



Policy on Responsible Excursions and Supplier Conduct & Prohibited Activities

ACME Voyages is committed to ensuring that all excursions and activities offered through our company are conducted in a manner that is environmentally responsible, socially equitable, and culturally respectful. To uphold this commitment, all excursion suppliers must adhere to the following principles:

1. Prohibited Activities

Suppliers are strictly prohibited from offering or facilitating any activity that:

- **Harms or exploits humans:** This includes unsafe working conditions, exploitation of staff, child labor, or any activity that endangers the well-being of employees, local communities, or travelers.
- **Exploits or endangers animals:** Activities such as animal rides under poor welfare conditions, use of captive wildlife for entertainment, hunting of protected species, or any other form of animal cruelty are strictly forbidden.
- **Damages plants or ecosystems:** Suppliers must not conduct activities that lead to deforestation, destruction of habitats, illegal collection of flora/fauna, or other environmental degradation.
- **Overuses or wastes natural resources:** Activities that lead to excessive consumption of water, energy, or other scarce resources are prohibited. Suppliers are expected to implement energy- and water-efficient practices.
- **Disrespects cultural or social norms:** Activities that violate local customs, traditions, or social practices—such as trespassing on sacred sites, inappropriate photography, or disrespect toward indigenous communities—are not allowed.

2. Contractual Requirements

All excursion suppliers engaged by ACME Voyages are required to formally acknowledge and agree to these principles through contractual clauses:

- **Sustainability Commitment:** Suppliers must confirm that all excursions comply with environmental, social, and cultural safeguards, and that no activity will negatively impact these areas.
- **Compliance with Laws and Standards:** Suppliers must adhere to all relevant national, state, and local regulations, as well as international standards for sustainable tourism, including child protection, biodiversity, and ethical conduct.
- **Monitoring and Reporting:** Suppliers agree to provide information regarding their practices, allow site inspections or audits, and submit reports on sustainability measures implemented.
- **Corrective Action:** Any supplier found violating these provisions must implement corrective actions immediately. Failure to comply may result in suspension or termination of collaboration.

3. Codes of Conduct

- **Human Rights and Labor Practices:** Suppliers must provide fair wages, safe working conditions, and reasonable working hours for all staff.
- **Environmental Stewardship:** Suppliers are expected to manage waste responsibly, use energy and water efficiently, minimize pollution, and protect biodiversity.
- **Cultural and Social Respect:** Suppliers must educate staff and travelers on appropriate behavior, respect for local heritage sites, and avoidance of culturally insensitive practices.

4. Monitoring and Enforcement

ACME Voyages implements a continuous monitoring system to ensure compliance:

- **Site Visits:** Periodic inspections by ACME Voyages staff or sustainability coordinators.

- **Guide Observations:** Feedback from guides regarding supplier practices during excursions.
- **Client Feedback:** Monitoring traveler experiences to identify potential risks or non-compliance.
- **Sanctions:** Suppliers failing to comply may receive warnings, be required to take corrective measures, or have their collaboration terminated and be blacklisted from future projects.

5. Encouragement for Sustainability Improvements

While compliance with this policy is mandatory, ACME Voyages also actively encourages suppliers to go beyond minimum requirements by:

- Adopting international sustainability certifications (GSTC, Travelife, ISO standards).
- Implementing advanced energy, water, and waste management measures.
- Promoting fair trade and local sourcing for food, crafts, and other supplies.
- Engaging in community development initiatives and cultural preservation projects.

Conclusion: By signing the ACME Voyages supplier agreement, excursion operators formally commit to offering only activities that are safe, ethical, environmentally responsible, and socially and culturally acceptable. This ensures that all our tours are aligned with our mission of responsible and sustainable tourism.

LIST OF EXCURSION AND PROHIBITION ACTIVITIES

	Excursion / Activity	Location	Type of Sensitivity	Notes / Guideline Highlights
1	Visit to Amber Fort & City Palace Jaipur	Jaipur, Rajasthan	Cultural / Historic	Respect heritage, limit group size, use designated pathways
2	Heritage walk through Old Delhi (Red Fort, Chandni Chowk)	Delhi	Cultural / Historic	Educate on local culture, manage crowd size, avoid disruption
3	Tour of Taj Mahal & Fatehpur Sikri	Agra / Uttar Pradesh	Cultural / Historic	Guide to explain conservation needs, keep groups manageable
4	Wildlife safari in Ranthambore National Park	Rajasthan	Wildlife / Protected Area	Certified vehicles, no feeding animals, small groups
5	Village cultural visit in rural Rajasthan (craft village)	Rajasthan	Cultural / Indigenous	Fair economic benefit for locals, respect traditions
6	Hill station sightseeing in Shimla (Mall Road, Ridge, Jakhoo Hill)	Himachal Pradesh	Environmental / Cultural	Normal sightseeing, but manage waste, avoid littering
7	Trek & viewpoint excursion at Triund (from McLeod Ganj)	Himachal Pradesh	Environmental / Nature	Marked trails, pack-in/pack-out policy, limited group size
8	Cultural tour of Dharamsala / McLeod Ganj (Tibetan culture)	Himachal Pradesh	Cultural / Indigenous	Respect local customs, local guide involvement, small groups
9	Nature & lake walk in Nainital (Naini Lake,	Uttarakhand	Environmental /	Limit motorised boat use, control waste,

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	viewpoints)		Nature	maintain shoreline
10	Trek / temple visit at Chopta - Tungnath - Chandrashila	Uttarakhand	Environmental / Nature & Cultural	Keep group size limited, educate on fragile alpine ecosystem
11	River-side eco-walk & spirituality in Rishikesh (Laxman Jhula, Ganga banks)	Uttarakhand	Environmental / Cultural	Avoid plastic waste, respect river ecology and local rituals
12	Wildlife & lake cruise in Kushalnagar / Kabini region (South but for acclimating) – (if extended)	(optional)	Wildlife / Environmental	Certified boat operator, no disturbance to animals
13	Desert fort & dune experience in Jaisalmer (Sam Dunes, Fort)	Rajasthan	Environmental / Cultural	Avoid overuse of vehicles in dunes, respect desert ecosystem
14	Backwaters & bird sanctuary near Jammu or similar North-India lakes	Jammu & Kashmir / North region	Environmental / Nature	Use eco-boats, no plastic, educate on birdlife
15	Heritage walk and colonial architecture tour in Lucknow (North India)	Uttar Pradesh	Cultural / Historic	Group size manageable, respect local sites, support local crafts
16	Tea-estate visit & nature walk in Palampur (Himachal)	Himachal Pradesh	Environmental / Cultural	Use local guides, keep groups small, support local economy
17	Spiritual trek to one of the Panch Kedars temples	Uttarakhand	Cultural / Nature	Respect ritual sites, limit hikers, minimize ecosystem impact

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18	Hill booth & tea house walk in the Kangra Valley	Himachal Pradesh	Environmental / Cultural	Small sized walks, local guides, respect local tea-estate
19	Mountain pass viewpoint drive to Rohtang Pass / Kullu-Manali circuit	Himachal Pradesh	Environmental / Nature	Manage vehicle numbers, offset emissions, keep sensitive zones respected
20	Garden & heritage palace visit in Pinjore Gardens	Haryana	Cultural / Historic	Encourage local maintenance, respectful visitor behaviour