



The Corporate Responsibility and Sustainability Report, for its first year, addresses important environmental and social issues that contribute to the sustainability development of Merit Starlit Hotel & Residences.

Welcome to the first year of our official sustainability report. With the years we will meet, we aim to be transparent and a leader in the field with our climate-friendly operations by achieving the highest level of sustainability criteria in luxury accommodation in line with international standards in our location, which is in the process of complying with European Union Standards. This report is a call to all stakeholders (guests, communities, colleagues, owners, shareholders, consultants, suppliers and media etc.) to join us on this journey for a sustainable world.



Sustainability transformation (or transition), refers to a deep, system-wide change affecting technology, economy, society, values, and goals. It is a complex and multi-layered process that must happen at all scales, from local communities to global governance institutions. The three pillars of sustainability (environmental, economic, and social) can help to pave a path toward a sustainable future.





SUSTAINABLE GALS DEVELOPMENT



13 CLIMATE ACTION



14 LIFE BELOW WATER



9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE













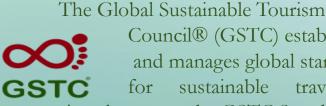








The SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals) are seventeen goals and 169 targets set up by the United Nations in 2015 as a universal call to end global issues like poverty, inequality and climate change, to protect the planet and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity by 2030.



Council® (GSTC) establishes and manages global standards sustainable travel and tourism, known as the GSTC Standards.





- Goal 1: No poverty
- Goal 2: Zero hunger
- Goal 3: Good health and wellbeing
- Goal 4: Quality education
- Goal 5: Gender equality
- Goal 6: Clean water and sanitation
- Goal 7: Affordable and clean energy
- Goal 8: Decent work and economic growth
- Goal 9: Industry, innovation and infrastructure
- Goal 10: Reduced inequalities
- Goal 11: Sustainable cities and communities
- Goal 12: Responsible consumption and production
- Goal 13: Climate action
- Goal 14: Life below water
- Goal 15: Life on land
- Goal 16: Peace, justice and strong institutions
- Goal 17: Partnerships for the goals



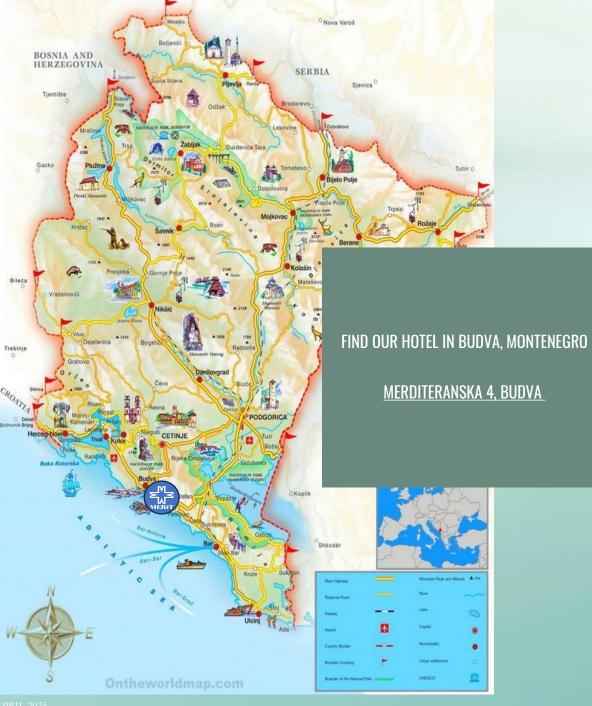
Merit Starlit Hotel and Residence is the first facility under the 'Luxury Condo Hotel Concept' of Merit Group, which has made significant progress in the Balkans and Northern Cyprus in a short time with its flawless service approach and reliability; It was opened in Budva, Montenegro on April 23, 2024 with its superior service approach and the highest rated 5-star hotel in the country.

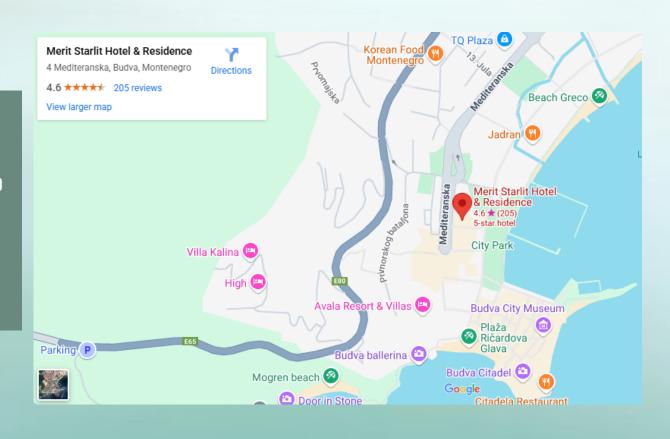
Merit Group is experienced in casino and hospitality management, has been successfully recognized as a brand since 1988.

