



172 333
Hostel

Swan

Annual Report/Ársskýrsla 2015

Version 4.4. Nordic Ecolabelling of Hotels, restaurants and conference facilities

Reykjavík Downtown Hostel/ Farfuglaheimilið Vesturgötu
Vesturgata 17 - 101 Reykjavík – Iceland – www.hostel.is

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Note: This report is currently under final revision from the Swan Commission



Working in an eco-conscious hostel – Staff Impressions

Well for me it's really about two things. The first is vitality: the sense of being alive, passionate, and excited. The staff here sparks some sort of energy in themselves and others to maintain this standard of sustainability that we have built up. And the company generates this vitality by giving people, staff and guests the sense that what we do on a daily basis makes a difference! Because it does!

The second component is learning: The growth that comes from gaining new knowledge about sustainability and the environment. And the opportunity to educate further. Towards the guests and at home. This then hopefully becomes a chain reaction towards a better future for all.

Working in a green place to me is important and giving. I have worked on different jobs in Reykjavik, but never in such an environmental friendly place like the Farfuglar. This makes me very proud.

Iceland is a little bit behind West-Europe when it comes to sorting trash. For many of our guests it is normal to sort the trash right from the start, and therefore it is crucial that we make a better job than the average Icelander. I am very proud to be "one of the first" here.

My impressions about working in an eco-conscious hostel are first and foremost that I really appreciate to gradually learn more about environmental issues/things at work. By focusing on eco-consciousness, I have also started to think more green than I did before I started working at the hostel and will try to implement this way of thinking outside of the work place.

Working for a green company also makes you question and change your habits; how you're used to doing things isn't the only way of doing things, and people also realize that small changes matter. That's also why it's especially important for us to make the work we're doing at the hostels apparent for the guests; they see that they make a choice when booking one of our hostels, and are hopefully inspired to make changes in their own lives.

I'm proud to know that I'm contributing to help the planet and spreading the word with other persons such as guests, friends and family. I have more green standards now and I'm more conscious about the kind of things that I buy, sorting trash and reusing as much as possible. Happy to know that my family is getting contagious of it!

Working in an environmental friendly hostel is a replenishment to my life. I always use to recycle everything at home since I was a kid. Grown up with the awareness what we as human can do to make a difference for mother nature, is very important I think. Every family should add this to the education of their child/children. So what would have been better for me then continue and learn more about how to save the earth at my very own job. We can make a difference together!

When I figured out all the aspects of the environmental policy of the hostels, I was truly impressed. In countries like Iceland, it's all about tourism, and tourism is mainly growing thanks to the breathtaking nature. In order to preserve it, tourism providers have to show a special care towards environmental protection. These hostels, when you take a closer look, do a lot. Starting from the constant having of two volunteers taking care of all the sustainability issues, who also explain the whole ideology to other staff members, on several recycling categories (whilst only 2 are required in Iceland at the moment) to finish. It's a great pleasure to work in a place which does its best to be eco-friendly, and where staff members cooperate forming beautiful "green team".

Table of Contents

- 1. BASIC REQUIREMENTS 1
 - 1.1 General description 1
 - 1.2 Suppliers..... 1
 - 1.3 Limit values 2
 - 1.4 Energy..... 5
 - 1.5 Chemicals 6
 - 1.6 Water..... 8
 - 1.7 Waste 8
 - 1.8 Purchasing 9
 - 1.9 Serving food and drink..... 10
 - 1.10 Transport 11
 - 1.11 Procedures..... 12
- 2. FOOD 13
- 3. ROOMS..... 13
- 4. POOLS 14
- 5. TOTAL SCORE 14

