



Sustainability Policy

Orosei AdvenTours by Looking for Viaggi

OUR MISSION

“Our mission is to create unforgettable itineraries for our customers and show them the “real” Sardinia by respecting its inhabitants, nature and culture. We support a sustainable society and sustainable trade by collaborating with stakeholders who have the same sustainability awareness and want to foster a slow tourism model. We want to show the traveller that Sardinia is not just sea but has many other beauties off the beaten track. Empathy, consciousness and kindness are three key words of our mission.”

This policy outlines what we have already managed, what we are currently doing, and what we hope to achieve in the future. It defines practices at the core of our product development, operations, and external partner relationships. It is a work in progress for everyone in our company. We therefore commit to the following objectives:

- Comply with all relevant legislation and embed sustainable development principles into core business practices
- Use our position to drive sustainability within our destination(s)
- Preserve our environment and continually improve our environmental performances
- Optimize our social impact to enhance local livelihoods and prevent tourism leakages (we support local businesses, artisans, shepherds, tour guides, etc. making them part of our business network.)
- Provide information, training and support to colleagues and external partners, to engage them towards sustainability (we have several collaborations with companies who foster sustainable practices such awareness-raising for the respect of the environment and the elimination of single-use plastics. We are planning to organize more events and excursions with such organizations/ companies in order to make our travelers and partners more aware of the importance of reducing waste, saving materials, protecting nature, etc.)
- Provide sustainable information about our products to encourage our clients to opt for sustainable travel options.
- Engage in the creation of events that inform about sustainability practices, the protection of the environment and a low-impact kind of tourism.

In our offices

- We ensure our employees understand our goals and are accountable for the implementation of our sustainable policies
- We monitor, reduce and manage waste in a responsible way (we purchase products which are less damaging to the environment such as soap and detergents we buy from companies that offer this kind of products to clean the office and our vehicles)
- We have purchased a water purifier both in the office and in our excursion centre to have drinking water in the office and to offer our customers the possibility of refilling their water bottles during the excursions, thus reducing the use of plastic
- We advise our customers to bring their water bottles in order to avoid unnecessary plastic waste or gadgets. Our policy is to reuse, reduce and recycle
- We measure our use of natural resources especially energy and look for ways to reduce them (our office is very small, about 50 m2, and half of our staff works from home in order to reduce the energy consumption and heating/ cooling system)
- We purchase local products where we can and limit the use of small packaging (use of recycled paper, use of fountain water in order to avoid the use of plastic, use of reusable coffee cups or recycled paper coffee cups, use of recycled toilet paper, etc.)
- We respect our employees, their diversity and advance their wellbeing wherever we can
- We share best practices and raise awareness on sustainability among our teams and partners
- We communicate on our achievements against our sustainable goals, internally and externally thorough reporting at least once a year
- We share our best practices on social networks: events, excursions, trash-collecting campaigns, etc

On the ground

- Orosei AdvenTours by Looking for Viaggi prefers to work with locally owned businesses reflecting local cultures (hotels, agriturismo, lodges, restaurants, handicraft outlets, arts and culture centers).

- We drive positive change within our supply chain, monitor their sustainable practices, share best practices.

- We ensure that travels we organize do not have adverse effects on the environment or society, especially sensitive activities that may bring travelers into contact with wildlife, animals, local communities, etc.

- We give back to neighboring communities by supporting projects addressing local development challenge, encouraging fair employment opportunities and wellbeing advancement.

- We promote Responsible Tourism in our industry and to stakeholders we engage with in our destination.

- We put our clients and guests at the forefront of our business and help them to make informed decisions when travelling.

-Equal opportunities: We mostly collaborate with local people, as we are a very small agency and we just operate on our island, Sardinia. This makes sense as these are usually the people who know the destination the best, and it means we are providing employment in the destination. This way, we can create original and proven itineraries to our customers, which are "tested" by our team and which can be tailor-made and adapted to the customers' needs easily. We adopt the same philosophy when we look for new partners and external collaborators.

In addition, our philosophy is inclusive. One of our internal staff members is 100% physically disabled in a wheelchair. In the case of minor conflicts within the agency, we try to adopt empathetic and open communication so as to avoid misunderstandings or bad feelings that may affect the working atmosphere. The multiculturalism of our team is also very positive because it makes us appreciate everyone's strengths. In fact, in our small team there are many different nationalities: Italian-Sardinian, German-Spanish and Algerian-French, so we are very open to other cultures.

