

From JMB / SXM Weekly News 5/18/20: Hurricane Season Starts Early; Airline Travel's Big Changes; Planet Hollywood Stops, Temporarily; Dutch SXM Reopens; Cruises Coming, Ready or Not; "Plus One" Program Begins - [35 Top SXM News Stories for Tourists]

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Vol. 3, #1249 --- Monday, May 18, 2020
News From St. Maarten / St. Martin / SXM



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Member News

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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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.

Please do stay with us for all the latest tourist-oriented news from St. Maarten / St. Martin / SXM all year long. Now read by about 340,000 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



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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.

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- Reveil Matin Reopens
- Mario's Reopens Early in June
- Plus One JMB Membership Promotion Begins

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-- Get 6 Months Free SkyMed Protection (ENDS SOON) & Beat SkyMed's 90-Day Exclusion for Pre-Existing Conditions Protection; New Military Discounts, Too, for Americans & Canadians

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-- Please Help Us Continue to Help You...

#####

-- Get SkyMed BEFORE You Need It

#####

-- Please Patronize JMB Sponsors

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-- SXM Business Owners: How To Increase Foot Traffic

Please see our [complete Table of Contents](#) below.

35 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 9/12/2020 9/26/2020 Week 37 and Week 38 Simpson Bay Resort & Marina Two bedroom, two full baths, sleep-eight top floor Penthouse Unit overlooking the Caribbean Sea. Super location. Marina building (elevator building,so handicap accessible). Spacious Penthouse unit has long balcony overlooking the water for sunning and spectacular sunsets. Two King size beds , two Murphy beds, plus queen-size sleep sofa, sleeps eight total. Full a/c, full kitchen, large private jacuzzi, flat screen TVs, dvd players, free Wi-Fi and much more. Free reserved park spot just feet from your door. All amenities of SBR, two beaches, five pools, swim-up bars, several restaurants, including beach bar/restaurant, sports bar, casino, nightclub, deli, tennis, exercise facilities. Full Marina with watersports, snorkeling, scuba, sailing excursions etc.. A Five-Star, Resort of Distinction Award Winner. Convenient to airport, shopping, entertainment and restaurants in SXM. \$1600 per each week individually, or \$3000 for both weeks rented together Gerald 856 392 7049 GWILLIAMS6@COMCAST.NET

SXM Timeshare Sale of The Week:

SALE 2/20/2021 2/27/2021 Week 8 Simpson Bay Resort 1 Bedroom sleep 4 Saturday to Saturday check in. King bed plus 2 murphy beds, fully equipped kitchen in a newly remodeled unit. Balcony with fantastic sunsets

located on crystalline Simpson Bay & clear waters of the Caribbean Seas. 4 tennis courts, 5 swimming pools, 2 w/swim up bars, mini market, restaurants, watersports & all amenities. Following week in same unit available. Two weeks in the same room no moving. \$9,000.00 Bonnie 603-321-7631 sxmdream@hotmail.com

Non-St. Maarten Timeshare Rentals:

See them all at http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/timeshare_rent_sale/index.shtml

Villa Rentals Now Offered On Our Site Too:

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

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<https://www.facebook.com/groups/mysxm>

"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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- C. **How To Submit Rental or Sale Ads:** Links are on the Secret Website (see a, above.)

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How To Get a GROWING LIST of 300+ 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 growing list of 300+ additional major travel benefits.

Not a member yet? See http://everythingxm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml . Cost: \$59 for one year, or \$99 total for three full years. Other durations available. Join us today...

***** **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. Hurricane Season Starts Two Weeks Early

As predicted by Crown Weather chief meteorologist Rob Lightbown, the first named tropical storm of the season, Arthur, formed late last week off the Florida coast. As of Sunday morning, tropical storm warnings had been posted for the North Carolina coast. On Sunday, some rain and wind were forecast for Florida, and on Monday Nantucket, Martha's Vineyard, and southeast Massachusetts were expected to possibly feel peripheral effects from the system.

You can get maximum storm information at www.crownweather.com.

Rob Lightbown had predicted tropical development in this area at this time for the last few weeks. His history of accurate tropical forecasts is why he and Crown Weather are our go-to source for tropical weather information throughout hurricane season and beyond.

For more information on this storm and storms to follow in what is expected to be a very busy season, please see our weather center on our main site, everythingSXM.com. There, you will find the latest Advisories by clicking storm one on the page, which also shows you a variety of satellite images and loops involving not only this tropical cyclone, but all areas of interest in the Caribbean, Gulf, and tropical Atlantic.