Appendices

1. Basic requirements

1.1 General description

Appendix 1: Information regarding the business

Appendix 1.1 RDH Overnights 2015

Appendix 1.2 RDH Floor plans

1.3 Limit Values

Appendix O4 Energy consumption 2015

Appendix O4.1 Overview 2010-2015

Appendix O5 P2 Water consumption 2015

Appendix O5 P2 Overview water consumption 2010 – 2015

Appendix O5 P2 O7 Water & energy measures 2015

Appendix O6 Waste results 2015

Appendix O6 Waste Invoices 2015

Appendix O7 Constant measurements of limit values 2015

1.4 Energy

Appendix P7 Refrigerants 2015

Appendix P8 Energy analysis report 2010

Appendix P10 Automated Lighting Controls 2015

1.5 Chemicals

Appendix O9 O10 O11 Purchased Chemicals 2015

Appendix O14 Dosage of chemical products 2015

Appendix O14 O16 P12 Dosage of chemical products 2015

Appendix O15 Order list – cleaning products 2015

1.6 Water

Appendix P17 Water Saving Taps 2015

Appendix P19 Toilets 2015

1.7 Waste

Appendix O17 Waste sorting 2015

Appendix O18 Waste Sorting for guests 2015

Appendix P20 Treatment of organic waste

1.8 Purchasing

Appendix O20 Ecolabelled kitchen rolls, paper towels and toilet paper 2015

Appendix O21 Ecolabelled photocopying paper

Appendix O22 P22 Nordic Ecolabelled printed matter

Appendix P21 Ecolabelled consumables 2015

Appendix O22 P22 Nordic Ecolabelled printed matter

Appendix P23 Ecolabelled durable goods

1.9 Serving food and drink

Appendix O24 Disposable items for take away

Appendix O25 Organic food and beverages 2015

1.11 Procedures

Appendix O27 Operation Licence 2012-2016

Appendix O27.1 Fire report 2015

Appendix O27.2 Environmental Agency Report 2015

Appendix O28 Information for the employees 2015

Appendix O28.1 Eco-audit 2015

Appendix O28.2 Educational staff visit 2015

Appendix O28.3 Eco-quiz 2015

Appendix O29 Customer information 2015

Appendix O29 Customer information – Events 2015

Appendix O30 Purchasing and supplier procedures

Appendix O31 Implementation of action plan 2015

Appendix O31.1 Action plan 2016

3. Rooms

Appendix P37 Rooms adapted for allergy sufferers 2015

1. BASIC REQUIREMENTS

1.1 General description

Type of establishment/ general description	Hostelling International (HI) Hostel
Restaurant Facilities	Breakfast room, no restaurant
Accommodation turnover per year	111.974.385 ISK
Number of guest rooms	18 available for booking in 2015
Occupancy	78 %
Water	Municipal water and sewage – Orkuveita Reykjavíkur (http://www.or.is)

Appendix 1 Information regarding the business

Appendix 1.1 RDH Overnights 2015

Appendix 1.2 RDH Floor plans

1.2 Suppliers

This requirement does not apply to Reykjavík Downtown Hostel as the hostel does not have suppliers of restaurant services or suppliers of breakfast on the hostel's premises.

1.3 Limit values

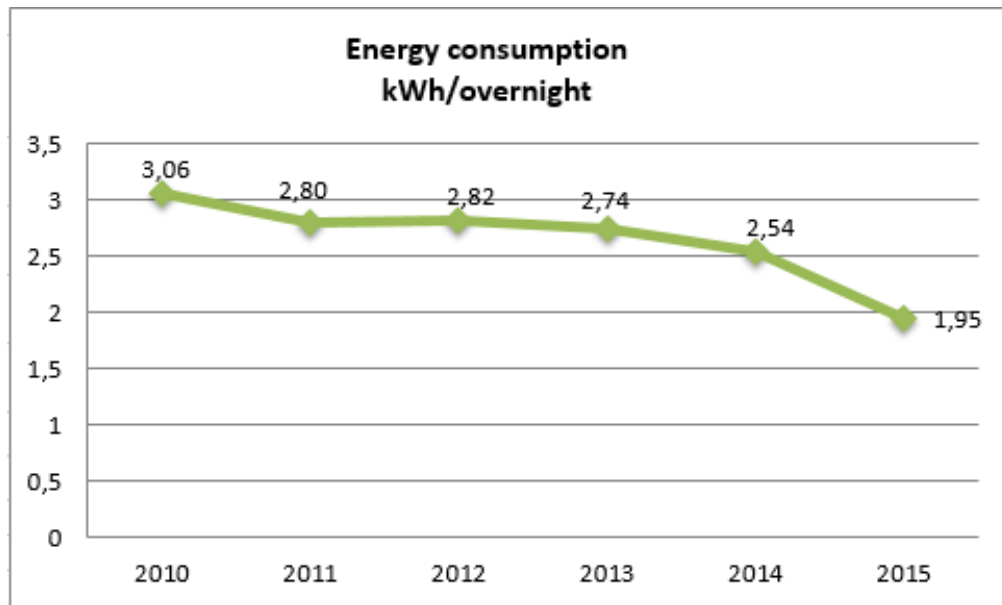
- *Energy*

Yearly consumption of electricity (without laundry)	Yearly consumption for laundry, dryers and washing machines	Maximum energy consumption allowed (as calculated in the Energy Tool)	Carbon Dioxide Emission (as calculated in the Energy Tool)
37.554,84 kWh/year	19.389,14 kWh/year	512.98 MWh/year	74.19 ton CO ₂ /year

