

Rumah Turi, the First Eco-green Hotel in Indonesia



Have you ever get bored with the concept of an ordinary “hotel”? Be it too glamorous, too modern, too pop, or just too plain as a place to come, sleep, and spend the whole day without gaining any new experience. This time, you may want to take a look at Rumah Turi, the first eco-green hotel in Indonesia.

Built in June 30th, 2008, the hotel is located in Jl. Srigading II no. 12 Turisari, Solo. It offers a combination of nature and the rich culture and arts of Solo, and all are presented in green design techniques. By staying in this hotel, the guests are expected to experience the down-to-earth green design that are not overrated, applicable, and comfortable to enhance the indoor environment quality.

Rumah Turi can be an example of a successful green-designed hotel with recycled material. Not only does it adaptively retrofit a house to become a hotel, Rumah Turi also reuses almost all possible materials from the old construction. From using the old roof, to applying broken bricks and tiles as wall covering. These new wall-covering materials bring natural colors of clay in them, so that the wall need no more paint for its finishing. Along with improving the indoor air quality (IAQ) as it uses less wall paint, this installation also reduces maintenance issues by using materials that will retain their colors, even for a long time. The excess bricks are also creatively used as pavement for the entry and lobby; on the sidelines of which, biopori holes were built as groundwater recharge.

Rumah Turi also applies a water sanitation system to process wastage from the bathrooms and other water-related activities by channeling them to the biofill. Biofill will process wastage and turned it into water. The processed water then channeled to a tank, with natural water purifier (layers of fiber, sand, and gravels), behind the restaurant for further channeling towards artificial waterfall. This waterfall is designed to create breeze and highlight the natural atmosphere in the form of artificial rain to water the plants and reduce heat in the hotel environment.

The furnitures in the hotel are mostly made from recycled woods. The headboards in the standard rooms

are made from former railway wood sleepers with some holes where the rails bolt lock maintained as decorative element. While on the other hand, the tables, chairs, and bookshelves in the restaurant are made of industrial and export excess waste so that you will not find one that is uniform. Moreover, several doors in Rumah Turi rooms are the undamaged doors taken from constructions ruined by the earthquake that hit Bantul, Yogyakarta in 2006.

The rooms are designed to utilize daylighting and cross ventilation by applying big sliding glass doors located near green area like the garden. To prevent heat, Rumah Turi uses natural shielding such as tall bamboo plantation and vertical greenery in pots. This technique allows the restaurant to use only natural ventilation. Another energy conservation method is applied by using 0.2W LED lamps for all luminaries in this 847 m² width hotel. The usage of LED lamps provides 30%-40% savings in electricity bills. The lamp fixtures are designed creatively, such as the application in the restaurant lighting that reuse old bulb and change the lamp inside with LED lamps to create artistic lighting design.

Rumah Turi is designed with the idea of letting the nature comes before the building. This idea allows no logging of trees during the construction period. The building mass configuration are designed to adapt to the distribution of existing trees. Apart from commercial use, Rumah Turi also embraces educational functions. The rooftop and the corridors acts as plant conservation and is fully planted with productive plantation. Rumah Turi is designed to let the guests enjoy the city of Solo, get the insight of eco-green, and to experience friendly service like home all at the same time. (**AGB.com — ED**)