How to Be a Responsible Tourist at Bukovel?

Located in the heart of the Carpathian mountains, Bukovel Resort is the perfect destination for outdoor recreation. Whether visiting for skiing in winter or hiking in summer, acting responsibly helps preserve the region's natural beauty, supports local communities, and honors cultural traditions.

We invite you to learn how to be a responsible tourist at Bukovel.

Respecting Nature and Minimizing Impact

- Stick to designated routes. When hiking or mountainbiking, stay on marked trails to prevent soil erosion and protect local flora.
- Leave no trace. Always take your trash with you and participate in local cleanup initiatives, such as collecting litter along hiking trails.
- Respect wildlife. Observe animals from a distance and never feed them, as this disrupts their natural behavior.
- Avoid using open fires while camping. Open fires can severely damage fragile ecosystems and pose a significant wildfire risk. Use designated camping sites if available.
- Reduce noise pollution. Enjoy nature in peace and avoid excessive noise that may disturb wildlife and fellow visitors.
- **Sort waste properly.** Use designated bins and follow waste separation guidelines to help reduce pollution.
- **Minimize single-use plastics.** Bring a reusable water bottle and shopping bags to cut down on waste.
- Opt for eco-friendly transportation. Choose shuttle buses, walking, or cycling instead of private vehicles to reduce carbon emission.
- **Avoid jeep tours.** These contribute to environmental degradation and disturb local ecosystems.

Respecting Local Culture and Traditions

- **Support local artisans.** Buy handmade products and souvenirs from local markets instead of mass-produced goods.
- Avoid illegal souvenirs. Do not purchase items made from endangered plant or animal species, historical artifacts, or goods obtained unlawfully. Check the <u>list of prohibited items</u> for border transportation.
- **Respect local customs.** Take the time to learn about and support Carpathian traditions, including music, dance, and folklore.
- **Dress appropriately in religious sites.** When visiting churches, wear modest clothing and behave respectfully.
- **Ask before taking photos.** Always obtain permission before photographing people, especially in rural areas.

• Learn a few words in Ukrainian. Locals appreciate simple greetings such as "Dobryi den" (Hello) and expressions of gratitude "Diakuyu" (Thank you).

Supporting the Local Economy

- **Dine in traditional restaurants.** Experience authentic Carpathian cuisine, including Hutsul specialties like banosh, brynza, and bohrach.
- **Hire local guides and tour operators.** Locals may provide valuable insights into the region's history, nature, and traditions.
- **Shop at local markets.** Purchasing locally sourced products, dairy goods, and handicrafts supports small-scale producers.
- Attend cultural events. Participate in workshops with local artisans such as potters, Easter egg decorators, weavers, carvers, and chefs to learn about regional heritage.
- Engage in local events and festivals. Joining guided tours, traditional celebrations, and festivals fosters a deeper understanding of Hutsul culture while supporting the community.
- Stay in local and eco-friendly accommodations. Choose locally owned and eco-certified hotels that support the regional economy and minimize environmental impact.

Health and Safety

- **Prepare for weather changes.** As the weather in the Carpathians is unpredictable, we highly recommend checking forecasts and dressing in layers to stay warm and dry.
- Carry a first aid kit. Have basic medical supplies on hand and know the location of the nearest medical facilities.
- Stay hydrated and eat well. Altitude and physical activity can be demanding, so drink plenty of water and maintain a nutritious diet.
- **Know emergency contacts.** Keep local emergency numbers, including mountain rescue services, readily available.
- Follow on-slope safety rules. Wear a helmet when skiing or snowboarding, follow slope signage, and stay within designated ski areas to avoid avalanche risks. Make sure your equipment is in good condition and appropriate for your skill level.
- Stay safe outdoors. Use proper gear for hiking, mountainbiking, or adventure activities.
 Avoid traveling alone in remote areas and always inform someone about your route and estimated time of return.
- **Protect your belongings.** While the resort is generally safe, crowded areas may pose a risk for lost or stolen valuables. Use anti-theft bags and keep your belongings secure.

By following these guidelines, every visitor can contribute to the preservation of Bukovel's cultural and natural heritage while ensuring a sustainable tourism experience for future generations.

If you have suggestions for improving responsible tourism efforts, please contact us at +38 067 340 40 71 or via email at visit@bukovel.com.