Merit has been always known for its Turkish hospitality, reliability and magnificent events, and it embraces its guests from all over the world to Northern Cyprus and the Balkans with a perfect service.



While the Group continues to grow rapidly with firm steps; Merit Starlit & Hotel & Residence carry forward the brand position in the European continent with the main principles & environmentally sensitive policies, the new perspectives it brings to luxury service and the employment flow.







As the first Merit property to open on the European continent under the Luxury Condo Hotel Concept;

To create a legacy of
'Exemplary Luxury Sustainable Hotel
Management Culture',
with our superior hospitality approach and
personal sense of luxury.



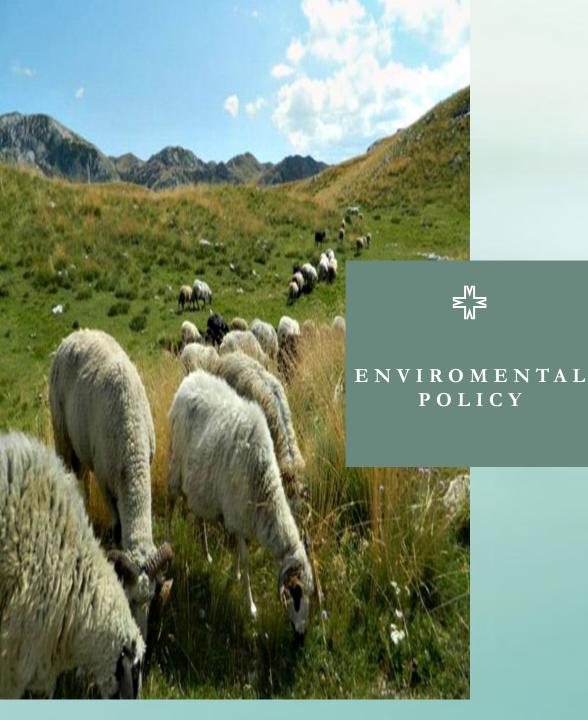
To blend luxury with sustainability in all our processes; delivering superior hospitality through innovative, respectful practices that minimize environmental impact and build a lasting future.



WE TAKE CARE WE RESPECT WE ARE COMPATIBLE WE ARE RESPONSIBLE

Sustainability
Trust
Authenticity
Respect
Loyalty
Innovation
Thoughtfulness

These values, rooted in the acronym STARLIT, guide the Hotel's mission to provide luxury and unique hospitality within its environmentally sensitive structure in Europe.



We aim to be a leader in our field by meeting the sustainability criteria in luxury accommodation at the highest level, being transparent with our climate-friendly operations and contributing to the development of all our stakeholders at our location, which is in the process of complying with European Union Standards.

We have committed to making it our primary duty to protect the natural life of our magnificent country and our world by causing zero harm over time.



WE ARE FRIEND OF MOTHER NATURE



KEEP BALANCE FIRST



- We provide our guests with information on walks, wildlife, 'Get to Know Montenegro', 'Montenegro Landscape & Biodiversity', 'How to be Green Friendly'
- We have increased the percentage of working with local suppliers significantly compared to the first months of our opening. Our percentage of locally sourced companies: As of April 2025, our percentage of working with local companies has increased to 94%.



- Using of low energy light bulbs
- Using of LED lights
- Walk in showers available to encourage guests to use the shower instead of the bath resulting in water saving
- All water coming from kitchens, including from hotel rooms and residential lines, goes through a cleaning and separation process before being collected and released into the city sewer system. The separated section is disposed of.
- 'Cooking oils' used in kitchens are collected and disposed of separately when their useful life is over.



- Preferring chemicals as nature friendly chemicals and changing the chemicals
- Bulk purchase of concentrate chemicals
- Refillable chemical containers
- Selection of eco-friendly products in guest bathroom sets.
- Planning was made especially during the low season of 2024 and electricity was turned off in unused floors.



- Replaced towels on guest request
- Encouraged cycle to work and have provided cycle rack facilities
- Encouraged local transport
- Recycling of paper, card board
- Provided newspapers on request to avoid wastage and recycle any spares



- On going environmental and awareness knowledge
- Installed digital programmable eco heating in our rooms which reducing consumption by heating each room on an "as required" basis
- When the hotel rooms are not in use, all lighting is automatically turned off.
- Energy saving lighting, dimmers and motion detectors are available
- Daily monitoring of utilities consumption to aid reducing consumption levels



- There is thermal insulation in the entire building.
- Papers are collected separately in offices and the back pages of the papers used are evaluated.
- Unless required, black and white prints are printed.
- With the information provided, personnel are directed to consume less.
- In order to reduce print and paper waste in the operation, recording and reporting in digital environment is encouraged whenever possible.



