



# Sustainability Report 2021 / 2022

#### **FORFWORD**

In ancient Greece, Plato, the philosophers and the Stoics understood nature as the orderliness of the world as a whole.

In this day and age everything has to be fast and convenient, which has led to the fact that the community and the nature have been pushed into the background.

Let us take the time again to turn our senses to nature and to reconcile.

Our operating philosophy is to act as a community to ensure the continuance of the Greek traditions and hospitality, to secure the labor market and to support local suppliers and their products.

With the support and the aid from the above we strive to protect our heritage and do our utmost's to respect and keep our beautiful island attractive and environmental friendly.

Especially on Crete you will find many endemic plants and animals. Our top priority is the preservation of nature and careful management of our resources, and it has become part of our daily work.

The goal of Apollonia Beach Resort & Spa is to satisfy customers in all issues in connection with a fair relationship with all our employees, the local community and the suppliers, the protection of the traditions, environment and to preserve the beauty of Crete for coming generations.

The Management Team

#### INTRODUCTION

"Nature is relentless and unchangeable. And it is a matter of indifference whether the hidden reasons and types of their actions are understandable to man or not."

Galileo Galilei

"To think about the end in everything you do, that is sustainability."

Eric Schweitzer

#### CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

APOLLONIA BEACH RESORT & SPA IMPLEMENT
THE CORPORATE SUSTAINABILITY CULTURE, WHICH IS
THE CONSTANT COMMITMENT TO ETHICAL BEHAVIOR
AND THE CONTRIBUTION TO THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, WHILE IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIFE OF ITS
EMPLOYEES AS WELL AS THE LOCAL COMMUNITIES
AND SOCIETY IN GENERAL.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY**

The management and the staff of Apollonia Beach Resort & Spa is knowing about the importance of the protection of the environment in the development of tourism and in general have developed and put in practice a System of Environmental Management according to the criteria of the international model ISO 14001:2015. The System of Environmental Management covers the total of the hotel activities and especially accommodation and dining services.

The hotel management therefore commits itself.

- ⇒ To submit to any requirements of the law or others related to environmental activities
- ⇒ To value the effects on the environment of these activities with a view to decreasing or even eliminating these negative effects
- ⇒ To become active in every possible way for the protection of the environment and the prevention of pollution.
- ⇒ To set goals with the aim of a continual improvement.

With the above commitments the hotel aims to the following:

- + Realization of activities related to energy saving measures, decrease of water consumption, the right management and decrease of waste and sewage.
- → Maintenance of the air quality.
- → Protection of the beach and of the quality of sea water
- + Co-operation with the local authorities for the preservation of the natural beauties of the area.
- → Information of all the local authorities about the environmental activities of the hotel in order to make them aware of environmental issues.
- → Educating and making the hotel staff participate to the System of Environmental Management.

Information of the guests about the environmental activities in the hotel with the aim to encouraging their active participation.

The above goals of our policy are made successful with the System of Environmental Management developing definite and measurable aims, by controlling regularly the environmental parameters and the results of the interventions, by inspecting the adequacy of the System of Environmental Management and re-examining the goals set so that they can be improved.

# POLICY FOR OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH AND EMPLOYMENT

The policy of Apollonia Resort & Spa for occupational safety and health (A & H) consists of the following principles and intentions and applies to all activities.

#### Principles

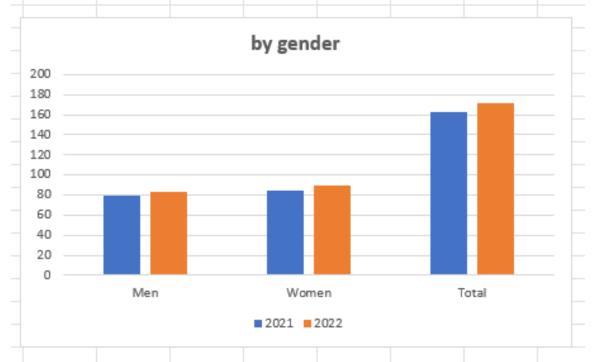
The company's management is committed:

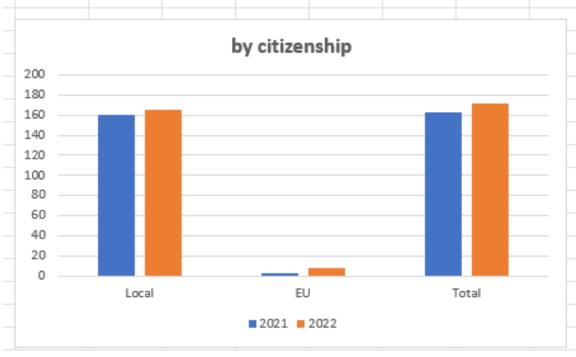
- To conduct business in such manner and in such an environment to ensure as far as
  practicable the safety and health of its employees, the environment and other
  affected persons within company facilities.
- To comply with all relevant laws and regulations concerning safety and health in the
  workplace and with other requirements to which the company subscribes. Also, for
  the development of the management system, to comply with the legal and operational changes.
- To provide the necessary resources to make it possible to implement this policy.
- To continuously improve of the system.

#### Our intention is:

- The reduction of accidents in the workplace and improve facilities and working methods.
- Continually recognize, evaluate and control the risks to health and safety issues associated with our activities and implementation of appropriate pro-active processes.
- Set and revise the goals and objectives for safety and health at work, and implement an action plan to reduce the risks related to occupational H & S.
- Support and ensure that all appropriate training in occupational H & S issues.
- Ensure that all employees are aware of their responsibilities for compliance with the
  policy and procedures relating to occupational H & S.
   Communicate to employees our policy on health and safety at work and ensure that
  they are aware of their responsibilities under the occupational H & S management
  system.
- · Conduct risk assessments in all our activities at a frequency proportional to the risk
- Make our policy public.
- Review our policy frequently so that it is relevant and appropriate to the activities of our company.

EMPLOYMENT					
	2021	2022		2021	2022
Men	79	83	Local	160	165
Women	84	89	EU	3	7
Total	163	172	Total	163	172





# POLICY FOR OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH AND EMPLOYMENT

The administration of Apollonia Beach Resort & Spa has a continuous commitment about:

- The protection and respect of the international proclaimed human rights.
- The elimination of any form of forced work and discrimination in relation to recruitment and employment.
- The defense of union organizing and recognition for collective negotiations.
- The conflict to all forms of corruption, extortion and bribery.

#### Employment / occupation and exploitation of children

All the employees of the hotel are responsible for the care, safety and protection of children. This responsibility extends to the identification and the timely response to concerns about the possible sexual, physical, psychological and emotional abuse or neglect of the children.

We believe in the fundamental right of children to grow up safely, free from exploitation and abuse.

We have the following principles:

- No employment of children.
- No tolerance for child exploitation and abuse.
- Identification of the best interests of the child.
- We share the responsibility for children protection.

Therefore, every time realizing or suspecting that a child is in danger or may accept any form of abuse, the management will be informed to follow the necessary procedure to resolve the issue.C

## ORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY REGARDING CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

The management of Apollonia Beach Resort & Spa, recognizes its responsibility as a company, to respect the international proclaimed children's rights and is committed to support these.

More specifically, the management:

- Contributes to the elimination of child labor in all of its business activities and business relations.
- Provides decent work for young workers, parents and guardians.
- Ensures that products and services are safe for children, that protection is provided for them in all facilities and supports them in the means of safety
- Uses marketing and advertising that respects, supports and does not infringe children's rights.
- Informs the employees about children's rights, of methods to identify suspected cases, how to deal with them and which social services must be in formed.
- Is particularly sensitive to cases of violence (physical and mental), abandonment, neglect, abuse and exploitation including sexual abuse. In case of incidents like these direct contact is made with the local authorities, the minor's prosecution office, and institutions that protect children's rights.



