



ECOCAMPING Certification

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Criteria for ECOCAMPING Certification

All MUST criteria must be 100% fulfilled. There is no partial fulfillment; all MUST criteria applicable to the respective campsite type must be fulfilled with "Yes."

Exception – Water-Saving Sanitary Technology (E8.1, E8.2, E8.3):

Initial Certification: At least 50% of sanitary facilities must meet the requirements. For the remaining 50%, a binding action plan must be in place that ensures implementation by re-certification.

Re-certification (after 3 years): 100% of sanitary facilities must meet the requirements.

PROFILE Criteria:

E15 Criteria (Regional Value Creation – E15.1, E15.2, E15.3): At least 1 criterion must be fulfilled.

E16 Criteria (Regional Cultural Promotion – E16.1, E16.2): At least 1 criterion must be fulfilled.

Special Case Bio-Restaurant (E11a.2):

Initial Certification: At least 2 organic products from the specified product groups (selection of other own products possible)

Re-certification: At least 3 organic products are required.

Adaptation to Campsite Type:

The number of applicable criteria varies depending on campsite type (Type A-D). The type is determined by the following characteristics:

Restaurant (self-operated, ≥€70,000 revenue/year, open >6 months): +2 restaurant criteria

Permanent campers present: +3 permanent camper criteria

Employees (min. 1): +4 employee criteria

Construction project (new construction/renovation of sanitary/reception in 3 years): +1 building material criterion

Number of Employees according to ECOCAMPING Standard:

Headcount: Total number of all people with employment contract as annual average

Including full-time, part-time, seasonal and fixed-term employees

Example: 3 full-time employees + 5 part-time employees = 8 employees

Not included: - Pure subcontractors without employment contract - Self-employed external service providers - Volunteer helpers



Criteria Overview

Criterion	Requirement	Special Features, Exceptions
E0.1 Compliance and Legal Security MUST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compliance with all national and European legal regulations is ensured by the camping operation: labor law (incl. written contracts, minimum wage according to collective agreement or legal minimum, working time documentation, social security registration), environmental protection, water protection, wastewater treatment, safety, species protection, animal welfare, cultural heritage protection and landscape protection. A valid operating permit is available. Historical/archaeological cultural assets on the premises are protected, not stolen or sold. The use of artifacts or cultural assets is transparent, documented and reported. Access to cultural sites is guaranteed. An overtime regulation is available and documented. The activities on the campsite do not endanger the livelihoods of local communities (in particular: no impairment of water supply, wastewater disposal, energy supply or access to the healthcare system). Souvenirs and trade goods from endangered animal and plant species (especially CITES-listed species) are not offered in sales stands, shops or restaurants. Disclosure: of the total amount of fines imposed (corruption/bribery) and number of convictions in monitoring table 	–
E0.2 Disposal Station MUST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A functional disposal station for grey/black water is available on the campsite. Wastewater is properly treated. 	–
E1.1 Sustainability Management MUST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A person responsible for sustainability is appointed in writing 	–
E1.2 Sustainability Management MUST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The relevant fields of action in sustainability management have been determined (Environment, Social, Management; ECO-CAMPING template). 	–
E1.3 Sustainability Management MUST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An action plan for implementing sustainability management measures for the next 3 years is available: CP ≥50 pitches: 5 measures (min. 1x climate protection (E1 or E2), 1x biodiversity (B1), 1x social (S1 or S2) + 2 measures in other relevant fields of action) CP <50 pitches: 3 measures (1x climate protection (E1 or E2), 1x biodiversity (B1), + 1 other relevant field of action) 	–
E1.4 Sustainability Management MUST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The ECO-CAMPING mission statement, incl. sustainability policy (incl. commitment to child protection, anti-discrimination and fair working conditions) is visibly placed (e.g. notice on site or website). Employees are informed about it. 	–