- Guests are supported to be environmentally conscious with information directed by the hotel TV channel and SA department.
- Printed documents in the rooms are kept to a minimum for the information of the guests. In this way, the waste of printed documents, paper and cartridges is kept to a minimum.
- Vegetable waste is composted
- We increased our female employee percentage from 20 percent to 34 percent.
- A system in compliance with legal processes has been established since the first day.



In move to promote sustainability and meet changing culinary preferences, expanded plant-based offerings by introducing vegan dishes to our menus. Also, vegan options were created for many of menu items.

This initiative reflects the hotel's commitment to sustainability and its goal of providing diverse, high-quality dining experiences for all guests. By reducing its reliance on animal products, the hotel took a meaningful step toward lowering its carbon footprint and promoting a more sustainable food system.



• In order to use fresh and catch-time seafood from the Adriatic Sea, the menus were revised when necessary and changes were made to the seafood.

This method has enabled us to offer fresh and timely seafood to our guests, given the opportunity to work with local suppliers, and prevented the energy expenditure and carbon emissions that would be caused by the frozen product supplier and us.



We prefer the using Aluminum Tubes for the bathroom amenities

We are working with La Bottega with our same vision for environment and sustainability. Commitment of the La Bottega is to reduce the amount of plastic used in the world by not introducing new plastic into the environment and promoting alternative materials. La Bottega laboratories are ICEA (Institute of Ethical and Environmental certification) certified to produce Eco and Bio cosmetics.





ALUMINUM MATERIAL ALUMINUM COLLECTIONS La Bottega uses aluminum as a recyclable material for eco-sustainable amenities, up to 98% plastic-free.

• We prefer the using Aluminum Tubes for the bathroom amenities

Aluminum is recyclable material for eco-sustainable amenities. Up to 98% plastic-free. Non-toxic aluminum is regarded as a healthier, safer option for containers versus plastic, as the latter can release harmful substances like phthalates and bisphenol A (BPA), especially when exposed to high temperatures.







Dispenser Non- Refillable: La Bottega patents tamper-evident dispensers to avoid bacterial contamination and high maintenance costs. testes on refillable cosmetics, that dispensers guarantee a more hygienic experience.

Solid Collection: Solid Cosmetics are compact, transportable and plastic-free.

Also, our supplier - La Bottega provide the formulations that are Nickeltested, free of silicones, parabens, MIT and are all cruelty free.







Custom Stonepaper: The Stonepaper material is a selection of the high-quality personal care products. Characterized by our Hotel Logo design with a neutral label.

Stone paper is a sustainable and environmentally friendly

Using Stonepaper is contribute to environmental protection by reducing the use of resources like water and chemicals in paper production.

Plus, it's 100% tree-free and photo-degradable in a landfill.

Stone paper has a velvety smooth surface and is tear-resistant, making it a durable and long-lasting option. Its natural brightness also means it doesn't require any bleaches or acids.





Key Features of Stone Paper

Water-resistant

Eco-friendly

Tear-resistant

Durable

Naturally bright, and velvety smooth surface

Recyclable

100% Tree-free

Cradle-to-cradle

No bleaches or acids

Photo-degradable in landfill

Commercially compostable material

Carbon compensated





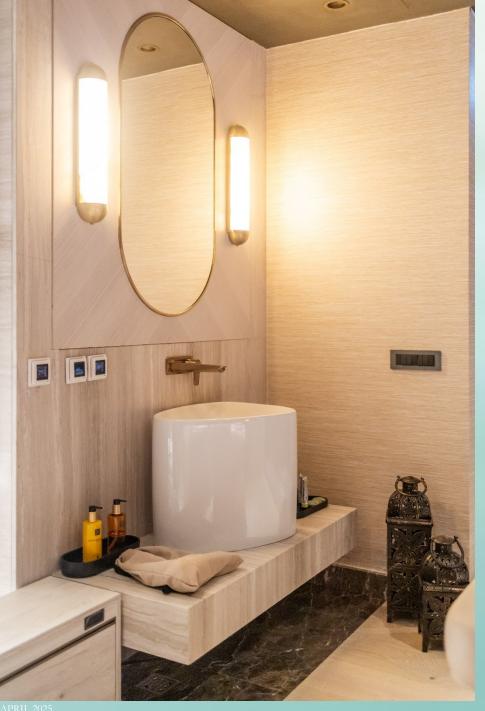
Reusable cotton material for Laundry Bags





Reusable cotton material for Shoes Bags





Reusable cotton material for Hair Dryer





KIEHL is GREEN











More and more of our product packaging is

- We are using 'Sustainable Cleaning Chemicals'
- Training for minimal chemical use in Housekeeping and FB Sections





Training for minimal & effective chemical use in Housekeeping and FB Departments









• Dual flush toilets to save water

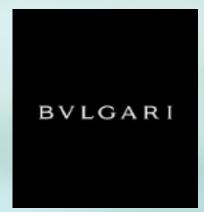




Walk in showers available









Paraben Free & Luxury Hand Soap and Toiletries







• We do not use plastic bottles in our rooms and restaurants. Only glass bottles are available.





