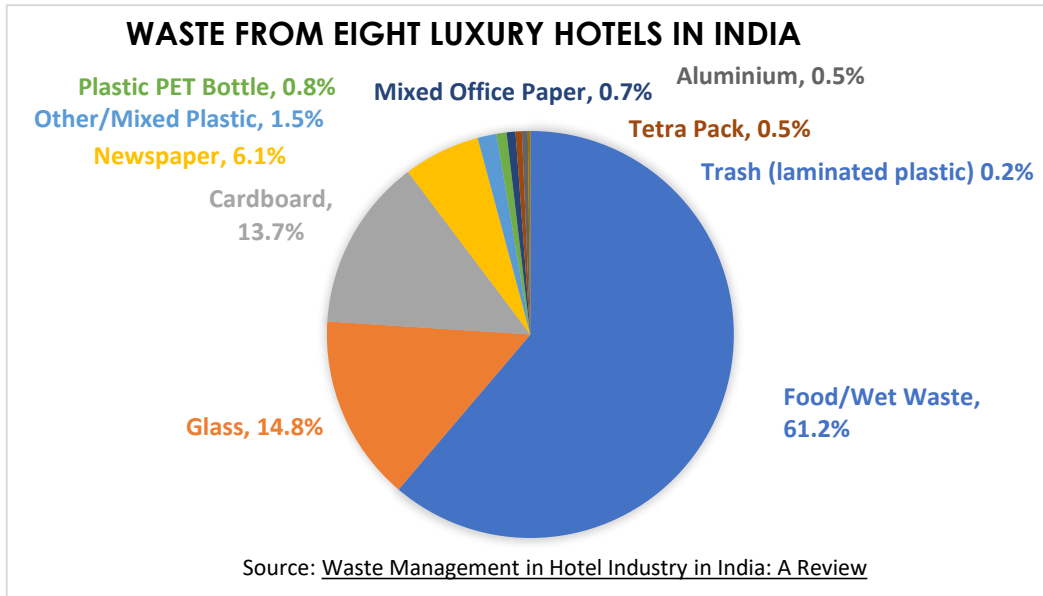


Know What Your Rubbish Is

Segregating and analysing waste is the key to understanding what can be refused, reduced, reused, recycled or recovered (five Rs; six including respect for waste workers). Each resort's waste profile is different. Table 1 represents the average waste from eight luxury hotels in India.

TABLE 1



Waste Segregation

- Segregate waste into food and organic waste; dry recyclable waste and non-recyclable waste - clean and separated waste can have a recycling value which is reduced or lost if waste is mixed and soiled.
- Explore local recycling options and segregate dry waste into separate streams to facilitate recycling or safe disposal.
- Provide separate bins to facilitate waste segregation.
- Label collection bins clearly.



Image: Waste Warriors.

Waste Management, Training and Awareness

- Step 1: **Secure support** - set up a green team from each facility operation (housekeeping, kitchen, grounds, purchasing) to provide support and input for waste reduction activities.
- Step 2: **Conduct a waste assessment/audit** to identify waste volumes, review existing waste management practices and costs, identify per capita waste (eg for food in high and low season) and which parts of the waste stream could be refused, recycled, reduced, reused or re-used.
- Step 3: **Develop a waste reduction plan** setting priorities and goals based on the audit and considering the environmental impact of frequently used products.
- Step 4: **Implement the programme**
 - Educate employees on their waste reduction responsibilities, monitor during peak and low season, evaluate and fine-tune waste reduction, reuse and recycling efforts.
 - Educate your guests on recycling through briefing and notices.
 - Spread awareness about waste and recycling amongst local authorities, community and schools.
 - Review and set new targets annually for different waste streams.

Start practicing solid waste management yourself – at home and in your workplace - and then at a community level. Practising it yourself enables you to understand the problems and communicate solutions to educate others.

Reducing Waste and Recycling

- Select or work with suppliers to reduce packaging.
- Repair or mend broken items.
- Find new uses for old or discarded materials.
- Pool resources and explore cooperative recycling and waste disposal with other lodges, NGOs such as Waste Warriors or the local community.
- Catalyse opportunities for micro-enterprises for upcycling and reusing materials.
- Donate used items to the local community, schools and NGOs where appropriate to do so such as used linen, furnishings, clothing, paints, computer and electrical items in safe working order.



Cleaning up Litter

- Implement regular cleanliness drives on and at least ten metres around your property.
- Extend your cleanliness drives to the local area and help to raise awareness amongst the local community on litter and solid waste management.
- Join millions globally – participate annually in World Clean Up Day.

Kitchen and Food

- Develop a food and kitchen hygiene policy to ensure proper segregation of waste inside the kitchen and appropriate processing of food waste to natural compost.
- Separate wet from dry waste to enable the maximum possible to be recycled.
- Monitor how much food you are wasting (per meal, guest or category of food) and adjust ordering/servings accordingly.
- Allow staff to consume food left over or donate surplus to local communities/NGOs if safe to do so.
- Convert all food and horticultural waste into natural compost to be used within your premises. There are options for all scales, landscapes and weather conditions.



