



## ***The Caribbean's #1 Hotel for Romance and 1<sup>st</sup> Carbon Neutral Hotel***

### **OVERVIEW**

Welcome to Aruba's only boutique resort catering exclusively to adults (18+). The European-inspired, 104-room Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort has welcomed couples for thirty-two years to an unrivaled and tranquil beach experience set in a most romantic atmosphere. For the sixth straight year, Bucuti is named the Tripadvisor Travelers' Choice Awards winner as the **No. 1 Hotel for Romance in the Caribbean** and is **No. 8 for Romance in the World**.

The resort's passionate commitment to sustainability also reads like a beautiful love story. In August 2018, Bucuti & Tara achieved becoming the **first certified carbon neutral hotel in the Caribbean**. Bucuti & Tara continues proving that a memorable vacation and sustainability are *mutually inclusive*.

### **LOCATION**

Nestled on 14 palm tree-studded acres on the widest, most secluded section of Eagle Beach, one of the "Dream Beaches of the World," Bucuti is tucked away from all of Aruba's high-rise hotels and only 15 minutes from the airport. Still, the resort is conveniently located nearby all major attractions including world-class shopping, a variety of restaurants, the Divi Links nine-hole golf course and Arikok National Park.

### **ENVIRONMENT**

Bucuti is as passionate about protecting the environment as it is caring for guests. The resort continues being a long-time leader in sustainable tourism. In addition to incorporating the highest level of eco-friendly practices into daily operations, owner and noted environmentalist Ewald Biemans spearheads several widely recognized environmental initiatives and is committed to educating guests and the local community on the importance of conservation.

Bucuti & Tara became the world's first hotel to receive the Global 2020 United Nations Climate Action Award for Climate Neutral Now. It is the first Caribbean hotel to achieve LEED Gold Certification under the new, most stringent requirements in LEED history, v4.1. In March 2020, Travel + Leisure magazine named Bucuti & Tara a 2020 Global Vision Award winner. In August 2020, Green Globe awarded Bucuti & Tara with the first perfect score – 100% -- in the organization's history. In October 2019, Ewald Biemans received the coveted 2019 Phoenix Award, the pinnacle accolade for sustainable leaders from the prestigious Society of American Travel Writers. In July 2019, Bucuti & Tara delivered an encore performance as the recipient once again of the National Energy Award. The month prior, Ewald Biemans/Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort was the first-ever inductee into the Caribbean Hotel and Tourism Association's CHIEF Hall of Fame for Best Practices for Environmental Sustainability. In April 2019, Bucuti was the first-ever recipient of the World Travel & Tourism's (WTTC) Tourism for Tomorrow 2019 Climate Action Award. Biemans was a featured presenter at the WTTC's prestigious 2019 Global Summit, which



### **Best of the Best**

Top 10 Hotel in the World for Romance  
Top 10 Hotel in the Caribbean  
#1 Hotel for Romance in the Caribbean  
Caribbean's only Carbon Neutral Hotel



[CarbonNeutral.com](https://CarbonNeutral.com)



was headlined by former U.S. President Barack Obama in Seville, Spain. Biemans was the first individual to ever receive the Gold Adrian Award – Leader in Sustainable Tourism presented by HSMAI and National Geographic in 2017 and was named the “Green Hotelier of the Year” in Caribbean Journal’s 2014 Caribbean Travel Awards. Bucuti also holds the most eco-certifications in the region including LEED® Gold, ISO 14001 (first in the Americas), ISO 9001, Green Globe Platinum and Travelife Gold. In 2016, Green Globe named Bucuti the “Most Sustainable Hotel & Resort in the World” and named it to the new elite level of Green Globe Platinum.

In 2019, Bucuti & Tara introduced Let’s Plant Aruba. The brainchild of Ewald Biemans, program founders kicked off the initiative of planting indigenous trees, including regional fruit trees throughout the island. Trees help against carbon dioxide output, provide shade, cool their surroundings and possibly bear fruit as Bucuti & Tara hopes to see as the first tree planted is a mango tree in the resort’s courtyard.

