

Can't see this newsletter? Go [here](#).

#1075 --- Monday, 12/5/2016  
News From St. Maarten / St. Martin



[This Week's Stories](#)

[Airfare, Airlines & Weather News](#)

[Everything SXM Home Page](#)

[Island News](#)

[Lodging News](#)

[Members SECRET Website 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*

Copyright ©, JMB Communications, 2016. See [Legal](#) for reprint requests, page bottom.

From: [www.jmbcommunications.com](http://www.jmbcommunications.com)

Weekly News is part of JMB's St. Maarten / St. Martin website: [www.everythingsxm.com](http://www.everythingsxm.com)

Add [jeff1620@jmbcommunications.com](mailto:jeff1620@jmbcommunications.com) to your address book  
to be sure you receive this newsletter every week.

**IMPORTANT:** "Jeff1620" is a send-only email address.  
For Contact info, see [#Contact Us](#)  
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. Read every week by more than 280,000 people 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://everythingxsm.com/sxm/free\\_newsletters/sxmweeklynews.shtml](http://everythingxsm.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:

**In This Week's SXM Weekly News:**

-- **Spiga's Lara Russo To Appear With Jeff on Island 92 Radio Monday Morning**

-- **"Today's SXM Weather" Now On Our Everything SXM Facebook Site**

-- **Still More Vacations Added To Our "Five Million Smiles" 13 Vacation Giveaway**

-- **Everything SXM 2017 Awards of Excellence Being Distributed This Month**

-- **Our Holiday Membership Sale Begins -- Just \$33 for New Memberships (Reg. \$59)**

-- **Favorite Places for Seafood**

-- **SXM Temp Plunges To Ungodly 72; Scattered Topcoats Witnessed**

-- **Great New Map of SXM Released by Rafal Kasprowski**

-- **Great News on Military Memberships: Now Faster, Easier, and For All US Vets**

- **Holland House: Everything You Need in The Heart of Philipsburg**
- **Special Holiday Offers for JMB Members & SXM Weekly News Readers**
- **Ask To Sit in "Jeff's Office" at Mr. Busby's / Daniel's By The Sea**
- **Enter Our Five Million Smiles 13-Vacation Giveaway\***
- **A Look Back at "Old" SXM Restaurants**
- **Get SkyMed Now: Do Not Wait Until You Actually Need It...Then, It's Too Late**
- **Restaurants of the Week**
- **No Age Limit to Join or Renew SkyMed**

**29** 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 [http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/timeshare\\_rent\\_sale/index.shtml](http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/timeshare_rent_sale/index.shtml) 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 [http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/about\\_sxm/paypal.shtml](http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml) 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 2/4/2017 2/18/2017 Week 5,6 Villa's at Simpsonbay Villas at Simpson Bay 5th floor unit 510 B! Sleep 2 guests in this ultra deluxe studio with 2 standard double beds, full bath with double sinks, hair dryer, in-room safe, kitchenette with refrigerator and microwave, high speed internet access, private balcony and a superb ocean view Water!!) Full featured resort ! Timeshare tax (approximately \$50) not included. \$1075 per week Tavie @ (716) 310-4504 [tavie@sxm-time.com](mailto:tavie@sxm-time.com)

### **SXM Timeshare Sale of The Week:**

SALE 2/4/2017 2/11/2017 Week 5 Westin Dawn Beach Club 1800 sq. ft. 3BR/2BT. Fixed week that can be floated. Fixed week is top floor of highest building with panoramic view! Master has walk in closet and luxury bath. Full kitchen with granite counter top and stainless appliances. TV in every room. Use of all amenities of Westin (spa, restaurants, pool, beach, casino)! Garage Parking. Laundry room with W/D so you can pack light. Heavenly Bed and linens same as in Westin. Westin room service available. \$14,000.00 Steve 864-420-7034 [JUDGEBARTLETT@GMAIL.COM](mailto:JUDGEBARTLETT@GMAIL.COM)

