



BARNEY CREEK

VINEYARD COTTAGES

# Barney Creek Vineyard Cottages

## Environmental & Sustainability Policies

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**Prepared by:** Aspen Forgan

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**Updated by:** Aspen Forgan

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## Scope

At Barney Creek Vineyard Cottages, we are committed to preserving and enhancing the natural beauty of the Scenic Rim region in Queensland, Australia, while providing a unique and unforgettable experience for our valued guests. Since acquiring this property in 2021, we have strived to build upon the foundations laid by previous owners and evolve it into a renowned destination that aligns with our core values of sustainability, community engagement, and inclusivity.

**Our Vision:** We envision Barney Creek Vineyard Cottages as a harmonious oasis where nature and luxury coexist. We aim to be a leading example of responsible and sustainable tourism in this breathtaking region.

Our Commitment:

**1. Environmental Stewardship:** We recognize the environmental significance of our location and are dedicated to preserving and protecting it. We will continuously assess and minimize our environmental footprint.

**2. Sustainable Practices:** We are committed to integrating sustainable practices into every aspect of our operations. This includes energy and water conservation, waste reduction, and the protection of local biodiversity.

**3. Community Engagement:** We actively engage with and support our local community, respecting its traditions and cultural heritage. We believe in the importance of giving back to the community that surrounds us.

**4. Inclusivity:** We welcome guests from all walks of life, providing a warm and inclusive environment where everyone feels valued and respected.

Barney Creek Vineyard Cottages recognizes its ethical and legal duty to minimize environmental harm resulting from its operations. This commitment extends to ensuring that our activities do not pose undue risks to the local flora, fauna, sensitive areas, heritage sites, or the well-being of the community and visitors.

The objective of this Environmental Management Plan is to proactively work towards eliminating and reducing adverse environmental impacts. We aim to integrate environmental considerations into every facet of our organization, from planning to project execution, and to employ best practices wherever feasible.

## Responsibilities

Management is dedicated to:

- Incorporating this Environmental Management Plan into all aspects of Barney Creek Vineyard Cottages' operations.
- Compliance with all relevant legal requirements and collaboration with regulatory authorities.
- Setting measurable targets to ensure continual environmental improvement, tracked through accountability and key performance indicators.

- Engaging in consultation with relevant staff and stakeholders to enhance decision-making regarding environmental concerns.
- Identifying environmental issues, evaluating risks, and implementing best practices to minimize negative environmental impacts.
- Developing, implementing, and reviewing documented work procedures.
- Disseminating and communicating information and work procedures.
- Providing training and supervision to staff, contractors, clients, and visitors to ensure the effective implementation of this Environmental Management Plan and written procedures to reduce environmental impacts.
- Regularly reviewing and assessing the Environmental Management Plan, including designating individuals responsible for its management, updates, and reviews.

Staff and Contractors are expected to:

- Exercise reasonable care and consideration for environmental impacts during their work.
- Cooperate with Barney Creek Vineyard Cottages to ensure compliance with legal obligations related to the environment.
- Participate in consultative processes related to environmental matters.
- Assist management in achieving environmental targets and key performance indicators.
- Work towards their individual environmental targets and key performance indicators.
- Identify opportunities for environmental improvement within their scope.

Our Environmental Policy Statement represents our dedication to responsible and sustainable tourism. We believe that by working together with our guests, staff, and the local community, we can make a positive impact on the environment while providing unforgettable experiences for our guests.

## Environmental Objectives

Barney Creek Vineyard Cottages is fully committed to preserving the environment in which we operate. While we're still in the early stages of our journey, we're continuously seeking new and innovative ways to reduce our environmental footprint while fostering environmental awareness within the community.

Our primary goal is to adopt environmentally responsible practices, including efforts to decrease energy consumption, support biodiversity conservation, address climate change, promote environmental consciousness, and minimize our overall environmental impact. Additionally, we aim to provide accurate and up-to-date information to enhance our visitors' understanding and appreciation of the environment.

## Environmental Objectives

### General

- **Compliance:** We will adhere to all relevant Australian environmental laws, regulations, and standards.
- **Property Collaboration:** We will align our activities with the environmental objectives of the properties, including National Parks, where our operations take place.
- **Environmental Integrity:** Minimize our environmental impact and develop solutions for preserving the area's environmental integrity.
- **Client and Visitor Awareness:** Our mission is to improve the understanding and appreciation of natural and culturally significant environments within our operating regions. We will also educate clients and visitors about potential impacts on these environments and actions they can take to mitigate their impact.

### Specific Areas

- **Air Quality:** We will work to minimize dust, odors, and other potential air contaminants. Risk assessments and best practices will be applied to eliminate or reduce air contamination sources.
- **Dangerous Goods/ Hazardous substances:** Compliance with storage standards will be ensured. We will strive to eliminate or minimize potential environmental impacts arising from chemical use, transportation, and disposal.
- **Flora and Fauna:** Measures will be taken to avoid, minimize, or manage potential adverse impacts on flora and fauna during construction activities within project areas. Educational efforts will focus on local wildlife, their habitat requirements, threats, and management options.
- **Cultural Management:** Collaboration with partners, including private landholders, indigenous groups, and government bodies, will aim to prevent environmental issues and

minimize damage to culturally significant sites. Cultural heritage values will be communicated to staff and visitors through interpretation scripts, reports, and discussions.

- **Noise Management:** We will minimize noise/vibration impacts to protect sensitive receptors' amenity. Risk assessments will be conducted, and best practices will be applied to eliminate or reduce noise/vibration impacts.
- **Waste Management:** We will work towards minimizing waste generation, disposing of waste appropriately, and ensuring it complies with relevant local, state, and federal requirements.
- **Climatic Considerations:** We will work with the local authorities, trained fire consultants to assess and manage the risk of natural disasters within our operational areas to protect the environment from the potential devastation caused by floods and bush fires.
- **Energy and Water Conservation:** We are committed to reducing energy consumption and promoting water conservation across our operations. Implementing energy-efficient technologies and responsible water usage practices are key aspects of this commitment.
- **Community Engagement:** We actively engage with the local community by collaborating with other local businesses to support a thriving local economy. We prioritize the use of local and seasonal food sources whenever possible, ensuring that our offerings benefit both our guests and regional producers. Additionally, we are dedicated to giving back to the community through regular donations to local organizations and initiatives, reinforcing our commitment to sustainable and mutually beneficial relationships with local residents and partners.
- **Transportation and Travel:** We promote sustainable transportation by providing an EV charger and encouraging guests to explore the local area on foot or by bike. Due to our rural setting, carpooling and public transport are not viable options, but we strive to minimize our carbon footprint through alternative means.

We remain dedicated to our environmental objectives and endeavours to safeguard the environment while providing exceptional experiences to our guests and fostering environmental awareness.

## Environmental and Cultural Characteristics

Mount Barney is a prominent mountain located in the Scenic Rim region of South East Queensland, Australia. It is situated within the Gondwana Rainforests of Australia World Heritage Area, which encompasses several national parks and protected areas. Specifically, Mount Barney is part of the Mount Barney National Park, which covers an area of approximately 13,000 hectares.

Mt. Barney and its surrounding region have several major catchment areas, each contributing to the waterways and ecosystems of the area. Some of the significant catchment areas near Mt. Barney include:

1. **Logan River Catchment:** The Logan River is one of the most prominent waterways in the region and has its catchment originating from the slopes of Mount Barney. It flows through the valleys surrounding the mountain, providing essential water for the area's ecosystems and communities.
2. **Coonoon Gibber Creek Catchment:** Coonoon Gibber Creek is a significant tributary of the Logan River and flows through the area near Mount Barney. This creek and its catchment contribute to the overall health of the Logan River system.
3. **Upper Clarence River Catchment:** While not directly originating from Mt. Barney, some of its eastern slopes are part of the Upper Clarence River Catchment. The Clarence River, one of the longest rivers on the eastern coast of Australia, has numerous tributaries, and its catchment area includes parts of the Scenic Rim region.
4. **Upper Condamine River Catchment:** The Upper Condamine River, with its catchment in the surrounding area, plays a role in the broader regional water network. The Condamine River system is part of the Murray-Darling Basin, one of Australia's major river basins.

Our property is fortunate to have the confluence of Barney Creek and the Logan River at the back of our property. Barney Creek significantly contributes to the health and hydrology of the Logan River catchment, nourishing the region's ecosystems and supporting local communities downstream.

Key natural values of the Mount Barney area include:

- Areas of endangered or threatened vegetation types, such as Subtropical rainforest, Wet sclerophyll forest, dry sclerophyll forest and heathlands (rocky areas).
- Threatened fauna populations including:
  - Brush-tailed Rock-wallaby (*Petrogale penicillate*)
  - Albert's Lyrebird (*Menura alberti*)
  - Eastern Curlew (*Numenius madagascariensis*)
  - Powerful Owl (*Ninox strenua*)
  - Glossy Black-Cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus lathami*)
  - Eastern Chestnut Mouse (*Pseudomys gracilicaudatus*)
  - Red Goshawk (*Erythrotriorchis radiatus*)
  - Fleay's Barred Frog
  - Mount Glorious Torrent Frog
  - Glossy Snake (*Hemiaspis signata*)
  - Eastern Three-lined Skink (*Bassiana duperreyi*)



- Platypus (*Ornithorhynchus anatinus*)
- Nine animal species including the eastern bristlebird and coxen's fig-parrot, and four plant species are endangered.
- Threatened flora including:
  - Brush Sophora (*Sophora tomentosa*)
  - Cycads (*Macrozamia* spp) including *Macrozamia lucida*
  - Mount Barney Tassel Fern (*Huperzia phlegmaria*)
  - Mount Barney Bush Pea (*Pultenaea whiteana*)

Key cultural values of the Mount Barney area include:

- Aboriginal Cultural Heritage:
  - Birthing watering holes
  - Scar trees
  - Cave and shelter sites
  - ancient rock art
  - ceremonial sites
- European Cultural Heritage:
  - Roads
  - Old buildings and churches
  - homesteads and cattle yards
  - Historic museum (Rathdowney)

## National Park and other Reserves

### Mount Barney National Park

Covering an expansive area of approximately 13,000 hectares, this national park is renowned for its rugged landscapes, ancient volcanic peaks, and pristine wilderness. It forms part of the Gondwana Rainforests of Australia World Heritage Area, emphasizing its ecological importance and rich biodiversity.

