



Parchi Emilia Centrale

ITALIA

To: Valerio Fioravanti, director

Cc: Giovanni Battista Pasini, president

Cc: Chiara Rognoni, responsible for ECST

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20th January 2021

Emilia Centrale Parks

Award of European Charter for Sustainable Tourism in Protected Areas

Dear Valerio,

Following the official verification in your protected area of work under the European Charter for Sustainable Tourism in Protected Areas, I am pleased to inform you that the Evaluation Committee, at its meeting on 30th November 2020, examined carefully the thorough report which the appointed verifier prepared as a result of her evaluation visit to the Charter area.

Decision and recommendations:

It was unanimously agreed to award the Charter certificate to the Emilia Centrale Parks for a five-year period from **2020 to 2024**.

The Evaluation Committee congratulates the **Emilia Centrale Parks** for the successful evaluation application and the enthusiastic, committed team. The Committee would like to commend you for the excellent promotion of public transport and the great effort on behalf of visitors with special needs.

The Committee members endorsed the overall verifier's recommendations set out in her report (as attached) and draw your attention especially to those stated on page 8.

The next five years

As you know, the award recognises an on-going process of sustainable tourism development in cooperation with a wide range of local partners and stakeholders. It is awarded for an initial period of five years.

Because the award is part of that on-going process, the Evaluation Committee particularly emphasises the need for networking with other protected areas over the next few years. This will be one of the aspects which verifiers will evaluate at the time of the re-evaluation in 2024.

The Committee also recommends the following:

- Please make sure that all the actions in the strategy and action plan are monitored on an annual basis.
- You need to ensure that the necessary funds for the re-evaluation in five years are included in your budget plans well before 2024, should you wish to continue as a Sustainable Destination.
- Towards the end of the current five-year period you will need to check that all the recommendations contained in the evaluation report have been considered and acted upon.

Award Ceremony for the European Charter for Sustainable Tourism in Protected Areas

Unfortunately, due to the current pandemic situation, we will not be able to hold the usual award ceremony in Brussels in the coming months. Depending how the pandemic develops in the near future we hope to make plans accordingly, either by having a live meeting when the situation allows it or carry out the ceremony online, if this is not possible.

We shall let you know when we are in a position to make a decision.

We should like to congratulate you once again on being re- awarded the ECST and hope that you will continue to work closely with other Sustainable Destinations across our European network.

With all good wishes and every success in your future activities.

Yours sincerely,



Ignace Schops
President
EUROPARC Federation