



Aruba Tourism  
Authority

## Aruba Product Update

January 2015

The Aruba Tourism Authority (ATA)  
is the Destination Marketing  
Organization for Aruba.

Our Mission:

To be an innovative and effective  
DMO that positions the brand  
Aruba as a premier tourism  
destination, which meets interest  
of it's stakeholders.

Our vision:

For the ATA to be recognized  
as the leading and cutting  
edge Destination marketing  
Organization

Core Values:

Empowerment Productivity  
& Ownership Professional  
Respect Fun & Passion.

Below we offer a synthesis of some of the most prominent  
and important news during the month of January 2015



## ATA News

### Aruba Delegation at EIBTM

Aruba joined over 15,000 international industry professionals last November in Barcelona at EIBTM 2014, the place to be to develop business for meetings, events, conference, incentives and business travel. Aruba's participating partners at the biggest MICE tradeshow in Europe were ECO, De Palm Tours, Hyatt Resort and Aruba Convention and Visitors Bureau. Aruba had over 100 visits to the booth and a total of 75 appointments and walk-ins. The final edition of EIBTM was an amazing success with over 15,500 delegates attending the event over the 3 days.



## Peruvian Press Visits One Happy Island

Rex Broekman, editor of The Huaraz Telegraph and news anchor at El Informativo from Peru, was very impressed with the island during his recent visit. He decided to film a number of TV segments for his local news channel, Cable Andino Channel 3, covering the history of the island, sports, gastronomy, culture and Peruvian residents.

He recruited the help of his brother, fitness instructor Roy Broekman living in Aruba, who in turn recruited local film maker and movie editor Aaron Croes of Xtreme Productions Aruba. Together, they lined up interesting people and great venues to contribute to the raw footage, with five different introductions from iconic Aruba locations.

The materials will also be printed in the The Huaraz Telegraph, a monthly English language newspaper. Huaraz is the capital of the state of Ancash in Peru at an elevation of 3,050 meters. The city enjoys Andes tourism, attracting international visitors seeking winter sports and adventure. "Our visitors, looking at the Aruba footage, might want to play beach tennis, windsurf and kite surf," bantered Rex, who enjoyed Aruba's weather and hospitality, while working on his documentary.



## Awards

### De Palm Tours Again Awarded by Princess Cruises

De Palm Tours was again honored with an award for the Princess Cruises high-volume tour as well as for the Best Tour Guide for the 2013-2014 seasons. Among all Princess Cruises destinations, De Palm Tours 4WD Baby Natural Bridge & Arashi Beach Island Tour won the high-volume tour award and Brian Morris from Atlantis Submarine was voted the Best Tour Guide. The Countryside Horseback Ride from Rancho La Ponderosa, also sold by De Palm Tours, won the low-volume tour award for the season.

Every season, Princess Cruises holds an award ceremony for the tours and activities offered at each port that are liked most by their passengers. Atlantis Submarines had been previously honored for the high-volume award, as was De Palm's Natural Pool Jeep Adventure. De Palm also received dozens of

other nominations in other Princess Cruises tour categories.

Brian Morris described the unique opportunity afforded by Atlantis Submarines to explore Aruba's waters. One of the only commercial submarines in the Caribbean, the Atlantis VI takes passengers 135 feet below the sea surface through the spectacular Barcadera Reef. De Palm Tours' off-road Land Rover guides combine their passion for the island and knowledge about its history to make tours unforgettable.

As one of the destinations on the Southern Caribbean Cruises line, Aruba is advertised as the ideal place for snorkeling where almost every inch of coastline shows off the island's supreme waters, in which guests indulge on both the submarine tour and jeep adventure.

## Manchebo Beach Resort & Spa

### Green Globe Certification

Manchebo Beach Resort & Spa proudly announced their eleventh consecutive year of Green Globe certification. Besides concentrating on the Resort's Wellness Journey Program, continuous introduction of sustainable green initiatives are in place to preserve the island and reduce the resort's carbon footprint.