#### **OUR CERTIFICATIONS**



#### Blue Flag

is a voluntary eco-label award which works towards sustainable development of beaches and marinas through strict dealing with water quality,

environmental education and information, environmental management, safety as well as other services. Since 1991 Apollonia Beach Resort & Spa is part of the Blue Flag campaign.



#### Green Key

is an eco-label award which aims to increase the use of environmentally friendly and sustainable methods of operation and technology in the establishments. Since 2009 Apollonia Beach Resort & Spa is member of the Green Key.



#### Travelife Gold Certification

is an internationally recognized independent sustainability certification scheme which helps hotels members around the world to improve their environmental social and economic impacts cost-effectively. In 2010 Apollonia Beach Resort & Spa has been receiving the gold medal for the first time and receiving it ever since.

#### **OUR CERTIFICATIONS**

#### TÜV NORD by TÜV Hellas

TÜV HELLAS is a certification and inspection body, 100% subsidiary of the German TÜV NORD Group. It has been active in Greece since 1987, providing Third Party Inspection-Certification services, for all types of enterprises, in both the private and public sector, in the fields of Technology, Quality, Security, Energy, and the Environment. We are ISO 22000: 2018 HACCP, ISO,9001: 2015 and

ISO 14001 : 2015 certificated



#### We do local

We do local is a business certification standard. The business certified by We do local Standard support the production, economy and human

resources of the place they are situated in, promote their uniqueness and the responsibility of hospitality and offer services which promote the local culture and gastronomy, respect the environment and the sustainability of their homeland. Since the initiation of the certificate in 2015 the Cyan group of hotels is member of We do local.

#### **OUR CERTIFICATIONS / MEMBERSHIPS**



#### Costa Nostrum

Costa Nostrum Ltd. was founded in August 2015 with the main purpose of disseminating and apply-

ing the private certification standard "Certification Standard for Sustainable Management and Development of Mediterranean Beaches - Costa Nostrum Sustainable Beaches" in order to achieve the sustainable management and development of each beach in an objective way.

#### **SETE**



The purpose of SETE is the continuous strengthening of competitiveness and to highlight the significant role of tourism to the Greek economy. Repre-

sents the nationwide industry associations of tourism enterprises as well as individual companies operating in the wider tourism economy and cover the whole range of tourist activities.

# OUR ENVIRONMENT ACTIONS AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Apollonia Beach Resort & Spa is working together with various international environmental organizations and involves the guests to be part of these efforts. Our yearly events are:

#### Legambiente

Is the most widespread environmental organization in Italy, with 20 regional branches and over 115,000 members and one of the leading members of the IUCN. This event takes place every year in late May / early June and includes not only our employees and animators to participate but also our guests are invited to come along. Despite the seriousness of this action, it is still a great family fun, for young and old, to spend a morning on the beach.

#### WORLD UNEP

World Environment Day (WED) is the United Nations' principal vehicle for encouraging worldwide awareness and action for the environment. Over the years it has grown to be a broad, global platform for public outreach that is widely celebrated by stakeholders in over 100 countries. It also serves as the 'people's day' for doing something positive for the environment, galvanizing individual actions into a collective power that generates an exponential positive impact on the planet.

# OUR ENVIRONMENT ACTIONS AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



#### Hands across the Sands

The mission of Hands across the Sands is to bring together like-minded individuals and organizations with the conviction to organize a Global movement to promote a clean energy future for our earth and end our dependence on dirty fuel sources. These gatherings brings thousands of American and Global citizens to our beaches and cities and draws metaphorical and actual lines in the sand; human lines in the sand against the threats Fossil Fuels pose to our present and future planet.



#### Clean up the World

Clean Up the World engages an estimated 35 million volunteers in 130 countries each year, making it one of the largest community based environmental campaigns in the world. It inspires and empowers community groups, schools, businesses, and local governments to join as Members and carry out

community-based activities that address local environmental issues. By facilitating local action, Clean Up the World brings about global environmental change.

#### Solar energy

The hotel Apollonia Beach Resort & Spa uses solar energy for hot water. The roofs of the hotels are covers with solar panels. To cover the amount hot water demand during the day each hotel uses biogas in addition.