• Our hotel has been started to provides an Electric Car Charging Station Service.





We provide free secure bike parking for staff and guests





In the subsequent landscaping work around the hotel, 10% of the lighting has been provided by renewable (solar energy). Our goal is to increase these rates.



In order to reduce the negative impact of tourism on a destination, to help people gain sustainable habits and to introduce the country and its natural and historical features, we share the information listed below with our guests via the screens in our rooms.

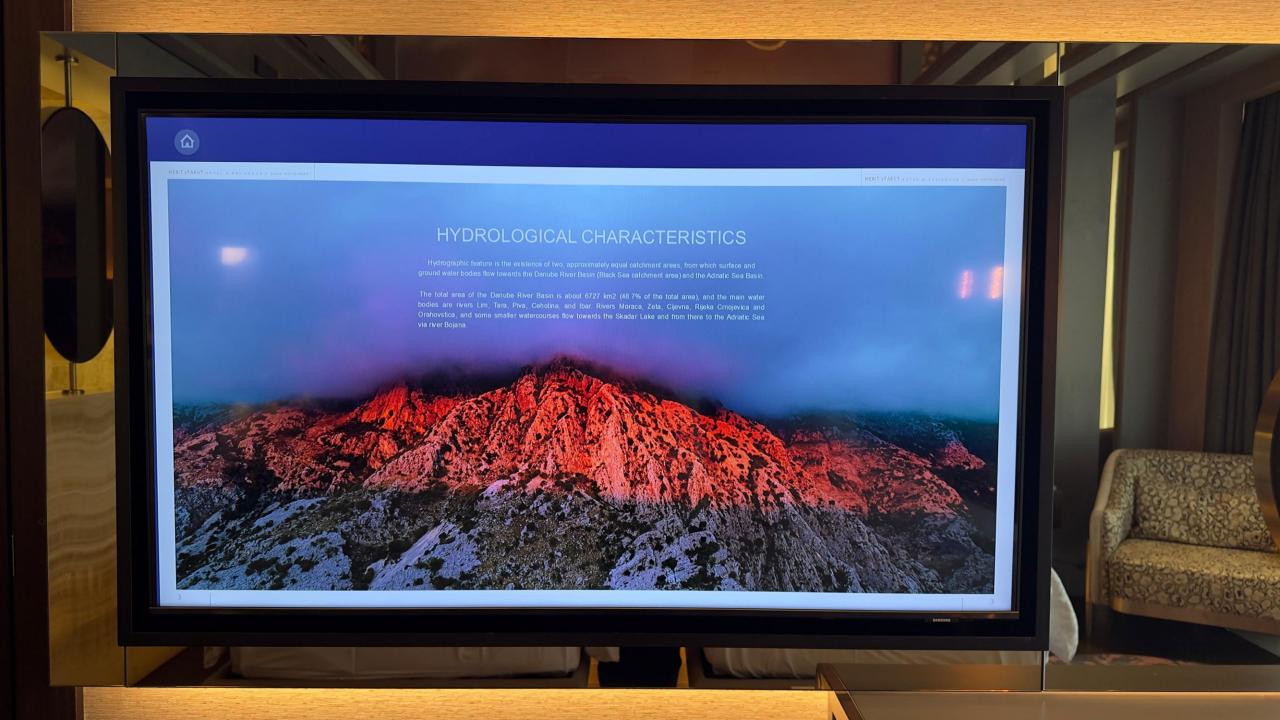
(By sharing in this way, we also prevent paper and toner waste.)

- ☐ Montenegro Landscape and Biodiversity
 - Hydrological Characteristics
 - Cultural Pattern
 - National Parks (Areas under the protection)
 - More Sea (Rare Fish Montenegro / Planktonic Communities / Marine İnvertebrates / Coralligenous Communities / Cephalopods / Sea Fish /Sea Horse / Sea Turtles / Marine Mammals)
 - Land (Fungi / Flora / Forest)
 - Wildlife
- ☐ Get to Know Montenegro

