Hotelbeds certified carbon neutral for the third year running

Submitted by Antonia Aguilo on Tue, 12/01/2021 - 09:46

- Certification follows thorough analysis of Hotelbeds' carbon footprint by independent body, Carbon Footprint Ltd.
- Company donations for every business travel flight are used to finance carbon neutral projects and this year Hotelbeds will be supporting a project in China.
- This news follows the recent launch of the Green Hotels Programme, a new initiative to identify, highlight and promote sustainable accommodation within its hotel portfolio.

Palma, Spain, 12 January 2021 – <u>Hotelbeds</u>, the world's leading bedbank, has announced today that for the third consecutive year it has been certified as a Carbon Neutral Organisation by Carbon Footprint Ltd, an independent body that accredits carbon management measurements and best practices for businesses, by offsetting companies' CO2 emissions.

This prestigious accreditation reflects Hotelbeds' commitment in the past three years to reduce its environmental impact and ensure long-term sustainability by offsetting the carbon emissions it generates.

During 2018 the company created a programme whereby a fee is paid for every business flight taken by an employee. This is then used to finance a carbon neutral project and both encourage reduction in travel and awareness around the importance of carbon offsetting.

In 2018 the funds raised from this programme were donated to the Portel-Pará Deforestation Project - which is located within Brazil's Amazon, the largest remaining rainforest on our planet - to help prevent unplanned deforestation.

In 2019 Hotelbeds chose to give the funds to the Renewable Energy Project in India, that manages the installation of solar panels across the country.

This year Hotelbeds will be supporting the Verified Carbon Standard certified Guohua Tongliao Kezuo Zhongqi Phase 1 Wind Power project in China, that will reduce carbon emissions via the displacement of fossil fuels. This project helps to combat climate change and sustains our environment for future generations.

This news follows the recent launch of the <u>Green Hotels Programme</u>, a turn-key solution to bring Hotelbeds and its partners into the green economy and accelerate the transition of the travel industry towards sustainability.

Gareth Matthews, Marketing, Communications and CSR Director at Hotelbeds, said: "We are proud to be certified a Carbon Neutral Organisation for the third consecutive year. This really underscores our sustainable business ethos and sets a great example both to our staff and the wider travel industry.

"As leaders in the travel industry we wanted to be at the forefront of environmental consciousness, inspiring both other companies and even individual travellers, by reducing our emissions where possible and offsetting the rest."

As part of the certification process, carbon emission calculations – including energy and paper consumptions, waste management, business travel and water supply – were conducted by Hotelbeds, using metrics devised by Carbon Footprint Ltd.

Carbon Footprint Ltd has also successfully completed a verification of the carbon footprint assessment for Hotelbeds. This included spot-checking source data from across the company as well as reviewing the overall methodology.

About Hotelbeds

Hotelbeds is the world's leading bedbank.

In a fragmented and complex travel landscape, Hotelbeds provides over 180,000 hotel properties across the globe with access to high-value, complementary distribution channels that significantly increase occupancy rates and optimise RevPAR – whilst not competing with the hotelier's direct distribution strategy.

Hotelbeds does this by offering hoteliers access to a network of over 60,000 hard-to-access B2B travel buyers such as tour operators, retail travel agents, airline websites, and loyalty schemes in over 140 source markets worldwide. These channels provide hotel partners with returning guests that book further in advance, cancel less, spend more in-destination and stay longer.

In addition to accommodation, Hotelbeds is also the world's largest B2B seller of travel ancillaries, offering 25,000 transfer routes and 18,000 activities, as well as attractions, tickets and car hire. Operating under the 'Beyond the Bed' product line, it provides both hoteliers and travel distribution partners with an efficient platform and powerful tools to easily integrate and commercialise its leading portfolio of high-margin products.

The company is headquartered in Palma, Spain.

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