

Hotel Insights

Hotel Insights

Your Gateway to the Ever-Evolving World of Hospitality!

📅 Weekly newsletter



Whatley Manor has been recognised as the UK's first climate positive hotel.

January 18, 2024

[Whatley Manor Hotel and Spa](#) has been recognised as the industry's leading sustainable hotel after becoming the first hotel and spa in the UK to be Climate Positive.

The milestone accomplishment by Whatley Manor Hotel and Spa is a direct outcome of the establishment's partnership with It Must be NOW, underscoring its commitment to offset more emissions than it generates. In a strategic move, Whatley Manor invested in the Cookstove Project in

Kenya and procured Gold Standard-certified carbon credits, effectively neutralising its 1778 tonnes of CO2 emissions in 2022 and achieving Climate Positive status.

This achievement is deeply embedded in Whatley Manor's sustainability strategy, initiated in February 2019. Collaborating with NOW Transforming Hospitality GmbH and EarthCheck, the hotel adopted a science-based approach to measure, benchmark, audit, and certify its sustainability efforts. The comprehensive strategy aims to build capacity, report sustainability actions transparently, and garner stakeholder support, all while avoiding accusations of greenwashing.

Over a five-year period, Whatley Manor diligently worked towards maximising reductions in Scope 1, 2, and 3 carbon emissions, culminating in the prestigious EarthCheck Silver Certification in September 2022. Subsequently, the hotel joined the NOW Climate Positive Programme, leveraging extensive support and participating in high-integrity climate action projects.



Aquarias Spa at Whatley Manor

Christian Landolt, the owner of Whatley Manor Hotel, emphasised the establishment's commitment to environmental responsibility, asserting that luxury should not compromise the environment.

Landolt expressed pride in becoming the first Climate Positive hotel in the UK, attributing the achievement to the team's unwavering **dedication to** making a positive impact on the planet while ensuring an exceptional guest experience.

Despite these notable accomplishments, Landolt acknowledged that there is more work to be done. The commitment to achieving Climate Positive status each year remains at the forefront, ensuring ongoing responsibility for more than the current emissions, with a deep respect for nature, people, and the planet.

Outgoing General Manager Sue Williams played a pivotal role in spearheading the sustainability initiatives, and her successor, Michele Mella, is equally enthusiastic about carrying forward this legacy. "Being a responsible corporate citizen is very important to Whatley Manor as sustainability and our social impact is something we strongly advocate and support. This accreditation recognises our digital sustainability leadership by not only taking measures to reduce the carbon footprint of our website and using green energy to power the website. As part of the criteria, website's carbon footprint each year is taken accountability for, through insetting or offsetting as a last resort through high-integrity, science-backed Gold Standard or Verified Carbon Standard projects.

In conclusion, Whatley Manor Hotel and Spa's recent recognition as the UK's first Climate Positive hotel exemplifies a remarkable commitment to sustainability and environmental responsibility. The achievement, rooted in a comprehensive sustainability strategy and strategic partnerships, reflects the hotel's dedication to offsetting more emissions than it generates. Owner Christian Landolt's emphasis on the importance of maintaining environmental responsibility in luxury establishments sets a commendable standard for the industry.