The park's centrepiece is the iconic Mount Barney, a massive volcanic mountain, standing as one of Queensland's highest peaks. It offers a challenging yet rewarding hiking experience for outdoor enthusiasts and adventurers. The park's significance extends beyond its striking geology, encompassing a variety of diverse ecosystems, including subtropical rainforests, open eucalypt woodlands, and creek systems.

Key sites within Mount Barney National Park include:

1. Lower Portals: One of the most popular destinations within the park, the Lower Portals are a series of crystal-clear rock pools along Mount Barney Creek. Surrounded by lush rainforest and framed by the imposing mountain backdrop, this area provides an ideal spot for picnicking, swimming, and cooling off after a hike.

2. Cronan Creek Falls: This picturesque waterfall can be accessed via a challenging hike, rewarding visitors with breathtaking views and the chance to experience the park's remote beauty. The waterfall cascades over rugged terrain, adding to the park's scenic allure.
3. Yellow Pinch Lookout: Offering awe-inspiring panoramic vistas of the surrounding landscape, Yellow Pinch Lookout is a must-visit spot. It's a relatively accessible site and provides an excellent opportunity for visitors to soak in the beauty of Mount Barney and the park's diverse ecosystems.
4. Mount Maroon: Located nearby, Mount Maroon offers another fantastic hiking opportunity with panoramic views of the region. Its distinctive red rock formations make it a unique geological feature.
5. Maroon Dam: This man-made reservoir, known as Maroon Dam, provides opportunities for boating, fishing, and picnicking. It's an ideal place to enjoy water-based activities and unwind amidst the scenic surroundings.

## Summary of Site

Barney Creek Vineyard Cottages is located on a 40 acre property at the confluence of Barney Creek and the Logan River. The property sits at the base of Mount Barney and Mount Maroon, but is also surrounded by farm land, primarily cattle. On the property we have 5 cottages, 4 acres of vineyard and a cellar door, as shown in the map below.



## Legal and Regulatory Matters

Barney Creek Vineyard Cottages is committed to adhering to federal, state, and local environmental laws and regulations. Our proactive approach includes engaging specialist consultants such as park rangers, OHS compliance teams, and fire/chemical training specialists. By collaborating with these experts, Barney Creek Vineyard Cottages not only ensures legal compliance but also actively addresses environmental challenges, enhances safety measures, and reinforces our dedication to responsible and sustainable management, all while preserving the natural beauty of their surroundings and offering guests an unforgettable experience.

### Fire Safety

1. **Fire and Emergency Services Act 1990 (Qld):** This act establishes the Queensland Fire and Emergency Services (QFES) as the authority responsible for fire safety and emergency management in Queensland. It empowers the QFES to make regulations related to fire safety and emergency services. It's the primary legislation governing fire safety in the state.
2. **Building Fire Safety Regulation 2017 (Qld):** This regulation outlines specific requirements for fire safety within buildings in Queensland. It includes provisions for fire safety installations, equipment, evacuation procedures, and maintenance, which would encompass fire drills, evacuation plans, and fire extinguisher maintenance.
3. **Work Health and Safety Regulation 2011 (Qld):** While primarily focusing on workplace safety, this regulation includes provisions related to fire safety and emergency plans in workplaces. Employers are required to develop and maintain evacuation plans and conduct fire drills in accordance with the regulation.
4. **Queensland Development Code (QDC) - MP 6.1 - Building Fire Safety:** The QDC outlines specific technical standards and requirements for fire safety systems and equipment in buildings in Queensland. It provides guidance on the installation, maintenance, and compliance of fire safety measures.

### Environmental Regulations

1. **Environmental Protection Act 1994 (Qld):** This act is a comprehensive piece of legislation that governs various aspects of environmental protection and management in Queensland. It sets out requirements for waste management, pollution control, and environmental impact assessment. It also empowers the Queensland Department of Environment and Science to make regulations and standards related to these matters.
2. **Waste Reduction and Recycling Act 2011 (Qld):** This act focuses specifically on waste management and recycling efforts in Queensland. It establishes requirements for waste reduction, recycling, and resource recovery, and it outlines responsibilities for waste generators and waste transporters.
3. **Environmental Protection Regulation 2019 (Qld):** This regulation provides more detailed information on various aspects of environmental protection, including waste management, emissions, and environmental impact assessment. It sets out specific requirements for waste disposal and recycling practices.
4. **Energy Efficiency and Conservation Act 2000 (Qld):** While not directly related to waste management, this act addresses energy efficiency and conservation in Queensland. It establishes a framework for improving energy efficiency in various sectors and may include requirements for certain energy efficiency measures.

5. Queensland Environmental Offsets Policy: This policy document provides guidelines for managing and mitigating environmental impacts, including waste management and conservation efforts. It may contain specific requirements related to offsetting environmental damage caused by development activities.

### Licensing and Permits (Environmental)

1. Environmental Protection Act 1994 (Qld): This act is the primary legislation governing environmental protection in Queensland. It sets out requirements for environmental impact assessment, permits, and licenses for activities that may have environmental impacts. It is likely to be the central piece of legislation for obtaining and renewing environmental permits.
2. Environmental Protection Regulation 2019 (Qld): This regulation provides more detailed guidance on various aspects of environmental protection, including permit application procedures, assessment criteria, and conditions for permits.
3. Nature Conservation Act 1992 (Qld): If your tourism operation involves activities in protected areas or areas with significant biodiversity, this act may require permits for activities that affect native wildlife, plants, or ecosystems.
4. Water Act 2000 (Qld): If your tourism operation involves water extraction or use, you may need water allocation or water use permits under this act, depending on the specifics of your activities.

### Chemical Storage

1. Work Health and Safety Act 2011 (Qld): Under this act, employers and business operators have a duty to ensure the health and safety of their workers and others by providing a safe work environment, which includes safe storage of chemicals and fuels.
2. Work Health and Safety Regulation 2011 (Qld): This regulation provides more detailed guidance on various aspects of workplace health and safety, including requirements for the safe storage of hazardous substances and dangerous goods, which encompass chemicals and fuels.
3. Australian Standard AS 2714-1993: The Storage and Handling of Hazardous Chemicals in the Workplace: This standard sets out criteria and requirements for the safe storage and handling of hazardous chemicals. Compliance with this standard is often a legal requirement.
4. Australian Standard AS 2069-1991: Fuel Containers - Portable - Plastic and Metal: This standard specifies requirements for the design and construction of portable fuel containers to ensure their safety and suitability for storing fuels.
5. Dangerous Goods Safety Management Act 2001 (Qld): This act regulates the transport and storage of dangerous goods, which may include some chemicals and fuels. It outlines requirements for the safe storage of these substances and compliance with relevant standards.
6. Environmental Protection Act 1994 (Qld): This act may apply to the storage of chemicals and fuels if they have the potential to impact the environment. It sets out requirements for the safe storage and management of hazardous materials.
7. Fire Safety Regulations: Depending on the quantity and type of chemicals and fuels stored, fire safety regulations may also apply. Fire safety standards and requirements are crucial for ensuring the safe storage of hazardous substances.

## Risk Assessment

Barney Creek Vineyard Cottages employs a comprehensive risk assessment approach to inform the selection of risk control measures. Our risk matrix serves as a valuable tool for evaluating the nature and magnitude of potential risks to human receptors (including staff, and visitors) as well as environmental receptors (encompassing flora, fauna, land, water, and ecological communities). Our risk assessment matrix (shown below) is adapted from AS/NZS 4360 and provides a structured framework for systematically evaluating the impacts of proposed work activities, ensuring the safety of individuals and the preservation of the environment. All risk assessments are then uploaded to our safe 365 program to ensure adequate documentation and record keeping.

| Risk Matrix |                | IMPACT        |          |          |          |          |          |
|-------------|----------------|---------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
|             |                | Insignificant | Minor    | Moderate | Major    | Extreme  |          |
|             |                | 1             | 2        | 3        | 4        | 5        |          |
| PROBABILITY | Rare           | 1             | Low      | Low      | Low      | Moderate | Moderate |
|             | Unlikely       | 2             | Low      | Low      | Moderate | High     | High     |
|             | Possible       | 3             | Low      | Moderate | High     | High     | Extreme  |
|             | Likely         | 4             | Low      | Moderate | High     | Extreme  | Extreme  |
|             | Almost certain | 5             | Moderate | High     | High     | Extreme  | Extreme  |

# Environmental Monitoring and Risk Assessment

## Air Quality and Emissions

Barney Creek Vineyard Cottages is committed to reducing emissions. The purpose of this control measure is to address the environmental impacts associated with potential air contamination, including fumes, vapours, aerosols, dusts, mists, particulates, smoke and odour. **This was identified as a key area of focus on our 2022 Earth Check Benchmark report.**

### Objectives:

- Minimise dusts, odours or other likely air contaminants
- Identify possible sources of air contamination and likely exposed receptors, conduct risk assessments and apply best practice techniques to eliminate or reduce their environmental impact, where applicable.
- Ensure legislated air emission standards are not exceeded.
- Minimise business generated greenhouse gas emissions.
- Continually identify options and implement actions to help reduce our carbon emissions and energy consumption.
- Use measurement tools to record our emissions and energy consumption on a quarterly basis.

