

TOURISM ACT No. 38 of 2005

Tourist Camping and/or Caravanning Sites

Regulations made by the Minister of Economic Development under Section 69 of the Tourism Act No. 38 of 2005 read with the Section 50 of the aforesaid Act, on the advice of the Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority.

REGULATIONS

- 1.1** These regulations may be cited as the Tourism (Registration of Tourist **Camping and/or Caravanning Sites** as Tourist Enterprises) Regulations No.of 2012 and shall come into operation from
- 1.2** Every registered proprietor shall ensure at all times the registered Tourism Camping and/or Caravanning Site conforms to the general guidelines indicated in section 3 and complies with the minimum requirements as stipulated in section 4 below.

2. Definition

A camping and/or caravanning site (herein after called Site) is defined as a demarcated area of land specifically developed to provide sleeping accommodation either in tents or in caravans and also common amenities for living, in an environment bordering or encircling outstanding natural or cultural attractions. These can be located either in a restricted area (e.g. wildlife, nature and forest reserves or buffer zones or sacred areas) or in a non-restricted area.

3. General Guidelines

3.1 Location

- 3.1.1** Location of sites in a restricted area should be done either at the request of the relevant government Authority or by obtaining prior approval of the Authority. In such cases, the proprietor, in addition to complying with the rules and regulations of the Authority, should also comply with the minimum requirements stipulated in these regulations.
- 3.1.2** Sites can also be located in non-restricted areas such as in government land obtained on lease or in private lands, with the necessary natural and/or cultural attractions.

3.1.3 The extent of land necessary to set up a viable site with the minimum necessary facilities should preferably be around three acres, depending on whether the land is flat or hilly or terraced.

3.2 Sites Located in Restricted Areas

3.2.1 Limited/restricted camp fires are permitted at the discretion of the relevant Authority, depending on the location of the site.

3.2.2 Any noise levels which can disturb the environment are not permitted in these Sites.

3.2.3 Cutting of trees or their branches within the Site or environs are strictly prohibited.

3.2.4 The Operators of these sites should strictly abide by the rules prescribed by the relevant government authority.

3.3 Sites Located in Non-Restricted Areas.

3.3.1 The sites in non-restricted areas should be developed in a manner which will not cause any adverse impacts on the physical and socio-cultural environment.

3.3.2 The extent of development should be in proportion to the carrying capacity of the land area available for development in order to avoid any adverse effects of over development.

3.4 The Essential Facilities and Services to be provided at Sites

3.4.1 The sites can be developed to provide facilities and services both for camping and for caravanning.

3.4.2 Separate camping pads should be constructed for camping purposes and separate parking slots should be constructed for caravanning purposes. In addition, there should be a general parking area for the use of the campers.

3.4.3 Running water should be made available to the site for washing, cleaning, bathing and cooking purposes and potable water for drinking purposes.

3.4.4 Electric lighting or solar lighting or any other form of lighting should be made available to the site.

3.4.5 Common toilet facilities should be made available at the site, separately for the males and females, for the use of the campers and the other inmates of the site.

3.4.6 There should be common sitting and resting places in the form of summer houses to be used freely by the campers.

- 3.4.7 There should be separate structures built for dining purposes with adequate number of tables and chairs.
- 3.4.8 There should be common hearths with facilities for cooking, if the site operator has no other means of providing food and beverage services to the campers.
- 3.4.9 There should be a sales outlet within the site stocked with bare necessities and also sufficient number of tents to be rented, if the campers do not bring their own tents and other materials.

4. Minimum Requirements

4.1 Access

- 4.1.1 There should be unobstructed motorable access to the site from a main trunk road with distinguishable signage leading to the Site.

4.2 The Site

- 4.2.1 The site should be landscaped and well maintained at all times
- 4.2.2 The borders of the site should be sprayed regularly with any form of repellent material or adopt suitable best practices to keep the serpents or any other harmful insects and creatures from entering the site.
- 4.2.3 The site should have pathways leading to common areas and to the individual tents and caravan parking lots.
- 4.2.4 All common areas and the pathways should be adequately lit in the night

4.3. Visitor Reception Area

- 4.3.1 There should be a separate reception area to receive the guests on arrival, attend to registration matters and other requirements.
- 4.3.2 Guests should be fully briefed about the rules and regulations regarding the use of facilities provided and also the services available to them.
- 4.3.3 Information regarding the attractions in the area and the activities that can be engaged in should be made available to the guests on arrival.

4.4 Camping Pads and Tents

- 4.4.1 A minimum of ten camping pads (platforms) should be constructed within the site either by hardening the top-soil or by stone paving or by fixing timber decks. The minimum size of a camping pad to erect a tent for two sleepers should be 9.3 m². This should leave a small area in front to serve as a verandah.
- 4.4.2 Each camping pad should be supplied with a minimum of two small wooden/plastic chairs with a small wooden/plastic table and sleeping pads or mattresses.
- 4.4.3 The tents should have a front entry which becomes sealed once closed and at least two windows with protective nets which could be kept open for ventilation purposes.
- 4.4.4 The tents should become sealed once fixed to prevent entry of harmful insects, rodents, reptiles, serpents etc.
- 4.4.5 Some system of lighting, either electricity, solar or lanterns, to be used in the night should be available.
- 4.4.6 There should be a canopy over each tent, if considered necessary, to prevent any inconveniences causing from adverse weather conditions.
- 4.4.7 The distance between any two camping pads should be around 20 meters.
- 4.4.8 The camp operator should have adequate number of tents of different dimensions to be hired to the campers.

4.5 Common Toilet Units

- 4.5.1 The floors and walls up to 1.5 m of common toilet units should be paved with impervious materials.
- 4.5.2 They should be fitted at least with commodes with cisterns, bidet showers, wash basins, bath showers, soap dispensers and towel holders.
- 4.5.3 There should be adequate lighting in the common toilet units, particularly in the night.
- 4.5.4 They should be clean and well maintained at all times.

4.6 Common Hearth for Cooking Area

- 4.6.1 There should be a common hearth for cooking, appropriately arranged with at least four outlets for cooking. This facility, however, will not be required if

the camping rules do not permit the campers to have their own food and beverage services.

4.6.2 The hearth should have a separate sink for washing and cleaning purposes with the required number of items of cooking utensils

4.6.3 There should be adequate lighting in and around the hearth/kitchen, particularly in the night.

4.6.4 The place should be kept clean, hygienic and well maintained at all times.

4.7 Dining area

4.7.1 There should be a separate building or a separate area in the Site preferably with half walls and thatched roofs, for dining, with adequate number of dining tables and chairs.

4.7.2 The dining area should be kept clean and free of insects and rodents at all times and should be well maintained.

4.7.3 There should be adequate lighting in the dining area, particularly in the night.

4.8 The Site Staff

4.8.1 The staff of the site should include a Manager and such other staff as may be necessary for efficient operation of the Site.

4.8.2 All of them should have the necessary training in the operation of the Site and also on safety measure and fire fighting

4.8.3 They should be medically checked regularly for any communicable diseases

4.9 Health and Fire Fighting Measures

4.9.1 A doctor on call should be available at all times to deal with any emergency situation.

4.9.2 Adequate fire precautions should be available on the site with the installation of basic fire fighting equipment

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