We are also posting the latest Advisories as we see them in our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#). If you have friends who are interested in St. Maarten, we urge you to invite them to join our Facebook Group. And if you know anyone who needs more information about tropical systems, please direct them to our weather center at everythingxsm.com.

Bear in mind that if a tropical storm is headed for your area, you must pay attention to directions from local authorities. We pass along Weather information from the National Hurricane Center for informational purposes only, but you should always rely on local authorities before making life or death decisions in the face of an oncoming storm.

2. The Good, The Bad, and the Ugly About Airline Travel Now

There is good news, bad news, and some ugly stuff about air travel as it stands today.

The good news is that airlines are reporting increased bookings for later this summer and the fall — welcome news because airline travel has been down around 90% in recent weeks thanks to the Covid Pandemic. Although airlines are still paying employees thanks to a federal bailout, and storing hundreds of passenger jets in the desert Southwest, financial prospects for the nation's airlines have been dismal — so the uptick in reservations is welcome news.

The bad news is that airfare bargains are diminishing because of the rising cost of jet fuel.

The downright ugly news is that social distancing guidelines aboard airliners are not necessarily being met. Because the number of flights has been severely reduced, people who are still flying may well have to sit in cramped, body-packed airplanes without any real social distancing. That seems to be particularly true on United, which says it will warn passengers in advance of their flights if those flights are full. Some crowded airplanes have also been reported regarding JetBlue, and we are sure this situation applies to an increasing number of aircraft on all major carriers.

Your concern, of course, is when SXM will open up to visitors from overseas. We address that in story 17, below.

3. Do Masks on Planes Prevent Eating/Drinking?

Facial coverings are being required now by virtually all airlines for passengers as well as flight attendants. On longer flights, how do you have snacks or drinks? Marco Croes, station manager for Delta airlines in SXM, answers that

question here:

Due to Covid-19, Delta will offer limited catering options on board all flights. No more cups with ice and choices of beverage, it will be a bottle of water and a snack bag with some snacks. Also, no more alcohol service on board. All passengers are required to wear a mask during their travel. Delta has also blocked the middle seat to allow some extra room for social distancing.

4. Boeing Plans to Resume 737 MAX Production This Month

Remember the Boeing 737 Max? It's a relatively new airplane that Boeing introduced a while back that has some nifty new features which didn't always work. In fact, one of those features (we won't bore you again with why it was necessary to add this feature to this airliner) caused the plane to nose down in flight and crash under certain circumstances. Consequently, 346 people died in two separate crashes, at which point the plane was grounded worldwide in March of last year.

It's still not flying.

Now, with the Covid Pandemic in full swing worldwide and many hundreds of Airliners grounded because they simply aren't needed right now, Boeing has decided it's a nifty time to start building more of its heretofore inglorious 737 Max airplanes.

There is, of course, a certain logic to this. The planes are more economical than many older aircraft they will be replacing. Boeing is anticipating that its fixes to this airplane will be accepted by the FAA, which would allow grounded 737 Max airplanes to be fixed so they could be returned to service. The airplane manufacturer also has a number of outstanding orders for the planes and wants to keep its factories busy.

All of this, of course, assumes the FAA will approve Boeing's fixes. That has not yet happened. There is also the question of what passengers want to get on this airplane when it has such a sordid history globally.

The FAA, Boeing, and the airlines who bought the Max and intend to fly again have a lot of work ahead to convince people that the plane will be safe to fly even after the FAA approves it. You'll remember that the FAA had also approved the 737 Max before it had originally started flying, crashing, and killing passengers and crews.

Here's [more](#).

5. Cruise Lines Are Returning to Service - Ready or Not

Are you ready to take a cruise?

It seems that thousands of people are. We've received widespread reports of a big uptick in cruise reservations for later this year and 2021 despite all the horror stories about Covid diagnoses and deaths aboard the world's fleet of cruise ships, a plurality of which cruise the Caribbean.

The ready or not comment in our headline doesn't refer to passengers: they are ready. The question is whether the cruise lines finally have their act together, and have intelligent systems in place to ensure that the people who are boarding their ships are not asymptomatic, highly contagious, and capable of unintentionally instigating a whole new spike in cruise ship cases of Covid. Those cases could easily reintroduce contagions to a variety of ports around the world in general and to the Caribbean in particular.

