



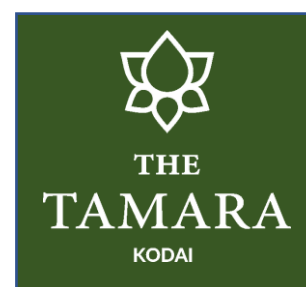
Building, Renovation, Preservation, Adaptive Reuse, & Conversion

Recipient: The Tamara Kodai, India

In the category of Building, Renovation, Preservation, Adaptive Reuse, & Conversion, the winner is **The Tamara Kodai** in India.

The Tamara Kodai is a 53-room resort located in Kodaikanal in the Nadu state in South-East India, more than 2,000 meters above sea level.

The resort preservation transformed a heritage building complex built in 1840 into a luxury retreat. The renovation takes reference to the past, from celebrating the original tribes who lived atop the Palani hills and recognizing the more recent past as a British post and Jesuit priest repose. A preservation which serves as example of a sustainable reuse which shows how to align luxury, modern hospitality trends and responsible tourism.



The heritage building complex has been restored with care to maintain its historical importance, implementing the use of techniques and materials used in the original construction, new extensions are built with original materials, upcycled railway sleeper are used in the cottage porches. The original roof structures have been restored and is exposed throughout the resort.

Many active sustainable strategies are in place like rainwater harvesting, gray water recycling, wet waste composting, advanced STP and ETP facilities use, and employment of solar panels.

The resort has a strong commitment to social sustainability, founding charities which support the local communities affected by conflict and climate related crisis. About 40% of the products used in the resort are produced locally for the creation of many local dishes. Additionally, art and pottery classes for guests are organized with local artists in Kodai. Overall, the resort also employs up to 50% of their associates from the local community.





Climate & Biodiversity Action

Recipient: Soneva Fushi, Maldives

In the category of Climate & Biodiversity Action, the winner is **Soneva Fushi** in the Maldives.

Situated on the Baa Atoll UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, the Soneva Fushi 72-villa resort is Soneva's flagship. Already establishing carbon neutrality in 2012 to cover its full scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions – including guest flights to the resort which comprise 70% of its total footprint – and having installed 2.5MWp of solar PV, Soneva is adding 1.9MWp of solar PV and 2.5MW capacity of battery storage, attaining 50% of its electricity from renewable sources.



Funded by an opt-out environmental levy on guestrooms, Soneva Fushi offsets its carbon footprint via contribution to Gold Standard carbon projects that have mitigated over 800,00 tons of CO₂ and benefitted 350,000 people globally. These initiatives focus on biodiversity conservation such as providing stoves to communities in Myanmar to use for cooking to reduce deforestation from gathering wood, as well as tree-planting and reforestation. The past 2 years, recognizing the importance of coral reefs to ecosystems and the resort experience, Soneva Fushi embarked on a coral projection and restoration initiative, setting up a coral nursery of 50,000 coral fragments placed equivalent of 1 hectare of land using Mineral Accretion Technology, as well as establishing AquaTerra marine and terrestrial biodiversity science centre designed to replicate the natural environment on the reef to enable coral spawning, rescuing over 29,000 coral colonies to-date from dredging near Malé, and installing 28 micro-fragmenting tanks with a renowned coral specialist. This and a myriad of other initiatives are in place at Soneva Fushi, monitored and reported in its Total Impact Assessment approach.





Positive Community Impact

Recipient: Cempedak Island, Indonesia

Located on an island off the coast of Indonesia in the Riau Archipelago, the 20-villa Cempedak Island aims to have a positive impact for all stakeholders by minimising any negative impact and having a long-term positive impact in the local community.

Through the lack of waste management solutions, plastic pollution has historically been a threat to the community, endangering the local biodiversity that they rely on for livelihoods, nutrition and wellness.



During the COVID pandemic, Cempedak partnered with Seven Clean Seas to establish a non-profit to remove plastic waste, create waste management projects and provide fair formalised jobs for the local community. This enabled staff at the resort to supplement their incomes by cleaning the beaches daily for plastic.

Since the resort re-opened, the programme expanded to hire 79 community members and form clean-up crews. They have also established a materials recovery facility, which is researching how to put materials collected from the marine environment back into a circular economy, while reducing the amount of plastic waste created in the first place. So far, 780 tonnes of waste has been removed from the oceans around Cempedak.

Since 2020, the project has extended to two other islands, providing the resources and knowledge needed to be successful in sustaining themselves.

Seven Clean Seas now also helps companies measure the plastic they use, conceptualise solutions to minimise their own plastic use and offset remaining plastic by investing in plastic credits which fund the collection and recycling of ocean plastics.





Sustainable Design

Recipient: **Six Senses Vana, India**

The Six Senses Vana is a resort with 86 keys located in Dehradun, North India. One of the first hospitality business in India to receive LEED Platinum Certification in 2015. The resorts and the team minimize their impact on the site and the nature surrounding them, the design takes inspiration from nature and being in harmony with it.

The simple contemporary architecture and clear aesthetic designed to include sustainable materials, neutral palette, large openings to allow natural light in the buildings, and to evoke a sense of comfort and wellbeing.



FSC Certified timber and low VOC paint have been specified as well as windows which meet LEED fenestration guidelines. All the resort textiles like uniforms, bed and bath linens for guests are made of organic cotton produced in the South of India.

Several energy and water conservation best practices have been implemented like motion-detection systems, "inn Com Control", BMS system, 100% LED lighting, solar panels, heat pumps and energy efficient equipment.

No water gets wasted: rainwater is collected, treated, and used to irrigate the resort grounds, a bottling plant eliminates the use of plastic bottles and low flow faucets reduce the use of fresh water, while a high-efficiency sewage treatment plant recycles grey water.

Native species are found in the landscape, fallen leaves and green clearing are used for mulch to rebuild healthy soil and planting beds.

Clearly looking at all this, we see how for this property sustainability is not a checklist but a way of life.

