

GREEN STATEMENT



Located in the heart of the Riviera Maya and surrounded by 86 hectares of exuberant jungle, mangroves and fresh water cenotes, Grand Velas Riviera Maya has been exclusively designed to harmonize with its environment.

With **539 world-class suites**, restaurants, bars, a Convention Center, gym and Spa, we are aware of the potential impact of our presence on the ecosystem. This is why we are committed to safeguarding the surrounding environment and minimizing any current or future damages through the implementation, operation and continual evaluation of our environmental management systems.

Our company is an important source of employment in the area. We promote the professional development of our staff and seek to do business with local suppliers who engage in sound environmental practices.

Velas Resorts strives to support environmentally responsible procedures that adhere to the highest standards in waste reduction. This is achieved by establishing common goals with our suppliers and by making decisions that are immediately reflected in our purchases as well as the maintenance and management of our properties.

In the order to succeed in our commitment to preservation of the environment, we have established a set of clearly defined practices. They are as follows:

We conserve water and energy by rationing the use of both these resources.

- Our Cogeneration Energy Plants allow for reduction in consumption of both local and nation-wide energy sources. Our two Reverse-Osmosis Desalting Plants make our operation self-sufficient and eliminate the need to rely upon

local water supplies. For every liter of water, we process, 600 milliliters are re-used for general purposes, while 400 milliliters are returned to the subsoil, thus aiding in the conservation of the environment.

- Our laundry facilities include a water treatment plant that efficiently filters soapy waters which are then used in the rinsing process, resulting in a savings of 30%.
 - o Our residual water treatment facility receives and processes all the water from the entire resort. It is then used to water all the exterior gardens, mangroves and jungle.
- We use state of the art air conditioning systems designed to minimize energy consumption and reduce harmful emissions
- We clean and preserve our beaches, keeping them free of marine debris and litter.
- We participate in the Federal Sea Turtle Conservation Program.
- We reduce solid waste output by separating recyclable and non-recyclable materials.
 - o We comply with municipal, state and national environmental laws, as well as the regulations set forth by the World Tourism Organization's Global Code of Ethics and all other policies to which we are held accountable.
- We use biodegradable products for cleaning and maintenance of our property and the surrounding landscape.
 - o Within our first year of operation, we reforested the surrounding areas with over 18,000 trees native to the region.
- We protect our local flora and fauna.
- We keep our staff, clients, guests, business associates, **Green Globe**, M.A.R.T.I (Meso-American Reef Tourism Initiative), and society in general apprised of ecological practices employed by the hotel, thereby helping to foster a culture of self-sustainability.
- Through continuous training programs, we keep our staff up-to date regarding environmental policies and practices.
- We aid in the development of the community by participating in charitable events, making donations, implementing literacy and higher education programs, creating conservation projects and taking part in special events. We also provide our staff with an on-site daycare facility.
- Our restaurant menus offer organic and vegetarian options. We use locally grown and produced ingredients whenever possible.
- We participate in the HP Planet Program.
- We are continually audited by Green Globe and M.A.R.T.I. They measure the success of our environmental objectives and policies, and help establish important new goals in sustainable development.