

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

#1079 --- Monday, 1/2/2017  
News From St. Maarten / St. Martin

Happy New Year!



[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:**

- **Final Week for Our Holiday Membership Sale**
- **Pictures of the New Dutch Side Mountain Chair Lift / Zipline (Under Construction)**
- **Caribbean Gems Opens New Store at Westin Resort, Dawn Beach**
- **Important: You Cannot Deal US 800 Numbers from SXM by Phone; Skype, Yes**
- **SXM's First Authentic Mexican Restaurant Opens at Simpson Bay Resort: La Patrona**
- **La Vie en Rose Restaurant Reopening in Marigot**
- **Sunrise, Sunset, St. Maarten Style**

- [January Entertainment Calendar Now Live](#)
- [The Lemondroppers are Coming](#)
- [Curious About Anything Re: SXM? Check Our Weekly News Archives](#)
- [SXM Helicopter Sightseeing Rides](#)
- [How to Adopt an Island Dog](#)
- [Take Advantage of Our Car Rentals Discounts for Members](#)
- [The St. Maarten Song \(Worth Hearing\)](#)
- [Enter Our Five Million Smiles 14-Vacation Giveaway](#)
- [Never Leave Home Without SkyMed Peace-of-Mind](#)

**30** 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:**

Not in PDF

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

Not in PDF

### **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 St. Maarten Timesharing Group

<https://www.facebook.com/StMaartenTimesharing/>

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. January Weather
2. "Today's SXM Weather" Now On Our Everything SXM Facebook Site
3. Where To Find Current SXM Weather Info (Four Key Sources)
4. 110% Guarantee Now On SkyMed Travel Club Hotel, Car Rental Rates

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

No Stories This Week

**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](#)

5. "Section Three" -- Member Discounts Benefits News & Updates
6. January Member Benefits Update: St. Maarten / St. Martin Activities

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

**[7. It All Ends Wednesday Jan. 4: Our Holiday Membership Sale: 260+ SXM Discounts on Restaurants, Car Rentals, Jewelry, & Much More at the Lowest Prices of the Year](#)**

8. New Year's Eve in SXM
8. SXM's First Truly Authentic Mexican Restaurant Opens at Simpson Bay Resort: La Patrona
10. Caribbean Gems Opens New Store at Westin Resort, Dawn Beach
11. Pictures of the New Dutch Side Mountain Chair Lift / Zipline (Under Construction)
12. Important: You Cannot Call US 800 Numbers from SXM by Phone; Skype, Yes
13. Sunrise, Sunset, St. Maarten Style
14. La Vie en Rose Restaurant Reopening in Marigot
15. The Lemondroppers are Coming
16. SXM Helicopter Sightseeing Rides
17. January Entertainment Calendar Live 1/1
18. Curious About Anything Re: SXM? Check Our Weekly News Archives
19. Take Advantage of Our Car Rentals Discounts for Members
20. How to Adopt an Island Dog
21. The St. Maarten Song (Worth Hearing)
22. Restaurant of the Week
23. A Look Back at "Old" SXM Restaurants: Story #6
24. Do Not Wait To Act...
25. Enter Our Five Million Smiles 14-Vacation Giveaway
26. SkyMed On Sale
27. No Age Limit to Join or Renew SkyMed
28. Q & A about SkyMed Medical Evacuation
29. Download The Complete List of All SkyMed Features & Benefits
30. 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://everythingxm.com/sxm/about\\_sxm/paypal.shtml](http://everythingxm.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. January Weather

In January, SXM weather gradually shifts from hot with intermittent showers which is typical in the fall to dryer, less hot winter weather — perfect for North Americans who need a warm getaway. If you haven't made plans — now is the time. And don't forget [www.GetSkyMed.com](http://www.GetSkyMed.com).

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

We post current SXM/St. Maarten/St. Martin weather every morning on our [Everything St. Maarten Facebook Site](#).

#### 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](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.

#### 4. 110% Guarantee Now On SkyMed Travel Club Hotel, Car Rental Rates

SkyMed is now introducing a 110% Lowest Rate Guarantee for both hotel and car rental reservations. You can't lose with that kind of guarantee, so read this article, sign up, and make all your travel reservations directly through SkyMed Travel!

Here's what it is and how to join:

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 travel reservations and 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 across the board and their new 110% low rate guarantee on hotels and car rentals is a big deal.

