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A Star Chef and a Heralded Wine List Set the Mood for Fine Dining at this Top Caribbean Resort

EAGLE BEACH, Aruba – Sept. 5, 2023 – With a smile as wide and genuine as his culinary talents, Executive Chef Alexander Powell welcomes Bucuti & Tara guests for a dining experience most fitting for their vacation at Tripadvisor’s No. 1 Hotel in the Caribbean. Leading the culinary experience at [Bucuti & Tara’s Beach Resort](#) famed Elements restaurant includes recently receiving the Wine Spectator Award of Excellence for 2023.



From Mom to Michelin Stars

Chef Alex has dazzled heads of state, Hollywood elite, professional athletes and celebrity chefs (watch out, Gordon Ramsey, he’s ready to challenge you next!). He promises the thrill is the same for every guest he serves here at Bucuti & Tara’s award-winning [Elements restaurant](#) and [SandBar](#).

As a young boy growing up in Jamaica, each day after school, he helped cook at his Mom's restaurant. Powell also cared for his younger siblings on their farm where they raised or grew almost everything they ate. This led to his passion of developing recipes while creating from whatever ingredients are available, a talent Elements’ guests enjoy today.

He’s developed his craft at Michelin-starred restaurants in New York City, Washington DC and the always popular Miami culinary scene. He’s worked in the top venues in the Bahamas and Turks & Caicos. Chef Alex attended New York Restaurant School, studied at Marriott International, and heightened his expertise through the culinary Concept by Jean-Georges. It is the latter, Jean-Georges Vongerichten, who became his mentor and trainer beginning Chef Alex’s first day out of culinary school. Under his tutelage, Chef Alex has trained chefs for Jean-Georges, one of the most famous chefs in the world with more than 40 restaurants to his name, and overseen the kitchens of five-star hotels. To this day, the two chefs remain close.

Today he wows resort and restaurant guests with climate-forward dining reflecting the vacation experience they’ve chosen - one that is as healthy for them as it is the staff, community and the planet. [Full menus](#) for world cuisine, vegetarian, vegan, gluten-free and the resort’s popular Authentic Aruban & Caribbean menu that is a collective of the all-Caribbean staff’s family recipes handed down over generations.

“The greatest joy is working with culinary team members who share a genuine passion for creating dishes

that diners remember as one of their most inspired experiences, and by joining Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort's Elements restaurant and SandBar, we have the privilege of wowing guests from all over the world on any given day," shares Executive Chef Alexander Powell. "Elevating this excitement is the fulfillment of receiving the Wine Spectator Award of Excellence 2023."

Wine Spectator says "Cheers" with Award of Excellence for Elements Restaurant



Memorable dining deserves memorable wine. Wine Spectator has once again heralded Elements Restaurant with its coveted [Award of Excellence 2023](#). Wine Spectator is a globally respected source for wine expertise and wine lifestyle inspiration. Through every issue, and online, our editors provide unique insights and educate our readers on wine & spirits, food & fine dining, travel, culture and entertainment.

The resort's carefully curated wine menu is thoughtfully categorized under headings such as 'powerful,' 'rich and spicy,' or 'lush' reds, along with 'tangy,' 'creamy,' or 'floral' whites. These wines have been meticulously chosen to harmonize with Elements' international menu. From traditional meats and succulent seafood, to dedicated vegan options, and the restaurant's popular authentic Aruban and Caribbean dishes made daily from staff family recipes, there is always a wine to pair with each choice.

The culinary team propelled Elements to its position as one of Aruba's foremost dining destinations. Explore the wine list that complements the meals served at Tripadvisor's No. 2 Restaurant in the World for Date Night.

This comes just as the [Caribbean's first certified carbon-neutral hotel](#) is being celebrated as the newly announced No. 1 Hotel in the Caribbean and Top 18 Best Hotel in the World by Tripadvisor. Bucuti & Tara has long been recognized globally as a pioneer in proving that memorable vacations and sustainability can be mutually inclusive.

Learn more by visiting Bucuti.com

IMAGES & VIDEOS

Images and videos are located in [this private media gallery](#).

About Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort

Declared the [first CarbonNeutral® hotel in the Caribbean](#) in August 2018, Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort the No. 1 Hotel in the Caribbean and No. 18 Hotel in the World according to Tripadvisor. 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 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 IGLTA and 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. New in 2023, the resort is the newest member of Regenerative Travel.

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