Criterion	Requirement	Special Features, Exceptions
E2 Stakeholder Engagement MUST	Employees (E): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feedback is collected annually on employee satisfaction with working conditions + sustainability management. A guest feedback system is available (e.g. Google/Booking, website or similar). Permanent camper feedback is collected annually (e.g. via circular email, meeting etc.) If there are directly adjacent neighbors, information about campsite activities is provided (annually). 	CP's <50 pitches: 18 months implementation period
E3 Employee Training MUST	New employees (E): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training takes place before the start of the season (or within 4 weeks of starting work). The team receives training once a year on the topics of saving energy, saving water, reducing waste, regional biodiversity, pesticide-free site maintenance if applicable, and environmentally friendly cleaning. 	Template training materials from ECOCAMPING CP's <10 employees (E): Self-training with proof sufficient
E4 Guest Information / Permanent Camper Information MUST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information for campers is provided at reception or on the website on the following topics: water saving, waste reduction, energy saving, environmentally friendly mobility, local biodiversity. The information is available in the national language and English. Permanent campers are informed separately if necessary (e.g. via notice, app, circular email or similar). 	CP's <50 pitches: national language only sufficient
E5 Monitoring MUST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be recorded annually: min. electricity consumption, water/wastewater, residual waste; primary energy consumption heating/hot water Key figures per overnight stay are calculated. Scope 1–2 emissions + Scope 3 residual waste, water/wastewater are determined. Biodiversity indicators are recorded. For more than >10 employees (E), social indicators are recorded. 	Template: ECOCAMPING Monitoring Table (automatic key figure determination and scope calculation integrated)
E6 Renewable Energy MUST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100% of electricity demand is met by renewable sources. This is done through self-generation (e.g. PV system) and/or purchase of green electricity from the grid. If no green electricity is purchased at the time of application, confirmation of a contract change, or an exemption declaration must be available. 	EXCEPTION REGULATION (100% not necessary if: Campsite proves that 100% is not feasible: Documentation (min. 3 inquiries) - Written inquiries to certified green electricity providers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Green electricity >15% more expensive (cost comparison) Provider does not supply (written rejection) Waiting list / capacity (written confirmation)



Criterion	Requirement	Special Features, Exceptions
E7 Heating / Hot Water Preparation MUST	<p>New systems (heating & hot water, from certification):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gas/biomass boiler: min. efficiency class B • Heat pumps (heating): efficiency class A+ • Water heaters (central/instantaneous): min. efficiency class B • Heat pumps (hot water): min. efficiency class A <p>Existing systems: ≤15 years: min.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • efficiency D + annual maintenance • >15 years: annual maintenance • No coal heating permitted • Heating oil: max. 0.1% sulfur content 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reason 4: No provider available
E8 Water-Saving Sanitary Technology in Sanitary Building MUST	<p>Flow rates in sanitary building are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Showers ≤8.5 L/min, (50% for initial certification, 100% for re-certification) • Washbasins ≤7 L/min, (50% for initial certification, 100% for re-certification) • WCs ≤6 L or flush/stop button available (50% for initial certification, 100% for re-certification) 	<p>Tolerances: 25% higher flow rates possible for fixed showers. For renewal or renovation, the required flow values must be considered.</p>
E9 Waste Management and Circular Economy MUST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A recycling station exists on the campsite with min. 3 fractions (residual waste, paper, packaging, glass if applicable) or according to separation options according to national or regional specifications. • Hazardous substances are collected and disposed of small electrical appliances (kettles, toasters etc.) and batteries. • Signage of the recycling station is available in national language and English. • Permanent campers are informed separately if necessary. 	<p>CP's <50 pitches: for hazardous substances, battery collection and disposal as well as signage in national language sufficient.</p>
E10 Pesticide-Free Site Campsite Maintenance MUST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No pesticides/herbicides/fungicides are used in all areas (pitches, paths, permanent camper plots). • Maintenance care is carried out mechanically/biologically. 	<p>Emergency exceptions possible with official approval and documentation (e.g. wasps, ticks, poisonous plants, fungal infestation, wood pests, bark beetles, blue-green algae, legionella, rodents/cockroaches).</p>



E11 Biodiversity encompasses two levels:

(1) Site level: Design elements (insect hotels, wildflower meadows) and 100% native plant species for new plantings promote local biodiversity directly

(2) Supply chain level: The selection of organic food (REGULATION (EU) 2018/848) supports farms that demonstrably have higher biodiversity. Organically managed areas show 95% more plant species and 35% more field birds than conventional agriculture. This corresponds to the Food for Biodiversity approach of the Lake Constance Foundation, according to which the food industry actively protects biodiversity in supplier farms through its procurement.