Manchebo Beach Resort is deeply rooted in community and social endeavors. Local causes and charitable organizations are supported through hosting of events, participation in community programs, sponsorships, donations, and many hours of volunteer time from the entire Manchebo team. The resort's efforts focus on local churches, foundations, senior's homes, juvenile and rehab centers, and lunches for the elderly.

The Vision & Mission 2015 and beyond is to make the Manchebo Beach Resort & Spa a leading independent luxury boutique resort in the Caribbean. The resort continuously strives to achieve higher customer and employee satisfaction, improved operational effectiveness, sustainable and green initiatives, unique product improvements and increased occupancies and profits.

"Having worked with the team over the years, it is a joy to share in their re-certification as they persist, setting examples in the areas of environmental preservation and community involvement. Continuous improvement year upon year highlights their dedication to sustainability," stated K. Denaye Hinds, Director of Sustainability for OBM International and the resort's Green Globe Auditor.

Manchebo Beach Resort & Spa was also recently awarded Travelife Gold Award for the second consecutive year, in light of continuous improvements at the resort.

## Bucuti & Tara Beach Resorts

### TripAdvisor names resort "Number one hotel in the Caribbean"

TripAdvisor has announced the winners of the 2015 Travelers' Choice hotel awards, which identifies the world's top properties. Bucuti & Tara Beach Resorts was honored in four categories, including being named number one in the top 25 hotels in the Caribbean and is the only resort in Aruba to be honored in this category. Additionally, Bucuti was named number 2 in the top 25 hotels for romance in the Caribbean, number four in the top 25 hotels for service in the Caribbean and was honored among the top hotels for romance in the world.

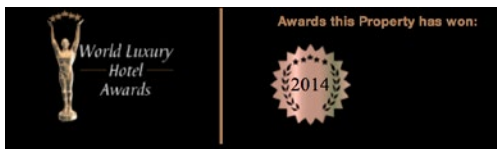
TripAdvisor Travelers' Choice winners are based on millions of valuable reviews and opinions from travelers around the world.

"We are both pleased and honored to be recognized among this group of elite hotels around the world and are proud to represent Aruba in being named one of the best hotels for romance in the world," said Bucuti's owner Ewald Biemans. "Recognition of this kind can only be achieved as a result of the dedication of our entire top-notch team who are all committed to providing superior service to all of our guests. It has been a pleasure serving our loyal guests and we are thankful for their kind reviews and feedback."



As Aruba's only boutique-style resort that caters exclusively to adults, Bucuti has long been recognized by travelers worldwide, achieving a number of awards. Most recently, Bucuti's owner Ewald Biemans earned the title of "Green Hotelier of the Year" in Caribbean Journal's 2014 Caribbean Travel Awards. Also in 2014, Bucuti was rated by AAA as a Four Diamond Hotel, ranking among 5.3 percent of more than 29,000 hotels worldwide. The resort has also received more than two dozen environmental awards and certifications, including the Highest Achievement Award as the top performing sustainable travel and tourism business in the Caribbean by Green Globe Certification.





## Renaissance Aruba Resort

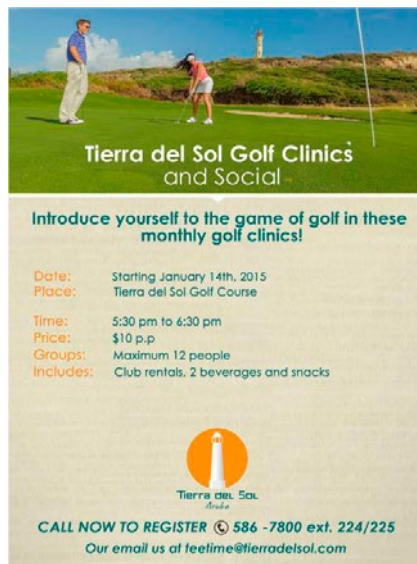
Renaissance Aruba Resort has received the World Luxury Hotel Award in the category of Luxury Adult Beach Resort. The award recognizes dedication, enthusiasm and leadership among the luxury hotels in the tourism industry and is

testament to the hard work and motivation of its employees. Criteria is based specifically on service excellence. The Renaissance Aruba Resort encompasses the adult-exclusive Marina Hotel and family-oriented Ocean Suites

