

# Ayla Travel

## Our commitment to sustainable tourism

### 1. Fair remuneration

We are committed to pay our staff and partners according to the official local rates. You might think this goes without saying, but in reality it very often doesn't happen this way. There is a new method becoming more and more commonplace of not paying any salary to the drivers and guides. In exchange, they are allowed to earn their income by receiving commissions from shops and restaurants and from tips.

As a result, the criteria for the choice of shops and restaurants will be the drivers/guides profit and not your best interest. We refuse to participate in such unscrupulous practices.

### 2. Partnerships with local initiatives and cooperatives

In our tours we include visits of local initiatives and handcraft cooperatives. Some perpetuate ancestral workmanship, other provide work to remote areas or disadvantaged populations. Sometimes a combination of all the above...

If you wish to buy souvenirs, your guide will bring you to local handcraft cooperatives where the money spent contributes directly to the well-being of the community.

It is the same with our choice of restaurants. We prefer small local restaurants, tested beforehand, where you can eat local food and are in contact with the population. We do not stop at "tourist factories" where the quality is mediocre and prices high.

### 3. Crossroad of civilizations

In a region so abundant with ethnic variety it is important to meet with as many local constituents as possible.

This helps getting a better perception of the local issues and displays a genuine picture, without sectarian distortions.

### 4. Nature preservation

Our footprints are the only thing we leave behind us.

Whenever possible, we avoid the use of excessively polluting vehicles to reach our hiking trails. For the picnic lunches we prefer local fresh products and do not use disposable tableware.

