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#1074 --- Monday, 11/28/2016 News From St. Maarten / St. Martin



This Week's Stories

Airfare, Airlines & Weather News

**Everything SXM Home Page** 

Island News

**Lodging News** 

Members SECRET Webite Login

## **Member News (New)**

### St. Maarten and St. Martin "SXM" Weekly News

St. Maarten & St. Martin's Most Relied-Upon Source of Tourist-Oriented News & Information

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From: www.imbcommunications.com

Weekly News is part of JMB's St. Maarten / St. Martin website: www.everythingsxm.com

Add <u>jeff1620@jmbcommunications.com</u> to your address book to be sure you receive this newsletter every week.

# IMPORTANT: "Jeff1620" is a <u>send-only</u> email address. For Contact info, see <u>#Contact Us</u> at the end of this newsletter.

### **Important Note:**

This is Jeff Berger's / JMB Communications' St. Maarten and St. Martin (SXM) Weekly News, published every Monday (Tuesdays during most holiday weeks). You are receiving St. Maarten and St. Martin "SXM" Weekly News because you subscribed to it and/or are a JMB Website Supporters member. Unsubscribe info is at the end of this newsletter. Stay with us for all the latest tourist-oriented news from St. Maarten / St. Martin / SXM all year long. We now have about 280,000 readers around the world...

Get Important SXM News as it Happens & Lots of Pictures Too from our Facebook and Twitter Pages:



Protect your vacation and business travel with SkyMed Emergency Medical Evacuation Membership



Download PDFs of Recent Editions ---- Attention iPad, iPhone, Note, and Android Users

This narrow format is easily readable on all mobile devices. Scroll down for this week's news.

You can also download PDFs of recent editions here:

http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/free\_newsletters/sxmweeklynews.shtml
On that page, the link beginning with the highest number is the most recent edition.

### Get Your Own Free Weekly Copy of SXM Weekly News:

http://www.everythingsxm.com/cgi-bin/dada/mail.cgi?

Enter your email address at the top and click SUBMIT. When you receive the confirming email, click the confirming link and you're in.

### **TOP STORIES IN THIS ISSUE**

Scroll Down for Full Table of Contents; this edition features many new stories about your favorite island:

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- -- We're Giving Away 12 Vacations: Here's Where They Are
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- -- Black Friday Membership Sale Almost Over:

Don't Miss The Lowest Prices of the Year for The Best SXM Discount Package

- -- Thanksgiving Was Busy in SXM Restaurants, But The Island Was a bit Quiet
- -- A Solution to SXM's Dump Fire Problem
- -- Pinel Bay Dinner/Party Boat Sinks, Sort of; Nobody Hurt
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- -- Hiking to the Beautiful Geneve Bay Tidal Pools
- -- Dazzling Art Deco in a Hidden Gem of a Hotel in Nettle Bay
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- -- No Age Limit to Join or Renew SkyMed

### 32 news stories this week

Scroll down for our complete Table of Contents

### **Timeshare Rental and Sale of the Week**

Each week JMB randomly picks timeshare condominiums for rent and for sale in SXM from the huge selection at <a href="http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/timeshare\_rent\_sale/index.shtml">http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/timeshare\_rent\_sale/index.shtml</a> and features them here.

To rent out or sell timeshares you own in SXM or anywhere else worldwide, for no ad charge or commission, join JMB Website Supporters. Visit <a href="http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/about\_sxm/paypal.shtml">http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/about\_sxm/paypal.shtml</a> for info. Membership now delivers a growing list of 260+ St. Maarten and St. Martin-focused travel benefits -- and your membership subscription helps keep these weekly SXM newsletters coming.

### SXM Timeshare Rental of The Week:

**RENTAL** 2/25/2016 12/31/2019 **The Cliff at Cupecoy Beach** Our luxurious 4th floor condo is available as a 2 BR/ 2.5 bath or a 1 BR/ 1.5 bath. The master BR includes a king-sized bed in an over sized bedroom. The condo has two large balconies that look out over the Caribbean Sea and the French-side mountains. A spacious great room includes a dining area, full kitchen, and comfortable family room. Free WiFi. The Starz Casino complex (including restaurants) and beaches are within walking distance. The Cliff has two pools, an exercise room, saunas, steam rooms, a tennis court, and a full-service Spa. For more information: <a href="http://www.VRBO.com/445200">http://www.VRBO.com/445200</a> from \$215 per night Paul - 941-306-2045 lysconsult@aol.com

### SXM Timeshare Sale of The Week:

**SALE** 1/1/2016 12/31/2016 Week 1 - 52 **Oyster Bay Beach Resort** Every even year, any week Studio sleeps 2, maintenance fee \$426/year, upgrade to 1 Br \$175, 2 Br \$350. Resort has 2 restaurants & next door to Mr. Busbys/Island Pizza/Daniels by the Sea restaurant. Westin Resort/Casino & many other restaurants a 5 minute drive. See <a href="www.oysterbaybeachresort.com">www.oysterbaybeachresort.com</a> \$2,900 Herb 864-517-0818 <a href="maintenance">time\_share@hotmail.com</a>

### Non-St. Maarten Timeshare Rentals:

See them all at http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/timeshare\_rent\_sale/index.shtml

St. Maarten / St. Martin Homes, Villas, Businesses, Commercial Properties, and Residential Properties for Sale (NEW): Click to access our recommended real estate agents

### This Week's Stories

Stories are numbered; scroll down for stories of interest. This week's Table of Contents follows these links:

"Like" Our "Everything St. Maarten / St. Martin" Facebook Site:



https://www.facebook.com/groups/6297726366/

"Like" Our Facebook SXM Timesharing Group People for Timeshare Owner Consumer Protection in St. Maarten

http://www.facebook.com/home.php?sk=group 205834172765083

### Search the SXM Weekly News Archives:

Current Archives (Since 4/2014) in PDF Format (New):

http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/free\_newsletters/sxmweeklynews.shtml

Archives prior to April 12 2014 (old format):

http://everythingsxm.com/cgi-bin/dada/mail.cgi?flavor=archive;list=sxmweeklynews

Check Out Our Linked-In "St. Maarten and St. Martin Travelers" Group (Free; Timeshare Focus):

www.linkedin.com

Get a growing list of 260+ Money-Saving SXM-focused travel discount benefits through JMB Website Supporters:

http://www.everythingsxm.com/sxm/about\_sxm/paypal.shtml

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### Section Five: For Members Only (Revised 12/31/14)

- A. Where to Get Member Info: www.everythingsxm.com/secret
- B. **Password Recovery Info:** Your username is the email address you have registered with JMB Website supporters. If you forget your password, click "forgot password" in the orange login box near the masthead at <a href="https://www.everythingsxm.com">www.everythingsxm.com</a>.
- C. How To Submit Rental or Sale Ads: Links are on the Secret Website (see a, above.)

**Section Six:** Where To Find Background Information for Travelers (For New Readers) (Revised 12/31/14)

How To Get a <u>GROWING LIST of 230+</u> Money-Saving St. Maarten- and St. Martin-Focused Travel Benefits

Visit <a href="http://www.everythingsxm.com/secret">http://www.everythingsxm.com/secret</a> , the \*secret\* site for JMB Website Supporters members only, for low fares to SXM from cities across the USA, Canada, and Western Europe, plus a total of a growing list of 200+ additional major travel benefits, including reduced-cost access to

Not a member yet? See <a href="http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/about\_sxm/paypal.shtml">http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/about\_sxm/paypal.shtml</a>. Cost: \$59 for one year, or \$99 total for five full years. Other durations available. Join us today...

