



Six Senses: Screening Out the Risk

All hotels, resorts and spas commit to providing only marine-safe, environmentally-friendly sunscreen products effective September 1, 2019.

BANGKOK - May 7, 2019 - [Six Senses Hotels Resorts Spas](#) recognizes that while not everything can be controlled that goes into the oceans, what goes into the waters surrounding each Six Senses property and on our bodies can be carefully managed. In an effort to be locally sensitive at its coastline locations and globally sensible in all environments, Six Senses is initiating a brand-wide ban on all toxic sunscreens and embracing environmentally-friendly and biologically-safer alternatives.

All approved sunscreens have been recognized as 100 percent reef-safe, passing safety measures established from acceptable Environmental Working Group standards and the latest scientific research on coral reef health, Six Senses has also selected products that use plant-based or fully compostable packaging.

As of September 1, 2019, all Six Senses properties will be compliant with providing only sun products that do not pose a threat to marine ecosystems. Whether in the urban setting of [Six Senses Singapore](#), the verdant wine terraced hills of [Six Senses Douro Valley](#) in Portugal, or the turquoise-blue waters of the Maldives at [Six Senses Laamu](#), the new high-quality sun products will be available for guests through purchase at all spas and boutiques.

Anna Bjurstam, wellness pioneer at Six Senses Hotels Resorts Spas said, "We're proud to be the first hotel group to feature a selection of environmentally-safe sun products throughout our organization. We undertook extensive research in selecting the best products on the market that are not only good for the land and ocean, but good for us too. We know that what we put on our skin ends up in our bodies. Multiple studies around the world have examined sunscreen use and the results have shown that significant penetration of toxic chemicals agents into the skin can result in cancer. It was our goal in mandating that all hotels and resorts use the new products that we provide our guests with the healthiest sun products available and that we do the right thing for the earth too."

According to Marine Life, a marine conservation NGO, there may be up to 82,000 different chemicals from personal products entering the oceans, particularly around areas popular with swimmers and divers. Most sunscreen products are comprised of synthetic chemical ingredients such as Oxybenzone, one of the most hazardous chemicals. Introducing these compounds into the marine environment, along with the current state of ocean acidification and climate change, causes significant damage to corals. This includes a breakdown of defenses against bleaching, damaged DNA, deformities in younger corals, and disrupted endocrine (hormone) systems which ultimately cause toxic concentrations in the aquatic organisms.

Most coral reef-safe sunscreens contain the active ingredients of non-nano zinc oxide and titanium oxide, protecting the skin by reflecting UVA and UVB rays off the skin like a mirror. These ingredients are not absorbed into skin easily, and as a result provide a longer period of protection for sunbathers and outdoor enthusiasts.

Six Senses has engaged with a dozen brands and over 50 products that meet the established criteria for environmental and human health, with the list growing as more products are found. Six Senses is hoping to use this initiative to not only create an environment of safety for biological communities, but also as a learning environment for guests as they become more aware of safer options. For guests, communication will be shared prior to arrival, informing them of the group's commitment and suggesting options for use during their stay.

Guest who choose a diving experience will be educated by the Green Fins education material that will be installed in all diving shops. Green Fins is a United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) and Regional Seas program tool for sustainable tourism in dive operations and water behavior that strives to ensure conservation of coral reefs.



Six Senses has a growing list of environmentally-friendly and health-conscious products, including the latest sunscreen.

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About Six Senses Hotels Resorts Spas

Six Senses Hotels Resorts Spas is one of the world's leading operators of luxury hotels, resorts and spas, managing 18 hotels and resorts across 14 countries, plus 37 spas under the brand names Six Senses, Evason, Six Senses Spas and Raison d'Etre. There are a further 18 hotels and resorts signed into its development pipeline. In February 2019, Six Senses became part of the [IHG®](#) (InterContinental Hotels Group) family of hotel brands.

Six Senses properties share a leadership commitment to community, sustainability, wellness and design, infused with a touch of quirkiness. Whether an exquisite island resort, mountain retreat or urban hotel, the enduring purpose is to help people reconnect with themselves, others and the world around them.

Six Senses Spas offers a wide range of holistic wellness, rejuvenation and beauty treatments administered under the guidance of expert therapists in all resorts as well as at 16 additional standalone spas. The high-tech and high-touch approach guides guests on their personal path to well-being, taking them as deep as they want to go.

***Six Senses Residences** provides the best life has to offer. From beautifully-appointed villas on the beach, rustic chalets in the mountains and spacious urban hideaways, Six Senses features a variety of residential choices in stand-alone buildings or attached to a resort or hotel. No matter the location, the promise remains the same and the commitment to create a community where every day revolves around learning and growing, great food and drink, innovative wellness programming, sustainable living – all mixed in with a lot fun.*

***Evason** follows the Six Senses philosophy of uncompromised responsibility to sustainability and the community. Its two unique resorts provide a strong value focus, while offering a vast array of personal guest experiences that the whole family will love.*

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