



EARTHCHECK

Destination Certification Report

conducted for

Snaefellsnes Peninsula

Audit Type

Destination Offsite Certification Audit

Destination Name

Snaefellsnes Peninsula

Destination Location

Snaefellsnes Peninsula, Iceland

Conducted on

03 Dec 2020

EarthCheck Auditor Name

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Disclaimer

The assessors believe the information contained within this risk assessment report to be correct at the time of printing. The assessors do not accept responsibility for any consequences arising from the use of the information herein. The report is based on matters which were observed or came to the attention of the assessors during the day of the assessment and should not be relied upon as an exhaustive record of all possible risks or hazards that may exist or potential improvements that can be made. Information on the latest workers compensation and OHS / WHS laws can be found at the relevant State WorkCover / WorkSafe Authority.

Confidentiality Statement

In order to maintain the integrity and credibility of the risk assessment processes and to protect the parties involved, it is understood that the assessors will not divulge to unauthorized persons any information obtained during this risk assessment unless legally obligated to do so.

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Introduction

Question	Response	Details
<p>This is a Certification Report to determine if you have met the requirements of the EarthCheck Destination Standard. An approved EarthCheck Auditor has completed this report.</p> <p>Authorisation Process: A draft of this report is issued to you for review. If in agreement with these findings, please complete the 'Auditee Acknowledgement' section of this report and return it to EarthCheck for Authorisation within 7 days of receipt.</p>		
Audit Scope	<p>This report is based on Offsite Certification Audit undertaken of Snaefellsnes Peninsula located on the west coast of Iceland. Residents are just under 4000. The peninsula is divided into five communities, Stykkishólmur, Helgafellssveit, Eyja- og Miklaholtshreppur, Grundarfjordur and Snaefellsbaer. Total area is 1478 km2. Earthcheck Coordinator for the project sent all relevant documentation for review. Meeting was held via Teams with the coordinator.</p>	
<h3>METHODOLOGY</h3>		
<p>The member has been reviewed against the EarthCheck Destination Standard Version 2.1. The audit methodology included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - An opening and closing meeting with the management team; - Review of the Self Assessment Checklist; - Review of supporting evidence provided; - Verification of the Benchmarking data; - Interviews with the EarthCheck Destination Coordinator and staff; and - Field observations (including a review of site conditions and the local environment). 		
<h3>SUPPORTING EVIDENCE REVIEWED</h3>		
<p>The Certification Service involved review of the following supporting evidence:</p>		
Constitution Document, dated	30 Sep 2018	
Destination Sustainability Policy, dated	05 Nov 2020	
Benchmarking Methodology, dated	28 Sep 2020	
Performance Report, dated	11 Nov 2020	
Raw Data Benchmarking Spreadsheet, dated	11 Nov 2020	
Legislation Register, dated	09 Nov 2020	
Destination Risk Assessment, dated	02 Nov 2020	

Question	Response	Details
Destination Action Plan, dated	02 Nov 2020	
Complaints Handling Policy and Procedure, dated	09 Nov 2020	
Please list all other supporting evidence cited		
Other Supporting Evidence		
Other Supporting Evidence 1		
Supporting Evidence	Organisational chart	
Supporting Evidence dated	04 Feb 2018	
Other Supporting Evidence 2		
Supporting Evidence	Ársskýrsla 2019, annual report	
Supporting Evidence dated	29 Jan 2020	
Other Supporting Evidence 3		
Supporting Evidence	EMS handbook	
Supporting Evidence dated		
Other Supporting Evidence 4		
Supporting Evidence	Purchasing Policy for Stykkishólmur	
Supporting Evidence dated	01 Jul 2020	
Other Supporting Evidence 5		
Supporting Evidence	Ethical policy of each municipality sighted.	
Supporting Evidence dated		
Other Supporting Evidence 6		
Supporting Evidence	Course on sustainability for staff of tourism businesses	
Supporting Evidence dated	31 Dec 2018	
Other Supporting Evidence 7		
Supporting Evidence	Certifications of green energy for 100% of electricity use in all 5 municipalities	
Supporting Evidence dated		

Question	Response	Details
Other Supporting Evidence 8		
Supporting Evidence	Snæfellsnes Regional Plan 2014 – 2026	
Supporting Evidence dated	10 Dec 2014	
Other Supporting Evidence 9		
Supporting Evidence	Red lists, https://www.ni.is/midlun/utgafa/valistar	
Supporting Evidence dated		
Other Supporting Evidence 10		
Supporting Evidence	Velferðaráætlun Vesturlands	
Supporting Evidence dated	11 Mar 2020	
Other Supporting Evidence 11		
Supporting Evidence	Erlendir ferðamenn á Vesturlandi 2010-2019" by Rögvaldur Guðmundsson	
Supporting Evidence dated		
Other Supporting Evidence 12		
Supporting Evidence	Áfangastaðaáætlun Vesturlands, Destination Management Plan	
Supporting Evidence dated	30 Jan 2019	
Other Supporting Evidence 13		
Supporting Evidence	Contingency plan, Viðbragðsáætlanir á Snæfellsnesi.	
Supporting Evidence dated	26 Mar 2017	
Other Supporting Evidence 14		
Supporting Evidence	study on economic impact of protected area on local communities, Áhrif friðlýstra svæða.pdf,	
Supporting Evidence dated	30 Nov 2018	
Other Supporting Evidence 15		
Supporting Evidence	Communication plan and list of stakeholders	
Supporting Evidence dated		
Other Supporting Evidence 16		

Question	Response	Details
Supporting Evidence	www.nesvottun.is	
Supporting Evidence dated		
Other Supporting Evidence 17		
Supporting Evidence	Social media sites	
Supporting Evidence dated		
Other Supporting Evidence 18		
Supporting Evidence	Local websites	
Supporting Evidence dated		
Meetings / Interviews Conducted		
Details of Meetings / Interviews Conducted	Online meeting with EarthCheck Coordinator Guðrún Magnea Magnúsdóttir on 8th of December 2020.	