### **Non-St. Maarten Timeshare Rentals:**

See them all at [http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/timeshare\\_rent\\_sale/index.shtml](http://everythingxsm.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](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://everythingxsm.com/sxm/free\\_newsletters/sxmweeklynews.shtml](http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/free_newsletters/sxmweeklynews.shtml)

**Archives prior to April 12 2014 (old format):**

<http://everythingxsm.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](http://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](http://www.everythingsxm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml)

**Section One:** Getting There: Airlines, Airports, Cruises, & Weather [Go To This Section](#)

1. Hurricane Season Has Ended, But...
2. "Today's SXM Weather" Now On Our Everything SXM Facebook Site
3. How To See When The Biggest Jets Will Land at SXM Airport
4. Where To Find Current SXM Weather Info (Four Key Sources)
5. Take Advantage Now of Your Free Membership in the SkyMed Travel Club

**Section Two:** Accommodations (**Hotels, Inns, Timeshares**) [Go To This Section](#)

6. Still More Vacations Added To Our 13 Vacation Giveaway

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

**Section Three:** Member [Go To This Section](#)

7. "Section Three" -- Member Discounts Benefits News & Updates
8. December Member Benefits Update: Jewelry Shopping in SXM

**Section Four:** Island [Go To This Section](#)

**9. Our Holiday Membership Sale Begins:**

**Lowest Prices of the Year for The Biggest, Best Package of SXM Discounts**

10. Everything SXM 2017 Awards of Excellence Being Distributed This Month
11. Marigot Road Utility Construction Update
12. SXM Temp Plunges To Ungodly 72; Scattered Topcoats Witnessed
13. Favorite Places for Seafood
14. Great News on Military Memberships
15. Holland House: Everything You Need in The Heart of Philipsburg
16. Lara Russo To Appear With Jeff on Island 92 Radio Monday Morning
17. Ask To Sit in Jeff's Office at Mr. Busby's / Daniel's By The Sea
18. Great New Map of SXM Released by Rafal Kasprowski
19. Special Holiday Offers for JMB Members & SXM Weekly News Readers
20. A Look Back at "Old" SXM Restaurants: Story #2, Sam's Place West Indian Tavern
21. Do Not Wait For Something To Go Wrong Before You Act...
22. Enter Our Five Million Smiles 13-Vacation Giveaway
23. Restaurant of the Week - Busby's / Daniel's
24. New: Holiday Gift Memberships in JMB for Your Friends...
25. SkyMed On Sale
26. No Age Limit to Join or Renew SkyMed
27. Q & A about SkyMed Medical Evacuation
28. Download The Complete List of All SkyMed Features & Benefits
29. Where to Find Past Issues of SXM Weekly News

---

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

- A. Where to Get Member Info: [www.everythingsxm.com/secret](http://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 [www.everythingsxm.com](http://www.everythingsxm.com).

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 **GROWING LIST of 230+** Money-Saving St. Maarten- and St. Martin-Focused Travel Benefits

Visit <http://www.everythingsxm.com/secret> , 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 [http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/about\\_sxm/paypal.shtml](http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml) . 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 Has Ended, but . . .

Although hurricane season has ended, nonetheless storms can form at virtually any time. As always, we'll keep an eye out for tropical storm formation from now through next May; the 2017 hurricane season begins June 1.

To check weather any time, click Weather at [www.everythingSXM.com](http://www.everythingSXM.com), our site.

For a quick daily synopsis of what the weather will be like in SXM all winter long, check our [Everything St. Maarten Facebook Site](#) first thing every morning.

2. "Today's SXM Weather" Now On Our Everything SXM Facebook Site

In case you missed the prior article . . .

For a quick daily synopsis of what the weather will be like in SXM all winter long, check our [Everything St. Maarten Facebook Site](#) first thing every morning.

3. How To See When The Biggest Jets Will Land at SXM Airport

Go [here](#) -- it's the FlightAware.com SXM tracking site. Press the minus key (top left) to get a view from farther out. This site shows you all the flights scheduled to land in SXM over the following few hours. Incidentally, the airport code for SXM Airport is TNCM.

