



## **Environmentally Friendly Design**

The Punta Perla Caribbean Golf, Marina and Spa Resort has been designed as a living community that seeks to blend in seamlessly with the natural environment. Even the overall design layout reflects this mission: seen from overhead, the individual residential communities appear like amoebas and the placement of the different urbanized areas as a whole suggest the leaves of a typical Caribbean plant. It should be of no wonder, then, that respect and care for the landscape dictate design and construction decisions in Punta Perla and not vice versa.

### **Respect for the Natural Environment**

Punta Perla will primarily use materials that are natural and reusable or recyclable. For natural material, preference will be given to quality products that are native to the island. Recycled fossilized coral stone, limestone, and other stones taken from pre-existing island quarries or parts of the Punta Perla land will serve as both construction and adornment materials. For example, stone excavated in the building of the marina area will be used for landscaping of the golf course, while coral stone will be ideal for wall finishes and pool area surfacing. Numerous indigenous plants will also be useful for adornment purposes. Noble woods that are adaptable and resistant to the tropical environment, but that are from other places such as Brazil, will also feature in the construction of residential units. Lastly, materials that can be reused or broken down into base parts for later recycling have also taken precedence in the design of Punta Perla and will continue to do so during the different construction phases. In this same vein, construction materials that contain dangerous resins or other harmful substances will be purposely and aggressively avoided.

With regards to the existing flora, professional teams are currently carrying out studies so as to determine what species and which particular plants can be relocated or reused for other purposes and which ones can be eliminated without harming the overall natural surroundings of the residential community. Replanting certain vegetation is an attractive option in that it allows us to not only save existing plant life but to beautify and improve landscaping as well. Specifically, transplanted trees and bamboo will serve to line roadways, provide additional shade in golf and other recreational areas, create decorative garden areas, and even enhance the habitats for birds and other wildlife. Lastly, the reutilization of plants that have to be sacrificed will permit the adornment of the residential areas and units.

In terms of fauna, the land on which Punta Perla will occupy does not have any animal species that is either endangered or could be harmed in the long run from residential development. The types of animals that inhabit the region are relatively small and in sufficient abundance to thrive despite the imposition of this project on the land and in a way that does not negatively impact the residential community.

### **Energy Conservation**

Through its engineering teams, the project developer, Paraiso Tropical, are currently studying and discussing the possibility of creating solar energy sources for the Punta Perla project. These same engineers are also looking into the best and most efficient system for supplying electricity to the community. While ensuring a constant and reliable flow of

electricity – something that is easily achievable – for the resort is our top priority in this area, Punta Perla nonetheless will strive to incorporate installations and procedures that avoid wasteful and unnecessary usage of energy. Naturally, efficient and low energy consuming lighting for roads, public areas, and private residences and/or businesses is one route Punta Perla hopes to take towards energy conservation.

### **Water Conservation**

Water use and conservation are issues of the utmost importance in Punta Perla. For general watering and upkeep of vegetation and the recreation facilities such as the golf and polo courses, Punta Perla will have numerous deposits or reservoirs in the form of artificial lakes and ponds from which water will be drawn. Bathwater that has been filtered will also come from some of the aforementioned deposits. While these reservoirs serve primarily as retention points of rainwater, from a landscape design perspective they also give the community added beauty. One of the large reservoirs will serve as a stop-gate for salt water or water with high ph levels by being connected to strategically placed water drainage canals and being positioned close enough to the sea so as to capture any salt water spillover or high ph-level water that might otherwise infiltrate clean water deposit areas.

Sewage treatment areas that feature a state-of-the-art infra-red filtration system will be set up to take care of used water and to separate harmful wastes from water that could be used for the posterior watering of plants. Unrecyclable sewage would then be carried via trucks to other zones where they can be deposited and handled properly.

### **Pollution Reduction Measures**

The recycling and correct treatment of solid waste and trash will be one key method to reduce pollution created within the resort area. Another targeted area will be transportation. Punta Perla will strive to reduce the need for cars within the resort by supplying property owners with pollution-free electric golf buggies and by creating dedicated routes linking residential areas with the marina, golf club, beach and polo club. There will also be a Venetian-style vaporetto ferry service around the marina for which small, quiet and environmentally-friendly craft will make periodic stops at key locations throughout the day.

### **The End Result: Sustainability**

As it can be seen above, Punta Perla has been planned from its very conception to respect its natural surrounding while simultaneously using available local and regional resources in a way that promotes long-term sustainability for the residential and business community. Through current studies that explore how to manage water supplies, create alternative forms of energy, and understand and properly use local plant life and through its definitive planning to incorporate complex recycling and pollution reduction systems, this resort project is clearly demonstrating its intention to conserve resources both today and tomorrow.