1. Destination Authority

Question	Response	Details
1.1. Constitution		
Does the Destination Authority have a Constitution Document or Equivalent Statement?	Yes	Erindisbréf_Byggðasamlag Snæfellsness, constitution document viewed.
1.2. Mandated by Destination		
Does the Destination Authority have evidence of empowerment from the community?	Yes	Evidence; Erindisbréf Byggðasamlags Snæfellinga, signed and dated.
1.3 Scope Requirements		
Does the Destination Authority have a documented scope which matches the requirements of the EarthCheck Destination Standard?	Yes	Evidence; Erindisbréf Byggðasamlags Snæfellinga, signed and dated. stated in the policy
1.4. Destination Accountability		
Does the Destination Authority: •Provide community briefings (website, information sheets, meetings) on progress made on the EarthCheck Standard? •Provide the community with the ability to provide feedback on the EarthCheck process?	Yes	Progress is reported via the Earthcheck projects website, www.nesvottun.is and via Facebook. Also via the municipalities websites. Feedback is welcomed and encouraged.
1.5 Destination Coordinator		
Has an EarthCheck Destination Coordinator been formally appointed supported by a letter of appointment or position description?	Yes	Evidence; Ráðningasamningur, contract of employment, dated august 1st 2017.
Has the EarthCheck Destination Coordinator received appropriate training on the requirements of the Destination's Sustainability objectives?	Yes	Evidence viewed, Earthcheck Training Certificate from Nov 2018.
Does the EarthCheck Destination Coordinator have documented evidence of authority and	Yes	Paragraph 4 in contract of employment, dated august 1st 2017.

Question	Response	Details
empowerment?		
1.6 Green Team		
Has the Destination's Green Team been established to support the EarthCheck Destination Coordinator?	Yes	Seen, document on role of green team and current members, Green Team Snæfellsnes_hlutverk og tengiliðir 2020-2021
Does the Green Team include representation from both private and public sector?	Yes	
Has the Destination's Green Team been trained in the EarthCheck program?	Yes	Evidence of training seen, documentation and photos from training. Green Team trained by EC Coordinator.
1.7. Organisational Chart		
Has the Destination Authority developed an organisational chart which reflects capacities within the Authority and community?	Yes	Document seen, Skipurit EarthCheck umhverfisevntunarkerfnisins. Updated
Are the Destination Authority responsibilities documented by way of Position Descriptions, Contractual Agreements etc?	Yes	Responsibilities documented in Contract with NSV, dated 19/02/2019.
Is the process of compliance to the EarthCheck Destination Standard appropriately funded?	Yes	Evidence sighted. Chapter IV. in Erindisbréf Byggðasamlags Snæfellinga.
Does the organisational chart make reference to ECSE outcomes?	Yes	Sighted in Org.Chart.
1.8 Data Collection Strategy		
Is the Destination Authority committed to the development of a Data Collection Strategy as to how it will obtain Benchmarking performance data?	Yes	Sighted. In Erindisbréf, 6.paragraph, commitment to yearly Benchmarking data collection and report. Also seen operating procedures in collecting data.
1.9 Aggregated Benchmarking		
Is there a system in place for the Destination Authority to capture Aggregated Benchmarking data to develop a report against planned targets?	Yes	Seen in operating procedures for collecting data. Benchmarking data published in Árangursmat and compared to set targets.

Question	Response	Details
1.10 Record Maintenance		
Does the Destination Authority keep a log of the records of the process of compliance to the EarthCheck Destination Standard as listed?	Yes	Seen in operating procedures for collecting data.

2. Policy

Question	Response	Details
2.1 Develop Policy		
Is there a Policy in place?	Yes	Evidence sighted, Sjálfbærnistefna Snæfellsness 2020.pdf, updated 06/11/2020.
Does the Policy suitably address ECSE outcomes? (Refer to Steps 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, and 2.5 for specific outcomes)	Yes	
Is the Policy suited to the local context of the Destination?	Yes	
Does the policy suitably address local sustainable tourism activities and issues?	Yes	
2.1.1 Agreements and Policies		
Does the Policy make specific reference to the APEC PATA Code for Sustainable Tourism?	Yes	Paragraph 1, 5 and 7.
Does the Policy make specific reference to another local, national, or international code of sustainability?	Yes	UNWTO, Rio and Paris Convention on climate change.
2.1.2 Integrated Approach		
Does the Policy recognise an integrated approach to achieving performance outcomes?	Yes	Paragraph 8
2.1.3 Performance Targets		
Does the Policy commit to performance targets?	Yes	
Do the performance targets relate to locally recognised issues?	Yes	
2.1.4 Performance Accountability		
Does the Policy allow for individualised performance accountability from public	Yes	Paragraph 6 of the policy

Question	Response	Details
and private sector entities, including community members?		
2.1.5 Tourism Industry Leadership		
Does the Policy emphasise leadership by the tourism industry?	Yes	Paragraph 5 of the policy
2.1.6 Consultative Mechanisms		
Does the Destination have evidence of consultative mechanisms?	Yes	
Is there a list of Destination Stakeholders reached in the process of developing the Policy?	Yes	
2.1.7 Policy Adoption		
Has the policy been adopted by the CEO or equivalent?	Yes	Signed by representatives of the destination authority
Has the policy been promoted to all key stakeholders?	Yes	On website www.nesvottun.is and shared by all municipalities on their websites when the policy was renewed. Also sent to all stakeholders and promoted on social media.
Is there a list of stakeholder groups engaged with in the Destination?	Yes	Evidence sighted. List of stakeholders.
2.1.8 Policy Non Conformities		
Have non-conformities been reviewed and corrective and preventative action taken?	Yes	
2.1.9 Publicly Available Policy		
Is the Policy on public display, including the central office of the Destination Authority or other suitable location?	Yes	On website. On wall at Breiðablik (Tourism Info) in Eyja- and Miklaholtshreppur both in English and Icelandic. And Tourism Info Office in Snæfellsbær.
Has a copy of the Policy been provided to all key stakeholders?	Yes	
Is there a commitment in providing accurate information particularly with advertising material?	Yes	

Question	Response	Details
Are all public documents maintained and updated regularly?	Yes	Yes on website www.nesvottun.is and updated yearly.
2.1.10 Policy Annual Review		
Does the Destination have documented commitment of an annual review of the Policy?	Yes	Evidence sighted, policy updated yearly.
2.2 Environmental Outcomes		
2.2.1 Year-on-Year Targets		
Does the Destination have an agreement to target improvements relevant to environmental KPAs?	Yes	Included in policy.
2.3 Cultural Outcomes		
2.3.1 Cultural Heritage Identification		
Is there evidence available of a commitment to involve the broader community in the identification, documentation, and management of cultural heritage?	Yes	
2.3.2 Cultural Heritage Conservation		
Is there evidence of a commitment to Conserve, value, restore and enhance natural and cultural built heritage sites, artefacts, and cultural expression?	Yes	
2.3.3 Cultural Heritage Significance		
Is there evidence of a commitment to carefully manage the impact of tourism visitation on sites of cultural heritage significance?	Yes	In policy and also part of a course they offer for employees of tourism sector in the area.
2.4 Social Outcomes		
2.4.1 Community Participation		
Is there evidence of a commitment to include the broader community in the identification of ECSE outcomes?	Yes	Yes, included in policy.