#### **“NO SURPRISE RATES”**

With its signature “no surprise rates,” Bucuti’s nightly pricing includes all taxes and fees, a full American breakfast daily, local calls, Wi-Fi throughout the entire property and complimentary use of an iPad (with Skype installed) in the privacy of each guestroom.

#### **CONCIERGE REIMAGINED**

Well before guests touch down in Aruba, Bucuti & Tara’s expert concierge staff begins preparing their visit and working with each guest. That’s because every resort guest has their own personal concierge. Upon arrival at the resort, their personal concierge greets them curbside and welcomes them in the newly unveiled entrance with a glass of Champagne. From there their concierge escorts guests directly to their room via tablet check-in. Without having to wait at a front desk, this seamless new arrival experience lets guests head to Eagle Beach to begin relaxing into vacation mode.

Bucuti’s expert concierge team is available to provide general information and recommendations on activities and dining in the surrounding area, ensuring that guests experience the island and its unique Dutch culture. Honeymoon guests have the benefit of working with a dedicated **Romance Concierge** in advance of and during their stay to ensure their honeymoon is everything they have dreamed of and more. Excursions including island tours, hiking, snorkeling and scuba diving are a sampling of what’s available. The concierge team is also available to provide guests with information regarding special events such as movies under the stars that are scheduled on property.

For travel needs, the concierge team is happy to arrange a car rental on property, check flight statuses and provide information on local transportation.

#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Refreshed in 2020, the **Bucuti Wing** has 63 rooms including 48 garden view guest rooms, 10 ocean view guest rooms, three bungalows and two ocean view suites. The five-story **Tara Wing** features 36 oceanfront suites, four penthouse suites and one deluxe room. Renovated in mid-2017, all 44 Tara suites along with the lobby and lounge feature a sophisticated, comfortable interior design reflective of cultured Aruba. In summer 2018, a sleek sophisticated entrance way and new concierge lobby debuted. These renovations reflect Bucuti’s steadfast commitment to continuous reinvestment.

All rooms and suites have a microwave, mini bar (including coral reef-friendly sunscreen), in-room safe, hair dryer, iron and ironing board, large balcony or terrace, cable television, Wi-Fi, locally made Aruba Aloe toiletries, coffee maker, air conditioning, ceiling fan, direct dial phones and king or queen-sized beds.



Penthouses include kitchens. Additionally, each room is equipped with dehumidifiers and air-purifiers with HEPA filters to keep the air clean, free of allergens and odor-free.

## **DINING**

Guests relaxing on the beach can take advantage of Bucuti's signature red flag beach service during the day and enjoy dining at one of three on-site dining options.

### **Elements**

Set against a backdrop of breathtaking ocean views, Elements is Aruba's premier restaurant offering European and Caribbean cuisine, and healthy dining. The restaurant is a repeat winner of the Award of Excellence from Wine Spectator. In 2020, it was named by USA TODAY as the Best Restaurant in the Caribbean.

Wholesome menu options span the palette with extensive selections of local fare, world cuisine, and vegan, vegetarian and gluten-free preferences. Guests with special dietary needs are warmly welcomed by the resort's dynamic culinary professionals. A leader among the Caribbean dining scene, Elements is also at the forefront of Aruba's blossoming vegan experience. In summer 2020, the culinary team expanded the restaurant's designated [vegan menu](#) to the delight of many whether they are dedicated vegans or making the first foray into plant-based dining.

With most tables set only for two, couples can savor the serene ambiance while dining on the oceanfront deck or enjoying beautiful Eagle Beach indoors via the floor-to-ceiling windows. The award-winning restaurant reflects Bucuti's desire to provide guests with a total sense of wellness while showcasing the beauty of Aruba's natural environment. In 2016, Elements introduced Healthy Portions providing guests entrée serving sizes more advantageous to their wellness goals and preferences. As added benefits, guests enjoy a more complete dining experience with room for various courses, and the new portion sizes lighten the restaurant's carbon footprint by up to 30% from plated dishes due to eliminated food waste.

