



ΠΕΡΙΒΑΛΛΟΝΤΙΚΗ ΠΟΛΙΤΙΚΗ | ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

Our dear guests,

we would like to introduce to you the institution of the **environmental policy** that Ktima Bellou has adopted and to invite you to participate. Ktima Bellou has been created under the guiding principle of **harmonically aligning to the aesthetics of the local scenery**, all the while aiming to have as **limited an environmental imprint** as possible. With absolute respect to the traditional local architecture, making perfect use of the available technologies and materials, we have achieved a result of high aesthetics with excellent thermal insulation performance, contributing initially to limited consumption of energy sources and the minimized production of greenhouse gases. During the hotel's operation, we take care to adopt **high prevention and protection measures** against its total possible environmental impact. The way through which we achieve our commitments is summarily described below. We are at your disposal for additional information and **we would gladly accept any recommendations**.

- ◇ **The majority of our construction materials are natural.** Our bathrooms, kitchens, fireplaces and external coatings are constructed from kourasanit; the floors are from terracotta, which beyond its natural insulation properties, has been coated with organic wax for its total sealing against humidity. The main building materials are wood and stone from the broader area of Pieria. Amongst them, plastic has not been included in any means. The total of the craftsmen that laboured in the construction of the buildings were from the village of Agios Dimitrios, the closest settlement to the hotel, in order to support the local economy, as well as reduce the carbon footprint due to the transportation of the workers. The furniture is wooden, made of lumber from sustainable sources and crafted by local craftsmen. Compressed wood has not been used in any occasion. The majority of the fabrics are ecologically certified (bed linens, towels, tablecloths).
- ◇ The electrical equipment in the rooms belongs to **energy class A**.
- ◇ In the rooms all the electrical devices - except for the refrigerator - are deactivated automatically upon guests' departure, thanks to the **magnetic key system**.
- ◇ Upon room release the fridge is deactivated by the room service.
- ◇ **Heating** in every room is covered by **infrared radiation panels**, which do not emit pollutants and are both odorless and noiseless. It is a new technology in the sector of heating which is widely used in

medicine and physiotherapy for therapeutic purposes, offering an excellent thermal comfort outcome, is of exceptional aesthetics and, in comparison to conventional heating systems, it exhibits 50% energy conservation.

- ◇ As a secondary heating source for the rare case of electricity shortage, and also to enhance the ambiance, **energy fireplaces** have been installed in the rooms, the restaurant and the café, which are supplied with firewood provided by **local sustainable sources**.
- ◇ The location in conjunction with the outstanding construction of our hotel **do not demand** for the installation of cooling **air-conditioning systems**.
- ◇ The total amount of lighting is covered by energy saving bulbs which gradually are replaced by **LED bulbs** for additional energy saving.
- ◇ The main energy consuming infrastructures, specifically the kitchen's professional electric devices (excluding the refrigerators) and the usable hot water supply are covered by the **gas installation**. So we convert a high return energy source directly into energy, bypassing the conversion stage e.g. from lignite to electricity and using it afterwards. In this way we conserve energy that amounts to approximately 60% to that of electricity.
- ◇ In the WC of the common rooms, the faucets operate with sensors and the toilet cisterns are of double flow.
- ◇ Irrigation works are seasonal (May-September) thanks to the climate of the area, while for optimal water conservation a **dropwise system** is applied mostly during morning hours and, according to weather conditions, sometimes on evening hours, as well.
- ◇ We **exclusively** use **certified ecological paper and detergents**.
- ◇ We have assumed the responsibility of performing the **sorting and transportation of recyclable materials** to the closest collection point of the area.
- ◇ We do not use dishes, glasses and generally disposable utensils.
- ◇ The **personal hygiene products** are placed in **dispensers** for the reduction of the waste volume and the eradication of soap residues.

- ◇ The organic waste (fruit - vegetables) are being **composted** to serve the needs of the farm, while **food remains are consumed by our domestic animals**.
- ◇ For **mowing the grass** we utilise the animals we raise in the farm, as well as an unleaded gas powered motorized lawnmower and manual tools.
- ◇ Large part of the products served in the restaurant are produced in our farm and are **organic, certified by DIO**. Our kitchen's needs are supplemented by the local market with also certified organic products or at the very least of good farming practice / naturally raised.
- ◇ Wherever we are unable to obtain certified organic or ecological products, we choose **high quality products of low carbon imprint**. Thus, our dairy products come from the wider region of Central Macedonia and Thessaly, a significant proportion of our alcoholic beverages are rare Greek liquors, while only Greek wines and refreshments are served.
- ◇ The **total number of our employees** are inhabitants of the **nearby settlement of Agios Dimitrios** and, wherever possible, they implement a car sharing system, in order to minimize their carbon imprint.

## HOW CAN I SAVE WATER

Sometimes it seems difficult or meaningless to change some habits in our daily life. We consider water to be abundant and take it for granted, consequently spending it thoughtlessly. We can achieve a great reduction in water consumption, without having to restrict our basic needs but by performing small changes in our behaviour instead. Turning the faucet off while wiping our hands or brushing our teeth we can save up to 15 lt/min. Please inform the reception for any possible leakage.

The choice is yours!

Please **leave the towels on the floor** should you wish them replaced. Otherwise, hang the towels so as you can use them again.

## HOW CAN I REDUCE MY CARBON FOOTPRINT

The carbon footprint is a measure for calculating environmental burdening, which is shaped according to our own choices.

Please, when you exit the room **take with you the magnetic key** located by the entrance to your room.

**Leave the spent batteries as well as the recyclable materials on the table** instead of throwing them in the garbage bins, so that we can collect them and recycle them accordingly.

Our hotel offers at your disposal mountain bikes for your tours. We also provide information about the means of public transport. Ask to be informed; we have material that also includes maps!

Person in charge of Green Key Certificate



Afroditi Bellou