

Our company always strives for sustainability in various ways, either within the property itself or through its engagement in many initiatives and actions of both social and environmental character. Ever since the establishment of KANAVA SA, with the inauguration of the first property in Santorini, Vedema Resort, the company has remained very attached to the local community.

Guest Education

We constantly encourage our guests to explore the island of Santorini in a more responsible way and propose them among our list of curated activities that include experiences within the community of the villages where our hotels are located. We support and work, for example, with SYMPOSITION by La Ponta, a cultural center located in the village of Megalohori, that offers guests a unique experience through interactive tours, workshops, vintage instrument exhibitions and original performances. We also encourage them to take cooking lessons with a couple of locals in Petra Kouzina, within a cave house, where they will learn how to cook traditional local savours. Besides that, around the island, there are many wineries that we encourage them to visit so that they learn more about the traditional wine-making methods, that are unique to the region.

Experience Cultural Heritage

We do offer our guests opportunities to experiences cultural and archeological sites. Our hotels are located within close distance of very important sites and museums and our Concierge team consults them on the sites to visit and assists them on experiencing them. We do even offer shuttle service to the town of Fira, where the archeological museum of Fira is located and has one of the most important archeological collections in the region.

Living Heritage

We offer our guests opportunities to learn more about living cultural heritage like music, in collaboration with the cultural center of Symposion, but also on the intangible cultural heritage and most notably the Santorinian wine-making methods. Vedema Resort, the first hotel of the company, is inspired and built around the 400-year-old winery that lies at the heart of the property and has been seamlessly integrated into the resort, incorporating the sensitively restored ancient cellars, in which daily wine tasting sessions take place. The resort is also encircled by vineyards that belong to the property and our guest relations team happily accompanies our guests to show them the surrounding vineyards and explains them of the Santorinian wine making methods, traditions and history during check-ins. On another note, since 1988, the owner and visionary behind Vedema Resort, Antonis Eliopoulos, organizes a fair that takes place every year in the village of Megalohori that is attended by the locals and has now become a tradition of the village.

Local Sourcing

As our properties are located in the Cyclades, most of the supplies are sourced from the capital of the country, Athens, however, a very important volume of the food supplies used in our restaurants is locally sourced. Ingredients include vegetables and typical Santorinian produce such as dried tomatoes, cherry tomatoes, capper, capper leaves, fava, fish, but also Santorinian choro cheese. Around one fourth of our restaurants' wine list includes local wines,

while we also offer local beer and all our welcome amenities are nearly exclusively locally made.

Training & Career Advancement

We do provide all our staff with constant trainings to contribute to improving their skills and we also offer them the possibility to professionally evolve, advance their careers and change position within the organization in case their aspirations and skills align.

Community Development

KANAVA SA, is very engaged in the support of the community development, ever since the very creation of the company. Most recent actions of the company to support the development of the community include a complete renovation of the kindergarten of Megalohori village, but also a donation of linens to an elderly house in the capital of Santorini, Thira. Besides, we have developed an initiative that aims to offer environmental education to all primary schools of Santorini. The company also punctually completes actions based on the needs of the local and sometimes national communities, and these have included in the past fund raising for health care initiatives, supporting people whose homes have been destroyed by fire, but is also very active and conscious in protecting the pet community of Santorini. On another note, during hotel operations, we partner with a gift shop located in the village of Megalohori in order to create gifts for our partners and clients or even for our sales missions events.

Guest Education

We constantly encourage our guests to explore the islands of Santorini and Paros in a more responsible way and propose them among our list of curated activities that include experiences within the community of the villages where they are nestled. We also suggest them to support local businesses such as restaurants and certain gifts shops in those regions.

Carbon Footprint Reduction

We are very sensible about our carbon footprint and make constant efforts to reduce it. First of all, all the cars we use for our guests transportation are hybrids. Then, in some of our properties we have proceeded with the installation of only LEB balms, while the water is heated by solar panels and heat pumps. Finally, a recycling of paper, glass and plastics is being practiced in all our properties

Resource Management

We do monitor our energy, water and waste consumption and compare year per year consumption with the aim to reduce it.

Guest Education

We have not yet developed any educational projects, however, we aim to establish one within the frame of « Greening the schools of Santorini and Paros » initiative that we have launched along with the Cyclades Preservation Fund. We wish to inform and educate our guests on how to align with our project and live in a more plastic free way, respecting and preserving the natural environment, but also we'd wish to develop a program through which they will be able to contribute in their own way in this project so that we'll be able to further expand it and support it in a long-term way.

Conservation and Restoration

We have recently partnered with the Cyclades Preservation Fund, a non-profit organization that works for the protection of the environment in the Cyclades and we have created a project that will be entirely supported and financed by our company. Our project is called « Greening the schools of Santorini and Paros » and will support the environmental education in all primary schools of Santorini, aiming to educate young students on a more plastic free future, as well as the creation of a botanical garden of rare and endemic species and aims to inspire environmental-friendly practices to the younger generations.