

Fishing

As part of our commitment to advancing sustainable tourism, we encourage our 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 (including fishing line & fish entrails), pick up **rubbish** found along the way and dispose of it responsibly (including cutting up fishing line to prevent wildlife entanglement)
- ✓ Use **eco-friendly products**, e.g., for cleaning purposes
- ✓ 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
- ✓ Obtain written confirmation, e.g., via **indemnity**, that participants are aware of activity risks
- ✓ Keep a **logbook** for each fishing trip
- ✓ **Brief participants** before the activity starts about do's and don'ts, safety, what to expect, logistics, rules and regulations regarding size and quota limits, seasonal restrictions, and prohibited species, rubbish collection and disposal, and rules regarding alcohol
- ✓ **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
- ✓ Ensure **tackle is appropriate** for desired size and species of fish
- ✓ Apply **best practice** by using artificial bait and lures with de-hookers / barbless hooks; if live bait is used only indigenous species, and un-used bait is returned to water unharmed
- ✓ Avoid **sensitive habitats**, including seasonal nesting, breeding, and moulting areas
- ✓ Ensure **other users** are not crowded and keep noise levels to a minimum
- ✓ Do not leave **active fishing gear** unattended
- ✓ Apply best practice "**catch and release**" including quick, efficient handling of fish, and gentle, horizontal release to ensure a quick and full revival

Fishing (continued...)

- ✓ Take **photos** of catch as quickly as possible and always hold fish horizontally (not vertically)
- ✓ **Unintended catch**, e.g., undersize, out of season, protected species, is carefully and immediately returned to water
- ✓ 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
- ✓ Engage with **fishing associations** to lobby for best practice by all, and to ensure that community / indigenous fishing rights are not compromised