Question	Response	Details
2.4.2 Ethical Policy Development		
Does the Policy make specific reference to the World Tourism Organisation (WTO) Global Code of Ethics?	Yes	Reference to the WTO Global Code of Ethics is sighted
2.4.3 Education for Business		
Is there evidence of a commitment to provide education and learning opportunities for small to medium size businesses on matters of sustainability?	Yes	Sustainability is part of a course they offer for employees of tourism sector in the area.
2.4.4 Education for Community		
Is there evidence of a commitment to support the education of community members to raise awareness of their individual impact to the achievement of sustainability targets?	Yes	In policy. Also number of evidence sighted, different events and lectures throughout the year
Does the Commitment make reference to educating about EarthCheck Benchmarking Indicators?	Yes	Included in policy.
2.5 Economic Outcomes		
2.5.1 Local Employment		
Is there a policy to employ local people where possible?	Yes	
Are local people employed for management positions in the Destination?	Yes	
2.5.2 Destination Sourced Products and Services		
Are Destination businesses committed to incorporating a purchasing policy for the local procurement of products and services?	Yes	Each municipality has their purchasing policy. Example from Stykkishólmur, In paragraph 6 in their Policy.
Does the Destination have a locally sourced or sustainably sourced agricultural/seafood product preference policy?	Yes	
Are fair trade services sourced where	Yes	

Question	Response	Details
available?		
Are local businesses given the opportunity to sell products and services to tourism related businesses?	Yes	
2.5.3 Seasonality		
Does the Destination have a plan to manage seasonal fluctuations of visitor derived income?	Yes	
2.5.4 Ethical Business		
Is there a commitment to ethical and nonexploitative arrangements with staff, suppliers and clients in the Destination?	Yes	Ethical policy of each municipality sighted.
Is sexual commercial exploitation of minors (children and adolescents) monitored closely in the Destination?	Yes	According to Icelandic law, social services in each area monitor this issue. Social services of Snaefellsnes have 2 social workers in the area.
Is there a participatory management approach, encouraging staff in tourism related businesses to contribute to management approaches and directions?	Yes	
Do enterprises within the Destination provide equal opportunity for all, including equal wages and training?	Yes	Requirement by law. Equal opportunity policy by each municipality sighted.
2.5.5 Innovation		
Does the Destination encourage local business to develop innovative business concepts?	Yes	Evidence sighted. Have introduce to the local public availability of grants and provided assistance/consultation on the application procedure. Examples of news on available grants open for applications: https://snb.is/frettir/styrkir-til-ad-vinna-vidskiptaaaetlun-um-nyskopunarverkefni/ https://snb.is/frettir/fjarkynning-a-menningarstyrkjum-ur-uppbyggingarsjodi/ News on assistance/consultation: https://www.stykkisholmur.is/frettir/stok-frett/2020/05/28/Radgjof-SSV/

Question	Response	Details
2.5.6 Sustainability Programs		
Does the Destination actively encourage the participation in registered sustainability certification programs for tourism related businesses, for example the EarthCheck Company Standard, a GSTC recognised sustainability certification program?	Yes	The DA encourages businesses and promotes awareness. Some are interested but they are often small businesses and certification can be time consuming and expensive. Evidence sighted, lectures with tourism operators.
Does the Destination promote those businesses who participate in registered sustainability certification programs?	Yes	

3. Performance

Question	Response	Details
Data Verification		
Annual Activity Measure Data Verification		
Item		
Item 1		
Activity Measure	Person Years	
Annual Figure Reported	5075	
Annual Figure Verified	5075	
Annual Variance (%)	0	
Records	ibuar_personuar_reiknival_2019	
Comments	Ok.	
Annual Energy Consumption Data Verification		
Item		
Item 1		
Source	Purchased Electricity	
Annual Figure Reported	146672896 kwh	
Annual Figure Verified	146672896 kwh	
Annual Variance (%)	0	
Comments	Calculations ok.	
Item 2		
Source	Mobile Fuel Combustion (road) - motor gasoline	
Annual Figure Reported	1323047 l	
Annual Figure Verified	1323047 l	
Annual Variance (%)	0	
Comments	Calculations ok.	

Question	Response	Details
Annual Water Consumption Data Verification		
Item		
Item 1		
Annual Figure Reported	2412534 kl	
Annual Figure Verified	2412534 kl	
Annual Variance (%)	0	
Comments	Calculations ok.	
Annual Waste Production Data Verification		
Item		
Item 1		
Annual Figure Reported	2598320 kg	
Annual Figure Verified	2635100 kg	
Annual Variance (%)	0.014%	
Comments	Small discrepancy in the numbers, variance only 0.014. Discussed with EC Coordinator. 2635100 kg is the correct number. Missing where total of metals from one community. This was discovered after numbers were sent in to EarthCheck.	
3.1 Environment		
3.1.1 Energy efficiency, conservation and management		
Is a program in place to ensure energy efficiency as much as possible? If yes, please provide details	Yes	Evidence sighted, actions in action plan by municipalities to reduce energy use. Education to municipal staff, businesses and general population on energy efficiency, both electricity and heating.
Is the Destination's energy supply sustainable, particularly when using timber for heating or cooking?	Yes	Mostly green energy, hydro or geothermal. No timber is used for cooking or heating.
Is the use of renewable energy maximised? Does this take the form of solar, wind or hydroelectricity and is ethanol or bio-diesel use promoted for vehicles, vessels, or machinery?	Yes	Most of the energy is from hydropower or geothermal energy. District heating in 3 out of 5 municipalities. Electric and hybrid vehicles are promoted.

Question	Response	Details
Where available, is 'green' electricity from grid suppliers purchased?	Yes	Evidence sighted, certifications of green energy for 100% of electricity use in all 5 municipalities.
Does the Destination have a system to encourage enterprises to measure, monitor, reduce, and publically report energy consumption and reduce reliance on fossil fuels?	Yes	The municipalities are working on several ways to reduce energy use.
3.1.2 Greenhouse gas emissions		
Is there a commitment to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions?	Yes	Evidence sighted, in policy and actions in Action Plan
Are ozone depleting substances, particularly refrigerant gases from older refrigeration and air conditioning systems released to the atmosphere?	No	The DA has no refrigeration systems and air conditioning is generally not used in Iceland. Some businesses might have a refrigeration system but it is required by law that older refrigeration or cooling systems are updated, businesses are required to service these systems regularly to ensure they function properly and do not leak, and only certain refrigerants which do not have ozone depleting potential are allowed.
Is a program in place to offset the carbon generated in greenhouse gas emissions through carbon sequestration by, for example, forest planting?	Yes	Policy on reforestation. Active forestry society in the municipalities. Trees are planted every year by the forestry associations.
Does the Destination have a system to encourage enterprises to measure, monitor, mitigate, and publically report greenhouse gas emissions?	Yes	DA is encouraging enterprises to do this and have also projects on their Action Plan.
3.1.3. Air quality protection, noise control, and light pollution		
Are there ongoing gaseous or particulate emissions which could affect air quality?	Yes	When cruise ship dock at the harbour it can be an issue for the air quality in the area. Happens few times a year.
Are there any ongoing or regular noise emissions which affect residents, communities, or wildlife?	No	
Are there any ongoing light pollution issues which affect residents, communities, or wildlife?	No	