#### **Electricity and Water**

To reduce the consumption of non-renewable energy all guests' rooms have general light switches with key cards. And automatic interrupter switches off the air-condition in the guests' room when the balcony door is open. The air conditioning in public areas provides automatically a pleasant climate according to ambient temperatures. All rooms and public areas are equipped with energy saving lamps. The illumination of the outdoor of the hotels is equipped with energy saving bulbs to save energy here too.

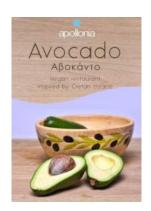
The hotel has its own fresh water source, which is located about 1.5 km from the hotel. The water is pumped via a closed pipe system to the hotel and cleaned from any residues and salt through a filter system to be then subsequently fed into the various utilities. The hotel uses wastewater to irrigate the gardens (with the exception of the lawn). Automatic sprinklers provide the watering in the entire garden.

To reduce water consumption in the rooms and public areas showers and faucets are equipped with mixer tabs and water reducer. Towels are exchanged only upon request of the guests. Bed linen are changed every three days or on request.

#### Carbon footprint reduction

We established in our hotel the pure vegan restaurant "Avocado" inspired by the Cretan Cuisine.

Each day, a person who eats a vegan diet saves: 4.164 liters of water 20 kg of grains 2,8 sqm of forest 9,07 kg of CO<sub>2</sub> the life of one animal

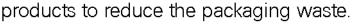


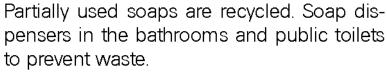
#### Waste management

In the restaurants and bars we use vending machines instead of individual bottles, reusable plastic decorations for cocktails and recycling of plastic straws. Recyclable wine and mineral water

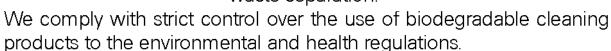
bottles and fruit baskets without packaging material are provided as a welcome present in the rooms.

Bulk purchase of products in recyclable or reusable packaging (fresh fruits and vegetables, avoidance of individual packaging for milk, honey, etc., cleaning agents, oil, etc.) and use of concentrated cleaning





Waste bins and ashtrays are present throughout the plant and on the beach. Ashtrays are also provided under the parasols on the beach. We also provide bins for waste separation.



The hotels have been painted with water-soluble and non-toxic paint.



Staffs are informed of the electricity and water saving measures.

Electrical appliances are regularly maintained and cleaned, broken electrical appliances in the guests' rooms, public area and kitchen are replaced with modern, energy-efficient appliances. CFC-free refrigerators in all rooms and kitchen areas.

All pools automatically receive chemical additives as needed to minimize the use of chemicals to preserve the water quality. A chemical analysis of the water in the pools, drinking and waste water, is carried out regularly.

Through the years until 2018 we could reduce our electricity and gas consumption despite the extension to a winter season program starting from November 2017. Due to the cold winter in 2018/19 there was a slight increase in the electricity consumption.

Despite the increase of overnights from the extension to the winter season from 2017 we could reduce our water consumption by 1%.

Due to the Covid pandemic in the years 2020 and 2021 the consumption has increased. One factor to the increase can be attributed to much fewer nights, the increase in cleaning frequency, additional washing specific linen and the aging of the facilities.

#### Waste management





# CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL SAVING

#### **APOLLONIA HOTEL**

WITH REFERENCE TO YOUR FIBERPACK® PRODUCTS PURCHASED DURING THE PERIOD 1ST JANUARY 2021 - 31ST DECEMBER 20.
YOU HELP LUCART TO:





post-consumer beverage cartons (1 liter brick average)\*.



SAVE 48 TREES of average dimension\*\*.



AVOID 2 952.6 Kg of CO<sub>2</sub>.\*\*\*



Products made in Fiberpack®, cellulose fibres recycled from beverage cartons.

