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BUCUTI & TARA BEACH RESORT FLIPS THE SWITCH ON SOLAR POWER INSTALLATION

EAGLE BEACH, Aruba – September 16, 2016— [Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort](#) is on track to become the first carbon neutral property throughout the Caribbean. Aruba’s only TripAdvisor GreenLeader Platinum resort is currently installing a photovoltaic solar panel system. The renewable energy system is the first of its kind and size installed by a resort on-island.

The 630 panel 170 kilowatt, solar power installation generates 282,700 kilowatt-hours of electricity per year. The project is expected to reduce Bucuti’s current energy demand by 22% and reduce carbon emissions by 431 metric tons of CO₂e annually.

This reduction is the equivalent of:

- powering a cellphone for 8,946 years of use,
- consumption of 22,356 gallons of gasoline
- and carbon sequestration by 5,385 trees.

Bucuti’s remaining energy needs will continue being sourced from the government of which 25 percent is clean energy from wind turbines and island solar panels at Aruba’s Queen Beatrix International Airport. As the Caribbean’s [most eco-certified hotel](#) this initiative and existing sustainability practices will allow Bucuti to increase its carbon output offset to 73%.

Sourced from Aruba's Tusk Energy Solutions, the system provides the maximum wattage a business on-island is permitted to produce. A major benefit of the micro-inverter system is that the level of production remains the same even if a panel or partial panel is negatively affected by damage or dirt. This allows for consistent optimal energy production without disruption.

"Installing solar panels to create our own energy for Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort is a significant move toward reaching our ultimate goal of complete carbon neutrality," says Ewald Biemans, owner and CEO of [Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort](#) and noted environmentalist. "Our efforts complement the government's laudable goal for Aruba to become fossil fuel independent with 100 percent of the island's energy generated by renewable sources by 2020."

A pioneer in sustainability, Bucuti has long been on its way to carbon neutrality. Successful initiatives include reducing water consumption, using thermal solar panels to heat water and energy-saving technology for climate control throughout resort buildings. In summer 2015, Bucuti was the first Caribbean property recognized with the coveted LEED Silver designation for its extensive efforts in retrofitting the resort with environmentally sound materials and practices. Recently, Bucuti's Elements Restaurant unveiled its [new low carbon footprint menu](#) featuring sensible, satisfying serving sizes while simultaneously reducing waste otherwise destined for the landfill.

[Learn more](#) about Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort.

Images (courtesy of Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort)

Dropbox: <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/7q2w29arlyrcon7/AAAudlaJaZ52x-u9hdgliddva?dl=0>

Bucuti+Tara-Beach-Resort Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort, Aruba's premier adults-only boutique resort, is serene and peaceful, perfect for honeymooners and couples looking for romance and relaxation.

Bucuti+Tara_Solar-Panel-Installation Specialists from Aruba's Tusk Energy Solutions install the new solar panel system on the roof of Bucuti's Elements Restaurant

Bucuti+Tara_Solar-Panels_Elements The new micro-invertor solar panel system at Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort is discreetly located on the roof of the resort's popular Elements Restaurant.

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, ISO 14001 and Travelife Gold.

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