## Activities

### Monthly Golf Clinics at Tierra del Sol

Tierra del Sol recently began monthly golf clinics for those who would like to introduce themselves to the game and just have some fun at the resort. The clinics take place from 5:30 – 6:30 pm and are priced at only US \$ 10.00 per person, including two beverages and snacks. Contact James Kiley, Golf Pro at [james.kiley@tierraldelsol.com](mailto:james.kiley@tierraldelsol.com)



### ECO DMS Donates to Imeldahof Children's Home

In December of 2014, the Aruba Convention and Visitors Bureau (ACVB) hosted a group of incentive clients on the island. ECO Destination Management Company bid on the privilege of handling the group's final evening, and won the competition based on creativity, value and excitement. The company then accepted the challenge of organizing an effective, creative and fabulous event for the group's farewell.

The ECO DMS team unanimously agreed to hand its fees over to Imeldahof children's home.

It was happy to donate its energy and time to planning the event for ACVB, with all its earnings directly benefiting the foster home for kids.

Said Wichita Villacres, ECO CEO and Managing Director, "Our team always provides excellent services to the community and spends its resources willingly and generously... As members of the Aruba Hotel & Tourism Authority, we feel very much part of the community. We care for our community as part of our philosophy of caring for our visitors."



## Red Sail Sports

### Isabella Kainama-Rugebregt named Sales & Marketing Manager

Red Sail Sports, operating exciting watersports and a collection of retail stores on the island for the past twenty-five years, welcomed Isabella Kainama-Rugebregt as head of the busy Sales & Marketing department. Isabella has amassed a great deal of experience in the food & beverage, banquet, catering and special event field. She comes to Red Sail Sports from EPIC Aruba Destination Management Company, where she served as Operations Manager. Her experience also includes Sales & Marketing Manager at Casa Tua Restaurants, and valuable catering experience obtained working for Le Dome Restaurant & Delifrance.

Together with her colleague Suzanne Van Grinsven, Marketing & Events Manager who has been on board since March 2013, they will be booking trips on board the luxurious Red Sail Sports catamarans, filling the dive boats and promoting a bonanza of surf activities.

On turf, the new sales and marketing team will book the company's popular jeep safari, hiking tours in the National Park, island bus tours, ATV tours, golf, mountain biking, horseback riding, shopping tours, beach tennis, children's animal encounters and the Kukoo Kunuku party bus.

The retail stores and concierge desks around the hotels will also fall under their sphere of influence.

Both Suzanne and Isabella will make sure any program is a success from the airport meet & greet to transfers by bus or limo, on-site registration and hospitality desk staffing, representation services, team building activities, themed evening events, spouse programs and celebrity and VIP services.

Red Sail Sports was the first tour and activity operator in the Caribbean to receive the Silver Award from Earth Check for its Green efforts.

## Air Travel

### Insel Air



Insel Air Aruba launched its inaugural flight to Manaus, Brazil – an accomplishment five years in the making. This is of particular importance due to the great potential of the Brazilian market for Aruba's tourism. Insel executives reported that six additional planes are planned

for this year with possible expansion to seven, all based and registered in Aruba. This flight leads the way to the possible addition of Sao Paulo in one to two years. Insel Air enjoys partnerships with KLM, Gol, Air France, Delta and other airlines.





## Reina Beatrix Airport's "Super Weekend"

The first weekend after New Year's Day is historically the busiest period for passenger traffic at Queen Beatrix International Airport. Even though it was a super busy weekend where a total of 25,700 passengers and 414 total aircraft operations were handled (both commercial and private) in the 2-day period, the operation maintained the highest levels of safety and security, along with efficient and effective passenger processing, resulting in a positive passenger experience for the thousands of people traveling through the airport.

