

## **Beachcomber takes action to help protect the environment**

To celebrate World Environment Day, the Beachcomber Group is organising a number of activities on Tuesday the 5th of June 2018 to help protect and preserve our planet.

World Environment Day is celebrated across the globe every year. This United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) initiative raises awareness of key environmental issues and of the importance of protecting our environment in order to safeguard our quality of life and our planet's survival.

This year, World Environment Day will focus on the fight against plastic pollution. The aim is to raise awareness of the urgent need to reduce the production and use of single-use plastics, which both pollute our oceans and represent a threat to our health.

Having recognised the impact that plastic waste has on the environment, each Beachcomber hotel is organising a number of activities for its guests and Artisans to take part in on the 5th of June. These include clean-ups of the beaches, lagoons, gardens and coastal roads in each hotel's vicinity. The "Beach Screens", Beachcomber's internal television channel, will also broadcast messages to educate the group's Artisans about the dangers of plastic and the changes they can make to their own behaviour.

As a hotel group that is deeply concerned about environmental issues, Beachcomber Resorts & Hotels constantly demonstrates its commitment to the environment thanks to its sustainability and conservation efforts. Its latest initiative includes placing cards in the group's hotel rooms to avoid washing sheets and towels unnecessarily. This allows the group to better manage its use of water, a precious natural resource.

To note that the "Beautiful Local Hands" was part of the initiative with its Artisans producing the corresponding cards.

"The Beachcomber Group wants to have a positive impact by helping to protect the planet and its natural resources. World Environment Day allows us to highlight the actions that Beachcomber takes every day to help safeguard the environment," says Mathieu Rivet, Group Engineering Manager at Beachcomber Resorts & Hotels.

Beachcomber Resorts & Hotels is committed to a responsible and sustainable form of tourism development. It places its environmental and social commitments at the heart of its strategy. In line with the sustained daily actions, all of Beachcomber's Mauritius hotels have been awarded the EarthCheck certification for international sustainable tourism. The group has also reduced its energy and water consumption and the volume of waste it produces in order to reduce its environmental footprint. Beachcomber Resorts & Hotels' many other environmental initiatives include a ban on the use of non-biodegradable plastic straws; the replanting of endemic species on the Morne peninsula; a partnership with the local NGO "Manzer Partazer" to reduce food waste; and the implementation of a number of different social programmes.

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About Beachcomber

Beachcomber Resorts & Hotels is the pioneer and leader of the Mauritian tourism industry. Since the creation of Park Hotel in 1952, a collection of 9 resorts have emerged over the years, including the mythical Royal Palm Beachcomber Luxury Mauritius in 1985, considered by everyone as the reference in hospitality for luxury holidays in Mauritius.

The Group recently expanded its collection, with the integration of the Beachcomber French Riviera, situated on the Côte d'Azur, in France.

The collection of 9 resorts affords a choice of accommodation options ranging from rooms and apartments to suites and villas. Each hotel is imbued with a particular history and cachet, embodying an image of discrete luxury.

*Social responsibility – Fondation Espoir Développement (FED), by Beachcomber*

Set up and financed by Beachcomber since 1999, with the participation of hotels and employees, this foundation takes care of these main projects:

- Projet Employabilité Jeunes (PEJ): professional insertion of school drop-outs through a training programme and industrial attachments.
- Collaboration with NGOs, schools and associations
- Regional projects – youth mentoring: the “Amour et Espoir” NGO; IT initiation; youth monitoring via the “Duke of Edinburgh International Award” programme, participation of regional sports clubs in the organisation of the Beachcomber UTRB Trail 2015

*Social responsibility – Local Hands*

Programme launched in 2006 to support small local artisans by providing them with training and guidance as they embark upon the process of creation, production, marketing and sales.

*Sustainable development – our environmental actions – EarthCheck label*

Sustainable development and environmental protection constitute real considerations within the Group, which has set up, amongst other initiatives, practices that ensure energy savings and favour renewable energy sources. These initiatives in favour of sustainable development have been recognised and rewarded, with two of our hotels recently obtaining the EarthCheck Benchmarked Silver accreditation for their ongoing commitment to environmentally responsible practices.