Now a growing list of 260+ benefits... and more coming soon.

### All JMB Newsletters Read \*From JMB\*

This newsletter and mail from JMB Website Supporters to members read \*From JMB\* in the subject area so you won't misinterpret them as spam.

### THIS WEEK'S STORIES:

Stories are numbered; scroll down for stories of interest.

**SECTION 1:** Getting There: Airlines, Airports, Cruises, & Weather

### 1. Hurricane Season Ends

Hurricane season ends this Wednesday, November 30. This doesn't mean that additional storms can form, it just means that storm formation is less likely.

As always, we'll keep an eye on the tropical Atlantic and will keep you informed through our <u>Everything St. Maarten Facebook Site</u>.

### 2. Coming Next: December Winds, Christmas Worms

Two key characteristics of December SXM weather are December winds and Christmas worms.

December winds: breezier than usual conditions may occur throughout the month — in fact, you could feel the start of them late last week.

Christmas worms are bright red, like Santa Claus' suit. They can appear suddenly indoors by the dozens, usually heading in the same direction. In the one case where we encountered them, at a villa in Guana Bay years ago, there were dozens of them heading for the back door; I helped, using a broom. We've never seen any outside of December, and we've seen none for several years.

### 3. Where To Find Current SXM Weather Info (Four Key Sources)

Here they are:

- a) Crown Weather Services whose very inexpensive subscription service is, we feel, the best in the business.
- b) Our "Weather" page at www.everythingsxm.com -- it has current satellite images and radar loops.
- c) Our <u>Everything St. Maarten Facebook Site</u>, which publishes the latest advisories, watches, and warnings when SXM is threatened by any storms.
- d) On or off the island, listen to Island 92 -- 91.9FM or see <a href="www.island92.com">www.island92.com</a>. They report island warnings at once and know exactly what's going on. You can listen on the web anytime through live streaming.

See significant National Hurricane Center Outlooks and Advisories as they relate both to SXM and to the US East and Gulf coasts on our Everything St. Maarten Facebook Site.

Get a quick, current satellite look at the Atlantic basin anytime: http://www.goes.noaa.gov/GIFS/ATWV.JPG .

N. B.: Never rely on any website if you're in the path of a storm; always heed warnings from local authorities.

### 4. Take Advantage of Your Free Membership in the SkyMed Travel Club

We're now giving JMB Website Supporters members and *SXM Weekly News* readers access to a private, "members only" travel wholesale club that offers incredible prices not only on airfares but on packages worldwide.

The SkyMed Travel Club offers exceptional pricing on everything and almost invariably beats everyone else's pricing. We have found their pricing excellent, even on the wildly popular river cruises that are a phenomenon throughout Europe and are gaining popularity in the US.

Normally, this organization charges \$99 to join plus \$99 annual renewals. But for our JMB Website Supporters members and now for everyone else, the cost to join is zero as will be the cost for renewals. Exclusively through us, you get access to a world-class global ticketing mechanism without paying one cent to get in the door.

Join the Club by going to <a href="www.skyMedtravelclub.com">www.skyMedtravelclub.com</a>, click the sign up link on the top right corner of the homepage, and provide the requested information. It's very important to complete the first sign up item (SkyMed Membership Number or Representative ID) by entering the code 391330 — entering that code is what ensures that you pay nothing to be a member of the SkyMed Travel Club. If you fail to enter that code, you will not gain free entry to the club's phenomenal pricing.

Do join — you will not be disappointed once you've booked, as many of our readers already know.

### **SECTION 2:** Accommodations: Hotels, Inns, Timeshares

### 5. We're Giving Away 12 Vacations: Here's Where They Are

- 1 Eight days and seven nights at **Villa Onyi** at Point Blanche. Featured on HGTV this is one of the island's most breathtaking villas, inside and out. (One of our Grand Prizes.)
- 2 Eight days and seven nights at the beautiful **Villa Son Risa** in Pelican Key (Cleaning charge applies; avail. May-Sept. 2017.)
- 3 Eight days and seven nights in a garden studio (from 4/15/17 to 12/15/17) at Mary's Boon Beach Resort
- 4 Eight days and seven nights at **El Zafiro** beachside resort on Simpson Bay Beach (new)
- 5 Eight days and seven nights at La Vista Resort or La Vista Beach;
- 6 Eight days and seven nights in a brand-new two bedroom suite at Simpson Bay Resort;
- 7 Eight days and seven nights at **The Summit Resort**;
- 8 Four days, three nights, plus open bar and breakfast at naturist Club Fantastico
- 9 Four days, three nights in boutique hotel style suites in the main building at Oyster Bay Beach Resort.
- 10 Eight days and seven nights at Baker's Suites near Kim Sha Beach in Simpson Bay.
- 11 Eight days and seven nights at Mercure Beach Hotel and Marina, Simpson Bay Lagoon, French Side

An additional villa vacation from Arun Jagtiani's IREteam is expected to be added shortly. See story 25 about how to enter the "Five Million Smiles" Giveaway and for links to websites for many of these primo vacation destinations.

### **Traveling?**

Never go anywhere without SkyMed Medical Evacuation Protection. Visit <a href="www.getskymed.com">www.getskymed.com</a> today; call Jeff for answers to SkyMed questions at (508) 747-8281 or email him at <a href="mailto:jeff@getskymed.com">jeff@getskymed.com</a> with the subject "SkyMed".

**SECTION 3: Member** 

### 6. "Section Three" -- Member Discounts / Benefits News & Updates

This new section of *SXM Weekly News*, which appears weekly, will provide detailed information about current JMB Website Supporters discounts and benefits both for current members and for people thinking about joining JMB.

In addition, it will be the introduction point for new benefits beyond the 260+ already available to all JMB members. We think you'll find many surprises here that will be of great interest and value.

Please see below for this month's story.

### 7. November Member Benefits Update: Jewelry Shopping

Here are our top jewelry discounts, in alphabetical order. To download and use our JMB discount vouchers, you must be a JMB Website Supporters member. Site access requires your assigned username and password and the Membership Card issued to you by JMB Website Supporters Membership Services. *To get discounts at any of these businesses, your JMB Website Supporters Membership Card is required.* 

**AMA Jewelers Discount:** AMA Jewelers, on Front Street and at Princess Juliana Airport, offers JMB Website Supporters members **\$50 off** any precious gemstone purchase. You must <u>download and present the AMA Jewelers voucher</u> to use this benefit. This coupon is in Adobe Acrobat PDF format; to open it, use the <u>free Adobe reader</u>. (Benefit #47.)

**Ballerina Jewelers St. Maarten has three big offers for JMB members**: A free gift with any Tacori purchase; a \$50 **Gift Card** with a minimum purchase of \$250; or a \$100 **Gift Card** with a minimum purchase of \$500. You <u>must download and use this voucher</u> to get this exclusive JMB benefit. The voucher is in Adobe Acrobat PDF format; to open it, use the <u>free Adobe reader</u>. (Benefit #135.)

**Caribbean Gems** on Front Street, Philipsburg, gives JMB Members a free \$25 **Gift Card**. May be redeemed in person at any Caribbean Gems store in St. Maarten only. You may use one \$25 gift card per family. Cannot be redeemed for cash, sold, or transferred. Please download your <u>Caribbean Gems \$25 Gift Card</u> which is required for redemption. Lost or stolen gift cards can NOT be replaced by Caribbean Gems. (Benefit #69.)

