

SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAM



Lohja Lake Travels (later: LLT) is committed to **socio-cultural, ecological, and economical sustainability**. This sustainability program presents our key efforts and practices in providing our service as sustainably as possible.

LLT is a division of *Finska Skärgårdskompaniet Oy Ab* with the area of function at **Lake Lohja** (Lohjanjärvi). Within our mother company, *Finska Skärgårdskompaniet Oy Ab*, we have also been running operations at the Finnish Gulf with our branch *Bodö Venetaxi.com* since 2021.

Venetaxi.com was Sustainability certified by Good Travel Seal and Sustainable Travel Finland (STF) in 2021 as the first taxi boat operator in Finland ever. We continue to build LLT's Sustainability Program on this legacy of Sustainability planning and implementation history with great pride, but very aware of the fact that much still needs to be done.

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This Sustainability Program has been planned by *Kristian Meurman* and is revised yearly.

1. First things first: SWOT analysis

Strengths	We already have several years of Sustainability experience through (Bodö) Venetaxi.com which is a part of our mother company Finska Skärgårdskompaniet Oy Ab.
Weaknesses	Our biggest weakness is the core of our operations: fossil fuel burning engines. It is of utmost importance to minimize the effects of carbon emissions, not only by compensating them.
Opportunities	We have the possibility to be the first taxi boat operator in Finland with a Sustainability Certificate and 100 % Carbon neutral operations, that operates both on a lake and at the sea. Our company already achieved status as the first environmentally internationally certified taxi boat operator in Finland.
Threats	According to earlier experiences, the Sustainability of our operations is not considered that important by customers. Therefore, it is important to keep Sustainability issues visible in our communications. Rome wasn't built in one day.

2. Our Sustainability Program in a Nutshell

Our Sustainability Program is based on the three pillars of Sustainability:

Environmental Sustainability

Social Sustainability

Economic Sustainability

Lohja Lake Travels is as a part of Finska Skärgårdskompaniet Oy Ab seeking for certification within the **Green Destinations / Good Travel Seal (GTS)**. The aim is also to renew the certification of (Bodö) Venetaxi.com in coming years.

We also strive to meet the criteria for the **Sustainable Travel Finland (STF)** certification.

Both these goals have already previously been achieved through our branch *Venetaxi.com*, but these certifications are now already obsolete. Our goal is now to have our entire operations certified by GTS and STF by the end of 2026.

Environmental Sustainability

Although we due to necessity are forced to use fossil carburants in our vessel, we do our best in minimizing the impact of this. We use the following methods to minimize our carbon footprint:

- Maintenance is done regularly and thoroughly to ensure clean burning process in the engine
- We use high octane fuel to ensure best possible power ratio in comparison with the amount fuel used
- Non-carburant fluids used are whenever possible chosen from non-fossil sources even when they are more expensive
- We try to avoid unnecessary idle use of the engine as well as cold starting whenever avoidable
- We plan our routes to be as fuel saving as possible without diminishing the importance of the experience of travelling
- All our equipment is subject to lifespan planning and used to the end of the life cycle – we don't buy new equipment before we have gained maximum benefit from already existing equipment and ensured full life cycle operation without safety risks due to wear
- When the equipment reaches the end of its full life cycle, we recycle all parts that are reusable
- All trash is sorted before discarding and we choose compostable materials whenever possible
- We compensate up to 50 % of our total emissions (see below)

Compensating 50 % of all our carbon emissions

We compensate our emissions by planting carbon sinks in Finland in cooperation with Ilmastoapu Oy.

Ilmastoapu plants pine trees in disused peat marshes as long-term carbon sinks. In addition to planting trees, Ilmastoapu also commits to sustainable forestry in the planted areas. All carbon sinks are founded in mainland Finland. Therefore, we create the carbon sink in the area where the emissions are born and endorse compensation based local carbon neutrality to its fullest possible extent.

Our carbon emissions are calculated in accordance with Point AB's report from 2021 to the Swedish Transport Authority (Transportstyrelsen) about emissions of motorboats in Sweden, because to date it is the only large-scale investigation carried out in the Nordic countries. Both our nature and our conditions differ from for instance Mid- or South European areas; therefore, it is important to use as local a study as possible.

Our vessel's figures are calculated based on values presented in the report: *Kartläggning av avgasutsläpp från svenska fritidsbåtar* (Investigation of emissions from Swedish hobby boats"; report unfortunately available only in Swedish).

