



Green Hostels Audit Report

DALVÍK

Alta ehf

June 2014





SUSTAINABILITY REPORT: DALVÍK HOSTEL

This audit for Dalvik Hostel was conducted by Alta Consulting in June 2014. The audit report is based on a format from Hosteling International Iceland (HI Iceland).

Since 2003 HI Iceland has included environmental and social aspects in the organization's Quality Standards. All HI Iceland hostels must fulfill the General Quality Standards which include mandatory environmental requirements. Furthermore hostels can apply for a Green Hostel certification ("home-made" additional environmental criteria). The Green Hostel certification is based on environmental requirements set out by HI Iceland, with support from an independent consulting agency which audits the hostels.

Today there are 14 Green hostels at HI Iceland. Dalvik Hostel has applied for Green Hostel certification. The Hostel was established in 2009 in a very old cottage once habited by one of the owner's great grandmother. Today the hostel has grown from only housing a few people over the summertime to a large operation with a number of different housing options available for their guests. During the summertime the Hostel offers over 70 beds in cottages or the main house, Gimli (an old youth center they turned into a hostel)+ five large rooms that fit 25 individuals in the ski cabin. All accommodation areas are equipped with self-catering kitchens, shower facilities and lovely outdoor areas.

Structure of the report

1. The 1st column represents the **Criteria**, both in Icelandic and English.
2. The 2nd column, named **Status** represents the hostel's situation for each point :

✓ = *Fulfilled* -- = *In progress/ Partially fulfilled* ✗ = *Not achieved*
3. The 3rd column, **Comments** represents our observations after visiting the hostel in August 2012 and April 2014.



1. CONSUMPTION

1.1. Mandatory requirements

	Status	Comments
<p>1.1.1. Í gestaeldhúsum og í matsölu skal einungis boðið upp á margnota borðbúnað. In the guest kitchens and when making own food there should only be offered reusable tableware.</p>	✓	The hostel is using reusable tableware and hides all disposable tableware left behind.
<p>1.1.2. Við reksturinn skal forðast óþarfa soun á umbúðum með því að velja frekar stærri einingar, t.d. ekki að velja vörur í "smáumbúðum" (s.s. smjör, marmelaði, sykur, sápur) In the management it should be avoided to generate unnecessary waste in packaging by choosing bigger units e.g. not choose products in "retail packaging" (i.e. butter, marmalade, sugar, soaps).</p>	✓	All cleaning supplies are bought in big units. The owners of the hostel also operate a Café where all of the food offered at their hostel over the summertime is prepared. This makes it possible for them to buy almost all food related items in big units as well.
<p>1.1.3. Velja skal umhverfismerkt rekstrarvöru umfram aðra sem er í boði. Þetta á t.d. við um val á hreingerningurvörum s.s. einnota pappír; klósettpappír og handþurrkum Environmental friendly products should be chosen rather than other. This applies to selections of e.g. Cleaning products; material and equipments. Disposable paper; toilet paper and hand wipers.</p>	✓	It is clear that the hostel is making an effort to buy environmentally friendly products. They have recently started collaborating with a supplier that offers a wide range of environmentally friendly products enabling them to have all their cleaning products and disposable paper eco-labelled.
<p>1.1.4. Gestum eru veittar upplýsingar um gæði íslenska vatnsins um leið og þeir eru hvattir til vatnsdrykkju. Merking til þessa er til hjá Farfglum. Guests are informed about the quality of the Icelandic water and are generally encouraged to drink water.</p>	✓	Information about the Icelandic water is available for guests.
<p>1.1.5. Þar sem morgunverður er í boði er vatn á morgunverðarborðinu. If breakfast is available, water is offered.</p>	✓	The Hostel offers water in the café as well as with breakfast.