**DK Gems**, on Front Street, Philipsburg, gives JMB Members a **free gift** for stopping by. Please download the <u>DK Gems discount coupon</u> which is required for redemption at DK Gems, just west of the center of town. (Benefit #70.)

**Kay's Fine Jewelry,** Front Street, in Philipsburg offers a **\$50 gift certificate** toward the purchase of fine jewelry. You <u>must download and use this certificate</u> to get the JMB discount. The discount coupon is in Adobe Acrobat PDF format; to open it, use the <u>free Adobe reader</u>. (See details on the voucher.) (Benefit #121.)

Little Europe Jewelers has now joined our JMB member discount program and their discount offer will appear here soon.

**Oro Diamonte Jewelers**, Front Street, Philipsburg, offers JMB Members a \$25 **Gift Card** good toward any instore purchase. Limit, one \$25 Gift Card per family. You <u>must download and use this Gift Card</u>. The Gift Card is in Adobe Acrobat PDF format; to open it, use the <u>free Adobe reader</u>. (See details on Card.) (Benefit #157.)

**Zhaveri Jewelers** on Front Street, Philipsburg, gives JMB Members a free \$25 **Gift Card** good toward any purchase of \$25 or more. Limit: one card per family. <u>Download and print your gift card here</u>, before going to the store. (Benefit #66.)

Many more discounts are coming. Stay tuned.

For details on all the above, see the Discounts Master Index in the Secret Site. (Members only; username & password required).

Still not a member? See next article. A new set of benefits will be explored in December.

### **SECTION 4: Island**

8.

### Final Hours--Almost Over:

Our Legendary Black Friday
Membership Sale

Do Not Miss
The Lowest Prices of the Year:
Over 260 SXM Discounts on Everything
at Rock-Bottom Prices!

- --- New Memberships: One Year Just \$33 (reg. \$59); Five Years Just \$99 Go here
- --- Renewal / Reinstatement Memberships: One Year \$25; Five Years \$89. Go here

# These <u>Prices Disappear Very Quickly:</u> Click the Links Now:

#### New JMB memberships

http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/about\_sxm/paypal.shtml

### Renewal JMB memberships

www.everythingsxm.com/secret Go to the Membership Renewal Center

### JMB Membership Reinstatements

http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/reinstate/index.shtml

These prices will end very quickly...limited time left for the lowest prices of the year!

### 9. Thanksgiving Was Busy in Most SXM Restaurants, But The Island Was a bit

### Quiet

Most Americans love turkey, and so do a lot of Canadians — so many of the restaurants which had Thanksgiving celebrations on Thursday did very well. For the third year in a row, we went to Toppers, which had advance reservations for hundreds of diners and expected many walk-ins and many to go orders for home celebrations. They cooked about 40 turkeys and 100 pies and were very busy by early afternoon.

On a whole, though, the island was fairly quiet Thanksgiving week, though the week before businesses said they were slammed. Advance reservations are high for the winter — so see our article 18 four super discounts on car rentals from our JMB Website Supporters rental partners.

Hear Jeff Live On Island 92 Radio (91.9 FM or www.island92.com)
Every Monday at About 9:45 a.m. Island Time, 8:45 a.m. EST

### 10. Marigot Road Utility Construction Moving Along

The downtown Marigot utility work under main streets there has made what looks to us like good progress over the last couple of weeks, although shopkeepers are complaining about traffic jams and plummeting business. Our guess is that this will probably continue for at least another couple of weeks. We'll watch it for you and let you know. (Could be faster...)

### 11. A Solution to SXM's Dump Fire Problem

Many tourists arriving on cruise ships ask what that weird looking big brown hill is behind downtown Philipsburg. It's the Dutch side dump which about 50% of the time recently has been on fire. Nobody seems capable of putting it out permanently.

With all the complaints about GEBE, the Dutch side electric company, one wonders why this island has not seriously considered and acted upon a trash to energy electric plant. It certainly has an adequate amount of trash to run a plant — and if not, it could obtain more from nearby islands that may have their own trash removal issues, and do so at a cost that would be profitable to St. Maarten.

Using available resource recovery and separation techniques and electrostatic precipitators to remove noxious odors and dangerous materials created during the burning process, SXM could generate clean, cheap energy with a virtually inexhaustible source of cheap fuel. The technology exists and is proven. This would be economically viable for the island and over time would eliminate the ugly mountain behind Philipsburg. Electric power on the Dutch side of St. Maarten currently costs triple the price in North America. This idea has great merit and should be seriously pursued by the Dutch Side government.

### 12. Pinel Bay Dinner/Party Boat Sinks, Sort of; Nobody Hurt

For several years, there has been a rather ugly boat in the harbor near the Pinel island ferry dock. It is long and narrow and before last winter a sign concerning parties appeared on it.

It looks like it was recently repainted, but the repainting is a bit difficult to see since the boat has now partially sunk. We've heard of nothing indicating that anyone was aboard or that anyone was injured.

### 13. Pelicans Find a French Side Beach The Place to Be

The numbers of pelicans we've been seeing on SXM, it seemed to us, has been declining over the last few years — but that generalization may be false.

Along the coastal road to the French side dump there are several beautiful if rocky beaches frequented mostly on weekends by small family groups.

Last weekend, the most southerly /easterly of these beaches saw upwards of two dozen brown pelicans diving for fish, far outnumbering people on the beach and providing a great opportunity for photography. We don't know if this will continue, but was quite something to see.

### 14. The Most Secluded SXM Beaches; Best Island Maps

If you're interested in secluded St. Maarten beaches, click Beaches on <a href="www.everythingSXM.com">www.everythingSXM.com</a> and look for the detailed descriptions of Happy Bay, Petite Cayes, Geneve Bay, Cupecoy beach, and Plum Bay. You might also check the far western end of Baie Rouge. Our Beaches page supplies descriptions of most of these beaches which are the island's most secluded. It doesn't provide descriptions of all of them, however, including Geneve Bay (see next article). Where descriptions aren't provided, you'll be able to get to the locations by following local maps.

**JMB Members:** See the Secret Site for a steep discount on great island maps by Michal Kasprowski. These big, sturdy maps which can be hung as wall prints are best best, most detailed available of SXM. See <a href="https://www.midok.com">www.midok.com</a>.

### 15. Hiking to the Beautiful Geneve Bay Tidal Pools

See this article, mentioned on our Everything St. Maarten Facebook Site.

Here it is:

http://www.welove-stmartin.com/natural-secret-tide-pools-st-martin/

### 16. Dazzling Art Deco in a Hidden Gem of a Hotel in Nettle Bay

We recently spent a few hours with Arbia Baki, the owner and general manager of the Mercure Hotel and Marina in Nettle Bay, south of Marigot.

When you see the Mercure from the road, it appears to be just another hotel. But that's far from the case.

Mr. Baki is an art connoisseur who has decorated the entire complex with an eclectic collection of artworks including many that could be characterized as Art Deco. It's quite striking.

When we saw a few rooms here, we asked how Mr. Baki would describe the style; he said, frankly, "I can't take credit for it. My wife did all the decorating." We'll show you what it looks like through a photo essay on our <a href="Everything St. Maarten Facebook Site">Everything St. Maarten Facebook Site</a> shortly.

Far from being just a beautiful hotel festooned with all kinds of artworks inside and out, this is a resort complex with a fitness center, fully equipped spa, Marina, boat rental center, jet ski rental center, scuba center, a fine restaurant, and more. Arbia told us that fireworks last summer could easily be seen right from the beach on the northern end of Simpson Bay lagoon, which is beautiful and crystal-clear. You can find out more <a href="here">here</a>.