Romantic beach dining can be enjoyed in one of Bucuti's signature private palapas. Complete with a special six-course meal, couples can select sunset or moonlight seating to savor this intimate dining experience.

Aruba Night, known as Local Arts – Local Eats, is Bucuti's weekly tribute to its home on One Happy Island. Every Monday guests can enjoy an authentic Aruban dinner at Elements, purchase local handmade items and listen to Aruban music. A chef-led cooking demo featuring local recipes that are as healthy as they are delicious. Aruba Night is adjacent to the SandBar from 5 - 7 p.m.

A complimentary American breakfast is served daily in Elements and the Tara Lounge.

### **SandBar**

Guests seeking a more casual atmosphere can enjoy the SandBar. The modern outdoor lounge area is exclusively open to Bucuti guests and provides a relaxing spot to enjoy a cocktail and stargaze or take in the sunset. SandBar also offers lunch service featuring a combination of classic favorites and island flavors.

In 2018, Bucuti debuted the **Caribbean's first Healthy Hour**. The newest facet of Bucuti's wellness program, one of the most comprehensive throughout the Caribbean, lets guests toast to their health. Enjoyed at the SandBar daily from 3-4p, nourishing smoothies and handcrafted Bucuti-designed mocktails are half-priced and accompanied with a complimentary wholesome snack.



Happy hour at SandBar is daily from 4 - 6 p.m. and 9 - 11 p.m. and as a nod to Bucuti's guests, only top-shelf drinks are poured. Live steel band music at SandBar daily from 5 - 7 p.m.

### **Senses**

This chefs table experience is the creation of Executive Chef Kelt Hugo Maat and Maitre D` Bas Kruisselbrink. Originally from The Netherlands, this globally trained culinary powerhouse fuses classic French techniques with international flavors to create cuisine and cocktails that complement the spirit of their home in Aruba. Guests are treated to a gastronomic journey that delights the senses in five to eight courses. This innovative fine dining experience is served in an intimate atmosphere that tantalizes through sight, smell, touch, audio and, of course, taste.

### **ROMANCE**

As the Caribbean's reigning resort for romance, Bucuti offers these exclusive curated experiences.

#### **VIP "Vacation Like a Celebrity"**

Arrive to Aruba like an A-lister. Be met at the jetway by a personal assistant. Relax in an ultra-private lounge teeming with Champagne and goodies while luggage is collected. Bypass immigration lines and be whisked away by private car for an in-room check-in. Rockstar service without the paparazzi!

#### **New Timeless, Romantic Picnic**

This classic sweethearts' tradition beckons. Receive a picnic-perfect meal, blanket, pillows and a map customized by Bucuti's romance concierges with Aruba's dreamiest hideaways.

#### **Champagne Beach Butler Service**

Snuggle together on the white sand beach and catch a prismatic sunset while savoring Champagne, freshly made canapés and hors d'oeuvres served by a beach butler.

#### **Yacht Monforte**

Set sail on this grand teak schooner for a uniquely elegant five-hour excursion to the stunning Spanish Lagoon. Access hidden treasures of tropical coves and white sandy beaches. Indulge in free-flowing beverages from the premium bar, a gourmet meal and adventures including snorkeling, kayaking, third-lung diving and rope swinging.

#### **Romantic Beach Dinner**

Bucuti's signature dining experience, relax together in a private beachfront cabana surrounded by candlelight and swaying palms. Complete with a special three-course meal including wine or Champagne, select sunset or moonlight seating.

#### **Honeymooners Champagne Toast - Complimentary**

Held along the beach every Tuesday, Bucuti & Tara Owner/CEO Ewald Biemans invites newlyweds to gather for a Champagne toast to their honeymoons and one another.

#### **Sunset Catamaran Sail**

Aruba's sunsets are dazzling. As the sun melts into the ocean, cruise the tranquil waters with your "dushi" (native Papiamentu for "sweetheart") on this relaxing, intimate sail. Sip your favorite beverage from the open bar.



