



Villages Nature® Paris

One Planet
Annual Review
2015/16



Contents

Introduction	1
Villages Nature® Paris: Reinventing tourism	2
Bioregional: Championing a better way to live	3
Villages Nature® Paris guest experience	4
Guest journey: A One Planet holiday	5
One Planet Action Plan Highlights 2015/16	6
One Planet Action Plan progress 2015/16	7
Operational Action Plan 2016/17	8



Bioregional

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Bioregional champions a better, more sustainable way to live. We work with partners to create places which enable people to live, work and do business within the natural limits of the planet. We call this One Planet Living.

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Introduction

With its One Planet Action Plan endorsed by Bioregional in 2013, Villages Nature® Paris is a new European holiday destination due to open in July 2017. This One Planet Destination aims to create a different kind of holiday, immersing one million visitors a year in nature while minimising its impact on natural resources

Welcome to Villages Nature® Paris’s One Planet Review for 2015/16. This report has been written by Bioregional and shares the progress of the team behind Villages Nature® Paris in developing a truly sustainable tourism destination, including:

- How the unique guest experience will create sustainable change
- Key highlights of its activities in 2015/16
- The action plan for operation as the resort gets ready to open in 2017

Villages Nature® Paris is being developed through a strategic partnership between Euro Disney S.C.A. and Group Pierre et Vacances-Center Parcs using the principles of One Planet Living, a framework created by Bioregional.



“The vision over ten years ago was to create an experience which would be transformative for guests and show how people and nature can exist in harmony. It has been a heroic journey to get to this stage. I am sure there will be more challenges in the coming months up until the opening – but there is no doubt that this project will be one of the most important sustainable

development projects in the world.

With the Paris Agreement on Climate Change now coming into force, what better expression of the spirit of the agreement than a project like Villages Nature® Paris? We applaud everyone involved for their vision and foresight and look forward to the opening in 2017.”

Pooran Desai OBE, International Director for One Planet Communities at Bioregional



Villages Nature® Paris is the first in a new generation of resorts - close to a major metropolitan area, easy to reach by train and firmly committed to renewable energy transition. Since the inception of the project, the One Planet Living framework has helped us consider not only environmental performance but also all the economic and social benefits Villages Nature®

Paris can bring to local communities and its stakeholders.

As we prepare to open, we continue to strive to deliver an inspiring experience that creates a positive vision of the future. Our Sustainable Action Plan is now being taken on board by the Operations team.

Marie Balmain, Head of Sustainable Development at Pierre et Vacances-Centre Parcs Group

The ten One Planet Principles guide the design, construction and management of One Planet Destinations

	Health and happiness
	Equity and local economy
	Culture and community
	Land and nature
	Sustainable water
	Local and sustainable food
	Travel and transport
	Materials and products
	Zero waste
	Zero carbon energy



Villages Nature® Paris: Reinventing tourism

Every detail at Villages Nature® Paris has been designed to minimise the site’s ecological footprint at the scale of a major destination. Its ambition is to invite every guest to discover sustainable development through enjoying nature’s wonder

A new holiday experience

Designed around the relationship between people and nature, Villages Nature® Paris will offer a complete change of scene to help guests reconnect with their loved ones and the things that truly matter. The destination will provide five ‘immersive worlds’ (see below) and 916 cottages and apartments in three different settings.



Villages Nature® Paris’s major features include:

- 120 landscaped hectares with 160,000 m² of recreational facilities
- 916 holiday cottages and apartments
- Five ‘immersive worlds’ including the Aqualagon and its outdoor geothermal lagoon heated at 30°C year round; the Bellevie Farm; the Extraordinary Gardens; the Forest of Legends and the Lakeside Promenade
- 8,000 m² of shops and restaurants
- Zero impact on the 72 protected species onsite

Sustainability ambition

Villages Nature® Paris also aims to lead the way in reconciling large-scale tourism with the pressing need for sustainable development. It recognises that leisure activities do not necessarily need to result in the waste of resources or energy, and that the tourist industry provides an excellent opportunity to positively impact the environment and local economy.

To achieve this, Villages Nature® Paris will use three key levers for change :

Making best use of local resources including:

- Geothermal energy
- French timber
- Local food



Embedding sustainability in decision-making processes:

- Engaging with employees and partners
- Continuous management of sustainable objectives and progress
- Striving for external accreditation



Creating an engaging guest experience that:

- Encourages an emotional bond with nature
- Inspires sustainable change





Bioregional: Championing a better way to live

Bioregional has over 20 years' experience of working with partners to create better places to live, work and do business within the limits of the planet. This is called One Planet Living

One Planet Living: making truly sustainable living a reality

Bioregional developed One Planet Living as a framework to help guide us towards a world where we all enjoy healthy, happy lives within the limits of the planet.

Based on ten simple principles of sustainability, One Planet Living is now a globally recognised framework used by a number of world-leading businesses, including new build communities, tourist destinations and major retailers.

Why is it different?

One Planet Living is not a certification or accreditation scheme, rather a tool to drive an organisation's sustainability efforts and help communicate them both internally and externally. Rooted in science, it is the only framework that is based on the metrics of the planet and holds its users to the standards we need to avoid dangerous climate change.