- Use or give away appropriate food waste for animal feed (eg pigs, goats and chickens) if safe and legally permitted to do so.
- Cut down or cut out plastic and aluminium wraps and packaging for kitchen use where possible.
- Go plastic free on safaris and picnics; use compostable or reusable food containers, plates, glassware and cutlery.
- Cut down on tinned goods and tetra-paks where possible.

Garden and Weeds

- Compost organic waste from the garden such as leaves and cuttings with appropriate food waste to produce natural compost.
- Catalyse innovative local enterprise uses for lantana, an invasive weed, and other organic waste materials.
- Install labelled litter bins in your grounds if appropriate.

A small number of lodges use biogas units to process some of their biodegradable waste producing gas for cooking alongside LPG.

Drinks

- Discourage visitors from using plastic bottled water; offer or show alternative solutions.
- Use reverse osmosis (RO) and provide drinking stations and/or reusable bottles for guests.
- Use glass bottled water in the restaurant and/or offer RO treated water instead.
- Provide portable drinking water bottles (eg steel) for guests for use on safari.
- Only provide straws where needed (eg for differently abled) and use reusable varieties (eg bamboo, stainless steel, or glass).
- Consider replacing drinks in tetra packs with fresh, home-made alternatives.
- Use glass jars for coffee and sugar etc in guest rooms instead of sachets.



Photo Ricky Patel.

Plastic

- Avoid single-use plastic.
- Say no to plastic bottles and straws (see drinks above).
- Use refillable ceramic or glass containers for guest toiletries.
- Use plastic free toothbrushes and cotton buds.
- Offer paper or cloth bags instead of plastic – some PUG-rated lodges are making their own from recycled newspaper and recycled linen.
- Find new uses for plastic such as plant pots, local construction as appropriate, or encourage local enterprise upcycling eg making plastic film into crocheted bags, packing tape into shopping bags.

Textiles

- Find new uses for old textiles such as bags.
- Give used linen, blankets and fabrics to the local community or NGOs.

E Waste

- Donate computers and electronic items in safe working condition to local community, schools or NGOs.
- Recycle or ensure safe disposal of items such as CFL bulbs.
- Find and use your nearest authorised e-waste centre or collector.

Paper

- Don't print unless necessary.
- Encourage paperless payments and send paperwork, invoices and receipts by email where possible.
- Print on both sides of the paper and recycle.
- Upcycle or use recycled or sustainably sourced paper; some PUG-rated lodges are making their own stationery and bags from recycled paper.
- Collect wet and dry waste separately to maximise paper recycling.

WASTE WARRIORS

Dry Non-recyclable Waste

	Used Tissue Paper or Cloth with sanitary waste, blood, puss, snot or any other human discard.		Medical Waste
	Dirty, old or unusable recyclables		Soiled Diapers/Pads or any other type of sanitary waste

Furniture

- Donate old furniture to your local school, community or NGOs.
- Use recycled wood for furniture or vintage furniture.

Bathroom

- Use refillable ceramic or glass containers for guest toiletries.
- Use bamboo toothbrushes and cotton buds instead of plastic.
- Donate used soap and toiletries to staff, NGOs, schools or local community.

Biomedical, Chemical and Other Hazardous Waste (see also e-waste above)

- Chemicals such as paints, kerosene and solvents should be kept in closed bins with labelling and kept out of reach of children, away from flammable substances or waterways and disposed of at designated hazardous waste management sites.
- Dispose of medical waste at centralised biomedical waste facilities.
- Dispose of sanitary waste at designated hazardous waste management sites
- Dispose of batteries through authorised centres or collectors.
- Use natural products, environmentally friendly chemicals, and biodegradable soaps and detergents.



Overspilling dump. Photo: Waste Warriors

What to Avoid

- Burning waste causes pollution; burning plastic spreads toxic fumes.
- Tipping toxic or polluting waste into waterways is harmful for people and wildlife.
- Open dumping is bad for wildlife, public health and unsightly for guests.
- Burying waste merely hides the problem and creates unnecessary pollution.
- Tipping cooking oil down the sink without a grease trap can interfere with your water treatment system and cause pollution.

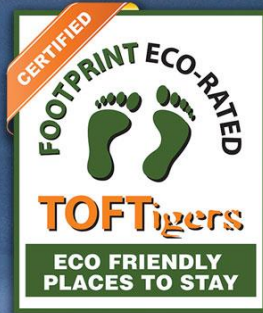
Information included may not be appropriate to every situation, destination and country and is intended for general guidance only and may be subject to change.

Take only memories, leave nothing but footprints

Photo: Tigers Tops

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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Correct at time of press. 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.

Compiled for TOFTigers by [Positive Nature](#) and [Sycom Projects Consultants Pvt Ltd](#), March 2021

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