

The logo for Regional Arts Victoria is positioned in the top right corner. It consists of the words "REGIONAL", "ARTS", and "VICTORIA" stacked vertically. Each letter is formed by a network of black dots connected by thin black lines, creating a digital or circuit-like aesthetic. The logo is partially framed by several thin, bright yellow lines that intersect at various points across the top of the page.

REGIONAL
ARTS
VICTORIA

TOUR GREEN GUIDE

Regional Art Victoria's guide to
more sustainable touring.

Touring Sustainably

Let's face it – touring creates a large carbon footprint. The Programming Team at Regional Arts Victoria are working with our artists to find ways to reduce the impact of our touring.

In 2020 and beyond, we will be doing this by choosing the most sustainable travel options wherever possible, looking at ways we can support your company to reduce the impact of touring, trying to be sustainable while we are been Covid-Safe, and finally offsetting our carbon emissions at the end of each year.

This is part of our bigger organisational focus on being more responsible for our environmental impact, and not just in the office.

What is Regional Arts Victoria doing?

We are working with our service providers to:

1. Use Hybrid vehicles whenever possible for the tour party. Hybrid vehicles run on both petrol and electricity. The battery charges as you drive, using petrol to take off and slow down. There is no need to recharge it – just refill it with petrol when you need it.
2. Identify accommodation providers with a strong environmental policy, which uses re-usable soaps/shampoos etc, actively saves water & power, and provides basic cooking facilities to minimise food wastage for companies; and
3. Work with venues to identify how they can reduce their energy and waste consumption.

Being sustainable can be more challenging on the road, so we have put together some useful tips for you and your company members. We encourage you to have these conversations before you get on the road and to make choices where possible to do what you can. Just by reading this you are already doing a great job!

Avoiding Single-Use Plastic

Have you got your plastic-free kit ready? Bringing cutlery, keep cups and containers on tour can help cut back on single-use plastics.

The reality is, you can't always avoid packaging on the road, but did you know you can collect all your soft plastics and return them to most supermarkets? This even includes the packaging around gaffer tape and electrical tape.

Fresh fruit comes in its own plastic-free packaging! It is also a great healthy snack that supports local farmers and reduces your waste. So why not go bananas?

Top tip!

A day on the road can be pretty tough on the fruit in the bottom of your bag, so why not have a "fruit bowl" container in the car for all your company members to share...

Bring back the bakery! Buying fresh bread from a local bakery supports the local community, and by bringing your own bag, you reduce waste. Win-win!

The bathroom is another area where you can start to reduce your plastics – especially on tour. Bringing your own toiletries instead of using what is provided at motels ensures you are generating less waste. Did you know that almost everything in your toiletry bag has readily available plastic-free alternatives? Try searching online, or your local area for wholefood or eco stores for soap and shampoo bars.

Driving

Driving is a pretty big and essential part of touring regionally. At RAV, we track how many kilometers each tour travels, and last year we were able to offset our carbon emissions from all of yours, and our driving. Reducing fuel consumption can also have an impact! It's a lot of people doing small things that add up to big change!

Did you know...

- Checking the pressure of tires regularly can help keep fuel consumption down.
- Hard accelerating and breaking increases fuel use.
- When you stop at the lights, turning the vehicle engine off while you are stationary uses less fuel than idling longer than 30 seconds.
- Air conditioning can increase fuel use by up to 10%.
- Using cruise control whenever safe to do so can reduce fuel consumption.

Top tip!

For more info on using less fuel, check out this fab resource at RACQ: <https://www.racq.com.au/cars-and-driving/cars/owning-and-maintaining-a-car/fuel-saving-tips>

Food

Food wastage in Australia is a big problem. Not only is it a waste of the resources required to grow the food, it also can be problematic to break down in landfill when it is discarded in a plastic bag. Composting your food scraps on tour is rarely an option. So what can you do?

Bringing food with you on tour rather than ordering takeaway when you can, trying not to order more food than you can eat, and touring with containers for leftovers are all little things that can add up to making a big difference.

Why not tour with an esky and some ice bricks or gel packs you can refreeze in the motel fridge?

Worried you won't always have a microwave when you need it? Why not bring a portable camping stove?

Talk to your team about how you can shop together to reduce your waste.

Challenge: Can you find new ways of reducing waste whilst on the road? This includes not just personal use items, but in the theatre as well!

Touring Sustainability Pack List

Keep cup / favourite mug	Esky with ice blocks
Containers	Small camping stove
Cutlery	Bongo ties
Napkin	Velcro straps
Green bags	Bamboo toothbrush
Produce bag	Soap
Bread bag	Shampoo

Landfill is another huge problem, which we can reduce by thinking about what we buy. Here are some great questions to ask before we buy anything:

- Can that item be borrowed?
- Can it be bought second hand?
- What happens when you are done with it?
- Are there greener alternatives?

And remember – you don't have to do everything; small changes can have big impacts!

In the Theatre

Here are three game changing alternatives to electrical tape:



Bongo Tie – available via the link below
Reusable, and 100% bio-degradable
Perfect for tidying cables!

<https://secure.johnbarry.com.au/bongo-ties>

RUBBER TIES



The Rubber Tie – used mainly in farming, is available via the link below. Fantastic for cables, and the occasional gaff job.

<https://www.greenmoxie.com.au/landscaping-garden/61-gm-rubber-ties-3-packs.html>

HOW TO APPLY





VELCRO Brand 900 x 25mm Black Multi-Purpose Strap

These can be purchased from Bunnings, along with the more common alternative also pictured. Perfect for cables you bring with you on tour, as well as a replacement for electrical tape.



Challenge: How many venues can you convert to these alternatives?

Super Challenge: Can you think of more ways to reduce waste in the theatre?

Share your tips!

Do you have some great tips you have developed to reduce your impact whilst on tour? Please share them with us so that we can make green touring a possibility for every artist. Email us: programming@rav.net.au

Want to know more? Do more? Read more?

Touring Green has been an active movement globally for many years, and there are some great resources out there to dive into:

- greenmusic.org.au/
- touring-artists.info/en/home/mobility-and-sustainability/
- juliesbicycle.com/
- *Who Gives a Crap* have some great tips we love here at RAV for being green: blog.whogivesacrap.org/
- sharewaste.com/ has great tips to start your own compost, or find someone near you where you can drop your scraps off!