



Hotel since 1907 · Switzerland

# BELVEDERE

GRINDELWALD

## THE HOTEL BELVEDERE ENVIRONMENTAL BROCHURE

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Dear guest,

A warm welcome to one of the most beautiful corners of the Earth! Enjoy our spectacular mountains and the unique landscape which are tended with care by alpine farmers and landscape gardeners alike. Cattle, goats and sheep still graze in our valley.

Not so long ago, our glaciers reached down to the valley, and up to only a few years ago the Upper Grindelwald Glacier could still be admired from our hotel. Sadly, this is no longer the case.

The culprit is global warming, produced by excessively high carbon emissions from cars, heating systems and industry. Unfortunately, this means we may soon face the challenging prospect of natural disasters. Other problems caused by today's modern world include environmental pollution and the depletion of resources.

Here in Grindelwald we live in a wonderful natural paradise, and because we want to keep it that way for future generations, we are committed to the ecological measures which are outlined in this brochure.

This environmental brochure was produced here in Grindelwald using Swiss wood and genuine cowhide.

## **TOILETRIES**

In the past, we have had to throw away tonnes of barely-used bars of soap and many other complementary toiletries, resulting in a mountain of unnecessary waste that then had to be recycled.

We have therefore opted not to provide individually packaged toiletries in hotel bathrooms. The liquid soap above basins can be used to wash hands or the body, and the liquid soap by the bathtub is suitable for showering and shampooing.

If you have forgotten or lost anything, please contact the reception desk, which will gladly provide toiletry items free of charge (if available). For example, we can provide: soap, shower gel, toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo, conditioner, nail files, razors etc.

## **WASTE**

The following measures help us to minimise waste:

- ✓ Kitchen waste is sent to a pig farm. A biogas plant will soon be opened in Interlaken for recycling garden and kitchen waste.
- ✓ Paper and cardboard, as well as metal and glass, are separately collected for recycling. Lots of bottles are returned to the supplier for recycling. Batteries, chemicals and other hazardous waste are taken to special recycling depots.
- ✓ Needless to say, as elsewhere in Switzerland, our waste water is transported to a water treatment plant, while clean water (rainwater) flows through separate channels directly into the river.
- ✓ Wherever possible, food is purchased in bulk rather than in portions.

## **ENERGY**

Our aim is to maximise energy savings, be as self-sufficient as possible when it comes to power generation, and purchase "green" energy.

To do this we have adopted the following measures:

- ✓ Every time renovations are carried out, we install new windows and doors with better insulation. Heat leaks are identified using heat cameras and are sealed off. A central switch in hotel rooms helps to save energy. A new generation of mini bars consumes only a fraction of the electricity needed by their predecessors. Modern installations in the hotel kitchen use up significantly less power.
- ✓ Guests can decide themselves how often they need a change of towels. This way we save on washing powder and water, which in turn reduces the strain on the environment.
- ✓ Heat recovery systems use residual heat rather than letting it go to waste. For example, for years the warm water from refrigeration motors has been used to heat the indoor pool, and the warm air from the indoor pool and other premises is used to heat cold incoming fresh air.
- ✓ Heat pumps: Water from a subterranean stream near the hotel, at a depth of 10 meters and a temperature of 9.2° C, is fed to heat pumps. The energy generated in the process is used to heat the outdoor saltwater jacuzzi and the indoor pool. It also covers part of our hot water supplies and is used to heat air for ventilation. Soon, water cooled by the heat pumps will be used to produce cool air for the air conditioning system, replacing the existing motors that guzzle an enormous amount of energy.
- ✓ In the near future, the Belvedere will be heated by the Grindelwald wood-fired heating system and will no longer run on oil.
- ✓ Solar energy: Specialists are conducting studies to determine the extent to which we can make use of solar energy, whether for generating heat or power.

## **SOURCING**

In keeping with our commitment to home-grown produce, many of our dairy and meat products come from our own region. Fish is purchased from sustainable sources. As a general rule, we always check the origin of the goods and the production method.

Wherever possible, we use biodegradable cleaning products.

Energy efficiency is a key criterion whenever we purchase new machinery and equipment.

## **GRINDELWALD RESPECTS NATURE**

Grindelwald is currently building a wood-fired heat/power cogeneration plant which will run on waste wood from sawmills and construction sites as well as storm-felled wood from our forests. The idea was put forward by hotelier groups. From summer 2011, the wood-fired plant will be running at its full capacity of 6000 kilowatts, enabling annual savings of 1.6 million tonnes of heating oil and 4300 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>.

In summer 2009, Grindelwald and its neighbouring municipalities of Lauterbrunnen, Lütschental and Gündlischwand signed a climate charter for voluntary climate protection, to conserve the region's habitat and economic viability.

In this context, the "Jungfrau Climate Guide", consisting of seven climate trails designed by the University of Berne, was inaugurated on Climate Day. Using a GPS iPhone, visitors can walk these hiking trails and learn all about climate change.



Help us to take care  
of our environment!

Thank you very much  
Family Hauser & hosts