Taste the difference

Summary

We have made a decision in February 2016 that all foodstuffs (including alcohol) served in Scottish youth hostels are sourced locally and of Scottish provenance. Everything from eggs to dairy to packed lunches is sourced locally weather it Mackie’s crisps in packed lunches or fresh yoghurt from Arran dairies and we shout from the rooftops about this. This also attracts our guests to try these things out.

Objectives

To keep all food offering local to the hostels and Scottish sustaining local businesses whilst educating and promoting Scotland to our guests.

Economic

Supports local economy
Consuming seasonally

Social

Encourages local collaboration
Offering traditional Scottish products to guests

Environmental

Reduced CO2 emissions from transportation and distribution

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Technical details

How did you get started?

It was decided after discussions with guests and visitors to our hostels often mentioning how they like to taste Scottish food. Our food and beverage leader Lorna Padden then set the wheels in motion by contacting various suppliers and then deciding on e-foods who dedicated themselves to ensuring all our hostels food stuffs were of Scottish provenance.

Successes so far:

- All 32 SYHA Hostels are supplied by the same companies
- Our guest reviews for Food and Catering have increased

Funding: 100% by the NA

Target audience: HI Members/ Guests/ General Public/ Staff/ Differently abled people/ Children/ Families

Reach: National/ Regional/ National/ International

Duration: Ongoing, daily

Partners involved: Our produce partners Efoods

Estimated number of participants:

- Guests: 200,000
- Staff: 220
- Community groups: 5

Communication plan: eNewsletter/ Email/ Press release

Hostels & NA’s satisfaction with the project: 100%

Risks: No risks

Personal insights

This has only been running since February 2016 and haven’t as of yet communicated to all as we have been finalising the complete menu with suppliers. What’s not to love about fresh Scottish provenance sourced locally?

Would you like to know more about this initiative?

Contact: Dan Osborne, Hostel Operations Manager

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Follow SYHA Hostelling Scotland on Facebook and check out their Breakfast Menus below.

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