

Destination North Coast Event Sustainability policy

Introduction

Destination North Coast (DNC) is one of seven Destination Networks in regional NSW. The North Coast stretches from the New South Wales/Queensland border in the north to Tea Gardens/Hawks Nest in the south and encompasses 14 local government areas including Lord Howe Island. DNC works with visitor economy stakeholders to drive, coordinate, and support the sustainable management and development of tourism across the region. Our goal is to strengthen and enhance the region's visitor experiences to help sustainably grow the North Coast visitor economy.

North Coast Tourism Symposium & North Coast Tourism Awards

Each year, DNC plans and delivers the North Coast Tourism Symposium, a full-day industry conference and professional development opportunity for tourism operators and all involved in the region's visitor economy. The Tourism Symposium is delivered in partnership with one of the region's Local Government Areas and is being held in the Tweed at Kingscliff at Peppers Resort & Spa in 2023. Attendee numbers vary each year but will likely surpass 120.

Held in the evening after Symposium, the North Coast Tourism Awards in partnership with Business NSW deliver the North Coast Tourism Awards ceremony and gala dinner. This event will recognise and celebrate success of tourism businesses within our region with 168 guests at Plantation House, Duranbah.

The Tweed Shire boundaries encompasses the Ngandowal and Minyungbal speaking people of the Bundjalung Country, who are recognised as the Traditional Owners and custodians of the land and waters.

DNC is committed to continued improvement of our environmental performance and in delivering our annual events, to identifying and monitoring environmental impacts.

In planning and delivering the North Coast Tourism Symposium and Tourism Awards events, DNC aims to where possible:

- Be energy, resource and water efficient
- Reduce food and other waste; go paperless
- Reduce the environmental impacts of travel; encourage car-pooling/ride sharing
- Encourage sustainable procurement by partner organisations
- Be carbon conscious and offset emissions that cannot be reduced
- Educate and raise environmental awareness and drive behaviour change
- Demonstrate innovation and leadership

Our sustainability actions will include;

- Communicating with key stakeholders and event attendees of our event's Sustainability Policy and aims.
- Seeking event partners and stakeholder commitment to reduce waste
- Working with venue managers/partners to assess their value chains and procure sustainably and locally
- Communicating carbon outputs and offsetting to attendees, partners and other stakeholders
- Attendee pre-function Survey will measure and assess Transport Impacts
- Pre-event requests to the venue to provide water refilling stations, water jugs/glasses rather than single use plastic bottles, sustainably sourced pens and paper etc.
- Pre-event communication to encourage car-pooling/ride sharing to reduce travel emissions

DNC will comply with all relevant legislation and regulations. We also will be working closely with the internal team and key partners throughout the event planning and delivery phases to ensure environmental, cultural, and economic sustainability is considered and positive impacts achieved.

Signed:



(Michael Thurston, General Manager) Dated: 11th July 2023