Criterion	Requirement	Special Features, Exceptions
<p>E11 Biodiversity (nature-oriented site design) MUST</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least 2 biological design elements are available on the campsite (e.g. wildflower meadow, insect hotel, small water body, deadwood, native hedge, nesting aids, dry stone wall, natural play areas, or other). 100% native plants are used for new plantings; non-native species are gradually replaced. Information is available for camping guests on local biodiversity + regional protected areas (e.g. on the website or at reception). 	<p>CP's <50 pitches: 1 biological design element sufficient</p>
<p>E11A – Organic Food in Restaurant & Fair-Trade Coffee (for restaurants with ≥€70k revenue and operation more than 6 months) MUST</p>	<p>Fair Trade Coffee/Black Tea in Restaurant</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100% Fair Trade coffee is used in the restaurant. If black tea is offered: This must also be 100% Fair Trade. <p>Organic Food in Restaurant: The restaurant offers at least 2–3 organic products as a choice for guests and clearly labels them. Choice from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organic eggs Organic potatoes Organic milk Organic coffee - entire coffee service (all coffee drinks) Organic fruit juices Organic bread/rolls Organic fruit spread/jam Organic yogurt Further selection of own products possible 	<p>Valid certifications (selection):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> EU organic certificate – minimum standard (approx. 53 permitted additives) Naturland – (approx. 22–23 additives) Bioland – (approx. 22–23 additives) Demeter – biodynamic (approx. 21 additives) AMA organic seal – Austria Bio Austria – Austria Bio Suisse Bud – Switzerland
<p>E12 Certified Sanitary Additives in Shop MUST</p>	<p>In the camping shop:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least 50% of the sanitary additives offered are certified with an eco-label (EU Ecolabel, Blue Angel, Nordic Swan) OR 100% biodegradable (OECD 301). Products with CMR substances, formaldehyde or biocides are generally avoided. 	<p>Campsites without shop: Information for guests about treatment plant-friendly sanitary additives in national language available.</p>



Criterion	Requirement	Special Features, Exceptions
E13 Certified Cleaning Products MUST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least 90% of cleaning products used in the camping operation are certified with eco-label (EU Ecolabel, Blue Angel, Nordic Swan). No use of chlorine, phosphate and microplastic-containing products. Agreement with any external service providers is available. 	Exceptions: technical special cleaners + intensive surface cleaning. Disinfectants were legally required.
E14 Employees MUST	<p>Smoking ban exists in all indoor areas (reception, sanitary, rental accommodation, wellness facilities).</p> <p>At least 2 social benefits from the following categories are offered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cat. A: Further training (1 day/year), Cat. B: Meals/vouchers (≥€5/day), Cat. C: Work clothing (free/50%), Cat. D: Discount on products/services of the business (≥10%), Cat. E: Public transport subsidy (≥€25/mo.), Cat. F: Support with apartment search, or provision of accommodation for seasonal workers, Cat. G: other own benefits possible 	For CP's with <10 E: 1 benefit sufficient
E15 Regional Value Creation PROFILE (min. 1 requirement must be fulfilled)	<p>To support regional value creation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least 1 local product (100 km, for remote campsites 150 km) is offered in shops, restaurants or snack bar 1 local supplier or service provider is available 1 leisure cooperation with regional providers (e.g. bicycle rental, hiking guide etc.) 	CP's < 50 pitches: without shop: supplier or service provider cooperation sufficient
E15A Building Materials: For new construction or renovation of sanitary or reception buildings in the next 3 years	For new construction/renovation of sanitary and reception buildings in the next 3 years, regional or sustainable materials are considered (min. 1 product) e.g. wood from FSC forestry; paints/floors with Blue Angel/Ecolabel or other.	–
E16 Regional Cultural Promotion PROFILE (min. 1 requirement must be fulfilled)	<p>The campsite supports regional culture through:</p> <p>Option A: Cultural information at reception (opening hours, prices, directions, links information) OR</p> <p>Option B: 1 cultural cooperation, active promotion of cultural offers (e.g. through discount promotion, mutual advertising). The provision of information is in national language and English.</p>	CP's < 50 pitches: Advertising in national language sufficient

Simplifications for Campsites with Less Than 50 Pitches:

E1: 3 E, 18 mo. | **E2:** One-document solution, 18 months implementation period | **E3:** Self-training OK, 18 months implementation period | **E4:** National language sufficient, 18 months implementation period | **E5:** 18 months implementation period, free consultation | **E9:** National language sufficient, battery collection | **E11:** 1 biological design element | **E14:** 1 benefit sufficient | **E15:** without shop: supplier + cooperation sufficient



Additional Criteria for Permanent Campers

E2: Separate permanent camper feedback system

E4: Information for permanent campers, if necessary

E9: Information on waste separation, if necessary

E11: Permanent camper regulation: Reference to use of native species