

Want a better holiday? Do your bit B4UGO!

Being free to travel the world is one of the greatest leisure pursuits of our time, but as we all search for more unique and spectacular places to visit, the world is struggling to accommodate us. The time has come for all of us to do our bit to give something back to the places we love, and to enjoy ourselves in the process.

Tick a few of these boxes B4UGO on your next trip, be it in Cornwall, Cambodia, or Cannes and you will be well on the way to a better holiday.

You Choose

Tourism is often highly seasonal and very concentrated in particular areas – this means that some places miss out on the benefits and others find it hard to keep local people in jobs all year round so....

- Consider smaller emerging destinations to experience something different
- Think about destinations that could really benefit from your visit now e.g. places currently out of fashion or following a disaster – you'll get a great welcome
- Consider booking out of your destinations' traditional tourist season, your holiday is likely to be cheaper, you'll avoid the crowds, and have a better chance of experiencing local culture.

Get Clued Up

Every country has a different culture – learning about these can ensure you have a better holiday and prevents us causing offence whilst on holiday so...

- Read up on cultural traditions, values and social issues in your destination so you can be sure to pack suitable clothing, be aware of local etiquette (correct greetings, tipping, haggling etc) and be prepared for social differences
- Find out whether there are any environmental issues in your holiday destination and how to avoid adding to the problem
- Ensure your guide book is current and remember it's just a guide – don't use it to barter down prices locally
- Learn to speak a few simple phrases in the local language – it's good fun and you'll get a better welcome!

Spend locally

If tourism businesses are internationally owned – many of the benefits of your visit are lost to the local community so...

- Check that your accommodation is run by local people and uses local produce
- Book local tours and guides – you'll find they know more!
- Plan to use public transport in your itinerary – you'll find out so much about real local life!

Think Green

When you are on holiday you use as many or more resources as you do at home – and often they are in shorter supply – i.e. water, so...

- Look into the options available to make up for the impact of your travel on the environment.
- Ask your tour operator whether your accommodation is taking action to help the environment e.g. solar panels, recycling facilities, water saving, waste management etc
- Don't take unnecessary packaging on holiday with you – recycle it b4ugo

If you've managed to tick just a few – you're a responsible tourist. Have a great trip.