

# Pimalai Resort & Spa - Preserving Koh Lanta's Natural Environment

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/EINPresswire.com/ -- Pimalai Resort & Spa is Koh Lanta's best kept secret, located right within the heart of nature and set amongst 100 acres of tropical vegetation with direct access to 900 meters of pristine sandy beach.



Pimilai Resort & Spa

Green Globe recently recertified Pimalai Resort & Spa. The resort has focused on environmental initiatives that aim to raise awareness and minimize impacts on the spectacular natural surroundings.

It is Pimalai's belief that their success as a leading resort in Thailand is partly based on its goal of preserving a safe and healthy environment for the people of Koh Lanta as well as visiting guests. As such, every detail from the selection of the resort's location, to the design of the grounds and construction of the facilities, was planned and executed with the goal of complementing, not competing with, the original natural environment. The resort aims to stay true to this belief and in doing so will always be able to offer guests genuine comfort and solace from the hustle and bustle of life.

## Pimalai's Rak Lanta Project

Pimalai's Rak Lanta Project was initiated to create awareness of the importance of protecting Koh Lanta's natural environment. Pimilai endeavors to be accepted as a role model by local communities as well as foreign visitors in order to maintain Koh Lanta as a special sanctuary. The project provides knowledge and support for local community groups by actively supplying information on waste management issues concentrating on two major areas - the preservation and enhancement of native forests and the restoration of underwater coral damaged by human activities via coral propagation.

Waste management issues have increased in direct relation to the rising number of tourists visiting the island over the past decade. To ensure the success of the Rak Lanta Project, the property's strategy is to engage local community members including those employed by dive shops, school students, local authorities, national park wardens and resort operators by promoting environmentally friendly waste management practices. For example, encouraging waste separation in order to reduce, reuse and where possible recycle waste.

## Ecological Actions

Pimalai has its own Green Team and seeks advice from invited guests such as members of

Ocean Quest, who are experts in their respective fields. Ocean Quest is a marine conservation organization founded by Anuar Abdullah and other marine biologists that helps organize training and offers stimulating activities such as participating in underwater garbage collection and coral propagation activities. The programs create awareness of the need to protect and/or restore existing forests, and protect coral reefs from further degradation especially in designated marine national parks.

In 2017, Pimalai launched a new exciting conservation initiative entitled Pimalai Coral Propagation. The resort, in conjunction with Ocean Quest, works closely with the Koh Lanta and Trang National Parks to ensure that the project is successful and can be a role model to propagate corals in other regions of Thailand. The project has been running for 2 years and involves more than 20 dive shops around the island and resort guests. Coral is first grown in a nursery then the adolescent coral is relocated from the nursery to a suitable site near Koh Haa Island. Measurements are taken to indicate the successful growth of the coral.

Students in Koh Lanta are educated on protecting the environment by working with the National Park Authority and participating in a reforestation initiative where already over 1,000 trees have been planted. The promotion of garbage collection both on land and underwater has been eagerly accepted by school students with the added effect that they help promote these programs to their parents and siblings.

The resort's future plans include the continuation of the reforestation initiative, monitoring progress at the underwater coral nursery and developing further coral propagation in Koh Haa and other islands nearby which have suitable sites for coral growth. In addition, working in collaboration with the Thai Fishery Department, Pimalai has devised a 12-year program for the rehabilitation of clownfish species at the stunning Koh Haa archipelago, located just a few miles west of the resort.

#### About Green Globe Certification

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