---

#### 4. 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](http://www.everythingsxm.com) -- it has current satellite images and radar loops.
- c) Our [Everything St. Maarten Facebook Site](#), 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 [www.island92.com](http://www.island92.com). 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.

---

#### 5. 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 [www.SkyMedtravelclub.com](http://www.SkyMedtravelclub.com), 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**

---

#### 6. Still More Vacations Added To Our 13 Vacation Giveaway

- 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*; new.)
- Eight days and seven nights at the beautiful [Villa Son Risa](#) 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 at [Holland House Beach Hotel](#), Philipsburg, on Great Bay Beach (new)
- 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](#).

An additional villa vacation from Arun Jagtiani's IREteam is expected to be added shortly and a second additional week is likely. See story 22 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 [www.getskymed.com](http://www.getskymed.com) today; call Jeff for answers to SkyMed questions at (508) 747-8281 or email him at [jeff@getskymed.com](mailto:jeff@getskymed.com) with the subject "SkyMed".**

---

### SECTION 3: Member

---

#### 7. "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.

---

#### 8. December 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 [download and present the AMA Jewelers voucher](#) to use this benefit. This coupon is in Adobe Acrobat PDF format; to open it, use the [free Adobe reader](#). (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 must [download and use this voucher](#) to get this exclusive JMB benefit. The voucher is in Adobe Acrobat PDF format; to open it, use the [free Adobe reader](#). (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 [Caribbean Gems \\$25 Gift Card](#) 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 [DK Gems discount coupon](#) 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 must [download and use this certificate](#) to get the JMB discount. The discount coupon is in Adobe Acrobat PDF format; to open it, use the [free Adobe reader](#). (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 in-store purchase. Limit, one \$25 Gift Card per family. You must [download and use this Gift Card](#). The Gift Card is in Adobe Acrobat PDF format; to open it, use the [free Adobe reader](#). (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. [Download and print your gift card here](#), 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 January.

---

#### **SECTION 4: Island**

9.

### **Holiday Membership Sale Now Underway:**

### **The Lowest Prices of the Year on Over 260 SXM Discounts for Everything You Buy in SXM-- 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](#)*

### **Click the Links Now:**

New JMB memberships

[http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/about\\_sxm/paypal.shtml](http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml)

Renewal JMB memberships

[www.everythingsxm.com/secret](http://www.everythingsxm.com/secret) Go to the *Membership Renewal Center*

JMB Membership Reinstatements

<http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/reinstate/index.shtml>

When these prices are gone they will not be back...do it now!

---

**Hear Jeff Live On Island 92 Radio (91.9 FM or  
[www.island92.com](http://www.island92.com))**



## Every Monday at About 9:45 a.m. Island Time, 8:45 a.m. EST

---

### 10. Everything SXM 2017 Awards of Excellence Being Distributed This Month

For the fifth consecutive year, this month our [everythingSXM.com](http://everythingSXM.com) will present Awards of Excellence to deserving tourist-oriented businesses across the island.

The awards are presented in recognition of overall excellence and quality performance and are based upon observation by JMB and others over the past 12 months.

Once the awards have all been distributed, we'll list them in a future edition of *SXM Weekly News*.

---

### 11. Marigot Road Utility Construction Update

Although there are still a number of open trenches in Marigot following the recent utility installations on a number of main roads, the vast majority of the work is done and most of what remains is paving the shallow trenches. You should expect that work to be finished by mid December, though officials are saying it may be earlier.

We'll keep you posted.

---

### 12. SXM Temp Plunges To Ungodly 72; Scattered Topcoats Witnessed

The southernmost part of a strong cold front that swept across North America brushed both Saba and St. Maarten/St. Martin early last week, bringing rain, wind, and surprisingly cool temperatures to the island.

Locals were complaining about how cold it was; the temp plunged to 72° last Monday, and we even saw a few locals wearing overcoats.

Brutal stuff, people....

---

### 13. Favorite Places for Seafood

For people who love seafood, SXM is clearly one of the best places on the planet. We would guess that the vast majority of island restaurants offers seafood in one form or another — definitely check the menus of your favorite places closely, and check out our Restaurant of the Week selections below.

