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#1104 --- Wednesday, 7/5/2017
News From St. Maarten / St. Martin



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St. Maarten & St. Martin "SXM" Weekly News

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

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

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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 & St. Martin / SXM Weekly News**, published every Monday (Tuesdays during most holiday weeks). **You are receiving St. Maarten & 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. Now read by nearly 300,000 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

On that page, the link beginning with the highest number is the most recent edition.

Get Your Own Free Weekly Copy of SXM Weekly News:

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

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

TOP STORIES IN THIS ISSUE

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

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24 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 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 for info. Membership now delivers a growing list of about 300 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 8/5/2017 8/12/2017 week 31 Simpson Bay Resort & Marina Deluxe penthouse suite on top floor of Marina building (corner unit). Completely remodeled in 2016 with all new furniture and appliances. Two bedrooms and two baths and two murphy beds. Large private balcony with hot tub. Private entrance and reserved parking spot. Fantastic sunsets and views of marina and Simpson bay \$1,200 Tim 352-513-4120 tbrink007@yahoo.com

SXM Timeshare Sale of The Week:

SALE 2/10/2018 3/2/2018 Weeks 6,7,and 8 Simpson Bay resort and Marina 1 bedroom,water view,2nd floor croton building/ Studio, 2nd floor,waterview Beaumontia building/ Flamboyant building 1 bedroom,first floor week 6 \$5,000/week7 \$2,500/week/week8 \$9,000 Larry 562-598-5444 CaptLarryV@aol.com

Non-St. Maarten Timeshare Rentals:

See them all at 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:

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

Get a growing group of about 300 SXM-focused island discounts and other SXM-related benefits through JMB Website Supporters membership:

http://www.everythingsxm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml

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

- A. Where to Get Member Info: www.everythingsxm.com/secret
- B. Password Recovery Info: Your username is the email address you have registered with JMB Website supporters. If you forget your password, click "forgot password" in the orange login box near the masthead at 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://everythingxsm.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: Flights, Airlines, Airports, Cruises, & Weather

1. SXM Looking Warily Toward Possible Developing Storm "Don"

At this writing on Wednesday morning, it still appears more likely than not that Tropical Storm "Don" may form today (Wednesday) or tomorrow, well East-Southeast of SXM. It is expected to move slowly West to West-Northwestward - that latter direction now appears more likely and if it holds, the storm would miss SXM to the North.

The could affect SXM perhaps later this weekend, if at all. With its exact path and strength still far from certain, the extent of possible effects on SXM is not yet predictable.

We urge all readers and JMB members who are in SXM to listen to Island 92 radio (91.9 FM) which pays very close attention to any watches, warnings, or other admonitions that may be coming from the local meteorological office.

Even if the storm moves to the North of SXM, it could still bring peripheral effects to the island. It is being watched carefully.

If you are not on SXM, our [Everything St. Maarten Facebook Site \(ESXM\)](#) will post outlooks, advisories, watches, and warnings that apply to St. Maarten as well as to coastal areas where many of our nearly 300,000 readers live.

As always, we'll continue to keep you posted here in *SXM Weekly News* as hurricane season unfolds.

2. Feds May De-Fund Hurricane Intensity Forecast Improvements

During the last several years, National Hurricane Center forecasters have markedly improved the accuracy of their hurricane *tracking* forecasts.

The NHC has recently been working on improving its forecasts of the *intensity* of storms as well. Accomplishing all this is dependant on the NHC's ability to gather more detailed storm info more often so it can crunch the numbers with maximum accuracy.

Now, the U. S. Federal government appears poised to cut funding for this program, which will hamper the NHC's ability to tell the public how strong a storm will be when it hits anywhere in the US.

Here's [the full story](#).

3. How Fast is Global Entry Renewal? N. B.: There's a Wrinkle

The good news: Global Entry membership renewals are generally taking only a few weeks. The bad news: applying

for renewal does not mean there's 100% certainty you'll get it.

Homeland Security / U. S. Customs & Border Patrol examines all renewal applications. Some may contain information which authorities think should send you back into the regular security queue for a full look-over. Not likely, but it's not impossible, either.

Advice: begin the process early. The fact that the process appears to be fast now does not mean that it will always be fast everywhere. And when the form asks where you've been, tell them, remembering that Sint Maarten is part of The Netherlands and St. Martin is part of France....

