OAKLAND ZOO

GREEN TIP OF THE MONTH

DECEMBER



ECOTOURISM IS TAKING ACTION FOR WILDLIFE



Ecotourism is growing three times faster than any travel in the industry. Ecotourism means responsible travel into nature that conserves the environment and improves the well-being of local animals and people. When traveling anywhere, remember to: Avoid selfies with animals, or paying to get your photo taken with captive or pet animals, avoid "petting" opportunities, be mindful of purchasing any items with animal parts, feathers, etc., and avoid animal rides or shows. Choose to visit legitimate conservation organizations where you can learn the issues and support their efforts.

Oakland Zoo leads trips all over the world to see and take action for incredible wildlife. On Oakland Zoo expeditions, we make sure to leave the landscape better than we found it and work to make a positive impact. Learn more at **oaklandzoo.org/eco-travel.**

= GET THE FACTS ==

- One round-trip flight from New York to Europe or to San Francisco creates a warming effect equivalent to 2 or 3 tons of carbon dioxide per person.
- The transportation sector is responsible for 71% of all US petroleum use.
- Underwater sound from ships emits at the same low frequency that many whale species use to communicate for feeding and mating, and can have an effect on an animal over 16 miles away.
- A Bay Area study found that increasing biking and walking from 4 to 24 minutes a day on average would reduce cardiovascular disease and diabetes by 14% and decrease Greenhouse Emissions by 14%.
- International Bird Rescue has treated over 700,000 animals from over 220 oil spills all over the world.



EASY WAYS TO TRAVEL SAVVY

 Planes. While there isn't always an alternative to flying, there are ways to reduce the impact. Fly with the most fuel efficient airlines - domestically, Alaska Airlines; internationally; Norwegian Air. Purchase carbon offsets with your ticket.



- **Trains.** Traveling by train creates about 50% of emissions as the same trip by plane, and 25% of the emissions as by car, plus you can relax and take in the scenery. Check out **amtrak.com** for in-depth info.
- **Public transportation** the most eco-friendly way to get to around. BART is 12 times more efficient than a standard occupant vehicle. Buses and the MUNI are excellent Bay Area ways to move.
- Cars. Go electric! Electric battery operated cars are extremely efficient, and emit no tailpipe pollution. Biofuel is another alternative to petrol. Combining all errands into one trip lowers costs and keeps emissions down. Keep your car lightweight and tires filled makes for better gas use. Carpooling with coworkers and using casual carpool and rideshare apps like Carma reduces the number of cars on the road.



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