### Controls:

Controls are reported in Table 1 and 2

### Monitoring and Reporting Programs for Air Quality Management:

The success of the Air Quality Management Plan will be assessed through:

- Vehicle and equipment maintenance reports
- Number of complaints
- Recorded Incidents
- Earth check benchmarking report to show improvement from year to year (Appendix 1)

### References:

Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, 1999 (EPBC Act)

Environmental Protection Act 1994 (QLD)

Office of Environmental and Heritage: (2010) PEOA (Clean Air) Regulations

Clean Air Society of Australia and New Zealand (2009): Air Quality Regulation and Odour Management in Australia and New Zealand

| Task                  | Potential Impact  | Risk Assessment |      |        |     | Controls   | Responsibility                  |
|-----------------------|---|-----------------|------|--------|-----|--|---------------------------------|
|                       |   | Extreme         | High | Medium | Low |  |                                 |
| Driving on dirt roads | Nuisance dust to residential community along roadside.<br><br>Poor vision |                 |      |        | X   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Drive to road conditions and imposed company speed limits</li> <li>✓ Drive at a reduced speed limit to minimise dust</li> <li>✓ Drive a safe distance behind vehicles in front to ensure good vision</li> </ul>   | All Staff                       |
| General Driving       | Gases into atmosphere   |                 |      |        | X   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ No unnecessary engine idling</li> <li>✓ Local exhaust systems with suitable charcoal filters to control fume emission</li> <li>✓ Conduct regular vehicle services to ensure vehicles are well maintained</li> <li>✓ Staff to be reminded of fuel-efficient driving practices</li> </ul> | All Staff                       |
| Rubbish Disposal      | Burning releasing gasses into the atmosphere                              |                 |      |        | X   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Minimise burning of green waste or other wastes</li> </ul>  | All staff                       |
| Chemical Application  | Smell of product or vapours causing human or environmental harm           |                 |      |        | X   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Use non-toxic or the least toxic (human and ecological) chemicals where possible</li> <li>✓ Use low volume spray nozzles where possible and practical</li> </ul>  | All appropriately trained staff |
| Equipment             | Equipment failing and sending exhaust in the atmosphere or causing a fire |                 |      |        | X   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Conduct regular equipment services and maintenance checks</li> <li>✓ Only operate plant and equipment within manufacturer's guidelines</li> </ul>   | All staff                       |
| General               | Breach of permits/licensing conditions                                    |                 |      |        | X   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Liaise with State Department and seek permits/licenses as required</li> <li>✓ Comply with permits/licenses and their restrictions.</li> </ul>   | All staff                       |

Table 1: Risk Assessment and Controls in relation to Air Quality Management



| Topic                    | Controls/ Actions   | Responsibility | Key Performance Indicators   |
|--------------------------|---|----------------|--|
| Renewable Energy Sources | Reduce power consumption installing solar panels on the garage                      | Management     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Cost return on investment</li> <li>✓ Energy consumption reduction</li> <li>✓ CO2 reductions – reported via app</li> </ul>                                 |
| Energy Efficiency        | Encourage air conditions to be set at the most economical temperature               | Management     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Changes in Energy Consumption</li> <li>✓ Maintenance checklist and register</li> <li>✓ Fuel efficiency in Vehicles</li> <li>✓ Fuel consumption</li> </ul> |
|                          | Signs to encourage guests to turn off air conditioners when not in cottage          | Management     |  |
|                          | Ensure all equipment is in good working order through regular services              | All staff      |  |
|                          | Consider the energy rating of new equipment to be purchased                         | Management     |  |
|                          | Set equipment on 'energy saving' mode wherever possible                             | Management     |  |
|                          | Investigate solar power options for recharging pecans batteries                     | Management     |  |
|                          | Calculate and report emissions on a quarterly basis                                 | Management     |  |
| Recycling                | Re-use waste paper wherever possible  | All Staff      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Reduction in the amount of paper purchased</li> <li>✓ Reduction in the amount of waste generated</li> </ul>   |
|                          | Compost food scraps and use on the garden   | All Staff      |  |
|                          | Use washable glasses in cellar door   | All staff      |  |
|                          | Include a preference for biodegradable cleaning products                            | Management     |  |
|                          | Purchase products in bulk packaging to reduce                                       | Management     |  |
|                          | Reduce products/ materials from around property such as old timber, where possible  | All staff      |  |
| Behaviours               | Purchase from local producers (e.g. food) were possible to minimise transport costs | Management     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Reduction in transport costs</li> <li>✓ Reduction in paper consumption</li> <li>✓ Reduction in printing costs</li> </ul>                                  |
|                          | Encourage saving on hard drives, rather than hard copies                            | Management     |  |
|                          | Use electronic mail options, rather than postal mail wherever possible              | Management     |  |
|                          | Use recycled packaging when posting wine bottles                                    | Management     |  |

|  |  |            |  |
|--|--|------------|--|
|  | Consider electronic marketing options to save on printing                            | Management |  |
|  | Email/ text invoices for accommodation and wine purchases to reduce printed receipts | Management |  |

Table 2: Emission Reduction Controls

## Noise Pollution

Barney Creek Vineyard Cottages is considered a low-medium impact business, with minimal noise and vibration generation. Loud noise may be generated by use of machinery (tractors, lawn mowers, chain saws and log splitters).

### **Objectives:**

- Minimise the impact of noise / vibration to protect the amenity of sensitive receptors, such as local residents, fellow campers/ travellers.
- Identify possible sources of noise / vibration and likely exposed receptors, conduct risk assessments and apply best practice techniques to eliminate or reduce the environmental impact of noise / vibration, where possible
- Ensure Barney Creek Vineyard Cottages is not responsible for community complaints regarding noise
- Ensure noise legislation standards are not exceeded.

### **Controls:**

Noise controls are reported in Table 3

### **Monitoring and Reporting Programs:**

The success of the Noise Management Plan will be determined through:

- Recorded Incidents
- Guest reviews
- Number of complaints

### **References:**

Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, 1999 (EPBC Act)

Environmental Protection Act 1994 (QLD)

Environmental and Heritage: (2010) PEOA (Clean Air) Regulations

| Task  | Potential Impact                             | Risk Assessment |      |        |     | Controls  | Responsibility |
|---|--|-----------------|------|--------|-----|---|----------------|
|   |  | Extreme         | High | Medium | Low |   |                |
| Machinery work, such as tractors, lawn mowers, chain saws | Nuisance<br>Environmental<br>Health & Safety |                 |      |        | X   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Machinery to be not defective and operated within manufacturer's specifications</li> <li>✓ Minimise use when guests around</li> <li>✓ Provide contact details for community concerns and liaison</li> <li>✓ Provide PPE (Hearing protectors) to staff, as required.</li> <li>✓ Ensure staff are trained and understand Noise Management Procedure</li> </ul> | Management     |
| Workshop noise (eg. changing tyre, air compressor)        | Nuisance<br>Environmental<br>Health & Safety |                 |      |        | X   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Provide contact details for community concerns and liaison</li> <li>✓ Provide PPE (Hearing protectors) to staff, as required.</li> <li>✓ Ensure staff are trained and understand Noise Management Procedure</li> </ul>   | Management     |

Table 3: Risk Assessment and Controls in relation to Noise/ Vibration Management

## Flaura and Fauna

Barney Creek Vineyard Cottages will endeavour to ensure minimal adverse impacts on local and adjoining ecosystems, in relation to terrestrial and aquatic flora and fauna resulting from work tasks and tourism activities.

Barney Creek Vineyard Cottages is committed to limiting environmental impact from the following on the land we own as a result of our actions:

- Loss of habitat and biodiversity
- Weeds or noxious species infestation
- Erosion, as a result of our activities
- Spills and leaks, as a result of our activities
- Pollution resulting from our activities

### **Objectives:**

- Encourage controls and procedures to be developed and implemented for construction activities to avoid, minimise or manage potential adverse impacts to flora and fauna within a project area.
- Improve tourist and staff understanding of the significance of local wildlife, their habitat requirements, threats and management options for their ongoing protection.

### **Controls:**

Controls are reported in Table 4

### **Monitoring and Reporting Programs**

Flora and Fauna Management Plan success will be determined through:

- Recorded Incidents
- Take up and implementation of proposed management options for the benefit of wildlife

### **References:**

Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, 1999 (EPBC Act)

Environmental Protection Act 1994 (QLD)

Conservation Act, 1999 (EPBC Act)

| Task                                 | Potential Impact   | Risk Assessment |      |        |     | Controls  | Responsibility |
|--------------------------------------|--|-----------------|------|--------|-----|---|----------------|
|                                      |  | Extreme         | High | Medium | Low |   |                |
| Visitor activities & interactions    | Disturbance<br>Loss of habitat<br>Loss of wildlife<br>Weed spread  |                 |      |        | X   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Adhere to relevant State and Federal Legislation</li> <li>✓ Educate guest on threatened or endangered flora and fauna in the area</li> <li>✓ Work closely with consultants to provide education experiences, tours etc.</li> </ul>   | All staff      |
| Interactions with Animals and Plants | Fauna bites and scratches<br>Flora stings / prickles   |                 |      |        | X   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Follow Barney Creek Vineyard Cottage's Emergency Response Plan</li> <li>✓ Native animals are not to be fed</li> <li>✓ Snake bite kit in buggy and all cottages</li> </ul>  | All staff      |
| Swimming & Canoeing                  | Disturbance of wildlife (e.g. platypus)  |                 |      |        | X   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Educate guests on the significance of native animals and plants found in creek and surround shore line and what actions visitors can take to help conserve and protect them</li> </ul>   | All staff      |
| Driving                              | Animals hit on the road either by other traffic or the tour vehicle/driver <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visitor Injury</li> <li>• Animals injured</li> </ul> |                 |      |        | X   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Wherever possible, avoid driving at night</li> <li>✓ Drive to the road conditions, for example, when wildlife is more abundant along the roadways drive slower to avoid hitting and injuring them or passengers within the vehicle.</li> <li>✓ Follow Barney Creek Vineyard Cottage's Emergency Response Plan</li> <li>✓ Ensure first aid kit within the vehicle and all products are in date</li> <li>✓ All staff to have completed First Aid Training</li> </ul> | All staff      |

Table 4: Risk Assessment and Controls in relation to Flora and Fauna Management

## Climatic Considerations

Changes in climatic consideration can affect work programs and accommodation availability. Guest and staff safety must come first in all situations.