4. "Today's SXM Weather" & Four Sources of Current SXM Weather Info

Check our [Everything St. Maarten Facebook Site](#) each day for daily weather updates. You'll find detailed observations and forecasts by visiting our main SXM website, www.everythingsxm.com, and clicking either of the weather observations at the top of the page.

The four sources of current weather info, beyond the two above, are:

- 1) [Crown Weather Services](#) whose very inexpensive subscription service is, we feel, the best in the business.
- 2) Our "Weather" page at www.everythingsxm.com -- it has current satellite images and radar loops.
- 3) Our [Everything St. Maarten Facebook Site](#), which publishes the latest advisories, watches, and warnings when SXM is threatened by any storms.
- 4) On or off the island, listen to Island 92 -- 91.9FM or see 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. Lowest Rates for Hotel Rooms & Car Rentals Worldwide -- **Guaranteed**

[SkyMed Travel offers you a 110% Lowest Rate Guarantee for both hotel and car rental reservations.](#) You can't lose with this, so read this article, sign up free and make your travel reservations directly through [SkyMed Travel](#).

What it Is - How to Join (free for Our Readers & JMB Members):

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 110% low rate guarantee on hotels and car rentals is real news.

Normally, SkyMed Travel charges \$99 to join plus \$99 annual renewals. But for our JMB Website Supporters members and now for **Weekly News** readers, the cost to join is zero as will be the cost for renewals. Join the Club by going to <https://www.skymedtravel.com/register>, sign up, 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. **If you are a SkyMed Member, however, enter your SkyMed Membership Number here to get the absolute greatest possible discounts.**

You won't be disappointed.

Changing Your Email Address?

Now You Can Unsubscribe Your Old Email and Sign Up Your New One for your SXM Weekly News *subscription* Quickly and Easily at our Site: www.sxmweeklynews.com

SECTION 2: Accommodations: Hotels, Resorts, Timeshares, Villas Etc.

6. Go To Simpson Bay Resort's Owner Orientations

Simpson Bay timeshare owners should sit in on the Monday orientations there. Not only is the pastry delicious, but a surprise mystery guest will be there (in person or by video) and you might want to hear what he has to say and take a free brochure with you.

Also see Story # 23....

7. Order Extra Vacation Days Easily On Our Site

In addition to offering timeshare weeks for sale and for rent, the Timeshare page of our EverythingSXM.com website offers direct links to sources of additional days for timeshare renters.

In an increasing number of cases, people wish to fly midweek — or, in fact, any day but Saturday or Sunday, when the airport can be a bit hectic. Before buying fares for midweek travel — which are almost always lower in cost than weekend travel — timeshare owners may also need to obtain a few days at other resorts.

On our Timeshare page on everythingsexm.com, we now have links to rentals at Simpson Bay Resort, which offers a number of beautiful, newly renovated units through much of the year in convenient Simpson Bay. For those who prefer a smaller property, we also provide easy links to Baker's Suites in Simpson Bay which also just finished renovations.

Simpson Bay Resort has restaurants on site and beaches on the property, while Baker's Suites has many restaurants nearby and is within walking distance of attractive beaches.

SECTION 3: JMB Member Discounts & Benefits

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

This 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.

We now offer about 300 discounts (including those now being rolled out). We think you'll find many surprises here that will be of great interest and value. Please see this section next week when we formally debut several entirely new discounts and benefits.

For more info on what you get with your JMB membership, click the links in the next article. Our Summer Sale is starting; see below for info.

SECTION 4: Island News, Info, & Features

Summer JMB SXM Discount Program Sale Begins:

About 300 SXM discounts & benefits. Learn more by clicking the links below.

