ECEAT International
European Centre for Ecological and Agricultural Tourism

ECEAT develops and promotes
tourism that supports organic agriculture, sustainable land use, nature and environmental protection, rural development, and the protection of cultural heritage and landscapes. ECEAT International (E.I.) is an association serving as an independent, impartial umbrella organisation for national ECEAT organisations in European countries.

ECEAT Main Activities
- Education, training, information and awareness-raising for business, the public and authorities
- Development of ECEAT sustainable tourism quality criteria systems and their implementation within Europe
- Common marketing of ECEAT related tourist products through printed and electronic guides, packages, itineraries made directly through ECEAT and through operators
- Advisory and consultancy services through ECEAT related experts
- Development and innovative projects

E.I. Legal Status
The ECEAT movement started in 1993 to promote the sustainable methods of small-scale environmental tourism in rural Europe. In 2002, ECEAT International was registered by public notary in Zoetermeer, the Netherlands (No. 2002079001.mb) as an independent legal entity operating on a membership principle.

E.I. Members
Membership of ECEAT International is open to national legal not-for-profit bodies based in European countries, which are legally registered in their own country and recognised by ECEAT International. Businesses, networks, and other organisations can become "ECEAT partners".

Membership Procedures
- New Members
  E.I. recognises one member per country. Please check existing members on www.eceat.org.
  Download the Statutes from www.eceat.org. Contact the E.I. secretary-general (www.eceat.org) for the Membership Participation Form, Manual for Partners, etc. Choose a patron organisation from the list of members (please refer to www.eceat.org). An three-year plan describing the activities of the organisation in the "ECEAT Activity Fields" will be required. E.I. assembly assesses new candidates twice a year. A membership contract is signed and the rights to use the ECEAT name and logo are granted.

- New ECEAT Partners
  Contact the E.I. secretary-general (www.eceat.org) for details.
Basic Activity Fields Required from New Members

Field 1 - New candidates are required to provide activities in the whole of their home country or to guarantee progress in this field during the candidateship period of a maximum of 4 years.

Field 2 - New candidates are required to present their activities in the field "Education, training, information, awareness raising" or to guarantee their progress in this field during the candidateship period of a maximum of 4 years.

Field 3 - New candidates are required to present a method for "ECEAT sustainable tourism quality" to be implemented in the home country or to guarantee progress in this field during the candidateship period of a maximum of 4 years.

Field 4 - New candidates are required to present achievements in the field "Work with tourists" (e.g. publishing of travel guidebooks, training of guides, website tourist products, providing package tours, co-operation with tour operators, etc.) or how it will be provided in the home country during the candidateship period of a maximum of 4 years.

ECEAT Sustainable Tourism Quality Criteria Systems

Implementation of all the criteria are guaranteed to tourists in every country participating in common ECEAT marketing. Refer to www.eceat.org for details.

Sustainable criteria for accommodation focus:

1 - Environmentally friendly agriculture
2 - Efficient water and energy use
3 - Minimum waste
4 - Green building
5 - Information and awareness-raising for clients
6 - Soft mobility and public transport
7 - Biodiversity and landscape protection
8 - Cultural heritage
9 - Support of local economy
10 - Improvement policy (including management criteria)

Sustainable criteria for tourist products, operators and other tourist services will be worked out.

Common ECEAT Marketing

ECEAT members publish travel guidebooks in different languages providing more than 1500 descriptions and addresses of environmentally friendly accommodations in Europe. Their websites also offer many other options, which can be checked at www.eceat.org. There are plans in progress for brand new exciting "eco" travel opportunities within Europe in 2004.

Refer to your favourite www.eceat.org