

Go Green with Uttarakhand Tourism

An Optional Green Recognition Programme for Homestays & Bed & Breakfast Units

Uttarakhand Tourism introduces a **Green Category** to recognise Homestay and Bed & Breakfast units adopting sustainable practices, eco-friendly solutions and responsible tourism initiatives.

Participation in the Green Category is **voluntary**. Eligible units can opt for recognition by meeting the defined Green Criteria along with existing Gold/Silver/Bronze classification requirements.

Green Category Eligibility

Units can apply for Green recognition by:

- » Fulfilling existing Homestay/B&B classification requirements.
- » Implementing Green Criteria mentioned under Framework.
- » Submitting self-declaration along with supporting documents, photographs, required proofs, or certification uploaded through a recognised environmental body.

Verification may be carried out by the authority or through recognised environmental certification.

Three-Level Green Recognition System



Level 1

Green Starter (beginner)

4 out of 10 Green Criteria achieved

- » One Eco-Flower Badge
- » Recognition for sustainable efforts



Level 2

Green Performer (Intermediate)

6 out of 10 Green Criteria achieved

- » Two Eco-Flower Badges
- » Eligible for Green Category registration
- » Benefits as notified by the Board



Level 3

Full Green

All 10 Green Criteria achieved

- » Three Eco-Flower Badges
- » Full Green Category registration
- » Priority benefits and incentives as notified by the Board

Green Criteria Include



Renewable Energy Usage



Rainwater Harvesting



Waste Segregation & Management



Plastic-Free Practices



Biodiversity Conservation



Sustainable Construction



Water Conservation



Guest Awareness



Energy Efficiency



Local Sourcing

Green Recognition Benefits

- » Eco-Flower Badge displayed on registration certificate/QR code and premises
- » Recognition for sustainable tourism practices
- » Opportunity to upgrade to higher Green levels by adopting more criteria
- » Benefits and incentives as notified by the Board

Three-Tier Green Classification Framework

1. Tier Structure

Tier	Green Badge	Required Minimum Implementation	Eligibility for Full Green Category Registration	Key Benefits /Recognition
Beginner	One Eco-flower badge	Any 4 of the 10 Green criteria	Not eligible for Green category registration	Recognition badge for display in the unit
Intermediate	Two Eco-flower badge	Any 6 of the 10 Green criteria	Eligible for Green category registration (self-declaration)	Marketing support
Advanced (Full Green)	Three Eco-flower badge	All 10 Green criteria	Fully eligible for Green category registration	Marketing priority on Board portal

2. Green Criteria Checklist

A unit is assessed on how many of the following ten criteria it meets. There is no weightage among criteria — any four, six, or all ten (as applicable to the tier sought) may be selected by the unit based on its resources and operational priorities.

S.N.	Green Criterion	Description
1	Renewable Energy	Use of solar energy (solar panels, solar water heater, or solar lighting) to meet at least 25% of the unit's electricity and hot water requirements.
2	Rainwater Harvesting	A functional rainwater harvesting system to collect and store roof rainwater for gardening, cleaning, or other non-drinking purposes.
3	Waste Management	100% segregation of wet and dry waste, with a functional on-site compost pit for kitchen/organic waste; inorganic waste sent for recycling.
4	Plastic-Free Initiative	No single-use plastic items (bottles, plates, glasses, straws, carry bags) for guests; steel/glass/traditional utensils to be promoted instead.
5	Biodiversity Conservation	At least 25% of the open area maintained with native plants, trees, shrubs and flowers; no chemical pesticides or invasive species.
6	Sustainable Construction	Preference for local eco-friendly materials (stone, sustainably sourced wood, mud-plaster, slate) in new Practices construction, renovation or repair.
7	Water Conservation	Reuse of kitchen/bathroom greywater for gardening; low-flow taps, dual-flush toilets (wherever feasible), and prompt repair of leaks.
8	Guest Awareness	Display of simple informative material/notices in rooms and common areas on water & energy conservation, waste segregation and responsible tourism.
9	Energy Efficiency	All lighting to be LED-based; efforts to minimise overall energy consumption.
10	Maximising Local Sourcing	Priority sourcing of food, vegetables, milk, handicrafts and other supplies from local villagers/producers to support the community economy.

3. How the Three-Tier System Works

Voluntary adoption: A unit may apply for any Green tier by submitting the required form and supporting documents (photographs, bills, etc.) either directly through self-declaration or through a recognised environmental body/organisation on its behalf.