An eight-day, seven night vacation at Mercure hotel is one of the new prizes in our 12 vacation giveaway. See story 25.

# Get SkyMed Now, Before You Need it. Got Questions About SkyMed Emergency Medical Evacuation?

# Phone or Email Jeff: (508) 747-8281 jeff@getskymed.com

SkyMed Takes You Home® to doctors and hospitals you know and trust when you become critically ill or injured while traveling, saving you upwards of \$45,000 or more payable in cash in advance if you aren't a member -- to set up an emergency medical evacuation yourself. **Get SkyMed BEFORE you need it**. Call any weekday during normal business hours, Eastern Time. Please leave a message or email us if you get a voicemail response.

### 17. Baker's Suites Boutique Hotel Adds Elevator and Grocery Store

Launched only a few years ago and renovated during the summer, the <u>Baker's Suites Boutique Hotel</u> in Simpson Bay offers beautiful suite accommodations a short walk away from Kim Sha beach and many outstanding restaurants.

Although it has always had handicap accessible rooms, they were limited to the first floor because the building had no elevator. That shortcoming has now been solved; their elevator has been installed and is being tested before going into service soon.

In addition, Baker's Suites has recently bought properties to its west including the grocery store next door which is now being run under Baker family stewardship. It's a convenient place to buy whatever you need when you're using the fully equipped suites at Baker's.

Ever since it was first introduced, Baker's Suites has been a consistent winner of our <u>Everything St. Maarten</u> Awards of Excellence.

Like many SXM businesses, Baker's offers discounts to JMB Members. Log into the Secret Site and see the Discounts Master Index for details. Still not a member? Black Friday is not yet over; click the page curl at <a href="https://www.everythingsxm.com">www.everythingsxm.com</a> for more info.

### 18. Some Great Car Rental Choices in SXM

We want our nearly 28,000 JMB Website Supporters members and our over 280,000 readers worldwide, many of whom are getting set to visit during the winter, to be able to make some easy choices for car rentals in St. Maarten.

So, we're recapping our heavily discounted car-rental choices from our JMB members-only Secret Website. Remember, the discounts noted below, along with about 260 others, are available only to JMB Website Supporters members. Here they are, in no special order:

- a) Leisure Car Rental, located close to SXM Airport, is female owned with Jacqueline and Jimmy in charge and doing an excellent job as always. To get the big 15% discount they offer, please check the Discounts Master Index in our JMB Website Supporters members-only secret website. Your JMB Website Supporters membership card will be required to obtain this discount.
- b) <u>Tropical-Tropicana</u> Car Rental was our original car-rental partner, starting some 20 years ago. Headquartered at Baker's Suites boutique hotel, Simpson Bay, Tropical has an almost entirely new fleet with just a few older cars to accommodate those who request them. The fleet also includes vans to accommodate larger parties and events. To see the discount they offer, please check the Discounts Master Index in our JMB Website Supporters members only secret website. Your JMB Website Supporters membership card will be required to obtain this discount.
- c) Rodael Car Rental caters primarily to cruise ship passengers and has provided a discount to that portion of our audience for many years. To see the discount they offer, please check the Discounts Master Index in our JMB Website Supporters members only secret website. Your JMB Website Supporters membership card will be required to obtain this discount.

- d) <u>Thrifty Car Rental</u>, located on Airport Road, is the largest car rental business on the island with a fleet numbering in excess of about 600 vehicles of all descriptions including luxury. To see the discount they offer, please check the Discounts Master Index in our JMB Website Supporters members only secret website. Your JMB Website Supporters membership card will be required to obtain this discount.
- e) Next Level Car Rental is coming soon.

Still not a member? Black Friday is not yet over; join today -- click the page curl at www.everythingsxm.com.

### 19. Top Choices in Dutch Side Casinos

We like Port de Plaisance Casino (the largest); Starz Casino (the one nearest great restaurants both in the complex and at Porto Cupecoy); and the Westin, the smallest and quietest. Casino Royale is also very busy -- it's in the Maho complex next door to Trattoria Pizza Pasta which has terrific pizza and pasta at reasonable prices. The restaurant is very consistent and usually busy in season....

### 20. Holiday Jewelry Deals Coming for JMB Website Supporters Members Only

During the last few years, at the end of November or thereabouts we've sent JMB Website Supporters members remarkable offers from some of the leading jewelers in downtown Philipsburg. The first of these is now about ready and we expect to mail it to members in the next couple of days. JMB members always get the best prices. However, low (but not member-low) prices will also be offered to readers of our <a href="Everything St. Maarten Facebook Site">Everything St. Maarten Facebook Site</a> through a posting there which goes up this week. Preholiday deliveries are possible if you order early. Watch for this coming this week.

# 21. Reminder: Huge Discounts on Rima Clothing and Souvenirs for JMB Members Only

Many of you will fondly remember the Rima store in downtown Philipsburg, the biggest tropical clothing and souvenir store on the island. Their beachwear is still sold across the island and throughout the Caribbean region.

JMB Website Supporters members are entitled to about a 34% discount when you buy through Rima's special website and use your JMB Website Supporters current, active membership card.

See the Discounts Master Index on the secret website for details on how to obtain this members-only discount. If you're still not a member, see the headline story at the beginning of this section about our Black Friday membership sale and join easily online.

# 22. Reminder: Gift Her (or Him) The Best Massage on The Island, from Tricia Altenau

If you want to give a great gift — or just do something wonderful for yourself, check out the options available at <a href="https://www.AlAmassage.com">www.AlAmassage.com</a>, for massage therapy from Tricia Altenau.

Now located at the Ti Spa at L'Esplanade hotel in Grand Case, Tricia provides a spectrum of services executed to give you the kind of therapeutic results you're looking for. She's the best we've ever encountered, and we've been using her services since we first were referred to her about 15 years ago. Do give her try.

### 23. A Look Back at "Old" SXM Restaurants: Story #1, West Indian Tavern

When we first visited SXM on our own close to 40 years ago, one of the places that was highly recommended to us was the West Indian Tavern. It was on Front Street in the building that now houses the Guavaberry Emporium.

It was a simple but elegant establishment with candlelight and terrific food. The site was also historic, since far to the back of the property was the site of an ancient Jewish burial ground.

SXM has many restaurants that have come and gone over the years but that bring back pleasant memories to many people. This the first of a number of stories about some of those restaurants. If you have photographs of this or any other old SXM dining places, we invite you to post them on our <u>Everything St. Maarten Facebook Site</u>.

We'll feature another next week.

Featured so far: the West Indian Tavern.

### 24. Do *Not* Wait For Something to Go Wrong Before You Act....

I've had three phone calls in recent months from people -- SXM tourists like you -- who needed help in a hurry.

They all wanted something they could not get. The events that moved them to call were 1) a stroke (it wasn't his first); it happened a day or so before his wife called me for help; 2) a heart attack a few days before a gentleman from the Rocky Mountain west called; and 3) a cancer diagnosis a few days before a man's wife called me.

If you're healthy now, that's good -- but tomorrow is another day. In all three cases, these people were hoping to return to SXM but they did not want to risk their lives (and their finances) by not having SkyMed medical evacuation membership protection. In all three cases the sudden change in their health made it impossible for them to be approved. (SkyMed always asks "Any hospitalizations in the last six months?")

