



# Green Vibes @unitartu: Your Sustainable Start

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## What is Sustainability?



"Meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."



## Sustainability at the Core of University of Tartu

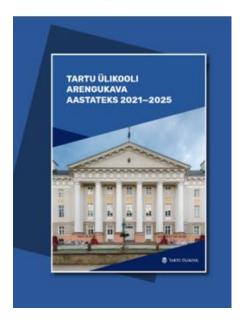






UNIVERSITY OF TARTU

STRATEGIC PLAN 2021-2025



# Sustainability Initiatives at University of Tartu: Pioneering Change



Centre for Sustainable Development



Natural History muuseum and Botanical Garden





University of Tartu Museum





Tartu Student Village



# Sustainability Initiatives at University of Tartu: Pioneering Change

### RESEARCH

- Top scientists and research in directions related to sustainable development
- Policy advice by researchers (state, local governments)
- Cooperation with companies (e.g., development of green technologies)
- International cooperation (e.g., ENLIGHT)
- communication of scientific achievements

### **STUDIES**

- Outstanding lecturers in various fields who deal with the topic of sustainability in education
- Curricula related to sustainable development (eg. Environmental technology; Environmental Governance and Adaptation to Climate Change).
- Subjects related to sustainable development in various fields (e.g. Sustainable urban areas under conditions of global change; Concepts of Sustainable Development, etc.)

### **ORGANISATION**

- Inclusivity Advancement: Equal treatment, mental health support, and best practices.
- Energy-Efficiency: University infrastructure and solar panels
- Urban Green Enhancement: Maarjamõisa, main building, and bike parking areas.
- Environmental Review
- GHG footprint assessment

## Becoming a Sustainable Student: Practical Steps for Your Sustainable Start







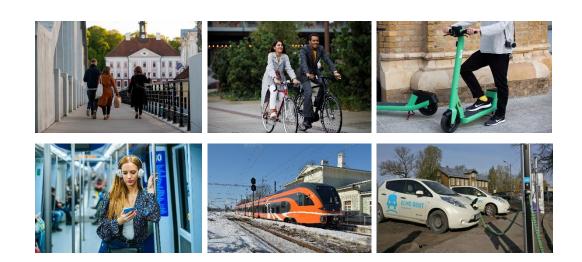


### **TRAVEL**

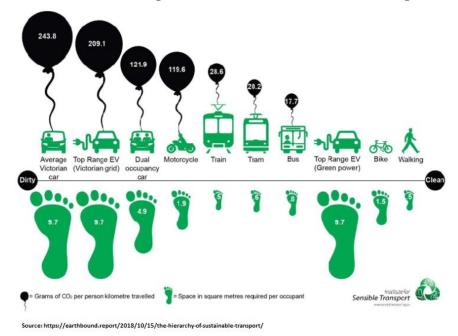
- Travel by land! Sea! Air-last resort!
- Consider ways of transport:
  - When in Tartu (walk, run, bike, ......)
  - When in Estonia (bus, train we have them)
  - When travelling the World …

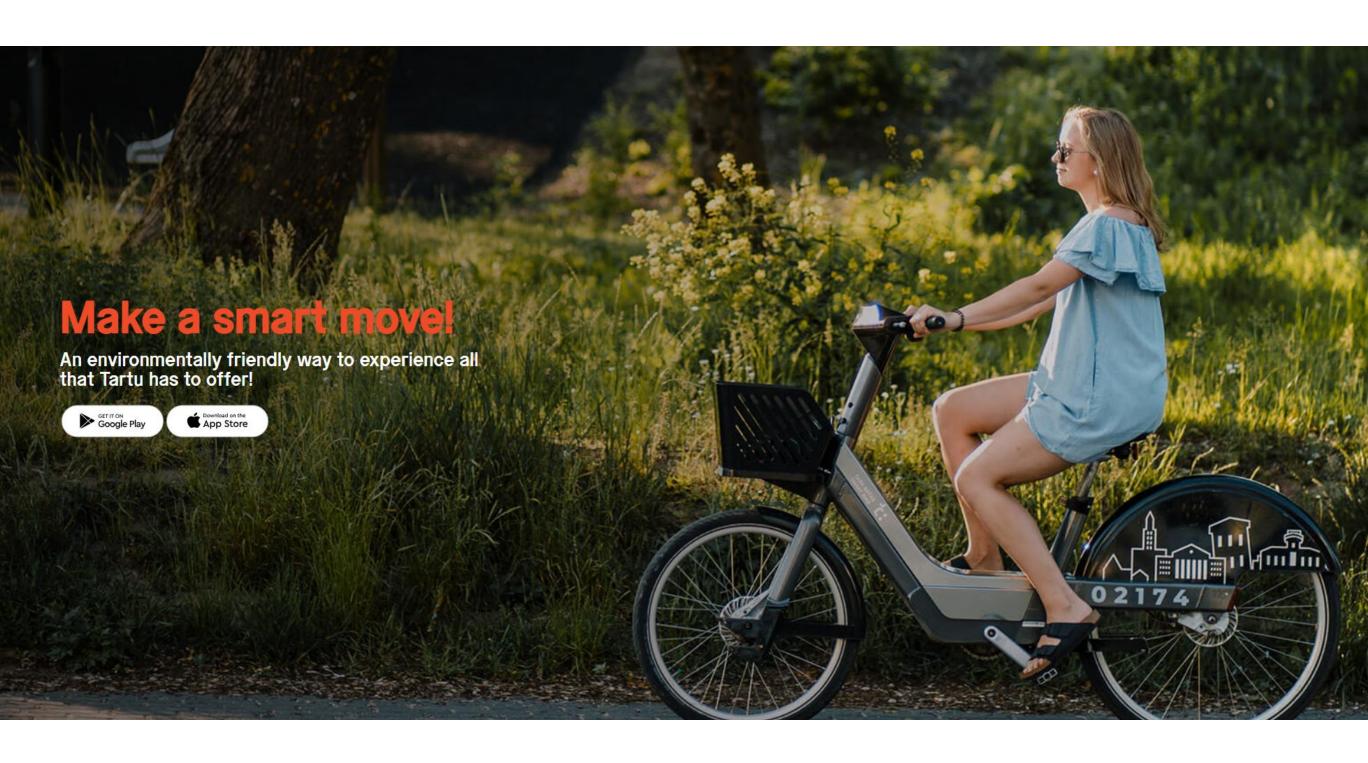
Calculate your travel footprint:

https://the-shift.org/carbon-footprint-calculator/



### The hierarchy of sustainable transport





### **ENERGY**

- Turn off appliances and lights at the plug when not in use. –careful with equipment you do not know!
- Ensure proper use of your boiler and heating controls. Program the system according to your needs. – be careful with water boiler, temperature too low may cause bacteria to grow!
- Coordinate heating times with housemates and avoid unnecessary warmth.
- Seal drafts to retain warmth;
- Combat dampness for better heating efficiency and your well-being.
- Keep your place well-ventilated to release moisture.
- Keep yourself warm with proper clothing.
- Consider fire-safety rules, when burning candles or making fire!



### **FOOD AND WATER**

- DRINK TAP WATER
- BRING YOUR OWN CUPS/MUGS/DISHWARE
- AVOID DISPOSABLE ONES
- Opt for seasonal, local, and organic plant-based foods.
- Explore local fruit and veg market, no-packaging stores shops, or start a bulk-buying group with friends.
- Minimize surplus food by freezing, sharing with others, or using sharing apps.
- Grow your own food in gardens or windowsill pots.
- Support independent shops, bakeries, butchers, and local producers instead of supermarkets.
- Steer clear of highly processed, single-use packaged snacks with low nutritional value.

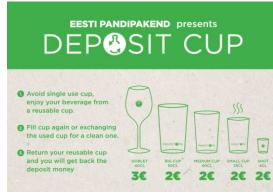


### **PRODUCTS AND SERVICES**

- BE A CONSCIOUS CONSUMER!
- LESS IS MORE AND BETTER
- Clothing choose natural materials and sustainable brands

The 5 Rs of fashion: Reduce, rewear, recycle, repair, resell

- Find second-hand/thrift stores for clothes/furniture/items:
  - https://taaskasutuskeskus.ee/
  - https://sobraltsobrale.ee/
  - Humana.ee
- Sell unnecessary stuff on:
  - FB Marketplace
  - Soov.ee
  - Ostalee
- Eating out/ordering or at venues
  - Ringo.eco
  - https://eestipandipakend.ee/















### **WASTES**

- In our University we sort:
  - Biodegrading materials
  - Packaging
  - Paper
  - General waste
  - Batteries
  - Electronics/devices
  - Hazardous chemicals/materials
  - Department specific wastes
  - Pharmaceuticals return to pharmacy

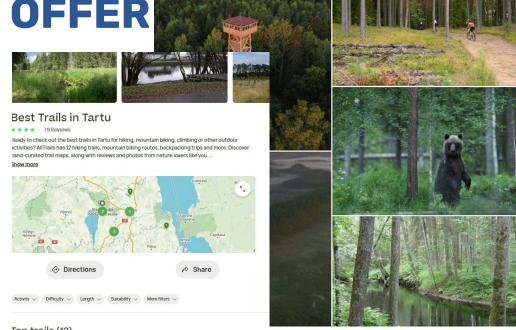






### **ENJOY WHAT LOCAL NATURE HAS TO OFFER**

- 1. Stress Reduction: Nature has a calming effect that can reduce stress levels and promote relaxation. Natural environments provide a break from the fast-paced demands of daily life.
- 2. Mental Clarity: Time in nature can clear your mind and enhance focus. It offers a chance to step away from technology and constant stimulation, allowing for improved cognitive function.
- Physical Health: Outdoor activities encourage physical movement, promoting cardiovascular health, stronger muscles, and improved overall fitness.
- Vitamin D Exposure: Sunlight is a natural source of vitamin D, which is essential for bone health, a strong immune system, and mood regulation.
- **Enhanced Mood:** Exposure to nature is linked to increased levels of serotonin, a neurotransmitter associated with happiness and well-being.
- Creative Inspiration: Natural settings can spark creativity and innovation by providing a peaceful backdrop for generating ideas.
- **Improved Sleep:** Regular time in nature can help regulate sleep patterns and improve the quality of sleep.
- Strengthened Immune System: Immune function can benefit from exposure to diverse outdoor environments, helping the body build resistance to various allergens and pathogens.



Photos: Jarek Jõepera, Visit Estonia





MORE INFORMATION WILL BE RELEASED ON DEDICATED WEBPAGE.

REMEMBER, EVEN SMALL
SUSTAINABLE ACTIONS ADD UP – JUST
LIKE THE SLIDES IN THIS
PRESENTATION.

WELCOME! ENJOY YOUR JOURNEY AND MAKE IT SUSTAINABLE!

AITÄH!