These results take a tremendous amount of coordination, planning and commitment from a number of airport partners including the US Customs and Border Protection, Local Immigrations (IASA), the Border Police Department at the airport, the local Police K-9 unit, Aruba Customs, Air

Navigation Services Aruba N.V. (ANSA), Aruba Tourism Authority (ATA), the airlines, ground handlers, Department of Public Transportation (DTP), the taxi cab drivers, concession and F&B operators, ASAP Services, Total Services, Valero, Universal Aviation FBO, Flexo, Aruba Security and Crime Prevention, Department of Public Works (DOW) and the AAA team amongst others.

AAA CEO Mr. James Fazio commented, "This is all about great teamwork, focus and leadership...Even though at one point we had 39 private aircraft and 17 commercial aircraft parked on our apron, we managed to process every one of them in a safe and expeditious manner. Not even the bad weather in the Northeast US that caused some flight delays and airspace congestion could stop the great team efforts."



## Business

### New President of Kamer van Koophandel (Aruba Chamber of Commerce)

Daphne Agius Cesareo-Lejuez was recently elected president of the Aruba Chamber of Commerce, the third woman to hold that position in the Chamber's long history. In this capacity, she is spokesperson for a board of nine distinguished members.

In her address as Chamber president, she stated, "Despite challenges and uncertainties in 2014, the local economy still managed to see areas of growth, primarily fueled by the initiatives and creativity of the private sector. The year 2015 promises to be no different with ongoing challenges as well as new opportunities."

"To reference IMF's managing director Christine Lagarde, we too may benefit from her "3 Rosetta moments" analogy which included boosting growth and creating employment; achieving inclusive and better shared growth; and making sure that this growth is both sustainable and balanced."

"One of the main objectives of the Aruba Chamber has always been to look after the interests of the Aruban business community and Aruba in general. This is not achievable by one sector in isolation. Teamwork - achieved through a collaborative and inclusive approach - will also be a determining factor."

"I am confident that with dialogue and putting our heads together we can bring forward new opportunities. My priority is to encourage feedback from business owners and entrepreneurs and listen specifically to what is important and see how the Chamber can best be of help."

For the past 17 years, Daphne and her husband, Mark, have owned and operated Carib Media, a dynamic internet company that hosts [www.visitaruba.com](http://www.visitaruba.com), one of the island's primary resources for Aruba news and information. Daphne was born and raised in Aruba and is a prominent figure in the Aruban business community. She is an accomplished artist and artisan, and mother of two.

# Culture

## International Glass 4 x 4 Workshop

At a special workshop to be held in April 2015 at Terrafuse in Aruba, artists, designers and others can experience glass art under the guidance of four prominent glassmakers.



The workshop will explore fusing, casting, lampworking, glass blowing and cold working. The program also includes familiarization with Aruba through activities and cultural visits.

Participating in many international exhibitions, Giro Abath is a prolific Aruban sculptor using a variety of materials and techniques including ceramics, bronze and glass. In 2008, he and his wife Marian launched Foundation Terrafuse to stimulate the art of glass and ceramics on Aruba. [arubaglassceramics.com](http://arubaglassceramics.com)

B. Jane Cowie is an artist, designer and glassmaker who has worked in numerous glass making studios and factories. Living in Singapore, she creates large-scale glass installations. Giuliano Pinzan, owner and director of a large glass factory, comes from a long family history of glassmakers from Murano, Italy, that emigrated to Venezuela. JanHein van Stiphout trained as a sculptor at academies in the Netherlands and Belgium but glass has always been his passion. He runs the glass studio Stipglas in Tilburg.

For information and registration, please visit [stipglas.com](http://stipglas.com) or email [stipglas@stipglas.com](mailto:stipglas@stipglas.com)



## Producing Traditional Music with a Modern Twist

Through the Ministry of Culture and the Department of Culture, Project Resona is aimed at linking Aruba's culture with the present generation for them to appreciate and safeguard.

As explained by Minister of Tourism and Culture Otmar Oduber, Project Resona will focus on typical music and Aruba's cultural pioneers, bringing artists and bands together to work on a production to conserve the folkloric culture of years past.