Do NOT put off getting SkyMed Medical Evacuation protection. I don't like it when I file an application for someone and sudden drastic changes in their health make approval impossible. I want to have SkyMed always say "yes" but life doesn't necessarily work that way. Please GET SKYMED BEFORE YOU NEED IT ...so you'll have it when you DO need it. See <a href="https://www.getskymed.com">www.getskymed.com</a>. It is the best medical evacuation membership product on the market. -- Jeff

# 25. Prize List For Our Five Million Smiles Vacation Giveaway Further Expanded (11/28/16)

We've just made still more additions to our list of "Five Million Smiles" vacation giveaways.

Both of our two Grand Prizes are weeks at two of the island's most fabulous villas — the name of <u>one</u> of them is below. All vacations are subject to availability, seasonal limitations, and island taxes / fees at the discretion of the resort owners. We'll be announcing more "Five Million Smiles" prizes soon, but here are those we can tell you about now (the list has grown since we last published it):

- Eight days and seven nights at <u>Villa Onyi</u> at Point Blanche. Featured on HGTV this is one of the island's most breathtaking villas, inside and out. (*One of our Grand Prizes*; new.)
- Eight days and seven nights at the beautiful <u>Villa Son Risa</u> in Pelican Key (Cleaning charge applies; avail. May-Sept. 2017. New.)
- Eight days and seven nights at Mercure Beach Hotel and Marina, Simpson Bay Lagoon, French Side
- Eight days and seven nights in a garden studio (from 4/15/17 to 12/15/17) at Mary's Boon Beach Resort
- Eight days and seven nights at El Zafiro beachside resort on Simpson Bay Beach (new)
- Eight days and seven nights at La Vista Resort or La Vista Beach;
- Eight days and seven nights at **Baker's Suites** in Simpson Bay, near Kim Sha Beach
- Eight days and seven nights in a brand-new two bedroom suite at Simpson Bay Resort;
- Eight days and seven nights at The Summit Resort;
- Four days, three nights, plus open bar and breakfast at naturist Club Fantastico
- Four days, three nights in boutique hotel style suites in the main building at Oyster Bay Beach Resort.
- A one-week car rental from Leisure Car Rental, one of our car rental partners (Grand Prize)

- A one-week car rental from Tropicana Car Rental, our first car rental partner (Grand Prize)
- More to come.

There are also many prizes including:

- · A Helicopter ride for the grand prize winner (from Corail Helicopters, Grand Case Airport)
- Jewelry prizes from Caribbean Gems and Oro Diamante as well as Little Europe jewelers
- Full-day cruise for two to Tintamarre aboard the 62' Celine Too Motoryacht
- Cruise for two on the legendary Celine Too Pub Crawl
- Tour of the Etna Ice Cream Factory -- and a few pints to take with you
- Tour of Toppers' Rhum Distillery (including free samples, if you're old enough).
- And there's a painting by renowned SXM artist Patty Meotti which has been posted in our
   <u>Everything St. Maarten Facebook Site</u>. More on Patty is <u>here</u>. We'll detail these and more new prizes soon.

Many dinners for two are also offered for the Grand Prize winners, including this heavily updated group:

- Dinner for two at award-winning Chef Dino Jagtiani's <u>Temptation Restaurant</u>;
- Dinner for two at the exquisite new <u>Mario Bistro</u> in Cupecoy;
- Dinner for two at **Spiga Restaurant in Grand Case**;
- Dinner for two at **Daniel's By The Sea** on Dawn Beach;
- Dinner for two at iZi Ristorante Italiano, Simpson Bay.
- Dinner for two at Infinity Restaurant at Oyster Bay Beach Resort;
- \$50 Gift Certificate for Avantika Restaurant;
- Dinner for two at <u>Toppers Restaurant</u>;
- Dinner for two at Pineapple Pete Restaurant
- Dinner for two at Sushiitto Restaurant
- Dinner for two at Trattoria Pizza Pasta
- Dinner for two at Lal's Curry In a Hurry Indian Restaurant;
- Dinner for two at Cheri's Cafe (limit \$50);
- Dinner for two at The Boathouse:
- Lunch for two at Patrick Turner's **Tropical Wave** on Le Galion Beach;
- More to come. Dinners are subject to reasonable limitations.

You can enter now if you're a direct (not pass-along) subscriber to SXM Weekly News... Click the link to enter now: http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/getting\_here/entry-form-for-our-seven-vacation-giveaway.shtml

**Entries from pass-along readers will not be accepted**; Subscribe directly now by clicking "Free Newsletters" at <a href="https://www.everythingsxm.com">www.everythingsxm.com</a>. Only direct subscribers are eligible to win -- and subscriptions are free.

### **Traveling Anywhere?**

Never go anywhere without SkyMed Emergency Medical Evacuation Protection. Visit <a href="www.getskymed.com">www.getskymed.com</a> today; call Jeff for answers to SkyMed questions at (508) 747-8281 or email him at <a href="mailto:jeff@getskymed.com">jeff@getskymed.com</a> with the Subject "SkyMed".

### 26. All Vets Eligible for Steeply Discounted JMB Military Memberships (DD214)

If you're an active duty, reserve, or discharged or retired member of the US military (with your DD214), you can obtain or upgrade to a military membership in JMB for just \$16.99 per year paid in full upon joining -- four full years at just \$67.96 total.

With a military membership, you can renew at that same fee quite probably forever. What's more, converting an existing membership to military or joining us as a military member <u>immediately gives you platinum status JMB</u> <u>membership</u>, entitling you to highlighted ads on our site to sell or rent out timeshares you own in St. Maarten or

elsewhere and to future benefits yet to be announced.

To join us as a military member or to convert your current JMB membership to military, send us a check for \$67.96 payable to JMB Communications, mailed to PO Box 1812, Plymouth, MA 02362-1812. If you'd rather pay by PayPal, go to <a href="https://www.paypal.com">www.paypal.com</a> and send the \$67.96 to <a href="https://www.paypal.com">Jeff@JMBcommunications.com</a> and in the Notes area, indicate that it's for a new (or renewal) military membership.

<u>For verification</u>, email or fax us your military identification (DD214) with the serial number obliterated. The email address to send us your DD214 is <u>support@JMBcommunications.com</u>; please don't use Facebook for any personal communications. You can also fax it to 508-749-7898. Be sure to tell us the email address you'll be using when you sign up, so we can match the ID you send to your new membership.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact us at <a href="mailto:support@JMBcommunications.com">support@JMBcommunications.com</a> .

### 27. Restaurant of the Week - iZi

Not only does IZI have one of the most talented Italian chef teams on the island, it also has entrepreneur/chef/owner David Foini as chief honcho, who is often a show himself as he directs the entire operation, missing nothing.

The entire outside area of the restaurant has been transformed. It now includes a comfortable waiting area, additional seating, and a better view of their extensive and growing wine cellar.

iZi has always been one of the most upbeat restaurants on the island, with a lively vibe that encourages celebrations among family and friends.

But the real differentiator of iZi has always been its great food. Regardless of whether you like traditional and creative Italian, vegetarian (their eggplant, among many other things, is superb), beef, poultry, or even some of the world's best fish, this is the place where you can get them all. Quality is excellent, presentation is beautiful, and you'll love the tastes, flavors, and aromas. This has long been one of our favorite restaurants and has been a frequent recipient of our Everything St. Maarten Award of Excellence -- you'll see them posted prominently.

IZI gives something special to all JMB Website Supporters members, too. For details, see the Discounts Master Index on the secret site at <a href="https://www.everythingSXM.com">www.everythingSXM.com</a> — for JMB Website Supporters members only.