### **Objectives:**

- Avoid, or minimise, natural disasters such as flooding and bush fires
- Ensure the safety of all human life first and foremost – everyone returns home safely

### **Controls:**

Climate risks and controls are reported in Table 5

### **Monitoring and Reporting Programs**

The success of how Barney Creek Vineyard Cottages handles changes in extreme climatic events will be gauged through:

- Incident Reports
- Guest Reviews
- Successful rescheduling of work and tours
- Damage to vehicles and equipment
- Annual review of the Emergency Response Plan

| Task                | Potential Impact  | Risk Assessment |      |        |     | Controls   | Responsibility |
|---------------------|---|-----------------|------|--------|-----|--|----------------|
|                     |   | Extreme         | High | Medium | Low |  |                |
| Rainfall and floods | <p>Work disruption</p> <p>Flooding causing damage to vehicles</p> <p>Risks associated with driving through flood water</p> <p>Damage to property</p> <p>Inaccessibility to cellar door or cottages</p> <p>Slippery walking tracks</p> <p>Injury or loss of life</p> |                 | X    |        |     | <p>✓ Regularly monitor weather patterns and conditions to predict rainfall/flood events</p> <p>✓ Contact guests to explain the risks and change the dates or cancel the tour</p> <p>✓ Refund tour guests as per the tour terms and conditions if their trip is cancelled due to poor weather conditions.</p> <p>✓ If it's flooded don't drive through it – safety of passengers and yourself first.</p> <p>✓ Ensure additional supplies in the event of an unexpected heavy rainfall event</p> <p>✓ Follow the Emergency Response Plan Procedure</p> <p>✓ Staff trained in first aid</p> | All staff      |
| Fire                | <p>Work disruption</p> <p>Damage to property, livestock and animals</p> <p>Inaccessibility to property</p> <p>Loss of human life</p>  |                 | X    |        |     | <p>✓ Regularly monitor fire maps to predict impacts on tours</p> <p>✓ Contact guests to explain the risks and change the date or cancel the tour</p> <p>✓ Refund tour guests as per the tour terms and conditions if their trip is cancelled due to poor weather conditions.</p> <p>✓ Follow the Emergency Response Plan Procedure</p>   | All staff      |



|  |                                     |  |  |  |  |   |  |
|--|-------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|---|--|
|  | Loss of wildlife and domestic stock |  |  |  |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Follow fire authority and SES instructions and evacuate, putting the safety of human life first and foremost</li> <li>✓ Keep calm and confident reassuring guests</li> <li>✓ Staff trained in first aid</li> <li>✓ Fire warden training</li> </ul> |  |
|--|-------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|---|--|

Table 5: Climate Risks and Controls

## Waste Minimisation

Barney Creek Vineyard Cottages is committed to successfully conserving natural resources and is aware of the importance of waste management and reducing waste to landfill. **This was identified as a key area of focus on our 2022 Earth Check Benchmark report.**

### Objectives:

- Ensure the overall amount of waste is kept to a minimum.
- Dispose of all waste from cottages and cellar door, either by placing the waste in the relevant bins provided or removing the waste off site and disposing of it appropriately.
- Ensure the handling, stockpiling and disposal of waste does not adversely impact the environment or community
- Ensure waste disposal complies with relevant local, State and Federal requirements

### Controls:

Waste disposal methods are detailed in the Waste Management Register below, and Waste controls are reported in Table 6.

### Monitoring and Reporting Programs

The Waste Management Plan success will be determined through:

- Recorded Incidents
- Earth check benchmarking report to show improvement from year to year (Appendix 1)

### References:

Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, 1999 (EPBC Act)

AS 3833 – 2007: The Storage and Handling of mixed classes of dangerous goods, in packages and intermediate bulk

containers

AS 3780 – 2008: The storage and handling of corrosive substances

AS 1940 – 2004: The storage and handling of flammable and combustible liquids

| Waste Management Register     |  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Waste Stream                  | Disposal Method  |
| Bottles, cans                 | Containers for change bin – collected and monies collected go towards Koala Rescue QLD |
| Vegetative waste              | Compost bin – To be used on garden/ vineyard   |
| Old homewares, linen etc      | Donated to local charities, families in need   |
| Make up, cosmetics, amenities | Recycled at Teracycle (Priceline Beaudesert)   |
| Old building materials        | Re-used when possible, such as screening, fencing etc                                  |
| General waste                 | JJ Richards bin  |

| Task                    | Potential Impact  | Risk Assessment |      |        |     | Controls  | Responsibility |
|-------------------------|---|-----------------|------|--------|-----|---|----------------|
|                         |   | Extreme         | High | Medium | Low |   |                |
| Food for cottages       | Littering<br>Wildlife consuming packaging or inappropriate food<br>Food wastage |                 |      |        | X   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Use washable plates, cups and cutlery to minimise waste.</li> <li>✓ Use recyclable/ biodegradable containers</li> <li>✓ Avoid the use of disposable containers for the transport of food</li> <li>✓ Explain the process for rubbish collection and removal and the importance of the process in guest compendium</li> <li>✓ Supply compost bins in each cottage</li> <li>✓ Remove all rubbish and dispose of appropriately</li> <li>✓ Guests to be instructed not to feed the wildlife</li> <li>✓ Give scraps to staff chooks or place in compost bin</li> <li>✓ Scraps to be disposed of daily</li> <li>✓ Avoid the use of plastic bags except for rubbish collection.</li> <li>✓ Recycle plastics and other products wherever possible.</li> <li>✓ Provide compostable coffee pods in cottages.</li> </ul> | All Staff      |
| Sewerage and grey water | Contamination<br>Water Loss<br>Inefficiency                                     |                 |      |        | X   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Ensure cottage sewerage and grey water comply with local regulations</li> <li>✓ Ensure sewerage and grey water systems are checked, as required</li> <li>✓ Ensure waste from port-a-loos is removed without contaminating surrounding environment</li> <li>✓ Use cleaning products that are septic safe</li> </ul>   | Management     |

|                |  |  |  |   |  |  |            |
|----------------|--|--|--|---|--|--|------------|
| Chemical Waste | Contamination  |  |  | X |  | <p>✓ Follow manufacturer's instructions for disposal of chemicals (Material Safety Data Sheet) along with local waste disposal facility directions</p> <p>✓ Chemicals waste will be stored in bunded areas</p> <p>✓ Refer to section – Chemical Management</p> <p>✓ Management trained on appropriate chemical storage, use and disposal.</p>  | Management |
| General Waste  | <p>Landfills overflowing</p> <p>Products not decomposing</p> <p>Contamination of areas</p> |  |  |   |  | <p>✓ Implementing the waste hierarchy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoid</li> <li>• Reuse</li> <li>• Recycle/Re-process</li> <li>• Dispose</li> </ul> <p>✓ Use of biodegradable and recycled/reprocessed substances and materials wherever possible</p> <p>✓ Reuse materials wherever possible</p> <p>✓ Development of purchasing procedures to ensure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of items with expiry dates are kept to a minimum</li> <li>• Items have minimal packaging, where possible</li> <li>• Less hazardous products selected, wherever possible</li> </ul> <p>✓ Refer to "Waste Management Register"</p> <p>✓ Provide appropriate receptacles (e.g. bins) for each waste stream. Ensure these are labelled.</p> <p>✓ Waste receptacles (e.g. bins) will not be stored in close proximity to sensitive areas such as waterways or stormwater drains.</p> <p>✓ Ensure green waste is re-processed (compost etc.), where practical</p> | Management |

|                              |                            |  |  |  |   |   |                         |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|--|--|--|---|---|-------------------------|
|                              |                            |  |  |  |   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ No Littering policy will be implemented. All litter will be picked up immediately and disposed of in appropriate receptacle</li> <li>✓ Incompatible wastes are kept separate</li> <li>✓ Waste collection will be fortnightly to ensure no adverse impacts on the environment and community (such as overfilling of receptacles and subsequent littering, odour, pests or other disturbances)</li> </ul>                |                         |
| Water                        | Water Loss                 |  |  |  | X | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Water use will be minimised with the use of aerated taps, trigger action hoses, low flow nozzles</li> <li>✓ Fix leaks as soon as practicably possible</li> <li>✓ Refer to section –Energy and Water Conservation</li> </ul>  | Management<br>All Staff |
| Wine tasting/<br>Cellar door | Excess waste from tastings |  |  |  | X | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Where possible, use glass for wine tasting</li> <li>✓ If glass is not possible (e.g. due to OLGR conditions), use biodegradable cups for tastings</li> <li>✓ Offer reuseable cup option when at events – so guests can purchase a reuseable glass to take home and receive discounted refills</li> <li>✓ POS system allows visitors to receive receipts/ invoices via text or email to reduce paper wastage</li> </ul> | Management<br>All Staff |

Table 6: Risk Assessment and Controls in relation Waste Management

## Energy and water management

Barney Creek Vineyard Cottages recognizes the critical significance of energy and water management in sustaining and preserving ecosystems. We understand that responsible management of energy resources and water conservation not only minimizes our ecological footprint but also safeguards the delicate balance of the ecosystems that surround us.

### **Objectives:**

- Minimise the impact of tourism activities on waterways.
- Encourage efficient water use.
- Encourage efficient energy use and behaviours.

### **Controls:**

Noise controls are reported in Table 7.

