

# HOW CAN YOU MAKE TRAVEL MATTER?



Travel is an incredible gift. It can open our eyes, our hearts and our minds to the unique cultures and spellbinding beauty of the natural world. But with this gift comes a responsibility – to **protect** the world as we know it.

We encourage you to use the following checklist, developed by our **TreadRight Foundation**, as a simple way to become a more considerate traveler.

Learn more at [treadright.org](https://treadright.org) and take our **Make Travel Matter Pledge** to stand up for our **Planet, People and Wildlife**.

## 1 Do Your Research

- Choose a company that has a commitment to responsible travel and minimizes the environmental and carbon footprint of their offices and operations
  - The Travel Corporation and its family of brands are eliminating all unnecessary single-use plastics from our operations and trips by 2022. Read more about our progress [here](#).
- Request your travel documents be sent to you electronically rather than printed and mailed
  - Not only will you save a tree, but through our E-Docs Initiative, we will be planting a tree in your honor. Since 2017, we've restored more than **500 acres of forest** through this program.
- Consider a destination in *need* of tourism
- Travel to popular destinations in the off season

## 2 Be Prepared

- Pack a reusable water bottle or personal water filter
- Pack a reusable bag for shopping
- Bring your own toiletries in reusable bottles
- Consider offsetting your flight
- Research and learn local customs and traditions

## 3 Tread Right While Traveling

- Refuse single-use plastic and recycle when this cannot be avoided
- Shop and eat locally to support the community
- Purchase locally made souvenirs (preferably handmade) and pay a fair price
- Avoid any purchase of wildlife products such as ivory
- Do not ride animals that ought not be ridden
- If given the option, change sheets/towels every other day and for short stays, keep for the entire duration
- Walk, bike, or use public transportation when possible
- Take shorter showers (avoid baths)
- Turn off all lights, heat/AC, and TV when you leave your room
- When in use, keep AC at a moderate temperature
- Honor local customs and immerse yourself in the local culture

## 4 Upon Return

- Share your learnings with friends and family
- Take action and donate to an organization or make a plan to volunteer