Sill not a JMB member? You're spending way too much for practically everything you buy in SXM. Get hundreds of discounts and other benefits: see the beginning of this section.

Big Fish Restaurant <a href="https://www.bigfishsxm.com/">www.bigfishsxm.com/</a> (featured 8/16)

IZI Ristorante Italiano, www.iziristoranteitaliano.com (featured 11/28/16)

Busby's Chicken Rotisserie (featured 11/14/16)

Canoa, www.canoasxm.com (featured 3/22/16)

Mario Bistro 9/5/16

SkipJack's SXM, <a href="http://www.skipjacks-sxm.com/">http://www.skipjacks-sxm.com/</a> (featured 3/7/16)

Cugini <a href="http://www.cuginitrattoria.com/">http://www.cuginitrattoria.com/</a> (11/16)

Trattoria Pizza Pasta, Maho Plaza near Casino Royale (featured 9/12/16)

Daniel's By The Sea, www.dawnbeachsxm.com (featured 7/25/16)

Domino's Pizza https://www.facebook.com/pages/Dominos-Pizza-St-Maarten/95635717338 (featured 9/16)

Spiga, www.spiga-sxm.com (featured 11/21/16)

The Boathouse, <a href="https://www.facebook.com/CDayDay777">https://www.facebook.com/CDayDay777</a> 10/3/16

The Hideaway, <a href="http://www.lavistaresort.com/restaurant.html">http://www.lavistaresort.com/restaurant.html</a> (featured 10/31/16)

Stone Restaurant, www.thestonerestaurant.com (featured 9/2/14)

Le Pressoir, <a href="http://www.lepressoir-sxm.com">http://www.lepressoir-sxm.com</a> (featured 7/6/15)

Temptation, <a href="http://www.temptation-sxm.com/">http://www.temptation-sxm.com/</a> (featured 10/10/16)

Lal's Curry In A Hurry Indian Restaurant, Airport Road, Simpson Bay (featured 5/9/16)

Mr. Busby's Beach Bar <a href="http://www.dawnbeachsxm.com">http://www.dawnbeachsxm.com</a> (featured 7/25/16)

Island Pizza, <a href="http://www.dawnbeachsxm.com">http://www.dawnbeachsxm.com</a> (featured 7/25/16)

Pineapple Pete, <a href="https://www.pineapplepete.com">www.pineapplepete.com</a> (featured 9/19/16)

Papagayo, <a href="http://www.cluborient.com/papagayo.php">http://www.cluborient.com/papagayo.php</a> (featured 10/17/16)

**Dany & John's Cupecoy Beach Bar** (on Cupecoy beach; follow the car path from the far side of Ocean Club to get there). (featured 4/27/2015)

FIG, Maho complex at Le Terasse

St. Maarten Yacht Club, at the Dutch Side Drawbridge

Jimbo's, www.jimboscafe.com (featured 4/13/15)

Vesna Taverna, www.vesnataverna.com (featured 4/25/16)

Topper's / Topper's By The Sea <a href="http://www.sxmtoppers.com/">http://www.sxmtoppers.com/</a> (featured 6/6/16)

Taloula Mango <a href="http://www.taloulamango.com/">http://www.taloulamango.com/</a> (featured 4/20/15)

Bylbos, Simpson Bay

Sushiitto Japanese Restaurant, Port de Plaisance https://www.facebook.com/sushiitto.sxm (featured 7/18/16)

# 28. SkyMed Is On Sale: The "SkyMed Bonus" Is Yours, Too

Updated 11/20/16

**What SkyMed Does:** SkyMed *Takes You Home*® to doctors and hospitals you know and trust when you become critically ill or injured while traveling. Whether it's an accident, a sudden illness, or virtually anything else, <u>SkyMed is your free ticket home</u> aboard an ICU-equivalent emergency medical evacuation jet with an ICU-certified medical attendant on board to make sure everything goes as planned.

**How SkyMed Works:** Like clockwork, you'll be taken from the hospital to a waiting aircraft by ambulance at SkyMed's expense; SkyMed makes all the arrangements and pays all costs for the medical evacuation jet and for the ambulance at the destination which takes you to a waiting team at your destination hospital, which already has your medical records and is ready to start helping you. There are no co-pays and no deductibles, either.

Anything can happen anywhere — but you can always trust SkyMed to take you home when you need it most.

**What's It Cost?** Without SkyMed, you'll need \$45,000 or more payable in cash in advance to pay for a medical evacuation — if you can make the dozens of calls necessary to set it up in an emergency. SkyMed does all that for you, for a small membership fee; you simply make one phone call 24/7/365 to get things going. <u>Enroll today while it's fresh in your mind</u>.

Why Buy Now? We're offering SkyMed now at very special pricing for JMB Website Supporters members only — but if you're a nonmember and care to join SkyMed now through us, we'll enroll you in JMB Website Supporters at the same time. This offer is available only by phone; call Jeff directly at 508-747-8281 (SkyMed questions only) and he will be happy to answer your questions, tell you about the different types of programs available, and their respective costs. He'll also be happy to fill out your application for annual or multiyear memberships by phone and at the same time you'll be able to set up a JMB Website Supporters membership (required to get the best multiyear SKYMED discounts).

The SkyMed Bonus: JMB Website Supporters members get hefty discounts on all multiyear SkyMed memberships. If you buy a new multiyear SkyMed membership (for three or five years), or upgrade your SkyMed membership bought through us to a new three- or five-year SkyMed membership, Jeff will be able to simultaneously enroll you in a JMB Website Supporters membership for the exact same period. If you're already a JMB member and do a new or upgraded multiyear SkyMed membership through us, your JMB membership will be extended by the same multiyear duration. Again, this offer is available by phone only and for a limited time — call Jeff at 508-747-8281 during normal business hours Eastern time. Since he has been a rep for SkyMed for about 14 years, Jeff will be able to answer all of your SkyMed questions and help tailor a plan for you that meets your needs.

See <a href="www.getskymed.com">www.getskymed.com</a> or phone Jeff any weekday at 508-747-8281 or email him at <a href="jeff@getskymed.com">jeff@getskymed.com</a> (use the subject "SkyMed inquiry") to learn more and get your questions answered.

### Compare The Types of SkyMed Memberships:

First, **short term memberships** are for brief trips in North America, the Caribbean, the Bahamas, Bermuda, and Mexico -- 34 countries total. The advantage of short-term memberships is that they are very inexpensive, just about \$9 per day per person maximum of about \$18 per day. The disadvantage is that they only cover you for the short term you are traveling: when they expire, your protection disappears. When you're ready to travel again, you must reapply for a new short-term membership. Although the process is quick, you still must be medically approved and at some point, that may not be possible. Bear in mind that many of us travel more than once or twice a year, even if it's only a few hundred miles from home to visit friends or relatives, which is why we recommend annual or multiyear SkyMed memberships instead of short-term memberships. You do not want your protection to end.

Second, both **annual and multiyear SkyMed memberships** are essentially permanent coverage. *Once you've been approved and as long as you continue to pay your membership fee on time, your membership cannot be discontinued as a result of advancing age or declining health* — two critically important advantages that ensure you have coverage when you may well need it most.

Third, **Ultimate memberships** cover multiple years and provide protection worldwide. The only exceptions are places like Syria, Afghanistan, Somalia, North Korea — places no wise person would visit anyway. Ultimate memberships also offer the greatest breadth of coverage. You can see a complete list of all the features and benefits of these coverages <a href="here">here</a>.