Emission and compensation calculation for M/v Lysti

Fuel consumption		~ 7 l / h *
CO2 emissions		~ 3 103 g / h **
Operating hours		50 h ***
Total emissions	50 x 3,1 =	155 tn

COMPENSATION CALCULATION

Total emissions		155 tn
Compensation 50 %		77,5 tn
Cost per tree (VAT 0 %)		4,39 €
Total binding capacity per tree (life cycle total)		0,6 tn
Total compensation, trees	130 x 0,6 tn =	78 tn
TOTAL COMPENSATION PRICE	130 x 4,39 € =	570,70 €

Notice: Carbon Compensation is planned to be conducted four times a year during high season according to the schedule below:

COMPENSATION I/III	07/2025	190,23 €
COMPENSATION II/III	08/2025	190,23 €
COMPENSATION III/III	09/2025	190,23 €

* Average consumption estimate after overhaul

** Source for calculations:

Lagerqvist, Svensson & Löfvenberg. (2021). *Kartläggning av avgasutsläpp från svenska fritidsbåtar*. Point AB by commission of the Swedish Transport Authority. Published: 2021-01-21. [Accessed: 2022-04-28]

*** Estimate based on market analysis conducted in 2024

Social sustainability

Our areas of function are not only beautiful surroundings, but they are also the home of many inhabitants. We strive to respect the privacy of the lake area inhabitants and refrain from disturbing the serenity of the archipelago and the lake. When we choose our partners, we prefer to go local, even when it is not the most cost-effective solution.

Everyone is welcome onboard our vessels. We do not discriminate anyone. As we unfortunately cannot provide accessible services, we strive to be clear about this in our marketing. We constantly work to find ways to be more inclusive.

We welcome travellers of all sexual, gender, religious, ethnic and other minorities. We are happy to provide services for people with disadvantages/disabilities and are sorry that full accessibility due to the nature of our operations unfortunately cannot be provided.

In our choice of partners, we only endorse service providers that follow the same ethical principles as we do.

For this reason, we do not buy any products or services from Russian owned/operated companies, including fuels.

However, Russian and Russian speaking customers are always welcome to use our services (with the exception of persons placed under European Union enforced sanctions).

Economical sustainability

We maximize the profit from our assets. We do not buy any new possessions except when it is necessary. Our budget is well planned, and cost effectivity is a key virtue for all our functions. We strive to be profitable, but not at any cost.

Our most important resource is people, and we take care of our co-workers, both long-term and part-time employees. We do not employ new staff unless there is a well-meditated decision behind the process.

We do however provide the possibility for non-skilled people to participate in internships and learning-by-doing projects. Everyone who works for us, including interns or young people getting acquainted with work will be compensated when working for us.

As we value nature and do our best to be as ecologically sustainable as possible, we compensate for our total emissions with up to 30 % and a whole 100 % of our tour operation emissions. We strive to sustainably grow and scale the amount of carbon compensation in accordance with our incomes. Our long-term goal is to have an economy strong enough to allow for full carbon neutrality in all our functions.

3. Certification and Assessment of our Sustainability Program

Criteria for the Good Travel Seal Assessment

Lohja Lake Travels will apply for assessment for its Sustainability Program in compliance with the Good Travel Program's / Green Destination's Good Travel Seal (GTS) certification.

Our Sustainability Program in detail has been based on the GTS assessment scorecard.

We strive to meet the GTS criteria at Level 3 by **100 percent**.

4. Meeting the Criteria

The level of Sustainability is assessed on a daily basis, being an instrumental part of our daily routines.

Our small and versatile organisation can easily convert non-efficient practices to better ones, and we are also constantly keeping a close ear to customer response and ongoing development within sustainability work on both local, and global scale – not just within our own industry.

Below is a detailed presentation of our practices for meeting the GTS qualification demands.

Food & Products

1.1 Responsible offer

We buy local whenever possible. If there are options that are eco-friendly and/or fair trade, we select these options when they meet our quality standards. We endorse local restaurants and other service providers and recommend their services to our customers.

At the Lake Lohja this includes local restaurants, such as Lauttaravintola Kaljaasi and UrBar, local handicraft producers at Puu Anttila and local catering operators.

1.2 Environmentally preferable purchasing

We strive to use non-fossil lubricants whenever possible. This includes using synthetic or synthetic-based oils in our engines. We purchase our assets mainly from local entrepreneurs and favour national operators over multinational companies. Our banking system is based on a local co-operative owned bank (OP Uusimaa). We use a local, privately owned and operated accounting service (Memeri Oy). Our electronic banking and accounting system (Fennoa) is made by a Finnish company Fennoa Oy.