-Transport to destination and on site: We mainly offer trips to small groups or families, for which we create tailor-made programmes. We avoid mass tourism and big groups also to preserve the natural places we visit during our excursions. We usually encourage our customers to come by ferry with their own car rather than taking a flight and then renting a car. This is usually less expensive and also has less impact on the environment, as ferries transport a higher number of passengers per route. If we book flights for our clients, we encourage to choose the most efficient route (e.g., preference for direct flights and avoidance of layovers) for both time and carbon efficiency. Unfortunately, the use of public transportation is not a good choice as there's not an efficient railroad network and buses also just travel to the main cities or it takes a long time to get to destinations and moving around the destinations is almost impossible with public transport. If someone wants to choose this option, we encourage them

and try to create the best itinerary in order to move around by public transport. We also advise our customers to use an appropriate vehicle for the size of the group (size of coaches or cars).

-Local transport: If the customers want to stay at the same destination for the whole trip, we encourage them to come by public transport and then book day-tours in a group. This way, they share a car with other customers and don't use a car just for their small group, get to know the culture and support the local economy. For some of the excursions we offer we need 4x4 vehicles such as Land Rover Defender but we only drive with these vehicles on roads or dirt roads and not through vegetation, dunes, etc. We encourage customers to join a group and not book an exclusive tour for just a few people. We also offer many kayaking tours, bike tours, hiking and walking tours in order to avoid the use of motorized vehicles, which are preferred by many customers.

-Sustainable accommodations policy: Many of the suppliers we choose such as hotels, campsites, local guides, boat tours, etc. have an environmental awareness even if not many of them have official certificates. In Sardinia we work a lot with family-owned agriturismo or rural B&B homes (rural accommodation), which have a high environmental awareness, use local products in the kitchen (sometimes produced by them), hire local people and collaborate with local guides. That's why we try to recommend this kind of accommodation to our clients even if, at a first stage, they would like to stay in a big resort on the beach. The sensibilization process is a key factor for the agents who work in our agency and most of the time we are able to convince the client of the importance of choosing a more sustainable accommodation. We are developing a list of preferred accommodations, rating them on behalf of friendliness, sustainability, beauty, surroundings, etc. We also try to increase the awareness of our suppliers by talking to them about sustainability, raising their awareness on plastic use for packaging and water, energy consumption, etc. We are continuously looking for more sustainable accommodations we can collaborate with.

-Child and compulsory labour: Orosei AdvenTours by Looking for Viaggi does not contract accommodations, directly nor indirectly that are involved in compulsory labour, or that employ children to complete work that is normally undertaken by adults. There are special working times and conditions for children (< 14 years old) working within the business, in accordance with the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and/or the ILO convention 138.

-Activities: Excursion providers for Orosei AdvenTours by Looking for Viaggi do not offer products or services that harm humans, animals, plants, natural resources (e.g., water/energy), or products that are socially/culturally unacceptable. No activities where captive wildlife is held are offered. Excursions, which include interactions with wildlife, comply with relevant codes of conduct. Any disturbance of natural ecosystems is minimized. We don't support the following activities:

- Animal shows/performances (e.g., elephant shows, dolphinarium)
- Visits to schools/orphanages
- Sightseeing tours on big boats that harm beaches and marine life
- Visits to specific communities for voyeurism purposes
- Hunting activities

- Wildlife featuring: We do not offer excursions or activities where there are captive animals. The only tours where you can see animals (always in the wild) is during mountain tours, where you see horses, cows, sheep and goats.

We are also very keen to be well informed about how the shepherds we work with treat the animals. As environmental guides, we are especially careful to protect the local fauna and flora.

- **Wildlife harvesting:** Orosei AdvenTours by Looking for Viaggi is really committed to protecting the environment. All our guides follow this code of conduct and travellers are informed during our tour. Wildlife species are not harvested, consumed, displayed, sold, or traded, except as part of a regulated activity that ensures that their utilization is sustainable and in compliance with local, national and international law. The supplier does not promote souvenirs or food that contain threatened flora and fauna species as indicated in the CITES treaty and the IUCN 'Red List'. Should any such criminal behavior come to light, Orosei AdvenTours by Looking for Viaggi reserves the right to terminate the contract without notice.