We'll mention a few places here, in no special order:

- Big Fish in Oyster Pond (on the road to Oyster Bay Beach Resort) not only has several varieties of succulent seafood on its menu (along with other traditional and highly creative fare other than seafood), it also has sushi and sashimi among its many popular appetizers. Huge selection of main courses and a wonderful bar, too. Bright, upbeat, contemporary ambiance. Not only that, their chef is Wendell Laurence, the two-time winner of SXM's prestigious Crystal Pineapple Award who was just also named Chef of the Year in St. Maarten. Let's just say at Big Fish your taste buds are in for a great night!
- Canoa, also in Oyster Pond, blends contemporary European flavors with the Caribbean's best, offering a unique spectrum of flavors and textures that are a great palate pleasure. Although their menu includes dining for all tastes, seafood is a key part of it and it is flat out divine. Tell host Don that we sent you. Canoa, Big Fish, Daniel's, and Infinity at Oyster Bay (reviewed here last year) are four great selections in the growing Culinary Village at Oyster Pond / Dawn Beach -- all clustered in the same area.

- SkipJacks in Simpson Bay, one of the largest restaurants on the island with a large deck on the lagoon, though it has beef and more, specializes in seafood. Definitely try their lobster offerings, which are big sellers. They even offer cold water lobster flown in from Maine, for those who prefer it to the spiny Caribbean version, also sold at SkipJacks in quantity every night.
- Pineapple Pete is known for its lobster Thermidor. During high season, you can see a conga line of wait staff members coming out of the kitchen with this major house specialty.
- Daniel's by the Sea on Dawn beach has a spectacular setting in gazebos under palm trees literally on the beach. Caressed by tradewinds, it has been one of our top choices for years for seafood and, like both SkipJacks and Pineapple Pete, has been a consistent winner of our Everything SXM Award of Excellence. You can select your lobster right from their lobster tank. We also love their salmon, though we always order it without the spices/flavorings they usually add. When they have Snook, it's also well worth getting — it's a delicious local whitefish.
- Spiga in Grand Case (see story #16) invariably has some kind of seafood special. On our last visit a few weeks ago, it was seabass which was wonderfully prepared — thin, tender, and luscious. Of course, if you're a carnivore, their filet mignon has long been one of the best on the island — we do love it.
- IZI Ristorante Italiano in Simpson Bay also has frequent seafood specials — and the quality of their salmon, on the menu every night, is among the best you'll find on the island and is one of the things we have most often here. They have great Italian dining all around in an upbeat, lively atmosphere. They just finished an extensive remodeling that has the place looking better than ever.
- Vesna Taverna in Simpson Bay, about 120 yards North of the Simpson Bay drawbridge, has mussels and salmon fillets from Nova Scotia arriving late every week. Nobody does it better. Luscious food, lively place, and heavenly desserts. If you have not yet been to Vesna, it's time you went.
- Toppers in Simpson Bay is known for meatloaf, brisket, and their lobster -- which is delicious. So are the brisket and meatloaf if you're not in a seafood mood. Highly informal... the focus is on the food, pure and simple.
- Although co-owner Sam Runza passed away early this year, his cousin Tony and Tony's daughter Alexia are doing a great job running Cugini, the classic Sicilian restaurant in Simpson Bay. Not only do they have many of your favorites, they also have multiple seafood selections with frequent specials, plus hand tossed pizza and calzone. Last year, even though it wasn't on the menu, we ordered chicken parm calzone and loved it. You'll find several seafood items on the menu and most likely more among nightly specials. In season, this restaurant will be having entertainment as well.

---

## 14. Great News on Military Memberships

Military memberships -- available at an astoundingly low \$16.99/year for US active duty and vets (anyone with a DD214 or other proof of service) -- are now faster and easier to get than ever.

