



SCOP CAMPING

This SOP outlines the guidelines to ensure that all camping activities are conducted legally, safely, responsibly, and sustainably, while minimizing environmental impact and maximizing benefits to local communities.

Guidelines

1. Ensure applicable legal permits & permission to access activity areas in place.
2. Ensure insurance for participants & team is in place.
3. Identify health & safety risks, implement management systems, and provide appropriate safety equipment.
4. Ensure enough team members are available in case of emergency.
5. Monitor activity area conditions (including weather) in advance & during the activity.
6. Be familiar with the activity area and ensure that navigation and communication tools are in good working order.
7. Maximize local economic benefits through employment and purchasing.
8. Provide information in advance about your sustainability actions, activity accessibility, what to expect, and what to bring.
9. Screen participants to make sure that the activity is well suited to their fitness and level of ability.
10. Manage group size to minimize impacts and ensure a safe guide/participant ratio.
11. Obtain written confirmation, e.g. via indemnity, from participants that they are aware of activity risks.
12. Brief participants before the activity starts about do's & don'ts, safety, hazards to be aware of, what to expect, group pace & communication, logistical considerations, applicable conduct, not disturbing / removing flora & fauna, rubbish collection & disposal, bush toilet' etiquette & rules regarding alcohol & fires.



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13. Share information about local nature, culture & social development / conservation projects that participants may want to support.
14. Avoid single use & disposable items, provide adequate waste collection facilities for safe disposal (or pack out what you take in).
15. Show respect for the land, waterways, wildlife, & other users in the activity area.
16. Use previously established sites, where possible & rotate use to minimize cumulative impacts.
17. Select sites where ground surface is firm & disturbance to vegetation does not occur, including designated cooking areas.
18. Do not dig trenches around tents or campsites.
19. Establish sites at least 30m away from waterways.
20. Avoid camping near sites of historical, archaeological, or cultural significance, as well as sensitive natural sites such as nesting areas or wildlife trails.
21. Store supplies (especially food) safely out of reach of wildlife at night & when campsites are not occupied.
22. Use eco-friendly products, including biodegradable soaps & alternatives, e.g. sand for scouring pots.
23. Be waterwise & take proactive measures to use water sparingly.
24. Wash dishes (and oneself) away from the waterways.
25. Use a basin / similar to minimizing waste when washing dishes & disperse dish wastewater over a wide area to enable natural filtration.
26. Minimize energy used in the activity as part of a climate action strategy.
27. Camping stoves, as opposed to campfires, should be used for cooking.
28. Repair and compensate for any damage caused to the activity area.



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29. Participate in conserving activity areas of integrity; notify authorities of concern & participate in relevant rehabilitation projects.
30. Campfires, if permitted, should apply best practice in safety & least impact, including leave no trace.