New JMB memberships: Three years, \$89; Five years, \$109 Sale Prices Other durations available.
http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml

Renewal JMB memberships: Five years, \$109. Other durations available.
www.everythingsxm.com/secret Go to the *Membership Renewal Center*

JMB Membership Reinstatements: Five years, \$109. Other durations available.
<http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/reinststate/index.shtml>

9. Starting Today, SXM Weekly News Is Changing...

You'll notice several things this week:

- The first in a series of new mastheads, reflecting some of the most breathtaking things you see on SXM
- Each newsletter section has been renamed to include all the types of news it covers. You'll find the new names both in the Table of Contents and atop each newsletter section.
- All news is in the first several stories in each section, getting the priority it deserves. Island features follow, then regular stories like "Restaurant of the Week." Features will appear as space allows; we hope to have two in most issues. This change should enable you to find stories you seek faster and more easily in every *SXM Weekly News* issue.
- Sponsor stories, delivering information of value to all readers, will usually be limited to two per issue. As you may know, SkyMed is our chief sponsor. SkyMed members "get home free" when they become critically ill or injured when traveling. The story about SkyMed shows you why what they do is so very important.
- After 40 years of spending time on SXM, we know a ton of useful stuff about the island -- way more than we can put here or on our site, everythingxsm.com. So we developed our [Everything St. Maarten Facebook Site](#) which enables you to ask questions in real time, get or give answers, post pictures, and much more. Even if you have never been interested in Facebook, this site will make it highly worthwhile.
- Your JMB Website Supporters membership makes this newsletter possible. If you're not already a member, please join today. See what you get by clicking below:

New JMB memberships: Three years, \$89; Five years, \$109 Sale Prices Other durations available.
http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml

Renewal JMB memberships: Five years, \$109. Other durations available.
www.everythingsxm.com/secret Go to the *Membership Renewal Center*

JMB Membership Reinstatements: Five years, \$109. Other durations available.
<http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/reinststate/index.shtml>

Hear Jeff Live On Island 92 Radio (91.9 FM or
www.island92.com)

Now Every Monday
Between 9:45 and 10:00 a.m. Island Time;
(same as EDT)

10. Latest: Pearl of China May Locate on Cupecoy Beach

The latest we're hearing about the 776-room "Pearl of China" monolithic apartment / hotel complex is this:

- a) It's too high to fit on the northern end of Bel Air Beach, its originally announced building site. To get around that, some government officials said it should go on Mullet Bay Beach.
- b) Mullet Bay Beach Resort was destroyed in September 1995 by Hurricane Luis. Lawsuits followed, and now -- 22 years later -- all that's there is a slippery road and a golf course with unrealized potential. Some politicians have said maybe Pearl of China can go to Mullet Bay Beach. We think that's about as likely as a blizzard in SXM, mainly because of legal entanglements. Plus, the site should house a high-end resort -- and "Pearl" is no such thing.
- c) Now we're told Pearl of China may be talking to Sudi Ozkan, the Turkish billionaire who owns Princess Port de Plaisance and all the undeveloped land at Cupecoy Beach between Ocean Club and Shore Pointe condos. We'd imagine Sudi would be delighted to sell his land -- which provides the only public access to traditionally clothing-optional (and incredibly gorgeous) Cupecoy Beach -- to the Chinese if they are willing to pay his asking price, which we've heard is in the millions. Unfortunately, this project would likely doom easy public and tourist beach access to Cupecoy. Worse, it might well doom the beach itself. Such heavy construction above those old sandstone cliffs could wreck the cliffs themselves. On both sides of SXM, public access to all beaches is supposed to be guaranteed. We've campaigned against Pearl of China before since it has next to no relationship with tourism and would clog infrastructure. The best solution is for the project to disappear.

We have not yet been able to confirm the Cupecoy story with Mr. Ozkan, to whom we've sent several questions.

SXM Weekly News
Depends on
JMB Memberships
To keep on publishing ...

Help us continue to bring you
all the SXM news of interest to Tourists.

Please join JMB today:

New JMB memberships: Three years, \$89; Five years, \$109 Sale Prices Other durations available
http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml

Renewal JMB memberships: Five years, \$109. Other durations available.
www.everythingsxm.com/secret Go to the *Membership Renewal Center*

JMB Membership Reinstatements: Five years, \$109. Other durations available.
<http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/reinstate/index.shtml>

11. Chinese Investors Want to Build a "Free" Tunnel

Chinese investors say they want to build a traffic-improving tunnel in SXM for free, in return for "concessions," whatever that means. Here's [the story](#).

We have heard of so many quality problems with things built (or food processed) in China that we wouldn't trust them to build a safe tunnel. The Dutch Side government's initial reaction seemed to be euphoria, based on press reports. It should have been "we'll look at it" publicly -- and distrust privately.