Cruise ship lines are operated by grown-ups who should be fully capable by now of figuring out how to do their jobs without infecting passengers. It might not be a bad idea for us all to pray that they actually succeed -- and that cruise ships will no longer be fancy petri dishes for blooming Covid viruses....

6. Where to Find Current SXM Weather Info

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 and now all the latest NHC weather forecasts, outlooks, and advisories as well. There are now also active weather widgets on the site's home page.

3) Our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#), 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.

5) For a quick look at weather radar exactly where you are or where you're going, try the My Radar phone app or My Radar for Windows -- excellent programs.

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

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

Download your own NHC Hurricane Chart:

Years ago, before we were all saturated with weather information from cable TV to local (redundant and repetitive) news and forecasts plus weather updates and bulletins on our smart phones, gas stations and television stations offered printed hurricane tracking charts so people at home could try to figure out for themselves whether they were about to get slammed by the latest hurricane.

We haven't seen hurricane tracking chart handouts for years, but if you want one they are easy to get.

The exact charts used by the National Hurricane Center (NHC) are available for download from the NHC [here](#). Select "Atlantic" and you're good to go. You can print out the chart and use it repeatedly, or simply print a bunch of them and use one for each storm that may approach an area of interest -- like, SXM. Bear in mind that this hurricane season may well be frontloaded — so you might want to print a few of these now and *not* save doing that for later.

More stories are below.

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***

7. Where to Download the NHC's Hurricane Tracking Chart

Blank hurricane tracking charts similar to those that have been used by the National Hurricane Center for many years are now available for download [here](#) (that's the NHC download site). Also noted above; republished in case you missed it.)

8. Guaranteed Big-Time Savings on Hotels, Cruises, Car Rentals

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.

SkyMed Travel offers exceptional pricing on everything and almost invariably beats everyone else's pricing. We have found their pricing excellent across the board and their 115% 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 there to get the absolute greatest possible discounts.

You won't be disappointed.

Not a SkyMed member? Learn more about it at www.skymed.com/jmb, then call us with questions or to sign up. Call 508-747-8281 any weekday. Thanks...

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

9. Planet Hollywood's Construction Permit is Revoked...

When we first heard last week that Planet Hollywood's construction permit had been revoked, it seemed like major news. It isn't major news — a fact that we will explain momentarily.

Reaction to the initial news followed two expected patterns. The first was from many people who like All-Inclusives (AI) and want to go, as well as people who recognize that Planet Hollywood attracts a younger, more affluent clientele which SXM needs to grow its tourism product going forward. Timesharing currently accounts for a majority of overnight tourists but timeshare owners are an aging demographic — and that demographic has been selling its weeks at a loss to a less affluent demographic, members of which tend to bring food from home, cook in their rooms, and not purchase much while on the island.

Bottom line, Planet Hollywood would be great for business and also good for SXM's overall touristic economy.

The other camp, which wants SXM to stay as it is, regarded the revocation as a new opportunity to decide what should go on the site of the former Sonesta Great Bay Beach Resort, which was sold the owners of Sunwing before Irma struck. Sunwing is behind the Planet Hollywood project.

Sonesta Great Bay Resort was essentially demolished in place by hurricane Irma. The belief that the revocation is an opportunity to start at square one to decide what should be on this property is false. That decision already has been made and approved by the SXM government: it's a 485 room Planet Hollywood around the corner from Divi Little Bay beach resort and Belair beach hotel, which would make this area the biggest single focus of Tourism near Philipsburg, a fact which should be warmly welcomed by Philipsburg merchants.

We've noted that this is not a big deal simply because there were procedural deficiencies related to the approved proposal. That's why the existing permit was revoked.

What has to happen now is that those deficiencies need to be corrected and the proposal resubmitted. We don't believe that either Sunwing or Planet Hollywood has any reason to do anything other than move forward as planned. And since this is a huge win-win project for the island's economy and for the future of its tourism product, we see no reason why the Dutch side government shouldn't readily approve the resubmitted (and corrected) proposal, once it has been received.

The only thing that could delay this project significantly is the availability of people to take the steps needed to make it happen — and that relates to Covid. Covid has already caused construction delays everywhere but with everything starting to return to a new normal now, we don't think that delay should be concerning to observers of the island's

tourism economy.

10. Does Your Travel Insurance Cover Covid Cancellations?

If you have or plan to buy travel (trip cancellation) insurance, it's extremely important for you to take a close look at provisions in your policy regarding covered causes of cancellations.