Hostel's Total:
37.554,84 kWh/19.293 guest-night = 1,95 kWh/ guest night

Value under the limit value	Score
The business is 0.5 under the limit value	5 p

Appendix O4 Energy consumption 2015
 Appendix O4.1 Overview 2010-2015



- **Water**

Yearly consumption of hot water	Yearly consumption of hot water for laundry	Yearly consumption of cold water	Yearly consumption of cold water for laundry (guest+staff)
3.583,37 m³	34,01 m³	1.823,01 m³	168,14 m³

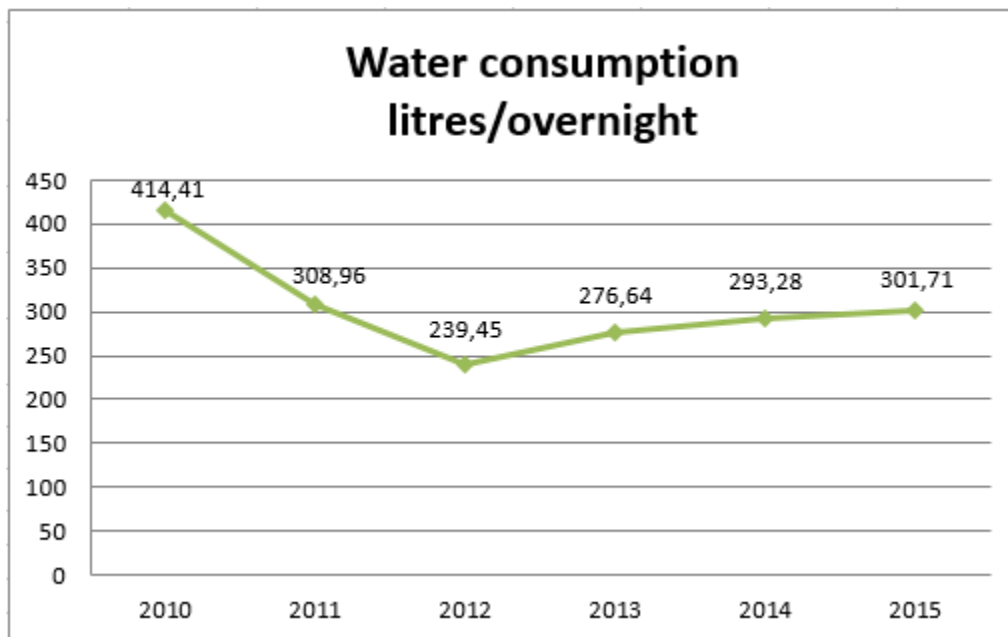
Hostel's Total:	Limit Value for hotels:
5.820841,42 / 19.293 guest-night = 301,71 l/ guest-night	200 l/ guest-night

Value under the limit value	0p
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Appendix O5 P2 Water consumption 2015