Another big question: why are the Chinese offering / doing this at all?

"Something for nothing" usually isn't.

12. Questions About Rainforest Adventures Chairlifts Answered

We asked the Rainforest Adventures folks several important questions about their chairlifts in SXM up Sentry Hill, which we've written about recently here.

Here are the questions, their answers, and our comments. A few areas clearly need more information:

Q. Are there seat belts on the chairlifts?

A. There are restraining bars on every chair.

Our comment: That seems to us to be a "no". Our followup question: are the restraining bars sufficiently snug on all users to prevent anyone from sliding out under them? What is the minimum height/weight for users? Once the chairlift is underway, do the restraining bars lock?

Q. What will be the hours of operation?

A. 8:00 am to 5:00 pm

Q. Do you have backup power, and how quickly does it go into operation after a power failure?

A. We are equipped with two back up power generators. They start up automatically in less than a minute.

Q. What happens in case of a failure? Does the system jerk to a stop or slow to a stop? Has it been tested to be sure unbelted individuals aren't thrown out?

A. The lift slows to a stop safely. Yes it has been load tested.

Q. Who is inspecting it?

A. Inspectors include the chairlift manufacturer and certified engineers.

Our comment: What government authority will give it a final inspection and approval?

As always, we'll keep you posted.

13. Tourist Donates \$10,000 To St. Maarten Medical Center

This is quite a story, about a gift from a grateful tourist in thanks for his treatment at the SMMC Cardiology Department. [Here it is](#).

14. Lees Roadside Grill Stays Open -- For Now

Lee's Roadside Grill, a long-time SXM institution, is still in operation at its current Simpson Bay location. The restaurant is continuing to fight with its landlord, who appears intent upon removing their long-time tenant.

Lee has said that he intends to keep on fighting and that is exactly what he has been doing. As of now, the matter will be back in court in September.

As always, we'll keep you posted. More stories follow.

**Your Business
Deserves a Website That Works.
We do them: www.websitesthatworkusa.com**

15. Vesna Taverna Closing for Dinner 7/12 into Nov.

Vesna Taverna in Simpson Bay, which has long served breakfast and lunch every day and dinner Wednesday through Sunday, will be closing for dinner effective July 12 and will not reopen for dinner until this fall, at a date we'll announce here in *SXM Weekly News*. Of course, the date will also appear on their website, www.vesnataverna.com.

"I want to take a little time off and spend it with my family," Vesna told us this week. After taking brief vacations from her hectic life as the namesake of her restaurant, Vesna is finally giving yourself a real vacation — a well-deserved one, too.

The restaurant will remain open as always for breakfast and lunch seven days a week. It usually closes by 4 p.m. See also story 17.

16. "Rules of the Road" Added For Our Everything SXM Facebook Site

As our rapidly growing [Everything St. Maarten Facebook Site](#) moves closer to 10,000 members, it has been adding many informational items under the "File" heading at the top left corner of the page, under the masthead. The latest is *Rules of the Road* for the site, which will help all site visitors get maximum leverage from the page.

Even if you don't have a Facebook identity, our page might convince you to set one up. You can ask questions, get answers, give answers, post pictures, post restaurant reviews, and compare notes with thousands of other SXM travelers.

It might be especially helpful when you're having a hard day and want your mind to wander to SXM. Pictures, opinions, and more are always posted — so join the site today and enjoy it.

17. Member Restaurant Review: Ben S. on Vesna

Ben & Susie S. write: "Last night six of us had some great meals at Vesna's. All six of us ordered different entrees, and seriously enjoyed all. We also tried three different desserts, yummy! They are lovely hosts."

That they are. Please see story 15 and make sure you visit Vesna's for dinner after they reopen from vacation this Fall. See www.vasnataverna.com.

18. Need SXM Medical/Dental Services? See Our "Files"

If you visit the island frequently, chances are you've already needed some kind of medical or dental attention other than an emergency ambulance.

If your ailment doesn't require hospitalization, there are a number of places you can visit. Now, that gets easier

because you can look at our [Everything St. Maarten Facebook Site](#) under Files and find where the best places might be to get the medical or dental care you need — name, location, and contact information are all on our [Everything St. Maarten Facebook Site](#).

19. A Look Back at "Old" Restaurants: Story #29

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.