1.2. Extra requirements for the Green Hostels



	Status	Comments
<p>1.2.1. Leitast er við í innkaupum á matvöru og ekstravörum að velja íslenskaumhverfisvæna vöru framyfir erlenda, a.m.k. séu 3 vörur sem sýna þetta. Sjá tillögur Farfugla að innkaupalista. When shopping it is preferred e.g. for cooking to buy Icelandic products and shop within the district. At least 3 products are confirming this. See recommendations for HI Hostels.</p>	✓	<p>The hostel is doing an excellent job of fulfilling this point.</p> <p>They buy all the local ingredients they can offer to their customers, from vegetables to beer.</p>
<p>1.2.2. Þar sem seldur er morgunverður er boðið er upp á a.m.k. þrjár tegundir af heimagerðri/heimaræktaðri/ lífrænt ræktaðri matvöru á orgunverðarborðinu, s.s. brauð, ávexti, grænmeti, te. Sýnt er fram á þetta með matseðli. Einnig má sjá tillögur Farfugla að innkaupalista. If breakfast is offered, the selection offers at least three types of homemade/home-grown/organically grown food products, like bread, fruit, vegetable, tea, etc. This is demonstrated with the menu. They can see the suggestions shopping list for Hi Hostels.</p>	✓	<p>The hostel servers breakfast over the summertime and offer a wide range of local products that are mostly organic. This includes bread, eggs, milk, vegetables, milk, honey and jams.</p> <p>They offer lunch in their café as well where they serve homemade soups, local meat and salads with a wide selection of local as well as fair trade products.</p>

2. REUSING AND RECYCLING

2.1 Mandatory requirements

	Status	Comments
<p>2.1.1. Reynt skal eins og kostur er að versla vistvænt og draga um leið úr sormagni með því að</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • velja fjölnota vörur í stað einnota • velja endurunnið eða endurnýtanlegt • flokka úrganginn með því að skila til endurnýtingar öllu sem farvegur er fyrir <p>When shopping an attempt should be made to buy environmental friendly products and by doing that decrease the amount of garbage. This can be done by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Choosing reusable products instead of disposable ✓ • Choose recycled products and ones that 	✓	<p>The hostel is very active in regards of buying environmentally friendly products when they can</p> <p>They use organic bags for the organic waste and even reuse some trash-bags.</p>



<p>can be recycled ✓</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sort trash and returning everything that can be recycled to recycling centres ✓ 		
<p>2.1.2. Skýrar leiðbeiningar verða að hanga uppi handa gestum til að fara eftir við flokkun á sorpi. Merkingar fyrir sorpflokkun eru til hjá Farfuglum og viðeigandi merkingar skulu vera þar sem þær gera flokkun augljósa fyrir gesti</p> <p>Clear instructions must be provided for guests to follow while sorting garbage. The signs for waste classification are from Farfuglar and they are properly displayed offering a clear classification for guests.</p>	✓	<p>The hostel is fulfilling this point.</p>
<p>2.1.3. Starfsfólki eru kynntar vinnureglur um losun og meðhöndlun á sorpi.</p> <p>Staff is trained about disposal and handling of waste</p>	✓	<p>There are only 3 staff working in the hostel and they share the knowledge. The hostel also has a quality manual.</p>
<p>2.1.4. Að minnsta kosti skal flokka eftirfarandi og skila/farga/vinna</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gos- og drykkjarumbúðir sem gefa skilagjald Rafhlöður – skilist á bensínstöðvum um allt land Lífrænn úrgangur sem til fellur í eldhúsi og garðúrgangur sem nýtanlegur er flokkaður er frá og nýttur t.d. til moltugerðar eða handa dýrum Lyf skilist í apótekum þar sem þeim er komið í eyðingu <p>At least the following should be sorted and returned/disposed/reused;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Soda and drinking cans and bottles can be reimbursed ✓ Batteries – returned to Gas stations all over the country ✓ Organic waste from the kitchen and garden waste – which can ✓ be used for making compost Medicine – returned to pharmacies where 	✓	<p>The hostel is fulfilling this point.</p>