### **Monitoring and Reporting Programs:**

The energy and water Management Plan success will be determined through:

- Recorded Incidents
- Water Usage and Bill
- Electricity usage and Bill
- Earth check benchmarking report to show improvement from year to year (Appendix 1)

### **References:**

Environmental Protection Act 1994 (QLD)

Environmental and Heritage: (2010) PEOA (Clean Air) Regulations

ANZECC and ARMCANZ (2000) Australian and New Zealand Guidelines for Fresh and Marine Water Quality

| Task   | Potential Impact              | Risk Assessment |      |        |     | Controls  | Responsibility |
|--|-------------------------------|-----------------|------|--------|-----|---|----------------|
|  |                               | Extreme         | High | Medium | Low |   |                |
| Watering Gardens<br>Showering<br>Guest using spa baths | Excess water usage            |                 |      |        | X   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Installation of rain water tanks.</li> <li>✓ Minimise water usage on gardens and lawns (eg. water at night, use timers)</li> <li>✓ Use native water efficient plants in gardens</li> <li>✓ Fix any water leaks/ damaged guttering in a timely manner</li> <li>✓ Water saving devises in cottages (eg on showers)</li> <li>✓ Regularly check filters and change if needed.</li> </ul> | All staff      |
| Irrigation in vineyard                                 | Lowering Water table          |                 |      |        | x   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Ensure drippers and in good working condition and not blocked</li> <li>✓ Regularly check filters and change if needed.</li> </ul>  | Management     |
| Drawing water from creek                               | Reducing water level of creek |                 |      |        | X   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Adhere to relevant State and Federal Legislation regarding water licencing</li> <li>✓ Where possible, use bore water, rather than drawing from creek</li> </ul>  | All staff      |
| Cool rooms<br>Cottages/<br>Accommodation               | Excess energy consumption     |                 |      | X      |     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Installation of additional solar panels on garage</li> <li>✓ Signs asking guests to minimise air conditioner use and keep doors/ windows closed when air conditioners are on</li> <li>✓ Update insulation in cool rooms</li> <li>✓ Regularly clean air conditioner/ cool room filters</li> </ul>   | Management     |

Table 7: Risk Assessment and Controls in relation to Energy and Water Management



## Cultural Heritage

Queensland's diverse heritage contributes to our sense of place, reinforces our identity and helps define what it means to be a Queenslander. Our heritage places have been shaped by Queensland's history, environment, resources and people. They comprise places of cultural and natural significance that we want to keep, respect and pass on to future generations. Barney Creek Vineyard Cottages will endeavour to ensure minimal adverse impacts on cultural heritage from work tasks and tourism activities.

We are committed to limiting cultural impact from the following:

- Visitor Impact (e.g. dust, touching, climbing, removing)
- Vandalism

### **Objectives:**

- Work with property owners, including private landholders, indigenous groups and government bodies, to develop solutions to prevent any environmental issues and minimise environmental damage to culturally significant sites.
- Improve tourist and staff understanding of the values of our cultural heritage, threats and management options for their ongoing protection.

### **Controls:**

Controls are reported in Table 8

### **Monitoring and Reporting Programs:**

The Cultural Heritage Management Plan success will be determined through:

- Recorded Incidents

### **References:**

Traditional Owner cultural heritage is protected under the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003 (PDF) and the Torres Strait Islander Cultural Heritage Act 2003 (PDF) (the Acts).

| Type of cultural heritage         | Potential Impact                                     | Risk Assessment |      |        |     | Controls  | Responsibility |
|-----------------------------------|--|-----------------|------|--------|-----|---|----------------|
|                                   |  | Extreme         | High | Medium | Low |   |                |
| Indigenous Sites (not on site)    | Fire causing complete destruction                    |                 |      | X      |     | ✓ Within the cottage compendium and website, include information about the importance of cultural sites and what actions visitors must take to protect their integrity<br>✓ Adhere to relevant State and Federal Legislation<br>✓ Adhere to best practice | All staff      |
| Eucalyptus Stands                 | Exposure to the natural elements                     |                 |      |        |     |   |                |
| Old Buildings (Florrie's Cottage) | (e.g. wind and rain) causing accelerated degradation |                 |      |        |     |   |                |

Table 8: Risk Assessment and Controls in relation to Cultural Heritage Management

## Community Engagement

Barney Creek Vineyard Cottages values community engagement and fostering strong relationships with our neighbours and fellow local businesses. We firmly believe that the prosperity of our community is inextricably linked to our own success. As responsible members of the scenic rim, we actively participate in collaborative efforts that support the growth and well-being of the broader community. By sourcing locally, collaborating with neighbouring businesses, and contributing to local initiatives, we aim to ensure that our presence enhances the overall vitality and resilience of our community, creating a symbiotic relationship where everyone thrives together.

### **Objectives:**

- Buy from and support other local businesses.
- Contribute to local fundraising efforts or charities.

### **Controls:**

Controls are reported in Table 9

### **Monitoring and Reporting Programs:**

The success of the Chemical Management Plan success will be determined through:

- Certificate of Appreciation
- Total amount of monies raised for local charities.
- Total value of services and products donated to local charities, organisations, and events, such as wine, gift vouchers, unwanted household items.

| Task   | Potential Impact  | Risk Assessment |      |        |     | Controls   | Responsibility |
|--|---|-----------------|------|--------|-----|--|----------------|
|  |   | Extreme         | High | Medium | Low |  |                |
| Purchase product from local suppliers/ growers to sell in cellar door                  |   |                 |      |        | X   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Use preferred supplier list</li> <li>✓ Purchase local product/ food, where possible to reduce emissions of transportation</li> </ul>  | Management     |
| Donate unwanted items such as crockery/ old linen to local families in need, charities | <p>Potential hygiene risk?</p> <p>Ending up in landfill</p>   |                 |      |        | X   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Ensure all items have been properly cleaned prior to donating</li> <li>✓ Ensure the organisation/ charity is able to accept the items being donated (e.g. if they can't accept used linen, donate elsewhere)</li> </ul> | Management     |
| Donate wine to local events/ charities   | <p>Alcohol being given to person under 18 years of age</p> <p>Alcohol not being used as a prize</p> |                 |      |        | X   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Comply with OLGR regulations</li> <li>✓ Ensure the alcohol is given to a person over 18 years of age – check organisations alcohol policy</li> </ul>  | Management     |

Table 9: Risk Assessment and Controls in relation to Community Engagement

## Transportation and Travel

At Barney Creek Vineyard Cottages, we hold a deep understanding of the significance of sustainable travel. Nestled within our idyllic rural setting, we are committed to promoting environmentally responsible transportation options, given the limitations of carpooling and public transport in our remote location.

### **Objectives:**

- Promote EV charger
- Promote outdoor activities that don't require a vehicle such as hikes and bike rides

### **Controls:**

Controls are reported in Table 10

### **Monitoring and Reporting Programs:**

The success of the Chemical Management Plan success will be determined through:

- Number of guests that utilise the EV charger

| Task       | Potential Impact       | Risk Assessment |      |        |     | Controls   | Responsibility |
|------------|------------------------|-----------------|------|--------|-----|--|----------------|
|            |                        | Extreme         | High | Medium | Low |  |                |
| EV charger | Electrical malfunction |                 |      | X      |     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Hang EV charging only sign</li> <li>✓ In times of high rainfall, power off</li> <li>✓ Contact manufacturer or electrician in event of malfunction or needing repairs</li> </ul> | Management     |

Table 10: Risk Assessment and Controls in relation to Transport and Travel

## Dangerous Goods / Hazardous Substances (Chemicals)

Barney Creek Vineyard Cottages is aware of the damage that can be caused not only to sensitive ecological communities, but to birds, fish, flora and fauna in general and as such, are committed to reducing the environmental impact of chemicals that are required for work tasks.

### **Objectives:**

- Ensure that exposure standards (where relevant) are not exceeded.
- Ensure hazardous chemical are correctly stored
- Eliminate or reduce as far as possible potential environmental impacts arising from the use, transport and disposal of chemicals, including fuel and oil.

### **Controls:**

Controls are reported in Table 11

### **Monitoring and Reporting Programs:**

The success of the Chemical Management Plan success will be determined through:

- Recorded Incidents (including spill reports)
- The use of non-chemical substitutes

### **References:**

Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, 1999 (EPBC Act)  
Environmental

Protection Act 1994 (QLD)

AS 3833 – 2007: The Storage and Handling of mixed classes of dangerous goods, in packages and intermediate bulk containers

AS 3780 – 2008: The storage and handling of corrosive substances

AS 1940 – 2004: The storage and handling of flammable and combustible liquids

| Task  | Potential Impact  | Risk Assessment |      |        |     | Controls  | Responsibility |
|---|---|-----------------|------|--------|-----|---|----------------|
|   |   | Extreme         | High | Medium | Low |   |                |
| All Chemicals & Fuel.<br>For example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unleaded Petrol</li> <li>• Diesel</li> <li>• Oils</li> <li>• Portable Toilets</li> <li>• Septic tank</li> <li>• Weed Spray</li> <li>• Herbicides and other chemicals</li> <li>• Paints</li> <li>• Cleaning Agents</li> <li>• Detergents</li> </ul> | Highly Flammable<br><br>Toxic to aquatic organisms<br><br>Can cause long- term adverse effects to aquatic environment<br><br>Harmful if inhaled, ingested.<br><br>Irritating to eyes and skin<br><br>Carcinogenic Oil / Fuel<br><br>Spills contaminating soil |                 |      | X      |     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Use non-toxic or the least toxic (human and ecological) chemicals where possible</li> <li>✓ Use low volume spray nozzles where possible and practical</li> <li>✓ Provide adequate PPE and resourcing such as:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spill containment and bunding equipment</li> <li>• Water re-containment equipment</li> <li>• Protective covers and /or screens</li> <li>• Suitable storage areas and containers</li> <li>• Suitable transport vehicles, containers and loading/unloading procedures and equipment</li> </ul> </li> <li>✓ Ensure only minimal volumes ordered as required</li> <li>✓ Minimise the use of bulk storages, where possible</li> <li>✓ Obtain Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) and other relevant ecological data for any chemicals used (copy in office and garage)</li> <li>✓ Ensure correct disposal, including collection of run-off, waste water from clean-up as required</li> <li>✓ Ensure conditions are safe to use (i.e. do not use spays in high winds or close proximity to waterways or storm water drains, etc.)</li> <li>✓ Have spill Kits available</li> <li>✓ Ensure access to suitable fire extinguishing equipment</li> <li>✓ No storage or refuelling close to waterways</li> </ul> | All staff      |



|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
|  |  |  |  |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Use and discard chemical containers according to their label and Local Authority instructions</li> <li>✓ Ensure adequate ventilation when refueling.</li> <li>✓ Maintain visual observation and smell detection for leaking chemical</li> <li>✓ Consider earthing for liquid transfer to prevent sparks</li> <li>✓ No ignition sources within 6m of storage or refuelling</li> <li>✓ Ensure containers closed</li> <li>✓ Do not allow hazardous chemical to enter drains, storm water drains, rivers, waterways etc.</li> </ul> |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|