1.3 Efficient purchasing

We do not offer our customers complimentary water bottles or food items. We only buy goods when we need them.

1.4 Responsible food on offer

We do not cater food ourselves but recommend our customers to use the services of our partners who offer vegan, vegetarian, gluten- and dairy-free as well as other options suitable for people with special dietary restrictions.

1.5 Info on responsible food

We recommend that our customers opt for the food and beverage service provider options that we know to serve local, fairtrade, vegan and organic food.

1.6. Reducing meat consumption

We recommend local fish and fresh produce and are happy to guide our customers to these services. We cooperate with local fishermen and other producers who cater at the Lohja Market during summer months. Fresh meat is mostly not sold at all at the Lohja Market.

1.7 Local art & craftwork

We organize lake tours to the sculptures close to Pottenperi rocks and in the Karnainen pass. Our logos and other marketing materials are made by local artists and designers, and we use the services of local photographers to document our functions. We cooperate with local wellbeing therapy service provider Hoitohuone Lumikello for our welfare cruises.

Caring for People

2.1 Legal compliance

Upon our company's registration to the National Business Registry, our compliance with national and EU legislation was measured by an Attorney-at-law at the Finnish Patent and Registry Office. Our financial status was revised by a legislated auditor, Stream Audit Oy. We have full insurance coverage of our operations at OP-Pohjola insurance company. In addition, we offer extensive non-mandatory insurance coverage to personnel, including extra pension benefit program.

2.2 Responsible social contribution

We urge our partners to participate in Sustainability-driven actions and lead with example. We compensate for our emissions locally, instead of just buying emission vouchers from international actors.

2.3 Community services

In the case of disruption in community services either in our own or a neighbouring area, we participate in supporting the normalization of the situation with all means possible. This can include for instance providing transportation for technicians over water masses at sea, in the archipelago or at the Lake Lohja. Our ATV in Lohja is also always available for help when necessary.

2.4 Local livelihoods

Outside our own properties and areas that we handle, we only operate in areas that are open to public and even then, with special care to the environment. We do not cross private areas unless we have an explicit permission to do so. When necessary, we use specific areas for mooring and/or anchoring to ensure that we do not negatively effect traffic.

2.5 Involuntary resettlement

None of our actions or operations have any impact on the population since we do not acquire, expand or control any properties of our own. At the shore of Lake Lohja we have a mooring space and harbour area that we lease from a local farming community.

2.6 Guests hosted by resident

We do not host any overnight guests. We direct our customers with need for accommodation services to local service providers, such as Gasthaus Lohja, Lohja Spa & Resort and locally owned and operated cabin rental services.

2.7 Local ownership

Our company is 100 % owned by our President & CEO, who also is the only permanent employee.

2.8 Local entrepreneurs

Our most important partners are locally owned and operated. We endorse local artist-entrepreneurs and craftsmen. We employ local guides to present the areas of interest. We cooperate with local Escape game service providers, wellness therapist, catering services and artist-entrepreneurs.

2.9 Destination engagement

We plan and manage our own sustainable tourism services. Sustainability is reached through several efforts, including 50 % compensation of our total emissions. We prefer existing and historical sites over new builds, for example: our walking tours at Liessaari island and coffee breaks by open fire at Kaurassaari island.

2.10 Destination engagement

We only arrange tours for small groups to ensure the carrying capacity of the nature destination we visit. Group size maximum capacities vary between 1 and 12. We do not visit any nature preservation areas and refrain from passing close to bird hatching sites between April and August. We do not cater visits to areas with especially vulnerable nature.

2.11 Local student internships

We welcome students in relevant study programmes to apply for internships. All our interns are compensated for their work, even when compensation is not demanded by the interns' educational facility or according to law.

2.12 Ensure health & safety

We have separate safety rules for our vessels. The vessels are inspected and insured in accordance with maritime safety laws and regulations. There are more life vests on our vessel than its capacity demands to ensure we can provide people in need outside our own group with life vests. Our vessel captains have necessary training and certification to be in command of the vessel and in the circumstances where the vessel is operating. We have internal rules for weather precautions to be taken into account and pre-defined limits for weather conditions under which operation is not possible ensuring safety.

Our health safety regulations state that no customer contact is allowed when a member of personnel is suspected to have a medical condition that is easily transferrable, i.e. COVID-19 or other infectious diseases.

We offer full medical services to all employees in accordance with national legislation.