Appendix O5 P2 Overview water consumption 2010 – 2015

Appendix O5 P2 O7 Water & energy measures 2015



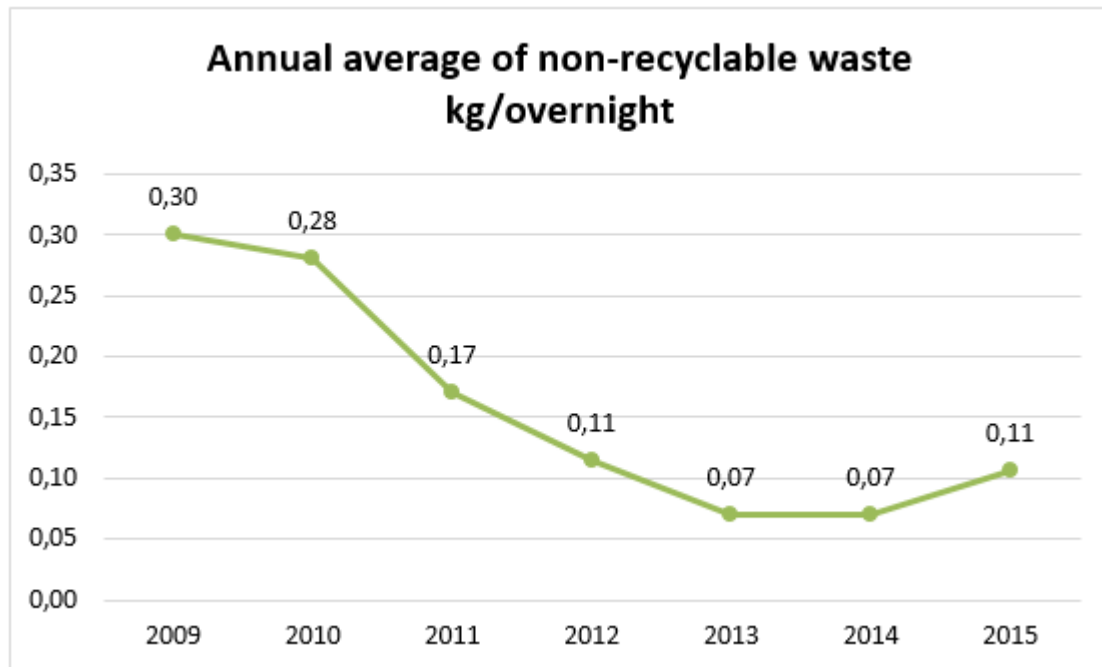
- **Waste**

Total unsorted waste:	Limit Value for Hotels:
2.040 kg/19.293 guest-night = 0,11 kg/guest-night	0,20 kg/guest-night

Value under the limit value	Score
The establishment's amount of waste is >40%-50% lower than the limit value	2.5 p

Appendix O6Waste results 2015

Appendix O6 Waste Invoices 2015



- **Constant measurements of limit values**

The hostel monitors on monthly basis the consumption of electricity and water and the amount of waste generated.

Appendix O7 Constant measurements of limit values 2015

Appendix O5 P2 O7 Water and electricity measures 2015

1.4 Energy

Mandatory Requirement

O8 Fossil oil in oil boilers for heating premises or water

Reykjavík Downtown Hostel does not use fossil oil for heating premises or water.

Point score Requirements

	Points
P4 Carbon dioxide According to the Nordic Ecolabelling Energy Tool, the actual carbon dioxide emission amounts to 62.26 tonnes CO ₂ /year with a CO ₂ index of 1.19	3
P5 Solar thermal panels and solar photovoltaic panels Reykjavík Downtown Hostel does not use solar thermal panels.	0
P6 Heat pumps for heating premises or water Reykjavík Downtown Hostel does not use heat pumps for heating premises or water.	0
P7 Refrigerants The cooling appliances used in Reykjavík Downtown Hostel were produced a few years ago hence it is not possible to calculate their GWP100 value. Appendix P7 Refrigerants 2015	0
P8 Energy analysis An energy analysis has been carried out in 2010 and a new one is scheduled before July 2016. Appendix P8 Energy analysis report 2010	2
P9 Lighting <80% of the lights sources in the business (indoor and outdoor) are energy class B or better, or LED. Appendix P09 – Lighting	3
P10 Automated lighting controls 77% of the light sources in the building are connected to automated lighting controls Appendix P10 Automated Lighting Controls 2015	2
P11 Ventilation controls In Reykjavík Downtown Hostel there are no ventilation appliances in the dining area.	0

Points for the category	Score
Energy	10 p

1.5 Chemicals

Mandatory Requirement

O9 Ecolabelled dishwashing chemicals

100% of the dishwashing products (Storm Plus, Planta Aloe) used in Reykjavík Downtown Hostel are ecolabelled.

Appendix O9 O10 O11 Purchased Chemicals 2015

O10 Ecolabelled laundry chemicals

100% of the laundry chemicals (Danlind) used in Reykjavík Downtown Hostel is ecolabelled.

Appendix O9 O10 O11 Purchased Chemicals 2015

O11 Ecolabelled cleaning products

>80% of the amount of cleaning products (Undri, Planta Soft) used in Reykjavík Downtown Hostel are ecolabelled.