they are disposed of		
<p>2.1.5. Notaðir bæklingar sem safnast frá gestum er haldið til haga svo lengi sem þeir eru heillegir og geta orðið öðrum til gagns.</p> <p>Used brochures collected from visitors are maintained as long as they have full properties and can be useful to others.</p>	✓	The hostel is fulfilling this point. And even gives out extra brochures to the swimming pool when they have too many at the hostel.
<p>2.1.6. Gestir eru hvattir til þess að skilja þurrvöru; krydd, og aðra heillega matvöru eftir handa öðrum gestum í gestaeldhúsunum í stað þess að henda. Merkingar til þessa er hægt að fá hjá Farfuglum. Gert er ráð fyrir plássi fyrir sameiginlega matvöru og hirt velum í þrifum.</p> <p>Guests are encouraged to leave dry goods; spices, and other food products for other guests to use in the guest kitchens instead of throwing it away. Labels for this can be obtained from Farfuglar. It is assumed the space for common food is regularly checked and cleaned.</p>	✓	The hostel is fulfilling this point. They have a special storage room for dry goods left by other travellers and remove products that are out-dated regularly.
<p>2.1.7. Bækur og tímarit sem verða eftir er safnað í bókasafn staðarins</p> <p>Reading material that is left behind is gathered for the hostels' library.</p>	✓	The hostel is fulfilling this point and removes books that are never touched regularly.

2.2 Extra requirements for Green Hostels



	Status	Comments
<p>2.2.1. Hver og einn neðantalinna sorpflokka (eða sambærilegra) gefur einn punkt ef þeir eru flokkaðir frá og þeim skilað á viðurkenndan hátt</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bylgjupappi, • Dagblöð og tímarit, • Fernur utan af drykkjarvörum, mjólk og safa. • Spilliefni, þar á meðal; málning, lakk og leysiefni, gas og spritt, lyf, olíufni <p>Each of the following garbage group (or other comparables) give one point each if they are divided from other garbage and they are</p>	✓	<p>The hostel is fulfilling this point. They have 9 categories: plastic, organic, tetrapack, metal, glass, non recyclable, paper & cardboard, cans & bottles and hazardous. This is applicable to Gimli.</p> <p>They have also set up containers and bins outside of the cottages as well as the main house for guests to use.</p>



<p>returned properly.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cardboard, • Newspaper and magazines • Milk and juice containers • Toxic substances, including paint, varnish and solvent, gas and spirit, oil 		
<p>2.2.2.Skiptimarkaður með fót og búnað er í húsinu og/ eða fatnaður og skór er gefinn til Hjálparstofnanna. Merking til að hvetja gesti til að skilja eftir nýtilega hluti er til hjá Farfuglum.</p> <p>Red Cross/Free items basket with clothing is available in the house and/or shoes and clothes are donated to the Red Cross. A label to encourage visitors to leave unnecessary clothes exists in Farfuglar.</p>		<p>Dalvík hostel is providing with Red Cross/Free items bin in Gimli.</p> <p>They also have a box for gas canisters.</p>

3. POLLUTION

3.1.Mandatory requirements

	Status	Comments
<p>3.1.1.Þvottaefni í þvottavélar er notað sparlega og samkvæmt ákveðnum leiðbeiningum; leiðbeiningar til gesta skulu vera við þvottaaðstöðu. Merking til að leiðbeina gestum er til hjá Farfuglum. Starfsfólk skal fá leiðbeiningar um notkun á þvottaefni.</p> <p>Detergent in the washing machine is used sparingly and according to established guidelines; instructions to visitors shall be near the washing machine. A label to guide visitors is available at Farfuglar. Employees should be instructed on the correct use of detergent.</p>		<p>The hostel does not provide laundry services to its guests and try as much as they can to wash their own linen.</p> <p>When possible they use an environmentally friendly washing ball that contains no chemicals.</p>
<p>3.1.2.Við val á efnum við viðhald byggingar og innanstokksmuna , s.s. málningu, gólfefni, er leitast við að nota viðurkennd vistvæn efni á réttan hátt. Haft skal samráð við skrifstofu Farfugla um val á efni.</p> <p>When choosing material to reconstruct buildings</p>		<p>The hostel is doing a great effort, by reusing old furniture.</p>



