

Introduction Gastronomy

Socio-cultural responsibility in food travel

Socio-cultural responsibility in food travel means the appreciation of locality and local food, in particular. Promoting locally produced ingredients, preserving local cooking habits, and emphasizing the characteristics of the local food culture all contribute to regional and cultural vitality; they are often also precisely what the food traveler expects from their travel destination. Sociocultural responsibility also involves both local and global social impact. Locally, a company can, for example, sponsor training, early childhood education, or sports clubs and improve living conditions by employing people and investing in the local area (Visit Finland e-material).

The importance of food-telling

Food can play a strategic role to attract tourists and make them experience the uniqueness of a territory. Promoting authentic cuisine is not just creating a traditional menu based on local, quality products and cooking techniques and handing the list of dishes to the tourist. Telling the story of food can increase awareness and interest about quality, sustainability, nutritional value, tradition and culture of food. You can follow this link to have an overview of the kind of information that can enrich the experience and accompany the tourist to a more in-depth contact with the local culture and habits.

Here is a [handbook](#).

SUSTAINABLE GASTRONOMY day

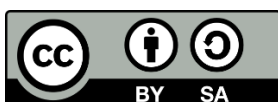
The UN General Assembly designated 18 June as an international observance, Sustainable Gastronomy Day. The decision acknowledges gastronomy as a cultural expression related to the natural and cultural diversity of the world. Sustainable gastronomy - celebrating seasonal ingredients and producers, preserving wildlife as well as our culinary traditions - is today more relevant than ever.

BIODIVERSITY

Agricultural biodiversity encompasses all wild and domesticated forms of life found on farms, from plant varieties and breeds of animals, to soil organisms, pests and pollinators. Biodiversity is the key indicator of the health of an ecosystem. A wide variety of species will cope better with threats than a limited number of them in large populations. Even if certain species are affected by pollution, climate change or human activities, the ecosystem as a whole may adapt and survive. But the extinction of a species may have unforeseen impacts, sometimes snowballing into the destruction of entire ecosystems.

ORGANIC PRODUCTION

Organic farming is an agricultural method that aims to produce food using natural substances and processes. This means that organic farming tends to have a limited environmental impact as it encourages responsible use of energy and natural resources, maintenance of biodiversity, preservation of regional ecological balances, enhancement of soil fertility and maintenance of water quality. Organic farming rules encourage a high standard of animal welfare and require farmers to meet the specific behavioural needs of animals.



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Geographical indications and quality schemes

Geographical indications establish intellectual property rights for specific products, whose qualities are specifically linked to the area of production. Geographical indications comprise:



PDO – protected designation of origin (food and wine)

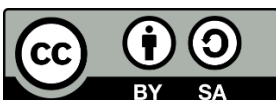


PGI – protected geographical indication (food and wine)

GI – geographical indication (spirit drinks)



TSG - Traditional speciality guaranteed



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