



Fitzgeralds Woodlands House Hotel

Our Sustainability Journey

Overall vision

At Fitzgeralds Woodlands House Hotel, we're dedicated to becoming a global leader in sustainable tourism, setting an example for others to follow. Our vision is to become a carbon-neutral hotel, and ultimately reach carbon negativity, by implementing sustainable practices across all areas of our operations. We've already taken significant steps to integrate sustainable practices into our daily operations, and we're constantly exploring new ways to innovate and lead the way towards a more sustainable future. We believe in doing our part to minimise our environmental impact, while providing our guests with a truly luxurious and sustainable experience. Our commitment to sustainability is unwavering, and we're working hard to promote a culture of sustainability among our staff, guests, and partners. By working together, we can create a brighter, more sustainable future for all.

Our carbon neutrality vision includes several key elements:

- **Energy Efficiency:** We have invested in energy-efficient technologies, such as LED lighting and low-flow shower-heads, to reduce our energy consumption.
- **Renewable Energy:** We generate our own renewable energy through the use of solar panels and our electricity-producing CHP (Combined Heat and Power) plant.
- **Sustainable Transportation:** We have electric car charging stations available for our guests and we bulk purchase to reduce the number of deliveries to the hotel.
- **Sustainable Procurement:** We aim to source our products and services from local, sustainable suppliers and reduce our use of single-use plastics. We use organically produced fruits, vegetables, and honey from Mary's Organic Garden, located on our property. Additionally, we serve organic beef from our own farm. By promoting organic farming and supporting local, sustainable agriculture, we hope to reduce our carbon footprint and contribute to the local economy.
- **Education and Engagement:** We strive to educate our guests and staff about our sustainability efforts and encourage their participation in our programs. We offer classes in beekeeping and organic farming, as well as sustainable practices in Mary's Organic Garden, located on our property. By sharing our knowledge and experience in sustainable agriculture, we hope to inspire our guests and staff to adopt more sustainable practices in their own lives.

Our goal is to reduce our carbon footprint to zero and become a model for sustainable tourism in Ireland and internationally.

With this vision, Fitzgeralds Woodlands House Hotel and Spa is committed to preserving the environment for future generations while providing unique and enjoyable experiences for our guests.



12 Month Goals

- Conduct a comprehensive energy audit of the hotel to identify areas of energy inefficiency and set a baseline for measuring progress.
- Social media program to highlight our sustainable features such electric charging stations and solar
- Implement energy-efficient lighting, heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems to reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions.
- Evaluate the hotel's current renewable energy sources, such as solar panels and combined heat and power plant, and seek to increase the percentage of energy generated from renewable sources and establish our current percentage of renewables.
- Reduce the carbon footprint of employee commuting by investing further in staff accommodation onsite.
- Implement a water conservation program to reduce water consumption and promote sustainable water management.
- Evaluate and reduce the hotel's use of single-use plastics, such as by implementing a plastic reduction plan or exploring alternative materials.
- Develop a sustainable purchasing policy for food, supplies, and equipment to support sustainable production and reduce waste.
- Explore circular economy practices, such as textile recycling or food waste reduction programs, to reduce waste and promote a closed-loop system.
- Establish a sustainability committee to monitor and report on progress towards carbon neutrality and sustainability goals.
- Provide education and resources for guests and employees on sustainable practices to increase awareness and engagement.
- Set a specific, measurable, and achievable goal for reducing carbon emissions and publicly report progress towards achieving that goal through our website. Document our journey through social media.
- Develop a plan to expand organic practices used in Mary's Organic Garden for sustainable landscaping and groundskeeping throughout the hotel.
- Promote the hotel as an international sustainable resort to attract eco-conscious travellers.
- Develop individual action plans for all departments, including Revas spa and leisure centre, to ensure sustainability practices are integrated throughout the hotel.
- Offer guests the option to opt-out of housekeeping services to reduce energy and water usage.
- Use detailed spreadsheets to monitor key performance indicators across electricity, gas, water, and waste to track progress towards sustainability goals.



24 Month Goals

- Conduct a follow-up energy audit of the hotel to track progress and identify additional areas of energy inefficiency.
- Implement a smart building management system to optimise energy usage and reduce waste.
- Increase the percentage of energy generated from renewable sources by installing additional solar panels and exploring other renewable energy options.
- Explore additional initiatives to reduce carbon emissions from commuting.
- Expand the water conservation program to include rainwater harvesting and grey-water recycling.
- Reduce the use of single-use plastics by 50% and explore alternatives for remaining plastic usage.
- Implement a zero waste policy for food, supplies, and equipment.
- Expand circular economy practices to include composting and repurposing of waste materials.
- Set a goal for achieving carbon neutrality and develop a comprehensive plan to reach that goal.
- Increase education and resources for guests and employees on sustainable practices.
- Conduct a life-cycle assessment of the hotel's products and services to identify areas for improvement.
- Expand the use of organic practices throughout the hotel, including in landscaping, cleaning, and pest control.
- Achieve international recognised certification for sustainable practices, such as Green Key/LEED and Earthcheck.
- Integrate sustainability practices into procurement processes and policies, including supplier evaluations and ethical sourcing.
- Explore sustainable transportation options for guests, such as shuttle services and bike rentals.
- Expand employee training and education on sustainability practices.
- Develop a green events policy for conferences and events held at the hotel.
- Develop a comprehensive waste management plan, including a recycling program for guests and employees.
- Conduct regular sustainability audits to ensure ongoing progress towards sustainability goals.
- Increase guest engagement through sustainable tourism activities and tours.
- Promote sustainable practices beyond the hotel, such as supporting local conservation and community projects.
- Explore innovative technologies and practices for reducing the hotel's environmental
- Create sustainable travel packages that promote eco-tourism and support local communities while minimising the environmental impact of travel.