Sources: \*Considering cartons per 1 litre beverage. \*\* United Nations Environment Programme, Report 2011: Towards a Green Economy. \*\*\* European Union Life Cycle Database (ELCD)

# CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL SAVING

#### APOLLONIA HOTEL

VITH REFERENCE TO YOUR FIBERPACK® PRODUCTS PURCHASED DURING THE PERIOD 1ST JANUARY 2022 - 29TH DECEMBER 20 YOU HELP LUCART TO:





post-consumer beverage cartons
(1 liter brick average)\*.



SAVE 83 TREES of average dimension\*\*.



AVOID 5 196.0 Kg of CO<sub>2</sub>.\*\*\*



#### Waste management

24.08.2021 Practical Application of the Circular Economy in the Certified Sustainable Beaches, of three hotel units

It is widely known that billions of tons of waste are generated annually within the European Union, while thousands of tons of this waste end up polluting the Mediterranean beaches with negative effects on both the coastal environment and the tourism product of each coastal country.



The need to move to a sustainable development model, which will include the principles of the circular economy, is extremely urgent.

As part of the partnership, the three (3) hotel units, Apollonia Beach Resort & Spa, Creta Maris Beach Resort, TUI MAGIC LIFE Candia Maris, will collect a small quantity of bot-

tles (PET) from their certified sustainable beaches and will deliver them to Costa Nostrum, GET3D and AELIA Sustainable Engineering, which in turn they will try to "produce" a new useful object, which will come from the recycling of PET bottles.

We all wish this pilot action to be crowned with success and in a short time to be able to present to the general public a new useful product which will come from the recycling of packaging waste, PET bottles, which will have been collected by certified sustainable Costa Nostrum beaches – Sustainable Beaches.



#### WATER ASSESSMENT

The hotel is supplied with water from the municipal network and from a reverse osmosis (RO). Drilling water (licensed source) is used to supply the RO unit.

There are counters for water consumption to all the inputs of water.

The water is being consumed:

For the use of toilets, for cleaning, for washing some work clothes and for housekeeping.

For the food department services.

For the daily and annual winter maintenance (road cleaning, public areas, fire safety etc.)

For the sanitation facilities of the staff.

For the gardens' irrigation.

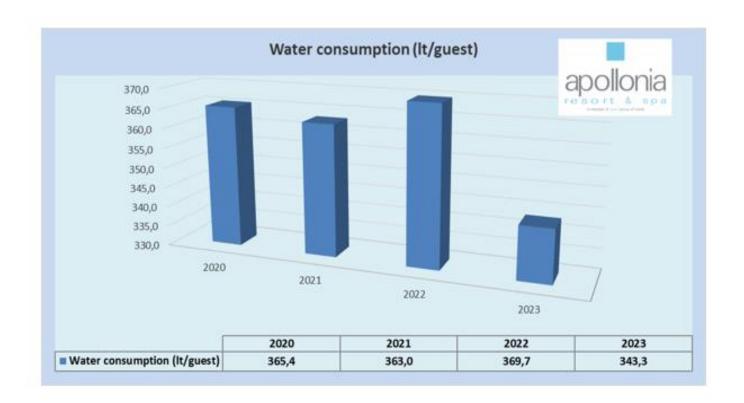
For the operation of the 4 pools, and

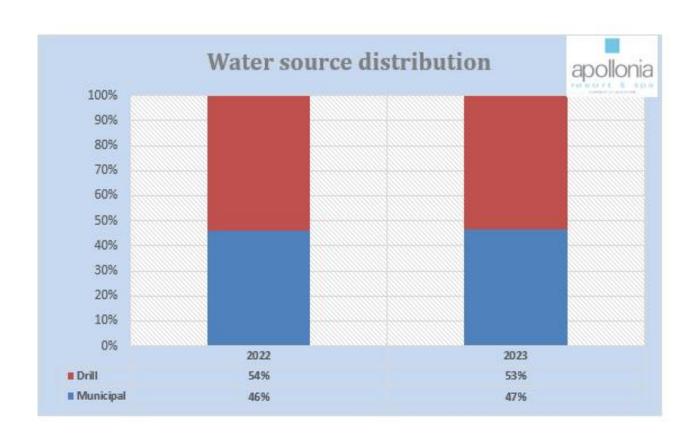
To be able to make wise use of water:

We have trained our staff and guests (with information leaflets in the rooms).