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2.13 Safe location

Our base in Lohja is next to our President & CEO's home and is guarded with 2 guard dogs 24/7 and motion sensor activated lighting. The area is only accessible through a private road, which has a branch to the beachfront that is not accessible during wintertime. Access to the beach and the pier is only possible with a 4x4 vehicle or an ATV, or from the sea, which is visible from the window of the office building.

2.14 Emergency protocols

Our personnel are trained and licensed in First Aid according to the Red Cross, The Finnish Defence Forces military first aid or equivalent certified first aid programmes. First aid kits are placed onboard all vessels, and they are checked at least yearly. All vessels are equipped with fire extinguishers and emergency flares in accordance with international maritime laws. We also have mapped the closest defibrillators.

2.15 Virus-awareness

We follow national requirements for virus awareness, including good hand hygiene and not meeting with customers unless healthy.

2.16 Swimming pool

Our guests are welcome to swim in the lake. We have several suitable beach destinations to provide for people who do not know how to swim. We do not have any swimming pools.

2.17 Diver to dive master ratio

We do not offer diving services, with the exception of transport services for professional, certified divers.

2.18 Access for All

We welcome people with different kinds of limitations. We always strive to make our services as accessible as possible, although full access is not possible with our current vessel. We have partners that can provide accessible transportation on Lake Lohja.

2.19 No discrimination

Everyone regardless of race, gender, religion, disability or other personal features is welcome to use our services. We refrain from providing our services to persons or organizations that do not align with our non-discriminating policy.

We reserve the right to disregard our non-discriminating policy for persons affiliated with the Russian Federation during the illegal annexation of Crimea and brutal war on Ukraine.

2.20 Transport

We do not own or operate any own road transportation vehicles. When we rent or in other ways use road transportation vehicles, we strive to select electric or hybrid vehicles when possible. We offer our employees allowances for public transportation and strive to plan our functions to be accessible through public transportation.

2.21 Info on accessibility

Our website has clear statements concerning accessibility and our services. We are also happy to plan more accessible options together with our customers to meet their specific needs on a case-by-case basis.

2.22 Property rights & access

We do not own any properties. All properties and land areas that we use are based on rental agreements or other contracts. We are proud to be renters from a family-owned and operated farming community dating back for centuries in the same family.

Good employment

3.1 Human respect

We have our own Equality policy that all employees must respect. Our Equality policy forbids any harassment, unequal treatment or hostile conduct. We demand our partners to respect these same principles.

3.2 Decent work

All our employees are paid a fair salary in accordance with the industry's agreements. We also offer an extensive bonus system to award employees for exceptionally good performances. Our employees are entitled to a higher wage and better social security and healthcare services, than the law demands. For long-term employees we also offer an extensive extra pension benefit system.

3.3 Local employment

We always strive to employ locally, whenever possible. As our main products include tour operations in specific areas, local knowledge is instrumental.

3.4 Equal opportunity

We are happy to tailor positions to meet the demands of people with disabilities, whenever this is an option. We welcome applicants of all ethnicities, race, religions and genders and only employ based on merit and skills.

3.5 Training

All our personnel are offered opportunities to develop their personal and professional skills. Many training opportunities are also available during working hours. We compensate for special skills that staff members have acquired outside their employment that benefit their work. All our personnel with employments lasting longer than 3 months are offered extensive First Aid training equivalent to Red Cross First Aid 1, either organized by a certified Red Cross instructor, or first aid professional with equivalent knowledge and skills. We cooperate with the Finnish Defence Forces' strategical partner, the National Defence Training Association MPK.

3.6 Employee Insurance

Our employees are insured beyond national insurance legislation demands. We offer a wide medical service insurance and for long-term employees, also an extra pension benefit system.

3.7 Employee well-being

We offer possibilities for recreational services at employer's expense to our employees. These include possibilities for physical training together with our partner organizations. We also arrange annual recreational events for all staff and board members. For long-term employees we offer wellness services, such as complimentary massage and spa treatment services.

3.8 Employee engagement

When we have employed staff for instance during summer season, we arrange weekly meetings, where we discuss work-related issues as well as the implementation of our sustainability program. All employees are invited to participate in the planning, monitoring and updating of our sustainability program, which is considered a living document. We strive to engage our employees also in finding opportunities to enhance their own professional skills. We are happy to see our employees grow out of their current work positions towards more demanding ones, whether these would be within our organization or some other employer's. We see our staff members as important assets for our success story but have deep respect for the employees' own personal development as well.

Reducing Pollution

4.1 No pollution

We refrain from keeping engines running on idle and minimize cold-starting engines whenever possible. We use slower speeds when operating in the vicinity of settlements to decrease noise. We carefully discard all waste, including waste fluids, in accordance with our waste management policy (see 6.2–6.8).

