



THINKING GREEN & BLUE 2005-2020

In 2005, The Sands at Nomad began taking steps to reduce its impact on the environment. It is our hope that others will take up this challenge and join us, whether as visitors, other hotels, private houses, and residents. For the good of our planet.



The forest is all around us reaching towards the beach



Some fresh organic farm produce

This presentation reports on some of the projects towards sustainability started, supported, and funded by The Sands at Nomad, Nomad Beach Bar and Restaurant, and Diving the Crab. If you would like to learn more about or contribute in any way to these projects, please download The Sands at Nomad App or ask at hotel reception to meet with the Green Team or Marine Team.

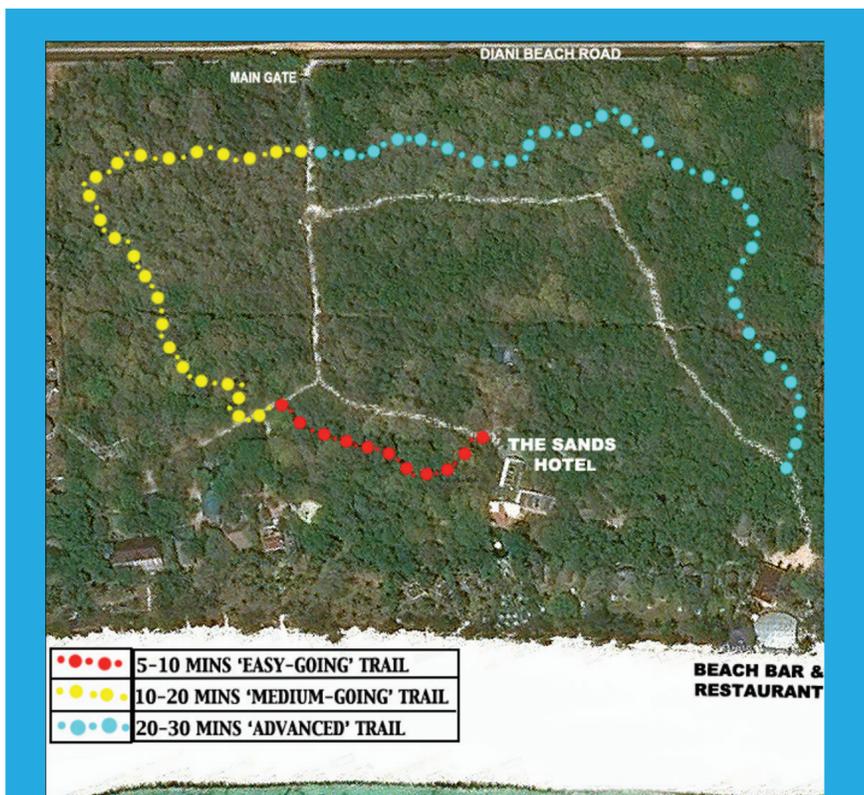


OUR ENVIRONMENTAL
RESPONSIBILITY
**FOREST
CONSERVATION**

The Sands at Nomad is located on around 40 acres of forested land on both sides of Diani beach road. It is the largest section of continuous forest remaining in Diani. The forest is part of the East African Coral Rag Forest known as a biodiversity hotspot and home to several threatened species.

Below are just a few of the local inhabitants of the forest around The Sands at Nomad

African Civet (below), Black-and-White Colobus Monkey (above), Sykes Monkey, Yellow Baboon and Dikdik (below)



For any hotel guests wanting to take a gentle walk through the forest a local naturalist offers a free Guided forest tour three times each week.





OUR ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE, REPURPOSE

Since 2005, The Sands at Nomad and Diving the Crab have been keeping more than our section of Diani Beach, the forest and the Diani Beach road clean from trash. Guests who would like to do their bit to help can with the 'Grab a Bag' initiative at the beach access below the hotels private, poolside Riva's Bar.

Other than our daily cleans, since 2017, our teams, in partnership with organizations and schools, have participated in the Ocean Conservancy International Coastal Cleanup Day every September collecting trash along the beaches and from the inaccessible coves in Kinondo via boat.



WE RECORD THE TRASH WE CLEAR

On one day in 2017 we removed 426.5 kgs

2018	-	212 kgs
2019	-	223 kgs
2020	-	+200kgs





THE Sands
AT NOMAD

Boutique Resort

OUR ENVIRONMENTAL
RESPONSIBILITY

REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE, REPURPOSE

NO PLASTIC BOTTLES - NO PLASTIC STRAWS

In 2014, The Sands was the first hotel and restaurant in Diani to remove the use of PET plastic, non-refillable water bottles. Instead guests can choose between a glass bottle which is refilled by the supplier or a carafe filled from 20 liter refillable bottles. In 2017, The Sands stopped using plastic drinking straws.

