

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY 2022

REDUCE RECYCLE REUSE

Since we first came to Blue Seas in April 2001, we have been very conscious of the impact of our business on the local and wider environment. Each year we review and develop our policy and goals in order to minimize our carbon footprint.

HERE ARE OUR 5 KEY CHALLENGES

1. Reduce energy consumption:

ENERGY/HEATING/WATER

2. Sustainable and local product sourcing:

WHAT COMES IN.....

3. Maximum recycling and reduction of landfill waste:

WHAT GOES OUT...

4. Promotion of car free and carbon free transport.

5. Encouragement of guest participation via communication.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

INITIATIVES

1. ENERGY

We get our electricity and gas from Ecotricity. This is produced 100% from renewable sources including wind power, which has no harmful emissions.

We have already reduced our overall consumption of electricity by using low energy LED bulbs, low energy TV's and switching off (where possible) all unused electrical devices.

HEATING

At present we have a gas boiler for our central heating and hot water. The condensation system was the most energy efficient on the market at the time of installation. We are currently researching the best heat pump to replace it. To maximize the efficiency of the existing heating we have individual Wi-Fi connected radiator valves in each room.

WATER

To cut down water usage we have installed flow reducers on taps where possible and dual flush toilets. Heated towel rails enable us to save on washing towels unnecessarily. Smaller kettles limit the amount of water boiled each time. We try and water the garden from our water butts thanks to the frequent Cornish rainfall.

PRODUCTS

Wherever possible we source our ingredients from local producers, which both lowers food miles and supports the local economy. A list of our Cornish suppliers is available on our breakfast menu. We try to use organic, rainforest alliance and fair trade products when we have to source non-locally. The herb garden on our back patio supplies all our herbs and flowers in season.

CLEANING

All of our cleaning products come from Green My Business who offer eco-friendly and toxic free products that come in large volume containers. We use these to refill our own reusable bottles.

TOILETRIES

Our toiletries come from Pure Nuff Stuff in Chapel Street. Each product is natural, ecofriendly and handmade on site.

Our toilet paper is FSC Forests for all approved.

2. WASTE

We compost our kitchen waste and buy in bulk to reduce packaging. We print as little as possible and only use recycled paper for our napkins and note books. Our menus are from St Austell Printing Company, a carbon balanced printer and one of the UK's most environmentally friendly companies.

RECYCLING

Although recycling is not always the answer and we aim to produce less waste, recycling facilities have greatly improved in Penwith since we first started. We can now recycle cardboard, paper, cans, glass, plastic, foil, bottles, yoghurt pots, plastic trays and batteries.

Any furniture or decorative items that can be re-used are given away through the associations Gofa and Freecycle.

PLASTIC

This year we are trying to further reduce our consumption of single-use plastics. We use glass water bottles in the bedrooms and encourage guests to refill their own bottles with the excellent Cornish tap water from the jar in the lounge. We now also make our own natural yoghurt in small re-usable glass jars and use wooden/bamboo cutlery for our packed lunches. In the kitchen beeswax and paper wraps have replaced cling film and we buy our loose fruit and vegetables from Thornes Greengrocers in muslin/paper bags. This year we have switched to buying our milk from Thornes in reusable glass bottles.

In 2017 Penzance won the first Plastic Free Town status award. Surfers Against Sewage charity praised the town for community beach cleans and the drive of many local businesses to reduce single-use plastics. Blue Seas is one of the many traders in Penzance to be recognized as a Plastic Free Champion.

3. TRANSPORT

Penwith is lucky to have a very good local bus service with regular buses from Penzance to other towns and tourist sites. In the summer there is the Atlantic Coaster open top service offering a panoramic ride along the north coast between Lands End and St Ives.

There is also a frequent mainline train service travelling up the centre of Cornwall with 5 scenic adjoining branch lines (e.g. St Ives Bay Line and Truro to Falmouth). Local councils and residents have fought to maintain these less economic lines and we hope that our visitors will support them

FOR THE FUTURE

We are hopeful that electric and hybrid cars will soon become more mainstream in the southwest. Cornwall council has already installed charging points at schools, council offices, supermarkets and some tourist attractions. We are currently hoping to apply for a sustainability grant to be able to install an electric charging point here in our car park.

3. WHAT CAN YOU DO?

There are many ways you can help us.

Switching off televisions and lights when you leave the room. Reusing towels to save water and electricity. Recycling as much as possible using the recycling bags which are emptied daily. We are happy to dispose of any larger items too.

We hope that guests will use the excellent local public transport services during their stay and enjoy the benefits of car free and car parking charge free travel.

NEW FOR 2022

We are happy to offer guests a courtesy glass water bottle from Just Water in their rooms. We hope that you will use refillable bottles for a longer stay and excursions. In the guest lounge there is a large jar for your refills. If you need one, we offer a Blue Seas aluminium 500ml bottle, which you can purchase at cost for £ 12.00

E Bike Cornwall - electric bikes available to hire from Penzance.

SUSTAINABLE GARDENING

Initiatives include use of peat free compost, no pesticides, no plastic pots and the planting of native plants and those that attract the most insects.

USEFUL LINKS

Surfers Against Sewage: sas.org.uk

Plastic Free Penzance: plasticfreepz.co.uk

Green My Business: greenmybusiness.co.uk

St Austell Printing Company: sapc.co.uk

Pure Nuff Stuff: purenuffstuff.co.uk

Kernow Transport: firstgroup.com

E Bike Cornwall: www.ebikecornwall.com