In the first phase, the project will bring back 13 songs by local writers that are important to the island's cultural history. These will be interpreted with the voices and music of today's generation as a lasting tribute to Aruba's cultural heritage.

Minister Oduber emphasized the importance of documenting this project for posterity and making it available to the entire Aruban community. Converting such songs to a more consumer friendly version brings culture closer to Aruban youth and allows them to be part of this project. It will also make it possible to promote Aruba's culture outside of the island.

The first presentation will take place on March 18, Aruba's Anthem and Flag Day, at the Cas di Cultura. It is aimed at Aruba's school children as well as the general public. The traditional music will be produced in a modern structure while safeguarding the traditional feeling of each song. The selected songs will be recorded and sung by young local talents, and arranged and produced by Michael Lampe of Datapanik.





# Gastronomy

## Rent A Chef

Chef Bas Kuurstra offers Rent A Chef personal chef services at private homes, hotels or villas, to make vacations and dinner parties unforgettable.

Living on Aruba for 11 years, Chef Kuurstra studied Culinary Arts at the Hotel and Gastronomy school in Amsterdam, Holland, and worked at such fine Aruba restaurants as Ventanas del Mar and Papillon. Over the years, he has cooked for many VIP's and celebrities. With the creation of Rent a Chef, Chef Kuurstra realized his dream of personalizing his love for cooking to fit individual preferences and dietary needs.

Rent a Chef specializes in completely customized private dinners for up to 20 people. With extensive catering experience, they are also able to accommodate larger groups. Rent a Chef also offers consulting and menu engineering services to restaurant owners, along with freelance services whenever there is a need for a chef. Ordering luxury cakes for weddings, birthdays and other events are other options of Rent A Chef as well.

Dinner's Ready menu selections include beef, pork, chicken, seafood and vegetarian selections. Special diet plans and gift certificates are also available. Visit [www.rentachefaruba.com](http://www.rentachefaruba.com) for complete information.

## The Blue Lobster

Outstanding new dishes have debuted at The Blue Lobster. Fresh fish and fruits of the sea brought in daily by local fishermen will start a parade of succulent and delicious new specialties.

Said the owner, "We are proud to be part of the culinary feast available on this paradise island, and cannot go on this trip without giving our clients a fair chance to sample and enjoy a good local dish made with love and care, conserving all its native roots and wonderful seasoning. This includes classic dishes like Keshi yena (stuffed cheese), Steak di weja, Balchi pisca (fish balls), Keri keri (savory shredded fish) and real Aruban fish soup.

In addition, Angus beef lovers will enjoy the 12 oz. sirloin steak and 10 oz. rib eye grilled to perfection, or the butterfly juicy filet mignon all flame-broiled. Italian pasta favorites complement the menu.

Another innovation at The Blue Lobster is Dinner and a Show featuring a 3-course dinner of appetizer (pumpkin soup, fish soup or lobster chowder), entrée (fish balls and keri-keri, goat stew or lobster thermidor) and dessert.



# Diana's pancakes place



## Diana's Pancake Place

Diana's Pancakes Place is located next to the Old Windmill, the recognizable landmark near the RIU hotels at the beginning of the high-rise hotel area. Here Diana, an experienced F&B professional, serves traditional Dutch-style pancakes (thicker than a crêpe, but thinner than American pancakes), from plain to fancy, something for everyone. Favorite pancakes are the Apple Cinnamon, French with brie, walnuts and honey and the Farmers with cheese, ham, mushrooms and onion. Kids get a kick out of their own kid-style pancakes, smiley faces with sprinkles. To meet any dietary needs she has sugar-free syrup and gluten-free pancakes. Besides pancakes there is also a great selection of sandwiches, such as smoked salmon, Dutch cheese and raw veggies, chicken/tuna/crab salad, served on large white or dark rolls.

The restaurant has a homey interior with a Dutch theme and the murals are one-of-a-kind. Patrons can sit indoors and enjoy an air-conditioned surrounding, or on the large breezy porch. Reasonable prices, friendly service, and pleasant atmosphere have already been reported on TripAdvisor. Diana's Pancake's Place is open daily except Monday from 8 am to 3 pm.



