

# Not much solar in a holiday paradise

While hotels serving tourists often sell themselves with the promise of sunny weather, they rarely use solar energy. Yet, solar heating systems could cover a large part of the demand for hot water at competitive prices.

In the Aparthotel El Duque on the Spanish island of Tenerife, great store is placed on environmental awareness. The tourist hotel sets an example for others to follow when it comes to environmentally friendly detergents used to wash sheets and towels, recycling, and water conservation. The main energy conservation technology is a 230 m<sup>2</sup> solar thermal system. It is one of the 10 largest on the Canary Islands. «We are proud to announce that you have made an important contribution to environmental protection, an issue that concerns us all, by selecting to come to Aparthotel El Duque», El Duque writes on its website ([www.el-duque.com](http://www.el-duque.com)).

Currently, few hotels in Europe or elsewhere use solar energy though it pays to do so, especially in terms of usage. «Collective solar thermal systems on multi-family houses, hotels, public and social buildings are currently no more than demonstration projects», SOLARGE writes in an informational brochure. Eleven partners from eight European countries have joined forces in the project to step up the installation of large solar energy systems in the residential and hotel sec-

«Hotel investors are looking for an economical way of hot water production», says Eziñ's export engineer Kutay Ülike. The management at the Botanik Hotel on the Turkish Mediterranean coast found that solution in a system with a surface area of almost 1,200 m<sup>2</sup>.

Photo: Eziñ



Name of hotel:	Botanik
Location:	Alanya, Turkey
Size of hotel:	1,600 beds
Solar system:	1,174 m <sup>2</sup> collector area, 30,000 ltr storage capacity
Type of solar system:	hot water supply
Year built:	2005
Manufacturer of the collectors:	Eziñ Metal San. Tic. A.Ş., Turkey
Planner of solar thermal system:	Eziñ Metal San. Tic. A.Ş., Turkey