Aruba media inquiries: Crescenzia Biemans <u>cresi@bucuti.com</u>

International media inquiries: Amy Kerr amykerr@revelconcepts.com



Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort, Aruba, Soars as First Ever to Win Two Perfect 100% Scores from Green Globe

EAGLE BEACH, Aruba – Dec. 1, 2024 - Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort. Aruba, made history - again! The Caribbean's first and only certified carbon-neutral hotel continues to pioneer new standards by earning its second perfect 100% score making it the first hotel in history to achieve this from Green Globe, the world's leading certification for sustainability in travel and tourism. Green Globe particularly lauded Bucuti & Tara's sustainability efforts for extending beyond the property's borders to impact Aruba's environment, positively community and economy.



Setting a global standard in sustainability

Bucuti & Tara earned its first perfect score in

2020, which was also the first perfect score Green Globe ever awarded throughout its own history. The resort's second perfect <u>Green Globe</u> score accentuates its comprehensive approach to sustainable operations, from carbon neutrality to community-focused initiatives. To earn this prestigious certification, organizations must meet rigorous criteria covering environmental, social and economic sustainability. The Green Globe Certification Standard includes 44 criteria in four groups and supported by over 380 compliance indicators. The Standard has been developed over three decades and guarantees the highest level of sustainable operations and management.

Green Globe CEO Birte Pelayo said, "Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort needs to be commended for its unprecedented performance with successive perfect 100% compliance scores, along with its PLANTINUM status representing 25 years of certified sustainability. Over this time the resort has launched a wealth of initiatives, both local and global. Green Globe would like to highlight Bucuti's promotion of carbon neutral vacations, which have demonstrated that a tourism business, with the enthusiastic support of its guests, can lead the way with direct action on climate challenges.

Added Pelayo, "Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort has been a forerunner in sustainable tourism in both the Caribbean and on the world stage, aligning its management with the United Nations Sustainability Development Goals, while regularly organising beach clean-ups and many other local initiatives. We recommend tourism businesses world-wide look to Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort for inspiration and instruction in tourism practices that are the future of our industry."

"It is an absolute privilege to receive a second perfect score from Green Globe. The organization was

founded after the United Nations' pivotal 1992 Earth Summit and as I watched Aruba's hospitality offerings begin to expand, I knew we wanted to care for the island's natural beauty, the very essence of what captivates visitors, so Bucuti & Tara turned to Green Globe in creating what is now one of the Top 25 Hotels in the World for our guests to enjoy, our staff to thrive and our community to prosper sustainably," says Ewald Biemans, Owner/CEO of Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort, Aruba.

Transforming sustainability into action, and beyond borders

For more than 37 years, Bucuti & Tara has continued to push the boundaries of eco-conscious hospitality, culminating in a harmonious balance of being named among Tripadvisor's Top 25 Best Hotels in the World while being one of the most eco-elite globally. Bucuti & Tara's sustainability program, with more than 400 action-driven initiatives, continues to innovate and inspire.

In this most recent Green Globe audit, the certification body revealed these key highlights:

- The Bucuti Tara GMC Nature Preserve. In 2022, the resort, along with Owner/CEO Ewald Biemans and island friend Greta Marie Case, gifted Aruba with a 32-acre/13-hectare prime stretch of land in the middle of busy Noord, called <u>The Bucuti Tara GMC Nature Preserve</u>. This preserve is being reforested in partnership with Ban Lanta y Planta and nature trails are being added. Fragile ecosystems are already awakening and when the reforestation is complete with 15,000 indigenous trees, more than 375 tCO2 emissions will be drawn down from the atmosphere each year for Aruba's future generations. Local university students collaborate with the resort to identify native plant species and measure carbon sequestration rates. These efforts continue to draw together staff, guests and community members and businesses who reflect great pride for their Aruba home.
- Stimami Sterilisami. In 2016, the resort founded and is the primary funder of <u>Stimami Sterilisami</u>, a national spay/neuter program for local dogs and cats that humanely reduces pet overpopulation on island by providing subsidized spaying and neutering procedures and promotes responsible pet ownership. To date, almost 40,000 pets have been spayed or neutered and the program is expanding to provide fully complimentary spay and neuter procedures to rescue organizations and low income households.
- Monthly beach clean-ups. A 32-year tradition at Bucuti & Tara, <u>monthly beach clean-ups</u> regularly remove more than 1,000 lbs/454 kg of debris annually, engaging staff and guests. Locals and island organizations are also invited to join the efforts.
- Local artistry in renovations. The recent <u>reimagining of Bucuti & Tara's casually sophisticated Tara</u> <u>Lounge</u> includes furniture handcrafted by local artisans with Aruba's Coastal Crafters, blending sustainability with cultural celebration.

A legacy of care for a brighter future for all

Bucuti & Tara is grounded in people, place and planet. The resort invites guests to embrace eco-conscious living during their stay, offering planet-forward dining, authentic cultural experiences and opportunities to participate in conservation activities. The resort is also deeply, holistically dedicated to the health and wellness of its staff, which the Caribbean Hotel & Tourism Association just named the No. 1 Employer by honoring Bucuti & Tara with its coveted <u>2024 CHTA CHIEF Award for People (Staff) Development and Support</u>.

Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort combines romance, wellness, and sustainability, ensuring every vacation leaves a positive impact on Aruba's environment and community.

For more information on Bucuti & Tara and its sustainability initiatives, visit Bucuti.com.

IMAGES & VIDEOS

Images located in this Dropbox folder and this private media gallery.

About Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort

Declared the first certified CarbonNeutral[®] hotel in the Caribbean in 2018, Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort is the No. 3 Hotel in the Caribbean and No. 21 Hotel in the World according to Tripadvisor. Aruba's premier adults-only boutique resort is led by celebrated hotelier and environmentalist, Ewald Biemans, who holds many accolades including multiple Hotelier of the Year awards. 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 guest rooms, suites and penthouses. It offers sunbeds and shade for every guest; freshwater infinity pool; spa; WiFi; and complimentary iPad for use during their 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. The resort exemplifies an all-embracing commitment to the <u>United Nations Sustainable Development Goals</u> and the United Nations deemed Bucuti & Tara's sustainability program "highly replicable and scalable" for hotels worldwide to emulate.

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