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. 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. Complete the first sign up item (SkyMed Membership Number or Representative ID) by entering the code 391330 — doing that ensures that you pay nothing for your SkyMed Travel Club membership. No code, no free entry to the club's phenomenal pricing.

You will not be disappointed.

---

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

No Stories This Week

---

### **SECTION 3: Member**

#### 5. "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.

## 6. January Member Benefits Update: SXM Activities

Here are our SXM Activities Discounts, in alphabetical order. Remember also that we give discounts on all activities from AquaMania — which adds hundreds more discounts exclusively for our members. All discounts require your current, valid JMB Website Supporters Membership Card, a photo ID, and any voucher noted on the Secret Site.

Aqua Mania at the Simpson Bay Resort (formerly Pelican) Marina, booking agent for Tango, Lambada, The Edge, and more, offers JMB Website Supporters members 10% off all regularly scheduled trips.

Butterfly Farm is a unique adventure for everyone in your family -- weekend photographers love it as much as kids. JMB members get a significant discount.

Celine Too Motor Yacht / Catamaran (Capt. Neil Roebert) Members-only Discount for Tintamarre Day Sails and Lagoon Pub Crawls Aboard the Celine Too-- A discount is offered off all of Celine Too's trips; for the sunset lagoon cruise, the discount is a full 50%. Yacht charters are also available and they get a percentage discount as well.

Charter Yachting Discounts - Caicos Sailing: "Caicos Sailing Charter Yachting," based in Tortola, offers either 10% off all cruises/charters or 8 days for the price of 7.

Charter Yachting - Select Yacht Charters, a provider of luxury yacht charters in SXM and around the world, offers JMB Website Supporters members a free bottle of Dom Perignon champagne for all bookings of one week or more.

Charters - Seaside Charters offers boat charters to SXM beaches and neighboring islands. You can see all their charters at [www.everythingsxm.com/secret/discounts/seasidecharterdescription.pdf](http://www.everythingsxm.com/secret/discounts/seasidecharterdescription.pdf).

Classic Schooner Passaat offers JMB members discounts on its cruises: Sunset, \$30 p.p. (usually USD\$35); Dinner cruise, \$71 p.p. (usually USD \$79); and Day sails, \$80 p.p. (usually USD\$89).

Clothing-Optional Boat Charters - Captain Alan -- with five boats, five captains, and many excursions -- some clothing optional -- Capt. Alan offers \$ off off all trips to JMB Website Supporters members.

Deep See Fishing, Rudy's Deep Sea Fishing Discounts Rudy Sierens, of Rudy's Deep Sea Fishing, Dutch Side, is one of the most experienced captains working from SXM. You can see his website [here](#). Forget the rates listed on his site: yours are significantly lower.

Diving - Octopus Diving in Grand Case does much more than diving; see their website, [www.octopusdiving.com](http://www.octopusdiving.com) . Octopus offers JMB members a discount off all activities.

Garfield Fun Charters \$5 Per Family Member Discount: Garfield Fun Charters offers a number of enjoyable SXM sailing adventures; see [www.garfieldfuncharters.com](http://www.garfieldfuncharters.com) for details.

Go-Karting Coconut Trees, on the road between Marigot and Grand Case, offers all JMB Website Supporters members a 20% discount off all Go-Karting.

Jet-Ski -- Happy Hour Charters offers JMB Website Supporters members a percentage off JetSki rentals and many, many other tours.

Party Bus - "Da Party Bus" - The St. Maarten Party Bus is a somewhat wacky but deliriously fun adventure from the Baker family, owners of Baker's Suites Boutique Hotel, Simpson Bay, and Tropicana Car Rental, Simpson bay. See their website for all that [Da Party Bus](#) has to offer. Our members get a significant discount off regular rates.

Power Boat - Sea Angels is a charter business using a very fast 36-foot power boat able to travel to all local islands in comfort and speed. Day charter rates start from €800 for the day. Significant discount for JMB members.

Random Wind 54-foot traditional sailboat offers JMB Website Supporters members \$ off the Paradise Day Sail *per person* when you book directly.

Yacht Excursions - Turtle Tours Yacht Excursion Discounts: Plying the turquoise waters of the lagoon, sailing around the island, or going to close-by islands with Turtle Tours is a pleasure. Join one of their packaged excursions, or create your own. Your JMB Website Supporters membership entitles you to 15% off any Turtle Tours excursion on any full day rental/outing that comes to Turtle Tours directly, meaning not through an activities desk etc.