4.2 No air pollution

We always shut off engines when it is not absolutely necessary to have them running. To ensure as clean combustion as possible, we use high octane fuels and service our engines regularly, at least every spring before the season begins. When we use road transportation, we opt for electric or hybrid vehicles, whenever possible. Our CEO drives a plug-in hybrid vehicle (PHEV) that is charged with renewable energy whenever possible. Of all road drives, up to 90 % are completed by electric vehicle (EV) mode.

4.3 Harmful substances

We do not use any pesticides, disinfectants or cleaning materials that are harmful to the environment. We do not use paints that contain lead or substances that are harmful to underwater life. All our cleaning products used onboard our vessels are certified for safe use in marine environments. Whenever possible, we only use water and brushes to clean our vessels. Bilge waters are collected separately and discarded to cleaning facilities through septic fluid collecting stations.

Caring for Climate

5.1 Climate-friendly

We strive to be climate-friendly in all our actions. As many of the other Sustainability issues are addressed somewhat automatically, we see Environmental Sustainability as our main priority for daily efforts. We have several routines in combination with for instance fuelling our vessel, discarding of bilge water or minor fixes on our equipment where we take into account climate-friendly ways of performing these actions.

5.2 Energy consumption

We monitor our energy consumption mainly based on fuel consumption. In accordance with prior operations through Bodö Venetaxi.com, we have succeeded in diminishing fuel consumption from 15 l / h to approximately 13 l / h onboard the vessel M/b LauluVene from 2021 to 2024. This is mainly achieved through servicing the engine and altering the combustion process to be as efficient as possible, and through the use of auxiliary routes that facilitate more cost-effective running speeds – as consumption increases when the vessel is operated outside its prime running speeds (17 to 24 knots).

For our current vessel at Lake Lohja, m/v Lysti, we have collected data concerning the average fuel consumption during the summer 2024. The average fuel consumption was around 8,5 l per hour in total, with the operations at Lake Lohja averaging at 8 l per hour. We have completed a full overhaul of the upper parts of the engine, with new gaskets installed, valves optimized for best possible combustion process and higher cooling efficiency ensured. In combination with better optimized cruising speeds, we strive to cut the fuel consumption by 15 %.

5.3 Greenhouse gas emissions

Our greenhouse gas emissions are calculated for the vessel. The calculations and measures to compensate them can be found in paragraph 2.1 in this Sustainability Program. We will be compensating 50 % of our total emissions in 2025. When the economic situation allows, we want to become completely carbon neutral. This is our long-term goal.

5.4 Renewable energy

The electricity used at our base is generated using renewable energy sources, such as wind, solar and water generated power as well as nuclear power. We have small portable solar panels to create our own auxiliary energy onboard our vessel.

5.5 Energy saving practices

At our office in Lohja, we use air heater pumps to heat during colder periods. We only heat the areas that are in use, whereas rooms that are not in use are left without heating during winter times. All our lighting fixtures in the office are equipped with energy saving LED-lamps.

5.6 Heating & A/C

We use the engine heat to heat the cabin of our vessel. We offer complimentary extra clothing (bonnets, blankets) to our passengers instead of using energy consuming auxiliary cabin heaters. We do not use any air conditioning units on our vessels or our base.

5.7 Renewable energy producer

We have portable solar energy panels for creating auxiliary energy for small appliances (e.g. mobile telephones). We are planning to mount solar panels during the summer 2025 on our vessel M/v Lysti to produce all necessary energy for onboard appliances with solar power. This will in the long run also effect the overall fuel consumption and cut idle running times even further.

5.8 Electric cars

We do not own any own cars, but our President & CEO drives a plug-in hybrid electric vehicle (PHEV) and up to 90 % of all driving is conducted with electric vehicle (EV) mode according to the vehicle's onboard computer.

5.9 Cryptocurrencies

We do not own, use or accept payments in any cryptocurrencies.

5.10 Net zero

Our main carbon footprint is well documented for earlier operations and based on factual knowledge. We have a carbon footprint calculated from 2021 onwards and use the average of this as our base to calculate compensation needs. Our long-term goal is to become fully carbon neutral. Our President & CEO as the only stakeholder is in charge of implementing this program.

Our emission compensations are done locally through a certified service provider (Ilmastoapu Oy).

5.11 Climate adaptation

We have planned reserve routes for our operations to meet the demands of exceptional weather conditions, such as exceptionally low or high waters. Our base has a secondary pier to be used during such times. In addition, all our base routes have at least 2 options for extreme weather conditions.

