

# **ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY POLICY**

At the ALEX BEACH HOTEL we are committed to continuously work on the reduction of all possible negative operational impacts on the environment which may be caused by the operation of our property. At Alex Beach, sustainable, responsible behavior is a priority. By finding innovative ways to do more with less, we aim to drive sustainability efforts and build resilience into our properties in order to continue positively impacting the communities in which we operate.

## **Hotel's Environmental Policy**

Through collaboration with our associates, brands, suppliers, business partners and guests, we actively work to reduce the environmental impact of and risk to our business by focusing on critical areas including carbon emissions, energy, food & beverage, indoor environmental quality, supply chain, waste and water. Additionally, we are committed to integrating leading environmental practices and sustainability principles aimed at:

- Conserving natural resources
- Protecting ecosystem biodiversity
- Driving sustainable development
- Minimizing waste and pollution
- Establishing and reporting on key environmental performance indicators
- Raising environmental awareness among our associates, guests and communities

We acknowledge that achieving our goals and objectives will require many changes to be made over time. However we strongly believe that our sustainability efforts serve the interests of both current and future generations and constitute the foundation for long-lasting success.

So far, through our environmental policy we accomplished the following:

- The operation of our hotel complies with all applicable environmental laws and regulations.
- Measure and keep records of specific environmental indicators and regularly review our progress in order to monitor our environmental performance, detect potential errors and set targets aiming our continuous improvement.
- Set up annually training programmes to our staff in order to help them understand the importance of their role in our cause and in environmental and sustainability issues
- Raise environmental awareness of our guests in order to support our efforts.
- Communicate our efforts to the local community and encourage others to adapt and apply our environmental commitments
- We reduce our paper waste for the tourist season of 2015 by working with our suppliers to reduce packaging
- We organize meetings with representatives from the local community in order to discuss all possible arising environmental issues and impacts of our operation.
- We raise environmental awareness of our customers through room leaflets and reminders



Furthermore, to achieve all the above we present to you some of our actions towards sustainability.

## **Energy, Cooling and Heating**

- We use solar energy for water heating purposes and reduce energy loss with full insulation of the transfer pipes.
- We monitor and adjust the temperature of the central air conditioning system, according to the external weather conditions.
- We close the central cooling system for some hours in the day in order to minimize energy consumption
- We wholly replaced our lamps with new ones, providing reduced energy consumption
- We use the magnetic key cards as in-room power enablers, so as to stop the operation of all electrical facilities, except the refrigerator and the red charger plug.

### **Water**

- The hotel has its own water well in order to reduce consumption of water
- We install water flow restrictors in the taps and showers, lower water level in toilet flushes and monitor possible leaks.
- We raise environmental awareness of our customers through room leaflets and reminders in the bathrooms and WC's.

#### **Waste**

- We recycle all possible waste, such as cartons, cans, paper, glass and plastic
- We use ecological toilet paper
- We continually communicate with our suppliers in order to minimize the waste in paper boxes and we prefer easily recyclable containers
- We have a food waste program in our kitchen, in order to prepare the right amount of food to match our guest number, as this minimizes waste

# **Miscellaneous**

- We return all used batteries and we recycle all electrical & electronic equipment.
- We recycle all used cooking oil
- We compost cut grass and flowers in order to exclude any chemicals in our agriculture
- We use LPG in the kitchen
- We only select detergents that are eco –friendly.
- We follow all necessary regulations according the law towards sustainability.

### **Agriculture**



Our activity is the utilization of traditional fruit and vegetable varieties for sustainability purposes, local economy support and promotion of the Greek traditional kitchen.

In the area of our hotel there are at least 300 olive trees of the local variety Olea Europaea Kroneiki, a trademark for Greek Gastronomy since its oil's variety have ranked it among the extra virgins category with unique features such as exceptionally low acidity, fruity bittersweet taste and deep bright green color.

In the same area other local fruit and vegetable varieties such as green zucchini, tomatoes, peppers, eggplants, corn, melons, oranges and a plethora of herbs are grown and consumed fresh or used for the needs of our kitchen in the preparation of traditional dishes.

Moreover the activity is being promoted by talks and educational tours organized for our guests in the cultivation areas where they are being informed about the uses and special characteristics of each variety.

Finally we are continuously increasing the number of suppliers of local and traditional products as a measure of support to our local agricultural economy.

Through the utilization of land for agricultural purposes the local community benefits economically by the employment of local people for the cultivation of the land and by the advertisement and promotion of local quality products to foreign markets.

Through our activity people realise that tourism and agriculture are not necessarily two different aspects of economy and by that they are encouraged to return to the cultivation of land as a mean of living.

On the other hand the quality of goods produced is highlighted by the increasing demand by our guests and proves that our activity is a successful mean of promoting our culture through Greek gastronomy with respect to our environment.

Apart from the direct beneficial environmental impact of growing trees and cultivating the land the whole activity serves a sustainable cause as well since it promotes preservation of local varieties of fruit and vegetables.

Other benefits include the reduction in environmental pollution caused by the transport and packaging of goods and the organic waste compost for cultivation usage.

## **Purchasing Pilicy**

Our purchasing decisions and are based on quality, price, reliability, supply, stability, safety and sustainability. Therefore:

- We purchase locally whenever this is possible.
- We prefer goods with less packaging materials, emphasizing the possibility to recycle and reuse.
- Regarding the purchase of equipment, priority is given to the products that consume less water, energy and fuel and do not contain CFC's.



- We purchase or replace old equipment with new efficient ones.
- We purchase cleaning materials and chemicals with the minimum impact for the environment and human health.
- Priority should be given to recyclable and returnable products as well as those from recycled materials (mostly paper, aluminium, glass, plastic) without excessive multiple packaging (the more complex a product is, the more materials are used in its production and the more waste is disposed of into the environment).
- The use of materials containing substances dangerous to public health and the environment (such as organic solvents, asbestos, lead, polyurethane, etc.) should be avoided in the construction of buildings, manufacturing of furniture, insulation & decoration during renovations.