

## my top 10 things to help the environment

Tourism Australia is urging us all to use some of our horded work leave and take a holiday now in Australia. It will help the economy and also give you a well deserved break. It's important though to think about your carbon footprint when you travel.

Here are 10 tips for April to think about when planning a getaway:

	true green's top 10	done	my top 10	done
1	Plan your holiday online and save paper. Use e-brochures and try online check-in counters, they will save you time too!			
2	Remember to put your house into energy hibernation. For longer breaks turn off your electric hot water system and defrost your fridge and freezer.			
3	Think about your environmental footprint, select destinations with sustainability policies and that support the local community. Research their websites for this information.			
4	Be a light traveler, research your destination and take only what you need. Some airlines charge less if you don't check in luggage.			
5	Avoid taking disposable items, try taking biodegradable products such as eco friendly soap and clothes that don't require heavy laundering.			
6	In remote locations, use eco-friendly accommodation that does not damage the habitat of endangered plants and animals.			
7	Look for 'green' standards from bodies like the International Ecotourism Standard or Green Globe. In Australia there are 20 bodies that support 'green' tourism			
8	Know your footprint – use travel and tourism calculators on the internet for you next trip. And pay to offset the impact of your flights or car trips.			
9	Support public transport, it's greener and cheaper than hiring a car or taxi to the airport.			
10	Try travelling by train, it is more eco -friendly and makes for a more interesting travel experience.			

remember, when you're achieved your top 10, revisit **true green** and select another 10