



Criteria for the ECOCAMPING Award

ECOCAMPING system logic

MANDATORY criteria (basic criteria)

- All criteria marked “(Mandatory 100%)” must be fully met, where applicable.
- Non-conformities identified in the external audit must be demonstrably remedied within specified deadlines; in this case, the award is granted subject to conditions. An award is not possible if criterion E0.1 is not met, if a non-conformity cannot be remedied within the deadline, or if non-conformities exist for more than half of the applicable criteria (each numbered individual requirement, e.g. E8.1, is counted).

Profile criteria (E15 and E16)

- Criteria E15 (regional products / regional suppliers) and E16 (cultural and regional offerings) are profile criteria. They strengthen regional ties and the added value for guests.

For an ECOCAMPING award, the following must be met:

- at least one applicable E15 criterion (regional products/suppliers) and
- at least one applicable E16 criterion (cultural/regional offerings).

Non-applicable criteria

- A criterion may only be assessed as “not applicable” if the conditions described in the standard objectively do not exist (e.g. no self-operated restaurant, no employees, no permanent campers). Non-applicable criteria are documented transparently in the audit and are not included in the decision (MANDATORY compliance or profile criteria E15/E16).

Special provision for restaurant (E11A.2):

- Initial award: At least 2 organic products from the specified product groups (selection of other products of the operator’s own choice possible)
- Recertification: At least 3 organic products from the specified product groups (selection of other products of the operator’s own choice possible)

Adaptation to the campsite:

The number of applicable criteria varies depending on the campsite. The campsite is determined by the following characteristics:

- Restaurant (self-operated, $\geq$ €70,000 turnover/year, open >6 months): additionally E11A.1 and E11A.2
- Employees present (at least 1): additionally E2.1, E3 and E14.2 (with >10 employees, additionally social indicators in E5)
- Permanent campers present: additionally E2.3 and the permanent-camper requirements in E4 and E9
- Construction project (new construction/renovation of sanitary facilities/reception planned within the next 3 years): additionally E15A

Number of employees within the meaning of the ECOCAMPING Standard:

Headcount: Total number of all persons with an employment contract as an 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 an employment contract



- Self-employed external service providers
- Volunteer helpers

Criterion	Requirement
E0.1 Compliance and legal certainty (Mandatory 100%)	• The campsite operator ensures compliance with all national and European legal provisions: labour law (including written contracts, minimum wage in accordance with a collective agreement or the statutory 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. • Historic/archaeological cultural assets on the premises are protected and are not removed or sold. The use of artefacts or cultural assets is transparent, documented and reported. Access to cultural sites is ensured. • An overtime policy is in place and documented. • Activities on the campsite do not endanger the livelihoods of local communities (in particular: no impairment of the water supply, wastewater disposal, energy supply or access to the healthcare system). • Souvenirs and merchandise made from endangered animal and plant species (especially CITES-listed species) are not offered at sales stands, shops or restaurants. • The total amount of fines imposed for corruption/bribery and the number of convictions are disclosed in the monitoring table (E5).
E0.2 Disposal station (Mandatory 100%)	• A functional and signposted disposal station for grey/black water is available on the campsite.
E1 Sustainability management (Mandatory 100%)	E1.1 Sustainability management (Mandatory 100%): A person responsible for sustainability has been designated in writing. E1.2 Sustainability management (Mandatory 100%): The relevant fields of action in sustainability management have been identified (environment, social matters, management; ECOCAMPING template). E1.3 Sustainability management (Mandatory 100%): An action plan for implementing sustainability management measures for the next 3 years is available: • CP ≥50 pitches: 5 measures (at least 1x climate protection (E1 or E2), 1x biodiversity (B1), 1x social matters (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 (Mandatory 100%): The ECOCAMPING mission statement incl. sustainability policy (incl. commitment to child protection, non-discrimination and fair working conditions) is displayed visibly (e.g. notice on the site/or website). Employees are informed about it.

Criterion	Requirement	Special provisions, exceptions
E2 Stakeholder engagement (Mandatory 100%)	- E2.1 Employees (EE): Feedback on employees' satisfaction with working conditions + sustainability management is obtained annually. - E2.2 A guest feedback system is available (e.g. Google/Booking, website or similar), - E2.3 Permanent-camper feedback is obtained annually (e.g. via circular email, meeting, etc.)	
E3 Employee training (Mandatory 100%)	- New employees (EE): Training takes place before the start of the season (or within 4 weeks after starting work). - The team receives training once a year on saving energy, saving water, reducing waste, regional biodiversity, pesticide-free site maintenance where applicable, and environmentally friendly cleaning.	ECOCAMPING training-material template may be used
E4 Guest information (Mandatory 100%) Permanent-camper information	- Information for campers is provided at reception or on the website on the following topics: saving water, reducing waste, saving energy, environmentally friendly mobility, local biodiversity. - The information is available in the national language and in English. - Permanent campers are informed separately where necessary (e.g. via notice, app, circular email or similar).	CPs ≥50 pitches: national language + EN CPs <50 pitches: national language only is sufficient
E5 Monitoring (Mandatory 100%)	- The following must be recorded annually: at least electricity consumption, water/wastewater, residual waste; primary energy consumption for heating/hot water - Indicators per overnight stay are calculated. - Scope 1-2 emissions + Scope 3 residual waste, water/wastewater are determined. - The biodiversity indicators are recorded (VSME). - For more than 10 employees (EE), the social indicators are recorded (VSME).	Template: ECOCAMPING monitoring table (automatic indicator calculation and Scope calculation integrated) Not applicable in the case of a new opening or change of operator (no previous-year data available).
E6 Renewable energies (Mandatory 100%)	100% of electricity demand is covered from renewable sources. This is achieved through on-site generation (e.g. PV system) and/or the purchase of green electricity from the grid. - If green electricity is not yet being purchased at the time of application, confirmation of a contract change or a declaration of exception must be available.	Exception rules (<100% renewable): - Green electricity >15% more expensive: cost comparison required, at least 3 suppliers - Suppliers do not supply: written confirmation required from at least 3 suppliers - No supplier available (rare!): documentation required