The Sweet Tooth candy store was one of many "restaurants" at the old Mullet Bay Beach Resort. Instead of turning left toward Mullet Bay beach after you enter the property from Maho, to get to Sweet Tooth you would go straight and then right, away from the Mullet Bay golf course building. They were shops on both sides of the street until hurricane Luis demolished them. One was called Sweet Tooth. We still remember the visual of a huge lollipop looking like it was made by creating concentric circles with a long line of modeling clay. The shop offered much more, but those huge lollipops were our favorite take-home concoction.

Readers: We're looking for your suggestions about other restaurants; let us know your past-era SXM favorites so we can feature your complete reviews. Email your suggestions *with detailed information please to susan@jmbcommunications.com with the subject "Look Back."* **Please be sure to include as many details as you can; you may well be the source of a future column.** Do check below first -- we've already featured over two dozen former SXM restaurants.

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

Featured so far in this series (D=Dutch F= French):

- 1- West Indian Tavern D
- 2- Sam's Place D
- 3- Turtle Pier D
- 4- Scavenger's D
- 5- Surf Club South F
- 6- Laguna D
- 7- Le Perroquet D
- 8- Ric's Place D
- 9- La Raviolina F
- 10 - Da Livio D
- 11 - La Gondola D
- 12 - L'Alabama F
- 13 - Andy & Cheryl's F
- 14 - La Calanque F
- 15 - La Diva F
- 16 - Antoine D
- 17 - Sambuca D
- 18 - Peg Leg Pub & Steakhouse D
- 19 - Tutta Pasta D
- 20 - Wendy's (D)
- 21 - Risdon's Drive-In (D?)
- 22 - Dawn Beach Hotel Restaurant (D)
- 23 - Paradise Cafe (Contributed by Laurence Aiello) (D)
- 24 - Callaloo (D)
- 25 - Mario's Bistrot (Marigot) F (updated name and moved to Dutch Side, D)
- 26 - Pinocchio's (D)
- 27 - Cugini (French Side) (F)
- 28 - Zachary's (D)
- 29 - Sweet Tooth (D)

Coming soon:

Saratoga (D) and Frigate (D)

You can read about all of these past restaurants by checking back issues of *SXM Weekly News* on our PDF archives page. A link to it is near the beginning of this issue.

20. Restaurant of the Week: Temptation

Whenever anyone asks gourmets what the absolute best restaurant on SXM is, one of the most common answers is Dino Jagtiani's Temptation restaurant at the Starz casino in the Cupecoy area.

First, Dino Jagtiani, a graduate of the Culinary Institute of America, is and for years has been the most well-known chef on the island. He is the recipient of so many awards that we expect it would take the better part of an evening for him to list them all. Top winners of our vacation giveaways who have also won dinner for two at Temptation frequently describe it with one simple term: "Wow."

From the ambience to the Impeccable service to the expertly crafted appetizers, dinners, and desserts, this restaurant is very much deserving of its terrific reputation and worldwide acclaim.

If you have not visited Temptation we urge you to do so on your next visit to SXM. It will be well worth your time.

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 www.everythingsxm.com.

Big Fish Restaurant www.bigfishsxm.com/ (featured 5/1/17)
IZI Ristorante Italiano, www.iziristoranteitaliano.com (featured 3/6/17)
Busby's Chicken Rotisserie (featured 6/5/17)
Isola Ristorante Italiano (featured 5/29/17)
Avantika Thai www.avantikasxm.com (featured 2/6/17; added 2/17)
Canoa, www.canoasxm.com (featured 4/10/17)
Mario Bistro www.mariobistrot.com/en/ 3/13/17
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 (featured 3/25/17)
La Patrona, Simpson Bay Resort (featured 1/30/17; added 1/17)
Domino's Pizza <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Dominos-Pizza-St-Maarten/95635717338> (featured 9/16)
Spiga, www.spiga-sxm.com (featured 5/21/17)
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 (featured 9/2/14)
Melange International Grill (featured 2/20/17)
Le Pressoir, <http://www.lepressoir-sxm.com> (featured 7/6/15)
Temptation, <http://www.temptation-sxm.com/> (featured 7/5/17)
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 6/26/17)
Island Pizza, <http://www.dawnbeachsxm.com> (featured 6/19/17)
Pineapple Pete, 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 the turn near Shore Pointe to get there). (featured 4/17/2017)
FIG, Maho complex at Le Terasse
St. Maarten Yacht Club, at the Dutch Side Drawbridge
Jimbo's, www.jimboscafe.com (featured 6/12/17)
Vesna Taverna, www.vesnataverna.com (featured 1/9/17)
Topper's <http://www.sxmtoppers.com/> (featured 2/27/17)
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 2/13/17)

