

## Visiting Communities

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 activity area are in place
- ✓ Ensure **insurance** for participants & team is in place
- ✓ Identify **health & safety** risks, implement management systems & 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 & ensure that **navigation & communication** tools are in good working order
- ✓ Maximise local **economic benefits** through employment & purchasing
- ✓ Avoid single use & disposable items, provide adequate **waste** collection facilities for safe disposal (or pack out what you take in) & pick up any rubbish found along the way
- ✓ Be **waterwise** & 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 & what to bring
- ✓ **Screen participants** to make sure that the activity is well suited to their fitness & level of ability
- ✓ Manage **group size** to minimise impacts & ensure a safe guide/participant ratio
- ✓ Obtain written confirmation, e.g. via **indemnity**, from participants that they are aware of activity risks
- ✓ **Brief participants** about do's & don'ts, safety, what to expect, applicable etiquette / conduct to be respectful of & logistical considerations before the activity starts
- ✓ In **sensitive socio-economic or cultural contexts**, e.g. under-serviced areas, someone from the local community must accompany the group
- ✓ **Share information** about local nature, culture & social development / conservation projects that participants may want to support
- ✓ Facilitate opportunities for **meaningful exchange** with local people
- ✓ Show **respect** for the land, waterways, wildlife & others in the area, ensuring that local residents are not disturbed
- ✓ Repair & compensate for any **damage** caused to the activity area
- ✓ Contribute to conserving activity area **integrity**; let relevant authorities / leadership know about any concerns & participate in rehabilitation projects