Criterion	Requirement	Special provisions, exceptions
E7 Heating/hot-water preparation (Mandatory 100%)	New systems (heating & hot water, from certification): • Gas/biomass boilers: at least efficiency class B • Heat pumps (heating): efficiency class A+ • Water heaters (central/instantaneous): at least efficiency class B • Heat pumps (hot water): at least efficiency class A Existing systems: • Systems up to 15 years old: at least efficiency class D (if an energy label is available) + annual maintenance • Systems >15 years old: annual maintenance • No coal heating permitted • Heating oil: max. 0.1% sulphur content	District/local heating: The efficiency classes do not apply to the connection; maintenance of the transfer station must be demonstrated. Additional heat generators on site meet the respective requirements.
E8 Water-saving sanitary technology in the sanitary building (Mandatory 100%)	Criterion E8 (water-saving sanitary technology) applies to all showers, washbasins and toilet facilities in the regular guest sanitary buildings of the campsite (indoor areas). Outdoor showers (e.g. at the pool or lake access), emergency showers and clearly separated special installations with low use do not fall under this criterion and are not taken into account when calculating compliance rates. Not included are: emergency showers (safety showers), individual outdoor showers with special use (e.g. lake/beach showers) and low use, and sanitary facilities exclusively for staff in technical or storage areas. The flow rates in the sanitary building for guests are: E8.1 Showers ≤ 8.5 L/min Initial certification (initial audit): • At least 50% of the showers within the scope of E8 are equipped with water-saving shower fittings. The water-saving fittings meet a maximum flow rate of ≤ 8.5 L/min (according to the manufacturer's specification or on-site measurement). In addition, there is a written action plan and timetable describing how conversion to 100% water-saving shower fittings will be completed by the first recertification. Recertification (from the 1st re-audit): • 100% of the showers within the scope of E8 are equipped with water-saving shower fittings (flow rate ≤ 8.5 L/min). E8.2 Washbasins ≤ 7 L/min, Initial certification (initial audit):	Tolerances: 25% higher flow rates are possible for permanently installed showers. The required flow rates must be taken into account during replacement or renovation.

Criterion	Requirement	Special provisions, exceptions
	- At least 50% of the washbasin fittings within the scope of E8 are designed to save water. The water-saving fittings meet a maximum flow rate of ≤ 7 L/min (according to the manufacturer's specification or on-site measurement). In addition, there is a written action plan and timetable describing how conversion to 100% water-saving washbasin fittings will be completed by the first recertification. Recertification (from the 1st re-audit): 100% of the washbasin fittings within the scope of E8 meet a maximum flow rate of ≤ 7 L/min. E8.3 Toilets ≤ 6 L or flush/stop button available Initial audit - At least 50% of the toilet facilities within the scope of E8 meet one of the following criteria: - maximum flush volume of ≤ 6 L per flush or - a flush/stop button is available, with which the flush-water volume can be reduced manually. In addition, there is a written action plan and timetable describing how conversion to 100% efficient toilet facilities will be completed by the first recertification. Recertification (from the 1st re-audit): 100% of the toilet facilities within the scope of E8 meet a maximum flush volume of ≤ 6 L per flush or have a flush/stop button.	
E9 Waste management and circular economy (Mandatory 100%)	- There is a recycling point on the campsite with at least 3 fractions (residual waste, paper, packaging, glass where applicable), or in accordance with the available separation options under national or regional requirements. - Hazardous waste is collected and disposed of: at least batteries. - Small electrical appliances (e.g. kettles, toasters, etc.) are mandatory where permanent campers are present. - Signage for the recycling point is available in the national language and in English. - Permanent campers are informed separately where necessary (if a separate disposal infrastructure is used).	CPs <50 pitches: for hazardous waste, only battery collection and disposal as well as signage in the national language are sufficient.
E10 Pesticide-free site maintenance (Mandatory 100%)	- No pesticides/herbicides/fungicides are used on any areas (pitches, paths, permanent-camper plots). - Maintenance is carried out mechanically/biologically.	Emergency exceptions are possible with official authorisation and documentation (e.g. wasps, ticks, poisonous plants, fungal infestation, wood pests, bark beetles, blue-green algae, Legionella, rodents/cockroaches).