Appendix O9 O10 O11 Purchased Chemicals 2015

O12 Requirements for non-ecolabelled products

The hostel uses following non-ecolabelled products: Fix Universal, Trust and Hansóthreinsispritt.

O13 Dosage of dishwashing chemicals

The dishwasher in Reykjavik Downtown Hostel has got an automatic dosing system for detergents. A service inspection was carried out by the supplier of the equipment during 2015.

Appendix O13 Dishwasher - service inspection report 2015

O14 Dosage of cleaning chemicals

The hostel uses manual dosage equipment.

Appendix O14 Dosage of chemical products 2015
Appendix O14 O16 P12 Dosage of chemical products 2015

O15 Purchasing procedures – chemical products

Reykjavík Downtown Hostel purchases only products included in the ordering list.

Appendix O15 Order list – cleaning products 2015

O16 Handling of chemical products

Detailed instructions as to the handling of chemicals products are available in the cleaning storages and laundry room and accessible online for all staff members. Additionally, every new employee gets a training provided by one of the Green Messengers.

Appendix O14 O16 P12 Dosage of chemical products 2015

Point score Requirements

	Points
P12 Chemical-free cleaning method	1
Reykjavik Downtown Hostel does not uses daily chemicals for cleaning the tables/cupboard/floor. Appendix O14 O16 P12 Dosage of chemical products 2015	
P13 Automatic dosage of cleaning chemicals	0
Reykjavik Downtown Hostel does not use automatic dosage of cleaning chemicals	
P14 Dosage of dishwasher drying agents	2
No drying agents are used in the dishwashers.	
P15 External laundry	0
All textiles are washed at the hostel. The washing machines do not have automatic dosage equipment.	

Points for the category	Score
Chemicals	3 p

1.6 Water

Point score Requirements

		Points
P16	Water consumption for dishwashers	0
No data available about the amount of water used for final rinse in the main dishwasher.		
P17	Water-saving taps	1
> 90% of the number of washbasin mixer taps in the establishment are water saving taps with a maximum flow rate of 8 litres/minute.		
Appendix P17 Water Saving Taps 2015		
P18	Water-saving showers	0
The showers have a maximum flow rate of 16 litres/minute.		
P19	Toilets	2
All toilets in the hostel are dual flush.		
Appendix P19 RDH Swan 2015 Toilets		

Points for the category	Score
Water	3 p

1.7 Waste

Mandatory Requirement

O17 **Sorting**

The waste is sorted in 9 categories and collected by Gámar or sent to Sorpa for recycling.

Appendix O17 Waste sorting 2015

O18 **Waste sorting for guests**

The guests staying in shared dormitories can sort their waste in 3 fractions (plastic, paper and mixed waste). In the private rooms only a bin for mixed waste is available; however, all waste is sorted by a staff member.

Appendix O18 Waste Sorting for guests 2015

Point score Requirements

		Points
P20	Treatment of organic waste	2
<p>Organic waste from guest and staff kitchen is collected in special bins and sent to Gámar, where it is used to make compost.</p> <p>Appendix P20 Treatment of organic waste Gámar 2015</p>		

Points for the category	Score
Waste	2 p

1.8 Purchasing

Mandatory Requirement

O19 When purchasing low energy light bulbs, fluorescent tubes and LEDs

Newly purchased low-energy lamps/ fluorescent tubes (single socket) have a service life of at least 10 000 hours. Newly purchased fluorescent tubes (double socket) have a service life of at least 20 000 hours. Newly purchased LEDs have a service life of at least 25 000 hours.

Rafal Ziolkowski, our Chief of Maintenance who has professional knowledge about light sources and is in charge of purchasing them, has the routine of checking the life service before buying low energy lamps, fluorescent bulbs and LED lights.

O20 Ecolabelled kitchen rolls, paper towels and toilet paper

100% of the volume of purchased tissue products is ecolabelled (EU Ecolabel).

Appendix O20 Tissue Products

O21 Ecolabelled photocopying paper

100% of the volume of purchased photocopying paper is ecolabelled (EU Ecolabel).

Appendix O21 Ecolabelled photocopying paper

O22 Nordic ecolabelled printed matter

100% of total printed matters printed by a Nordic Ecolabelled printing firm and is Nordic Ecolabelled.