and interior, e.g. paint, floor material it is endeavoured to use acknowledged environmental friendly material in the proper way. The office of Borgartun shall be consulted when choosing materials.		
3.1.3. Eiturefni/sterk óvístvæn efni má ekki nota til daglegra þrifa eða annarar reglulegrar starfsemi. Starfsfólk fái leiðbeiningar um meðferð og geymslu. Toxins / strong material s may not be used for daily cleaning or other ordinary operations. Employees will receive instructions for handling and storage.	✓	A lot of their paint is Swan eco labelled or water based. They get the paints from a Chemist that makes sure that there are no strong toxic elements in it.
3.1.4. Þar sem eru sorptunnur útivið verða þær að rúma það sorp sem til fellur, vera losaðar og þrifiðar reglulega. Stubbahús eða rusl fyrir sígarettustubba séu á viðeigandi stöðum. Waste bins must accommodate the waste that is generated, they are checked and cleaned regularly. Appropriate containers for cigarette stubs are in specific places.	✓	The hostel is fulfilling this point.
3.1.5. Sorptunnur innanhúss verða að rúma það sorp sem til fellur, vel staðsettar, losaðar reglulega og þrifiðar. All garbage bins inside are well located. They shall be emptied and cleaned regularly.	✓	The hostel is fulfilling this point. A lot of the time they don't actually remove the bags from the bins but just remove the waste form the bags.
3.1.6. Reykingar eru með öllu bannaðar innandyra. Merkingar eru til hjá Farfuglum. Smoking is strictly forbidden inside the house. Labels are available at Farfuglar.	✓	The hostel fulfils this point, signs are located in all the houses.

3.2. Extra requirements for Green Hostels

3.2.1. Klósettilmsteinn er ekki notaður – nema umhverfisvottaður. Sjá tillögur Farfugla að innkaupalista. If a toilet refresher is used it must be “environmental friendly”. See recommendations for shopping.	✓	The hostel is not using any toilet refresher.
3.2.2. Þvottaefni fyrir allt tau, uppþvottalögur og uppþvottaefni í vélar er umhverfisvottað. Sjá tillögur Farfugla að innkaupalista.		All washing powder is eco-labelled and sometimes the laundry ball is the only thing



Washing powder for all clothes, hand washing detergent and dishwashing detergent must be environmentally certified. See recommendations for shopping.		used along with hot water.
3.2.3. A.m.k. 80% þeirra hreinlætisvara sem notaðar eru við dagleg þrif á heimilinu eru umhverfisvottaðar vörur, að meðtöldum þvottaefnum. Sjá tillögur Farfugla að innkaupalista. At least 80% of cleaning products used for daily cleaning in the hostel are eco-friendly, including detergents. See recommendations for shopping.		All cleaning products are eco-certified apart from those the hostel is trying to finish. Soap containers contain eco-certified foam.
3.2.4. Við öll dagleg þrif er notaður búnaður og klútar sem þarfnast ekki kemískra hreinsiefna. Sjá tillögur Farfugla að innkaupalista. The equipment and clothes used for cleaning do not require chemical cleaning detergents. See recommendations for shopping.		The hostel is using eco-friendly fiber-cloths in order to reduce chemical cleaning..