In most cases, it appears that cancellations caused by pandemics are excluded from trip cancellation policy coverages. That seems to be a routine practice. What it means is that if you must cancel your travel to SXM due to any reason related to Covid, your travel/trip cancellation insurance most likely will have a totally hands-off attitude toward that cancellation.

If you find that your trip cancellation insurance does in fact cover cancellations caused by pandemics, we would like to ask you to email us at susank@jmbcommunications.com with the subject trip cancellation insurance and give us details so we can pass them along to our audience of travelers. If you are not covered for such cancellations, chances are the accommodations you have picked will want to keep your money and tell you it is going to be applied to a future trip at their resort. If for any reason you are not returning to that same resort, you may have an issue getting a refund: check directly with your resort to make sure you have information that is correct for your situation.

11. 2021 Rentals Available Now at EverythingSxm.com

SXM timeshare owners who are members of JMB Website Supporters have begun to post 2021 timeshare rentals on our main SXM website, everythingSXM.com. Much more information about available rentals is on our timeshare rentals and sales page on that site. It is certainly not too early to start making reservations for 2021. Also please see the unnumbered story at the beginning of section 3 in this edition of *SXM Weekly News*.

12. How To Rent Out Or Sell Your Timeshare Units

If you own timeshare weeks that you would like to rent out or sell on our main everythingSXM.com website, you can do it once you become a member of our JMB Website Supporters island discount program. For all the details, go to our main site, everythingSXM.com and click on timeshare rentals in the navigation bar. You'll find the details about posting there. For information about joining JMB Website Supporters, click the page curl on all pages of everythingSXM.com. As a member, you will have access to a growing pallet of about 300 discounts and other benefits including the ability to post up to 10 ads per year in our rental pages at everythingSxm.com.

The ability to post timeshare rentals on our site is limited to JMB Website Supporters members only, and is not available to any others at any price.

13. Buying a Condo in SXM? Here's Important Info

Just before Thanksgiving 2018, working with Arun Jagtiani of Island Real Estate Team, we put together and conducted an SXM Relocation Seminar for dozens of attentive attendees at Emilio's Restaurant at the Emilio Wilson estate near Philipsburg.

Many of you have asked whether it would be possible for you to see video we made of our relocation seminar.

Although we do intend to put on future relocation seminars, the video of our November '18 seminar is available online to anyone interested in buying on SXM, whether for a vacation home, retirement home, income property, or anything else. Lots of outstanding info was communicated during this excellent seminar, and another is now in the early planning stages.

See the video [here](#).

Please check this link to [BrightPath](#) in SXM, a company that can help provide very deep and expeditious

help in completing residency requirements for people buying a second home, income property, or a new business in SXM, or relocating there. They're located in the Puerta del Sol building opposite Avantika, Simpson Bay, Dutch side. Ask for Vivian Chamas and let her know you heard about BrightPath through Jeff Berger's *SXM Weekly News*.

SECTION 3: JMB Member Discounts & Benefits

14. News About JMB Member Discounts / Benefits Updates

Once the island reopens to tourism, we will be working to further increase the already huge number of restaurants, jewelry stores, hotels, and other businesses offering discounts or other incentives to members of our JMB Website Supporters SXM Island Discount Program. As these additions are made, they will be reported in *SXM Weekly News* and will also be noted in our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#).

JMB Website Supporters currently offers roughly 300 discounts and other benefits to its thousands of members.

For more info on what you get with your JMB membership, [go here](#).

SECTION 4: Island News, Info, & Features

15. Plus One JMB Membership Promotion Begins

In one way or another, virtually everyone worldwide is being impacted by Covid 19, the novel coronavirus.

As much of North America slowly begins to reopen after working hard to bring Covid 19 under control, many people are wondering when SXM will reopen, enabling them to return and pump some cash into the heart-hit island economy.

First launched 18 years ago, our JMB Website Supporters SXM island discount program now offers about 300 discounts across the island — a number which we expect to grow once the island reopens for tourism (see related stories in this section). Although you personally may not return to SXM in the next couple of months, no doubt you are looking forward to going back as soon as it is practicable. For that reason — and in recognition of the financial impact Covid has made on many tourists — we want to make it easier for people to obtain our suite of SXM discounts, whether they're doing so for the first time or renewing a JMB Website Supporters membership.

For that reason, we are now introducing **plus 1** — a bold new program that gives everyone buying or renewing a multiyear JMB Website Supporters membership an additional full year of membership on us. This bonus is available today on all new JMB membership and renewal purchases, although you won't see anything about it on everythingSXM.com.

