



SUNSET AT THE AUBERGE MAUNA LANI'S EVA PARKER WOODS COTTAGE IN KAMUELA, HAWAII.

# Eco-Conscious Travel

Even those who regularly traverse the globe are making an effort to tread more lightly. A few commonsense strategies can make that quest a bit easier. By Sarah Rowland

When it comes to travel, one of the most important eco-conscious decisions you can make is also the most basic one: How do I get there? Increasingly, that means a process that doesn't involve a runway.

With "flight shaming" on the rise in Sweden, the country's 10 busiest airports even saw a more than 5 percent drop in travel last summer, compared to 2018.

Of course, for farther-flung destinations, flying may be the only viable option. But for the determined traveler, more eco-conscious choices abound. For example, KLM, United, and Qantas all use aviation biofuel to reduce emissions. Tiffany Misrahi, vice president of policy for the World Travel & Tourism Council, recommends taking direct flights, flying economy over business, and choosing airports that produce less pollution, like Dallas/Fort Worth, the world's largest carbon-neutral airport. It's also worth investigating alternative methods of getting around, from *tuk tuks* in Bangkok to bicycles in Amsterdam to high-speed trains in Japan. The Eurostar from London to Paris produces 90 percent fewer greenhouse gas emissions than a flight between the two cities.

Choosing to forgo planes can have cultural benefits, too: Train travel reveals the true nature of a place, as author Monisha Rajesh explores in her book *Around the World in 80 Trains*. "Trains burrow deep into the guts of a city, laying bare its bones," she says. "They bring us into close proximity with a cross-section of society that would otherwise be impossible to

find. Chatting with fellow travelers [uncovers] far more detail about a city's history, culture, restaurants, and sights than any guidebook could offer." Via her globe-crossing rail journeys, she's seen how the travel industry is evolving. "Climate change is one of the most frightening realities of our time, and we owe it to the planet and future generations to adjust our carbon footprint," she says.

The destination can be just as crucial as the journey when traveling consciously. Where possible, choose lodging with a minimal-impact approach to its local ecosystem. Look for initiatives such as solar-powered electricity, rainwater harvesting, composting, and on-site recycling. "The greatest impact you'll have as a traveler is in the hotels and experience providers you choose, so search for companies who take a position on these issues and make sure they have sustainability certifications," says Brian Jones, cofounder of Kin Travel, a company that advocates for eco-conscious global travel by working with conservation leaders and local changemakers. "Travel is one of the most powerful economic and cultural forces in the world. At its best, it fuels local economies and protects the ecological and cultural heritage that we travel to experience. But with equal power, it can also degrade ecosystems and communities," Jones says.

While eco-friendly travel may require putting in a bit more work at the outset, Misrahi says, it's "only because [we're] changing the ways we're used to doing things. Once we're accustomed to more sustainable methods, that will become the new normal."

AUBERGE MAUNA LANI (4); COURTESY OF THE MAUNA LANI AUBERGE RESORTS COLLECTION; NAYARA TENTED CAMP (2); AND SIWASH LAKE WILDERNESS RESORT (2); COURTESY OF THE VENUES; REMAINING IMAGES: COURTESY OF THE DESIGNERS; FOR DETAILS, SEE SHOPPING GUIDE.



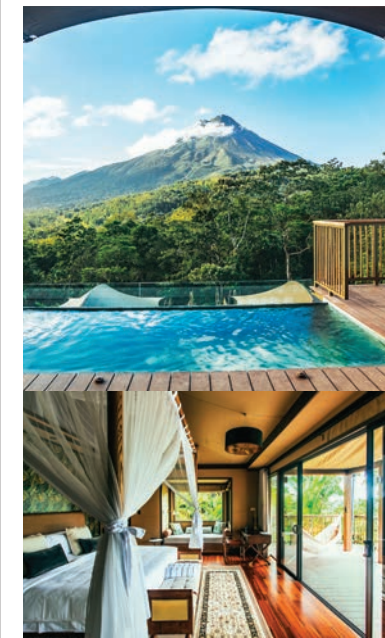
AUBERGE MAUNA LANI, KAMUELA, HAWAII

In search of a more authentic Hawaii? The Auberge Mauna Lani offers lessons in coconut-frond weaving, lei making, and outrigger canoeing while embracing seasonality and sustainability in its restaurants and guest rooms, which place an emphasis on locally sourced ingredients and materials.

RESERVATIONS AT THE AUBERGE MAUNA LANI START AT \$499 PER ROOM PER NIGHT (IN LOW SEASON); AUBERGERESORTS.COM/MAUNALANI.

NAYARA TENTED CAMP, ARENAL VOLCANO NATIONAL PARK, LA PALMA, COSTA RICA

Nestled in a scenic rain forest within a national park, Nayara aims to bring the outdoors in with its open-air vibe and eco-friendly tents complete with stunning views. New to Nayara: 1,000 guarumo trees, planted to help foster a sanctuary for the local sloth population.



RESERVATIONS AT NAYARA TENTED CAMP START AT \$900 PER TENT PER NIGHT (IN LOW SEASON); NAYARATENTEDCAMP.COM.



SIWASH LAKE WILDERNESS RESORT, THOMPSON-NICOLA, BRITISH COLUMBIA

Minimize your carbon footprint and travel back to a simpler time at this small, family-owned guest ranch, which offers horseback riding and fly fishing (alongside a skilled angler, naturally). Choose to stay in the main house or family-size "Cariboo" Suite—or glamp under the stars.

RESERVATIONS AT THE SIWASH LAKE WILDERNESS RESORT ARE \$1,510 (ALL-INCLUSIVE) PER ADULT PER NIGHT; SIWASHLAKE.COM.

## PACKING LIST



TOTE BAG, ALTUZARRA, \$995, ALTUZARRA.COM



MOONDUST COLLECTION HAIR WASH, OWA HAIRCARE, \$29, OWAHAIRCARE.COM



NECKLACE, PASCALE MONVOISIN, \$877, TWIST ONLINE.COM



RING, TAMARA COMOLLI, TAMARA COMOLLI, PALM BEACH, FL



SANDAL, STELLA MCCARTNEY, \$395, SHOPBOP.COM



GOOD NIGHT TINCTURE, PRISMATIC PLANTS, \$70, PRISMATICPLANTS.COM



BIKINI TOP, \$120, BOTTOM, \$140, BONDI BORN, NET-A-PORTER.COM



SUNGLASSES, MAX MARA, \$280, MAX MARA, NYC