GLASS BOTTLE RECYCLING AND UPCYCLING

Since 2014 almost all glass bottles from the Bar, Restaurant and Hotel have been collected and stockpiled. These bottles have, over the years, been repurposed as building blocks in the generators sound proofing wall, or as the structure for building raised growing beds on The Nomad Farm, or even as garden art, and the beautiful lit-up art piece that is the gate into the hotel. (Above)

In the past The Sands provided glass bottles to a local business with glass cutting machines so as to upcycle the bottles into drinking glasses, reducing waste and cost. However in January 2020 The Sands purchased the machines and began making its own repurposed drinking glasses, sauce pots and platters out of empty 'waste' glass bottles from the bar and restaurant.

PLASTIC REUSE, UPCYCLING AND RECYCLING

Over the past years The Sand's Green Team have also collected thousands of PET plastic bottles from other commercial enterprises throughout Diani. These have been stockpiled and used in the creation of low cost fencing and art pieces seeking to draw awareness to non-recyclable plastic waste and its possible uses.

Also located in the 'Trash to Treasure' workshop is a plastic shredder and an extruder used to recycle all the HDPE plastics that come through the daily operations, or which we remove from the beach on our daily cleans. Using this machinery HDPE plastics, such as plastic bottle tops, are upcycled into keyrings, with other useful design ideas on the way. Shredder is located at Nomad and is used in partnership with The Flipiflopi and KPPC organizations.

The Sands at Nomad holds Gold awards in sustainability from EcoTourism Kenya and Travelife international.





OUR ENVIRONMENTAL
RESPONSIBILITY
**THE NOMAD
FARM**

In September 2017, The Sands at Nomad began a farm a few kilometers from the beach using the guiding principles of Permaculture farming. It supplies the restaurants with organically grown fruits, vegetables, herbs and eggs and also provides a location where 'waste' can be repurposed reducing landfill waste.

**WE DO NOT USE
CHEMICAL FERTILISERS
OR PESTICIDES.**



The Eco-friendly predators of various farm pests like these two examples above (Monitor lizards and Hedgehogs) are encouraged on the farm and their habitat is also protected. Natural spray on deterrents such as Neem, soap and oil are used.



SUSTAINABLE PROCUREMENT

In 2017, The Sands implemented a 'Sustainable Seafood Procurement Policy' to support responsible fishing by using 'templates' to ensure minimum size restrictions. In addition The Sands procurement team order in bulk from local suppliers to reduce transport and packaging.

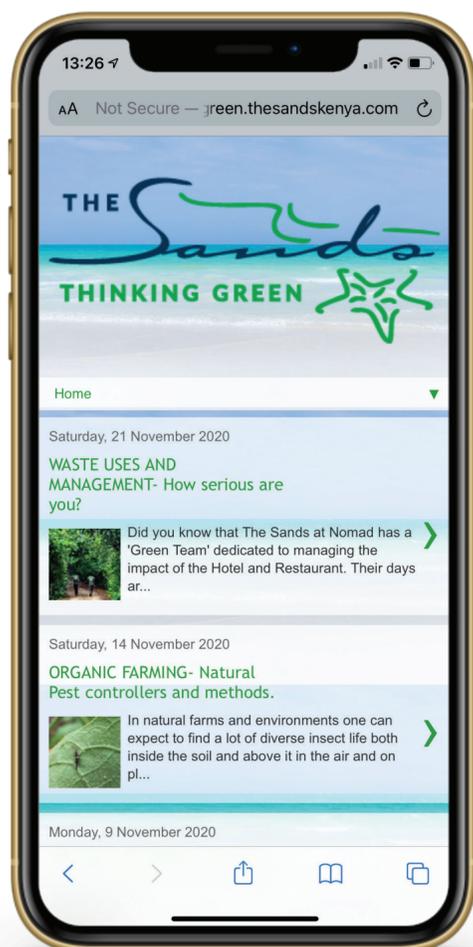


OUR ENVIRONMENTAL
RESPONSIBILITY

RENEWABLE ENERGY & BIODEGRADABLE PRODUCTS

RENEWABLE ENERGY USE

Since 2008 The Sands has been converting the water heating systems around the hotel to solar water heaters. By the end of 2018, 80% of the hot water in guests' rooms at The Sands at Nomad was heated by the sun!