At Lake Lohja we have already during 2024 operated in extreme high and low water levels and mapped optional routes.

Optional routes are planned based on shortest possible running times, but with safety as primary priority.

Reducing Waste

6.1 Minimising disposables

We do not offer complimentary single-use water bottles on our cruises. Although we within our previous operations had bottles that were made of recycled plastic, we have instead encouraged our customers to bring their own water bottles and offer several options to fill these. We have a small number of biodegradable cups onboard our vessels to be offered to customers who do not have their own water bottles with them. These are discarded in the biodegradable waste containers in the ports.

6.2 Waste reductions

As we do not offer any food, there is no food waste. We have measured our non-recyclable waste amounts at our operations within our mother company's branch Venetaxi.com since 2022 and have cut this by 50 % by 2024. In 2022 we had a total of 4 plastic bags (50 l) of non-recyclable waste collected onboard M/b LuluVene. In 2024 we were down to 2 plastic bags. Our goal is to be able to recycle 100 % of our waste by 2030 and produce no non-recyclable waste at all.

6.3 Waste separation

We separate and recycle our waste accordingly:

- Paper
- Cardboard
- Plastic
- Glass
- Metal
- Biodegradable
- Hazardous waste
- Engine oils, lubricants and carburant fluids
- Septic waste (including bilge water)
- Non-recyclable waste (general waste)

6.4 Waste disposal

At our base we recycle our waste in the Aurlahti harbour area, close to Lohja city center. In addition, we have our own composts for soft biodegradable items, such as food.

6.5 Engine oil usage

We collect all used engine oil, lubricants and obsolete carburant fluids. These are transported to municipally run Sortti recycling centres for adequate disposal. Between 2021 and 2023 a total of less than 5 litres of such fluid waste has been needed to dispose of at our mother company's Venetaxi.com operations.

6.6 Waste storage & disposal

At our Lohja base waste is collected and stored in closed containers indoors and disposed of when necessary to the recycling station in Lohja City centre or in Aurlahti harbour.

6.7 No single-use bottles

See 6.1.

6.8 Recycling actions

We collect garbage in situ when necessary and dispose of these accordingly. Garbage is collected both from the waters and on land.

Caring for Water

7.1 Water conservation

We do not use drinking grade fresh water to wash our vessel, rather we use lake water and biodegradable detergents. The use of detergents is only done when absolutely necessary. We collect our bilge water and dispose of it at septic waste stations.

7.2 Water consumption

We have our own well that supplies us with fresh water. We have modernized our faucets and shower facilities and equipped them with water saving nozzles.

7.3 Sewage treatment

We have a safe septic tank system that has been completely refurbished in 2022. The septic waste is discarded by tank vehicle twice a year. The emptying of the septic tank is coordinated together with neighbours to ensure maximum use of the capacity.

7.4 Water saving devices

We have water saving lavatories, faucets and showers. Whenever possible, we use lake water for washing to conserve drinking water. Drinking water from the well is never used for instance for washing the vessel.

7.5 Towel/linen washing policy

We do not offer towels or linen because we do not provide any accommodation services.

7.6 Good use of water

See 7.1 and 7.3.

Caring for Nature

8.1 Nature friendly

We have a meadow at our Lohja base that is reserved for biodiversity conservation and to ensure areas for pollinators to dwell. We do not cut trees unless absolutely necessary. We refrain from cutting trees in the lakeside Black alder groves, which are regarded as environmentally valuable areas.

8.2 Invasive species

We do not grow any plants that are not natural and native to the area.

8.3 Animal welfare

We do not have any animals of our own. The dogs that guard our Lohja base are “employed” by us and are both rescue dogs, one from Finland and the other from Cyprus. The dogs have large areas where they are allowed to roam free, they are fed twice a day with homemade food and get at least an hour of walk daily.

8.4 Wildlife interactions

On our premises wild animals such as deer, moose, otter, rabbits, rodents and birds are occasionally seen. We do not interact with them and let them pass in peace when they cross our base premises.

8.5 Visits to natural sites

We follow Finnish legislation when visiting natural sites. We refrain from visits to important bird-nesting areas during hatching times (April through August). We do not arrange group travel to any nature conservation zones at any times.

8.6 Biodiversity management

We have a meadow in Lohja that remains untouched, in natural state for pollinators to benefit from. In addition, we leave at least around a third of fallen trees to rot for insects to dwell in. We do not use any heavy machinery on most areas within our premises to ensure that as large a part as possible of the surrounding nature stays in natural state.

