



Prohibited Souvenirs and Responsible Purchasing Policy

At ACME Voyages, we are committed to sustainable and responsible tourism, which includes ensuring that all souvenirs offered, purchased, or promoted by our company and its service providers comply with national and international laws and do not contribute to environmental or cultural harm.

Policy Statement:

ACME Voyages and its direct service providers do not allow the purchase, promotion, or sale of souvenirs containing:

- Threatened flora and fauna species, as listed under the CITES treaty and the IUCN Red List;
- Historic or archaeological artefacts removed illegally from sites, unless explicitly permitted by law;
- Drugs or other controlled substances, regardless of their legal status locally or in the travellers country of residence.

We comply with all relevant regulations and actively ensure that our suppliers, partners, and clients adhere to these principles."

Examples of Prohibited Souvenirs

1. Wildlife and Animal Products:

- Ivory carvings or jewellery from elephants
- Rhino horn ornaments or powder
- Products made from tiger, leopard, pangolin, or other endangered species skins or bones
- Exotic reptiles, corals, or shells from protected marine species

2. Threatened Plant Products:

- Orchids, cacti, or cycads collected from the wild
- Timber or wood products from endangered trees (e.g., rosewood, sandalwood)
- Herbal remedies containing protected or overexploited species

3. Historic and Archaeological Artefacts:

- Sculptures, coins, pottery, or manuscripts illegally removed from temples, forts, or archaeological sites
- Antique weapons or ceremonial objects with unclear provenance
- Local crafts incorporating stolen or illegally excavated materials

4. Drugs and Controlled Substances:

- Cannabis or other narcotics, even if legal in the destination
- Psychoactive substances, opiates, or prescription-only drugs not permitted for personal use

Implementation Measures

1. Supplier Communication:

- All local partners, tour operators, and accommodations are informed of the prohibited souvenirs policy.
- Suppliers must certify that all souvenirs offered comply with CITES, IUCN, and national laws.

2. Tourist Awareness:

- Clients are briefed before travel about prohibited items to prevent accidental purchase.
- Guidance is provided on safe and ethical alternatives, such as handmade crafts or sustainably sourced products.

3. Monitoring and Compliance:

- Regular audits of souvenir shops, markets, and accommodations are conducted to ensure compliance.
- Non-compliant suppliers are immediately excluded from itineraries or partnerships.

4. Promoting Alternatives:

- Encourage tourists to buy handmade crafts, textiles, and local produce from certified artisan villages, supporting local communities sustainably.
- Example: In Rajasthan, tourists are guided to buy block-printed textiles from Bagru or Sanganer, avoiding endangered plant dyes or wildlife products.
- In Kerala, visitors are encouraged to purchase handmade souvenirs from Sargaalaya or Vellar Arts Village, rather than coral or turtle-shell items.

Commitment and Visibility

- The policy is displayed on our website, in policy documents, and shared with guests prior to travel.
- By enforcing this policy, ACME Voyages ensures that tourism protects biodiversity, preserves cultural heritage, and fosters ethical consumer behavior, in line with Travelife sustainability criteria.