Question	Response	Details
3.1.4 Management of freshwater resources		
Is the source(s) of freshwater for the Destination sustainable?	Yes	
Is a program in place to ensure water conservation as much as possible within the Destination?	Yes	The harbors follow strict rules regarding water waste.
Is a program in place to promote the retrofitting of toilets, taps/faucets, shower fittings and baths within the Destination?	Yes	A project on the Action plan is fit water saving taps in the municipalities institutions such as public sports grounds and swimming pools.
Is a program in place to reduce the washing down of outside areas by property owners?	Yes	The harbors follow strict rules regarding water waste.
Is rainwater harvesting used or promoted?	N/A	Abundance of water in Iceland and not financially feasible.
Is grey water or treated wastewater recycled?	N/A	Abundance of water in Iceland and not financially feasible.
Are native species (i.e. those that are adapted to the climate) planted to reduce irrigation?	Yes	
Does the Destination have other water saving measures in place? If yes, please provide details.	Yes	The sport facilities, public swimming pools and other buildings have water reducing faucet. One municipality has changed their field to fake grass, partially to reduce watering.
Does the Destination have a system to encourage enterprises to measure, monitor, reduce, and publically report water usage?	Yes	
Does the Destination have a system to monitor water use by enterprises to ensure consumption is compatible to broader community needs?	Yes	
3.1.5. Waste water management, drainage and streams		
Does the Destination have access to a municipal wastewater/sewerage treatment system?	Yes	The municipalities (as most municipalities in Iceland) do have issues with the sewage treatment system that require actions. The issue is being dealt with at national

Question	Response	Details
		government level, f.ex. in form of grants for installations of sewage treatment and renewal of sewage system.
Is wastewater treated to a standard to mitigate further environmental and human health impacts?	Yes	Municipalities are working on strategies to fulfill European standards, especially the funding. There is nothing that suggests that lack of treatment has impact on human or environmental health. Stykkisholmur municipality, the biggest town, has received an offer in renewal of sewage system and the works are in preparation. Grundarfjörður municipality is planning to do so as well, is a part of their renewed municipal plan. Issue being addressed.
Does the Destination have a system in place to reduce the impact of oil and grease, litter, or silt wastewater to stormwater courses?	Yes	Required by law and fulfilled by the Public Health Authority.
Are water quality monitoring results reported publically and responded to in a timely manner?	Yes	The Public Health Authority of West Iceland (Heilbrigðiseftirlit Vesturlands) monitors the quality of water
3.1.6. Ecosystem conservation and management		
Does the Destination have an understanding of the conservation requirements of any local natural ecosystems, species or communities of conservation concern and protected areas?	Yes	Evidence. Snæfellsnes Regional Plan 2014 – 2026 (Svæðisskipulag Snæfellsnes 2014 –2026). New Protection Plan for Búðarhraun Lava field.
Is there any disturbance of natural ecosystems due to activities undertaken by the community within the Destination?	Yes	Whale watching, drainage of wetlands and transportation by boat might disturb ecosystems. Impact is not known. Observation raised. Encourage the destination to look into if these activities could be having a potential negative impact on the ecosystems.
Are fees, permit fees etc. required for accessing any protected area?	No	
Does the Destination make some contribution to conservation	Yes	Contract with West Iceland Institute of Natural History. The destination also

Question	Response	Details
management?		works closely with stakeholders such as the National park which is located in the biggest municipality. In plans to increase the land of Snæfellsnes National Park by 9%.
If wildlife interaction occurs, has a conservation organisation endorsed the efforts to minimise adverse effects?	Yes	The West Iceland Institute of Natural History working with the municipalities has worked on initiatives to mitigate and evaluate invasive species, both plants and mammals.
Have any protected species or those of conservation concern been included in any products for sale or consumption?	No	
Is there an inventory of existing threatened wildlife species?	Yes	Maintained by the Icelandic Institute of Natural History. https://www.ni.is/midlun/utgafa/valistar
3.1.7 Land use planning and development		
Is there a commitment to habitat conservation?	Yes	Sustainability policy, Snæfellsjökull National Park and Protection plan of Breiðarfjörður Bay.
Does the Destination comply with local land rights and zoning requirements?	Yes	
Has land acquisition been in accordance with applicable legislation?	Yes	
Has property acquisition been in accordance with existing legislation?	Yes	
Are there any cultural and heritage considerations to take into account? This includes indigenous land rights where appropriate	Yes	There are certain areas and buildings that are protected by law based on archaeological and cultural considerations. Protecting certain areas is important to the municipalities and their Policy and Actions can be seen in the Regional Plan for Snæfellsnes (Evidence sighted).
Are planning laws and regulations enforced?	Yes	Evidence. Snæfellsnes Regional Plan 2014 – 2026 (Svæðisskipulag Snæfellsnes 2014 –2026) and Local Municipal Plans for Stykkishólmur, Grundarfjarðarbær and Snæfellsbær.

Question	Response	Details
Can stakeholders confirm the effectiveness of the planning and development control procedures?	Yes	
Can the Destination provide evidence of sustainable design principles and practices being promoted by the Destination?	Yes	The Snaefellsjökull National Park Center is designed according to Breeam International eco-building standard.
Does the Destination have development, siting, design, and facility management strategies in place which build resilience to climate change?	Yes	Actions planned in new Action Plan, that has yet to be approved. Will be addressed in the next years. Also new law in Iceland requires municipalities to have a strategy. The issue is being worked on.
Does the Destination require access for persons with special needs in design and construction of infrastructure?	Yes	Required by law in Iceland.
Is public consultation carried out with reference to planning and development processes?	Yes	Requirement in planning laws.
3.1.8 Transport		
Does the Destination have a sustainable transport plan?	Yes	The municipalities have an agreement with the Icelandic public transport company (Strætó) to maintain accessible transportation daily on the peninsula.
Does the Destination have a program in place to promote the use of existing public transport services?	Yes	
Does the Destination have a program in place to improve existing public transport services (subject to feasibility)?	Yes	Changes have recently been made to improve the service.
Does the Destination have a program in place to promote the use of sustainable transport modes such as cycling or walking?	Yes	Encouragement to community to use sustainable transport, businesses encouraged to take part in "Bike to work", national initiative to promote sustainable transport. In municipal plans, municipalities more and more planning walking and biking paths within the communities.

