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## BUCUTI & TARA BEACH RESORT, ARUBA, CERTIFIED MOST SUSTAINABLE HOTEL IN THE WORLD

Highest scoring resort gives guests low carbon footprint vacation

EAGLE BEACH, Aruba – August 1, 2016— Green Globe just awarded <u>Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort</u> its new Platinum Membership and confirmed the resort is now the highest scoring hotel and resort in the world for sustainable operations and management. With an outstanding score of 98 out of 100, Green Globe heralds Bucuti as "a most inspiring example of the connection between sustainability and success in travel and tourism." Guests lower their carbon footprint in the world when selecting Bucuti as their vacation of choice.

Green Globe is the premier worldwide certification and performance improvement program developed specifically for the travel and tourism industry. It assists organizations to improve their economic, social and <u>environmental sustainability</u>. A selection of more than 380 compliance indicators is applied to 44 individual certification criteria each of which must be maintained and progressed upon annually. This is Bucuti's 16<sup>th</sup> Green Globe certification.

Green Globe auditor and Director of Sustainability at OBM International K. Denaye Hinds, who carried out the audit said, "I've had the privilege of working with Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort 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."

"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 while we provide our guests with both an unrivalled memorable and sustainable vacation."

## Flipping the Switch on Sustainable Energy

Bucuti is on track to becoming the first carbon neutral resort in the Caribbean. It's currently installing a photovoltaic solar panel system, the first of its kind and size installed by a resort on-island. The island-produced system is expected to reduce Bucuti's current energy demand by 22 percent. Coupled with the 25 percent of clean energy it already sources from the government, Bucuti will run on 47 percent clean energy by the end of 2016. The resort will reduce carbon emissions by 431 metric tons of CO2e annually or the equivalent of consumption of 22,356 gallons of gasoline or powering a cellphone for 8,946 years of use.

Learn more about the sustainability initiatives at the Caribbean's most eco-certified resort at Bucuti.com.

## **About Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort**

Named a Top 10 Hotel in the World in 2016 and honored back-to-back in 2015 and 2016 as the No. 1 Hotel in the Caribbean by guest-driven TripAdvisor, Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort is Aruba's premier adults-only boutique resort. Led by celebrated hotelier and environmentalist, Ewald Biemans, the resort is nestled on the powdery white sands of Eagle Beach, home to protected sea turtles and named one of the "Dream Beaches of the World." Bucuti offers 104 well-appointed guestrooms, suites and penthouses; sunbeds and shade for every guest; fresh water infinity pool; spa; WiFi; and complimentary iPad with Skype for use during stay. Award-winning, fresh, healthy dining is enjoyed at oceanfront Elements; epicurean-lovers' Carte Blanche; Tara Lounge; and private beach dining. Reserved exclusively for guests and their friends, the open-air SandBar on the beach offers top-shelf cocktails and live music daily. The resort is TAG Approved® as a gay friendly hotel. Bucuti, a worldwide sustainable tourism leader, holds eco-certifications of LEED Silver, Green Globe Platinum, ISO 14001 and Travelife Gold.

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