21. Enter Our Summertime SXM Vacation Giveaway

Our Summertime SXM vacation giveaway is underway and you can now enter. *SXM Weekly News* readers (NOT pass-along readers) can enter up to 10 times per subscribed email address. The drawing will be late in October, 2017. Here is our current prize list. Since this giveaway promotes non high-season visits to SXM, most of these vacations are yours from mid April to mid December, 2018. All vacations are subject to availability.

- an 8-day, 7-night vacation at La Vista Resort, May through December 2018.
- a 5 night stay (based upon availability April 10-Dec 18, 2018) in an ocean front room at the Westin St Maarten Dawn Beach Resort, Spa, and Casino.
- a 4-day, 3-night stay at the beautiful Oyster Bay Beach Resort.
- Dinner for Two at Davide Foini's legendary IZI Ristorante Italiano in Simpson Bay (One winner)
- Dinner for Two at Marco Ferrante's Isola Ristorante Italiano next to Hollywood Casino at Simpson Bay Resort. (One winner)
- Dinner for Two at Spiga, the highly acclaimed Italian Restaurant in Grand Case. (One winner.)

More may be coming.

Enter here: http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/getting_here/entry-form-for-our-seven-vacation-giveaway.shtml

22. Where to Find Past Issues of SXM Weekly News

Look here for our PDF archives: http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/free_newsletters/sxmweeklynews.shtml. Most issues for the past few years are now online.

23. Get SkyMed Family Medevac Protection: Its Key Features & Benefits

We've divided this article into a few sections. They are:

- About SkyMed
- Types of SkyMed Memberships
- Ten-Year Price Guarantee on New Five-Year "Ultimate" Memberships
- Best Bang for the Buck
- JMB SkyMed Bonus
- Answers to a Frequently Asked Question
- Detailed Features of SkyMed Memberships & Detailed FAQ
- Contact Jeff About SkyMed

About SkyMed:

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, no reimbursements, and no deductibles for SkyMed services, ever. SkyMed arranges everything and pays for all the services it provides.

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 (five-year SkyMed memberships only). This offer is available only by phone; email

jeff.berger@skymed.com and give Jeff your phone number so he can call you. He'll 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). Americans, Canadians, and ExPats only.

See www.getskymed.com or email Jeff at jeff.berger@skymed.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 per family. *The disadvantage is that they only cover you for the short term you are traveling; when they expire, your protection disappears, and when you're ready to travel again, you must reapply for a new short-term membership. The process is quick, but **you still must be medically approved** and at some point, that may be impossible. Bear in mind that many people travel more than once or twice a year, even if it's only a few hundred miles from home. We recommend annual or multiyear SkyMed memberships instead of short-term memberships when you make multiple trips because the cost is about equal. More important, **annual and multiyear memberships are guaranteed renewable regardless of changes in your health or advancing age. 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 cancelled 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 -- and now a SkyMed Ambassador -- for over 15 years. He'll be happy to answer questions; email him at Jeff.Berger@SkyMed.com. He generally returns messages within 24 hours, weekdays. To see [online frequently asked questions, go here](#). You can also see his SkyMed site at 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.

New JMB memberships: Three years, \$89; Five years, \$109 Sale Prices Other durations available. http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml

Renewal JMB memberships: Five years, \$109. Other durations available. www.everythingsxm.com/secret Go to the *Membership Renewal Center*

JMB Membership Reinstatements: Five years, \$109. Other durations available. <http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/reinstatement/index.shtml>

Ten-Year Price Guarantee on New Five-Year "Ultimate" Memberships

SkyMed is now offering a remarkable 10 year price guarantee on its best memberships, the SkyMed five-year Ultimate. SkyMed ultimate memberships cost only \$499 per year when you pay for their full five year duration at inception. When applying, if you indicate on the application that you want to renew automatically, that renewal will be charged at the same \$499/year rate (prepaid for five years at \$2495) that you had paid *for the full five year new membership at its inception. All SkyMed annual and multiyear memberships are guaranteed renewable regardless of health or attained age: this ten-year price guarantee is remarkable especially considering what you get: see the details [here](#).*

The best way to get your questions answered is to call Jeff directly on his SkyMed line, 508-747-8281. He can also take your application by phone and send it to SkyMed electronically. Most applications are processed within a few business days. Get it today, before you need it — make your next trip worry-free.