Criterion	Requirement	Special provisions, exceptions
E11 Biodiversity (nature-oriented site design) (Mandatory 100%)	- At least 2 biodiversity-friendly landscaping elements are present on the campsite (e.g. wildflower meadow, insect hotel, small body of water, deadwood, native hedge, nesting aids, dry-stone wall, nature-oriented play areas, or others). 100% native or non-invasive alien plants are used for new plantings. - Information is available to camping guests on local biodiversity + regional protected areas (e.g. on the website or at reception).	CPs <50 pitches: 1 landscaping element is sufficient.
E11A: Fair-trade coffee and organic food in the restaurant (for self-operated restaurants with ≥€70k turnover and open for more than 6 months) (Mandatory 100%)	E11A.1 Fair-trade coffee/black tea in the restaurant 100% fair-trade coffee is used in the restaurant. - If black tea is offered, it must also be 100% fair trade. E11A.2 Organic food in the restaurant: The restaurant offers guests at least the following organic products as a choice and clearly labels them: 2 organic products from the specified product groups (selection of other products of the operator's own choice possible) – for the initial award 3 organic products from the specified product groups (selection of other products of the operator's own choice possible) – for recertification (Choice of: - Organic eggs - Organic potatoes - Organic milk - Organic coffee – all coffee served (all coffee beverages) - Organic fruit juices - Organic bread/bread rolls - Organic fruit spread/jam - Organic yoghurt - Other products of the operator's own choice possible	Recognised fair-trade certifications: - - Fairtrade International, - Fairtrade Deutschland (TransFair), - Max Havelaar, - Fairtrade Österreich, - GEPA Fair+, - Naturland Fair, - WFTO, - Fair for Life (Ecocert). (Alternatives to the Fairtrade label may be possible following examination by the certification body.) Recognised certifications for organic products: - 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-Biosiegel – Austria - Bio Austria – Austria - Bio Suisse Knospe – Switzerland

Criterion	Requirement	Special provisions, exceptions
E12 Certified sanitary additives in the shop (Mandatory 100%)	In the campsite shop: • at least 50% of the sanitary additives offered (based on the number of product variants) carry an environmental label (e.g. EU Ecolabel, Blue Angel, Nordic Swan) OR are readily biodegradable (OECD 301). • Products containing CMR substances, formaldehyde or biocides are generally not used. • Guests are informed about sanitary additives compatible with wastewater treatment plants (national language or English). Campsites without a shop: • Information for guests about sanitary additives compatible with wastewater treatment plants is available in the national language or English.	-
E13 Certified cleaning agents (Mandatory 100%)	• At least 90% of the cleaning agents used (based on the number of product variants) are certified with an environmental label. • No use of agents containing chlorine, phosphates or microplastics. • An agreement with any external service providers is available.	Exceptions: special technical cleaners + intensive surface cleaning. Disinfectants where legally required (or other listed areas of application where no alternative is available, following case-by-case examination).
E14. Employees (Mandatory 100%)	E14.1 There is a smoking ban in all communal indoor areas (reception, sanitary facilities, lounge, etc.). E14.2 Social benefits for employees • At least 2 social benefits from the categories listed below are offered. • Cat. A: Further training (1 day/year), • Cat. B: Meals/vouchers ($\geq$€5/day), • Cat. C: Work clothing (free of charge/50%), • Cat. D: Discount on the establishment's products/services ($\geq$10%), • Cat. E: Public transport subsidy ($\geq$€25/month), • Cat. F: Assistance in finding accommodation, or provision of accommodation for seasonal workers, • Cat. G: other benefits of the operator's own choice possible	For CPs with <10 EE: 1 benefit is sufficient.



Criterion	Requirement	Special provisions, exceptions
E15 Regional value creation (at least 1 option)	Support for regional value creation through: • 15.1. At least 1 local product (100 km; for remote campsites, 150 km) is offered in the shop, restaurant or snack bar. • 15.2. At least 1 local supplier or service provider (within 100 km) is commissioned. • 15.3. At least 1 leisure cooperation with a regional provider (within 100 km; e.g. bicycle rental, hiking guide).	
E15A Building materials: For new construction or renovation of the sanitary facilities or reception building within the next 3 years (from certification) (Mandatory 100%)	For new construction/renovation of sanitary facilities or reception buildings within the next 3 years, regional, sustainable materials are taken into account (at least 1 product), e.g. wood from FSC forestry; paints/floors with Blue Angel/Ecolabel (other products and certifications possible after consultation).	
E16 Promotion of regional culture (at least 1 option)	The campsite supports regional culture through: • 16.1: At least 1 cultural site within 25 km is promoted at reception or online (opening hours, prices, directions, links). • 16.2. At least 1 cultural cooperation, active promotion of cultural offerings (e.g. through a discount campaign or mutual promotion). • The information is provided in the national language and in English.	CPs <50 pitches: promotion in the national language is 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 (separate disposal infrastructure)