Table 11: Assessment and Controls in relation to Chemicals Management

## Emergency Preparedness

At Barney Creek Vineyard Cottages, we take our commitment to emergency preparedness seriously. We prioritize the safety and well-being of our guests and employees, which is why we collaborate with specialist consultants to develop our emergency response procedures, ensure regulatory compliance, and provide comprehensive training. For further information, into our approach to emergency preparedness, please refer to **Barney Creek Vineyard Cottages' Health and Safety Management System**.

## Environmental Monitoring and Continuous Improvement

### Earth check Benchmarking Report (Appendix 1)

Our first crucial step in the implementation of our Environmental Management Plan is to initiate benchmarking using the EarthCheck program. Developed over a ten-year period by the Australian Government's Sustainable Tourism Cooperative Research Centre (STCRC), EarthCheck stands as a testament to the collaborative efforts of the Australian tourism industry and 17 University research centers across the nation. With a commitment to sustainability, EarthCheck offers a comprehensive science and software platform that is continually updated and maintained by the EarthCheck Research Institute, aligning with international reporting standards. Renowned as the leading science-based certification standard globally for the tourism and travel industry, EarthCheck empowers us to systematically track our progress, ensuring transparency and accountability in our environmental initiatives.

### Strive 4 sustainability Score Card

Recognizing that an Environmental Management Plan is a dynamic and continuously evolving document, we are dedicated to its ongoing enhancement. To effectively track our progress and guide our future sustainability efforts, Barney Creek Vineyard Cottages has made a firm commitment to participate in the Strive 4 Sustainability Scorecard initiative, administered by Ecotourism Australia. This comprehensive scorecard serves as a valuable tool, evaluating our position on the sustainability continuum at any given moment and appraising our performance across the following crucial sustainability pillars:

1. Environmental Impacts
2. Socio-Economic Impacts
3. Cultural Impacts
4. Sustainable Management

By actively engaging with this initiative, we aim to not only gauge our sustainability achievements but also set a strategic course for continuous improvement in these vital areas. Each year the score

card results will be added to our EMP and Safe 365 program so that we can monitor our progress in this area.

### Eco Tourism Certification

As we persist in refining and enhancing our sustainability practices, our ultimate goal is to attain eco-tourism certification recognized by industry leaders such as Google, Booking.com, and QTIC accreditation.

## Records

Barney Creek Vineyard Cottages utilizes Safe365 to ensure ISO compliance, streamlining record-keeping processes for easy accessibility. The records maintained encompass various aspects, including:

- risk assessments
- incident reports,
  - chemical spray logs
  - preferred supplier list
  - cleaning checklists
  - staff training and development
  - contractor details including public liability, SWMS, risk assessment and qualifications

## Roles and Responsibilities

Successfully managing environmental impacts relies on commitment, consultation and cooperation. Everyone needs to understand the need for mitigation controls, what their role is in reducing environmental impacts, and how they can fulfil their responsibilities and duties.

Barney Creek Vineyard Cottages allocates the following responsibilities:

### **Director/ Owner**

- Approval of EMP's and environmental protection policies
- Communication of EMP and policies
- Leadership
- Allocating sufficient resources
- Reviewing performance
- Providing direction for increasing performance
- Establishing and promoting an environmentally aware culture

### **Management:**

- Integration of environmental considerations into all decision making
- Consult with relevant workers and contractors
- Planning, developing, implementing, monitoring and reviewing EMP and environmental policies and programs
- Control risks
- Communication in relation to environmental plans, policies, programs
- Identify training needs and enable training as required
- Reporting and recording
- Meet legislative requirements

### **All relevant workers:**

- Comply with EMP, environmental policies, procedures and programs
- Work in a manner that does not create unnecessary risks to the environment
- Report and assist to rectify hazards/non-conformances
- Participate in consultative arrangements

## Training and Education

Training is vital to assist relevant workers to perform their work. Barney Creek Vineyard Cottages will arrange training which covers environmental impacts related to tasks being performed, as well as training in the overall approach to environmental protection taken by our organisation.

### **Objective**

To provide training to all relevant workers and contractors to ensure they have the skills and Competencies for work in a manner that does not create unnecessary risks to the environment.

We will do this by:

- Conducting training needs analysis across the organisation
- Developing formal training needs and competencies for position requirements at all levels, including management.
- Develops a training schedule to manage the training needs and frequency of training
- Provide formal induction programs for new and relevant workers and contractors
- Use Registered Training Organisations (RTO) and appropriately accredited and approved courses/trainers, where appropriate
- Ensure training is competency based, where appropriate
- Record all training
- Review the effectiveness of training
- Have all employees participate in safety inductions
- Have an induction and mentoring process for new staff.

Training will include:

- All environmental policies, EMP and procedures for the organisation
- Licenses and competencies to perform tasks
- Specific hazards risk controls
- Consultation and communication arrangements
- Corrective actions and non-conformances
- Emergency Response (spill containment etc.)
- Reporting

All managers and supervisors will be provided with additional training to ensure that they are aware of their responsibilities under the EMP and environmental management systems. This training includes legislative responsibilities for managers and supervisors.

## Customer Awareness/ Tourist Education

A common theme within the controls listed throughout this Environmental Management

Plan is the aim to improve visitors' and staff understanding and appreciation of (i) the natural and culturally significant environments within our areas of operation, (ii) potential impacts causing risks to these environments and (iii) actions they can take to mitigate their impact.

We achieve this through integrating these themes into our check in information, guest compendium, and general conversations. We also regularly:

- Share social media posts with interesting information about the natural wonders of our region
- Work closely with Fish Master Marvelous to coordinate school and community groups (NDIS based) to share knowledge and interest of the regions natural features and wildlife that live here.

## Glossary

**Act:** A law (legislation) passed and enacted by a state or territory parliament, also commonly known as an Act of Parliament. Acts are the principal pieces of law covering, in this case, environmental protection.

**Bunding:** A retaining system designed to contain the contents of a tank or chemical storage in the event of a rupture/spill or leak

**Eco-footprint:** The amount of productive land appropriated on average by each person (in the world, a country, etc.) for food, water, transport, housing, waste management, and other purposes

**Green Waste:** Biodegradable waste that can be composed of garden or park waste, such as grass or flower cuttings and hedge trimmings, as well as domestic and commercial food waste.

**Hazard:** A hazard is a source or a situation with a potential for harm in terms of human injury or illness, damage to property, damage to the environment, or a combination of these

**Safety Data Sheet (SDS):** Information containing data regarding the properties and effects of a particular substance that must be provided, by the manufacturer, supplier or importer of the hazardous substance/dangerous goods. SDS must be current – within 5 years of the issue date and meet specific legislated format requirements

**Particulates:** Fine liquid or solid particles, such as dust, smoke, mist, fumes or smog, found in air or emissions.

**Regulations:** Regulations are law that is created under the authority of an Act. Regulations are subordinate to an Act and are the secondary level of law covering, in this case, environmental protection.