Appendix O22 P22 Nordic Ecolabelled printed matter

Point score Requirements

	Points
P21 Ecolabelled consumables	5
Appendix P21 Ecolabelled consumables	
P22 Nordic ecolabelled printed matter	2
100% of total printed matters printed by a Nordic Ecolabelled printing firm and is Nordic Ecolabelled.	
Appendix O22 P22 Nordic Ecolabelled printed matter	
P23 Ecolabelled durable goods	0
Appendix P23 Ecolabelled durable goods	
P24 Ecolabelled services	0
The hostel purchases all printed material from Swan Ecolabelled printing company Gudjón and all coffee from Swan Ecolabelled coffee shop Kaffitár	

Points for the category	Score
Purchasing	7 p

1.9 Serving food and drink

Mandatory Requirement

O23 Disposable items

No disposable bags (such as plates, mugs and cutlery), individual portion packs or small packs are used in the dining room or other serving areas.

Sometimes guests bring disposable items and leave them at the hostel. If this is the case we simply put them in the “travellers shelves or baskets” for guests to use them.

O24 Disposable items for take away, room-service, catering and fast food establishments.

The only disposable items used in take away are paper coffee mugs with plastic lids.

Appendix O24 Disposable items for take away

O25 Minimum proportion of organic food and drink for hotels serving breakfast (not wild-caught fish and shellfish)

The hostel serves daily 20 organic food items and beverages.

Point score Requirements

		Points
P25	Ecolabelled disposable items	0
The disposable coffee mugs are not ecolabelled by there are biodegradable, we purchase them from Vegware.		

Points for the category	Score
Serving food and drink	0 p

1.10 Transport

Mandatory Requirement

O26 Transport using own vehicles for catering businesses

This requirement applies to the business' own vehicles used for transporting catering food, hence is not applicable to the hostel.

Point score Requirements

		Points
P26	Other transport using own vehicles	0
The hostel does not own a vehicle.		
P27	Other transport (not using own vehicles)	0
None of the listed measures have been implemented.		

Points for the category	Score
Transport	0 p

1.11 Procedures

Mandatory Requirements

O27 Statutory procedures

The hostel ensures the fulfilment of legislation, including the legislation on the working environment, external environment, finances, hygiene and health.

Appendix O27 Operating License 2012-2016

Appendix O27.1 Fire report 2015

Appendix O27.2 Environmental Agency Report 2015

O28 Information about the Nordic Ecolabel for staff

Full-time employees, part-time employees, trainees, interns and contractors participating in the day-to-day operations have received knowledge to ensure that requirements of the Nordic Eco label license are met. All employees have been informed annually about the hostel's environmental work, including action plans for continuous environmental improvements and the result of the measurements concerning the limit values for the Nordic Eco label licence. Nevertheless, every single new staff members takes part in a "green training" where they are introduced to the Nordic Ecolabel.

Appendix O28 Information for the employees 2015

Appendix O28.1 Eco-audit 2015

Appendix O28.2 Educational staff visits 2015

Appendix O28.3 Eco-quiz 2015

O29 Customer information

Guests are informed about their stay in a Nordic Ecolabelled hostel and therefore their contribution to reducing the environmental impact of their stay and of the hostel's environmental efforts.

More information on the hostel's website: www.hostel.is

Appendix O29 Customer information 2015

O30 Purchasing and supplier procedures

The persons responsible for purchases of consumables are trained to choose, whenever possible and feasible, ecolabelled options.

Appendix O30 Order list (food) 2015

O31 Own checks on environmental work

Every year the green team consisting of the hostel manager, sustainability manager, head of maintenance, head of reception and green messenger develops an action plan, which aims at improving the business 'work to improve the environment. The plan is presented annual to staff members in the presentation about the Swan results of the previous year.

Appendix O31 Implementation of action plan 2015

Appendix O31.1 Action plan 2016

Mandatory Requirements

O32 Annual follow up

The Nordic Ecolabel organisation follows up the environmental requirement of the report annually. For instance, if a written follow-up to the report is returned detailing some of the things which could be improved, the hostel replies to this within the one year response time.

O33 Documentation of Nordic Ecolabel criteria

All documents regarding the Nordic Ecolabel licence are easily available on site.

2. FOOD

Reykjavik Downtown Hostel does not serve any dishes, hence requirements from this chapter are not applicable.

