



Momentum for Change: Climate Neutral Now

Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort: Excelling Beyond Carbon Neutrality

Aruba

In August 2018, [Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort](#) in Aruba became the Caribbean's first – and still the only – hotel to achieve carbon neutral certification. And to go one step further, Bucuti & Tara's team has strengthened its sustainability pledge by venturing beyond carbon neutral to the goal of carbon negative.

Major leaps include installing the island's largest private sector solar panel system, decreasing waste stream-to-landfill by 62% while increasing occupancy to 98.5% in the first year of net zero auditing, installing double-paned, insulated air-filled or film-coated windows, and converting from an air-conditioning/chiller system to a Variable Refrigerant Flow (VRF) cooling system. For the past two decades, it banned single-use plastics and Styrofoam on the resort, a move Aruba implemented island-wide in 2020.

This is a success story of a small company that has achieved environmental preservation that is highly scalable for even large business.

Key facts

- A photovoltaic solar panel 173KW system provides 15% of energy needs. Combined with 25% island-sourced energy produced by wind turbines and solar panels, the resort runs on 40% clean energy.
- 62% of waste is diverted from landfill by donating all food waste to pig farmers, recycling glass and cardboard, repurposing/donating linen/towels.
- In 2018-19, it worked with the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) to further reduce total food waste up to 30%. Bucuti prohibited single-use plastics and Styrofoam 20 years ago.
- The resort is working towards being 100% paperless by the end of 2020.

More information

Digital assets are available for download at <http://bit.ly/2020-global-climate-action-awards>



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