## BECAUSE LIFE IS DELICIOUS

### Side Bar

Side Bar is the name of a stylish, hip restaurant newly opened at the Renaissance Marketplace. It is located in the far corner of the shopping center, just opposite the entrance to Renaissance Ocean Suites. Just hop inside, sit at the bar or on the amazing porch and enjoy – the party at Side Bar starts at 8 am and goes on until midnight.

The restaurant menu offers a great variety, from full American breakfast to lunch specials. Dinner selections include an array of tasty appetizers, superb wraps, spectacular gourmet burgers, freshly caught local fish, sumptuous salads and juicy steaks. Side Bar's imaginative chef delights patrons with unique culinary creations and unusual presentation.

Side Bar is the perfect place to sink into an inside booth after an afternoon of sunbathing, swimming or shopping, and enjoy an ice cold beer or cocktail. It specializes in Bourbons, so expect a wall filled with the best brands from Kentucky. There is also an intriguing line-up of wooden barrels with pre-mixed, aged Bourbon cocktails; the bartender can tap a favorite cocktail from the barrel! Imagine a Mint Julep, Manhattan or Kentucky Derby on tap! With five beers on tap as well, among them Heineken, Balashi, Chill, Stella Artois and Miller, nobody will leave this bar thirsty.



## Pure Beach Bar Lounge and Restaurant

### New menu

Pure Beach Bar Lounge and Restaurant at Divi Aruba Phoenix Beach Resort, Pure Beach is a casual all day dining café and bar with European beach club aesthetics. The curtain recently went up on a refreshed menu featuring incredibly delicious food, artistically plated and served in generous portions. The menu was inspired by the culinary team of chefs at Divi Resorts, with famed Corporate Executive Chef Matt Boland at the helm, bringing back top favorites in novel presentations using the freshest fish, meat, vegetables and herbs available.

Caribbean Fish Tenders made of crispy and flaky flash-fried grouper are served with a mango lime dipping sauce. The Shrimp & Seafood Ceviche is brimming with shrimp, scallops and calamari infused with lime and fresh herbs. The Greek Beef Tenderloin Kabob flaunts tenderloin tips, onions and peppers, topped with feta cheese and Kalamata olives. The Tuna Tataki delivers sesame crusted seared ahi tuna, served over a wakame seaweed salad.

The menu introduces the Mojo Chicken Quesadilla, served with pico de gallo, guacamole and sour cream. The Kobe Sliders feature three mini wagyu kobe beef burgers, topped with Gouda cheese and red wine caramelized onions. The Pure Beach Sampler includes the restaurant's most popular appetizers of chicken wings, kabob and fried fish fillet tenders. An especially designed pizza menu features deliciously thin and crispy crusts.



## Landmarks

### California Lighthouse

One of Aruba's iconic landmarks, the California Lighthouse has been restored after 100 years. In addition to its aesthetic appeal and historical value, the beacon can once again serve as a guide to local fishermen. Tourists will be able to go inside and possibly climb to the top.

The California Lighthouse was constructed of stone in 1916. It is located near Arashi Beach on the northwest tip of Aruba, accessible by a paved winding road. It affords a magnificent panoramic view of the coastline and is neighbored by La Trattoria El Faro Blanco. The lighthouse was named for the SS California, which was wrecked at sea in 1891.



# Resorts

## Radisson Aruba Resort

### Hong Kong Couple Weds at Radisson Aruba

Hong Kong-based couple, Karen Cheung and George Ng were wed at the Radisson Aruba Resort on December 5. As the bride called the island home 25 years ago, she wanted to return with her friends and family to exchange vows. The groom cited the island's "colorful

environment, harmonious culture, nice people and beautiful scenery" as reasons for choosing to return to Aruba. The beach blessing was followed by an elegant and intimate dinner at Sunset Grille, the resort's award-winning signature restaurant.



