



ANNUAL CLIMATE PROGRESS REPORT 2021- 2022

The results are in! Find out how we reduced our carbon footprint, what we did well and what challenged us the most. Plus the takeaways which will inform our direction for 2022/23.

Reporting period: 1st June 2021 to 31st May 2022.

When Covid-19 hit we used that moment to comprehensively rethink our business strategy, with environmental impact at the forefront of everything we did. Now, in the very first instance, every problem is viewed through an environmental lens.

This report evaluates our actions in reducing carbon and waste across our business and how we are working collectively to reduce the impact of our company.

Carbon Footprint Analysis 2021/22

In 2021 we identified our key carbon sources and created detailed estimates of emissions. These findings provided a framework which enabled us to make changes to reduce carbon across the entire business.

In May 2022, we achieved our first full year of carbon reporting with accurate figures for our carbon emissions over the last year. Here's how we did in reducing emissions across our key areas:

	Emissions June 2021 – May 22
Gas, heating, oil, firewood	69.1 tonnes
Electricity	10.3 tonnes
Owned vehicles	0.3 tonnes
Water supply and treatment	0.8 tonnes
Business travel	2.6 tonnes
Catering	18 tonnes
Total	101 tonnes

Carbon Removal

Where we haven't been able to reduce our emissions we are investing in carbon reduction projects with GoodPlanet Foundation to absorb or remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. Although the calculation of our carbon emissions is used as an indication in this calculation, we do not claim that this process "cancels out", "offsets" or "neutralizes" our company's own emissions. By helping to finance these projects our intention is to contribute to global carbon neutrality. This keeps our primary focus and creativity on reducing and eliminating our own carbon emissions as a constant top priority.



Our 2021-22 Pledges Evaluated

1. Expand our fleet of electric vehicles

We have reduced emissions by purchasing an extra electric vehicle, and now use a Skoda Enyaq and Renault Kangoo ZE for food deliveries and general staff transport around the resort.

Our guest driver service presented a bigger challenge. Firstly this was due to the high expense of electric minibuses, but we tackled this by creating a co-operative of businesses in the valley which sought to purchase 8-seater minibuses to transport people around the resort. Unfortunately the bigger problem has been the global supply chain of electric minibuses, we've found it impossible to get our hands on the large electric vehicles that we need for this system to work. This is an ongoing challenge.

2. Ensure our chalets are powered by renewable energy.

A success: all of our chalets are powered by electricity from 100% renewable energy and we have worked with chalet owners to install heating systems based on renewable energy, such as air source heat pumps. We will only take on new chalets which are powered by renewable energy or who's owners are willing to switch immediately.

3. Measure waste across the business and set targets to reduce waste and divert from landfills and incinerators.

Food waste

We upscaled our composting efforts, and introduced four 240 litre Bokashi bins so that all food waste from our central kitchen and chalets can be processed via this method. Other food waste goes to feed our chickens which contributes to our permaculture gardening efforts. This strategy means that we now have ZERO food waste!

All other waste

By weighing our waste we created accurate calculations of how much waste our business produces, broken down by general waste, recyclable waste (tin, plastics and cardboard) and glass waste. This has been a learning curve and we needed to modify our strategy mid-winter.

After a 3 month of hosts measuring waste daily from our chalets, we realised we needed a better system and created a highly accurate data sample across two weeks in March 2022, where every single piece of waste from our catered chalets (and central kitchen) was measured. This allowed us to work out the average waste per guest per night. We then calculated the total number of guest nights for the winter season and this allowed us to accurately calculate the total waste for the winter for our catered chalets.

The waste generated by our self catered chalets is a tiny fraction of our catered chalets and our approach here has been very similar except that we measure waste based on the number of bookings rather than the number of guest nights.

We have partnered with Nu Cycle and over the course of this summer we will be investing with them in a series of projects that will offset our waste so that we will be waste neutral later this year. We implemented this waste weighing after implanting our composting initiative but estimate that we have reduced our waste



by 50% in the last year. We will continue to find ways to reduce plastic and dirty waste that can't be recycled.

4. Further reduce the quantity of animal products on our menu and ensure that those we do include have a minimal impact on the environment and meet the highest animal welfare standards.

We've decreased the amount of meat served by reducing the portion sizes of meat on the plate and increasing the quantities of plants on the plate. For some events, such as our seasonal retreats we have a completely plant based menu.

We buy local, free range meat wherever possible and ensure our suppliers have official animal welfare credits.

5. Reduce emissions linked to air-travel. Help guests find alternative options and provide incentives for guests who choose train over plane.

AliKats has contributed to the AlpinExpress Pass – a campaign to reward and incentivise those who travel to Morzine by train with a range of discounts across accommodation, transfers, ski hire, restaurants and more.