For more information or to sign up, go to our home page, [www.everythingSXM.com](http://www.everythingSXM.com) and click the page curl at the top right of the page. It will take you to our JMB Website Supporters sign-up page where there's a new item specifically on military memberships which will enable you to sign up there using PayPal. You can also sign up by phone or by check. All the particulars are there, including how to get us a copy of your DD 214 which we need for proof of service.

You can upgrade to a military membership or buy a new one both for the same price — one payment of \$67.96 which gives you four years of membership and immediate Platinum Status, which you will retain as long as your membership remains current — regardless of its expiration date. Platinum status memberships usually require that your membership not expire for 10 years..

If you're a current JMB member, you can go to the Membership Renewal Center on the secret website and upgrade to a Military Membership there.

We are grateful for your service to the US. JMB Communications, our parent company, is based in the Boston area and we wanted some tangible way to show that gratitude.

---

## 15. Holland House: Everything You Need in The Heart of Philipsburg

A number of people prefer to be in the heart of town, where they needn't rent a car and can use taxis if they want to go off site.

If that describes you, the Holland House hotel in downtown Philipsburg may be a perfect place for you to stay.

During a recent tour, we saw their beautiful selection of rooms, gorgeous Simpson Bay Beach steps away from the lobby, a convivial bar overlooking the palm tree fringed beach, and their outstanding, award-winning restaurant.

By all means, reserve a room facing Great Bay -- the view is outstanding, there is great serenity, and the rooms are plush and gorgeous.

In fact, we recently added another week to our Five Million Smiles vacation giveaway and that week is at Holland House hotel. It's a great place and we highly recommend it. There is limited parking available for guests with car rentals, but if you don't venture far from the hotel very often taxis are readily available.

More stories below.

---

**[Get SkyMed Now, Before You Need it.](#)  
Got Questions About  
SkyMed Emergency Medical Evacuation?**

Phone or Email Jeff: (508) 747-8281

[jeff@getskymed.com](mailto: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.

---

## 16. Lara Russo To Appear With Jeff on Island 92 Radio Monday Morning

On Monday morning, December 5, somewhere between 930 and 10 AM, when Jeff is usually on island 92 radio (91.9 FM or [www.island92.com](http://www.island92.com)), he will be joined by Lara Russo, who along with her chef/husband Ciro Russo own Spiga restaurant in Grand Case. They were also our first vacation winners and our first grand prize winners from St. Maarten in the giveaway we did early during 2016. We're sure Lara will talk about that and other things on Monday morning.

If you haven't yet tried Spiga, it is well worth the trip to Grand Case. See the article above about seafood for some comments about Spiga, which has also been featured as one of our Restaurants of the Week on the island.

Check out their extraordinary appetizers, too.

---

## 17. Ask To Sit in Jeff's Office at Mr. Busby's / Daniel's By The Sea

Several years ago, Jeff decided he needed an "office" in SXM — not for conducting business, of course, since he vacations in SXM -- but simply for relaxing and enjoying the view.

To do that, he picked a place at Mr. Busby's Beach Bar/Daniel's by the Sea and the restaurant decided to put a plaque on the wall to commemorate it.

When you visit the restaurant for lunch or dinner, definitely ask to be seated in Jeff's Office. You'll enjoy the view, too.

---

## 18. Great New Map of SXM Released by Rafal Kasprowski

The father-son team of Michal Kasprowski and Rafal Kasprowski has long been producing outstanding, highly detailed maps of most of the nations of the Caribbean including SXM.

We've long recommended these maps. The latest version of their SXM map is the best ever, now including hundreds of restaurants and hotels as well as hiking trails, biking routes, and diving sites. You cannot get a better map.

JMB Website Supporters are also entitled to a discount on maps by the Kasprowski's. See the secret site for details. Maps can be purchased on the island as well, but not at a discount; among others, Von Dorp in Simpson Bay sells them. For much more information, see [www.midok.com](http://www.midok.com).

*Bear in mind especially that these are slightly oversized maps on heavy stock. They're highly durable and very easy to read. You can also order flat versions in a tube that are suitable for wall hangings. On that basis, they make outstanding holiday gifts.*

---

## 19. Special Holiday Offers for JMB Members & **SXM Weekly News** Readers

Zhaveri Jewelers is kicking off the holiday gift giving season this year with special offers for both JMB Website Supporters members and readers of *SXM Weekly News*.

