



Responsible Visitor Charter

Ecohouse Hotel Isla Fuerte

Welcome

Welcome to Ecohouse Isla Fuerte. We are an accommodation committed to sustainability, the conservation of our marine and coastal environment, and the strengthening of the local community. This charter outlines the principles that guide our operation and the way we invite each guest to join this commitment during their stay.

1. Responsible Use of Resources: We Are on an Island

Isla Fuerte is an island with limited natural resources. The water and energy we use do not arrive in unlimited supply as they would in a mainland city — they are managed, stored, and largely generated locally. For this reason, the conscious use of these resources is not a symbolic gesture, but a real necessity for the island and for all who live here.

Please keep the following in mind:

- We do not have air conditioning: our rooms are equipped with fans, a conscious decision to reduce energy consumption on the island.
- We do not have a swimming pool, as its maintenance would require a level of water consumption incompatible with the island's actual availability. The beach and the sea are our natural pool.
- We do not change sheets and towels every day. We do so periodically to reduce water, energy, and detergent consumption. If you need an extra change, we are happy to arrange it — just ask at reception.
- We invite you to turn off the tap while soaping up, take short showers, and let us know immediately if you notice any leaks.
- Please turn off lights, fans, and electronic devices when you leave your room.

Every drop of water and every watt of energy we save together contributes directly to the sustainability of Isla Fuerte and the communities that call it home.

Limited Refrigeration, Reduced Menu

As an island with limited energy capacity, our food refrigeration is also restricted. This translates into a smaller menu than you might find at a mainland restaurant, but one carefully designed around what the sea, the land, and local producers offer fresh and in season.

Far from being a limitation, this allows us to offer you fresher, locally sourced ingredients with a much lower environmental footprint. We invite you to see it as part of the authentic experience of being on a Colombian Caribbean island.

For this same reason, **we ask that you place your food orders in advance**. Cooking only what is needed helps us avoid waste, respect available resources, and ensure a more attentive experience. Reception will let you know the meal times and how to place your order.

2. Waste Management

At Ecohouse we do not sell products packaged in single-use plastic, and for the same reason, we do not have waste bins scattered throughout the property: we have a single waste collection and separation point. This helps us reduce the mixing of waste and better manage what can actually be recycled on the island.

- Please bring your waste to the designated collection point, where we will help you sort it correctly.
- If possible, avoid bringing single-use plastic-packaged products to the island.
- Isla Fuerte does not have a large-scale waste management system like that of a mainland city: everything we generate must be transported or processed locally, so reducing the waste we produce has a direct impact.

3. Respect for Biodiversity and the Natural Environment

- Do not feed or disturb wildlife or marine life.
- Do not collect coral, shells, sand, or other natural elements as souvenirs.
- Please use biodegradable sunscreen when entering the sea, to protect the reef.
- Keep a respectful distance on trails and in mangrove or reef areas.

Choose Your Activities Mindfully

Not all tourism experiences have the same impact on the environment. In Isla Fuerte, where marine and terrestrial biodiversity is extraordinary and fragile, **the type of activity you choose matters**.

We invite you to consider the following when choosing a tour or activity:

- **Choose local and responsible operators** who know the territory, respect the ecosystems, and contribute directly to the island's economy.
- **Avoid activities that involve direct contact with wildlife or marine life**, such as touching corals, chasing turtles, or feeding fish.
- **Never stand on coral, without exception**. Even if it looks dead, dull, or simply like a rock, it may be a living coral: these organisms grow just a few millimetres per year, and a single step can destroy decades of growth. In Isla Fuerte, reefs are very close to the surface and it is common for people to stand on them to rest. **If you see someone doing this, please kindly ask them to stop**. We are all guardians of the reef.
- **If you do not have good buoyancy control or do not feel confident swimming, do not go to the reef without a life jacket**. Asking for one is not a sign of weakness — it is the most responsible decision, both for you and for the ecosystem. Reception can guide you on where to get one.
- **Check before snorkelling or diving** about permitted areas and best practices to avoid damaging the reef.
- **Limit motorised activities** such as speedboats or jet skis, which generate noise, pollution, and disturb marine life.

- If you are interested in learning about reef restoration work and Zenú indigenous underwater cultural heritage, **ask us about MUSZIF**, our Underwater Museum — a unique experience designed with conservation in mind

4. Respect for the Local Community and Culture

- Interact respectfully with island residents.
- Support local fishermen, artisans, and suppliers, including initiatives such as Trasmallo.lab.
- Be mindful and respectful of local customs and the cultural heritage of the region.

5. Guest Safety

We have an emergency plan and visible signage throughout the property. We ask you to familiarise yourself with evacuation routes and meeting points, and to immediately report any risk situation to Ecohouse staff.

A Shared Commitment

Every responsible action during your stay, however small it may seem, contributes to the conservation of Isla Fuerte and the wellbeing of all who call it home. Thank you for being part of this commitment.