### **Movies Under the Stars - Complimentary**

Settle in together on loungers and take in the classics at our beach theater under the brilliant night sky.

### **WELLNESS PROGRAM**

The resort's all-encompassing commitment to wellness extends to tailor-made wellness programs designed to support guests' individual needs and preferences. Interested guests work individually or as a couple with wellness specialists who design a personalized program based on their wellness goals in each or all of the areas of **Nutrition, Physical Fitness, Mental Wellness and Mind/Body Balance**. This is the first service of its type offered by a property on Aruba.

Wellness program guests can enjoy personalized workout offerings in the fitness center or on the beach and even off-property at Aruba's Arikok National Park and multiple water sports. Dietary guidance is provided for onsite as well as offsite restaurants. Specific spa services and meditation and relaxation offerings are also individually recommended by Bucuti's wellness specialist for guests. The wellness program lets guest maintain their continuum of wellness even while on vacation and hopefully beyond.

In 2018, Bucuti expanded its wellness offerings including **complimentary activities and classes**. Daily offerings rotate with yoga and meditation, Tai Chi on the beach, sunrise beach walks, nutritional counseling, group personal training sessions and chef-led cooking demonstrations of healthy dishes.

### **SPA**

Bucuti's **Purun Spa** offers a range of therapeutic, rejuvenating treatments inspired by nature. Purun is an old Papiamentu word for "water container." Aruba's natural resources of water, coconut, aloe, sea salt and even white sand are incorporated into many of Purun's treatments. The full-service menu includes aromatherapy, facials, body wraps and romantic couple's massages. For added indulgence, guests may also enjoy outdoor spa treatments on the beach.

### **FITNESS CENTER**

Guests can enjoy a workout in Bucuti's spacious fitness center while enjoying a tropical view thanks to floor-to-ceiling windows. The air-conditioned facility is well-equipped with free weights, spin-bike machines, treadmills, step machines, rowing machines and more. Available to guests 24/7.

In 2019, Bucuti debuted a new line of eco-fitness bikes and treadmills. Powered by human endurance, these electricity-generating bikes allow guests to burn calories while simultaneously creating kilowatts that are sent directly to the resort's power grid.

### **POOL**

Bucuti's fresh water, infinity-edge pool is centrally located to both the Bucuti and Tara Wings and overlooks the white sands of Eagle Beach. Poolside red flag service is provided by the SandBar, Bucuti's exclusive beach bar for its guests.

### **OTHER AMENITIES**

Additional amenities and services available to guests include:

- Guaranteed sunbeds and shade for every guest



- Beach clean-up on the third Wednesday of each month
- Qigong class (form of Tai Chi) on the beach Wednesdays at 7:30 a.m.
- Gift shop
- Dry cleaning/laundry service and free self-serve laundry facilities
- Secure environment with cameras and 24/7 security team
- Multilingual staff
- Free parking
- Handicap facilities

**COVID-19 SAFETY PROTOCOLS: Caribbean's Safest, Healthiest Vacation**

Choosing to celebrate a honeymoon, anniversary, birthday or "just because" vacation at Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort includes enjoying the Caribbean's Healthiest, Safest Vacation Experience. As the Caribbean's most eco-certified resort, the health and wellbeing of both guests and staff were paramount in detailed protocols long before the unfortunate development of COVID-19 in the world.

Bucuti & Tara housed ICU doctors and nurses who teamed up with the resort's leadership team in developing and implementing the most stringent hospital-grade, high-tech COVID-19 safety protocols. Without resorting to harmful, toxic chemicals, Bucuti & Tara employs a multistep cleaning and sanitizing system. For example, after using green cleaners in accommodations, they are then further sanitized with an ionizer and UVC germicidal lamp - the same types used in the world's highest rated hospital operating rooms. Guests also notice staff such as housekeeping or bell staff will never be in the room the same time with them. Aruba's residents are the sixth most COVID-19 vaccinated in the world.