- **Wildlife interactions:** Orosei AdvenTours by Looking for Viaggi is really committed to protecting the environment. All our guides follow this code of conduct and travellers are informed during our tour. We ensure that during excursions no trash is left behind, people don't walk on protected areas such as dunes, people don't take home sand, stones or any objects found in nature, people don't disturb fauna by screaming or being too loud, etc. Should any such criminal behavior come to light, Orosei AdvenTours by Looking for Viaggi reserves the right to terminate the contract without notice. Excursions that include interactions with animals comply with relevant codes of conduct. Taking into account cumulative impacts of wildlife tourism, activities shall not lead to any adverse effects on the viability and behavior of populations in the wild. Disturbance of natural ecosystems shall be minimized, rehabilitated, and compensated by a contribution to conservation management.

- **Forbidden souvenirs:** Orosei AdvenTours by Looking for Viaggi always supports environmental and biodiversity protection. One amongst us holds a Masters in Environmental Sciences and his knowledge makes it easier to transmit these values to our partners and clients. We do not allow the purchase of souvenirs containing threatened flora and fauna species, any illegally obtained historic/archaeological artefacts, drugs or illegal substances, and abide by local and international laws in place to prevent this. We inform our clients about the fact that it is forbidden to take with them anything found in nature: fauna, flora, stones, sand, stalagmites, stalactites, coral, etc. There are severe fines in these cases.

Please consult:

<https://www.ambienteambienti.com/pesanti-sanzioni-per-chi-preleva-sassi-e-sabbia-in-sardegna/>

https://www.sardegnaforeste.it/flora_fauna/

<https://ecocentrica.it/i-souvenir-che-non-dovete-portare-a-casa-dalle-vacanze/>

- **Skilled guides:** Orosei AdvenTours by Looking for Viaggi only works with certified guides: Tourist Guides certified by the Region of Sardinia or Environmental Guides certified by the Region of Sardinia or AIGAE (for trekking). The guides:

-Have an intimate knowledge of the area in which they work (e.g., they grew up in the region or they have a deep understanding of the area).

-Have a high knowledge of the environment in which the tour takes place, including the surrounding nature (e.g., geography, flora, fauna) and culture (e.g., heritage sites, local communities, traditions).

-Speak the local languages/dialects.

-Speak the language of your target clientele or English

-Have a license for guiding awarded by the local government, national tourism council, tourist board, official guides associations, or any other respected tourist authority.

-Are skilled and licenced to lead specialised activities (e.g., trekking, biking, mountaineering, rock climbing, kayaking)

-Supporting local communities during tours: For Orosei AdvenTours by Looking for Viaggi the support of local workers is very important. Many of our tours include experiences in contact with local communities, which make the experience unforgettable for both the customer and the local operator, who opens up to the world and new cultures through their visit. There is a mutual exchange during which the traveller becomes a local person and the local person becomes a traveller. These are some examples of tours where local openers are the key players:

-Tour to discover the Supramonte mountains with a typical shepherd's lunch. It can often be combined with cheese and cooking workshops:

<https://www.roseiadventours.com/escursioni/orgosolo-experience-con-pranzo-dal-pastore/>

-Traditional pasta workshop with tasting: <https://www.roseiadventours.com/escursioni/le-mani-in-pasta-laboratorio-e-tour-a-rosei/>

-Tour to the vineyard with the farmer and with wine tasting and the possibility of dining between the rows of vines: <https://www.roseiadventours.com/escursioni/tour-in-4x4-a-rosei-tra-nuraghi-ed-il-vino-cannonau/>

-Cultural tour of the Cedrino valley with a visit to a brewery that received the award for the most sustainable farm in Sardinia in 2020 because it manages to close the production cycle almost 100% with products from the farm itself. With explanations of the brewing process by the brewmaster and tasting combined with food produced in the same farm, such as veal meat, pork meat, bread, pasta:

<https://www.birrificiomarduk.com/>

-Tour of the Bitti area with a visit to a company producing ceramic objects:

<http://www.terrapintada.com/>

-Tour with a visit to the company of a cork manufacturer, a 100% sustainable material because not a single mg of material is thrown away in the production process, everything is used for different purposes: insulation, fashion, decorative objects, shoes, etc. : <https://tpcorksolutions.it/>

-Accessible destinations: We see it as a social and a business responsibility to consider accessibility when selecting new destinations and accommodation. We have a selection of hotels and activity providers / shops that are wheelchair accessible, as one of our team members has a handicap and uses one, so it's even more important to us. Our partners and collaborators are chosen with care and are open minded and kind and empathetic, open to diversity and other cultures. We have created a new itinerary for people with reduced mobility: <https://www.evaneos.fr/italie/itineraire/28861-decouverte-centre-nord-sardaigne-pour-personnes-a-mobilite-reduite/>