When your new JMB membership or your renewal is processed from now (5/18) through the end of May, we will automatically give you **plus 1** — an additional full year of JMB membership when you start a new **multiyear** JMB membership or renew one for more than one year.

We are also doing this for members of the US military and first responders who are eligible for our Military/first responders memberships. When you order a new or renewal four year military/first responders membership, you'll get an additional year on us if the transaction is completed by the end of this month. That is five years for \$67.96, which is our usual four year ultra low pricing for Military/first responder memberships and renewals. Ends May 31.

Regardless of when you intend to travel or when your current membership expires, this is an offer you should not pass up. We normally now only very rarely have any kind of sales, so **plus 1** is an offer that won't last long and that you should take advantage of now.

Orders can be placed through PayPal in the usual way, and you do not need to do anything special to be able to get this plus one offer. But you do need to respond now, since the offer will expire at the end of May. Much more information about new JMB memberships can be found on our main site, everythingSXM.com, by clicking the page curl. Renewal information is on our JMB members-only secret website, which members can access through logging in via the orange login box below the masthead on all pages of our main site, everythingSXM.com. **Plus 1** is

automatic -- you will not find it mentioned on our site, but again, it ends May 31, 2020.

If you have any questions at all, please don't hesitate to contact Membership Services at 508-830-3456 during regular office hours on weekdays, Eastern time.

16. SkyMed's Six Months of Free Protection Offer Ends Soon

In recent weeks, SkyMed international has offered six months of free protection as a bonus to people who opt to sign up for their top global membership, the five-year SkyMed Ultimate. This membership provides **SkyMed takes you home®** medical evacuation protection throughout the United States, Canada, Mexico, Bermuda, the Bahamas, and all the nations of the Caribbean, plus a suite of additional benefits for protection in the rest of the world. A complete list of all SkyMed Features is [here](#). And answers to frequently asked questions concerning SkyMed are [here](#). (These are both PDFs.)

SkyMed's offer of six months of free protection when you opt for a five-year SKYMED ultimate EXPIRES very soon. You can sign up for it after watching a SkyMed webinar or simply by calling Jeff directly during regular office hours at JMB Communications on his private number, 508-747-8281. If you are renewing an existing annual SkyMed membership, Jeff can help you get a free three month bonus on your renewal with no increase in cost. Call Jeff daytimes at 508-747-8281 for more information or to get this bonus. SkyMed memberships can be renewed as much as 18 months before they expire.

17. SXM Reopens, But Not Yet To Tourists

The lockdown that has been in effect on both sides of the island for almost 2 months is being loosened in a big way, mostly by the government on the Dutch side. The French side is expected to follow suit in the not-too-distant future, though its directions are from the government of the French state itself.

What has not yet been announced is when the island will reopen for tourists. That date is a moving target because it depends heavily on the island's local experience with Covid 19 (which now is quite positive), as well as what's happening overseas with Covid. The island likely won't want to invite tourists back if they will be coming from nations suffering major contagious current Covid 19 activity. It is widely expected that when they do open their airports to tourists, the tourists may have to pass a variety of screening methodologies to ensure they are healthy and will not endanger people already on the island.

No announcement about the restart of fly-in tourism has as yet been made on the island. As soon as that happens, we will notify our JMB Website Supporters island discount program members by email; our readers here in *SXM Weekly News*, also by email; and we will post the information in our everything SXM Facebook group.

Here's [much more](#) on the reopening.

18. Dutch Side Ceases Border Controls

Philipsburg – After deliberation in the Council of Ministers' meeting on Friday, May 15, 2020, it was decided that based on the efforts of the government to properly contain the virus, leading to a decrease in the number of COVID-19 cases on the both sides, as well as the bonds that exist between the people, it is no longer necessary to maintain the border controls and restrictions of movement between the two sides. As of Sunday morning, which is a non-movement day, the Dutch Police Force will no longer control the internal borders of St. Maarten.

The container which was placed by our police force at the Oyster Pond border to minimize the number of borders requiring control, will also be removed on Sunday. The police force will be refocusing its energy on de-escalation measures, and on ensuring that safety and security is maintained during this process as businesses re-open in phase 2 on Monday morning.

Prime Minister Jacobs informed that the police force will continue to maintain the night curfew which will be from

9:00 PM to 6:00 AM as of Monday evening.