4. ENERGY & WATER

4.1. Mandatory requirements

	Status	Comments
4.1.1. Fylgst er með orkunotkun og notkun á vatni með það fyrir augum að halda yfirsýn og geta t.d. gripið inn í um leið og eitthvað fer úrskeiðis. Keep a log for energy usage and water usage so it is easier to keep an overview and to make it easier to react e.g. as soon if something goes wrong.		The hostel is keeping a log for energy and water. They have one paper sheet in every house (Gimli, the cottages & the old house, and the ski house). The hostel has set clear objectives when it comes to consumption and keeps a detailed log on their energy reduction progress.
4.1.2. Fylgjast verður vel með pípulögn og ofnakerfi hússins og sjá til þess að ójafnvægi í kerfum og bilanir/leki sé kipt í liðinn hið allra fyrsta. Plumbing and heating systems have to be		The plumbing and heating system is checked regularly and they act prompt when a leakage appears. The owners have a plumber come by at least once every year to recalibrate all



monitored and made sure that imbalance in the systems and malfunctions/leakage is fixed immediately.		heating systems. It is also in the job description of all employees to check the radiators every day and make sure they are correctly configured.
4.1.3. Skipt er út perum fyrir sparperur þar sem það er hægt. Perustæðum skipt út við viðhald. Regular light bulbs shall be exchanged with economic bulbs wherever that is possible.	✓	Energy efficient light bulbs have been purchased and will be replacing all regular light bulbs when they need to be changed.
4.1.4. Öll ný hreinlætistæki skulu valin með tilliti til endingar og orku/vatnssparnaðar og við endurnýjun skal þeim gömlu skipt út fyrir slík. All new sanitary equipments shall be chosen according to their durability and power/water saving and when renewing old equipments they shall be replaced by the above mentioned.	✓	The hostel tries to reuse old equipment whenever they can. The equipment is chosen according to their durability and power/water saving options.
4.1.5. Gestir eru hvattir til að spara orku með því að slökka ljós. Merking er til hjá Farfuglum. Visitors are encourage to save energy by turning off lights. Labels available from Farfuglar.	✓	The hostel is using a sign to encourage guests to save energy in the common area.

4.2. Extra requirements for Green Hostels

4.2.1. Slökkt er á ljósum og tækjum eftir vinnu til að spara orku. Nefna skal þrjú dæmi við úttekt. Effort is made to turn off lights and machines/equipments after work to save power. Mention three examples of inventory	✓	The staff is constantly checking and turning off the lights when it's not necessary to have them on. TV and computer in Gimli are in the saving energy mode. Most electronic equipment is not plugged in unless it's being used.
4.2.2. Sparperur eru notaðar í a.m.k. 40% ljósa í byggingunni Energy saving bulbs are used in at least 40% out of the building	✓	Energy efficient light bulbs have been purchased and will be replacing all regular light bulbs when they need to be changed. The hostel has exceeded the necessary 40%.
4.2.3. Fylgst er með orkunotkun og notkun á vatni með það fyrir augum að halda yfirsýn og geta t.d. gripið inn í um leið og eitthvað fer úrskeiðis. Sýna fram á eftirlit með skráðum	✓	The hostel is already keeping this evidence



mælingum

Keep a log for energy usage and water usage so it is easier to keep an overview and to make it easier to react e.g. as soon if something goes wrong. **Show these documents**

(Since April).

5. TRANSPORTATION

5.1. Mandatory requirements

5.1.1. Veittar skulu skriflegar upplýsingar á viðeigandi stöðum um gönguleiðir og áhugaverða staði á svæðinu sem nálgast má fótgangandi/á hjóli.

On site, information shall be provided for walking paths and interesting sightings that can be reached either by foot or bicycle.



The hostel is offering a map to guests who request information as there are many hiking paths in the area.
They lend maps of the area with all sort of information about hiking paths and fauna and flora to see.
There is also a very large map of the skiing resort hanging in the main building

5.2. Extra requirements for Green Hostels

5.2.1. Gestir eru hvattir til samaksturs og þeim hjálpað að skipuleggja það ef möguleiki gefst. T.d. er hægt að benda á síðuna samferda.net og hjálpa gestum að samnýta ferðir.

Visitors are encouraged to walk and they are helped to organize their transport. For example you can tell them about samferda.net and help them share trips.



Visitors are encouraged to walk when they request assistance.
The hostel has available a board at the entrance a sign with the public transportation in the area.



