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## Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort Receives *Travel + Leisure* 2020 Global Vision Award

Caribbean's only carbon neutral hotel heralded

EAGLE BEACH, Aruba – March 18, 2020 – <u>Bucuti</u> & <u>Tara Beach Resort</u>, the Caribbean's first and only carbon-neutral hotel, has been honored with <u>Travel + Leisure magazine's 2020 Global Vision Award</u>. The region's most eco-certified



hotel is recognized for its contributions for creating a healthier environment for guests, staff and the community.

Resort Owner/CEO Ewald Biemans, also the Caribbean's most noted environmentalist, began bringing his sustainability to life at Bucuti & Tara more than 30 years ago. From the first step of banning single-use plastics, Biemans quickly embraced providing a healthier vacation option. Along the way, numerous initiatives followed including outfitting every accommodation with individual air purifiers, using only eco-friendly cleaning products, debuting Healthy Portions for more appropriately sized servings and 30% reduced plated meal waste and even inviting guests to participate in beach clean-ups to protect marine life. It's collaborated to build Aruba's most extensive solar panel system in the private sector, decreased waste stream-to-landfill by 62% all the while increasing year-round occupancy to 97%+ and even pioneered a much-needed island spay and neutering program that has cared for 12,000 registered local dogs and cats. Biemans is routinely asked to speak on global stages and help others understand memorable vacations and sustainability can indeed be *mutually inclusive*.

The Global Vision Awards recognize people, places, and companies making change in the traveler's world by working hard to minimize their footprints while maximizing their positive impact. Winners not only demonstrate thought leadership and creative problem-solving, they are taking actionable, quantifiable steps to protect communities and environments around the world.

"We are tremendously proud for Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort to be named the recipient of Travel + Leisure magazine's esteemed Global Vision Award," says Ewald Biemans, Owner/CEO of Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort and the Caribbean's most prominent environmentalist. "While healthy, sustainable travel practices have always been a priority for Bucuti & Tara, we see in our current time of the COVID-19 that our long-standing approach including HACCP and multiple ISO certifications are absolutely critical for the continued well-being of our guests and staff."

Bucuti & Tara is one of 24 travel companies honored in the 2020 Travel + Leisure Global Vision Awards, which recognize standout efforts to protect and preserve the world's cultural and natural resources. The list of honorees is result of nominations drawn from an esteemed panel of experts across the travel, hospitality, and sustainability industries. Those nominations were then narrowed to a select list of finalists vetted by Travel + Leisure.

The 2020 Global Vision Award winners are also featured in the April issue of Travel + Leisure magazine and on travelandleisure.com/global-vision-awards.

To learn more, visit Bucuti.com.

## About Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort

Declared the first CarbonNeutral®/net zero hotel in the Caribbean in August 2018, Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort is one of the Top 10 Hotels for Romance in the World, No. 1 Hotel in the Caribbean, No. 1 Hotel for Romance in the Caribbean (fourth straight year) and No. 1 Hotel for Service in the Caribbean. Aruba's premier adults-only boutique resort is led by celebrated hotelier and environmentalist, Ewald Biemans, named by Caribbean Journal as the 2017 Caribbean Hotelier of the Year. 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; freshwater infinity pool; spa; WiFi; and complimentary iPad with Skype for use during stay. Award-winning healthy dining is enjoyed at oceanfront Elements, 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 along with the Caribbean's first Healthy Hour. The resort is TAG Approved® as a LGBTQ-friendly hotel. Bucuti, a worldwide sustainable tourism leader, holds eco-certifications of LEED Gold, Green Globe Platinum, ISO 14001 and Travelife Gold and was named the World's Most Sustainable Hotel/Resort in 2016 by Green Globe.

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