Renewable Energy:** We intend to harness solar energy to power our facilities, reducing our reliance on fossil fuels.
- **Energy-Efficient Appliances:** Our retreat is equipped with energy-efficient appliances and lighting to minimise energy use.
- **Smart Technology:** We use smart thermostats and lighting systems to optimise energy use based on occupancy and natural light.

Guest Involvement

We encourage guests to participate in our energy-saving initiatives by providing tips and guidelines for reducing energy consumption during their stay e.g. heating and water.

Continuous Improvement

We are committed to continuously evaluating and improving our sustainability efforts. By setting measurable goals and regularly reviewing our practices, we ensure that we remain at the forefront of sustainable tourism.

Karl and Susan Kay

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