

La Prairie Étoilée[★]

Our Green Manifesto

Here at La Prairie Étoilée we aim to create the perfect blend of comfort and luxury with authentic camping experiences and at the same time, be kind to the environment.

Part 1 - Eco Cycle of Positive Effect

We are putting in place an ecological cycle, where everything we do here, aims to have a positive effect on something else; we call it our **Eco Cycle of Positive Effect!** And it looks like this:-



La Prairie Étoilée Eco Cycle of Positive Effect

Part 2 - Our Pledge To The Planet

In addition, we have Our Pledge to the Planet:

La Prairie Étoilée ★

Our Pledge to the Planet

We pledge to be
Sustainable, Responsible and Ecological:

- 1. By Reducing Waste**
 - Avoiding Single Use Plastics
 - Saving Water
 - Recycling
 - Reclaiming & Re-using
- 2. By Saving Energy**
 - Using Renewable Energy
 - Reducing Consumption
- 3. By Being Kind to the Natural Environment**
 - Respecting Nature
 - Planting Trees
 - Sustainable Tourism

And in a little more detail...

By Reducing Waste -

1. Avoiding Single Use Plastics -

- We provide carafes and drinking bottles to fill up with our very drinkable tap water
- We buy loose fresh produce where possible
- We use glass containers and reusable tubs in our breakfast hampers and picnics
- All our complimentary toiletries and hand sanitizers are in refillable bottles
- We provide a shopping bag for groceries and reusable bags for your daily bread
- All our bin liners are biodegradable

2. Saving Water

- We have super clean dry toilets at La Prairie Étoilée, this means instead of flushing, a biodegradable material (like sawdust) is put down the toilet after use.
- Our showers have massaging, water saving shower heads, this means you get a lovely powerful shower but less water is used.
- The grey water (from showers & sinks) is filtered until it is clean enough to reuse for watering plants
- Reducing laundry. Towels and bedding provided are for the duration of the stay
- We currently have a small plunge pool which guests are welcome to use; the water is checked & treated daily to ensure its safe and prolonged use.
- We harvest rainwater on a small scale currently - we have a future project to increase our collection.

3. Recycling - (Mandatory in France!)

- Specific bins are provided for recycling plastics, card/paper and tins
- There is a bottle bank at entrance to the village for recycling glass

4. Reclaiming & Re-using

- We make use of reclaimed materials wherever we can (e.g. the bathhouse is clad with reclaimed tin and the tent platforms are made from pallets).
- The bamboo for the kitchen/dining gazebos was harvested locally and offered for free on social media
- We try to reduce landfill and what better way than composting which in turn goes back to feed the land! We provide bins and guidance on what to compost
- Lots of furniture was left by the previous owner we have kept & reused both in our own house renovation and also within La Prairie Étoilée - one of the old wardrobes now holds all the essential items in the shop!
- The old concrete garage has been repurposed as our welcoming reception - an ugly duckling has been transformed!
- The fire pit surrounds are made of stone reclaimed from some of the old derelict animal stores

By Saving Energy -

5. Using Alternative Power

- Whether fairy lights in the tents or practical lighting in the bathhouse, all are solar or battery powered. Where battery powered, they are recharged by the solar powered recharging pack provided for each tent (which can also charge phones!).
- At the house, although not fully installed, our heating and hot water system will be via wood in winter and solar throughout the summer months - through the winter it

will also provide our cooking facilities via the same resource that's heating the house & hot water.

- Weather permitting (generally no issue in the summer months!) we line dry all our bedding although towels get a short tumble dry to make sure they soft and fluffy.

6. Reducing Consumption

- All the lighting at the house is energy saving
- Buying less, buying local - we have pretty much everything we need & try to reduce food miles wherever possible.

By Being Kind to the Natural Environment

7. Respecting Nature

- Much of the meadow is left un-mown, there are no artificial paths and parking is restricted to the car park; we try to keep La Prairie Étoilée natural and unspoilt.
- Smoking is only permitted in the designated area All of the cleaning products and washing liquid we use is eco friendly
- All of the complimentary toiletries we provide are environmentally sound and in refillable bottles, not individual packaging

8. Planting Trees

- We have planted 650 trees since arriving in October 2019. Most of them are in our fields, we hope we become our own supply of firewood in years to come.
- From the dry toilets (after 18 months to 2 years of composting) we will get "humanure" - this is the perfect stuff to help our trees to grow big and strong!

9. Sustainable Tourism & Slow Tourism

- We are passionate about sustainable & slow tourism and ensuring that what we do has a positive impact on our small rural community. So much so, not only does it feature in our pledge, it also has its own section within our manifesto!

Part 3 - Sustainable & Slow Tourism

Slow Tourism Partnerships

- We are partnering with local people to source local products, produce and authentic experiences for our guests to enable them to get under the skin of this truly special place.

Getting a Sense of This Place

- Promotion of the amazing walks locally some of which are signposted and we can provide maps and picnics!

- On site tandem hire to explore more widely, while leaving the car behind!
- Stargazing & bird watching guides
- Traditional games - Petanque et Jokari - and even the opportunity to compete with the locals on occasion!!
- Be inspired, paint what you see or feel experiences, art kits for guests, and treasure photograph trails to seek, find and observe.
- Novels by and books about the areas famous author available and knowledge of related visitor attractions

Sustainable food

- Providing local food options is a real focus for us. Via our on-site table d'hôte, BBQ, ingredients, picnic & breakfast hampers we will be making best use of locally sourced and home grown produce.

Future projects

- Traditional campfire cooking demonstrations and cook & eat classes
- Renovation of the old bread oven for bread & pizza making classes
- Conversion of the old hanger into a studio for creative stays & use by local artists
- Fully accessible facilities (tandem, pool)

We are always trying to improve and reduce our impact to be

SUSTAINABLE. RESPONSIBLE. ECOLOGICAL.