



GSTC Standards Have Been Updated !

Dear GSTC Certified and Applicant Tourism Businesses,

The **GSTC Industry Criteria v3.0 for Hotels/Accommodation (H/A) and Tour Operators**, currently applied within the GSTC Certification Program, were revised and republished on **30 December 2025** as two separate standards:

- **GSTC Hotel Standard v4.0**
- **GSTC Tour Operator Standard v4.0**

These periodic updates are intended to enhance the effectiveness of sustainability assessments and support the tourism sector in adapting to evolving industry needs and expectations.

The transition period will be completed on **05 September 2026**. From this date onwards, all **Initial Certification, Surveillance, and Recertification audits** will be conducted against the applicable updated standards.

Tourism Businesses wishing to maintain their GSTC certification or apply for GSTC certification for the first time are expected to comply with the requirements of the relevant standards in force.

As an **accredited GSTC Certification Body**, RoyalCert will continue to carry out its certification activities in accordance with the current standards and GSTC Program requirements.

Access the Updated Standards

GSTC Hotel Standard v4.0

<https://www.gstc.org/wp-content/uploads/GSTC-Hotel-Standard.pdf>

GSTC Tour Operator Standard v4.0

<https://www.gstc.org/wp-content/uploads/GSTC-Tour-Operator-Standard.pdf>

For any questions regarding the standard update, transition process, or GSTC certification activities, please contact the RoyalCert team at info@royalcert.com.