

Sustainability Code of Good Practice

Rock Climbing & Abseiling

As part of our commitment to advancing sustainable tourism, we encourage tourism partners to improve their sustainability performance by providing them with the guidance below.

- ✓ Ensure applicable legal **permits & permission** to access the activity area are in place
- ✓ Ensure **insurance** is in place for participants and team
- ✓ Identify **health & safety** risks, implement management systems, and provide appropriate safety equipment
- ✓ Ensure enough team members are available in case of **emergency**
- ✓ Monitor activity **area conditions** (including weather) in advance & during the activity
- ✓ Be familiar with activity area and ensure that **navigation and communication** tools are in good working order
- ✓ Maximise local **economic benefits** through employment and purchasing
- ✓ Avoid single use & disposable items, pack out what you take in, and pick up any **rubbish** found along the way
- ✓ Use **eco-friendly products**, e.g., cleaning products
- ✓ Be **waterwise** and take pro-active measures to use water sparingly
- ✓ Minimise **energy** used in the activity as part of a climate action strategy
- ✓ Provide **information in advance** about your sustainability actions, activity accessibility, what to expect, and what to bring with
- ✓ **Screen participants** ahead of time to make sure that the activity is well suited to their fitness & level of ability
- ✓ Manage **group size** to minimise impacts on people & the planet, and ensure safe guide : participant ratio
- ✓ Obtain written confirmation, e.g., via **indemnity**, that participants are aware of activity risks
- ✓ **Brief participants** before the activity starts about do's and don'ts , safety, what to expect, applicable etiquette / conduct to be respectful of, logistical considerations, hazards to be aware of, not disturbing / removing flora and fauna, rubbish collection and disposal, 'bush toilet' etiquette, and rules regarding alcohol and fires
- ✓ Share **information** about local nature & culture, as well as social development / conservation projects that participants may want to support
- ✓ Show **respect** for the land, waterways, wildlife, and other activity area users
- ✓ Use **existing tracks** to access the base of climbing / abseiling routes
- ✓ Avoid excessive use of **chalk and fixed equipment**, including bolts (galvanised bolts to be avoided)
- ✓ Avoid **chipping rock and removing vegetation** from cracks
- ✓ Avoid climbing / abseiling near **sites** of cultural, geological, or other scientific interest
- ✓ Do not **disturb** vegetation, wildlife, or nesting sites
- ✓ Repair and compensate for any **damage** caused to the activity area
- ✓ Participate in conserving activity area **integrity**; notify authorities of concerns and participate in rehabilitation projects