"Just as before the 'State of Emergency,' the Dutch side of the island will no longer require waivers. As one small 37 square mile island, we have tried our utmost to synchronize measures with our northern counterparts to protect the population from the spread of this virus, at times causing some stress to our citizens with family and economic ties on both sides.

We see no need for this any longer as the COVID-19 cases are well under control, and it is time to normalize even further.

As our businesses reopen, more persons will need to access their business, or place of work, making this extra task unreasonable." stated Prime Minister Jacobs. Collective Prevention Services (CPS) community outreach testing campaign will continue this weekend and next weekend, however, during the week, normal movement is allowed to allow persons the opportunity to earn a living and get our economy restarted while upholding the guidelines for safety of employees and clients. After discussions with our French counterparts on Saturday morning, where they were updated of the decision of the Council of Ministers, it has been confirmed by Madame la Prefet Feucher that the French gendarmes will maintain the controls as they require additional time to evaluate whether their containment efforts via community testing have been successful. As this is the case, our French counterparts will continue to require waivers to allow movement to French St. Maarten. "In discussions with President Gibbs and the Collectivite, I have been informed by President Gibbs that he has contacted the Minister of Overseas Territories Annick Girardin and has advised her to also lift the border controls due to the decision taken by the Council of Ministers of St. Maarten in an effort to synchronize the measures on both sides of the island as border control is a competency of the state. Our population is much more aware of the dangers of the virus and will continue to practice the guidelines to be out in public; wearing a mask at all times, keeping a social distance of 2 meters and practicing proper hand hygiene frequently in order to avoid a second wave. Our behavior will determine the success of our de-escalation of measures. There are times, unfortunately, when our different systems cannot synchronize, as such we will continue to meet and discuss best practices moving forward and do our best to foster cooperation as we de-escalate measures and continue to fight the spread of COVID-19." concluded Prime Minister Jacobs.

-- Provided by the Dutch side government.

19. Kids Jewelry Design Contest Launched

From J N Jewelers, Maho:

We know that this is a challenging time for all. We also know that it is especially challenging for children. Bubbling with energy and curiosity, they always seek out something to do, something to challenge their thinking and something to discover (we know, we talk from experience). Staying indoors without being able to meet their friends or partake in their outdoors activities isn't the most ideal situation. And as the virus takes its course, work from home, and for that matter "learn from home" for the kids is quickly becoming the new norm, at least for the foreseeable future.

Working from home while your kids are teeming with energy and overcome with boredom can be a challenge. Moreover, many parents and caretakers at home are not only playing the roles of parents, but they also need to accomplish their professional tasks while at the same time play teacher, all from home.

So here's a fun, stress buster project for all you hard working parents and caretakers starting this Mother's Day:

Get the kids to draw up any piece of jewelry they envision and send it to us either via Facebook or email it to us at info@jnjewelers.com before May 24, 2020 to enter the Kid's Jewelry Design Contest. The theme for the drawing is simple: Any parent or parents, caretaker or frontline worker that inspires them.

We'll announce the winner of the contest on Facebook. The winner will receive a \$25 gift card for Amazon and we'll also make their drawing into a custom piece of jewelry, mailed free of charge to them. All drawings will be featured on our social media outlets and the winner will be, too.

Good luck!

20. IZI Ristorante Italiano Reopens

To the great relief of people across the Dutch side of the island, iZI Ristorante Italiano has now reopened for takeout service. This award-winning long-time highly popular island restaurant is intent on luring both current and new

customers to their stylish, upbeat restaurant so for right now, they are offering a 30% discount off everything on the menu. What's more, their full menu is available. For much more information, see www.izirestaurant.com.

IZi has been a consistent winner of our **Everything SXM Award of Excellence** ever since it was first issued back in 2012. If you are on the island, plan to order their superb takeout food at very reasonable prices. If you're tourist, make sure to record them in your list of top restaurants to visit when you return. They are in Simpson Bay directly across the street from Pineapple Pete.

21. Reveil Matin Reopens

Early this year, Reveil Matin restaurant reopened in Simpson Bay next door to the former location of Scotia Bank.

There are several interesting parts to this new restaurant puzzle. First, it's a French-Canadian chain centered in Québec — and the Dutch side of the island is its first location abroad. It serves breakfast and lunch only and has highly creative and delicious cuisine, according to multitudes who had a chance to try it during the winter.