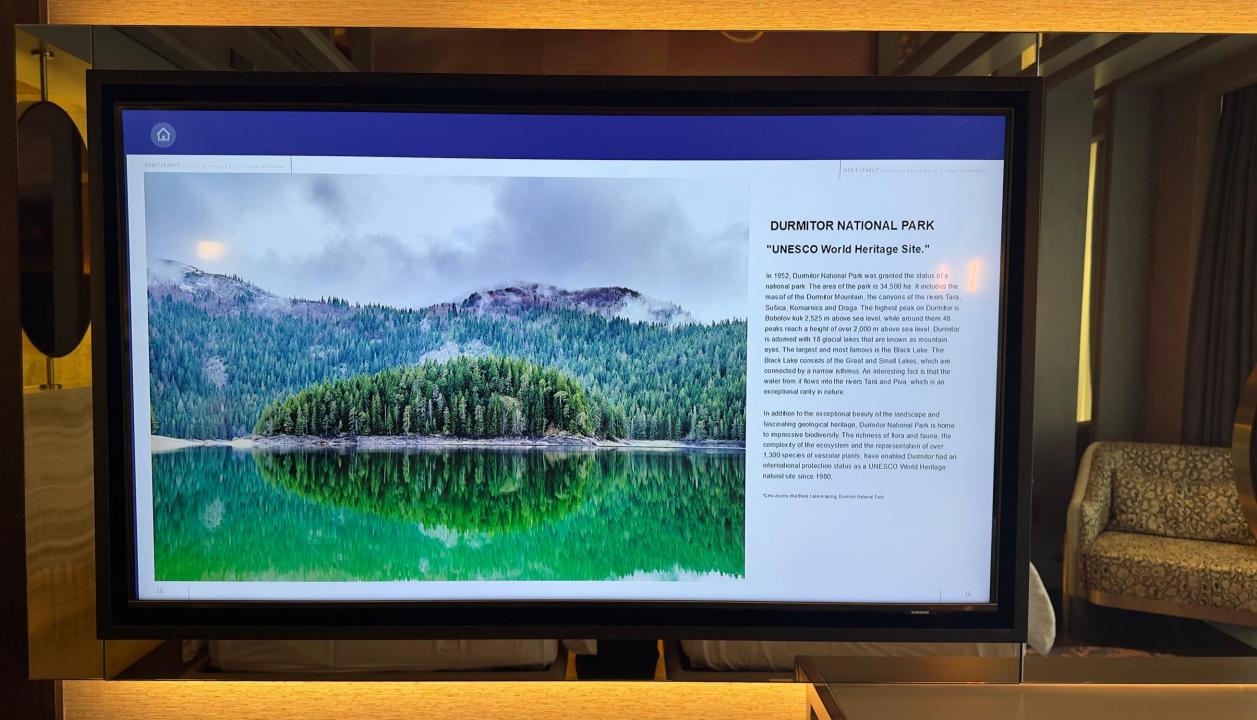
(Introduction of the country where our hotel is located, including location-specific, historical and unique places)

- ☐ Sustainable Tourism
- ☐ How to be Greener











MERIT STARIIT HOTEL & RESIDENCE / DUCYS - MONTEN

FLORA



Androsace komovensis

Andosace komoversis is an endemic, extremely rare plant in Monkenegro. Rock jasmine from Komovi belongs to the Pintrose family. The name and elymology of the genus come from the Greek words andros - man (that is why it is called mulkha), and sakos - shiek due to the shape of the teaves. It was found in a narrow locality, on the southern slopes of the Kom where it grows in rock reviews and on slopes facing south. The population which was found contains a very small number of individuals (only ten), but it is believed that the actual size of the population may be much larger because parts of the Kom mt. are inaccessible and insufficiently researched.



Pinguicula balcanica

is a perennial insectivorous plant, a Balkan endemic, rame and profected. It has long sticky leaves and the flower is blue-purple, we will find it as flower from May to August. The plant, with its sticky leaves, stuns and traps insects, which it later decomposes and compensates for the poor mineral intake. They are unique because they conquer niches and habitats where other plants cannot grow. Its habitats are shaky.



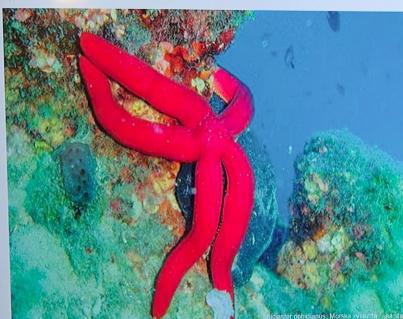
SAMSUN



MERIT STARIIT MOTEL & RESIDENCE / SUPPREMONTENSOR

MARINE INVERTEBRATES

Benthic blocenoses on the open sea of the Montenegrin coast is a home for 729 species of invertebrates. Out of the total number of recorded species, the group of sponges accounts to 64 species, 49 species belong to chidarians, 354 species to molluses, 27 species to annelled, 95 species to arthropods, 49 species to bryozoans, 63 species to echinoderms and 29 species to tunicates. Among the species that inhabit the benthic communities of the seabed of the Montenegrin coast, 30 are protected by national and international legislation, while 19 are considered introduced species.