The maintenance department manages to check regularly for leaks and damages to the water system.

We have an external supplier who undertakes the linen washing. We perform quality tests to our waters every month.







#### **Energy Assessment**

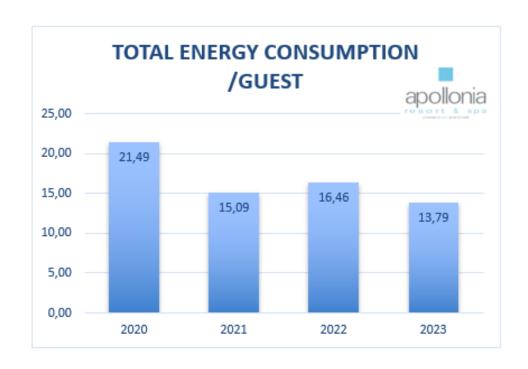
The energy used in our hotel is divided into:

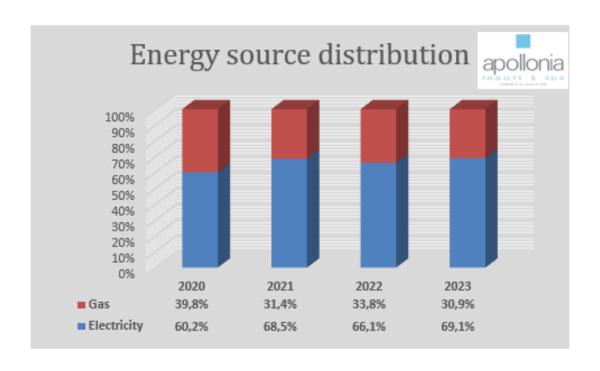
- Electricity
- LPG

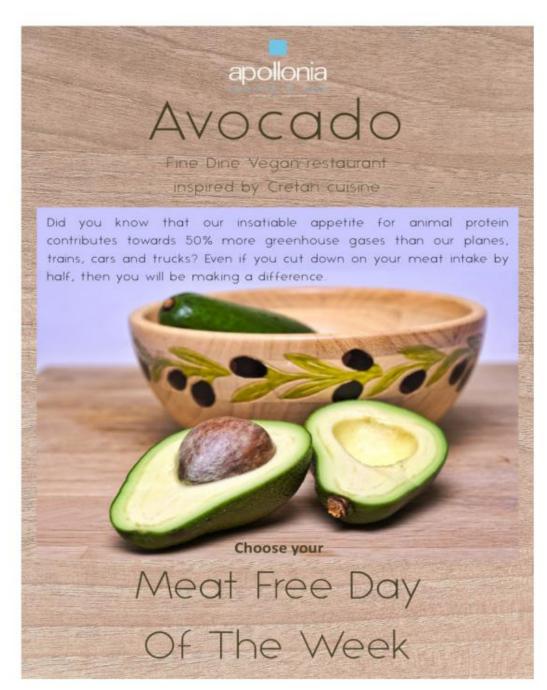
#### Electricity is used for:

- · Lighting and operation of machines and air conditioners in the reception and staff offices
- · for lighting, operation of machines and air conditioners in the roofing department
- · for food area lighting and air conditioning, for the operation of refrigerators and for the operation of burners and other equipment of the food departments.
- · for the lighting of warehouses, machine shops, etc
- · for the operation of customer, personnel and raw material elevators.
- · the operation of the swimming pool pumping stations

For the total energy consumption in 2021 we had 1409894.70 Kw. The consumption per night was 15.09 Kw. In 2022, respectively, we had a total energy consumption of 2168868.56 Kw and the consumption per night was 16.46 Kw. This increase is due to the restart of the normal operation of tourism after the pandemic. For the period January - October 2023 the consumption was 1776012.90 Kw and the consumption per night (until that time (19/10)) 13.79 Kw. We believe that the consumption per person until the end of the season with the addition of the remaining nights will fluctuate at the levels of 2022 and lower.