To ensure the safety of maritime biodiversity below the surface, we do not use engines in shallow waters and only use the same disembarking zones on natural state beaches to ensure that important underwater plants such as bladderwrack are not damaged. We always approach beaches front first at slow speed with engine in neutral gear.

8.7 Wildlife trade

We do not trade anything found in the nature and do not participate in such trade, where illicit objects, dead or alive are sold, bought or handed over. We immediately report any findings of such occurrences to the authorities. We also inform our customers, that the penalty fees of harming – even by mistake – endangered or protected species of plants and animals can mount to tens of thousands of euros.

8.8 Local conservation work

We participate in conservation work through our mother company's membership in the Keep the Archipelago Tidy organization. We are also members of the Maritime Rescue Association (Meripelastusseura), which among other tasks carries responsibilities in oil leakages.

8.9 Buildings and infrastructure

We do not build new buildings and currently are housed in a building that is over 50 years old. Updates to the building are at the discretion of the owner, but we always urge to use recycled and/or recyclable materials when updates are made.

Caring for Culture

9.1 Culture friendly

We have been an advocate for local cultural heritage as operators of the Venetaxi.com functions in the Sipoo and Porvoo archipelago since 2021. As a part of the business plan, we have strived to make the local heritage known not only to tourists, but also to local residents. We have participated in different events and provided low-cost transportation options to areas without communal transportation.

At our current operations at Lake Lohja we cooperate with a variety of culture service providers, such as artists, theatre assemblies and producers.

9.2 Protecting cultural heritage

We offer combined walking and cruise tours in cooperation with our partners to several culturally important heritage sites, such as the Lohja Museum, the old sawmill and logging cabins and the Tytyri Adventure Mine. We also cooperate with the Swedish Association in Lohja (Svenska Föreningen i Lojo), which specializes in keeping the Swedish-speaking language minority's heritage alive.

9.3 Authentic experiences

Everything we do is local and authentic. We employ local guides for our tours, people who themselves live and whose families have lived in the area for generations.

We recommend as food options restaurants that serve local fish and produce, and we work in close cooperation with local fishermen, craftsmen and artists.

9.4 Cultural interactions

We only used marked paths when walking on islands, we do not embark on sites that are private areas and try in every way to minimize nuisance among the local communities. There are no indigenous communities in the southern parts of Finland, but nevertheless we respect the privacy of the archipelago and sea area inhabitants.

When we however have interactions with local people, that is because we buy services and goods from them to support the local market economy.

9.5 Cultural interactions (Cruise operations)

We always embark only on public piers or at private piers with the consent of the pier owner. We do not cross through private areas unless we have obtained a separate permission for this.

9.6 Artefacts

Any artefacts found are left where they are found in peace, with the exception of possible munition finds, which are reported to the authorities.

Management & Information

10.1 Sustainability reporting

Our Sustainability Program can be found on our website and can also be read at our vessel. We actively communicate our program to partners and customers through social media.

10.2 Sustainability management system

We collect data about our sustainability scope. This data is collected in the logbooks of our vessel, and when necessary, in reports. A yearly sustainability report is compiled based on the logbook data in our Annual Report. We have at least one sustainability goal for each year, which is decided by our executive board in the spring meeting (arranged between February and May).

Our sustainability goal for 2024 was:

Improving coolant retention in our diesel engine (M/v Lysti) also at higher temperatures

Due to fatigue in certain metal parts, the Perkins 4.326 diesel engine of M/v Lysti had shown a tendency to “sweat” coolant at highest operating temperatures. Although the leak was minor, this led to coolant being leaked in the bilge over time. First attempts were made with tightening the parts where the leakage was found, but this only partly mended the problem. The final solution was to custom manufacture a new filling, which was made by a local craftsman to measure. The problem was solved. **Sustainability goal was accomplished.**

Our sustainability goal for 2025 is:

Cutting fuel consumption by at least 10 % compared to 2024

The success of achieving our goal will be revised at the end of our season based on logbook entries on fuelling and running hours.

10.3 Sustainability report

We have all our previous sustainability reports from our operations through Venetaxi.com, including the carbon compensation reports available on venetaxi.com website. From 2025 onwards, our reports will be available on our website lohjalaketravels.fi and linked to our mother company’s website skargardskompaniet.fi.

10.4 Accurate promotion

We do not promote anything that isn’t delivered. Therefore, we do not at the moment have any sustainability claims on our websites, as we have not as this organization – Lohja Lake Travels – been audited yet. Our history is however reachable through the website venetaxi.com, where we account for the previous sustainability work, we have done through that operation. We do of course tell the broader public openly about our Sustainability goals and share this Sustainability Program on our website.