COEALLIGENOUS COMMUNITIES

ocalities where coralligenous communities have been developed are a special features of the Bay of Boka otorska. Ta in vit and oppt stand out as such, where dense colonies of gold coral avalia savaglia begin to grow at a depth of 12 m. Apart from the fact that the populations of this coral are the most numerous in the Mediterranean, they are also the shallowest, because such habitats are exiting at much greater depths. The specificity of these localities is the presence of groundwater sources, the so-called vrul a, which create an ambience similar to the one that prevails at depths of several tens or even hundreds of meters. It didition to golden corats, these habitats are true treasury of sea sponges, coral, pryozoans and other marine invertebrates.



SAMSI





DIVE INTO THE ADRIATIC!

Thanks to the rich flora and fauna of the Adriatic, Budva has become one of the favorite destinations of diving-lovers too. Budva's vast sea caves and sunken wrecks along its coastline create a magical setting for divers. With summer temperatures of up to 28°C and visibility of more than 20 meters along the Adriatic coast, it is the perfect place to take a diving four or diving course. The shores of Budva are also a shellfish paradise. In addition to all types of Mediterranean fish, you are likely to see shoals of muliet and octopus. Eet and stingray can also be found in Budva waters.



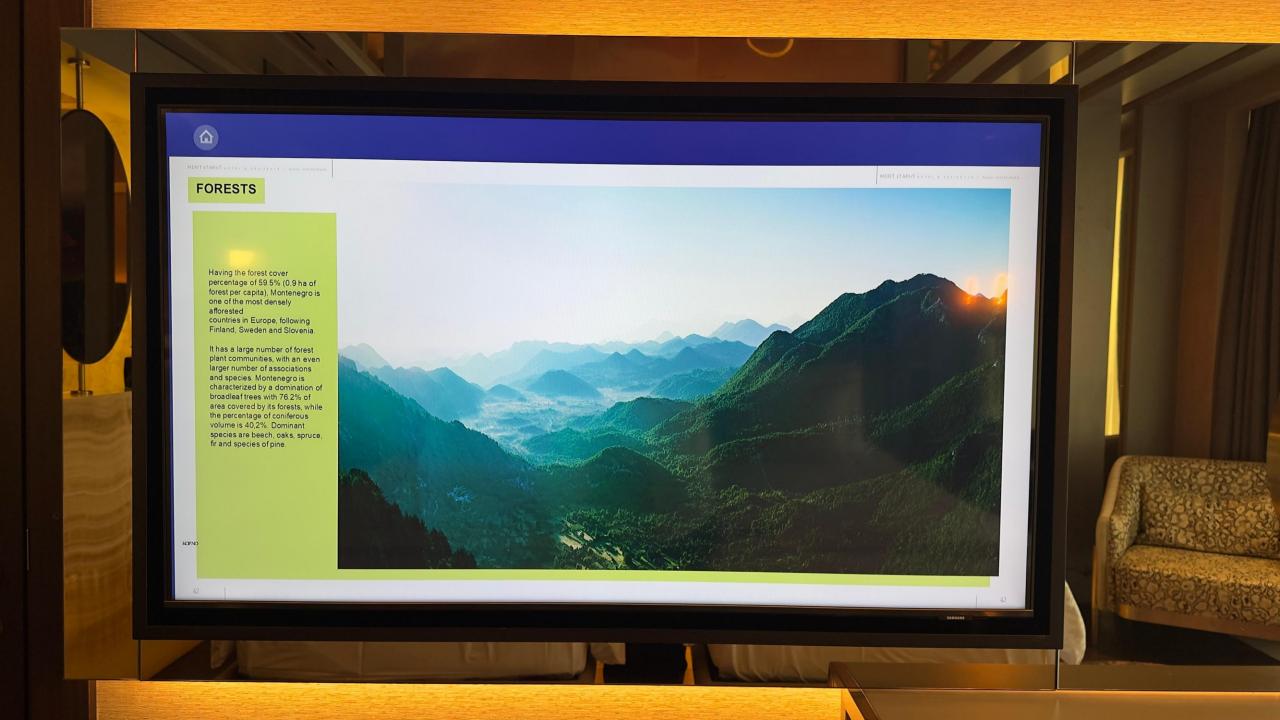


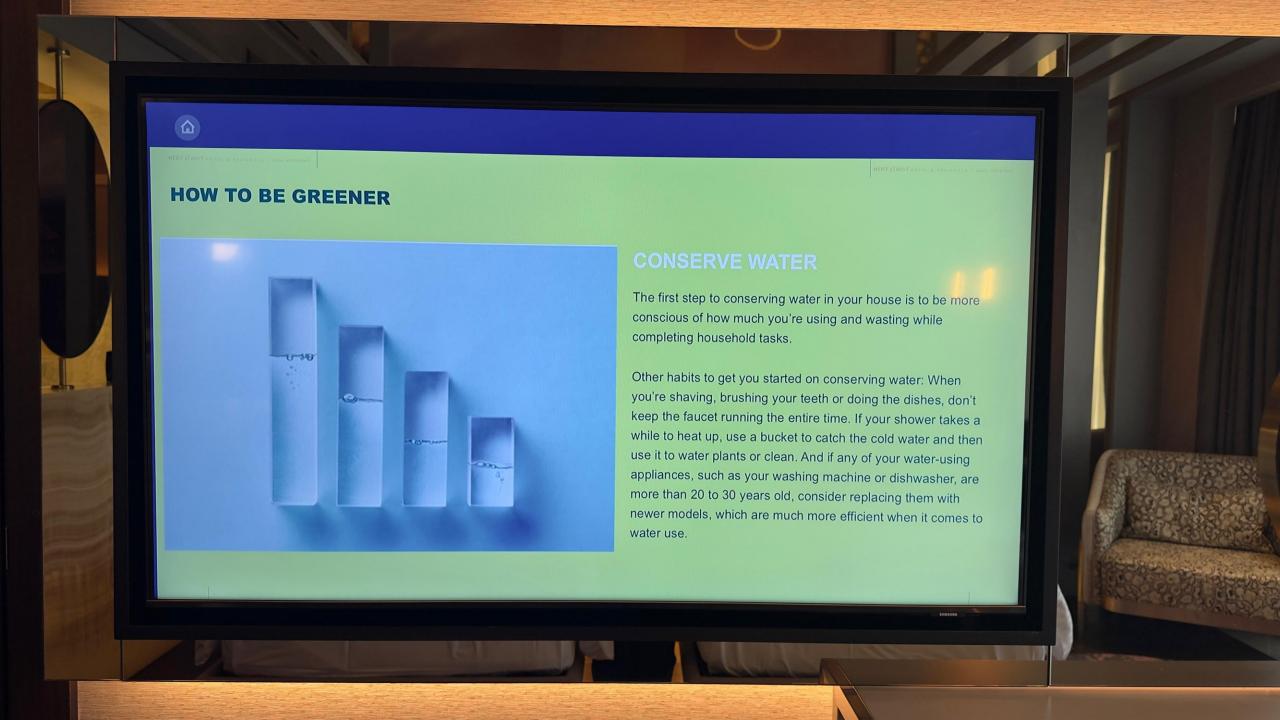
EXPL ORE THE SKICENTERS

