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BUCUTI & TARA

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# Caribbean's Only Certified Carbon-neutral Hotel Plans for Earth Hour, Earth Day

EAGLE BEACH, Aruba – March 5, 2023 – <u>Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort, Aruba</u> is inviting guests to join in its celebration of Earth Hour 2023 and Earth Day 2023. As the <u>Caribbean's first certified carbon-neutral hotel</u> staff are making it informative and easy for guests to make their carbon-neutral stay, even greener.

## Lights out for Earth Hour – March 25<sup>th</sup>

A symphony of light switches being turned off will welcome Earth Hour at the resort on March 25, 2023. Earth Hour asks that people worldwide turn off lights from 8:30 – 9:30 p.m. locally for this one hour a year. In a united gesture to, guests and staff will join in dimming the resort for Earth Hour, the world's largest grassroots movement for the environment. Each year this event binds millions of people worldwide to show solidarity for both people and planet.

Earth Hour coincidentally falls at the start of sea turtle nesting season on Bucuti & Tara's beach. Staff is accustomed to helping guests learn how to prepare the beach for nesting Leatherback sea turtles. Sharing the world-famous beach with some of Aruba's earliest visitors is a treasured tradition for many guests. One of the key initiatives to helping the Leatherbacks feel safe and to successfully create their clutches is for lights to be dim as sea turtles rely on moonlight to accurately guide them to and from the water.

## Earth Day becomes Earth Week

Earth Day, also internationally recognized, is April 22 and kicks off an Earth Week celebration for the resort. Bucuti & Tara plans a host of activities to raise awareness and inviting guests to be hands-on in protecting the shared planet.

#### Initiatives include:

- **Recycled Crafts Contest.** Each year for Earth Day, employees tap into their imaginations to create beautiful works of art by recycling items from Bucuti & Tara. Guests serve as judges, enthralled by the creativity, passion, and ingenuity.
- **Earth Day Beach Clean-up.** Guests are invited to join resort staff in combing the beach to remove debris. This monthly initiative creates a bond as people join together to keep the beach pristine and marine life protected. Annually, approximately 500 lbs. of debris are removed.

While Bucuti & Tara may be the world's only adults-only, carbon-neutral hotel, for the second year in a row, special guests, local school children will join in the special Earth Day Beach Cleanup. This year, Paola Pappers and her colleague of Mon Plasir will participate with 57 children of nearby Plasir Basisschool in joining the efforts so Aruba's future may continue to learn from the past and present.

A representative of the school shared, "We think it's very important to teach the kids about sustainability in class. They are our future and we want to give them real world skills they can use to improve the planet! Ending our project with a beach clean-up is so much fun for them, because they feel they're helping out and doing something good! It makes it all more real. And they love being hands on."

- Nature Preserve Tree Planting. With the recent debut of The Bucuti GMC Nature Preserve in celebration of the resort's 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary, for Earth Day, 54 trees will be planted. Associates, guests, and the public are invited to participate in this reforestation effort the provides clean air.
- **Movies Under the Stars.** The resort's biweekly tradition inviting guests to snuggle on loungers on the beach and watch a movie outside will commemorate Earth Day with a special feature dedicated to caring for each other by caring for the planet.

Bucuti & Tara continues to follow the science as it drives forward towards becoming the world's first carbon negative hotel. Through special insulating paint that reduces energy consumption, putting the administrative offices on a microgrid, being almost 100% paperless, EV taxi service and charging station, and offering a growing selection of plant-based meals at its heralded Elements restaurant, preserving travel for generations to come is part of Bucuti & Tara's commitment to every guest and staff member.

### Backed by sustainability successes and continued investment

For guests new to Bucuti & Tara, the resort's best of the best approach is deeply rooted throughout every aspect of the stay. The Caribbean's first certified carbon-neutral hotel entered 2023 with its latest certifications and accolades to include Certified CarbonNeutral<sup>(R)</sup>, Green Globe Platinum certification, and the repeat winner of the Energy Globe Award.

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Learn more by visiting Bucuti.com

#### **IMAGES**

Images are located in this Dropbox folder.

## 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 (fourth straight year), No. 1 Hotel for Romance in the Caribbean (seventh straight year) and No. 3 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."

Home to the Caribbean's Safest, Healthiest Vacation Experience thanks to its physician-developed COVID-19 safety protocols and Aruba's Health & Happiness Code seal, Bucuti has 104 well-appointed guestrooms, suites and penthouses. It offers sunbeds and shade for every guest; freshwater infinity pool; spa; WiFi; and complimentary iPad 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 offers top-shelf cocktails and live music daily along with the Caribbean's first Healthy Hour. The resort is TAG Approved® as an LGBTQ-friendly hotel. Bucuti & Tara, a worldwide sustainable tourism leader, holds eco-certifications of CarbonNeutral®, LEED Gold, Green Globe Platinum and Travelife Gold and was named the World's Most Sustainable Hotel/Resort in 2016 by Green Globe.

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