THE SAND'S THINKING GREEN BLOG

In February 2018, The Sands began a Green Blog through our sustainability department. (Image above right) The blog addresses subjects such as sustainable living practices, waste management, recycling, reducing, reusing, repurposing, and organic farming.

In case you are interested
<https://green.thesandskenya.com>

BIODEGRADABLE BATHROOM PRODUCTS



All bathroom products used in the hotel are locally made and biodegradable with no chemical base or harmful effects to the environment. (Below left) The Sands also conducts effluent tests in compliance with Environmental Law and we treat our septic tanks with natural Effective Microorganisms. (EM)





OUR ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

THE MARINE EDUCATION CENTRE

The Sands at Nomad opened the Marine Education Centre in September 2018 as a free, public resource for marine education, and a base for marine organizations working in the area.

The Centre contains informational exhibits on marine ecosystems, sea turtles, whale sharks, cetaceans, marine pollution, overfishing, as well as interactive games, and materials about each partnering organization.

Half of the marine team are scuba divers, and in addition to the sea turtle identification project, they monitor whale sharks, whales, dolphins, corals, fish, and invertebrates. All diving activities are sponsored by Diving the Crab which is headquartered at the Nomad Beach Bar near the watersports Centre.

Education programs occur through the work of the Conservation Education Society which is also based here. The team also host marine-themed presentation and movie evenings each month.

For the tour meet the Marine Team any day at Riva's Bar at 3pm

Providing the Marine Education Centre as a base The Sands at Nomad and Diving the Crab Sponsor the work of the Conservation Education Society, Diani Turtle Watch and The Olive Ridley Project.

THE CONSERVATION EDUCATION SOCIETY

The Conservation Education Society was officially established in March 2019 and operates out of the Marine Education Centre with two main objectives; to educate guests, students and as many people as possible on marine conservation and sustainability, and to create a network of partners within conservation, helping support, strengthen and expose the fantastic work that goes on along Kenya's coastline.

The society fundraises to sponsor students to visit the Centre and participate in activities from workbooks and team exercises, to beach cleans and upcycling workshops. The society also supports local organisations and initiatives through partnerships, training, and financial assistance.

In 2019 alone, over 750 students, from both local and international schools visited the Marine Education Centre and participated in Conservation Education Society programs.

You can support the valuable work of this project by sponsoring a school visit, a field trip, or even a year-long program.

Email the Conservation Education team at info@ces-kenya.org



OUR ENVIRONMENTAL
RESPONSIBILITY

SEA TURTLE CONSERVATION

DIANI TURTLE WATCH

The Sands at Nomad have supported the work of Diani Turtle Watch since their beginnings in 2012, and in 2017 sponsored the creation of a sea turtle nest relocation site which you can visit on the properties beach front.

Nowadays, due to unnatural circumstances some sea turtles lay their eggs in areas at risk of flooding during high tides. Those that are reported will have a trained team of sea turtle monitors relocate these nests to sites where they can incubate safely before they hatch.

ADOPT A NEST



You can support the valuable work of this project by adopting one of Diani's sea turtle nests and in return you will receive updates from the team.

Email the team at dempsey@localocean.com

The team monitors each nest throughout its incubation and hatching, then excavate the nests to collect data of success rates. The monitors also patrol the coastline, record sea turtle mortalities, and work with local fishers to safely release turtles accidentally caught in nets.

**1,300
TURTLES**
successfully hatched in 2019

The Sands at Nomad sea turtle nest relocation site housed 16 nests

THE OLIVE RIDLEY PROJECT

Sea turtles are located and photographed, with size, gender, and more recorded, then all is added to the identification and sightings databases. This allows the team to analyse population dynamics, and estimate sea turtle abundance, density, and distribution ranges.

The project began in July 2018, and within the first year alone, over 300 Green and Hawksbill sea turtles were recorded, with numbers still rising!

Sea turtles are widely monitored during their nesting season throughout Kenya, however by employing a marine biologist, and later partnering with the Olive Ridley Project, The Sands at Nomad enabled the first in-water monitoring program of sea turtles in Kenya!

Every sea turtle has a unique pattern of scales on their face, this allows the Olive Ridley Project team to analyse photographs and create a sea turtle identification database.

ADOPT A TURTLE

You can support the valuable work of this project by adopting one of Diani's sea turtles and in return you will receive updates from the team.

Email the team at dianibeach@oliveridleyproject.org