Bucuti & Tara is among the initial recipients of the Aruba Health & Happiness Seal, promising guests the safest vacation. While hugs are now smiles, the warmth of Bucuti & Tara's proud Aruban staff continues to radiate.

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| <b>ADDRESS</b>        | Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort<br>L.G. Smith Boulevard #55B<br>Eagle Beach, Aruba<br>Dutch Caribbean  |
| <b>TELEPHONE</b>      | + 297-583-1100  |
| <b>RESERVATIONS</b>   | 1-888-4-BUCUTI (1-888-428-2884)   |
| <b>E-MAIL</b>         | info@bucuti.com   |
| <b>WEBSITE</b>        | <a href="http://Bucuti.com">Bucuti.com</a>  |
| <b>SOCIAL MEDIA</b>   | Facebook: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/BucutiTaraBeachResortAruba">https://www.facebook.com/BucutiTaraBeachResortAruba</a><br>Instagram: <a href="https://instagram.com/bucutitara/">https://instagram.com/bucutitara/</a><br>Twitter: <a href="https://twitter.com/Bucuti">https://twitter.com/Bucuti</a> |
| <b>OWNER / CEO</b>    | Ewald Biemans (see full bio below)  |
| <b>RESORT MANAGER</b> | Rik van der Berg  |





**DIRECTOR OF SALES & MARKETING** Susan Logan

**MEDIA RELATIONS** Revel Concepts  
(757) 645-3113  
Amy Kerr – [amykerr@revelconcepts.com](mailto:amykerr@revelconcepts.com)

### **BIOGRAPHY – EWALD BIEMANS (see below)**

**Ewald Biemans**  
Owner/CEO  
Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort, Aruba



#### Biography

Ewald Biemans developed the Bucuti Beach Resort, which opened in October of 1987. He added a luxury wing to the resort called the Tara Beach Suites in March 2014. The resort enjoys year-round average occupancies of 97%+. The adults-only enclave is a setting of tranquility and laidback luxury with its three cornerstones being romance, wellness and sustainability. Through Biemans leadership, today, Bucuti & Tara is Tripadvisor's No. 1 Hotel for Romance in the Caribbean and No. 10 in the World while also being the Caribbean's first and only carbon-neutral resort – a testament that memorable vacations and sustainability can be *mutually inclusive*.

Born in Austria, Biemans began his hospitality career with Hilton and Intercontinental in South America prior to earning his Bachelor of Science in International Business at Florida State University. After moving to Aruba in the early 1970s, Biemans managed The Coral Strand Hotel, later to become the renown Talk of the Town Restaurant and Resort. He subsequently co-owned and managed the Manchebo Beach Resort before developing Bucuti & Tara as the sole owner.

Biemans is highly involved in the tourism industry, and has taken on leadership roles to better the community whenever possible. He actively encourages other hotels on-island to also take the initiative to protect Aruba's natural resources. Biemans is a long-serving board member of the Aruba Hotel and Tourism Association (AHATA). A forward thinker, he is constantly researching, embracing and welcoming new technologies to aid in implementing solutions. His contributions include serving as president of AHATA, founder of Aruba's SKAL Club chapter, creator and long-serving chair of the environmental committee for AHATA, and long serving director of the board of the island's Arikok National Park.



Stewardship is inherent to the company culture at Bucuti & Tara and it flows throughout the entire operation and staff. Under Biemans direction and leadership, the staff prioritizes and invests in an extensive list of best practices in environmental sustainability, encompassing a wide range of local stewardship and environmental causes.

As an industry leader in eco-friendly practices, Bucuti & Tara holds the most eco-certifications in the Caribbean. Each provide the resort's sustainability framework and require rigorous annual renewal recertification processes:

- Certified CarbonNeutral® - Caribbean's First Certified CarbonNeutral® Resort
- LEED Gold - Highest ranking Caribbean resort for extensive retrofitting
- Green Globe Platinum - "World's Most Sustainable Hotel"
- ISO 14001 - for environmental management
- ISO 9001 - for quality standards
- Travelife Gold - for successfully managing environmental and social impacts

