

The ALEXANDER HOTEL *Collection*

SUSTAINABILITY

ACROSS THE COLLECTION

Providing luxurious hotels, restaurants and spas sustainably is at the heart of our values at the Alexander Hotel Collection. Across the collection, all five of properties take the following steps to reduce, recycle and restore.

We produce filtered water which is bottled at each site and promote this over mineral waters – providing a zero food-mile solution. All our bottles are recycled and reused. The water is 500 times purer than tap water is measurably purer than most mineral waters.

Low energy light bulbs have been installed throughout the hotels where possible.

Our properties use modern, energy efficient boilers to reduce our energy consumption to heat the properties¹.

Dual flush cisterns are in place in all refurbished rooms and public areas. Only original toilets with historic systems do not have this water saving feature.

In public bathrooms and in our spas, we use full size L'Occitane products which we refill to reduce single-use plastics.

All of our properties extensively use furniture from the London-based designer Michael Northcroft. This furniture is handmade in London, minimising the miles from the workshop to the hotel.

Where possible we email contracts, booking confirmations and invoices to reduce paper consumption. All unwanted paper is shredded onsite and added to our compost heap.²

Used printer cartridges are recycled and a local school benefits from the sale of these re-conditioned cartridges at both Great Fosters and Alexander House. We aim to extend this to all our properties in 2023.

Newspapers are supplied only upon request to avoid unnecessary wastage.³

No insecticides or fungicides are used in the gardens and grounds.

Glass is recycled in all hotels. Cardboard is baled on site and collected for recycling in all hotels.

Some plastics and cans are currently recycled and we hope to increase the level once improved facilities are in place.

We serve Fair Trade tea and coffee in all of our hotels.

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We encourage our suppliers to reduce their packaging and recycle, if at all possible, through our purchasing department.

Redundant furniture and fittings are donated to local charities or reused in other hotels.

Obsolete IT and electrical equipment is recycled in accordance with WEEE (Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment directive)

We promote awareness of the environment among our employees and work with them to ensure their impact on it is minimal. We promote walking or cycling to work, and a cycle rack is in place to encourage this.

Temple Spa toiletries are used in the guest bedrooms and public areas – 90% of their products are made in England and are never tested on animals.

PROPERTY SPECIFIC

Alexander House & Rowhill Grange both have solar panels installed, which provide some of the energy required at the hotels.

Great Fosters has some 60,000 bees on the estate which support the local area pollinating. The honey produced is used in the kitchens and sold to guests. We hope to use this honey in our spa treatments in 2023.

At Great Fosters, The Coach House has been refurbished with sustainable measures installed, such as individual energy efficient systems requiring a room key to activate heating & lighting, the installation of dual flush cisterns and bespoke furniture sourced from the Nottingham as opposed to outside of the UK.

BEST PRACTICE

We only use recycled flipchart paper in our meeting rooms at Alexander House. We aim to extend this to the collection in 2023 and we are investigating glass flipcharts too, removing the need for any paper.

Glass is actively sorted into green, brown and clear before being recycled at Great Fosters. We aim to extend this to the collection in 2023.

Green waste generated by our team of gardeners is matured into nutrient-rich compost on site and then added back into the gardens at Great Fosters and Rowhill Grange. We aim to extend this to the collection in 2023.

A variety of other produce is either grown or foraged from the grounds and used in preparation of seasonal dishes in our restaurants such as apples, wild plums, mulberries, and

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blackberries. This is actively in place at Great Fosters, and we aim to extend this to collection in 2023.

We use The Eden Project coffee capsules in most of our bedrooms and they are 100% plastic free and 100% biodegradable. We aim for this to be in place in all rooms in 2023. Rowhill Grange use Café du Monde capsules which are recyclable.

HOW YOU CAN HELP US

Below are a few ways in which you may wish to contribute towards our plan to reduce our carbon footprint.

Towels - we would normally replace towels in the evening and the following morning if you are staying for a further night. Rather than replace your towels we can refold them so that they may be used again. If you wish to have fresh towels simply place them in the bath.

Television – switch off the television rather than leaving it on stand-by.

Lights – switch lights off when you leave the room.

Rubbish – we may be able to recycle some of your rubbish, such as newspapers, bottles, and cans. If you think we can, please leave it beside the bin (rather than in it) and we will recycle it for you.

Air conditioning – please ensure your windows are closed when the air conditioning is on.

Heating – rather than opening the windows turn the heating down a few degrees.

Water – choose to shower rather than bath and use less water.

And finally, choose the Green Guest option during your stay. By choosing the Green Guest option we will make the following changes to our housekeeping service:

-If the toiletries in your room are more than half-full, we will leave them for you to finish rather than dispose of them and replace with full bottles.

-When we service your room in the evening, we will close the curtains and turn back the bed but will not switch on the lights or leave the radio on for your return.

-If you are staying with us for more than one night, we will not change the sheets every morning but will do so every other day instead.

-If the bottles of water provided for your stay are more than half full, we will not replace them.

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You can help us and play your part on our journey. Here are some ideas of how, including suggestions for low-carbon-impacting activities during your stay:

Where feasible, travel to the hotel by train or local bus.

If you are hiring a car, choose electric, you can charge at our EV charging point.

Separate your waste. We provide bins that made it easier to separate waste so that we can recycle anything paper, glass, or plastic.

Enjoy our local region and explore new areas. There are several wonderful walks close by along our grounds.

Dine with us and enjoy our locally sourced produce. The team at AHC cannot wait to welcome you.

THE FUTURE

We are researching technology to enable guests to check in online and eliminate the need for registration cards.

We hope to be able to reduce our paper consumption further and will shortly be offering guests the option of having bills and invoices emailed to them rather than printing paper copies.

Any future refurbishment plans will consider the most recent developments in ways to reduce our impact on the environment. We are working towards becoming self-sustaining in firewood and by planting large areas with ash and beech trees plan to purchase dual fuel boilers for future projects. We aim to reduce our general waste further by increasing the amount we recycle.

As we take steps along our sustainability journey, we will continually look to improve, make sustainable choices, and embed sustainable practices across everything we do and the way that every person in our team thinks. We will:

- Work diligently to minimise our waste and conserve natural resources, particularly through energy and water conservation.
- Reduce and measure our CO2 emissions on an annual basis using the Hotel Carbon Management Initiative (HCMI) measuring tool.
- Aim to become single-use plastic free across our hotel.
- Reduce use of pollutants and harmful chemicals both outside and inside our hotels.
- Wherever possible making sure cleaning materials are eco-friendly.

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¹ Excludes Rowhill Grange. The property runs on an older heating system than the rest of the collection.

² Excludes Barnett Hill. Rowhill Grange send their recycling to shred It.

³ Excludes Rowhill Grange

⁴ Excludes Alexander House