The Wave Bristol, South West UK

Technology: Solar thermal
System size: 600 evacuated tubes

Annual energy savings: 17,294.1 kWh Annual CO2 savings: 11,517.84 kg

The Wave is an inland-surfing destination where anyone and everyone can surf on safe waves, every day of the year. It was founded in 2010 by former osteopath, Nick Hounsfield and the first destination opened in Bristol in October 2019.

Sustainability has been an intrinsic part of the Wave since the very beginning and the founders wanted to build a business that could deliver more than just a financial return.

The Wave was looking for a sustainable means to generating hot water for the shower facilities situated within their 180m long surfing lake.

In a bid to reduce costs and increase efficiency, Solarsense installed 600 evacuated solar thermal tubes on the roof of the Pavilion in order to heat the showers with clean, renewable energy. This will not only provide reduced fuel costs, but also provide the organisation with an income from the Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI).

The smart energy system spans 88m² of the roof, feeding the 2000 litre hot water tanks below, ensuring an above average temperature of 42°C.