Second part of this puzzle is the owner of the franchise — Daniel Jurczenko, the namesake of Daniel's By the Sea restaurant as well as its companion restaurant, Mr. Busby's Beach Bar, on Dawn beach, both of which were blown away during hurricane Irma almost 3 years ago. You'll find him in the store daily except Tuesdays, when they're closed. One or two servers may also be on hand to take care of you; both are familiar faces on the island.

The menus for both breakfast and lunch are incredibly enticing, and the pictures on their website tell the full story. If you're on the island now, do give it a try. If you're one of the hundreds of thousands of tourists looking forward to visiting the island soon, by all means put Reveil Matin (which means Alarm Clock in French) on your list.

Here's [much more](#) on the restaurant.

22. Mario's Reopens Early in June

The legendary Mario's Bistro in Porto Cupecoy will reopen June 2 with a prix fix menu, Mario is telling SXM Weekly News. It's also the 25th anniversary of the restaurant so Congrats are in order. Mario's is one of the top three restaurants on the entire island.

23. Reminder: Jimbo's is Permanently Closed

No, James "Jimbo" Morris has not left the island and no, he does not expect to be out of the restaurant business permanently. Nonetheless, the sad news is that Jimbo's Mesquite Grill closed forever in March. His lease had run out and the building was to be demolished, so Jimbo's had to vacate. His plan was to have a mammoth bash to celebrate the 18 years Jimbo's was in business on March 31, their last day, but thanks to Covid that never happened.

Jimbo has been looking for a new location to launch a new concept but as of the last time we spoke with him, a new location had not been finalized. We're still in touch and will let you know as soon as something pops. The new concept should be warmly welcomed by Jimbo's legions of devoted customers.

24. SkyMed Launches Renewal Bonus: Three Months Free

SkyMed has launched a Get Back to Work RENEWAL Special for current owners of SkyMed annual and multiyear memberships. The first wave of the RENEWAL Special is for RENEWALS happening from May 1st to August 31st. SkyMed Members renewing through Jeff Berger during this period will receive an additional 3 month FREE extension to their SkyMed membership.

There will be a Phase II of the Get Back to Work Special dedicated to memberships that have lapsed. We'll have

more information on Phase II soon. To renew your SkyMed membership now, call Jeff directly during normal East coast business hours at 508-747-8281, his direct line.

25. Much More on SkyMed...

N. B. Please do NOT unsubscribe from this list; doing so will terminate your subscription to SXM Weekly News.

**Get Six Months of SkyMed Protection Free* & Beat SkyMed's 90-day Exclusion of Coverage of Pre-Existing Conditions:
Get your "66" with SkyMed --
YOUR ROADMAP TO SAFETY
=====IMPORTANT TIME-SENSITIVE OFFER=====**

SkyMed will host a one hour GO TO MEETING presentation on Wed. May 6 at about 10:45am Pacific time. You may have missed attending a SkyMed presentation event because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Now you can attend a very special one hour presentation in the comfort of your own home and earn a terrific bonus in the process.

Watch on your computer and learn about the importance of at home or away protection with a SkyMed membership.

GET your 66 ---

A FIVE year membership plus a 'SIX month EXTRA bonus'!

***THE BONUS perk:**

New members signing up for a FIVE Year ULTIMATE within 24 hours of being on the SkyMed GO TO MEETING presentation will receive a SIX month additional bonus. **[Note: you can now also get the free six months by phoning Jeff directly. Once you sign up for the 5-year Ultimate membership through Jeff, you get six months free. Limited time offer ends soon. Call today -- number below.]**

The EXTRA Bonus perk:

Attention new and existing members: If you refer a non member to this upcoming call or future calls you as the member will receive an additional SIX month bonus if your referral purchases a five year plan.

Space is limited -- contact your representative to confirm your meeting today:

SkyMed Ambassador Jeff Berger
508-747-8281

www.skymed.com/JMB
jeff.berger@skymed.com

Please use the above email address or phone number to contact Jeff directly and reserve your spot in this coming Wednesday's WEBINAR. Email replies to jeff1620@jmbcommunications.com MAY NOT BE SEEN. Thank you.

Important: If you buy now and won't be traveling for three months or more, the 90-day exclusion of coverage on pre-existing conditions will finish once you travel -- a truly big deal. You also get a 30-day free look on SkyMed memberships. Reserve your spot in the 5/6 webinar TODAY and pick up that unique SkyMed peace-of-mind.

