



Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort Aruba Certified Most Sustainable Hotel & Resort in the World



Green Globe is proud to announce Platinum Membership for Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort, Aruba and confirm the resort is now the Highest Scoring Hotel & Resort in the world for sustainable operations and management. Following a rigorous auditing process, Bucuti has scored 98% of Green Globe's sustainability criteria. Combined with its continuous certification and improvement for more than 15 years, Bucuti is a most inspiring example of the connection between sustainability and success in travel and tourism.



"Bucuti associates work together daily to provide a safe, healthy and sustainable vacation experience that benefits our guests as well as the world we share," says Ewald Biemans, founder and CEO of Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort and regional sustainable tourism pioneer. "Achieving Green Globe Platinum confirms that our team is committed to the rigorous standards of certification and the essential preservation of our environment."

Everyone is on the Green Team

The key to Bucuti's success comes from the fact that everyone at the resort is on the green team. While it can be said that Bucuti's green team starts with the top, it really works in a circular fashion. Ewald Biemans, founder and CEO of Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort and noted environmentalist spearheads many plans and efforts and the Sustainability Manager acts as the day-to-day point of contact to help implement initiatives. All Bucuti associates execute aspects of the green plan and provide feedback as do the resort guests who are key contributors.

Innovating, interesting community program

In January 2016, Bucuti teamed up with island veterinarians to reduce the number of homeless dogs and cats on Aruba and make responsible pet ownership a reality. The resort launched "Love me. Sterilize me," a community outreach program that provides island dogs and cats with much-needed spay and neutering surgeries along with microchipping thanks to generous subsidies from Bucuti. To date, more than 5,000 dogs and cats have been registered of which 2,500 have already been sterilized.



Healthy portions

This is a great example of how guests' desire for sustainability has factored into their vacation preferences and how Bucuti has in part developed a sustainability initiative. In early 2016, Bucuti introduced a low carbon footprint dining menu at its Elements restaurant. The menu was created after guest feedback about large portions and the resort noticing significant food waste — an average of 30 percent per entrée. The new responsible and satisfying dining experience features perfectly sized healthy portions, which are better for both the guests' and the environment's wellbeing.

Monthly beach clean-up

From the website and even the in-room channel that's tuned into the resort's environmental approach video, guests quickly learn that they are a part of Bucuti's green story. To preserve the beauty of Aruba, Bucuti hosts a monthly beach cleanup (see news segment) and invites guests and staff to participate. The 20-year-old program removes an average of 500 lbs. of waste from the beach each year. This greatly helps to reduce emissions, preserve natural resources and protect marine life, including nesting endangered leatherback turtles.



Reusable canteens

Currently Aruba does not recycle plastic, leaving the waste to go into the island's landfill. Bucuti has therefore actively sought to reduce the use of non-biodegradable materials and practically eliminated plastics from the resort. These initiatives include switching to durable cups at the bar, installing in-room dispensers for shampoo, conditioner and lotion (instead of individual plastic containers), and gifting guests a reusable water canteen upon arrival. In more than six years since the water canteen program began, it is estimated that Bucuti has kept nearly two million plastic bottles out of the landfill. Bucuti hosts approximately 193 guests on any given day. At an average of 93% occupancy of 104 rooms and 2 adults per room, $96.5 \times 2 = 193$ per night $\times 365 = 70,606$ days of water consumption annually. Considering the recommended consumption of 64 oz. of water per person per day, Bucuti potentially reduces the number of plastic bottles by 774 per day or 282,424 bottles per year (based on a 16 oz. plastic bottle). In the six and a half years since the program began, this totals 1,835,756 plastic bottles kept out of Aruba's landfill.



Green Globe auditor and Director of Sustainability at OBM International, K. Denaye Hinds, carried out the successful recent audit and says, "I've had the privilege of working with Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort, Aruba for over five years. The dedication and vision that the leadership and work team has, signifies their commitment to sustainability, culture and conservation. We've journeyed through the challenges and creativity of finding sustainable solutions together, and I am proud to wish them congratulations on their 98% achievement and Platinum Membership within Green Globe."

About Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort, Aruba

Nestled on the most romantic and secluded section of Aruba's Eagle Beach, Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort's 14-acre stretch of white sand is consistently named one of the Caribbean's top beaches. Our guests flock here to relax in luxury amidst the sheer natural beauty of the turquoise waters, pristine beach and warm, gentle breezes.

At Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort, we're just as passionate about nature and its beauty as you are. In fact, Bucuti is one of Aruba's - and the Caribbean's - greenest hotels and has been since it was built in 1987. We're eco-pioneers, and creating a sustainable, eco-friendly resort is woven throughout the fabric of our company culture. We're proud to have initiated the first Green Globe 21 certification of hotels in Aruba in 2000, and we are the first resort in the Americas to be certified ISO 14001. At Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort, luxury and an eco-friendly business model aren't mutually exclusive — they go hand-in-hand. Want to know more about our green practices? Download our [Environmental Best Practices brochure](#) or find out how you can [get involved](#).

About Green Globe Certification

Green Globe is the worldwide sustainability system based on internationally accepted criteria for sustainable operation and management of travel and tourism businesses. Operating under a worldwide license, Green Globe is based in California, USA and is represented in over 83 countries. Green Globe is an Affiliate Member of the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO). For information, please visit www.greenglobe.com