Question	Response	Details
3.1.9 Solid Waste Management		
Are waste minimisation strategies in place?	Yes	Waste minimization strategies have been in place in the last years. Still waste, especially construction waste has increased. This issue will be addressed specially in Action Plan for next year where the focus will be on the businesses since most of the increase stems from their activities.
Are reuse and recycling waste strategies in place?	Yes	
Does the Destination have a system to encourage enterprises to reduce, reuse, and recycle?	Yes	
Is a life cycle approach to production and consumption promoted within the Destination?	Yes	Evidence sighted, Margnota Snaefellsnes program.
Is solid waste disposed to a known and managed landfill?	Yes	
If there is no available managed landfill, is waste disposed of safely and sustainably?	N/A	Waste disposed off to managed landfill.
3.1.10 Management of environmentally harmful substances		
Are Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDSs) held for each potentially harmful substance stored (other than when in small domestic size containers)?	Yes	Was raised as non conformity last audit but the major CAR was downgraded. MSDS have been sent to the municipalities that keep harmful substances.
Are all harmful substances stored as per requirements of local regulations, international standards and MSDSs?	Yes	Should be correct. Followed up by Public Health Authorities.
Where harmful substances are stored in bulk and spills are possible, is containment/clean-up equipment held onsite, or readily available?	Yes	
At a minimum, are bulk stores of harmful substances, such as fuels and oils, stored in bounded and preferably roofed storage areas?	Yes	This is a legal requirement and followed up by Public Health Authorities.

Question	Response	Details
Are community members, whose duties involve handling chemical substances, aware of the storage, handling, and clean-up requirements? This can include training on storage and handling, as well as point-of-use wall charts.	Yes	
Is a system in place to ensure leakage is not taking place in underground storage tanks? If 'Yes', please state the system in place.	Yes	This is a legal requirement and followed up by Public Health Authorities.
Has the Destination developed and are maintaining a list of harmful substances requiring disposal, including appropriate sustainable disposal options for each substance?	No	MSDS are available for every harmful substance used by the municipalities. No list of harmful substances needing disposal and disposal options. Major CAR. Was a Major CAR in last audit, and this item in the CAR was not addressed.
3.2 Cultural		
3.2.1 Cultural Heritage		
Have strategies been put in place to conserve natural heritage sites?	Yes	Evidence sighted in Regional Plan 2014-2026.
Have strategies been put in place to conserve cultural heritage sites?	Yes	
Is there a publically available inventory of existing sites within the Destination?	Yes	In Regional Plan 2014-2026 a list is included. Also online https://www.west.is/is/west/category/recreation
Is there evidence of maintenance of the inventory?	Yes	
Does the selling, trading, gifting, or displaying of natural or cultural/archaeological artefacts only occur with the relevant permits/approvals of national and/or international laws?	Yes	
Are there appropriate training events relevant to cultural heritage tourism provided within the Destination?	Yes	In 2018 and 2019, course on sustainability for staff of tourism businesses.

Question	Response	Details
3.2.2 Integration of significant sites		
Do planning regulations recognise cultural and heritage site integrity?	Yes	
Is there a programmed approach to the management of significant cultural and heritage structures and sites within the Destination?	Yes	Minjastofnun Vesturlands (the local cultural site management) is run by the communities.
Is there a cultural site maintenance fund available within the Destination?	Yes	
3.2.3 Value indigenous heritage		
Is there a program in place to recognise and honour indigenous knowledge?	Yes	
3.3 Social		
3.3.1 Management of social impacts of tourism		
Is there a documented plan for monitoring of community satisfaction and wellbeing within the Destination?	Yes	Was in Action Plan for 2018-2020. An community satisfaction survey was in process during audit.
3.3.2 Provision of basic services		
Has the provision of basic services to the local community been made available to all sectors in the Destination?	Yes	
Has the Destination ensured limited impacts to neighbouring communities?	Yes	
3.3.3 Poverty alleviation		
Does the Destination have a documented commitment to the alleviation of poverty?	Yes	The municipalities run social services in collaboration with the national government and there is a system in place to assist those that need financial assistance or housing.
3.3.4 Gender equity		
Does the Destination have a documented commitment to achieving gender equity?	Yes	Required by Icelandic law.

Question	Response	Details
3.3.5 Human Rights Issues		
Does the Destination have a monitoring system to respond to issues of human rights?	Yes	Enforced by Social services. Velferðaráætlun Vesturlands, evidence sighted.
Does the Destination publically report on issues of human rights?	Yes	Velferðaráætlun Vesturlands, evidence sighted.
3.3.6 Quality of Life		
Does the Destination have a commitment to provide or recognise a range of nonphysical services?	Yes	
Does the Destination have a listing of significant non-physical services available?	Yes	Heilbrigðisstofnun Vesturlands is the main provider of non-physical service. Also provided by social services.
Are non-physical services accessible to all abilities, ages, and cultures?	Yes	
Does the Destination offer or recognise opportunities for civic engagement?	Yes	
3.3.7 Safety		
Does the Destination provide services to all which promote law and order?	Yes	The police
Does the Destination monitor its crime rate?	Yes	Monitored through the police department
Does the Destination use a register of offences to monitor its crime rate?	Yes	Evidence sighted, email from police with crime numbers.
Does the Destination separately monitor property versus violent crime?	Yes	Evidence sighted, email from police with crime numbers.
Does the Destination have a system to respond to crime and safety issues?	Yes	The local police department provides that service. Safety issues are also responded by local rescue teams in case of accidents on mountains, on sea or other similar, in collaboration with the local police.
3.4 Economic		
3.4.1 Local socio-economic benefits of tourism		
Does the community regularly promote the socio-economic benefits of	Yes	

Question	Response	Details
tourism?		
Does the community have an up-to-date, publically available inventory of its tourism assets and attractions?	Yes	Evidence sighted, "Erlendir ferðamenn á Vesturlandi 2010-2019" by Rögnvaldur Guðmundsson, Áfangastaðaáætlun Vesturlands and Svæðisskipulag Snæfellsness 2014-2026
Is there a system for the regular collection, monitoring and recording of resident's goals and concerns?	Yes	Residential meetings. Municipal council meetings are also open for residents to address goals and concerns.
Does the Destination have a local tourism business support program in place?	Yes	Svæðisgarðurinn Snæfellsnes works closely with Markaðsstofa Vesturlands (Marketing office of West Iceland). The past year they have been working together with local tourism businesses to improve collaboration and flow of information. This program has been very successful.
Is a purchasing policy in place for the local procurement of goods and services?	Yes	Evidence sighted, purchasing policy of Stykkishólmur municipality.
Are fair trade goods and services purchased where available?	Yes	
Is local employment encouraged?	Yes	
Does the Destination employ ethical business practices, including nonexploitation of women and children?	Yes	
Are local businesses given the opportunity to sell goods and services within the tourism sector?	Yes	
Does the Destination support the participation of businesses in registered sustainability programs?	Yes	
Is there a list of local businesses which choose to participate in registered sustainability programs?	Yes	Evidence sighted, list of businesses
Does the Destination have a plan to manage fluctuations in tourism based	Yes	