Meet the ski resorts of Montenegro, Camous for its high mountains, in this beautiful country, which offers many alternative activities for ski-lovers, there are many tracks and ski fadilities, especially in Kolašin, Zabljak and Durmitor mountains. Kolašin, the most popular destination of winter tourism in Montenegro, has a magnificent season from December to April. Moreover, the fact that this ski center has numerous tracks appeals to everyone, from amateurs to professionals. It is guaranteed that you will be fascinated by the splendor of these mountains, which are frequented by ski-lovers from all over the world.



SAMSUR







MERIT STARTIT WOTER & A CAROLINE T / SOUR MONTH

MERIT STARIIT - CTEL & ARTHUR STAR / PHINA HOUSE

SUSTAINABLE TRAVEL

8 Ways to Be a More Sustainable Traveler

THE READER'S DIGEST VERSION



Choose a sustainable mode of transportation



Look for a hotel that has earned a green certification



Dine at farm-to-table restaurants



Do not disturb plants, vegetation or animals



Do not leave trash anywhere other than marked bins



Use refillable travel-size toiletries



Choose a sustainable country to visit



Pack reusable water bottles

What is sustainable travel?

Simply put, sustainable travel means increasing the benefits and decreasing the negative impact of tourism on a destination.

"It is all about recognizing the responsibility we have when exploring the world, and making decisions that maximize our positive impact on the places we visit and people we meet along the way," explains Ueberroth.





