

TRAVEL SMARTER,
SPEND LESS:
THE ROI OF SUSTAINABLE
BUSINESS TRAVEL

Think traveling more sustainably has to cost more?
Think Again. We analyzed client data across eight
core strategies for reducing emissions in corporate
travel and **here's what we found:**

AIR



-92%
emissions reduction



-47%
cost savings

Shift from air to rail

Switching from air to rail tops the list for both emissions reduction and cost savings. While actual savings can vary by region, **rail is consistently less carbon-intensive and often comes at a lower price**, particularly in China and on the East Coast. That said, it's less common to see significant cost savings on rail in some parts of Europe, especially on the Paris-London route.



-17%
emissions reduction



No cost
difference

Shift to more fuel-efficient aircraft

Airfares are based on a mix of factors like demand, timing, and competition, but aircraft type isn't one of them. That means **flying on a newer, more fuel-efficient aircraft won't affect the price of your ticket**, but it can make a real difference in emissions.



-9%
emissions reduction



9%
cost increase

Shift to direct flights

Direct flights are one of the few strategies that reduce emissions but come at a higher price. However, it's important to **keep in mind the positive impact it can have on another key aspect of sustainability: traveler wellbeing**, while cutting emissions.

Shift from business class to economy

Shifting cabin type is one of the simplest and most effective changes you can make when flying. **On average, flying economy can be three times more cost- and carbon-efficient than business class.** That's a potential 67% reduction in emissions and air spend! This is because business class seats take up more space and contribute more to an aircraft's carbon footprint.

67%
potential
emissions
and cost
savings

HOTEL



-15%
emissions reduction



-26%
cost savings

Shift from luxury to upper upscale hotels

Moving away from luxury hotels doesn't just shrink your carbon footprint, it has an even greater impact on cost. Luxury properties often have larger rooms and extra amenities that business travelers don't always need, especially for short stays. Plus, on average, luxury hotels use up to 2,000 liters of water per room night, which can be up to 3X more than upscale options. **Shifting just one tier can lead to big savings (in both emissions and costs)** without sacrificing comfort.



CAR



-18%
emissions reduction



-11%
cost savings

Shift from SUV to mid-sized vehicle rentals

SUVs burn through more fuel, which not only increases carbon emissions but also adds to fuel expenses on top of their typically higher rental rates. **Choosing a more efficient car can reduce your environmental impact while lowering rental and fuel expenses**, especially when travelers don't need the extra space.



-62%
emissions reduction



11%
cost increase

Shift from gas-powered to electric car rentals

Switching to electric vehicles (EVs) can make a noticeable difference in emissions. And while the rental cost may be higher upfront, **fuel savings often help close the gap**, especially for longer rentals or areas with high gas prices.

GENERAL

Traveling less

Even a small reduction in travel volume can make a significant impact on our emissions and your bottom line.

Across our client base, the top 20 routes account for just 2% of total volume—but they drive:



11% of total
emissions and travel spend

So cutting volume in half across these top 20 routes (i.e. decreasing global volume by 1%) would result in:



-5.5%
emissions reduction



-5.5%
cost savings

Ready to start saving with a sustainable travel strategy?

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