Question	Response	Details
revenues throughout the year?		
3.4.2 Encourage business and community innovation		
Does the Destination Authority have a strategy which encourages business innovation?	Yes	Evidence sighted. Snæfellsnes Regional Plan 2014-2026 and Destination Management Plan 2018-2020.
Does the Destination Authority recognise business innovation?	Yes	
3.5 Measurement, Improvement, Monitoring, Training, and Records		
3.5.1 Regular Measurement		
Does the Destination have evidence of regular measurement and recording of its ECSE performance?	Yes	Evidence sighted, yearly EarthCheck benchmarking reports and yearly reports on the project since 2004.
3.5.2 Above Baseline		
Is there evidence of benchmarking above baseline or as consistent with EarthCheck policy?	Yes	Sixteen of the assessed EarthCheck indicators are at or above the Baseline level
3.5.3 Improvement Targets		
Are there improvement targets relevant to EarthCheck Destination Benchmarks?	Yes	
3.5.4 Implementing Improvements		
Is there a written program to implement ECSE performance improvement objectives, with clearly defined responsibilities, and timeframes?	Yes	Evidence, Action Plan 2018-2022
3.5.5 Benchmarking Monitoring		
Is there a regular monitoring system or process to monitor progress using the annual EarthCheck Benchmarking Assessment report?	Yes	
3.5.6 Local Indicators		
Have specific supplementary	Yes	Renewable energy

Question	Response	Details
benchmarking indicators to measure local aspects of the destination been identified?		
3.5.7 Benchmarking Training		
Has the EarthCheck Coordinator received training on the requirements of the Destination's Sustainability Policy and Action Plan?	Yes	Training received 4.-7th of november 2018
Has the Destination's Green Team been established?	Yes	
Has the Green Team been trained to support the EarthCheck Coordinator?	Yes	December 11th 2018
Does Green Team induction include reference to the Sustainability Policy and the overall long term commitment to the EarthCheck Sustainable Destinations program?	Yes	
Does the Green Team induction include specific environmental management aspects for the duties and responsibilities of each position?	Yes	
Is there an ongoing program to keep Green Team Members updated with their environmental management responsibilities?	Yes	
3.5.8 Record Systems		
Are there records available for at least three years (or since initial Benchmarking)?	Yes	Records kept since 2004
Can evidence be provided for the calculation of the Destination's Activity Measure data?	Yes	Evidence sighted, excel sheet with calculations. Calculations correct.
Are records available for the calculation of each of the Core Sector Benchmarking Indicators?	Yes	Evidence sighted, excel documents with calculations.
Are records available for the calculation of any Supplementary Indicators?	Yes	

Question	Response	Details
Are there any indicators that have performed below Baseline performance?	Yes	Yes, 4 indicators fell below Baseline level.

4. Compliance

Question	Response	Details
4.1 Operationally Legal		
Are all local relevant laws and legal requirements complied to?	Yes	Evidence sighted, law and regulation registry updated.
Has there been any prosecution or legal action against the Destination Authority within the last year?	No	
4.2 Legal Compliance		
Is there a comprehensive legal register of legislation within the Destination?	Yes	Evidence sighted, law and regulation registry updated.
Are records kept (including permits, licenses, leases, and correspondence with regulatory authorities) to demonstrate legal compliance?	Yes	
Are legal requirements publically communicated to the community within the Destination?	Yes	On website www.nesvottun.is
4.3 International Standards		
Is the community within the Destination and Destination Authority committed to the adoption of international standards and/or best practice where applicable?	Yes	

5. Planning

Question	Response	Details
5.1 Destination Action Plan		
Is there a Destination Action Plan?	Yes	Evidence sighted, Destination Action Plan 2021-2025
Is the documented Destination Action Plan relevant to the scope of operations?	Yes	
5.1.1 Defined ECSE Issues		
Does the Destination Action Plan clearly define ECSE sustainability issues?	Yes	Yes, addresses all key performance areas.
5.1.2 Key Performance Areas		
Are locally developed criteria included in the Destination Action Plan?	Yes	
Does the Destination Action Plan address tourism activity and development issues?	Yes	Evidence sighted, include actions such as infrastructure projects for tourist destinations
5.1.3 Stakeholder Engagement		
Is there evidence of both internal and external stakeholder contribution to the development of the Destination Action Plan?	Yes	Via Community satisfaction survey. Also via Green team and Snaefellsnes Regional Park
5.1.4 Action Plan Training		
Is there evidence of both internal and external stakeholders receiving training to meet the requirements of the Action Plan?	Yes	Meetings, lectures or information accessible to everyone on media. The action plan appeared in local papers, social media and was discussed on meetings.
5.1.5 SBI Improvements		
Does the plan include quantifiable improvement targets as identified by the EarthCheck Sector Benchmarking for Destinations?	Yes	Secion 2 of Action Plan

Question	Response	Details
Can the quantifiable improvement targets in the Action Plan be cross-correlated with the Sector Benchmarking Indicators?	Yes	
5.1.6 Action Plan Leadership		
Have leadership responsibilities allocated to the achievement Benchmarking KPAs?	Yes	Accountable agent is listed for each of the targets in the Action Plan.
5.2 Publically Available Action Plan		
Has the Destination Action Plan been shared with the public?	Yes	Available on website www.nesvottun.is . Also shared on social media and in local papers.
5.3 Action Plan Monitoring		
Is there a system in place to monitor and measure performance against the Sustainability Policy?	Yes	Evaluation of Action Plan done at end of each year. Evidence sighted, Árangursmat.
Is there a system in place to monitor and measure performance against the Benchmarking Assessment Performance?	Yes	In the yearly review.
Is there a system in place to monitor and measure performance against improvement targets?	Yes	In the yearly review.
Is there a system in place to monitor and measure performance against relevant legislation?	Yes	During law and regulation registry update.
5.4 Non-Conformance Procedures		
Are there procedures in place for dealing with non-conformities?	Yes	Procedure on non-conformances VERKLAGFB001 in section 9 in the EMS handbook
Have any non-conformities been corrected?	Yes	
Are there procedures in place for preventative action, for example an Internal Audit?	Yes	Not internal audits but done during yearly review.