10.5 Info on nature & culture

We inform about the unique archipelago and lake environments on our website and also have several links to additional material produced for instance by the municipalities of the area we operate in. We always present the unique nature where we operate to our customers and tour participants.

10.6 Info on sustainability

This sustainability report and our long- and short-term goals are presented on our websites. We also post information on carbon emission compensations, when we have made them.

10.7 Info on health & safety

We provide information about safety and conditions of operation in the presentation texts of our services. We always have a safety brief onboard our vessels prior to embarking. The safety brief includes information on where life vests can be found and when they should be worn.

We inform our customers that they are entitled to alter the date of a purchased service for health reasons. Especially if they believe that they have acquired a contagious disease, they can move the selected service to another time without any cost.

10.8 Customer experience

We strongly recommend our customers to write reviews on our social media accounts and welcome customers to tag us and post pictures in their own social media channels. Customer feedback is also always logged in the logbook of the vessel. We report customer feedback also in our Annual Report as well as on our website, when we have the customer's consent to do so.

10.9 What more do we do?

Our next Steps toward even better Sustainability is presented below.

5. The Next Steps toward even better Sustainability

We constantly search for ways to be even more sustainable. Eventually, when the operative lifespan of our current engine will reach its end, it is important to carefully monitor the applicable options for future propulsion of our vessel. Maybe electric engines' power-to-torque ratio will have developed enough to be a plausible option for carburant engines, also for longer journeys?

Until that, however, small steps can be achieved with constantly monitoring our own sustainability commitments. We have been able to obtain lower velocity for gliding level driving within our Venetaxi.com operations by having the engine completely refurbished and equipped with a – recycled! – better suitable propeller. This means higher fuel efficiency especially at lower speeds and gliding operation can thus be maintained also in rougher seas and front winds, without making the journey unpleasant or at worst even unsafe.

Yearly revisions of our Sustainability Program will ensure implementation of new practices fluently and conveniently. We must be clear in communicating our practices to the general public and strive to make a shift in how water taxi and lake tourism services are seen from a sustainability point of view.

The future customer will most probably not opt for the cheapest option, where a more environmentally, socio-culturally and locally focused service is available for a cost that is not extensively higher than the cheapest option.

We have also acknowledged that lack of interest from the public towards sustainability questions is one of our main threats. We need to constantly remind ourselves of the importance of the work.

Another threat affiliated with this, is the vast amount of work needed to put into reporting, applying and assessing our Sustainability Program for GTS, STF and other auditors and certifiers. The threatening fatigue to do this amidst all other administrative work can become a serious issue. Therefore, it is instrumental to have Sustainability issues on the agenda in the calendar at least four times a year, outside the peak seasons. This can easily be addressed when sustainability is on the agenda for the executive board meetings, which are arranged at least twice a year.

6. Equipment presentation

We operate one vessel at Lake Lohja, which is on a lease contract. In addition, we have one all-terrain vehicle (ATV) for maintenance and port operations. The ATV (Gamax 430, not registered for road use) is situated in Lohja, where it is used for transportation of goods and port area maintenance. The ATV is equipped with a variety of tools that help for instance in road maintenance and transportation of debris such as fallen trees from the port area.

M/v Lysti

M/v Lysti was leased to Skärgårdskompaniet in 2024 as our operations expanded to Lake Lohja and the new company branch, Lohja Lake Travels was founded. M/v Lysti is currently leased for the years 2024–2025 with an option to continue the contract on a yearly basis indefinitely. M/v Lysti was originally built as a fishing boat for the stormy outer archipelago waters on the Finnish Gulf. The hull is semi-displacement type, which allows for higher cruising speeds, than with displacement hulls.

Brand	Haiveli
Model	1010 Fiskari
Year built	1980
Manufacturer	Uudenkaupungin veneveistämö
LOA	10,1 m
Width	2,5 m
Minimum depth	0,9 m
Engine	Perkins 4.236
Engine build year	1980
Cruising speed	10,5 kn
Top speed	12,5 kn
Fuel consumption	7 l / h (cruising speed average estimate*)
Fuel type	Diesel
Passengers	12–15
Crew	1–3
Operating area	B – All inner and outer waters in Finland and beyond
Maximum wave limit	2,5 m
Maximum wind limit	20 m / s

* Based on preliminary figures after gasket and valve overhaul

7. Additional information & Contact

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