



Eco-responsible Events for Remembrance Organisations

Practical Checklist for Museums, Memorials & Interpretation Centres

PLAN & DESIGN (Exhibitions & Events)

- ☐ Use **reusable or modular exhibition materials** (panels, walls, display systems)
- ☐ Avoid single-use scenography and short-lived installations
- ☐ Choose **low-impact materials** (recycled, certified wood, non-toxic paints)
- ☐ Prioritise **digital content** over printed material where appropriate
- ☐ Reuse or repurpose materials from previous exhibitions
- ☐ Work with **local suppliers and craftsmen** to reduce transport emissions
- ☐ Design exhibitions with a **longer lifespan** or flexible reuse options
- ☐ Include sustainability messaging relevant to the exhibition theme

2. Sustainable Catering

- ☐ Offer **local, seasonal, and organic food options**
- ☐ Include **plant-based choices** as the default or prominently
- ☐ Avoid single-use packaging, plastic bottles, and disposable tableware
- ☐ Provide **tap water or refill stations**
- ☐ Work with caterers committed to sustainability standards
- ☐ Plan quantities carefully to **reduce food waste**
- ☐ Arrange for surplus food donation if possible

3. Waste Management

- ☐ Set up **clearly labelled waste separation points** (recycling, compost, general waste)
- ☐ Brief staff and volunteers on correct waste sorting
- ☐ Minimise printed materials (or use recycled paper only)
- ☐ Avoid giveaways unless they are **useful, durable, and sustainable**
- ☐ Track and evaluate **waste generated** during the event
- ☐ Collaborate with local waste partners for responsible disposal
- ☐ Aim for a **“zero-waste mindset”** when planning

4. Internal Awareness (Staff & Teams)

- ☐ Provide short **staff briefings on sustainability goals** before the event
- ☐ Assign a **“green event coordinator”** or responsible person
- ☐ Train staff on how to **guide visitors on sustainable practices**
- ☐ Encourage **low-carbon transport** (public transport, car-sharing) for staff
- ☐ Promote sustainable practices in **daily operations** (energy, water, materials)
- ☐ Include sustainability as part of **team debriefs and evaluations**

5. Visitor Awareness & Engagement

- ☐ Communicate clearly what the event is doing to be **more sustainable**
- ☐ Encourage visitors to use **public transport or soft mobility**
- ☐ Provide visible information on **waste sorting and resource use**
- ☐ Integrate sustainability into **interpretation and storytelling**, where relevant
- ☐ Offer small prompts like: “Bring your own bottle” or “Think before printing”
- ☐ Use signage or digital tools to share **sustainability facts or actions**
- ☐ Invite feedback from visitors on sustainability efforts

6. Monitoring & Continuous Improvement

- ☐ Define **simple sustainability goals** for each event
- ☐ Measure key aspects (waste, materials, catering choices)
- ☐ Collect feedback from staff and visitors
- ☐ Identify **3 improvements for the next event**
- ☐ Share results internally (and externally if relevant)

Main Sources

- [Global Sustainable Tourism Council \(GSTC\) – Destination & Attraction Criteria](#)
- [United Nations Environment Programme \(UNEP\) – Sustainable Events Guidelines](#)
- [ISO 20121: Sustainable Event Management](#)
- [ISO 21902: Accessible Tourism for All](#)
- [European Commission – Green Events & Sustainable Public Procurement Guidance](#)
- [UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights \(for social responsibility link\)](#)