ECST part 3 – European Methodology

Who can become a Sustainable Tour Operator?

- Travel Agencies and Tour Operators that organise tours to and within ECST Protected Areas

How to get awarded?

1. Make sure that the **Protected Area** you want to operate has been awarded the **ECST1** and communicate to it your interest in starting the ECST 3 award

2. Contact the **local tourism businesses** that have been awarded the ECST2 to define your tourism package and make a partnership agreement with the support of the Protected Area

3. Register as an **ECST 3 candidate**

4. Upon registration approval, submit an **Application Dossier** via the Protected Area

5. EUROPARC Federation, through its **Joint Evaluation Commission**, evaluates the documentation received and makes a decision. If positive, the TO will receive the **ECST 3 Certificate**
Prior conditions to be met by the Travel Agencies and Tour Operators (TO)

✓ Have a **commercial license** in force or a document certifying its registration in the corresponding Register.
✓ Comply with the applicable **legislation**.
✓ Develop its activities in accordance with the **ECST Principles**.
✓ Undertake activities in the Sustainable Destination which are **compatible with the Protected Area's management plans** and sustainable tourism strategy.

Contact EUROPARC for more detailed information:
sustainable.tourism@europarc.org