



DO'S and DON'TS of Ethical Tourism



Circus

DO

visit non-animal circuses which rely on the skills of human performers for entertainment.

DON'T

visit circuses that use animals. By voting with your feet and not attending circuses you are showing this industry that it is no longer acceptable to use and abuse animals in the name of entertainment.



Sanctuaries

DO

visit sanctuaries that put a premium on animal welfare, conservation and reintroduction to the wild.

DON'T

visit sanctuaries that focus on entertainment activities such as animal shows, rides, or close contact opportunities.



Nature reserves

DO

visit national parks and nature reserves and take photos of animals in their natural habitat from a safe and respectful distance.

go on land-based wildlife tours that visit wildlife in their natural environment and respect safe boundaries.

DON'T

visit sanctuaries that focus on entertainment activities such as animal shows, rides, or close contact opportunities.



Photos with animals

DO

visit national parks and nature reserves and take photos of animals in their natural habitat from a safe and respectful distance.

DON'T

have your photo taken with wild animals being used as photo props.



Riding elephants

DO

visit elephant rescue centres that allow you to observe elephants socializing and performing natural behaviours within the company of other elephants.

DON'T

ride elephants. In many cases these elephants have been captured from the wild, or removed from their mothers to have their spirits 'broken' so that tourists can ride them.

bathe elephants. Elephants are very capable of bathing themselves without the need for human interactions and we would encourage people to be able to see elephants behaving naturally in and around water with no interactions.



Marine wildlife

DO

go on marine wildlife tours that visit marine wildlife in their natural environment and respect safe boundaries. Spend the day in the company of wild dolphins by choosing a 'dolphin watching' tour and help keep dolphins in the oceans where they truly belong.

DON'T

swim with dolphins; many of the dolphins in captive facilities have been purposefully removed from the wild and their natural social groups to provide us with entertainment, they have not been rescued as is often publicised.



Crocodile and snake farms

DON'T

visit crocodile farms, and snake farms, these are breeding centres which rely on animal exploitation and are likely to be linked to further exploitation via the sale of reptile skin products, and the use of animals in shows. There is only one way that the life of a snake and a crocodile on a farm will end and this is often brutal and cruel. Reptiles are sentient animals that suffer like other animals and many hundreds of thousands suffer on such farms due to our support for this industry. In many cases animals are also captured from the wild to supply farms. By saying no to visiting these farms you are sending a message to the owners that cruelty will not be tolerated for entertainment and helping to keep these animals in the wild where they belong.



Zoos and safari parks

DO

visit zoos and safari parks with strong guidelines for the welfare, and conservation of wild animals.

DON'T

visit zoos and safari parks that promote the use of animals in circuses, and shows that require wild animals to act against their natural instincts, or promote animal riding and/or close-contact photo opportunities. Do not support these facilities and show them that zoos should exist purely for the purposes of conservation of species and education of the public, not for the exploitation of animals for our entertainment.



Souvenirs

DO

purchase souvenirs that support local artisans and traditional craftsmanship and do not contain animal parts. Try souvenirs made from bamboo, coconut shells and stone.

DON'T

buy souvenirs that use animal products such as bear bile, ivory, animal bone, buffalo horn, reptile skins, fur or other animal products, or rely on exploitation of animals to produce.



Oriental medicines

DO

buy herbal medicines that used plant-based, organic ingredients.

DON'T

buy animal based oriental medicines, many use ingredients derived from endangered animals, many of these suffer on wild animal farms or are captured from the wild to supply this trade.



Wines

DO

choose delicious rice wines infused with apple, mango and even durian!

DON'T

buy wines containing animal products. Snakes, tiger bones or other animal parts are submerged in alcohol in the false belief that the wine has some medical function.



Eating out

DO

have your meals in legally regulated restaurants.

DON'T

Avoid eating wild animal products, or products from wild animals that have been farmed for consumption.



Drinking coffee

DO

purchase locally produced, fairly traded coffee that has been grown free of animal exploitation.

DON'T

drink 'weasel/civet' coffee (often known as Kopi Luwak) which has been produced via the exploitation of animals.



Tiger temples

DO

visit national parks and nature reserves and take photos of animals in their natural habitat from a safe and respectful distance.

DON'T

visit temples or other venues that breed tigers for entertainment, these tigers are likely to have been removed from their mothers and hand reared and are likely to suffer due to the constant human interactions. It is also likely that many of them are abused by their handlers to ensure they comply with the instructions of the handlers.



AnimalsAsia

Kindness in action