**Risk:** Risk is a combination of the likelihood and consequences of any incident or impact occurring.



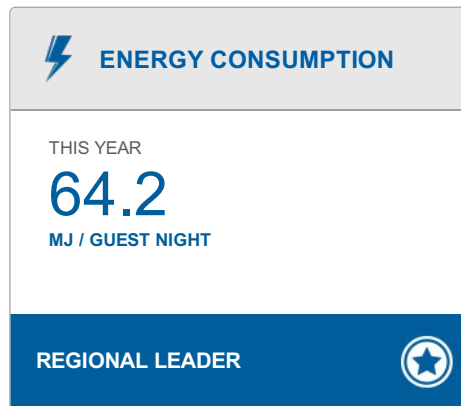
EARTHCHECK

# BARNEY CREEK VINEYARD COTTAGES

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2022

### SUCCESSSES





## AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT


 **WASTE SENT TO LANDFILL**

THIS YEAR  
**46.8**  
L / GUEST NIGHT

**BELOW AVERAGE** 

**CO<sub>2</sub>** **GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS (SCOPE 1 AND SCOPE 2)**

THIS YEAR  
**8.3**  
KG CO<sub>2</sub>-E / GUEST NIGHT

**BELOW AVERAGE** 

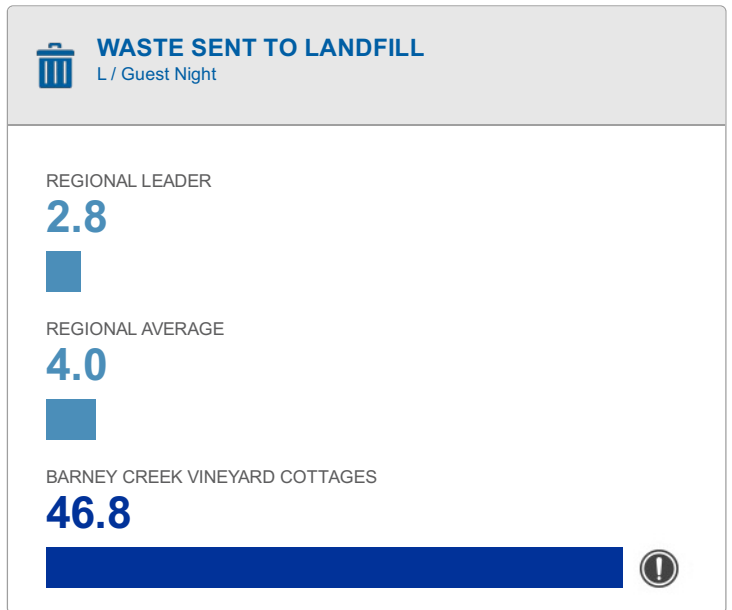
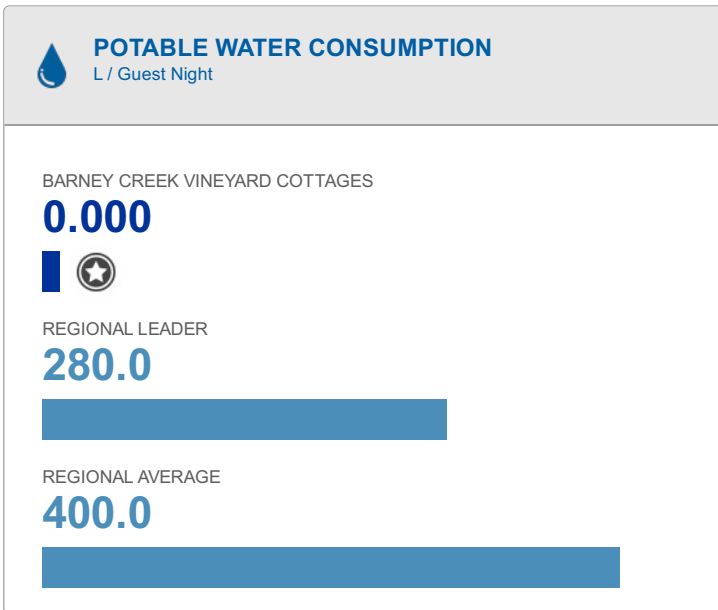
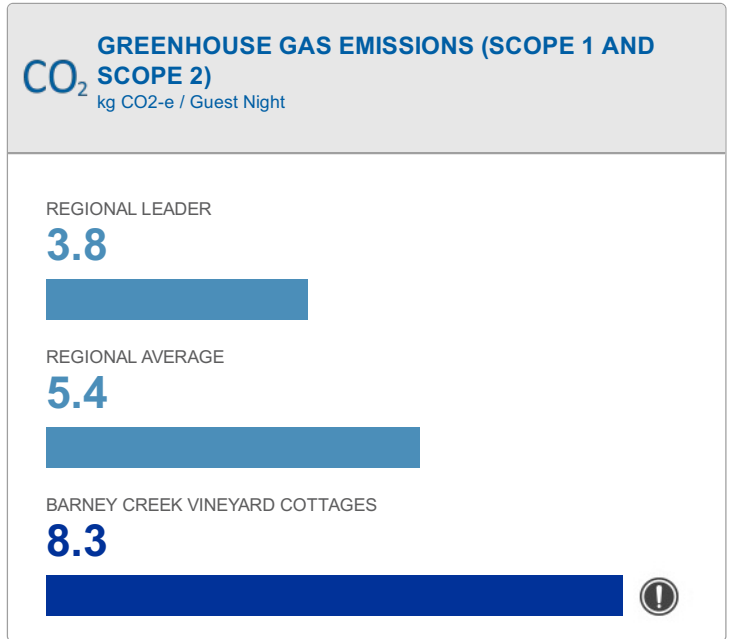
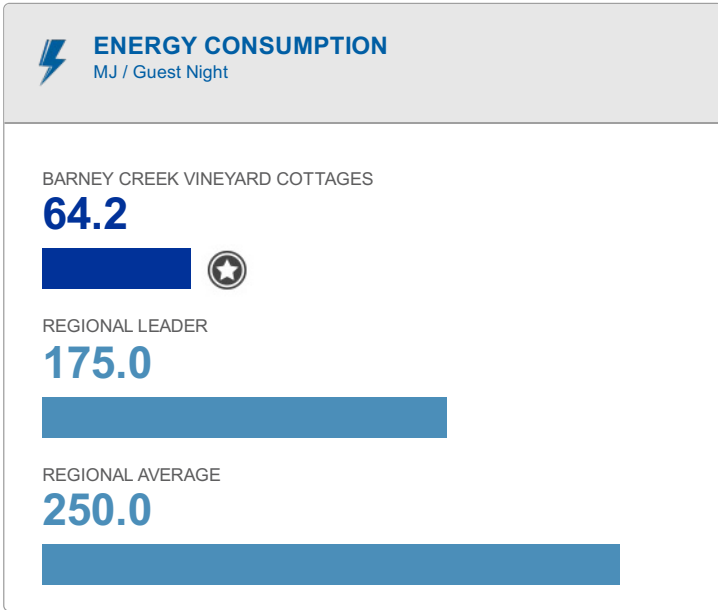
 **WASTE RECYCLING RATING**

THIS YEAR  

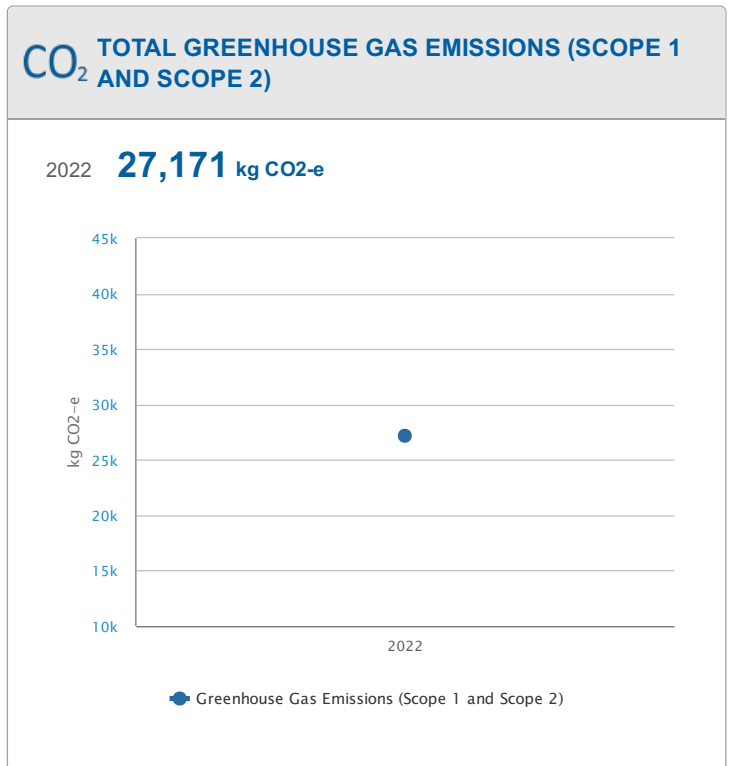
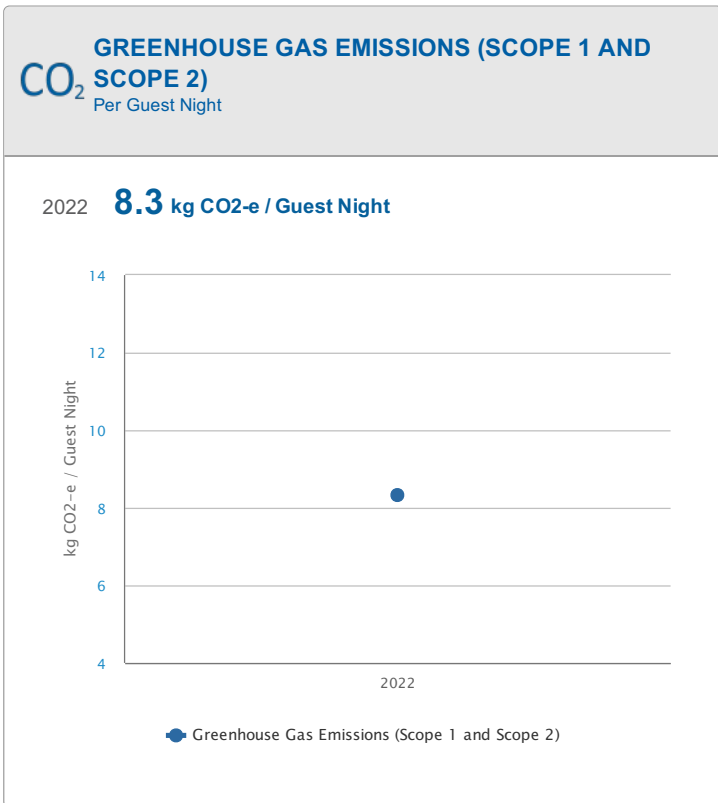
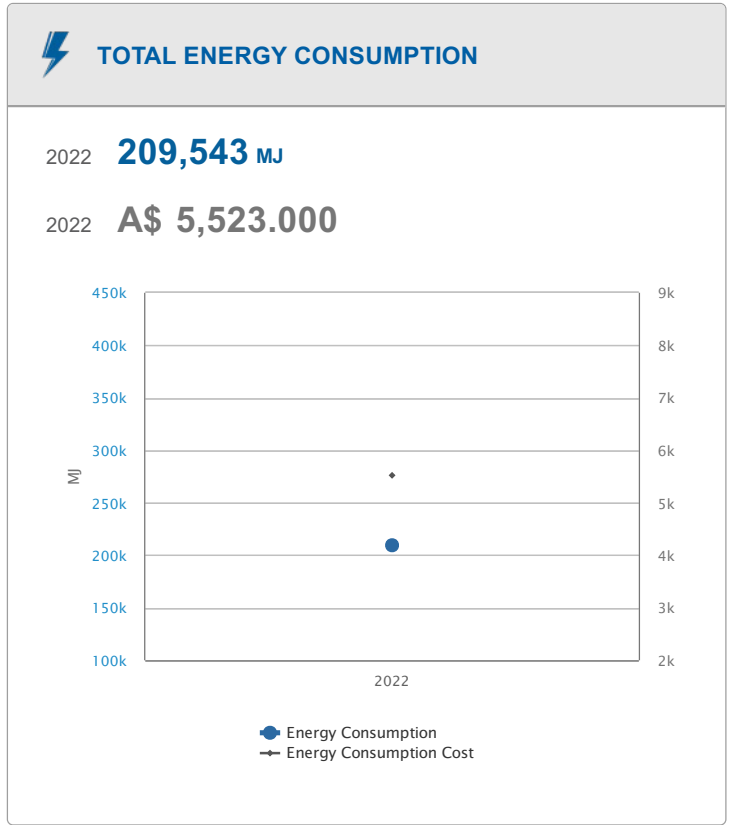
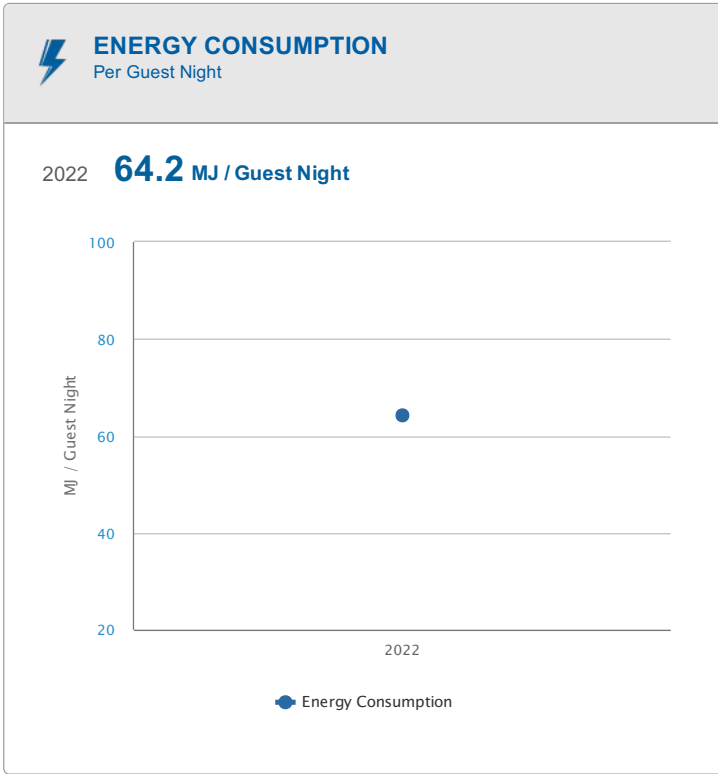

