

Sustainability Policy

Purpose:

At Vale 194, sustainability is an important part of how we operate and how we contribute to the future of McLaren Vale and the Fleurieu Peninsula. This policy guides our commitment to reducing environmental impacts, supporting our local community, operating responsibly and continuously improving the way we manage our accommodation business.

Scope of the Policy

This policy applies to all aspects of Vale 194's operations, including accommodation services, property management, purchasing decisions, guest communications, contractors, maintenance activities and business planning. It applies to the business owners, contractors, suppliers and any activities undertaken on behalf of Vale 194.

Our Sustainability Commitment Statement:

Vale 194 is committed to taking practical and measurable steps to reduce environmental impacts while providing high quality self-catered accommodation in the heart of McLaren Vale.

We recognise that sustainability includes environmental, social, cultural and economic responsibilities. Through participation in the Tourism Industry Council of Australia - Tourism Emissions Reduction Commitment, CarbonHalo emissions reporting, Green is Gold and Quality Tourism Accreditation, we seek opportunities for continuous improvement and responsible business practice.

Vale 194 was created to encourage visitors to stay longer, explore more deeply and experience more of McLaren Vale and the Fleurieu Peninsula. By encouraging longer stays rather than day trips, we support local businesses, increase regional visitor expenditure and help guests make the most of each journey.



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Environmental Commitments:

Vale 194 is committed to:

- Measuring and monitoring carbon emissions through CarbonHalo reporting.
- Reducing waste sent to landfill through recycling, composting and guest education initiatives.
- Supporting South Australia's Container Deposit Scheme through dedicated collection bins, with refunds donated to Biodiversity McLaren Vale.
- Providing refillable bathroom amenities to reduce single use packaging.
- Encouraging guests to correctly separate landfill, recycling, deposit containers and green waste.
- Working with suppliers and contractors who support environmentally responsible practices.
- Supporting the use of battery powered gardening equipment where practical to reduce fuel consumption and emissions.
- Using environmentally responsible cleaning products where practical.
- Investing in energy efficient infrastructure including double glazing, insulation and energy efficient heating and cooling systems.
- Continuing to investigate renewable energy opportunities, including solar and battery storage, as part of future capital investment planning.

Social & Cultural Commitments:

Vale 194 is committed to:

- Supporting local tourism businesses through recommendations, partnerships and guest information.
- Encouraging guests to explore local wineries, restaurants, attractions, trails and beaches.
- Purchasing from local suppliers and contractors wherever practical.
- Supporting community organisations and initiatives that contribute to the wellbeing of the region.
- Providing an inclusive and welcoming environment for guests from diverse backgrounds.
- Respecting and celebrating the unique character, culture and landscape of McLaren Vale and the Fleurieu Peninsula.
- Recognising and respecting the Kaurna People as the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the land on which Vale 194 operates.
- Valuing the cultural heritage, knowledge and stories of Aboriginal and First Nations peoples.
- Supporting the growth and development of Aboriginal and First Nations tourism experiences and businesses within the region by seeking opportunities to include and promote them through guest information and visitor communications as opportunities become available.

Economic & Quality Commitments

Vale 194 is committed to supporting the long term sustainability of both the business and the regional visitor economy by:

- Maintaining high quality accommodation that encourages longer visitor stays.
- Prioritising local suppliers where quality, service and value are comparable.
- Monitoring guest feedback and review platforms to identify opportunities for improvement.
- Reinvesting in the property, guest experience and sustainability initiatives.
- Encouraging guests to support local businesses during their stay.
- Participating in industry programs and professional development opportunities that improve business performance and resilience.

Human Rights Commitments:

Vale 194 is committed to operating ethically and responsibly by:

- Complying with Australian workplace laws and regulations.
- Working with suppliers and contractors who operate lawfully and responsibly.
- Providing equal opportunity and respectful treatment for all contractors, suppliers and guests.
- Maintaining an environment free from discrimination, harassment and unsafe practices.

Health & Safety Commitments:

Vale 194 is committed to providing a safe environment for guests, contractors and visitors through:

- Maintaining emergency evacuation procedures and property safety information.
- Providing fire safety equipment and emergency contact information.
- Regular inspection and maintenance of accommodation facilities.
- Compliance with relevant building, fire and safety regulations.
- Ongoing review of operational risks and emergency preparedness.

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Sustainability Objectives Vale 194

Over the next three years Vale 194 aims to:

1. Continue annual measurement and monitoring of carbon emissions through TERC/CarbonHalo.
2. Reduce waste sent to landfill through improved guest education and waste sorting initiatives.
3. Increase diversion of eligible beverage containers through the Container Deposit Scheme.
4. Increase the use of environmentally responsible products across cleaning and maintenance operations.
5. Continue transitioning to lower emission maintenance practices through the adoption of battery powered equipment where practical.
6. Continue investigating renewable energy opportunities including solar and battery storage.
7. Continue participating in industry sustainability and business improvement programs including Green is Gold, Quality Tourism Accreditation and the Tourism Emissions Reduction Commitment.

Integrating Sustainability into Business Strategy & Daily Operations:

Sustainability considerations are incorporated into business planning, purchasing decisions and operational practices.

Examples include:

- Installed double glazing and high-quality insulation during construction to improve energy efficiency.
- Selected energy efficient heating and cooling systems.
- Choosing refillable amenities rather than single use products.
- Purchasing products with reduced packaging where practical.
- Supporting contractors who use environmentally responsible products and equipment.
- Including sustainability considerations when evaluating future capital investments and property improvements.

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Staff & Customer Engagement:

Although Vale 194 operates as a small accommodation business with contracted service providers, sustainability is incorporated into daily operations and guest communications.

Examples include:

- Providing guests with information about recycling, green waste and container recycling.
- Encouraging guests to support local businesses and explore the region responsibly.
- Sharing sustainability initiatives through the Vale 194 website and guest communications.
- Discussing sustainability expectations and opportunities with contractors and suppliers.
- Considering guest feedback when implementing improvements.

Monitoring, Review & Continuous Improvement

Vale 194 monitors sustainability performance through:

- Annual TERC/CarbonHalo emissions reporting.
- Participation in industry programs including Green is Gold and the Tourism Emissions Reduction Commitment.
- Monitoring utility usage quarterly and operational practices.
- Reviewing guest feedback and suggestions weekly.
- Assessing waste reduction and recycling initiatives annually.
- Reviewing sustainability objectives and identifying new opportunities for improvement continually and review annually .

Sustainability in Customer Service Procedures

Sustainability is incorporated into the guest experience by:

- Providing information about recycling, green waste and waste reduction practices.
- Promoting local experiences, food producers, wineries and attractions that support the regional economy.
- Encouraging longer stays that allow visitors to explore the region more deeply.
- Providing accessibility information to help guests make informed decisions about their stay.
- Sharing information about sustainability initiatives undertaken by Vale 194 and the wider community.

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Roles & Responsibilities

The owners of Vale 194 are responsible for implementing, monitoring and reviewing this policy, with support from contractors, suppliers and industry partners where appropriate.

Policy Review Schedule

- **Date adopted:** 1st June 2026
- **Next review date:** 1st June 2029

