

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Bay Gardens Resorts, St. Lucia

Bay Gardens Resorts is St. Lucia's largest, locally owned hotel chain and the brand has been making significant strides in the area of environmental sustainability. While the properties have implemented several significant sustainable practices over its 25 years of existence - including a linen reuse program, local produce initiative and solar water heater installment - the recent years have seen even further efforts come into play.

Bay Gardens Resorts has lately reduced the use of plastics and styrofoam products, replacing disposable products with reusable ones to eliminate waste where possible. Where single-use products are necessary, biodegradable options are used. Additionally, the installation of GEM Link occupancy sensors in all hotel rooms, have led to a 20 percent reduction in energy usage reduction per occupied room.

Blue Horizons Garden Resort, Grenada

In light of the increasing impact of climate change as well as tourism's impact on the environment, Blue Horizons Garden Resort is reducing dependence on fossil fuels, expanding carbon sinks throughout its landscape and preserving existing flora on the property. This is being done through a mix of high and low technologies, including the use of energy-efficient lighting.

Over the course of these initiatives, Blue Horizons Garden Resort is continuously monitoring its year-over-year consumption patterns and improving its performance, while maintaining its Green Globe Certification.

Small Hope Bay Lodge, Bahamas

Environmental sustainability has been a priority at Small Hope Bay Lodge for more than a decade. However, after Hurricane Matthew decimated the property's small scale solar panel during the 2016 hurricane season, it was decided that Small Hope Bay Lodge would launch a major re-engineering and upgrade initiative focused on solar power.

The initiative includes upgrading the solar hot water system and adding a solar-assisted freezer unit, while recognizing the special challenges of an out-island hotel (such as a corrosive environment and frequent potentially hazardous weather events). The end result will be a reduction of hot water costs by at least 75 percent and a reduction of overall electricity costs for one freezer unit by 33 percent.