



Sheraton Athlone Hotel Environmental Policy

The Sheraton Athlone Hotel, is proud to announce it is now a member of the Green Hospitality Program and we are currently working towards achieving our first Eco Label Award in 2023.

The Green Hospitality Program is the largest Irish environmental accreditation program for the hospitality sector. The management and all our associates are dedicated to conducting business in a manner that reduces our impact on the environment to allow visitors to choose “Greener” Hospitality businesses, knowing that defined criteria are being implemented and monitored. For more information please visit www.greenhospitality.ie

We recognise that our business has an important role to play in protecting and enhancing the environment for future generations and to help secure the long-term sustainability of the Tourism Industry.

To this end we, at the Sheraton Athlone Hotel, are committed to taking the following actions;

- Achieve sound environmental practices across our entire operation and achieve third-party environmental certification recognition, via the Green Hospitality Programme.
- Reduce, reuse, and recycle the resources consumed by our business wherever possible.
- Manage waste and develop recycling to a higher percentage every year, and therefore less to land fill.
- Create an Environmental Action Plan setting out our planned actions-current and future.
- Comply fully with all relevant environmental legislation.
- Reduce our water and energy consumption at every opportunity.
- Develop and implement a Green Purchasing Policy that actively favours local and responsibly sourced goods and services.
- Work with suppliers to reduce carbon footprint.
- Provide all associates with the coaching and resources required to meet our objectives.
- Communicate these policies and relevant environmental strategies to team members, suppliers, and guests.
- Review and update this Policy annually and report on our progress in achieving our Goals and Targets against key performance indicators and benchmarking.

The following are actions that are being undertaken by us to minimise our impact on the environment.

Saving Energy

- Carrying out the replacement of all lighting with LED lighting.
- All back of house areas have been installed with energy saving lighting sensors.
- Installation of meters per hotel department, to assist with improved monitoring and usage of energy.
- Property BMS and HVAC systems to manage energy demand efficiently throughout the property public spaces and back of house areas, while maintain constant fresh air flow throughout all areas of the property.

Water Consumption

- As all associates use water daily, it is a must that water conservation behaviours and practices be integrated into operations while not negatively impacting the guest experience.
- Housekeeping can focus on water usage reduction during room cleanings, while Food & Beverage associates implement water conservation techniques in the kitchen.
- Engineering contributes to reducing the property's water consumption by installing low-flow fixtures and focusing on preventive maintenance and building system efficiencies.

Reduce Waste

- All our waste is segregated in all departments, monitored by our in-house green team, with monthly results tracking our progress in reducing landfill waste and increasing recycling waste.
- All food & beverage takeaway materials are fully recyclable.
- Undertake a review of all single packaging, to minimise use of same.
- Partnering with companies such as **Foodie save** to assist in eliminating food waste. Visit www.foodiesave.com
- Our kitchen monitors food waste, shelf-life and portion control to minimise waste and food expiration.
- In room guest water is available via "natural well source" and also served in 88% plant-based package which is fully recyclable.
- Our Front Desk & Reservations team provide guests with digital confirmation letters, guest billing and correspondence where possible.
- Online check-in and check-out via Marriott Bonvoy Mobile.
- Focus is placed on reducing all paper material provided to guests and instead directing guests to digital based information sources. To see all these services please visit: www.planmysheratonstay.com

Purchasing

- Our suppliers have commitment to green environmental policies to reduce packaging waste and to improve the environmental impact of all products supplied to us and purchased by us.
- Our first choice is always to buy local thereby reducing food miles wherever possible without compromising quality
- Using Irish meats, poultry and fish in order to reduce the distance that food must travel to get from farm to fork.
- All our coffee is fully ethical and fair-trade from sustainable source and handled by an Irish based supplier.

What can you do to help?

- Switch off lights when you're not using them.
- Re-use your towels more than once.
- Unplug phone chargers or any electrical equipment when not in use.
- Close the windows when the heating is on.
- Switch off heating or cooling when not in the room.
- Turn off taps when you are cleaning your teeth or shaving.
- Shower time – showers use a third less of water than a bath.
- Cuppa – only boil the amount of water that you need.
- Recycle – make sure you recycle as much as possible and segregate your waste.
- Where possible avail of public transport as your first option rather than your last option.

We welcome any questions or suggestions. Please do not hesitate to contact us at Reception.