MERIT STARTET HOTEL & ASSISSACE / PURVA- MONTE-ECOLO

PERAST







MERIT STARIIT HOTEL & RESISERCE / BUTVA-MONTENESSO

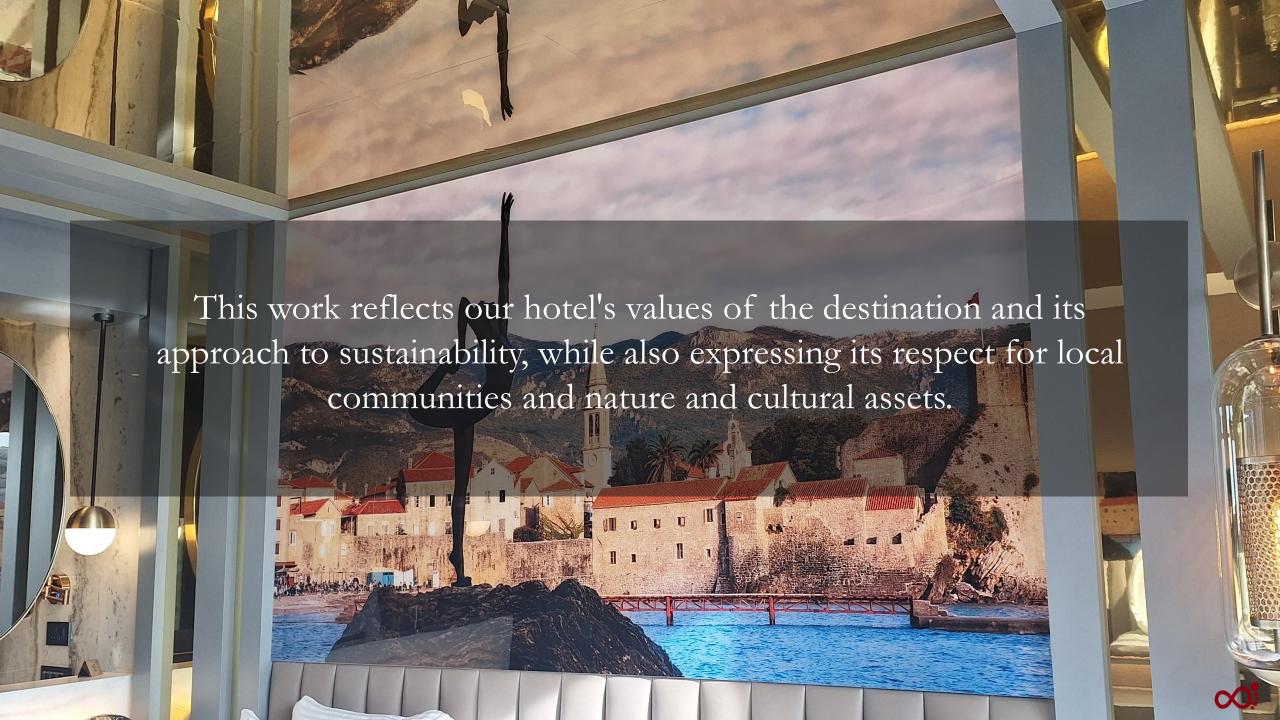
Where dreams come true

The cozy coastal town of Perast in the Bay of Kotor has been on the UNESCO World Heritage List since 1917. You can sightsee all of Perast in a short time by walking. Visit the 17th century City Museum that sheds light on the history of the Bay of Kotor, and enjoy fresh seafood accompanied by local wine selections at the restaurants by the beach.

There are two islets off the coast of Perast that fascinate all visitors. One of them is the Island of St. George and the other is Our Lady of the Rocks. An interesting story goes around about this artificial island, the latter, which was built in 200 years. It is said that the construction of the Island began in the 15th century when local fishermen believed they had received a sign from the Virgin Mary. During those years, the people used to worship in the church on the Island of St. George and there were rocks in the area where the current artificial island is. One day, some fishermen found a painting with the image of Virgin Mary on these rocks and immediately handed it over to the Venetian Monastery. A few days later, the painting reappeared on the rocks. After several more times, the fishermen figured that Virgin Mary could be trying to give them a sign. So they decided to build a church upon these rocks. Thus, the fishermen of Kotor started bringing rocks to this location. Legend has it that this process took about 200 years. Finally, an artificial island was created and the church of Our Lady of the Rocks was built on it.



















All requests from guests and/or requests related to guests are handled by our SA department via the application.

All technical malfunctions, follow-ups and management of work to be completed are also handled via applications.

Front office and finance transactions are handled via the hotel application program.





Automation and smart building system are used in the building security system.





We know that we are investing in our future by supporting sports and young people.







OUR ACTIONS
April 2024
April 2025

Thank you, Merit Starlit Hotel & Residence, for supporting The Global FoodBanking Network!

Around the world, food banks are essential to disaster response and meeting urgent hunger and humanitarian needs. They also cultivate resilience to the food insecurity that fuels hunger.

That's why your contribution is especially important today.

Your gift makes it possible for us to reach millions of people facing

The world is more beautiful with solidarity together





Sağlamış olduğunuz katkıdan dolayı teşekkür ederiz.

This special donation was made by Labottega on behalf of our Hotel, and we are proud to move forward with the companies we cooperate with in every step to protect our seas.





THE 10% PROFIT PLEDGE

RITUALS...

Better the Balance