Question	Response	Details
5.5 Action Plan Review		
Are periodic updates and annual reviews of the Destination Action Plan undertaken?	Yes	At least during yearly review.
5.6 Risk Assessment		
Is there a documented Risk Assessment in order to assess all actual and/or potential risks?	Yes	Yes, evidence sighted, risk assessment
Is there a procedure to identify aspects against the 12 Key Performance Areas?	Yes	All 12 key performance areas are included
Have major external influences been identified and potential impacts assessed where appropriate?	Yes	
5.6.1 Likelihood and Severity		
Has the Risk Assessment identified the likelihood and severity of potential impacts?	Yes	Evidence sighted, risk matrix
Does the Risk Assessment include procedures to manage potential impacts?	Yes	
5.6.2 Impact Mitigation		
Has the Risk Assessment considered the ability to prevent and/or mitigate impacts should they arise?	Yes	
5.6.3 Climate Change		
Does the Risk Assessment include reference to the predicted impacts of climate change relevant to the Destination?	Yes	Evidence sighted, EMS chapter 5 Áhætta001.docx, updated 21.09.2020
Does the Risk Assessment include strategies to mitigate and/or adapt to the impacts of climate change?	Yes	Evidence sighted, EMS chapter 5 Áhætta001.docx, updated 21.09.2020
5.6.4 Risk Training		
Does the Risk Assessment include a list of those personnel who have been trained to respond to accidental and	Yes	The personnel is listed in the Contingency plan, Viðbragðsáætlanir á

Question	Response	Details
emergency situations?		Snæfellsnesi.
Does the Risk Assessment include planned activities to be promoted to residents and visitors?	Yes	Evidence, Forvarnaraðgerðir under risk assessment. Planned activities are listed in action plan.
5.6.5 Risk Assessment Review		
Has the Risk Assessment been completed and/or revised within the last twelve months?	Yes	Updated 21.09.2020
Have there been any changes to the operation that need to be included in the Destination's Risk Assessment?	No	
5.6.6 Risk Assessment to the Public		
Has the Risk Assessment been shared publicly within the last twelve months?	Yes	Published on DA website http://nesvottun.is/ahaettumat/

6. Communication, Consultation and Reporting

Question	Response	Details
6.1 Community Consultation		
6.1.1 Feedback Management		
Does the Destination Authority have a procedure for encouraging and responding to feedback on the Sustainability Policy?	Yes	Communication plan in EMS handbook. Also feedback sought on Facebook page and via website.
Has feedback on the Policy and related targets been sought and considered?	Yes	
Is there evidence of responses available?	Yes	
6.1.2 Consultative Mechanisms		
Are there consultative mechanisms in place to ensure all sections of the community are able to participate in the development and implementation of the Sustainability Policy and Action Plan?	Yes	Communication plan in EMS handbook. Also feedback sought on Facebook page and via website.
Is there evidence of the Policy and Action Plans being shared with the public?	Yes	On website www.nesvottun.is and websites of the municipalities.
6.1.3 Tourism Consultation		
Is there evidence of all sectors of the local tourism industry being consulted?	Yes	Meetings with tourism businesses, course for staff of tourism businesses. eg. https://www.stykkisholmur.is/frettir/stok-frett/2019/07/18/Fundur-um-ferdathjonustu-i-Stykkisholmi/
6.1.4 Community Participation		
Have key stakeholders been identified and consulted?	Yes	Evidence sighted, list of stakeholders.
Does the Destination Authority have a procedure for encouraging key stakeholders to engage with its ECSE programs?	Yes	In communication plan in EMS handbook.

Question	Response	Details
Is there evidence of stakeholder participation in ESCE programs?	Yes	
6.1.5 Local Custom		
Have community members been consulted about sensitive local issues?	Yes	Issues are discussed on regular residential meetings. Evidence of meeting in Stykkishólmur, https://www.stykkisholmur.is/frettir/stok-frett/2019/05/03/Motum-framtid-Vesturlands-i-sameiningu-verum-med-og-tokum-thatt/
Have visitors been consulted on issues relevant to local customs, natural area and environmental issues?	Yes	Information in visitor centers, there are several all over Snæfellsnes, brochures and posters.
Have community members been consulted about how best to contribute to the Destination's local economy?	Yes	In residential meetings, regular articles on websites or social media.
6.2 Communication		
6.2.1 Performance Communication		
Is there a mechanism in place to communicate regularly with the community?	Yes	In communication plan in EMS handbook.
Is there evidence of ongoing liaisons with local community?	Yes	Regular residential meetings, websites, local newspapers, social media, lectures for residents, schools, staff of municipalities, etc.
6.2.2 Environmental Awareness		
Has the Destination been proactive in raising local awareness of environmental issues including climate change with key stakeholders?	Yes	Evidence sighted, several meetings, lectures and articles on local news websites and social media.
Are specific educational activities for key stakeholders on climate related issues included?	Yes	Evidence sighted, e.g. lectures for staff of tourism businesses
Is there evidence of the activities?	Yes	
6.2.3 Interpretive Information		
Is interpretive information communicated to visitors regarding	Yes	Visitor centers, signs are natural or cultural significant places, brochures,

Question	Response	Details
locally sensitive or significant sites (this may take any form, via information in guest rooms, commentary on a tour, signage, etc.)?		websites.
Are there guidelines to raise visitor awareness, understanding, and respect for local indigenous cultures and customs?	Yes	
Is interpretive information available on location at natural and cultural sites?	Yes	Signs at the sites.
Is there evidence of accurate promotion of the Destination and its available products and services is accurate?	Yes	
Does the interpretive information use appropriate languages?	Yes	Icelandic and English mostly.
6.2.4 Customer Satisfaction		
Does the Destination measure customer satisfaction?	Yes	Residential survey being conducted during audit end of 2020. Residents and guests can also communicate with the DA through email, facebook or other means. Feedback and complaints formally kept and replied to.
Are measures of customer satisfaction made publically available?	Yes	Evidence, the 10-year EarthCheck anniversary report.
Is there a complaints handling policy and procedure publically available?	Yes	Complaints handling in section 9 of EMS handbook.
Is there a corrective action plan and is corrective action taken where appropriate?	Yes	
Has data been recorded for all customer complaints and entered at time of Benchmarking?	Yes	
6.3 Reporting		
6.3.1 Effectiveness Reviews		
Are there mechanisms in place to review the effectiveness of the Destination Authority?	Yes	The annual report publishes the review of the effectiveness achieving sustainable outcome. Lists projects as well as the benchmarking performance.