### Radisson Aruba Makes a Cool Donation

The Ibero American High School in San Nicolas was the grateful recipient of eight inverter air conditioning units, courtesy of the Radisson Aruba Resort, Casino & Spa. In a recent ceremony at the school, Director of Human Resource Glenn Farro and HR Manager Angelique Croes, activated the new air-conditioners, welcoming climate control into the school's auditorium.

### Poolside Super Bowl Celebration

Radisson Aruba will bring Super Bowl Sunday traditions to guests with a poolside celebration. Football fans can enjoy the big game without leaving the pool. Big screens will be brought outside, along with a special barbecue menu, wings, nachos, and beer bucket specials.





## Brickell Bay Beach Club & Spa

### Aruba's 1,000,000th visitor offered a complimentary stay

As previously reported last month, for the first time in history, Aruba welcomed with great fanfare its one-millionth stay-over visitor in 2014. Harki Dhaliwal who arrived on Jet Blue, was personally welcomed by Aruba's prime minister, minister of tourism, CEOs of ATA and the airport authority and Aruba Hotel and Tourism Association (AHATA) representatives.

When Harki's stay at the Renaissance Aruba Resort & Casino came to an end, the general manager of Brickell Bay Beach Club & Spa generously offered the couple a complimentary three-night stay with breakfast so they could extend their Aruba visit. This spontaneous gesture was particularly appreciated in light of the fact that the high season had just kicked in and room availability is scarce.

Brickell Bay is the only premier boutique resort on Palm Beach. With architecture and style that gracefully blends Caribbean charm with modern chic, the resort features superior and deluxe accommodations. A host of amenities and services are offered to guests at no extra cost. Facilities include the 24-hour business center, fitness center and mini-market, as well as three restaurants, three bars and lounges, a fresh water swim-up bar and self-service laundry. The Brickell Bay Sand Beach Lounge features two professional beach tennis courts, open-air dance floor, amazing bar and live televised sport entertainment.



## Real Estate

### Aruba's Most Advanced Real Estate Portal

The Association of Aruban Realtors, (AAR) together with Dot 1 Technologies have recently launched Aruba's most advanced, and complete multiple listing website, [www.realaruba.estate](http://www.realaruba.estate)

This state-of-the-art website allows visitors to access information and find the most up-to-date and complete list of properties for sale and for rent on the island. Through the partnership of Aruba's fifteen largest and most reputable real estate/ property management companies, realaruba.estate showcases more than 80% of the real estate available on the market.

The website has been designed and developed by Dot 1 Technologies with the latest know-how and functionalities. Visitors to the website experience a user-friendly interface complete with an easy to navigate "Map Search", a new tool using the latest in web technology to find properties simply by selecting an area on the map. This website is also optimized for viewing on smartphones and tablets.

The new portal is a collaboration of Aruba's premier real estate companies who are all represented with complete listings. These are Sotheby's International Realty, Aruba Living Today, Clearly Realty, MPG Real Estate, Prima Casa Real Estate, Aruba Happy Rentals, Alto Vista Real Estate, Coldwell Banker, Aruba Top Homes, Aruba Palm Realtors, Aruba Home Minders, Aruba Brokers, Remax Advantage Realty, Century 21 and Executive Real Estate.







## O cOndominium

Creating what will be the first “boutique” resort-style residence compound on prestigious Eagle Beach, the developers’ vision for O includes amenities and services comparable to 5-star resort hotels, with an inviting modern lobby with reception, lounge areas, an expansive beachfront pool area with infinity edge pool, Jacuzzi, lounge chairs, umbrellas, BBQ area, showers, and coded date for beach access, beside a state-of-the-art air-conditioned fitness facility with outdoor space, spinning bikes, and up-to-date gym equipment.

Some of the services offered by O will include concierge & reception, 24-hour Security, optional vacation rental program & management, and maintenance and janitorial services.

All units are delivered turnkey with trendy interior design fixtures, contemporary European Kitchens, quality finishes, and premium

architectural elements. Design features include spacious sun-drenched rooms, panoramic views, avant-garde design elements, and luxury finishes for the twenty 2- and 3-bedroom luxury oceanfront residences, ranging in size from 1,388 sq. ft. to 2,960 sq. ft.