In the last couple of days (the cover date of this newsletter is Monday, December 5) we posted their offer on our Everything St. Maarten Facebook Site and we're also emailing a link to the offer directly to our JMB Website Supporters members. Readers of *SXM Weekly News* will find a link to the offer on the bottom of the homepage of [www.everythingsxm.com](http://www.everythingsxm.com) on Monday morning 12/5/16 -- it's well worth visiting. We urge you to download it for great jewelry bargains for both JMB members and *SXM Weekly News* readers.

More offers are coming.

---

## 20. A Look Back at "Old" SXM Restaurants: Story #2, Sam's Place

Over the years, St. Maarten/St. Martin has been home to many restaurants of varying descriptions. This series briefly describes a number of restaurants from both sides of the island that have passed into history but that have not left our memory.

If you'd like to participate in this series, please send an email to [Susan@JMBcommunications.com](mailto:Susan@JMBcommunications.com) with the subject "a look back" and give us the name and a description of the restaurant; we'll pick those not already on our list for future publication.

Sam's Place was on Front Street, Philipsburg, more than 30 years ago. Time makes the recollection of some restaurants hazy, but Sam's was a hole in the wall that served great breakfasts. We've searched for pictures of it but couldn't find any. When we find pictures of restaurants in this series, we plan to post them on our [Everything St. Maarten Facebook Site](#). All we remember is that we kept coming back to Sam's. Service and food were excellent.

Featured so far in this series:

- 1- West Indian Tavern
- 2- Sam's Place

---

## 21. 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 [www.getskymed.com](http://www.getskymed.com). It is the best medical evacuation membership product on the market. -- Jeff

---

## 22. Five Million Smiles Vacation Giveaway Now Includes 13 Vacations; Enter Here

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 one 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 [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*; new.)
- Eight days and seven nights at the beautiful [Villa Son Risa](#) 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 at [Holland House Beach Hotel](#), Philipsburg, on Great Bay Beach (new)
- 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 [Everything St. Maarten Facebook Site](#). More on Patty is [here](#). 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 [Temptation Restaurant](#);
- Dinner for two at the exquisite new [Mario Bistro](#) in Cupecoy;
- Dinner for two at [Spiga Restaurant in Grand Case](#);
- Dinner for two at [SkipJack's restaurant](#), Simpson Bay (limit, \$90; new)
- 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](#);
- Sunday Brunch for Two at [Oyster Bay Beach Resort](#)

- \$50 Gift Certificate for [Avantika Restaurant](#);
- Dinner for two at [Toppers Restaurant](#);
- 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://everythingxsm.com/sxm/getting\\_here/entry-form-for-our-seven-vacation-giveaway.shtml](http://everythingxsm.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 [www.everythingsxm.com](http://www.everythingsxm.com). Only direct subscribers are eligible to win -- and subscriptions are free.

---

## Traveling Anywhere?

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

---

### 23. Restaurant of the Week - Mr. Busby's Beach Bar / Daniel's By the Sea

Dinner by candlelight in softly padded chairs with the sound of the surf caressing your ears as gentle tradewinds keep things cool and comfortable. By night, Daniel's by the Sea, Italian fine dining in gazebos under a palm-tree-covered sky on Dawn Beach, serves up consistent excellence. Whether you choose their time-tested classic Italian recipes or "old country" slants on fresh Caribbean lobster or fresh fish and meats, you can't go wrong at Daniel's. Better leave room for dessert -- it's always magical here.

Daytimes, an entirely different restaurant emerges in the same place: Mr. Busby's Beach Bar. Here, you'll find great American breakfasts. Some of our favorites are their poached eggs, Egg BLT, pancakes, baguette French toast, and lots more. Lunch gives you a world of choices from sandwiches to a raft of salads, delicious burgers, Philly cheese steaks, and even authentic thin-crust pizza from their Island Pizza, next door. Full bar service, too. "Lulu" (who we call Wonder Woman) is in charge daytimes and she knows her stuff. Great service and outstanding Caribbean beach-bar food.