Zoo - St. Maarten Park / Zoo 25% discount on admission for up to two people.

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). To use these discounts your current, valid JMB Membership Card is required. Again, see all the details on the members-only Secret Site.

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

---

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

Z.

## ***Holiday Membership Sale***

### ***Final Few Days!***

***\*\*\*\*\*Ends Wednesday January 4\*\*\*\*\****

***260+ SXM Discounts, \$99/five years \$33/one year***

***Lowest Prices of 2016 or 2017 on***

***Discounts for Everything You Buy in SXM --***

***Rock-Bottom Membership Prices That Won't Be Back!***

***Click these Links:***

***--- New Memberships: Five Years Just \$99; One Year \$33 (reg. \$59);***

***--- Renewal / Reinstatement Memberships: Five Years \$89; One Year \$25***

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/reinststate/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***

***(On Wednesday this week because of the Monday holiday.)***



---

## 8. New Year's Eve on SXM

Several thousand of you will receive this *Weekly News* before New Year's Eve, so this is for you...

Many restaurants offer special New Year's Eve menus and celebrations though by now many are sold out. For information on where to go and what to do on New Year's Eve in St. Maarten, check both newspapers on Friday and Saturday and watch for restaurant posts on our [Everything St. Maarten Facebook Site](#).

Fireworks will be set off at three Dutch side locations — Great Bay beach, Maho beach, and Simpson Bay lagoon near the Causeway. Some of the best views will be from restaurants that border the lagoon — one of which is [Lal's Curry in a Hurry](#) operated by Lal Baharani who is the key architect of the lagoon fireworks celebration. At this point you may have to make several calls to find a place with any availability. Places w/o special New Year's celebrations should be available, but tight.

---

## 9. SXM's First Authentic Mexican Restaurant Opens at Simpson Bay Resort: La Patrona

St. Maarten's first truly authentic Mexican restaurant has now opened at Simpson Bay Resort: La Patrona.

As most readers know, Royal Resorts parent company is based in Cancun, Mexico. So Royal Resorts Caribbean, Simpson Bay Resort owner, went to Mexico for real culinary expertise in setting up this restaurant. And Julieta Sanchez is in charge — she knows what real Mexican food is all about.

Right now it's in its soft opening. If you're coming this winter look forward to a great authentic Mexican experience in SXM for the first time.

---

## 10. Caribbean Gems Opens New Store at Westin Resort, Dawn Beach

If you're no longer enthralled by the prospect of going into downtown Philipsburg to buy jewelry, take heart: SXM's number one jewelry store, as voted by consumers, has now opened its new store in the Westin resort and casino at the southern end of Dawn beach.

Caribbean Gems owner Manu Budhrani says the two current stores on front Street in Philipsburg will remain open as always.

The new store is large and bright, with a great selection and equally great prices. It's located in the Westin lobby and can be seen as you enter the hotel.

Just go....

---

## 11. Pictures of the New Dutch Side Mountain Chair Lift / Zipline (Under Construction)

We shot pictures last week of the new chair lift that goes up the side of Sentry Hill just north of Le Grand Marche supermarket in Philipsburg. We're posting those pictures today (Monday 1/2) on our [Everything St. Maarten Facebook Site](#). We're also posting pictures of the steep new zipline it's going up in the same area. See our [Everything St. Maarten Facebook Site](#) for more.

---

## 12. Important: You Cannot Call US 800 Numbers from SXM by Phone; Skype, Yes

Toll-free 800 numbers that you customarily use from the US to reach businesses there don't work from regular phones in SXM — not from cell phones and not from hotel/timeshare phones.

However, they do work from Skype, where they will cost you nothing if you have to contact a bank or some other institution. Skype will let you do it. Skype is available for laptops and for smart phones and it's a very good investment (a very small investment) before you ever travel outside the US.

---

## 13. Sunrise, Sunset, St. Maarten Style

When you come to St. Maarten this winter, there's a very special place where you can have a delicious full American breakfast; a great beach bar lunch; juicy and luscious rotisserie chicken; authentic thin crust pizza with a dizzying array of toppings; plus dinner in gazebos under palm trees on the beach where you're caressed by tradewinds while enjoying classic Italian fine dining. By the way, you can also spend the day on beautiful Dawn beach, with constant waves, great snorkeling, warm water, and abundant sunshine.

