



The TRIANGLE Internship Programme – Your opportunity to enhance your sustainability performance!

Economic viability, resource efficiency, social equity, cultural richness, visitor fulfillment – Are you interested in making your business or destination more sustainable and fit for the future? The TRIANGLE Internship Programme can support you in this process.

The TRIANGLE Internship Programme trains students from different European countries to become experts in sustainable tourism certification and auditing techniques at national and European levels and to apply the acquired knowledge in practice. Within their placements, either at a tourism business or in a destination management organisation (DMO), the interns will conduct a sustainability auditing exercise in order to assess the status quo of your sustainability performance and develop it further based on a selected certification scheme of your choice. The exercise will be carried out according to your specific needs and may range from simply implementing a self-check to assess the compliance with a selected standard to preparing and/or taking you through an entire certification process. The internship may last from six weeks at minimum to six months at maximum.

The Internship Programme is offered as part of the European project “Tourism Research, Innovation And Next Generation Learning Experience (TRIANGLE)” that is creating a knowledge alliance of higher education institutions (universities) and businesses across Europe, delivering a sustainable tourism training system for tourism destinations and their SMEs. It is implemented by a consortium composed of leading European universities – Eberswalde University for Sustainable Development (Germany), MODUL University Vienna (Austria), University Paris Panthéon-Sorbonne (France) and University of Algarve (Portugal) – as well as the ECOTRANS Network for Sustainable Tourism and Forum Anders Reisen, an association of German tour operators and their businesses partners around Europe.

What are the benefits of your participation in the programme?

- Pre-audit of your business/DMO
- Assessment of audit results and outline of conclusions and recommendations
- Improvement programme to pass the certification requirements
- Documentation of the auditing process (e.g. audit reports etc.)
- Optional: Official audit and certification
- Internship report
- Becoming a member of the TRIANGLE business network and visibility on the TRIANGLE online platform as an “internship partner”

Which certification programmes are involved?

Prior to their actual internship the students will take a training course at a selected certification programme which will enable them to finally undertake a target-orientated audit in practice at your business or DMO. It is up to you to decide which of the cooperating certification programmes is best suited for your business or destination.

Please see the following table listing the certification organizations that have confirmed their participation in the project:

Label	Certification System	Accommodation	Destination	Operating Countries
	Biosphere Responsible Tourism	X		Throughout Europe
	Green Destinations		X	Throughout Europe
	Green Key	X		Throughout Europe
	Green Sign	X		Germany, France
	Österreichisches Umweltzeichen	X		Austria
	Tourcert	X	X	Throughout Europe
	Viabono	X		Germany

How does the programme actually work?

The internship programme provides two types of placements mainly related to the length of the interns' stay with your business/DMO: The **TRIANGLE Internship** and the **“University Internship”**.

As a minimum requirement the interns have to accomplish a six week internship on site based on commonly defined tasks (TRIANGLE Internship). This TRIANGLE Internship may be extended into the “University Internship”, which relates to particular requirements for internships of the participating universities, such as a certain duration or as content-related demands (e.g. writing a report). In any case an individual work plan for the students will be developed jointly with you according to your needs.

All students are enrolled in a (sustainable) tourism Bachelor or Master course at one of the partner universities of the TRIANGLE project. Therefore it is primarily offered to students from Germany, Austria, France and Portugal, but may be opened to further countries in the course of the project. The interns will be supervised by their “home university” and financially supported by the TRIANGLE project to cover their travel and subsistence costs during the first six weeks of the internship. Thus, you do not have to pay them in addition, unless you wish to do so.

The allocation of the internships is coordinated by Eberswalde University. A pool of internship openings and a pool of potential interns will be established and matched with each other. Eberswalde University will suggest a selected number of internship positions to each student, based on qualification and language skills. The students then apply themselves to the proposed positions. You will have the final decision which student you wish to select. The contracts will be concluded between the intern, the university at which the intern is registered and yourself, the internship partner.

What are the preconditions of your participation?

- You must be one of the following:
 - **Tourism business:** Outbound tour operator, incoming agency, accommodation provider or a company offering tourism activities, such as cycling, hiking, wildlife watching tours, etc.
 - **Destination management organisation** (this includes protected area administrations)
- You are interested in sustainable tourism certification
- Your business or DMO is preferably located in one of the project partner countries (Germany, Austria, France or Portugal). Other countries are possible if you have a business relation with a forum anders reisen member
- You already have business relations to the international tourism market
- Preferably be able to communicate in English (even though we give preference to interns that speak their host's language)

What are your responsibilities?

- You select a sustainable tourism certification scheme that suits your situation and interests
- You appoint a person in charge of supervising and supporting the intern
- You choose and host an intern for a minimum of 6 weeks up to a maximum of 6 months
 - You introduce the intern to your business/DMO and provide him or her with a work space
 - You provide access to relevant data for a pre-audit and support the intern with regard to translation issues. All information will be treated as internal and will not be published if you wish so
 - You provide a letter of recommendation for the intern after successful completion of the internship

Do you have any further questions?

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