Both Busby's and Daniel's are winners of our Everything SXM Awards of Excellence, for good reason as you'll discover when you visit. During Thanksgiving, old friends who visit that week told us that Daniel's is always the site of their first and last dinners on the island, and breakfast is always at Busby's. "It's so consistent," one said. It's great food and you can count on it being consistently great every time you go. We love it." You will too...

Ask to dine in Jeff's Office (if it's available) -- you'll see the "Jeff's Office" sign on the wall.

Busby's and Daniel's give something special to all JMB Website Supporters members, too. For details, see the Discounts Master Index on the secret site at [www.everythingSXM.com](http://www.everythingSXM.com) — 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 [www.bigfishsxm.com/](http://www.bigfishsxm.com/) (featured 8/16)  
IZI Ristorante Italiano, [www.iziristoranteitaliano.com](http://www.iziristoranteitaliano.com) (featured 11/28/16)  
Busby's Chicken Rotisserie (featured 12/5/16)  
Canoa, [www.canoasxm.com](http://www.canoasxm.com) (featured 3/22/16)  
Mario Bistro 9/5/16  
SkipJack's SXM, <http://www.skipjacks-sxm.com/> (featured 3/7/16)  
Cugini <http://www.cuginitrattoria.com/> (11/16)  
Trattoria Pizza Pasta, Maho Plaza near Casino Royale (featured 9/12/16)  
Daniel's By The Sea, [www.dawnbeachsxm.com](http://www.dawnbeachsxm.com) (featured 12/5/16)  
Domino's Pizza <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Dominos-Pizza-St-Maarten/95635717338> (featured 9/16)  
Spiga, [www.spiga-sxm.com](http://www.spiga-sxm.com) (featured 11/21/16)  
The Boathouse, <https://www.facebook.com/CDayDay777> 10/3/16  
The Hideaway, <http://www.lavistaresort.com/restaurant.html> (featured 10/31/16)  
Stone Restaurant, [www.thestonerestaurant.com](http://www.thestonerestaurant.com) (featured 9/2/14)  
Le Pressoir, <http://www.lepressoir-sxm.com> (featured 7/6/15)  
Temptation, <http://www.temptation-sxm.com/> (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 <http://www.dawnbeachsxm.com> (featured 7/25/16)  
Island Pizza, <http://www.dawnbeachsxm.com> (featured 7/25/16)  
Pineapple Pete, [www.pineapplepete.com](http://www.pineapplepete.com) (featured 9/19/16)  
Papagayo, <http://www.cluborient.com/papagayo.php> (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](http://www.jimboscafe.com) (featured 4/13/15)  
Vesna Taverna, [www.vesnataverna.com](http://www.vesnataverna.com) (featured 4/25/16)  
Topper's / Topper's By The Sea <http://www.sxmtoppers.com/> (featured 6/6/16)  
Taloula Mango <http://www.taloulamango.com/> (featured 4/20/15)  
Bylbos, Simpson Bay  
Sushiitto Japanese Restaurant, Port de Plaisance <https://www.facebook.com/sushiitto.sxm> (featured 7/18/16)

---

## 24. New: Holiday Gift Memberships in JMB for Your Friends... (@ Holiday Sale Prices)

If you're one of the more than 28,000 people who enjoy JMB membership, spread the joy this holiday season by giving friends or relatives a Gift Membership in JMB Website Supporters. Just buy a new membership and give us a note with your purchase saying who it's for (name, address, email address, and phone of the recipient) and we'll make it happen. Buy the length of membership you like:

**--- 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](#)**

---

## 25. 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, [SkyMed is your free ticket home](#) 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. *Enroll today while it's fresh in your mind.*

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 [www.getskymed.com](http://www.getskymed.com) or phone Jeff any weekday at 508-747-8281 or email him at [jeff@getskymed.com](mailto:jeff@getskymed.com) (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 [here](#).