That's the offer from [Mr. Busby's Beach Bar](#), [Daniel's by the Sea](#), [Island Pizza](#), and [Busby's Rotisserie Chicken](#) — beach fun and luscious all day dining in this outstanding group of extremely popular restaurants.

By the way, when you come, ask to dine in Jeff's office — it has the best view in the place. All of these businesses offer discounts to JMB Website Supporters members and have for years; see the members-only Secret Site for details. If you're not yet a member, see the beginning of this section and join today: sale ends this Wednesday January 4.

---

## 14. La Vie en Rose Restaurant Reopening in Marigot

La Vie en Rose, the landmark Marigot waterfront restaurant that has been popular among diners for decades, is now reopening. We'll be posting much more about La Vie en Rose in the coming weeks — watch for it.

---

## 15. The Lemondroppers are Coming

The infamous Lemondroppers, a few thousand sun worshipers from the cold North, begin to descend on SXM and Cupecoy beach late this coming week. Known for being outgoing and friendly, this group welcomes new people and every afternoon will have lemondrops for refreshment. (Bring some Absolut Citron if you'd like to pitch in.)

If you're interested in clothing optional beach relaxation, this is the place to do it -- or try it for the first time. They're very easygoing and welcoming. Dany and John are nearby to rent chairs, mix drinks, and supply delicious Lolo food at exceptionally good prices. You can park free next to Ocean Club or pay a small fee to park right next to the beach.

We've enjoyed Lemondropper celebrations for 20+ years — come and see what it's all about.

---

## 16. SXM Helicopter Sightseeing Rides

If you've been on the northern or Eastern side of the island over the last few weeks, you probably noticed a red helicopter buzzing by overhead. It's from Corail helicopters at Grand Case airport which is either transporting people

quickly to neighboring islands or providing helicopter tours of St. Martin. One of those helicopter tours is a grand prize in our upcoming vacation giveaway.

For much more, look here: <https://www.facebook.com/corailhelicosxm/>

Corail helicopters also provides discounts to our JMB Website Supporters members. See the secret site for details; the listing will be revised this coming week.

---

## 17. January Entertainment Calendar Live 1/1

To download the free PDF, go to [www.everythingSXM.com](http://www.everythingSXM.com) and click [Entertainment Calendar](#) in the vertical navigation bar; it's near the bottom. We update this monthly for your convenience.

---

## 18. Curious About Anything Re: SXM? Check Our **Weekly News** Archives

A couple of years ago, we upgraded our *SXM Weekly News* archives using downloadable PDFs for every issue. You can search the page topically to find stories of particular interest.

You'll find the archives here: [http://everythingSXM.com/sxm/free\\_newsletters/sxmweeklynews.shtml](http://everythingSXM.com/sxm/free_newsletters/sxmweeklynews.shtml)

Archives will be updated through last week effective 1/2/17.

---

## 19. Take Advantage of Our Car Rental Discounts for Members

JMB Website Supporters members get significant car rental discounts from top car rental companies on the island. To obtain your discount, login to the members-only secret website and click car rentals in the discounts master index. That will bring you instantly to our listing of all of our discount providers. They include Leisure Car Rental; Tropicana Car Rental; Rodael Car Rental; Dollar/Thrifty Car Rental; and very shortly, Next Level Car Rental.

These are among our most heavily used benefits. Here they are, in no special order:

a) [Tropical-Tropicana](#) 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 for larger parties and events. To see the discounts they offer, check the Discounts Master Index in our JMB Website Supporters members only secret website. Your username and password are required.

b) [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.

c) [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 see the discount they offer, which is substantial, please check the Discounts Master Index in our JMB Website Supporters members only secret website.

d) [Thrifty Car Rental](#), located on Airport Road, is the largest car rental business on the island with a fleet 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.

e) Next Level Car Rental is coming very soon.

Use the above hyperlinks to get to these partner websites. However, you will only find specifics of the discounts on our members-only JMB Website Supporters secret website. If you're still not a member, *pay less* on your next vacation; [here's more information](#) on membership.

## 20. How to Adopt an Island Dog

Although the dog situation on the island is much better than it once was, nonetheless there is still too many dogs on SXM — and you can help by adopting one.