Biemans, a sought-after guest speaker on eco-tourism, has been honored on numerous occasions both locally and internationally for his environmental preservation work:

#### Sustainability Awards:

- Travel & Leisure - 2020 Global Vision Award Winner
- World Travel & Tourism Council – 2019 Tourism for Tomorrow Climate Action Award
- Certified CarbonNeutral® – Caribbean's first certified CarbonNeutral® Resort – 2018-2021
- National Energy Globe Winner - 2018-2019
- Caribbean Hotel & Tourism Association - 2019 CHIEF Hall of Fame Award for Best Practice for Environmental Sustainability
- Caribbean Hotel & Tourism Association – 2018 CHIEF Award for Social Responsibility for Spay and Neuter Program
- Caribbean Hotel & Tourism Association - 2017 CHIEF Award for Environmental Sustainability
- HSMAI/National Geographic Traveler – 2016 Gold Adrian Leader in Sustainability
- Green Globe Platinum – 2016 Most Sustainable Hotel in the World
- Green Hotelier – 2015 Award - Highly Commended in Americas
- Travel Weekly – 2015 Magellan Award Eco-Friendly Hotel
- Tripadvisor – GreenLeader Platinum 2015-2021
- Caribbean Travel Awards – 2014 Green Hotelier of the Year
- Green Globe – 2011 High Achievement Award
- Green Globe – 2009 Award for Superior Environmental Protection
- American Express - 2009 Green Award
- Caribbean Hotel & Tourism Association – 2009 Green Hotel of the
- International Hotel & Restaurant Association – 2009 Environmental Aware





- ISLANDS – 2009 Blue List - Environmentally Friendly and Sustainable Practices
- National Geographic Traveler – 2009 Stay List

Biemans' resort is the recipient of a multitude of quality awards including:

- Tripadvisor Travelers' Choice Awards – No. 1 Hotel for Romance – Caribbean (2015-2021)
- Tripadvisor Travelers' Choice Awards - Top 10 Hotels for Romance in the World (2016-2021)
- Tripadvisor Travelers' Choice Awards – No. 1 Hotel in the Caribbean (2020)
- Tripadvisor Travelers' Choice Awards – Top 10 Hotels for Best Service (2016-2021)
- Tripadvisor Travelers' Choice Awards – No. 2 Tops for Date Night in the World (2021)
- Tripadvisor Travelers' Choice Awards – No. 8 Hotel in the World (2016)
- USA Today - 10Best in the Caribbean – No. 1 Caribbean Resort, No. 1 Caribbean Restaurant for Fine Dining (2020)
- U.S. News and World Report – Gold Badge: No. 1 Best Hotel on Aruba, Top 25 Best in the Caribbean (2015-2021)
- Travel & Leisure - World's Best List: Top 25 Resorts in the Caribbean
- Condé Nast Traveler – Readers' Choice Award (2016-2020)
- Wine Spectator – Award of Excellence (2019-2021)
- Caribbean Journal – 2017 Hotelier of the Year: Ewald Biemans
- USA Today – 10best Hotels in Caribbean (2017-2018)
- Forbes – No. 1 Adults Only Getaway: Finding Paradise
- World Travel Awards – 2015 Leading Hotel in Aruba
- Booking.com - Excellence Award Score 9.6 out of 10, 2015-2018
- Orbitz Elite - 2015 "Best Stay" Award
- Hotels.com - 2015 Excellence Award (score 4.9/5)
- Condé Nast – 2013 Gold List "Best Places to Stay"
- Aruba Hotel & Tourism Association – 2009 Hotelier of the Year
- Caribbean Travel and Life - 2009 Reader's Award
- Caribbean Hotel & Tourism Association – 2002 CHTA Hotelier of the Year

Ewald lives in Aruba, where he appreciates the natural beauty and kindness of the local population. He cares for seven rescue dogs and a miniature farm at his home. He actively manages his businesses and is the leader of Bucuti's Green Team.

Questions:

Susan Logan

Director Sales and Marketing

susanlogan@bucuti.com

Skype: susanlogan\_6