

[RETURN TO ONLINE PROFILE](#)

## TIPS FOR GOOD PRACTICE

### Legislation, Planning and Consultation

- Assess park and destination carrying capacity and whether your business model is viable in relation to existing lodge provision and park admission policies.
- Factor in a risk assessment to inform the location and planning of your property to avoid pollution.
- Ensure compliance with statutory regulations from National or State government authorities including State Pollution Control Boards and forest departments.
- Obtain clearance from Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (India) for projects falling under eco-sensitive zones.
- Consult with the local Gram Panchayat and community/local stakeholders, assess potential impacts on local resources, access points and waste disposal etc and obtain a no objection certificate.
- Plan to have the lowest ecological impact. Assess the availability of water in the area, valuable habitats in and around your property and wildlife corridors to protect, and natural resources that you can sustainably harvest.
- For larger lodges or resorts, conduct an Environmental Impact Assessment and use it to build better.

### Landscape

- Maximise the percentage of the site which has green cover.
- Avoid tree felling during construction where possible.
- Plant indigenous trees, shrubs, grasses and flowers to maximise biodiversity.
- Leave landscape natural to maximise water retention and help to recharge groundwater levels.
- Create water bodies to harvest rainwater and provide drinking water for wildlife.
- Allocate space for a kitchen garden to grow organic vegetables and for composting.
- Use natural materials such as sand and pebbles for pathways to reduce your carbon footprint and to allow rainwater to percolate back into the ground.
- Use natural fencing to avoid injury to wildlife or no fencing to avoid blocking wildlife movement but still keep livestock out.

### Design and Build

- Design buildings which blend with the landscape, complement local vernacular styles and cultural traditions and/or eco designs which maximise natural light, air and renewable energy.
- Harness local skills and labour.
- Carry through traditional local designs, motifs, fabrics and arts and crafts into interiors.
- Position trees adjacent to buildings to provide natural cooling.
- Use the natural features of the site to assist with drainage and rainwater harvesting.
- Use natural, sustainable, low carbon, local materials where possible and/or certified eco-labelled materials (eg [GreenPro](#) in India) (see also A-to-Z of building materials in Sustainable Hotel Siting, Design and Construction, [Operational Design](#) for an overview of building materials).
- Use recycled materials where possible for construction and furniture and consider the lifecycle of other materials you use, and their potential for re-use.
- Use natural paints, flooring, carpets and upholstery where possible or those which don't emit harmful substances such as formaldehyde.
- Plan buildings to be low carbon, zero carbon or carbon positive.



Guest cottage Mahua Kothi - Taj Safaris

### Waste Segregation

- Incorporate waste segregation facilities for effective waste management, collection and recycling including safe storage for hazardous materials.
- Develop composting, vermicomposting and/or biogas for biodegradable waste.
- Install litter bins in the grounds to avoid littering and facilitate waste segregation.

## Water

- Install a sewage treatment plant, natural (such as Root Zone or Phytorid) and/or other water treatment systems (see [Water Conservation and Treatment](#) profile) to maximise water recycling for irrigation and flushing toilets and to avoid pollution.
- Design rainwater harvesting systems – such as water bodies, wells and/or roof run off systems (see [Water](#) profile for examples) to recharge groundwater levels and provide water for wildlife.
- Install sub-metering to monitor water consumption (eg kitchen, laundry, landscape, guest accommodation) and to facilitate setting targets for water saving initiatives.

## Energy

- Plan building orientation and design to take advantage of natural light and ventilation balancing the use of natural light against the potential for cooling demand.
- Where possible, use devices such as tree planting and wide eaves to reduce or negate the need for air conditioning.
- Maximise the efficiency of the building envelop to minimise energy use/loss using natural insulation where possible.
- Install sub-metering to monitor energy use and increase energy saving.
- Install LED lights to maximise energy efficiency.
- Install solar water heating as appropriate to your site.
- Install or plan for solar photovoltaic panels on rooftops or elsewhere and other renewable energy as appropriate to maximise energy from renewable sources.
- Install one key master switches in guest rooms to turn off electricity on exit.
- Use occupancy sensors in appropriate areas.
- Install energy efficient equipment and appliances ([BEE](#) in India – 5 star is best).
- Select approved low or zero-GWP (global warming potential) refrigerants. Avoid commonly used refrigerants which are particularly harmful.<sup>4</sup>
- Make provision for electric vehicle recharging points.
- Provide storage for bicycles.



Photo: Dhole's Den

In India, please refer to the [Energy Conservation Building Code](#).

## Differently Abled People

- Provide non-slippery ramps for easy access to main public areas.
- Provide dedicated guest room/s for differently abled.
- Provide toilets in public areas for differently abled.

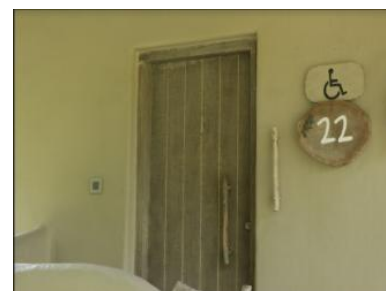


Photo: Barahi Jungle Lodge

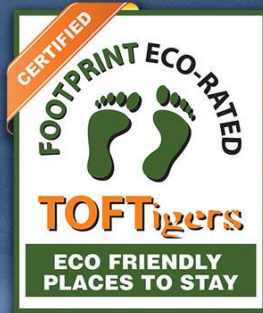
## Pollution

- Use no noise, less polluting diesel generators where required.
- Plan to avoid noise pollution for the wellbeing of your guests and wildlife.
- Avoid unnecessary outdoor light pollution.
- Provide safe storage for chemicals, oils, paints and other hazardous materials away from waterways.

**Information included may not be appropriate to every situation, destination and country and is intended for general guidance only and may be subject to change.**

## HELP US DRIVE THE CHANGE

Your corporate commitment to sustainability



TOFTigers is a global business-to-business nature travel charity with a mission to improve the ecological and economic sustainability of wildlands and wildlife across Asia. Well-planned and well-managed responsible tourism is a force for good bringing economic benefits to rural areas, restoring habitat, supporting conservation and local communities, changing poachers into protectors and giving visitors inspiring experiences of nature. We work with the travel trade, destinations, accommodation providers, governmental and conservation organisations to make this happen through training, advocacy, certification, promoting best practice and partnership working.

Our **certification programmes** place local communities, nature and environmental sustainability at the heart of business operations. They are a symbol of assurance for travellers and the travel trade that the places they select to stay at have been reviewed by environmental experts and exceed a minimum standard on a journey towards best practice. The PUG certification is recognised by the United Nation's Global Sustainable Tourism Council (GSTC) and is aimed solely at nature focused accommodation. The Footprint certification has a broader client base that is not wholly nature focused and encompasses accommodation providers in rural, natural or more urban landscapes.

[Sign up for certification](#), [get involved in our campaign](#) or view sustainable travel options [on our website](#) and download the [Great Wildlife Travel Guide](#).

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