Here are two people to contact:

Team Goldendog: [jeffrey@teamgoldendog.org](mailto:jeffrey@teamgoldendog.org) or Team Goldendog on Facebook

I Love My Island Dog Association: [ursula@ilovemylislanddog.org](mailto:ursula@ilovemylislanddog.org) or I Love My Island Dog on Facebook

---

## 21. The St. Maarten Song (Worth Hearing)

We're usually glued to Island92 radio, our partner, at 91.9fm. But at noon we veer off to 95.9 for a few minutes just to hear "The St. Maarten / St. Martin Song." Though it's not a whole-island National Anthem, it could be. It's beautifully done. The young lady featured on the recording performed it a few years ago at SXM Airport when the Brown Pelican statues were unveiled at the Airport Roundabout. She has an amazing voice, as do the others you'll hear. Do listen.

---

## 22. Restaurant of the Week:

This feature returns next week.

The article we published a few weeks ago about SXM's top Seafood Restaurants is now on its own page on our website — see a complete list of [top seafood restaurants here](#). It includes many other fine restaurants in what we've called The Culinary Village at Dawn Beach -- lots of great stuff here including also Daniel's by the Sea, Mr. Busby's Beach Bar, Island Pizza, delicious Rotisserie Chicken, Big Fish, and Canoa.

**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 12/26/16)  
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 12/19/16)  
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 <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)

---

## 23. A Look Back at "Old" SXM Restaurants: Story #6

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 have not left our memory.

Laguna: It was elegant family dining at its best. Not formal, not informal, just perfectly suited to relaxed fine dining from people who knew exactly what they were doing. Two gentlemen devoted to perfection serving simple dishes prepared using traditional recipes with unflinching consistency. Franco and Gianni may have retired but the memories in thousands of people's hearts are as fresh as ever. See the photo slide show here:

<http://www.best-stmartin.com/detail.asp?storeID=3503&catID=6&typID=110>

Check next week for another article about a former SXM restaurant.

Featured so far in this series:

1- West Indian Tavern

2- Sam's Place

3- Turtle Pier

4- Scavenger's

5- Surf Club South

6- Laguna

Next week: Le Perroquet

---

**[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.

---

## 24. Do **Not** Wait To Act....

I've had three phone calls in recent months from people -- SXM tourists like you -- who needed help in a hurry which was impossible to get. One called days after a stroke (it wasn't his first); another suffered a heart attack a few days before calling from the Rocky Mountain west; and the third called right after a totally unexpected cancer diagnosis.

If you're healthy now, that's good -- but tomorrow is another day. All three people were hoping to return to SXM after treatment but they wanted SkyMed medical evacuation membership protection just in case. *In all three cases the sudden, recent change in their health made it impossible for them to be approved at that time, though they could reapply a year later.* SkyMed always asks "Any hospitalizations in the last six months?"

Do NOT take chances by waiting. GET SKYMED BEFORE YOU NEED IT ...so you'll have it when you DO need it. See [www.getskymed.com](http://www.getskymed.com). *In our opinion, it's the best medical evacuation membership*

product on the market. --Jeff

SkyMed is on sale -- see story #21.

---

## 25. Enter Our Five Million Smiles Vacation Giveaway; Now Includes 14 Vacations

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 names of both of them are below. *All vacations are subject to availability, seasonal limitations, and island taxes / fees at the discretion of the resort owners.* Here are all our prizes:

- Eight days and seven nights at [Belle Vue](#), an incredible villa overlooking Orient Bay on the French Side that will accommodate up to eight people (bring your family / best friends -- or not). We're grateful to the owner and to [REvacations.com](#) (and SXM's top real estate agent Arun Jagtiani) for supplying this incredible vacation. See story #10.
- 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. See story #10.
- Eight days and seven nights in the [Guest House at Colony Manor Goldendaze](#), brand new, on quiet Simpson Bay Beach.
- 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 (new)
- 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)

There are also many prizes including:

- A Helicopter ride for the grand prize winner (from Corail Helicopters, Grand Case Airport)
- Jewelry prizes:
  - Caribbean Gems (to come)
  - [Oro Diamante](#) Two \$100 Gift Cards good toward any purchase, one for each Grand Prize Winner
  - Little Europe Jewelers (to come)
- From Tijon Parfumerie in Grand Case, a bottle of Ti Amour, their new gold perfume collection with 23K gold inside, which normally sells for 129 € per bottle.
- 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)
- A painting by renowned SXM artist Patty Meotti which has been posted in our [Everything St. Maarten Facebook Site](#). More on Patty is [here](#).
- A \$100 Gift Card good toward any purchase at Le Grand Marche
- A \$50 Gift Card for Aaron Meit's / No Rest Agencies' Julio's Smoke & Booze, a leading wholesaler of snacks and island souvenirs located in the Dutch Side Industrial Park, Simpson Bay
- We'll detail these and more new prizes soon.