Question	Response	Details
6.3.2 Sustainability Report		
Does the Destination Authority regularly produce a Destination Sustainability Report at least annually?	Yes	Evidence viewed, Ársskýrsla 2019
Does the report include the findings of the EarthCheck Benchmarking Assessment Report?	Yes	
Is the report distributed publicly?	Yes	Via website www.nesvottun.is
6.3.3 Economic Contribution		
Does the Destination Authority monitor the direct economic contribution of tourism to the destination?	Yes	These figures statistics are regularly sought from public institution on economy. www.hagstofa.is and www.ferðamalastofa.is . Also recent study on impact of protected areas on local economy where Snaefellsnes National Park and its surrounding area was the study area
Does the Destination Authority monitor the indirect economic contribution of tourism to the destination?	Yes	
Are the findings presented in a report which is publicly available?	Yes	Yes, for example study on economic impact of protected area on local communities, Áhrif friðlýstra svæða.pdf
Is the report presented at least annually?	Yes	
Is the Destination Authority monitoring locally available data to the best of their capacity?	Yes	
6.3.5 Record Retention		
Does the Destination Authority have a written procedure for record keeping?	Yes	Evidence sighted: VERKLAGSKJAL001
Are there records, dating back for at least 48 months (or since initial Benchmarking) of the Destination Authority Operations?	Yes	Records have been kept since 2004
Do the records include Stakeholder engagement meeting minutes?	Yes	

Question	Response	Details
Do the records include Destination Authority meeting minutes?	Yes	
Do the records include documents relevant to the development and review of the Policy Statements?	Yes	
Do the records include documents relevant to the development and review of the Destination Action Plan	Yes	
Do the records include the data relevant to the annual Benchmarking performance reviews?	Yes	
Do the records include reference to the budget of the Destination Authority, relevant to the EarthCheck Destination Standard Benchmarking and Certification?	Yes	
Do the records include monitoring data relevant to sustainable performance?	Yes	

Minor Non Conformances Raised in Previous Certification Service

Question	Response	Details
This section details all Non Conformances which were raised in the previous Certification Service. This includes any Major Non Conformances that were downgraded to Minor Non Conformances in a Progress Review of Corrective Action Requests Report during the previous Certification Service.)		
Non Conformance		
Non Conformance 1		
Clause	5.6.3 Climate change	
Non Conformance Details	The risk assessment does not include risk associated with predicted impacts of climate change nor does it include strategies to mitigate or adapt to these possible impacts.	
Outcome	Addressed	The risk assessment has been revised and risk associated with predicted impact of climate change has been included, and measures to address them or mitigate. This work is also part of work that has been started since new law was passed in Iceland in 2020 that requires municipalities to address these issues.
Non Conformance 2		
Clause	5.6.6. Risk Assessment to the Public	
Non Conformance Details	The risk assessment as a document is not publicly available.	
Outcome	Addressed	The risk assessment is now publicly available via website www.nesvottun.is
Non Conformance 3		
Clause	3.1.10 Management of environmentally harmful substances	
Non Conformance Details	A major CAR was raised in last audit but downgraded to a minor CAR after Major CAR review. Businesses are encouraged to keep DA Coordinator is unsure if the municipal institutions of the Destination Authority keep Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDSs) for their substances. Also, the destination has not developed a list of	

Question	Response	Details
		harmful substances requiring disposal, including appropriate sustainable disposal options for each substance. Perhaps there are no harmful substances needing disposal or this is dealt with in the waste management plan.
Outcome	Not Addressed	This CAR has been partially addressed. Some municipalities are doing good work but the matter is more difficult in others. This matter is a work in progress. All MSDS have been provided. Still no list of harmful substances requiring disposal. Major CAR raised.

Observations & Best Practices

Question	Response	Details
Record Observations		
Observation		
Observation 1		
Summary	Observation. Include in updated risk assessment for next year issues that arise from Benchmarking report where the DA is not performing well. From risk assessment the issue should go into the action plan.	
Observation 2		
Summary	During two last audits, discrepancy has been found in waste numbers. Perhaps Earthcheck coordinator needs to look into data collection procedures for waste.	
Observation 3		
Summary	Observation raised under 3.1.6. Ecosystem Conservation and management. I encourage the destination to look into if activities such as whale watching, drainage of wetlands and transportation are having a potential negative impact on the ecosystems.	
Record Best Practices		
Best Practice		
Best Practice 1		
Summary	Auditor must applaud the Destination Authority and EarthCheck Coordinator on their course for staff of tourism businesses on sustainability, good initiative.	

Current Areas of Non Conformance

Question	Response	Details
Current Areas of Non Conformance		
Non Conformance		
Non Conformance 1		
Clause	3.1.10 Environmental harmful substances	
Non Conformance Details	A list of harmful substances requiring disposal, including sustainable disposal options has not been dealt with. Perhaps there are no harmful substances needing disposal or this is dealt with in the waste management plan. Will need to check up on that on next on-site audit.	
Details of Corrective Action Required (CAR)	Provide a list of harmful substances needing disposal as well as sustainable disposal options. Or in case there are none, provide that information.	
CAR Status	Major CAR, to be addressed in 3 months	
CAR Verification Method	Progress Review of Corrective Action Requests	

Auditor Conclusion

Question	Response	Details
Note: All recommendations are subject to ratification by the EarthCheck Authorities.		
Auditor Recommendation		
The following Member has been audited against the EarthCheck Destination Standard.	Snaefellsnes Peninsula	
The Destination's commitment to compliance with the EarthCheck Destination Standard is commendable. Certification has been:	Conditionally Recommended	
The Next Onsite Certification Audit is recommended within:	1 Year	
Auditor Company Name	Verkis Consulting Engineers	
Auditor Name, Date and Signature	Elín Vignisdóttir	11 Feb 2021 11:50 AM <i>Elin Vignisdottir</i>
Member Requests		
During the Certification Service the member requested further information on:		
EarthCheck Pre-Audits		
EarthCheck Training		

Auditee Acknowledgement

Question	Response	Details	
<p>I accept the findings within this Certification Report as appropriate, and fairly represent our level of compliance to the EarthCheck Destination Standard. The supporting evidence provided to demonstrate our compliance has not intentionally misled the auditing body stated within this report.</p>			
EarthCheck Coordinator Name		Guðrún Magnea Magnúsdóttir	
Senior Manager's Position		Board Chairman of Destination Authority	
Senior Manager's Name, Date and Signature	Jakob Björgvin Jakobsson		

EarthCheck Authorisation

Question	Response	Details	
The below section is for the use of the EarthCheck Authorities only.			
EarthCheck Authorisation			
EarthCheck Certification Recommendation:			
Name, Date and Signature			
Position			
Certification Requirements			
Revised Performance Assessment			
Progress Review of Corrective Action Requests			
Onsite Certification Audit 1 Year			

Media