Best Bang for the Buck

SkyMed's biggest bang for the buck comes in its five year Ultimate memberships, which offer the broadest selection of benefits and features of any SkyMed membership as well as the lowest price per day of any membership — roughly \$1.30, or \$499 yearly total for your family when you pay for the five-year term at inception.

JMB SkyMed Bonus: Now, when you purchase a SkyMed five-year Ultimate through us either by phone or by visiting www.getskymed.com, notify us as soon as you receive SkyMed's letter of acceptance and we'll extend your current JMB membership by five full years on us. (JMB members only.) If you're not a JMB Website Supporters member, join now — the savings for our members on all Multiyear SkyMed memberships are very, very substantial.

Answers to a Frequently Asked Question:

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.* We know we repeat this... we do it for very good reason.

SkyMed *Takes You Home*® -- what else matters?

Detailed Features of SkyMed Memberships:

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

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

And you'll find Frequently Asked Questions here:

<http://www.everythingsxm.com/sxmweeklynews/2015SkyMedFAQ.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](#).

Contact Jeff About SkyMed:

He'll be happy to answer questions; email him at Jeff.Berger@SkyMed.com. He generally returns messages within 24 hours, weekdays. You can also phone him, about SkyMed only, at 508-747-8281 during normal business hours, Eastern time.

24. ... Plus The SkyMed JMB Membership Bonus -- and More Info...

When you join SkyMed through us with a five-year Ultimate membership (SkyMed's lowest cost per day but its most feature-rich medevac membership), notify us upon approval and we'll give you a five-year extension of your JMB Website Supporters membership. Got questions? Call Jeff at (508)-747-8281.

Join today at www.getskymed.com.

SXM Weekly News
Depends on

JMB Memberships To keep on publishing ...

Help us continue to bring you
all the SXM news of interest to Tourists.

Please join JMB today:

New JMB memberships: Three years, \$89; Five years, \$109 Sale Prices Other durations available.
http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml

Renewal JMB memberships: Five years, \$109. Other durations available.
www.everythingsxm.com/secret Go to the *Membership Renewal Center*

JMB Membership Reinstatements: Five years, \$109. Other durations available.
<http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/reinstate/index.shtml>

Get The Current Low Price
on SkyMed's Best 5-Year Ultimate Membership
and keep the current low price on a future 5-yr. renewal.
That's a 10-year price guarantee.
More benefits... **same price.***

Email Jeff now: jeff.berger@skymed.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 SkyMed member) to set up an emergency medical evacuation yourself. Get SkyMed BEFORE you need it. Email us today. SkyMed emails only. Visit www.getskymed.com.

*When applying at www.getskymed.com, you must approve an automatic 5-year renewal. When you do, your renewal will be at the same price you paid when buying your five-year Ultimate through us. Applies to new SkyMed 5-year Ultimate memberships purchased through us only.

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.](#)

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://everythingxsm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml .

Want to rent or buy a week?

2017 St. Maarten / St. Martin Timeshare Weeks For Rent or Sale are posted at http://everythingxsm.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
- 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. 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 .Your username and password are required.

SECTION 6: Background Information for Travelers (For New Readers) Updated 7/2017

See www.everythingsxm.com.

About Email Address Changes / How To Unsubscribe (Updated 4/17/17)

To unsubscribe, go here: www.sxmweeklynews.com. 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 www.sxmweeklynews.com; unsubscribe your old email address and subscribe your new one. *JMB Website Supporters members should notify Membership Services of the new email address for continued Secret Site access.*

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

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

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

Contact Us: [Revised 4/23/16]

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

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

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

Privacy Policy http://www.everythingsxm.com/sxm/privacy_policy/index.shtml

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