An organisation's One Planet Action Plan will only be endorsed by Bioregional if it is in line with the One Planet Goals and Guidance and is reviewed annually to track progress. The framework is, however, highly flexible: recognising that sustainability is a journey and goals and strategies will need to be designed specifically for each individual project as it progresses.

There are 18 One Planet Partners, including communities, companies and cities, around the globe with a shared commitment to respond to the challenge of One Planet Living. These partners include:



Singita Serengeti is a wildlife reserve and upmarket tourist destination in Tanzania. Bioregional has been supporting the resort with its commitment to environmental and social sustainability since 2012 and its One Planet Action Plan was endorsed in 2013.



North West Bicester is the UK's first eco-town, led by A2Dominion. Elmsbrook, the first phase of 393 homes, became a One Planet Community in 2012.

Successive phases will see it grow into a settlement of up to 6,000 highly sustainable, true zero-carbon homes plus workplaces, community facilities and abundant green space.



B&Q is the UK's leading home improvement retailer and a One Planet Company. Since 2007, with our support, it has saved 108,000 tonnes of carbon emissions and reduced costs by £141m through better energy, transport and waste management.

Villages Nature® Paris guest experience

Villages Nature® Paris is designed to merge large-scale tourism with sustainable development. Its aim is to engage people with sustainability in an enjoyable way – and encourage them to continue doing so after they leave

As a leisure destination, it recognises that it is best placed to do this by helping guests develop an emotional bond with nature through a variety of experiences. With five ‘immersive worlds’ and a range of activities designed around nature it will help people to find the way that they enjoy engaging with nature best.



1 Lakeside Promenade
Surrounded by hanging gardens, this promenade offers a souvenir and toy shop to encourage learning about and discovering nature, as well as restaurants.



2 Extraordinary Gardens
Two hectares of green space enhanced by human hands, inviting guests to relax and enjoy nature.



7 BelleVie Farm
A working farm enabling guests to experience the life of a farmer, from seeing how cows are milked to growing fruit and vegetables, making butter and baking bread.



3 Aqualagon
Designed for both relaxation and fun, this water park is heated to 30°C year-round by geothermal energy.



4 Forest of Legends
A forest filled with adventures for children to enjoy the magic of nature and imaginative play, with hiding places, playgrounds, climbing



6 Holiday housing
Each home has its own private garden or green space.



5 Natural pool
In summer, guests can enjoy natural swimming thanks to filtering gardens

Guest journey: a One Planet holiday

Villages Nature® Paris has carefully designed its guest journey to enable visitors to enjoy their stay, connect with nature, learn about sustainable development and reduce their carbon footprint. By working together, Villages Nature® Paris and its guests can create a One Planet holiday

Carbon footprint

Tourism accounts for 10% of global emissions, with transport being the major contributor. Bioregional estimates that on average the carbon footprint per guest will be about a third less than a comparable resort in France, or two-thirds less for eco-minded guests who arrive by public transport.*

Travel

- Shuttle connection between the train station and Villages Nature® Paris ●
 - Clear communication with guests about the low-carbon travel options ●
 - Providing incentives to favor low-carbon travel options ●
- Features that directly contribute to guests reducing their carbon footprints

Stay

- 100% renewable energy for heat and hot water ●
- Holiday homes have low-consumption appliances and green architecture, eg green roofs
- All homes use 100% FSC certified wood and have eco-labelled and non-toxic paints and floors

Enjoy

- 100% renewable energy for heat and hot water of all recreational facilities (including Aqualagon) ●
- Zero car stay with green transport onsite and local travel (including bikes and electric car rental) ●
- Restaurants and shops with local and organic products ●
- Kids' club and family nature activity programme eg gardening, biodiversity discovery and One Planet Living interactive games
- Local farmers' market
- Onsite information and sales desk to provide local tourism advice

To achieve its vision of encouraging guests to reconnect with nature, Villages Nature® Paris is working with a range of partners



François Lasserre, Naturalist and Author

"Villages Nature® Paris is a bold idea – creating an offer that responds to the growing demand for more authentic tourism.

My role is to create games and information boards that will link the visitors to the work of the landscape architects and the philosophy of the destination. I hope that Villages Nature® Paris will set a benchmark and provide inspiration to both large and small-scale tourism in the future."



Alice Audouin, Art Curator

"We, humans, can use our energy to work with nature rather than exploit it. Villages Nature® Paris has a role to play in showing its guests that this is how we will resolve our current environmental crisis.

By highlighting the interrelationship between our species and nature, it will help its guests understand the benefit of integrating nature, and sustainable living, into their daily lives. My role is to think about how art and culture can do this."

*You can view these estimates and scenarios showing what is possible through guest and Villages Nature® Paris collaboration in the document appendix.