We support Montagne Verte in its mission to establish a commercial train line between Lille and the Northern-Alps. Originally the plan was to charter a train, but the pandemic, and changes with SNCF have delayed this. This project is on-going.

6. Audit key areas of the business based on the 2021 annual carbon report to identify further ways to cut emissions.

As well as our work on waste and carbon reduction, a key focus has been to work closely with supplies and partners to help reduce the overall impact of our holidays. For example, working with our local butcher and vegetable supplier to reduce plastic packaging on our deliveries.

7. Identify credible climate companies and schemes to work with to off-set our carbon emissions based on the core areas we have identified.

Although we have used our exact emission figures as the basis for calculating the financing we provide towards carbon and waste reduction projects (see below), since writing this pledge we have realised our terminology on carbon offsetting could be misleading.

Our intention is not to formally 'carbon offset' in order to claim carbon neutrality or carbon positivity*. Our focus is to methodically and creatively strive for further CO2 reduction within our company and supply chain.

We are contributing to waste and CO2 reduction on a global scale by helping to fund the following credible climate organisations and projects:

Foundation GoodPlanet – a non profit organisation running the following environmental and social field projects:

- Access to renewable and sustainable energy - The construction and monitoring of biodigesters, solar cookers and improved stoves in Asia, Africa and Latin America. Insufficient access to clean energy causes 4 million deaths each year from indoor air pollution caused by the use of fossil fuels. (WHO, 2019). Read more about these important **projects here**.



- Household waste recovery – supports the introduction of units to recycle household waste into compost in developing countries in order to turn waste into a useful resource. The household waste recovery programme has helped fight environmental pollution, as well as damage to human health and living conditions for the populations of 4 African cities: Mahajanga, Lomé, Dschang, and Bouaké, through the Africompost project.

Nu Cycle – This summer we invested with them in a series of projects that will offset our waste. The Nu Cycle system is designed to remove waste from the places where it actually ends up – landfills, waterways, and the ocean. Nu Cycle is utilising a decentralised network of waste conversion partner technologies that take in different kinds of waste and produce something of value. This is the waste-to-value process. Read more [here](#).

8. Communicate the progress of our climate initiatives and ensure our plans are evolving continuously based on learning and sharing

To communicate our climate initiatives we:

- Created a new sustainability hub on our website outlining the key areas of our approach
- Produced and released a series of short videos and blog posts, including ‘how to compost without attracting rats’, ‘what is zero waste’ and ‘The chicken cycle: The benefit of gardening with chooks’.

Check out our Stories, found under ‘Sustainability’ on our Instagram account to see the videos.

9. Celebrate the green wins of partners and friends in the travel and mountain sports sector through our Green Conversations blog series.

Although we didn’t quite get the full series off the ground we did interview our new partners, Eco Ski on their brilliant work in helping skiers find sustainable solutions to sourcing, repairing and purchasing ski clothing. A 2022/23 goal is to share more inspiring stories from individuals and organisations doing amazing work to protect our planet and combat climate change.

10. Join over 250 travel organisations, companies and professionals to declare a climate emergency as part of the Tourism Declare Movement to accelerate the decarbonisation of the travel and tourism industry.

We declared, we implemented and we shared – as is evident in the results of this very report. The work is of course never done and so we continue with a refreshed Climate Action Plan and new pledges for 2023.

11. As founding members of the Conseil D’Administration, continue to champion the work of Montagne Verte, a non-profit association to develop solutions for the region of Morzine to reduce its environmental impact

We are proud to be supporting Montagne Verte and the AlpinExpress which is a collective incentive scheme to increase train travel to the area.



Conclusion

Much of this past year has been about establishing accurate environmental measurement and accounting systems. This process has been painstaking at times but has set us in good stead for creating robust sustainability processes.

We have implemented an environmental accounting system which is set to improve over the course of 2022 with a monthly environmental accounting process. This means when each invoice hits our books, we account for it both financially and environmentally at the same time so that we have an up-to-date picture of our progress at any point in time.

This is a big achievement which will allow us to continue to measure and evaluate our impact. As much as possible we will reduce the carbon emissions we are responsible for, and as much as possible that of our customers, suppliers and partners.

Our waste management processes have seen us reach zero food waste, and through continuing to measure our waste we intend to find ways to reduce plastics and dirty waste (that which can not be recycled) further.

In the year ahead, whilst maintaining an eye firmly on our carbon plan, we will also turn our attention to social sustainability: staff working environments, roles and creating a more sustainable work ethic. As a company originally founded on the seasonal operation of skiing, we are transitioning to a year-round business with permanent staff and a year-round operation. This has both environmental and social benefits, and is important is our mission to be a company with purpose and not solely seeking profit.

We welcome any suggestions, questions or thoughts on this report, please get in touch via info@alikats.eu.

Notes

*This positioning follows the Net Zero Initiative (a framework for collective carbon neutrality created by a high level scientific council and presented by Carbone 4)