

# Green Key

International certification scheme for hotels and tourism facilities

# Green Key

## Unlocking sustainability in the hospitality industry

The **Green Key certification** is the leading standard for excellence in the field of environmental responsibility and sustainable operation within the tourism industry. Green Key is eligible for hotels, hostels, small accommodations, campsites, holiday parks, conference centres, restaurants and attractions.



The **prestigious certification scheme** represents a commitment by establishments that their businesses will adhere to the strict Green Key criteria set by the Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE) and recognised by Global Sustainable Tourism Council. Green Key is certified for one year at a time following a standardised procedure with application, audits and third-party verification of the award.

Green Key originated in Denmark in 1994, and in 2002 it became a programme managed by FEE and its national member organisations.

### Our Partners



# Green Key establishments



If you want to have the complete list of all Green Key awarded sites please check the following link <https://www.greenkey.global/green-key-sites>



# Green Key Application Procedure

Each Green Key applicant has to demonstrate compliance with our programme criteria which is subsequently third party verified.

**Application.** The applicant has to complete the application form and provide various documentation as proof of compliance with the criteria.

**Audit.** An on-site audit is conducted in years one and two and thereafter every third year. The on-site audits consists of document verification and visual inspection. In alternate years, off-sites audits (documents verification) are done.

**Decision making.** The decision is always done by a third party entity, either an independent auditor or by a Jury.

**Award.** The successful applicant receives our Green Key Plaque and Certificate.

**Renewal.** The Green Key Certification is valid for one year and has to be renewed annually thereafter.





# Green Key Criteria


Establishments certified with the Green Key certification meet a set of high standard environmental requirements. Currently a set of **13 categories and 100+ criteria** have been developed and applied as baseline criteria for all countries.





# Why Joining Green Key?

 **High quality eco-label**  
High standards regarding transparency, on-site audits and third-party verification

 **Global widespread eco-label**  
With the participation of national experts

 **A relatively low-cost eco-label**  
Due to its non-profit nature

 **Multi-stakeholder programme**  
Developed by the hospitality industry and managed by independent NGOs

 **A dialogue-based programme**  
Personal support from application and award and with access to a best practice database.

 **Internationally recognition**  
By UN organisations and Global Sustainable Tourism Council

“I've been happily surprised to see how eagerly and creatively Green Key certified establishments have adapted the criteria in their own style in Finland - from small private museums to modern luxury hotels. I think that is also the strength of the programme”.

**Heidi Heinonen**  
*Green Key Finland National Operator*

# Foundation for Environmental Education



With members in around 80 countries we are the world's largest environmental education organisation. We believe in the power of change and that the best gift we can give to future generations, the most valuable legacy we can leave behind us, is a world full of educated and environmentally conscious people equipped to live a more sustainable life.  
[info@fee.global](mailto:info@fee.global)  
[www.fee.global](http://www.fee.global)



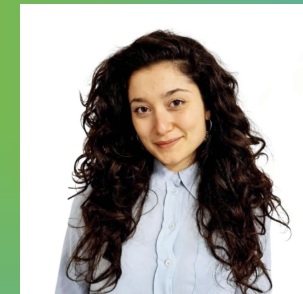
If you are interested in knowing more about the Green Key programme, please do not hesitate to contact us directly.



**Finn Bolding Thomsen**  
International  
Green Key Director  
[finn@fee.global](mailto:finn@fee.global)  
+45 61248082



**Claudia Bogensperger**  
International Green Key  
Coordinator  
[claudia@fee.global](mailto:claudia@fee.global)  
+45 6124 8088



**Chiara Cottone**  
International Green Key  
Coordinator  
[chiara@fee.global](mailto:chiara@fee.global)  
+45 4414 4085