One Planet Action Plan Highlights 2015/16

100%
of heat energy demand provided by geothermal



Zero impact on the
72
protected species onsite



98%
of construction waste diverted from landfill



100%
of staff trained in the Sustainable Action Plan



Carbon footprint of housing construction
28%
lower than baseline average



37%
of the Aqualagoon water cleaned and reused onsite



28,800
trees and
430,000
plants planted onsite



On target to exceed
15%
reduction in water use over a comparable baseline



100%
of the excavated soil reused onsite



60%
of construction contracts with local companies (by value)



100%
eco-labelled paint, FSC wood and electrical appliances class A



One Planet Action Plan progress 2015/16

Health and happiness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve wellbeing of visitors and employees through reconnection with nature Drive a policy of responsible employment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ ✓
Equity and local economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support the local economy through procurement Support local employment in construction and operation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓✓ ✓✓
Culture and community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create a transformational experience for visitors to awaken them to sustainable development To develop synergies with the key actors and flagship tourist locations in the local area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ ✓
Land and nature	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Neutral impact on the 72 protected species identified on the site Ongoing management to be 'biodiversity positive' 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ ✓
Sustainable water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain the quality of the aquifer and waterways during construction Recycle water from the Aqualagon (on track for 37%) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ ✓✓
Local and sustainable food	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100% of outlets to provide a 'responsible' and attractive food and drink offer Favour onsite production and local and regional food 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ ✓
Travel and transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Zero car site from day one 30% of visitors to make the majority of their journey by public transport 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓✓ ✓
Materials and products	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce embodied carbon during construction of the resort 100% certified timber 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓✓ ✓✓
Zero waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Material recovery rate of > 90%, and > 60% recycling during construction Educate guests about importance of waste management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓✓ ✓
Zero carbon energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100% heat demand met by onsite renewable energy from day one Net zero carbon by 2020 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓✓ ✓

Substantially or entirely completed or a high degree of certainty over deliverability ✓✓

On track for a long term target ✓

Substantially incomplete, behind schedule or doubt over delivery ✗

Case study: Water cycle of the Aqualagon

As part of its commitment to One Planet Living, Villages Nature® Paris has taken an innovative approach to water management for its Aqualagon. A series of planted ponds – or 'filtering gardens' – will clean the used water and feed it into the onsite lake. These ponds seamlessly form part of one of Villages Nature® Paris's 'immersive worlds' – the Extraordinary Gardens.



Reverse osmosis is also used on waste water from the Aqualagon, meaning overall 37% of its water is reused. Furthermore, the lake is used for 100% of Villages Nature® Paris's irrigation needs so no drinking water will be used for this purpose. The filtering gardens were designed by Phytorestore design office and the landscaping firm Interscène with Egis, an engineering firm, as a consultant.

Operational Action Plan 2016/17

Sustainability does not stop with green, efficient design and construction. It is a long-lasting commitment that is pursued over operation. A new Sustainable Action Plan will now guide the operation and management of the resort after it opens

Health and happiness



- Develop the guest activities to encourage **reconnection with nature**
- Promote **employee wellbeing**
- Ensure disability access for guests and staff

Equity and local economy



- Promote **green, eco-labelled, local and fairtrade** products in procurement
- Support **local employment**
- Ensure **equal opportunities** for all staff

Culture and community



- Build a **One Planet culture** through training and engaging with staff and partners
- **Engage with guests** with clear communication and information about One Planet Living
- Bring **One Planet values to life** with activities and events about nature preservation, culture and art and healthy living

“To inspire our guests about sustainability we need inspired staff !

Creating a team of committed people with shared values is a core part of our preparation to opening. They are the ones who will bring this vision to life.”

Olivier Robin, Head of Operations

Sustainable water



- **Reduce drinking water consumption** with daily monitoring and ensure regular maintenance of equipment
- **100% rainwater and greywater** used for irrigation of landscape
- Train staff and engage with guests and partners to **maximise efficient water use**

Land and nature



- **Maintain and develop local species** and diversity of natural habitats
- Create activities to **engage guests with onsite biodiversity**
- **Implement ecological management plan** of green and natural places



Local and sustainable food



- Develop onsite production of certified organic produce eg vegetable gardens
- Create a farmers' market
- Promote healthy, local and certified food options at all food markets and restaurants



Travel and transport



- Reduce the travel carbon footprint of guests by promoting use of public transport
- Implement onsite green travel policy to achieve zero car site and zero car stay

Materials and products



- Develop procurement guidelines to ensure use of ecological and low-impact materials for operations and renovation

Zero waste



- Reduce waste with operations strategy, which includes minimising packaging use in all food markets and restaurants
- Ensure that guests and staff (including partners) sort waste effectively
- Develop food composting solution for guests

Zero carbon energy



- Achieve 100% renewable electricity target by 2020
- Ensure geothermal energy meets 100% of heat energy demand by opening and during phase one
- Reduce energy consumption with daily monitoring and ensure regular maintenance of equipment
- Train staff and engage with guests and partners to maximise efficient energy use



This is a summary of the full annual review which can be downloaded on Bioregional's website : <http://www.bioregional.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/130117-VNP-Appendix-Final.pdf>

It was written in collaboration between Bioregional and Villages Nature® Paris. and is designed to share a sense of what the guest experience will be like at Villages Nature® Paris, as well as its progress over the last year and plans for 2017.

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