Fourth, if you're an **American or Canadian ex-pat** living in St. Maarten or elsewhere outside your country for six months or more per year, you can still get SKYMED Takes you Home protection in the form of an **ex-pat** membership. Email us (see next paragraph) and we can tell you how it works and get you protected.

In addition to everything else he does, Jeff Berger has been a SkyMed rep for over 14 years. He'll be happy to answer any questions you have; just phone the office any weekday at 508-747-8281, or email him at <a href="mailto:Jeff@GetSkyMed.com">Jeff@GetSkyMed.com</a>. He generally returns calls and messages within 24 hours. To see <a href="mailto:online frequently asked questions">online frequently asked questions</a>, go here. You can also see his site at <a href="https://www.GetSkyMed.com">www.GetSkyMed.com</a>.

JMB members get serious discounts on all multiyear SkyMed memberships. If you're not already a JMB member, join today and take advantage of those discounts.

For more on JMB memberships, look here at our Black Friday prices; see the beginning of this section for Black Friday pricing. Our Black Friday sale is almost over, so act quickly.

### New JMB memberships

http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/about\_sxm/paypal.shtml

### Renewal JMB memberships

www.everythingsxm.com/secret Go to the Membership Renewal Center

### JMB Membership Reinstatements

http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/reinstate/index.shtml

More stories are below.

St. Maarten / St. Martin Homes, Villas, Businesses, Commercial Properties, and Residential Properties for Sale (NEW):

<u>Click to access our recommended real estate agent, Arun Jagtiani, featured on HGTV.</u>

### 29. No Age Limit to Join or Renew SkyMed

What's the upper age limit to join SkyMed? There isn't any: apply today regardless of age.

What's the upper age limit to renew your existing SkyMed membership? *There isn't any*. Just pay your SkyMed renewal on time and your membership will continue regardless of your health or age at the time of your renewal. There is no membership cutoff for advancing age or declining health, unlike so-called competitive programs. *And the price of your renewal membership will not increase due to declining health or advancing age*.

SkyMed Takes You Home® -- what else matters?

### 30. Q and A About SkyMed Medical Evacuation (Updated 11/20/16)

Here are constantly updated questions and answers about SkyMed, the folks who fly you home in an ICU-equivalent medical evacuation jet when you become critically ill or injured while traveling. It's a life-saving flight that could easily cost you upwards of \$45,000 in cash in advance without SkyMed. Thousands of you have bought it through us. To

learn more, see www.getskymed.com.

### Q. What's so special about SkyMed? Aren't these companies all the same?

A. Not by a long shot. Most other programs say in their fine print that they take you to "the nearest appropriate facility," not home like SkyMed. If you're in SXM, that means SkyMed competitors would likely take you to Puerto Rico. Some others also raise prices after you reach a certain age... Or they cancel you on a particular birthday, or cancel your membership when you get sick. SkyMed does none of that. Sign up for SkyMed today and when you reach age 109 you pay the same low price as everyone else. Once you're a member, there's no age or health discrimination -- as long as you pay your membership fee you're good to go. (Applies to all annual and longer memberships. Short-term memberships, lasting only a few days, require medical requalification when you buy another -- which is why we recommend annual or multiyear memberships. Why risk the hurdle of medical requalification?)

### Q. What other evacuation-related services do you offer besides the evacuation itself?

A. There are 18 other services, some of which you've never even thought about but all of which are important. You'll find them on our downloadable **SkyMed Benefits PDF** on our <u>SXM Weekly News PDF Archives</u> page.

#### Q. How fast are the evacuations?

A. That depends on a number of factors. First the patient must be medically stable and ready to fly. Even though emergency medical evacuations are aboard ICU-equivalent medevac jets, the patient's stable health during the trip is of paramount importance. He / she must be medically stable to take that trip. Although arrangements for the electronic transfer of medical records, reserving flight and medical crews and the jet itself, making hospital arrangements at the destination hospital, and setting up ambulances at both ends of trip must all be completed beforehand, nonetheless it generally takes only a matter of hours before you're in the plane on the way to hospitals and doctors you know and trust near home. Bottom line is that SkyMed does it as quickly as it can be done assuring the patient's health and safety during the medical evacuation and the flight home.

### Q. Do they cancel me if I get really sick?

A. No, they don't. Once you're a member, as long as you continue to pay your membership fee your membership continues regardless of your health or age, when you buy an annual or multiyear membership and keep it in force. SkyMed does not throw you out if you get sick. If you allow your membership to lapse, you will need to reapply to determine if you're still medically acceptable -- so just don't let it lapse.

### Q. I have a few medical issues and I'm in my 70s. Will SkyMed accept me?

A. In its brief application process, completed online or by phone or in person with a rep, SkyMed asks for your name, DOB, current Rx medications, medical conditions, and hospitalizations in the last six months. It also asks where in the US or Canada you want to be transported when you need an emergency medical evacuation. It now also requests your passport number to help expedite customs / immigration should you require an international medical evacuation flight. The vast, vast majority of applicants are readily accepted. You do not have to be in "phenomenal" health at all. By the way: if you travel very little and only for short periods, you can apply for SkyMed's short-term memberships; they cover all pre-existing conditions in full, immediately. Just remember that you must medically requalify every time you need a new short-term membership, which is why most of our members buy and renew annual or multiyear Ultimate SkyMed memberships instead of short-term. Those memberships cover all pre-existing conditions in full after only 90 days. More on that is below.

#### Q. We travel for weeks at a time. Do we have to tell SkyMed where we're going?

A. No, you don't. As long as you're home in the US or Canada more than six months per year, you're fine. If you spend more than half of each year away (in aggregate), out of your home country (USA or Canada) then you're considered an expatriate (ex-pat) and would need a program custom-tailored for ex-pats because you're away a majority of the time and that means you represent increased exposure. That program is called "X-Pat" - the program for American and Canadian expatriates living overseas. Even as an ex-pat living in SXM, you can still be transported back to your city of choice in the USA or Canada. (See the question, "Does SkyMed cover us no matter where we travel?" which is below.)

#### Q. Does SkyMed cover pre-existing conditions?

A. Yes, right away for short-term memberships and after just a 90 day waiting period for memberships lasting a year or longer. To make sure you're covered for everything when you travel including pre-existing conditions just buy your annual or multi-year Ultimate SkyMed membership more than 90 days ahead of your initial date of travel.

### Q. Do you require a physical exam for renewal or when I reach a certain age?

A. No, SkyMed requires neither. Once you join and buy an annual or multiyear membership that SkyMed approves, they'll renew it every year upon on-time payment of your renewal fee. No physical exam is required regardless of your age or health if you've paid your membership renewal on time. You can be age 109 and still be protected by your SkyMed membership.

### Q. What is the maximum age for applying for membership?

A. There is no maximum. Apply away.

### Q. I seldom travel now. Do you have short-term plans?

A, Yes, at about \$9/day per person or maximum \$18/day per family. Since they only last a specified number of days, they end when the term of coverage ends. If you want another short-term plan later, you must apply again and medically requalify. Annual plans cost roughly \$1.30/day for your entire family (parents and minor kids); plans for singles are less. *Annual* and multiyear plans are renewable without medical requalification, assuming they haven't lapsed. That's a key advantage over short-term plans.

# Q. I'm from Canada. May I join SkyMed? I have to get back to my province if I'm seriously ill or my health insurance won't work.

