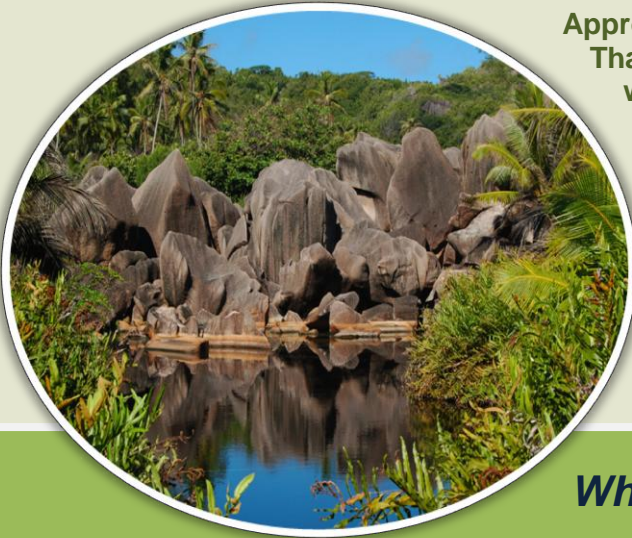


# **SEYCHELLES SUSTAINABLE TOURISM LABEL CODE FOR RESPONSIBLE TRAVELLERS**

## ***A Guide to Responsible Travel in Seychelles***

Welcome to Seychelles, one of 25 Biodiversity Hotspots in the world!



Approximately 47% of the Seychelles land mass is protected. That is because our Islands are blessed with some of the world's rarest species of flora and fauna, including endangered birds and plants. Unfortunately our biodiversity is at risk from human induced pressures. To ensure the survival of our unique wildlife it is vital that we manage our natural assets sustainably.

We request that our visitors read the following guidelines and help us protect our natural heritage for future generations to enjoy.

### ***When visiting our country***

- ✓ Use responsible tour and travel service providers to book your holiday. When in Seychelles, you can reduce your carbon footprint by using the local bus service or hire a bicycle to tour the islands.
- ✓ Support eco-friendly accommodations. Stay in hotels and guesthouses which care for the environment. You can view the list of SSTL certified hotels on this website: [www.seychelles.travel/sstl](http://www.seychelles.travel/sstl)
- ✓ Protect the marine environment. Please do not touch or stand on coral reefs. Get involved in protecting the marine eco-system by joining environmental societies.
- ✓ Never remove live shells from the sea, and refrain from buying shells or any products that are made from turtle shell or other endangered species.
- ✓ Take care not to disturb the fragile eco-system. Please do not remove any animal products, rocks, plants, seeds or birds' nests.
- ✓ Please take your litter with you. Litter such as plastic bags is harmful to marine life like fish and turtles.
- ✓ Familiarize yourself about the unique flora and fauna of Seychelles by browsing environmental websites. (Some websites are shown overleaf). Take an interest in the local language.
- ✓ Support local industries. Buy genuine local curios which were crafted in Seychelles. Purchase locally grown vegetables and fruit. Savour local cuisine by eating at Creole restaurants.
- ✓ Respect local culture. It is illegal to swim topless.
- ✓ Please conserve water. Water is a precious resource on small islands. You can help us by taking shorter showers and by re-using bath towels rather than having them washed daily.

***Thank you for visiting Seychelles and for helping us to care for the environment.  
We invite you to view the Seychelles Sustainable Tourism Label website***

***[www.seychelles.travel/sstl](http://www.seychelles.travel/sstl)***

## **The Seychelles Sustainable Tourism Label** “Seychelles, Deserving Conserving”

The Seychelles Sustainable Tourism Label was developed to assess and recognize accommodation establishments in Seychelles that achieve best practice standards in sustainable tourism and environmental management systems.

Did you know that there are only 25 Biodiversity Hotspots in the world? They cover a total of only 1.4% of the earth's land mass, but contain 60% of rare varieties of plants, birds, mammals, reptiles which are threatened with destruction

The SSTL criteria provides assistance to tourism establishments on how to operate sustainably, by conserving natural resources, reducing waste and by supporting the local community.

The SSTL is proof that the Seychelles tourism industry is conscious that their business relies on the wellbeing of the island's unique flora, fauna, marine life and pristine beaches to attract visitors to our shores.

SSTL also benefits you, the traveller, by providing a reliable benchmark to help you identify eco-friendly establishments, thereby ensuring that future generations can continue to enjoy the unspoilt beauty of our country. All of us share the responsibility to safeguard our natural resources.

### **ENDANGERED BIRDS OF SEYCHELLES**

Seychelles boasts 12 unique birds species, which are found only in Seychelles. Here are the four unique birds which are listed as endangered by IUCN (the World Conservation Union). The Seychelles Black Paradise Flycatcher is critically endangered.



Seychelles Black Paradise Flycatcher (Vev)  
*Terpsiphone corvina*



Seychelles Magpie-robin (Pi Santez)  
*Copsychus sechellarum*



Seychelles White-eye (Zwazo Linet)  
*Zosterops Modestus*



Seychelles Scops Owl (Syer),  
*Otus Insularis*

#### Further Reading...

Seychelles Tourism Board (STB); [www.seychelles.travel](http://www.seychelles.travel), Seychelles Islands Foundation; [www.sif.sc](http://www.sif.sc) Nature Seychelles; [www.NatureSeychelles.org](http://www.NatureSeychelles.org), Marine Conservation Society of Seychelles; [www.mcsc.sc](http://www.mcsc.sc) The Ecotourism Society; [www.sey-tess.com](http://www.sey-tess.com), Seychelles Hotel and Tourism Association; [www.shta-seychelles.com](http://www.shta-seychelles.com)

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