The company has developed more than twelve residential communities for both the local and visitor markets to date, including Villa Park Paradera, Sabana Villas, Villa Park Tanki Lendeert, Seroe Blanco Villas, Bubali Villas, Paramira Villas, Tanki Lendeert Villas, and Paradera Villas among others, with three upscale developments, Surfside Villas, Gold Coast, and the most recent O Condominium to their credit.

For more information, email [sales@o-eaglebeacharuba.com](mailto:sales@o-eaglebeacharuba.com) or visit the onsite sales office.



# Retail

## The Salamander Group Hosts Generous Tikkun Olam Event

A heartwarming and congenial event was recently hosted by The Salamander Group at Caribbean Queen, Palm Beach Plaza Mall. The evening was emceed by managing director Jodi Tobman, the driving force behind Tikkun Olam, named after an ancient Hebrew philosophy that the repair of the world, Tikkun Olam, is possible by means of charity. "We greatly enjoy the annual donation ceremony as we see that the fruits of our labor bring joy to a community of volunteers who work passionately on behalf of the island's social causes," she stated. "We are honored to honor you," she added as she addressed the foundation representatives gathered at Caribbean Queen to receive donation checks from key Salamander staffers.

Wilma Kuiperi, representing the Aruba International Arts Foundation and the Aruba International Dance Foundation, reported efforts to create a children's art museum. Artist Elvis Lopez, representing Ateliers '89, reported on the activities of his local art school and the recent availability of dance classes in San Nicolas. Dilma Arends, representing the Autism Foundation, discussed the possibility of a national committee. Hotelier Astrid Muller and attorney Nancy Gravenstijn, representing Hende Muher den Dificultad, reported on its progress in eradicating domestic violence. Aleida Hector, representing Art Rules Aruba and The Pancake Gallery, reported on its mission to train and inspire youth in arts education. Rona Coster of the Clown Doctors Foundation described its visits to hospitalized

children and nursing homes. Bojoura Richard received its check on behalf of the Koningin Wilhelmina Kanker Fonds (Queen Wilhelmina Cancer Foundation).

Donations made by The Salamander Group, in collaboration with its clients, were made possible thanks to the dedicated staff

who helped direct a percentage of clients' purchases to their favorite local foundation. The Salamander Group owns and operates Caribbean Queen, The Juggling Fish, T.H. Palm & Company, The Coconut Trading Company, Caribbean Clothing Company, and The Lazy Lizard, fun stores located in the hotel areas and in town.



To our tourism partners:  
Thank you for providing us  
with your updates

To ensure that your news is featured in  
the monthly Aruba Product Update of  
the Aruba Tourism Authority, please send  
information as it becomes available to:

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[s.feliciano@aruba.com](mailto:s.feliciano@aruba.com)

[m.feliciana@aruba.com](mailto:m.feliciana@aruba.com)

and [j.tilma@aruba.com](mailto:j.tilma@aruba.com)

by the 25th of each month.

A special thank you to Aruba Daily,  
Aruba Today, Columnist Rona Coster  
and our tourism partners for  
their contributions.



## Prada at Renaissance Mall

Prada, an international luxury brand, has opened its doors in Aruba at the Renaissance Mall with elegant retro looking, black & white decor and ceiling-high shelves stocked with minimalistic design bags and totes. Prada is among the top ten most expensive bag brands in the world. The Italian fashion house has been in business since 1913, and makes clothing, jewelry, perfumes, footwear and watches.

## Visitors

### Romário

A recent visitor to Aruba is Romário de Souza Faria, an internationally known soccer player known simply as Romário. A former player for Brazil and the Netherlands, Romario also played in Qatar, the United States and Australia at the end of his career. He is currently a senator in Brazil representing Rio de Janeiro.

With 55 goals in 70 appearances for Brazil, Romário is the third highest goal scorer for his national team. He is second on the all-time list of Brazilian league's top scorers with a total of 154 goals.

