



# Learning Tour Summary

Councils, Healsville Sanctuary + Four Pillars Gin



# YARRA RANGES COUNCIL & NILLUMBIK SHIRE

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# HEALESVILLE SANCTUARY

## ZOOS VICTORIA

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## AREAS VISITED ON SANCTUARY WALK

- Waste disposal
- Conservation activations
- Creek and location
- Sanctuary café
- Solar panels
- Australian Wildlife Health Centre
- Platypus enclosure
- Sourcing and reuse of food for wildlife
- Retail shop

## DISCUSSION POINTS

- Kiam believes the success of Zoos Victoria's sustainability ethos is due to the Environmental System they have in place. The system drives the initiatives and programs and once approved everyone within Zoos Vic works within the Environmental System and this drives success.
- Zoos Victoria have a checklist that must be ticked by all suppliers in which they work with. Once the supplier ticks the boxes, they run their due-diligence assessment before they commence a partnership or working with them.
- Partnerships with other businesses must be values aligned. Ben and Jerry's (also a certified B-Corp) have their own checklist for the partners they also work with and hence why Zoos Vic work with them.
- Bin labels – viewed a zoo example. Operators were interested in the bin labelling system and making it easier for their guests/visitors.
- Using only glass bottles in the cafe and no single-use plastics. Post mix drinks in cafe.
- Sustainably caught fish policy. Any fish products that are consumed on-site must meet the sustainable-caught fish policy.
- More plant-based meals are a new direction with Zoos Vic. Therefore more plant-based foods in the café will be introduced at Healesville Sanctuary.
- Wildlife Hospital – allowing purpose-driven actions back of house (caring for sick and injured native wildlife) to be visible to visitors so they can be educated and build more of a connection with the Zoos Victoria's work.

## ADDITIONAL ZOOS VICTORIA SUSTAINABLE ACTIONS

- Our ISO14001 EMS
- Carbon Neutral since 2011-12 and support for offsets with biodiversity co-benefits; 70% carbon reduction
- Our ESG procurement
- 100% renewables – the range of options including HS's Power Purchase Agreement
- Future net zero emissions projects
- Zero Waste to Landfill (Tiny Footprint) initiative
- Rain water collection and Solar Panels at the AWHC (Australian Wildlife Health Centre)
- Bin waste streams (inc. FOGO)
- Compost – browse from koalas to compost
- Catering – compostable packaging kitchen garden (closed loop), sustainably caught fish, Plant based meals, post mix & glass bottles only (no more cans)
- 100 % renewable energy
- Electric Vehicles
- Potted browse project for Kangaroos
- Green team



# FOUR PILLARS GIN DISTILLERY / HEALESVILLE

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## DISCUSSION POINTS FOUR PILLARS

- By 2030 Four Pillars aim to be completely self-sufficient with regards to energy.
- Always keeping it local everywhere they can.
- Made from Gin Program – utilising leftover botanicals from the gin production they provide the botanicals to the local garden nursery for top soil, it is used by bakers to make cookies and other goods. Community members can come in and ask for the leftover oranges which make great cakes. Lots of opportunities for re-use and repurposing.
- 25,0000 jars of marmalade produced in last year from oranges used in botanicals
- Partners include Midnight Mixers who assist with aluminium cans.
- Saving bottles by the gin being piped down to the hospitality area to kegs and using them for the paddles which saves on bottles and glass – approx. 400 paddles on average every Saturday.
- Local chocolatier provides the chocolate nibs to Four Pillars which they turn into a chocolate liqueur.
- Lots of partnering opportunities with Four Pillars – this adds a great community focus effort to their business.
- Viewing bottling line – planning sustainability initiative around packaging product
- The copper veil on the outside fence works to passively cool water – an energy saving initiative.

## OTHER SUSTAINABLE ACTIONS

### FOUR PILLARS

- Four Pillars is certified by Climate Active as Carbon Neutral for THE organisation and product – the First Gin distillery in Australia to receive this status.
- In 2022 they were awarded the IWSC (International Wine & Spirits Competition – London) Inaugural Green Spirit Trophy for the Best sustainability initiatives of any distillery worldwide.
- In 2023 they launched the Four Pillars Sustainability Plan with a Target to reduce Carbon Emissions from the baseline period, for Scope 1, 2 & 3 by a massive 50% in 2030.