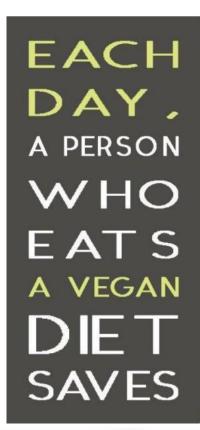














4.164 liters of water



20kg of grains



2,8 sqm of forrest



9,07<sub>kg</sub> of CO<sub>2</sub>



the life of ONE ANIMAL



VS



THE BEYOND BURGER®

THE BEEF BURGER





WATER





LAND





GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS





**ENERGY** 

### OUR ENVIORMENT ACTIONS AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

#### INHOUSE FOOD WASTE CAMPAIN

We place in the Restaurants signs to empower our guests to take only the needed from the buffets

# Stop Wasting Food and Make A Difference #FoodWasteMatters Tips to avoid food waste:

- 1. Take small portions to taste first
- Use the signage to find out what ingredients the food contains.
- Just help yourself on your plate with less food to keep you full and go more often to the buffet.
- Let your kids taste from your plate to find their favorite food.

It's only a small step for man to avoid food waste, and one giant leap to save the planet.



# Learn about the natural environment, contribute to its protection!

Download the app for smart devices (smartphones, tablets) and find out more about:

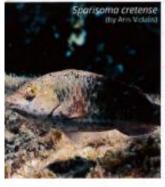
- the biodiversity of the area
- the meteorological and oceanographic data
- the tourism services of the «Blue Flag» Programme

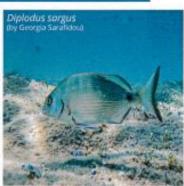




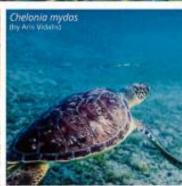
www.sociocoast.eu

Knowledge platform: https://platform.sociocoast.eu



















The SocioCoast project is implemented in beaches of Crete and Cyprus within the framework of the cooperation Programme INTERREG V-A Greece-Cyprus.

Co-funded by the European Union (European Regional Development Fund) and National Resources of Greece and Cyprus.

#### OUR COMMITMENT TO THE COMMUNITY



In order to support the local economy we purchase foods from local suppliers. For our guests all local and traditional dishes are labeled specifically to create awareness for the local products.

We donate to various national and international organizations.

We support local institutions by organizing e.g. blood donations, donate old, discarded furniture, equipment and various materials to be reused by the needed, collect no longer needed medicine.





We invite local schools and kindergartens to take part at our environmental actions.

The hotel is accessible to people with walking disabilities and is a member of the hotel association.



#### OUR COMMITMENT TO OUR GUESTS

Sustainability information to our guests is provided in the rooms and in the public areas by brochures, flyer, posters and announcements.



Guests are actively invited to join campaigns and environmental activities throughout the season.



Special programs invite the guests to learn about the tradition, culture and nature of their holiday destination (Greek dance evening, cooking lessons, garden tour, wine festival etc).

ECO learning and activities in our kids club.

Promotion of local events ater plays, local

(wine festival, world tourism day, theater plays, local celebrations)

Promotion of special places of interest (local sightseeing) and support of local transportations.

Promoting local food and beverages in our restaurants and bars.

We optimize our carbon footprint by enlarging and reafforesting our hotel park and by initializing "The Anthousai Trail": a special tour through our lush hotel park with information about heritage and history of the plants of the hotel. Every year we plant new trees together with our guests and share information about how everybody can lower his own carbon footprint.

# OUR COMMITMENT TO OUR GUESTS AND TO THE COMMUNITY

To ensure a safe holiday for our international guests, our staff participated at a 5-day seminar for the health and safety during the Corona pandemic in 2020 and an updating seminar in 2021/22 The goal of the seminar to guaranty the safety for the staff and the guests to defeat the spreading of the virus.





After the distavorous earthquake in September 2021 around the village of Alkalohori we donated 350 pillows, duvets, towels and food for the residences that lost their homes in the affected area



#### **GALLERY**

















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