

An illustration of a hiker from behind, wearing a green hat, a brown jacket, and a green backpack, walking through a lush green forest. The background is filled with various types of trees and foliage, with a warm, golden light filtering through the canopy.

10 green travel tips

To reduce your negative
impact on animals.



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1. No touching

Trust me, I would love to pat some fluffy wild animals too, but please don't.

First, you can be hurt.

Second wild animals are not domesticated and belong in the wild.

E.g., activities where you can touch dolphins, elephants, baby tigers, hold koalas



2. Eat local, organic & veggie

#1 reason for biodiversity is habitat destruction, driven by meat and dairy production.

So yes, on holidays, you can reduce your negative impact on animals by eating local, organic & veggie.

E.g. less steak, fish, pork, seafood

3. No feeding

Talking about food, please do not feed any wild animals.

They get dependent on this food source, their behavior starts to change & it can lead to human-wildlife conflict down the line. + the products we feed them are rarely their natural diet.

E.g., don't feed ducks, squirrels, bears, whale sharks, seals

4. Coral friendly sunscreen

Stay safe, but please use sunscreen that is coral friendly & ideally based on natural products. Or even better cover yourself up.

Ingredients of most sunscreens have been found to have negative impacts on corals & other marine life.

E.g., buy sunscreen with ocean protect, reef safe etc. logo

5. Take care of working animals

In some countries, you can have an experience where animals are transporting you.

When that is the case, have a look if the work animals are looking healthy, get enough rest, are well nurtured & not handled cruelly.

E.g., camels, horses, dog sleighs, etc.

6. Reduce water usage

Water is getting a precious resource in many countries. If we use gallons of water for baths & co. it will be missing somewhere else.

Wildlife is dependent on water sources.

It doesn't mean you must smell like an animal, but water reduction can go a long way.



7. Keep your distance

Rule of thumb animals should always decide if they want to approach you, not the other way around.

Again I love to get close to wild animals too. But they have to decide. If we come too close, we stress them out, which can lead to attacks, malnutrition, reduced reproduction & co.

E.g., on safari leave distance to the lion, swimming with whale sharks don't get in their way

8. Be careful with souvenirs

Souvenirs are lovely. They remind us of the great time we had.

Just make sure that your souvenirs didn't mess up nature.

E.g., shells, turtle shells, rare wood, ivory, corals

9. Avoid animals in captivity

Circus, wildlife parks, and animal shows are still a big hit when it comes to traveling. (I exclude scientifically run zoos here).

Most animal experiences of that sort often exploit animals and force them to behave in unnatural ways.

E.g., Sea World, circus, pseudo sanctuaries

A close-up photograph of a person's hand touching the trunk of an elephant. The person is wearing a white t-shirt and a white smartwatch. The elephant's trunk is thick and wrinkled, and the person's hand is resting on it. The background is slightly blurred, showing green foliage and a person wearing a colorful patterned shawl.

10. Don't like, but report

On Instagram, you get currently flooded with bad practices regarding human-wildlife experiences.

Rather than liking, go into a dialogue with the person that posted it and, worst case report it.

E.g., don't like pictures where tigers get petted, elephants are bathed, dolphins are held onto



What's your first reaction?

"F#%k, I did all of this."

No problem, now you know & now you can change.

Comment below if you want more details & I am happy to elaborate.



Still here?

My name is Oliver, Founder of Wildya & Wild Business Mates.

I transform
eco-anxiety into action.

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me here & hit the bell button,