3. GUEST ROOMS

Point score Requirements

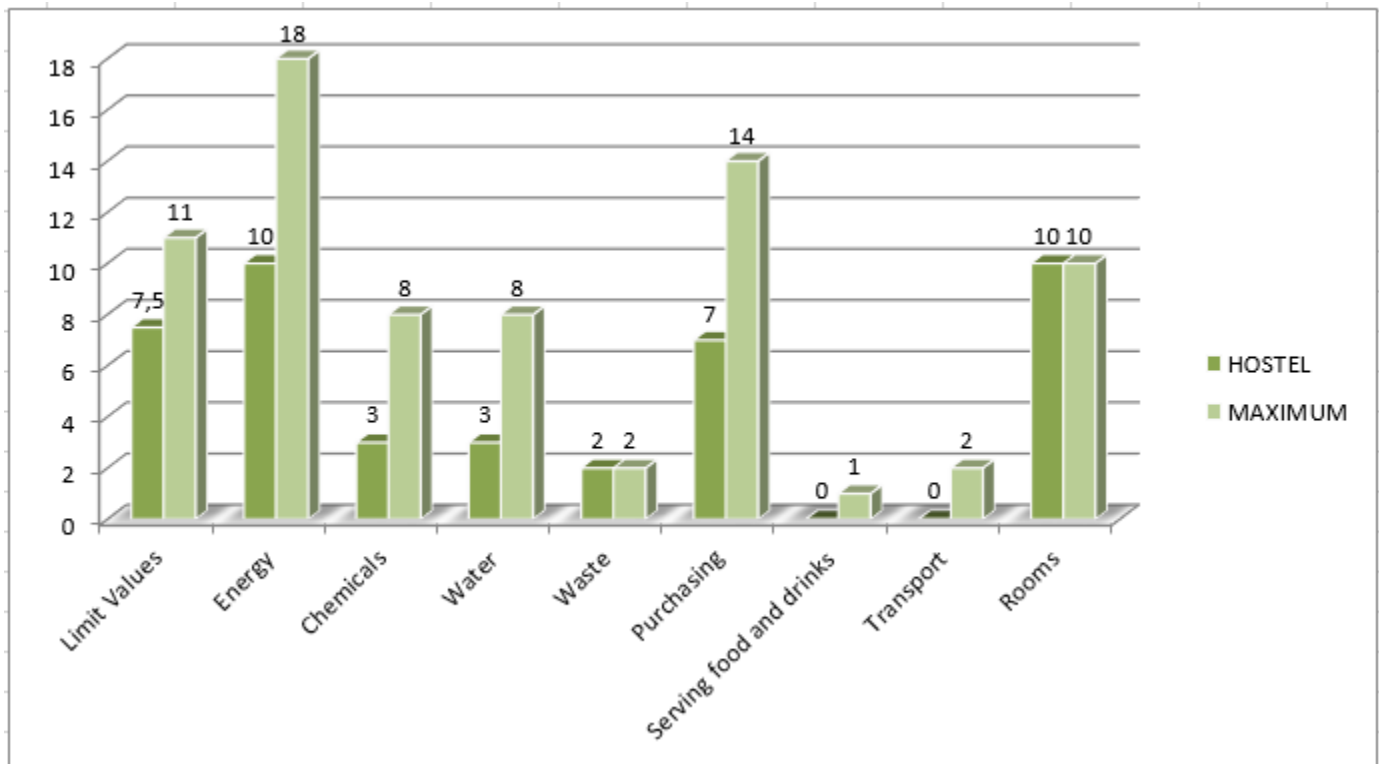
	Points
P34 Disposable items	4
There are no disposable items in the bathrooms/guest rooms.	
P35 Television sets, standby mode	2
There are no television sets in guest rooms.	
P36 Minibars	3
Guests rooms do not have minibars	
P37 Rooms adapted for allergy sufferers	1
There is at least one room adapted for allergy sufferers. Our rooms are non-smoking, pets are not permitted, we use ecolabelled washing powder to wash the bedlinen, no air fresheners are used and the rooms don't have wall-to-wall carpets.	
Appendix P37 Rooms adapted for allergy sufferers 2015	

Points for the category	Score
Rooms	10 p

4. POOLS

Reykjavík Downtown Hostel does not own a pool, hence the requirements in this chapter are not applicable.

5. TOTAL SCORE



Hostel Score	Max. Possible Score
42,5 points	74 points

We achieved 57% of the maximum score in 2015!