



Sustainability Guidelines: Turks & Caicos

You are about to embark on a wonderful trip to the exotic islands of Turks & Caicos, known for its stunning natural beauty and wildlife. Your trip will show you all that Turks & Caicos has to offer, leaving you with a great appreciation of these beautiful islands.

Environmental Issues

Turks & Caicos's natural beauty is, however, threatened by environmental problems. The main environmental struggle that the islands face is limited freshwater sources.

Environmental Initiatives

The Turks & Caicos Tourist Board has big plans in the area of sustainable development in the islands, promising to maintain an eco-conscious environment throughout the islands. Atlantic Ocean's yacht-marina is committed to the preservation of West Caicos and a new environmental center with on-site naturalist on the island of Ambergris Cay. The marina will be sustainable by preserving surrounding marine life, proper containment and disposal of oil changes, fueling stations with state-of-the-art gasoline fuel delivery, and spill protection systems. On the island of Salt Cay, buildings are limited to two-stories and are to invest in renewable energy. This island will also focus on the preservation of mangrove forests.

Established by Pine Cay's homeowners, the *Pine Cay Project* supports local environmental and educational initiatives throughout the Turks and Caicos. Since 2002 the Project has donated \$450,000 in TCI educational grants.

Most recently, in October and November 2008, Pine Cay Project awarded approximately \$90,000 in grants for hurricane-related recovery efforts and educational improvements in local schools, following a double hurricane blow, which affected much of the islands' infrastructure.

While staying on Pine Cay, please conserve water. In spite of the island's rainfall, it is still a valued commodity. Respect the island's land and marine ecosystem. It is fragile and requires care. Staying on Pine Cay is a chance to experience a rare and satisfying simplicity. Use your experience on the island to reevaluate how much you really need at home!



Guide to Eco-Lodges in Turks & Caicos

The Meridian Club has supported environmental conservation as a matter of conscience long before it was fashionable to do so, through the following practices:

- Strict building guidelines, including set-backs from the beach.
- Separated recycling program.
- Rainwater catchment and storage systems.
- Use of solar hot water heaters.
- Compact fluorescent bulbs throughout the Club.
- Use of reusable shopping bags and water containers.
- Bicycle and golf cart use. No cars.
- Boats equipped with four stroke, fuel-efficient engines.
- Local community/philanthropic investment.