

# **Environmental Stewardship/Kaitiakitanga Policy**

## **OUR COMMITMENT**

Fortis Events is committed to operating in an environmentally responsible and sustainable manner. As an event management company delivering inbound travel and event experiences across New Zealand, we recognise our role in protecting the natural environment that underpins our industry.

We aim to minimise the environmental impact of our operations and the programmes we deliver, while supporting conservation, cultural respect, and sustainable tourism practices.

## **OUR APPROACH**

Fortis Events integrates environmental awareness into all aspects of our business, including event design, supplier selection, and on-the-ground delivery. We are committed to continuous improvement and aligning with New Zealand's sustainability principles, including kaitiakitanga (guardianship of the environment).

## **KEY PRINCIPLES**

### **1. Sustainable Event Design**

- Design programmes that minimise environmental impact without compromising guest experience
- Prioritise venues and activities with strong sustainability practices
- Encourage low-impact experiences that showcase New Zealand's natural environment responsibly
- Reduce unnecessary resource use in event production

### **2. Responsible Supplier Selection**

- Work with suppliers who demonstrate environmental responsibility and sustainable practices
- Prioritise local businesses to reduce transport emissions and support regional economies
- Encourage partners to reduce waste, energy consumption, and single-use materials

### **3. Waste Reduction & Resource Management**

- Minimise single-use plastics and packaging wherever possible
- Encourage digital documentation over printed materials
- Implement recycling and composting practices at events where available
- Work with venues to ensure responsible waste disposal

### **4. Carbon Awareness**

- Consider transport emissions when designing itineraries

- Promote efficient routing and group transport solutions
- Encourage clients to consider carbon-conscious travel options

#### **5. Protecting Natural & Cultural Environments**

- Ensure all programmes respect New Zealand's unique ecosystems and biodiversity
- Educate guests on responsible travel behaviours (e.g. "leave no trace")
- Support experiences that respect and incorporate Māori cultural values and environmental stewardship
- Avoid activities that negatively impact wildlife or natural habitats

#### **6. Community & Conservation Support**

- Incorporate opportunities for clients to engage in conservation or community-based initiatives
- Support local environmental projects and responsible tourism operators
- Contribute positively to the communities in which we operate

#### **7. Staff Engagement**

- Encourage environmental awareness among our team
- Promote sustainable practices within our office and day-to-day operations
- Provide ongoing education to staff on responsible tourism and event delivery

### **CLIENT & STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT**

We work closely with our clients to:

- Incorporate sustainability objectives into programme planning
- Offer environmentally responsible alternatives and recommendations
- Communicate the environmental impact of event choices where relevant

### **CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT**

Fortis Events is committed to regularly reviewing and improving our environmental practices.

We will:

- Monitor and evaluate our sustainability efforts
- Seek feedback from clients, suppliers, and stakeholders
- Stay informed on industry best practices and evolving standards

Fortis Events believes that delivering exceptional experiences and protecting New Zealand's environment go hand in hand. Through thoughtful planning and responsible practices, we aim to create meaningful, memorable events that showcase Aotearoa whilst leaving a positive legacy.