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## **Mon Plaisir School Children, Aruba Airport Authority Staff and Community Join Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort for Earth Day 2024** *Seedlings of hope planted for a greener future for Aruba*

EAGLE BEACH, Aruba – April 23, 2024 – [Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort, Aruba](#) welcomed the future of Aruba for a special Earth Day 2024 celebration and tree planting on Mon., Apr. 22. Held at The Bucuti Tara - GMC Nature Preserve and organized in partnership with Ban Lanta y Planta, in celebration of the 55th anniversary of Earth Day, 55 trees native to Aruba were planted.

### **Aruba's future generation helps plant seedlings of hope**

Fifty-five fifth-grade school children and their teachers of Mon Plaisir School in Oranjestad were joined by five Aruba Airport Authority employees and 30 Bucuti & Tara staff members for the special event. Four volunteers with [Ban Lanta y Planta](#), Aruba's highly impactful reforestation nonprofit organization, prepared and guided the planting process.

The [spirited group](#) enjoyed getting hands-on as they dug holes and gently planted seedlings reflective of the school children's very point in life as they help grow Aruba's future. The 55 trees included Brasil (*Haematoxylum brasiletto*), Calbas (*Crescentia cujete*), Seida cora (*Jatropha gossypifolia*), Palisia blanco (*Bursera karsteniana*) and Palo di bonchi (*Erythrina velutina*).

### **Community pride and partnerships**

Bucuti & Tara sponsored the water for the trees for the first three years for 2750AWG. They also provided sandwiches and fruits along with cold water in the resort's reusable water bottles for each child to have as a keepsake of the good they did for their island home on Earth Day.

Fofoti Tours & Transfers donated the transportation for the school children and teachers. Bucuti & Tara staff members carpooled to the nature preserve to lessen their carbon footprint.

"Hearing the laughter and seeing the joy and hard work of the children who participated in this special Earth Day 2024 planting at The Bucuti Tara - GMC Nature Preserve gave all of us hope for their future here in Aruba," shares Ewald Biemans, Owner/CEO of Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort. "I thank all who helped make this a day of progress including Ban Lanta y Planta, Mon Plaisir Primary School, Aruba Airport Authority, Aruba Tourism Authority, Fofoti Tours & Transfers and our dedicated Associates at Bucuti & Tara."

### **The Bucuti Tara - GMC Nature Preserve**

[The Bucuti Tara - GMC Nature Preserve](#) is located in the heart of Noord. Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort, Owner/CEO Ewald Biemans and island friend Greta Marie Case donated the 12-hectare/30-acre stretch of land in Oct. 2022 as a gift to Aruba. By forever saving this land from further development, the fragile ecosystem within it is starting to strengthen. Flora and fauna, including any of the more than 280 bird

species, are calling the preserve their safe haven. Nature paths will be added to the preserve for local residents and island visitors, alike, to have a peaceful spot to soak in Aruba's natural beauty while breathing in fresh air provided by the newly planted trees.

With the Earth Day 2024 tree planting, The Bucuti Tara - GMC Nature Preserve now has 735 indigenous trees planted. More than 1,000 seedlings are being prepared in the greenhouse as the Phase 1 reforestation initiative continues. Ultimately, the nature preserve is being reforested with 15,000 native trees. Researchers and students with the University of Aruba are partnering with the nature preserve to study the emissions drawdown capability of each indigenous species of tree. Doubling as a carbon sink, once completely reforested and matured, the nature preserve will draw down an estimated 375 tCO<sub>2</sub> emissions annually from the atmosphere.

Learn more by visiting [Bucuti.com](http://Bucuti.com)

#### **IMAGES & VIDEOS**

Nature Preserve images are located in [this Dropbox folder](#).

Images and videos are located in [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 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.

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