

# LES BALCONS Goes Green!

For more than 30 years, the Les Balcons Group has been welcoming its customers in privileged surroundings. Concerned about the impact of our activities on the environment, we have implemented an eco-responsible approach throughout our development. As a builder, we are lucky to manage the construction and renovation of our establishments from start to finish. Our last two projects were designed with innovative systems to control and reduce energy consumption.

## Our engagements

### 1 CONTROLLING AND REDUCING OUR ENERGY CONSUMPTION

#### Renewable energies



- 100% of our electricity comes from renewable energy sources (mainly hydropower), supplied by La Compagnie Nationale du Rhône and certified by Enalp.

#### Light & equipment



- 99% of our light bulbs are energy-saving, mostly LED fixtures with bulbs, so we can replace the bulb without changing the fixture.
- Many fixtures are controlled by automatic sensors to limit energy waste.
- All newly acquired electrical appliances are energy-efficient.
- We have introduced regular meter readings to better manage our electricity consumption.

#### Heating



- We have installed wood-burning stoves in the flats (from 4 or 6 people) and we offer the wood to our guests.
- At the Hôtel Alparena\*\*\*\* & Spa, we have installed a wood pellet boiler, a renewable energy source.
- In our other establishments, we plan to replace our oil-fired boilers with wood pellet boilers within the next 5 to 10 years.

#### Soft mobility



- We provide our customers with charging points for electric vehicles (currently in process of implementation in Belle Plagne)
- We are a partner of the Tictac trip website, which lists low-carbon solutions for getting to the resort (train, shuttles, car sharing, etc.).

#### Reinforced Insulation

- 100% of all our building's windows are double- or triple-glazed.
- We have built our latest chalets (Hôtel Alparena\*\*\*\* & Spa and Les Balcons Platinum Val Cenis\*\*\*\*) with a high-performance insulation system of over 30cm on the walls and roof to retain heat and avoid over-consumption of heating and energy losses.

#### Centralised technical management



- Our two latest chalets were built with heating, electricity and ventilation being controlled by a centralised technical management system, enabling energy savings. In each apartment and room, heating and lighting can be controlled by a home automation system (digital box).

In 2023, the electricity and heating consumption of the Hotel Alparena\*\*\*\* & Spa amounted to 140kWh/m<sup>2</sup>, when a 4\* hotel consumes an average of 289 kWh/m<sup>2</sup>.

## GREEN-IOUS IDEAS



Think of alternatives to driving to the resort! Use Tictac Trip to find solutions.

Transportation accounts for 52% of the carbon footprint of a day's skiing.



Remember to switch off appliances on standby. Use the induction chargers in the rooms for your phones.

Appliances on standby or plugged in consume electricity continuously!



When you can, take the stairs instead of the elevator!

They don't consume any energy!



Always switch off the lights when you leave a room. It's easy with home automation!

3 x 75 W bulbs consume as much energy in one evening as a 60°C load of washing!



Limit heating.

19°C is the correct indoor temperature, so if you're feeling chilly, put on a jumper!



## 2 LIMIT OUR WATER CONSUMPTION



### Water flow management

- All taps are fitted with mixing valves for fast, precise temperature adjustment. They are fitted with aerators that reduce the flow of water by injecting air into the flow.
- All toilets have a dual-flow flush system to regulate the flow of water.
- We have introduced regular meter readings to better manage our water consumption.

## 3 REDUCING AND SORTING WASTE

### Reducing packaging and printing

- As far as possible, we take care to reduce our packaging by ordering large-capacity products and reusable or refillable products, such as shower gel dispensers in the bathrooms.
- We limit paper printouts and provide our customers with an app to give them all the information they need for their stay.



### Second life for furniture

- Our technical department maintains and repairs almost all our equipment. When this is not possible, we donate them to our teams or to someone specialising in furniture renovation.

### Waste sorting

- We provide a number of waste sorting garbage bins in each apartment, and educate our teams and customers about waste recycling.
- Composting of organic waste is currently being studied with the Val Cenis resort and tested in La Rosière resort.



## 4 BUY BETTER



### Purchasing ethics

- We have drawn up a sustainable purchasing policy.
- For each of our purchases, we take into account the location, manufacturing methods and means of transport of the products.
- We mainly use European service providers, and French and local service providers when we can, for both the construction and operation of our buildings.

### Product quality

- We take care to select high-quality, durable materials and goods, and avoid plastic as much as possible.
- We use a majority of eco-labelled cleaning products.
- The hygiene products we make available to our customers are made from 90% natural ingredients, with packaging made from recyclable or recycled materials (Thalgo brand).
- We select food products made in Savoie.

### Optimising deliveries

- We centralise our purchases for our various sites at a single point at head office.
- We optimise our employees' journeys to transfer documents or materials, and encourage car sharing.

## GREEN-IOUS IDEAS



Don't forget to keep your ski pass cards - they can usually be used from one resort to the next, and reused ad infinitum!



Fill your dishwashers and washing machines to the max, and use energy-saving modes!



Turn off the tap while brushing your teeth.

This saves 1000 L of water per year.



By practicing selective sorting, you limit the need for incineration or landfill. Use the various garbage bins at your disposal!

Each French person produces an average of 350kg/year of household waste.



Buy quality products that will last. Don't forget second-hand goods. Rent your ski equipment at the resort!



Use the pocket ashtrays available at reception!

Up to 7,000 cigarette butts a day are found under a chairlift! 1 cigarette butt pollutes 1m<sup>3</sup> of snow or 500 litres of water.



# 5 CONTRIBUTE TO LOCAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE TERRITORY

## *Contributing to local development*

- As an accommodation provider that has been established in Savoie for many years, we contribute to the local economy and have set up numerous partnerships with shops, ski schools, sports shops and restaurants.
- We are regular sponsors of local associations and events such as the "C'est l'Printemps festival" in Val Cenis, the Safety Shred days and Bike Club in La Rosière.
- We are a member of the Comité Ski of Savoie.



## *Promoting local heritage*

- We promote visits to local heritage sites: cheese dairy, farms, discovering local biodiversity...

# 6 PROMOTING A HEALTHY LIVING ENVIRONMENT FOR OUR TEAMS AND CUSTOMERS



## *Raising awareness of eco-gestures among our teams and customers*

- Our environmental manager has undergone specific training on the challenges of sustainable tourism.
- Our teams are trained in the eco-gestures to be respected in their daily tasks.
- We provide our customers with information on the local flora and fauna, and the eco-gestures to adopt in the mountains.

## *Encourage the well-being of our employees*

- We provide on site accommodation for our teams and they enjoy the benefits of our customers services (gym access, shopping discount, return of unsold goods, etc.).
- For the 2023-2024 winter season, over 50% of our group workforce is made up of women, including 9 at the helm of our 10 establishments!



## *Protecting biodiversity*

- In summer, in some of our establishments, we grow aromatic herbs which we make available to our customers, and we protect birds by providing them with shelters.
- We promote outdoor activities that respect the local flora and fauna.

## GREEN-IOUS IDEAS



When hiking, don't feed wildlife, as this can lead to behavioural problems and illness.



Eat local and seasonal products! Don't hesitate to ask our teams about local producers.

In this way, you limit the carbon footprint of your products and contribute to the region's economy and you also get products of better quality!



When skiing, beware of young trees and wildlife, as each new track opens the door to a pristine, unspoilt area!



Don't hesitate to contact our reception teams or tourist offices to find out more about local heritage walks!