6. EXTERNAL SURROUNDINGS

6.1. Mandatory requirements



	Status	Comments
<p>6.1.1. Beina skal gestum og öðrum vegfarendum um lóð og landareign inn á stíga, þannig að hlífa megi frekar jörð og viðkæmum gróðri.</p> <p>Guests and other pedestrians who use the premises shall be directed to paths so the ground and delicate vegetation can be protected.</p>	Not applicable	The hostel is placed in the city centre.

6.2. Extra requirements for Green Hostels

<p>6.2.1. Notkun eiturfna, s.s. arfa- og illgresiseyðis er haldið í algjöru lágmarki. Sjá innkaupalista</p> <p>The use of toxins, such as herbicides is kept to a minimum. See shopping list.</p>		The hostel is not using any herbicides.
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7. ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

7.1. Mandatory requirements

	Status	Comments
<p>7.1.1. Umhverfisstefna Farfugla skal hanga uppi í almenningsrými sýnileg gestum og gangandi, á íslensku og ensku. Er til hjá Farfuglum.</p> <p>The Environmental policy should be hung up in public spaces, visible to visitors and guests, in Icelandic and in English. It is from Farfuglar.</p>		The hostel is fulfilling this point.
<p>7.1.2. Öllu starfsfólki heimilisins er kynnt Umhverfisstefna Farfugla og þær kröfur sem Gæðastaðlarnir gera til rekstursins.</p> <p>The entire staff of the home is presented the</p>		The hostel is fulfilling this point.



Environmental Policy and requirements of Quality standards for the business.		
<p>7.1.3. Kannað er viðhorf gesta með því að nota "your opinion" blöðin. Farið er yfir niðurstöður reglulega og brugðist við því sem þar kemur fram.</p> <p>Check the attitudes of visitors by using "your opinion" papers. Access the results regularly and respond to its effects.</p>	✓	Your opinion are checked constantly.

7.2.Extra requirements for Green Hostels

<p>7.2.1 Til viðbótar við Umhverfisstefnu Farfugla er kynnt sérstök Umhverfisstefna viðkomandi heimilis</p> <p>As a supplement to Farfuglar's environmental policy, guests are presented with a special Environmental policy of the particular hostel in question</p>	✓	The hostel fulfils this point.
<p>7.2.2. Kannað er viðhorf gesta með því að nota 'your opinion' blöðin. Farið er yfirniðurstöður reglulega og brugðist við því sem þar kemur fram. Unnið er úr upplýsingum frá gestum á skipulegan hátt og viðbrögð tekin fram í árlegri greinargerð til Farfugla.</p> <p>Examining attitudes reviews using, your opinion papers'. Crossing results periodically and respond to the material contained. Derived information from visitors in an orderly manner and the response made in the annual report for Farfugla.</p>	✓	The hostel is fulfilling this point and makes copies of all if the cards in order to send them to Reykjavik and keep them for future references.
<p>7.2.3. Gestgjafi og/eða starfsfólk á hans vegum hefur sótt námskeið um umhverfismál eða tekið þátt í verkefningu <i>Vistvernd í verki</i> á undanförunum tveimur árum. Námskeið er haldið reglulega á vegum Farfugla.</p> <p>Host and / or staff acting on his behalf has attended courses on environmental issues or participated in the project <i>Vistvernd</i> in the last two years. Courses kept regularly by Farfugla.</p>	✓	The hostel is fulfilling this point



7.2.4. Útbúa og viðhalda aðgerðaáætlun þar sem markmið Farfuglaheimilisins eru sett fram á skýran hátt og hvernig þeim er framfylgt. Í aðgerðaáætluninni skal vera listi yfir markmið og verkefni ásamt lokadagsetningum. Einnig skal koma fram hver beri ábyrgð á hverju verkefni og athugasemdir

Create and maintain an Action Plan in which the hostel's goals are clearly stated and how they should be implemented. The Action Plan should contain the following: aims, actions, responsible person, due date and comments/observations.



An Action Plan has been created and is updated every year.



