



## Folk Camps Society Limited

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Folk Camps is a company limited by guarantee (Reg No 931434)  
and a registered charity (No 255901)

# Folk Camps Environmental Policy

Folk Camps Society is a low impact organisation. It started in the early 1960s and is now a charity with a mission to educate all ages in traditional music, song and dance through the medium of camping holidays. Our camps are in farmers' fields, on agricultural land or pasture, on parkland or on playing fields. Leaving a site as we found it is a central maxim for the Society.

This policy brings together policy decisions taken by our Council of Management over the years which have an impact on aspects of our environmental footprint.

### 1. Management of our Camps:

- a. Recycling: Planning for our catered camps includes arranging for maximum recycling depending on local conditions.
- b. Raw sewage: We ensure proper licensed emptying of sewage tanks on a regular basis.
- c. Noise pollution: Even though most of our camps are away from built up areas, we turn off amplification by 23.30 pm.
- d. Dogs: Some of our campers bring dogs to camp and we have a separate policy covering the behaviour of dogs and their owners on or in the vicinity of our camping sites.
- e. As a Society, we understand the importance of biodiversity and we encourage our campers to respect all wildlife on and in the vicinity of our camp sites.
- f. Sites: Litter is not permitted on our camp sites and all refuse is removed either by campers themselves or by our volunteer staff. We use appropriate skip services provided by a licensed waste carrier. We ensure all debris is removed from the field once our camps are completed. The camping field is checked over minutely following removal of our entire infrastructure.

### 2. Catering:

- a. Local sourcing: Where possible we try to use local suppliers and fresh produce, including ethically farmed meat and free-range eggs. We also aim to use the nearest cash & carry company.
- b. Ethical sourcing: Where possible, the society will use fair trade products however packaging quantities means that this is not always possible.
- c. Menu development: When developing new recipes, the Catering Working Group takes seasonal produce into account.

### 3. Management of the Society:

- a. Policy decisions on the running of the Society are taken by the Council of Management. Physical meetings of the Council are infrequent, most decisions are taken during online meetings or by online communication and email exchange. Physical meeting locations are chosen taking travel time and distance into consideration.
- b. Most communication with our members, suppliers and potential members is carried out by email, including official notifications.
- c. Staff training: Most volunteer staff training is completed online.
- d. Location finding: We undertake initial site investigations online and by phone. Site visits are coordinated and only made when the site is likely to be booked.