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 [Jeff@GetSkyMed.com](mailto:Jeff@GetSkyMed.com). He generally returns calls and messages within 24 hours. To see [online frequently asked questions, go here](#). You can also see his site at [www.GetSkyMed.com](http://www.GetSkyMed.com).

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://everythingxsm.com/sxm/about\\_sxm/paypal.shtml](http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml)

Renewal JMB memberships

[www.everythingsxm.com/secret](http://www.everythingsxm.com/secret) Go to the *Membership Renewal Center*

JMB Membership Reinstatements

<http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/reinstate/index.shtml>

More stories are below.

\*\*\*\*\*

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

[Click to access our recommended real estate agent, Arun Jagtiani, featured on HGTV.](#)

\*\*\*\*\*

---

## 26. 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?

---

## 27. 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](http://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 [SXM Weekly News PDF Archives](#) 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. **Multiyear memberships give you more benefits than annual memberships but cost less when paid at inception. 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 [jeff@getskymed.com](mailto:jeff@getskymed.com) 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 [skymed.com/jmbspecial](http://skymed.com/jmbspecial) (JMB members) or [www.getskymed.com](http://www.getskymed.com) (non-JMB members) or email Jeff directly at [jeff@getskymed.com](mailto:jeff@getskymed.com) 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.

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

Read it for yourself: it beats every would-be competitor hands-down. Look:

<http://www.everythingsxm.com/sxmweeklynews/SkyMedServices.pdf>

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: [download Adobe Acrobat Reader](#).

---

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

Look here for our PDF archives: [http://everythingxm.com/sxm/free\\_newsletters/sxmweeklynews.shtml](http://everythingxm.com/sxm/free_newsletters/sxmweeklynews.shtml). This is scheduled to complete an update shortly.

ADD EVENTS HERE =====

---

### 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://everythingxm.com/sxm/about\\_sxm/paypal.shtml](http://everythingxm.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 [http://everythingxm.com/sxm/timeshare\\_rent\\_sale/index.shtml](http://everythingxm.com/sxm/timeshare_rent_sale/index.shtml). 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](http://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 [www.everythingsxm.com](http://www.everythingsxm.com). To change your password, click that same link.

C. How To Submit Rental or Sale Ads or Update the Price in an Ad: See [www.everythingsxm.com/secret](http://www.everythingsxm.com/secret). Your username and password are required.

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

See [www.everythingsxm.com](http://www.everythingsxm.com).

---

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

To unsubscribe, click the Unsubscribe link here: <http://everythingxm.com/cgi-bin/dada/mail.cgi>. 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 <http://everythingxm.com/cgi-bin/dada/mail.cgi>, 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?>

LEGAL:

Entire contents copyright (c), JMB Communications, 2016. World rights reserved. Excerpting, quotation, and republication, in any form, print, electronic, or archival, is expressly prohibited without written advance permission. You can forward this newsletter in its entirety only to your friends. For reprint permission, email us. JMB vigorously defends its copyrights. \*Everything St. Maarten\*, \*Everything SXM\*, and \*Everything St. Martin\* are service marks of JMB Communications. \*JMB Communications\* is a trademark of JMB Communications, P. O. Box 1812, Plymouth,

Massachusetts 02362-1812 USA. Join our free St. Maarten / St. Martin newsletter mailing list at <http://www.everythingsxm.com> . You cannot join by emailing us.

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, <http://www.everythingsxm.com/secret> . If you're a JMB Website Supporters member and have a question not answered there, please contact us at **[support@jmbcommunications.com](mailto:support@jmbcommunications.com)**

NON-members who wish to contact us should write to **[jmbweb@jmbcommunications.com](mailto: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](http://www.everythingsxm.com) .

To see the JMB Communications Privacy Policy, visit [http://everythingxm.com/sxm/privacy\\_policy/index.shtml](http://everythingxm.com/sxm/privacy_policy/index.shtml)

12/5/16 #1075 12/2/16 PAS 10.2

\*Listed twice intentionally...

| [Terms of use](#) |

Copyright ©, JMB Communications, 2016. World rights reserved.

##