Many dinners for two are also offered for the Grand Prize winners, including this again 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 [Big Fish Restaurant](#), Oyster Pond

- Dinner for two at [SkipJack's restaurant](#), Simpson Bay (limit, \$90)
- 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](#)
- Breakfast Buffet Any Day for two at [Toppers Restaurant](#) in Simpson Bay
- \$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 [Vesna Taverna](#) in Simpson Bay
- 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".**

---

## 26. SkyMed Is On Sale

Updated 12/26/16

What SkyMed Does: SkyMed *Takes You Home*® to doctors and hospitals you know and trust when you become critically ill or injured while traveling. *SkyMed is your free ticket home* aboard an ICU-equivalent emergency medical evacuation jet with an ICU-certified medical attendant on board to help make sure everything goes as it should.

How SkyMed Works: Like clockwork, you're taken from the hospital by ambulance to a waiting aircraft 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 for SkyMed services, ever.

*Anything can happen — but you can 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 an emergency 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.

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 an annual or multiyear SkyMed membership by phone and at the same time you can set up a JMB Website Supporters membership (required to get the biggest multiyear SKYMED discounts).

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.

## Types of SkyMed Memberships:

First, short term memberships are for brief trips in North America, the Caribbean, the Bahamas, Bermuda, and Mexico -- over 30 countries total. Short-term memberships are very inexpensive, about \$9 per day per person, maximum of about \$15 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 well be impossible (see story 19). 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 just when you may need it most.

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 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 you won't visit anyway. (Ask before going anywhere dangerous/unusual.) 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 / St. Martin or elsewhere outside your country for six months or more per year, you can still get SKYMED protection in the form of an **ex-pat** membership. Email us (see next paragraph) and we can tell you how it works and answer your questions.

In addition to everything else, Jeff Berger has been a SkyMed rep for over 15 years. He'll be happy to answer questions; phone him weekdays 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 SkyMed 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, see below,

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.](#)



---

## 27. 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?

---

## 28. O and A About SkyMed Medical Evacuation (Updated / Condensed 12/26/16)

Here are constantly updated questions and answers about SkyMed. *It's a life-saving service 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 special about SkyMed? Aren't these programs all the same?**

A. Virtually all "competitive" 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 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 on time 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 evac-related services, all of which are important. See our downloadable SkyMed Benefits PDF on our [SXM Weekly News PDF Archives](#) page.

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

A. That depends on several factors. For her / his own safety, the patient must be medically stable and ready to fly. Even though emergency medical evacuations are usually aboard ICU-equivalent medevac jets, the patient's stable health during the trip is of paramount importance. 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 -- but despite that, 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, *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.* 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 pay your renewal fees on time. 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 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. *The 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. (Important: 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. You can also get a short-term membership for immediate travel and separately apply for an annual or longer-term membership to take effect after the short-term plan ends: that way you cover any pre-existing conditions in your short-term membership.

**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. In some cases, based on your application, SkyMed may request a medical statement from your doctor about certain conditions.

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

A. There isn't any. Apply away.

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

A. Yes, at about \$9/day per person or maximum \$15/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 (you 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. And they protect you against spikes in oil prices.**

**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 about \$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 are or how sick you become. 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 here, 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.

---

## 29. 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](#).

---

## 30. 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). The page has just been completely updated -- all issues for the past few years are now online.

## 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://everythingsexm.com/sxm/about\\_sxm/paypal.shtml](http://everythingsexm.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://everythingsexm.com/sxm/timeshare\\_rent\\_sale/index.shtml](http://everythingsexm.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.everythingsexm.com/secret](http://www.everythingsexm.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.everythingsexm.com](http://www.everythingsexm.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.everythingsexm.com/secret](http://www.everythingsexm.com/secret) .Your username and password are required.

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

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

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

To unsubscribe, click the Unsubscribe link here: <http://everythingsexm.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://everythingsexm.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.everythingsexm.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.everythingsexm.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.everythingsexm.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.everythingsexm.com](http://www.everythingsexm.com) .

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

1/2/17 #1079 12/31/16 300A AST 9.5

\*Listed twice intentionally...

| [Terms of use](#) |

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

###