**BELOW AVERAGE** 

# HOW YOU COMPARE TO YOUR COMPETITORS

 REGIONAL LEADER    
  ABOVE AVERAGE    
  BELOW AVERAGE



# YOUR PROGRESS

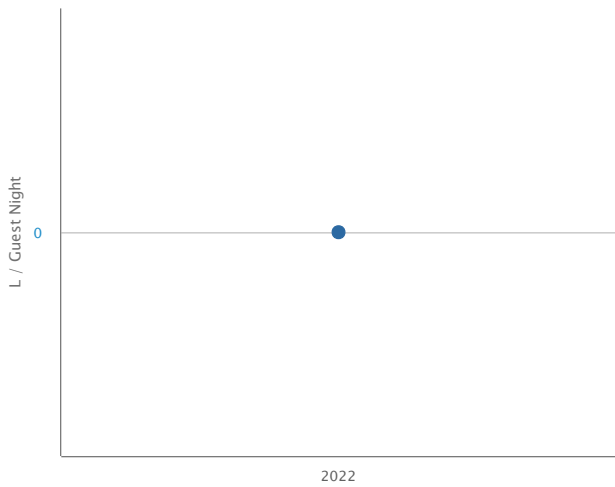




### POTABLE WATER CONSUMPTION

Per Guest Night

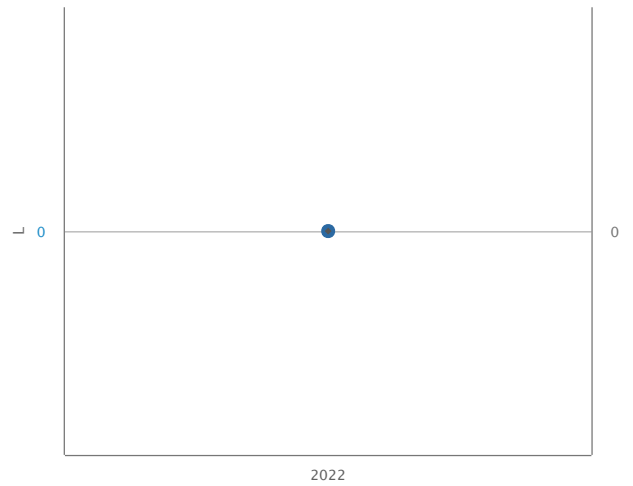
2022 **0.000** L / Guest Night



### TOTAL POTABLE WATER CONSUMPTION

2022 **0** L

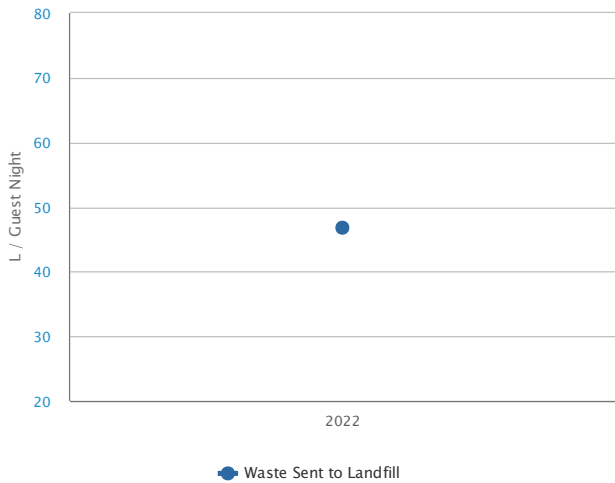
2022 **No costs entered**



### WASTE SENT TO LANDFILL

Per Guest Night

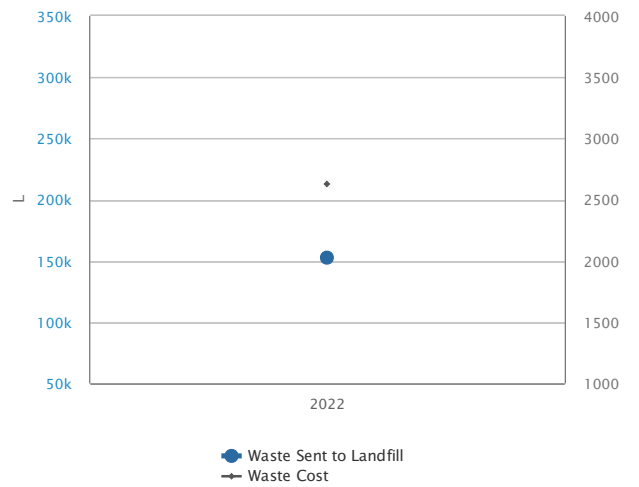
2022 **46.8** L / Guest Night



### TOTAL WASTE SENT TO LANDFILL

2022 **152,667** L

2022 **A\$ 2,628.000**



## EXPLORE YOUR PERFORMANCE

More information about your performance including trends and breakdowns can be found in MyEarthCheck.

# RECOMMENDED ACTIONS



## WASTE SENT TO LANDFILL

1. DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT WASTE MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES.
2. DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT WASTE RECYCLING AND REUSE STRATEGIES.
3. INVESTIGATE THE POSSIBILITY OF DISPOSING SOLID WASTE TO A KNOWN AND MANAGED LANDFILL SITE.
4. REDUCING WASTE TO LANDFILL FACTSHEET
5. IF YOU WOULD LIKE PERSONALISED ADVICE ON WASTE MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES, PLEASE CONTACT EARTHCHECK.

## CO<sub>2</sub> GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS (SCOPE 1 AND SCOPE 2)

1. ADOPT A COMMITMENT TO THE REDUCTION OF GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS BY REDUCING YOUR ENERGY CONSUMPTION.
2. AIM TO REDUCE AND/OR CEASE THE RELEASE OF OZONE DEPLETING SUBSTANCES, PARTICULARLY REFRIGERENT GASES FROM OLDER REFRIGERATION AND AIR CONDITIONING SYSTEMS TO THE ATMOSPHERE.
3. IMPLEMENT A PROGRAM TO OFFSET THE CARBON GENERATED IN GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS THROUGH CARBON SEQUESTRATION BY, FOR EXAMPLE, FOREST PLANTING.
4. ENERGY & EMISSIONS FACTSHEET
5. VOLUNTARY CARBON OFFSETTING FACTSHEET
6. IF YOU WOULD LIKE PERSONALISED ADVICE ON GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSION MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES, PLEASE CONTACT EARTHCHECK.



## WASTE RECYCLING RATING

1. DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT WASTE MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES.
2. DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT WASTE RECYCLING AND REUSE STRATEGIES.
3. REDUCING WASTE TO LANDFILL FACTSHEET
4. IF YOU WOULD LIKE PERSONALISED ADVICE ON WASTE MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES, PLEASE CONTACT EARTHCHECK.