

MEDIA RELEASE

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Rental fleet helps keep Australia neat

An increasing number of environmentally responsible RV tourists are hitting the road now that Tourism Holdings Australia Pty Ltd has signed up to the Campervan and Motorhome Club of Australia's (CMCA) Leave No Trace[®] (LNT) scheme.

368 of the company's Maui/Britz rental motorhomes are now accredited under the scheme, with a total of over 5,000 vehicles now participating in the LNT programme.

The Leave No Trace[®] scheme promotes environmentally conscious camping and discourages incidences of irresponsible behaviour, such as environmental vandalism or site damage.

CMCA Member Benefits Manager, Phillip Berry, said the partnership would produce a number of positive results for the environment, councils and RV tourists alike.

"It's wonderful to see a national rental fleet company like Tourism Holdings Australia (THL) committing to the LNT scheme," said Mr Berry.

"Now we have thousands of responsible Club Members and RV tourists on the road who are committed to leaving no impact on the environment they love to enjoy."

THL will increase their commitment to the scheme over the next two years, with an additional 1,000 Maui/Britz vehicles expected to be LNT accredited.

To qualify for the LNT scheme, motorhomes, caravans and other participating units must be totally self-contained, with the ability to leave no trace of their visit, even when facilities are unavailable.

In addition, the occupants must also comply with a Code of Conduct that includes disposing of waste in an appropriate manner, considering the natural environment, and adhering to camping limits and restrictions.

"We are finding that councils are recognising the environmental and ethical merits of the scheme, and as a result, are more inclined to open areas to self-contained vehicles," said Mr Berry.

"This ensures adequate facilities for RV tourists and encourages them to spend their valuable tourism dollars in the local area.

"In addition, it helps to minimise council maintenance costs for these facilities, whilst guaranteeing there are plenty of places for RV's to rest safely before continuing their journey."

As part of Tourism Holding's commitment, all operational staff have undertaken a training session to familiarise them with the scheme, and the company has also introduced a customer care process to monitor the behaviour of participants. All accredited vehicles will display the LNT sticker and carry the Code of Conduct.

"We hope the LNT scheme will continue to expand and that other industry partners will come on board," Mr Berry said.

For further information on LNT, or a copy of the Code of Conduct, please visit www.cmca.net.au/lnt

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Getting there is half the fun