



You may be asking yourself, what on earth is ecotourism? Ecotourism was first defined in 1990 as "responsible travel ____ (1) natural areas that conserves the environment in its natural states and improves the well-being of the local people". This is a far cry away ____ (2) the old slogans of the 1960's that only focussed on financial gain. It can also be known as green travel, responsible travel or sustainable travel. The main idea behind ecotourism or the ethos if you prefer is, "travelling more sustainably makes the world ____ (3) better place". The idea behind this type of travel is simple to everyone, but the confusion comes in when we look at practical ways of achieving ____ (4), we can refer to the best methods as "take only pictures, leave only footprints" approach, in which the general idea is to leave places without a trace of us ever having been there in the first place. Travel experts stress ____ (5) over time you will realise that you don't need to spend an arm and a leg to achieve this type of travel, you can become an eco-friendly traveller on a shoestring as long as you follow a few simple rules, such as: save water, save energy ____ (6) respect others including the natural wildlife. Better than that, eco-tourism looks to inject much needed funds into the local areas to stimulate financial growth and sustainable development of facilities. Individually we can hardly make a difference, but collectively we can make great leaps towards changing attitudes and ____ (7) a real impact that will be both long lasting and feasible. This said, we need to start off at an individual level for any of this to be achieved. ____ (8) is why we need to start the education process at a grass roots level and make sure we build for a better and brighter future.