A. Both Americans and Canadians are eligible to join SkyMed. American and Canadian ex-pats living overseas also are eligible.

### Q. What types of policies are there?

A. SkyMed Memberships (often called policies by members though they actually are memberships, not policies) come in several flavors: short term, for people who travel little and for short durations; "annual" for people who want full-year protection that is guaranteed renewable for life when you pay the membership fee on time regardless of age or health at the time of renewal; and Ultimate multiyear memberships which offer low annual cost, maximum benefits, and global coverage and are also renewable for life regardless of age or health when membership fees are paid on time. *Ex-Pat and "Silver" memberships also are offered.* 

### Q. Which membership gives the biggest bang for the buck?

You clearly get the most for the least with our three-year or five-year Ultimate memberships. Coverage is global, guaranteed renewable, and can not be cancelled due to increasing age or declining health - ever, assuming renewals are paid on time. You'll also pay the same fee as all other members -- there's never an increase related to your personal health or advancing age. And annual memberships are upgradeable to Ultimates at any time. <u>Multiyear memberships give you more benefits than annual memberships but cost less when paid at inception</u>. They're quite a bargain.

### Q. Is there a best time to buy?

A. Yes -- exactly like fire insurance, buy it before you need it! Why gamble? The peace of mind alone is worth every penny.

### Q. Does SkyMed cover us no matter where we travel?

The basic annual SkyMed "Takes You Home®" plan covers you in the USA (all 50 states), Canada, Mexico, Bermuda, the Bahamas, and all the nations of the Caribbean including Cuba. The Ultimate membership covers you globally through SkyMed Global -- or you can add a global rider to annual memberships (at \$100/year) which adds rest-of-the-world coverage, also through SkyMed Global. SkyMed does not cover countries where there are open hostilities -- Iraq, Iran, Syria, Somalia, North Korea, etc.

### Q. I already belong to SkyMed but I'm pretty sick now. Will SkyMed drop me?

Once you've bought an annual or longer SkyMed membership, that membership stays in force as long as you pay renewals on time regardless of how old you get or how sick you get. When you're in, you're in -- declining health is not an issue. And no, you do not have to tell us about changes in your health that occur after you join.

# Q. I'm an American [or Canadian] xPat now living in SXM. Since I live there, can I still be brought "home" to Canada or the US?

As long as you've purchased our xPat Membership (for people who live in SXM six months or more per year), you absolutely will be taken home, back to the US or Canada, to the hospital of your choice when you become critically ill or injured. Just be sure you've specified your preferred home hospital in your SkyMed application.

#### Got Other Questions?

If you have questions about SkyMed not answered above, email <a href="mailto:jeff@getskymed.com">jeff@getskymed.com</a> and Jeff will get back to you or phone him at 508-747-8281. Please also include your phone number and best time to call; he'll be in touch. Please use the subject "SkyMed Inquiry" in your email.

SkyMed Takes You Home®; What else matters?

For more, see <a href="mailto:skymed.com/jmbspecial">skymed.com/jmbspecial</a> (JMB members) or <a href="mailto:swymed.com">www.getskymed.com</a> (non-JMB members) or email Jeff directly at <a href="mailto:jeff@getskymed.com">jeff@getskymed.com</a> with the subject SkyMed. If you include your phone number, he'll call you about SkyMed as well, to answer any questions you may have including all pricing options.

You can also call SkyMed directly (in Scottsdale AZ, Mountain standard time year round.) Their number is 1-800-475-9633; ask for Nan. If you're a JMB member, say so and have your membership card ready. *All multiyear plans offer major discounts to JMB members*. Please tell them you're calling because you heard about them from Jeff Berger.

### 31. Download The Complete List of All SkyMed Features & Benefits

Read it for yourself: it beats every would-be competitor hands-down. Look: <a href="http://www.everythingsxm.com/sxmweeklynews/SkvMedServices.pdf">http://www.everythingsxm.com/sxmweeklynews/SkvMedServices.pdf</a>

This is an Adobe Acrobat PDF Document. Your system most likely already has a PDF Reader (free) but if not you can get one here: <u>download Adobe Acrobat Reader</u>.

### 32. Where to Find Past Issues of SXM Weekly News

Look here for our PDF archives: <a href="http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/free\_newsletters/sxmweeklynews.shtml">http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/free\_newsletters/sxmweeklynews.shtml</a>. This is scheduled to complete an update shortly.

### Rent Out or Sell Your Timeshare (both SXM and Worldwide) -- Frequently Updated

JMB members can run up to 10 free ads on our website per 12-month period to rent out or sell St. Maarten / St. Martin timeshare weeks they own -- or any timeshares, anywhere worldwide. If you're not a member, learn more about membership here: http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/about\_sxm/paypal.shtml .

### Want to rent or buy a week?

\*2015 St. Maarten / St. Martin Timeshare Weeks For Rent or Sale\* are posted at <a href="http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/timeshare\_rent\_sale/index.shtml">http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/timeshare\_rent\_sale/index.shtml</a> Listings are now updated every few weekdays. Ads are free (no commission) but are accepted from JMB Website Supporters members only.

### **SECTION 5:** For Members Only

- A. Where to Get Member Info: www.everythingsxm.com/secret
- B. **Password Recovery Info:** Your username is the email address you have registered with JMB Website Supporters. If you forget your password, click "forgot / change password" in the orange login box near the masthead at <a href="https://www.everythingsxm.com">www.everythingsxm.com</a>. To change your password, click that same link.
- C. How To Submit Rental or Sale Ads or Update the Price in an Ad: See <a href="https://www.everythingsxm.com/secret">www.everythingsxm.com/secret</a>
  .Your username and password are required.

SECTION 6: Background Information for Travelers (For New Readers) Updated 10/18/15

See www.everythingsxm.com.

### About Email Address Changes / How To Unsubscribe (Updated 9/7/13)

To unsubscribe, click the Unsubscribe link here: <a href="http://everythingsxm.com/cgi-bin/dada/mail.cgi">http://everythingsxm.com/cgi-bin/dada/mail.cgi</a> You **CAN NOT** unsubscribe either by replying to this email or, if you are an AOL user, by clicking the \*spam\* button on AOL.

To change your email address, visit <a href="http://everythingsxm.com/cgi-bin/dada/mail.cgi">http://everythingsxm.com/cgi-bin/dada/mail.cgi</a>, select \*2016 St. Maarten Weekly News\* list, and follow the unsubscribe instructions. Then, subscribe your new email address. JMB Website Supporters members no longer need to notify Membership Services of the new email address for continued Secret Site access. We'll be notified automatically.

### Get Your Own Free Copy Of St. Maarten and St. Martin Weekly News:

http://www.everythingsxm.com/cgi-bin/dada/mail.cgi?

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Our email headers also contain subscribe / unsubscribe / address change links.

### Contact Us: [Revised 4/23/16]

All member discounts and benefits are explained in detail on the members-only \*secret\* website, <a href="http://www.everythingsxm.com/secret">http://www.everythingsxm.com/secret</a> . If you're a JMB Website Supporters member and have a question not answered there, please contact us at **support@jmbcommunications.com** 

NON-members who wish to contact us should write to *jmbweb@jmbcommunications.com* with the subject \*Free Newsletter Recipient,\* but due to the huge volume of mail received, we may not be able to respond individually.

Our main St. Maarten / St. Martin website: www.everythingsxm.com .

To see the JMB Communications Privacy Policy, visit <a href="http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/privacy\_policy/index.shtml">http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/privacy\_policy/index.shtml</a>

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