

Objective

Measure the flow of water in guest rooms and central bathrooms to ensure it meets the Travelife minimum requirements.



1: Understand the Travelife requirements

The requirements apply to guest room bathrooms and bathrooms in public areas. They are:

- The water flow in basins must be no more than 5 litres per minute.
- The water flow in showers must be no more than 10 litres per minute.
- Toilets must not use more than 6.5 litres per flush.
- Urinals must not use more than 2 litres per flush.

If you are preparing for your first Travelife audit, then you must show that you have plans in place to achieve the above flow rates in the next two years.



2: Measure the flow in a selection of bathrooms

The flow can change depending on the distance the water has to travel through your pipes. For example, if you have bathrooms over several different floors, take measurements on the lowest floor and the highest floor.



3: Measure the flow from the cold tap in a basin

If you do not have a purpose-built tool, you can use this method:

1. Use a timer on a stopwatch or smartphone along with a container to catch the water (such as a measuring jug) that has millimetre and/or litre measuring units.
2. Turn on the cold water to full flow.
3. Start the timer at the same time that you place the container under the flow.
4. Catch water for exactly 10 seconds.
5. Turn off the water and/or remove the container from the flow then measure how much water it contains in litres.
6. Multiply the measurement by six to get the flow rate per minute.



4: Measure the flow from a shower

Use the same method above but use a container big enough to contain the flow, such as a bucket, then accurately measure how much water is in the bucket. Multiply that by six to get the flow rate per minute.



5: Measure the flow in toilets and urinals

This can be difficult if tanks are contained behind bathroom walls or use another type of technology. In those cases, we recommend you use your best estimate or talk to a technician or supplier about the best way to measure flow. If the tank is accessible and you can switch off the water to it, this is a reliable method:

1. Remove the tank cover and make a note of the water level.
2. Turn off the water supply to the tank.
3. Flush the toilet/urinal so that it is empty of water. It should not refill.
4. Use a measuring jug to refill the tank to the original water level, noting how many litres of water you have to use. This is the amount of water you use per flush.