



## **ACME Policy on Wildlife and Ecosystem Protection**

ACME Voyages is committed to offering excursions that are ethical, responsible, and protective of wildlife and natural ecosystems. The following guidelines apply to all excursions that involve wildlife observation, interaction, or conservation-related activities:

### **1. Captive Wildlife**

- Excursions do not include attractions where animals are kept in captivity, except where:
  - The facility is fully licensed and regulated by local, national, or international authorities.
  - Animal welfare standards meet or exceed recognized guidelines (e.g., WFCS, WAZA).
  - Interaction with animals is strictly supervised and ensures the safety and dignity of the animals.
- Examples of acceptable captive wildlife facilities include rehabilitation centers, accredited conservation sanctuaries, or certified zoos that follow strict welfare protocols.

### **2. Wildlife Observation in the Wild**

- Activities such as safaris, birdwatching, or trekking in wildlife areas must:
  - Comply with national park or wildlife sanctuary regulations.
  - Be conducted in small groups to minimize disturbance.
  - Avoid feeding, touching, or harassing animals.

- Include guidance from trained wildlife guides who educate visitors on animal behavior and habitat protection.

### **3. Codes of Conduct for Guests and Guides**

- Guests are informed about dos and don'ts to ensure ethical interactions with wildlife, such as:
  - Maintaining safe distances from animals.
  - Not using flash photography near sensitive species.
  - Staying on designated trails or observation points.
- Guides are trained to enforce these codes and to monitor visitor behavior during excursions.

### **4. Ecosystem and Habitat Protection**

- Excursions are designed to minimize any disturbance to natural habitats, including soil, vegetation, and water bodies.
- Operators are required to implement "leave no trace" principles, avoid littering, and restrict noise and other disruptive behaviors.
- Special attention is given to fragile ecosystems, such as wetlands, alpine areas, and breeding or nesting sites.

### **5. Regulatory Compliance**

- All wildlife excursions must comply with:
  - Local, state, and national wildlife laws
  - International conventions where applicable (e.g., CITES)
  - Any certification standards or codes of conduct recognized by conservation authorities
- Excursion operators must maintain documentation of compliance, such as licenses, permits, or third-party audits.

## **6. Monitoring and Continuous Improvement**

- ACME Voyages periodically reviews all wildlife excursions for compliance with these guidelines.
- Supplier audits, guide observations, and client feedback are used to identify areas for improvement.
- Partners are encouraged to adopt advanced sustainability practices, including habitat restoration, educational programs, and wildlife conservation initiatives.

## **7. Non-Negotiable Principle**

- Any excursion or attraction found to harm wildlife or their habitats will be immediately discontinued, and the supplier may face termination of collaboration and blacklisting.