

PAVING THE PATH TO GREEN HOSPITALITY

WICKLOW'S BROOKLODGE & MACREDDIN VILLAGE





Geo-Thermal Energy

The Village Well

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Wood Chip Burners

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Surrounded by the rolling hills and green landscapes of Ireland's Garden County, BrookLodge & Macreddin Village provides hospitality and a warm welcome like no other. In business since 1999, BrookLodge has thrived year after year and has successfully expanded into a self-contained Village offering guests and visitors a unique experience. Iconically known as 'The Food Village' and proud home to Ireland's first Certified Organic Restaurant – The Strawberry Tree. In addition to offering a dining experience to remember, the Village also hosts an Italian Restaurant with a true, authentic, Italian menu. Guests can enjoy the warmth and relaxation of The Wells Spa with an array of face and body treatments to choose from. The Thermal Suite at The Wells is an adult-only area of tranquillity.

BrookLodge & Macreddin Village are Industry Leaders in promoting green practices.

From the beginning, conscious decisions have been made to preserve the environment we live in. The road to sustainability began with baby steps and taking the basics on board. The steps have now developed into a programme that is part of everyday life at the Village.

The Macreddin Green Highlight's Explained...

Geo-Thermal Energy: The Macreddin Village Green Programme offers Ireland's only Geo-Thermal energy system. Twenty-six kilometres of underground pipe-work provides under-floor heating and air-conditioning.

The Village Well: The Macreddin Village Green Programme offers carbonated and still pure-water from its very own Village well, ensuring its purity alongside minimizing its carbon footprint. The bottled still or sparkling water that is provided in our bedrooms, meeting rooms and restaurant's is purified drinking water which comes from our own spring well.

Renewable Energy: The Macreddin Village Green Programme is fully committed and signed up to purchasing only renewable energy for our guests. All energy used in Macreddin Village is Green (GAS, Wood Chip & Electricity) except the peat briquettes from our warm and welcoming open fires in the colder months...! Macreddin Village uses renewable and local geo-thermal energy sources which in turn reduces the reliance on fossil fuels.

Wood Chip Burners: Macreddin Village is the only Hotel in Ireland with two, 200KW carbon-neutral Wood-Chip Burners providing all the hot water in your sink, bath, and shower.

Waste Streams: Macreddin Village has had multiple 'Streams for Waste' for many years and sorts waste materials into sixteen different waste streams, we believe we were the first Hotel in Ireland to investigate such a diverse listing. All back-of-house areas have segregated waste bins – minimizing waste and reducing environmental impact.

Food Foraging & Preservation: The Macreddin Village Green Programme follows fully through when it comes to food by offering Ireland's first Certified Organic Restaurant – The Strawberry Tree. Specialising in Organic and Wild Foods, The Strawberry Tree's full-time Wild Foods Forager utilises the bounty of Wild Foods available on our hedgerows and preserves them for future use using traditional methods. These precious resources are stored in our Wild Foods Pantry to be served each night at the Restaurant for our guests to enjoy. In addition, if we served 'conventional foods' in place of Organic, last year many tonnes of chemicals would have been used to grow the food. The Strawberry Tree has won many accolades recognising these efforts with the most recent being – Gold Medal 'Ireland's Menu Provenance Award'.

Climate Protection Partnership: As a Meeting and Conference venue, meeting planners can make a conscious free decision to host their meeting at Macreddin Village. We have partnered with Climate Protection which means we will offset 'The Full Carbon Travel Foot-Print' for all conference attendees against the final invoice.

Electric Car Charging: Electric Vehicles reduce the emissions that contribute to climate change, improving public health and reducing ecological damage. Here at Macreddin Village, it was decided that we simply had to facilitate this and make it as convenient as possible for Electric Vehicle owners to take a break away. BrookLodge and Macreddin Village was the first hotel in Ireland to install electric car charging points and now has 5 pay-as-you-go charging heads onsite which are available 24 hours a day. The charging points are accessed via an app called MONTA, making it easy and accessible for our guests to pay and charge their vehicle during their stay.

Macreddin's Working Bee Hives: Here at Macreddin we currently have many working hives within the Village that work extremely hard producing honey for The Strawberry Tree Restaurant Brigade. The Macreddin Village Honey plays a huge role on The Strawberry Tree Menu each night. Our Pastery Chef Anna loves working with this precious honey.

Carbon Neutral Gas: Macreddin Village is committed to purchasing Biogas and was the first Irish Hotel to make such a decision. Biogas is not a fossil fuel but is made entirely from organic waste. Biogas combined with our Woodchip Plants means that all the fuel required in Macreddin Village is totally carbon neutral (again... with the exception of our peat briquettes!)

Reduced Packaging: We have a very close relationship with all our suppliers and have asked them to use as little packaging as possible on the produce they provide to us. Our Organic Vegetable supplier delivers our order in crates to the kitchen door every day. We are also very conscious of our use of plastic and strive to eliminate the use of plastic as much as possible.

Education: The Village plays host to our Wild Foods MasterClass. Macreddin Village educates attendees by providing an in-depth tuition taking them through a full calendar of natural Wild Foods that are available along 327,000km of our Irish Hedgerows. The MasterClass with The Chefs of The Strawberry Tree Restaurant and Evan Doyle, co-author of the best-selling 'Wild Food' book covers identification as well as instruction on how to gather, cook and preserve wild foods.

The Macreddin Village Green Team: Dedicated Crew members consisting of a person from each department make up our Macreddin Village Green Team. They come together on a regular basis to brainstorm and discuss further steps that need to be taken to ensure Macreddin Village continues its sustainable practices. New ideas are consistently being developed so that we are all ahead of the curve and that we continue to make an impact.

LET US NOT FORGET THE BASICS...

The toilet paper in our bedroom is 100% recycled and is produced from the raw materials obtained from recycled cellulose fibres present in beverage cartons.

Phosphate-free cleaning agents are used in all our departments.

There is individual heating in all guest rooms.

There are power key card savers in all guest rooms.

We use biodegradable straws throughout the Village.

All our Crew members type in Century Gothic which is said to use 30% less ink compared to other forms.

We use Organic and Sustainable products such as VOYA Organics and FLOURISH Organics in The Wells Spa here at the Village.

LET US NOT FORGET THE BASICS...

All our guests are encouraged to assist us with reducing the number of towels and bed linen we send for cleaning each day. If guests are happy to re-use towels and do not want their bed sheets changed, they can communicate this to our Housekeeping Crew by placing the note provided on their pillow.

We now provide QR Cubes in each of our guest's rooms which provides them with all the information they may need during their stay, which is available by simply scanning the QR code with their phone. The QR cube is made from wood by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) who promote environmentally appropriate, socially beneficial, and economically viable management of the world's forests. It also confirms that the forest is being managed in a way that preserves biological diversity and benefits the lives of local people and workers, while ensuring it sustains economic viability.





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