26. First Responders Now Get Platinum-Status JMB

Discounts

If you're U. S. Military with a DD214, you're able to get a Platinum-Status Military JMB Membership for \$16.99/year, the lowest we ever charge anyone. You get instant Platinum Status which is permanent as long as you're a JMB member plus 300+ SXM discounts and other benefits. All you do is pay for four years to start and renew in four-year increments (\$67.96). Nobody else pays so little -- our small way of expressing how grateful we all are for your service.

And now we're adding police, firefighters, EMTs, and nurses to our just-renamed Military / First Responder Memberships in recognition of their sacrifices for the rest of us every single day. We just need you to send us documentary proof (ID) that you're one of America's very best. To sign up or upgrade your JMB membership to Military / First Responders, visit everythingxsm.com and click the page curl to sign up for your JMB military membership (the page still says Military). We'll also need a DD214 (or other police / fire / nursing ID) with your SS# obliterated for security. We'll be delighted to welcome you all to our new best-of-all JMB Website Supporters Platinum Memberships.

27. Get a Little Bit of SXM in Your Home, Now

[This](#) is our all-new copyrighted purple sand chair SXM Euro Oval. Big shipment just arrived in our Plymouth offices. You can now order them -- they're the successor to our former green "twin palms" SXM Euro Oval.

Price, \$7 each or **THREE for \$15** (multiple orders of three welcome). Pay by PayPal payable to jeff@jmbcommunications.com or by check payable to JMB Communications, P. O. Box 1812, Plymouth, MA 02362-1812 USA. INCLUDE YOUR NAME, SHIP-TO ADDRESS, EMAIL ADDRESS, & PHONE NUMBER IN YOUR ORDER. All checks MUST be US dollar checks drawn on US banks. Shipped ONLY to USA & Canada addresses, Put it on your car, on mirrors at home, on smooth-sided luggage, over your husband's mouth (just kidding), etc. Fun item for everyone who loves SXM like YOU do! =====PHONE ORDERING IS NOW AVAILABLE TOO! 508-747-8281, 8am - 8pm EDT daily. Secure line, please leave all required info.

The link at the beginning of this story takes you to our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#). If you have not yet joined, do so now; it's a community of SXM fans like you.

28. SkyMed Q&A / FAQ - Frequently Asked Questions

SkyMed® FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

----- Answers to Common Questions

This document contains general SkyMed information in answer to common questions. SkyMed's services are defined by its Member Services Agreements – plain English documents that tell you what you get and how it works (see much more info below). As always, SkyMed offers a 30-day “Free Look period,” so if for any reason you're not satisfied with your unused SkyMed protection before 30 days have expired, SkyMed will refund your money.

Q1. Does it cover my trip to...?

1. Basic short-term and annual “SkyMed *Takes You Home*®” protection applies throughout the USA (all 50 states), Canada, Mexico, Bermuda, the Bahamas, and all the nations of the Caribbean. Global Emergency Travel Services (G.E.T.S., a subsidiary of SkyMed) protection is available outside the USA, CANADA, MEXICO, BAHAMAS, BERMUDA, and the CARIBBEAN (the rest of the world), however neither SkyMed nor G.E.T.S. covers trips to nations on the U. S. State Department's then-current “Do Not Travel” list – North Korea, Iran, and Venezuela currently, for example, and several others. Before planning a trip, check that list if you have any question about whether protection is provided for your destination – or call SkyMed directly during normal office hours (Mountain Standard Time) at 480 946 5188 or 1-800-475-9633.

Q2. Who is protected?

1. “Single” protection is available for individual travelers. “Family” protection includes your spouse or domestic partner and your young children up to 18 or 24 if they are full time students.

Q3. Do I need to call SkyMed before traveling outside my home country?

1. If you're traveling during the normal high season for travel to your destination, no. If you're traveling to your destination during its low season, do call SkyMed Member Services at the 800 number in the first question and let them know.

Q4. What if I'm going to a country not listed above in question 1?

1. Then you'll need (G.E.T.S) protection. If you have one of our Ultimate multiyear memberships, (G.E.T.S.) protection is included. On Annual (one-year) memberships, "G.E.T.S." protection is an inexpensive option.

Q5. What's the difference between "short term" and "Annual" or multi-year protection?

1. Short-Term protection is intended for brief trips, say a week or two. Like Annual protection, it "Takes You Home®" to doctors and hospitals you know and trust when you suffer a serious or critical illness or injury while traveling. Preexisting medical conditions are covered from day one with the short-term plan. It's inexpensive, only \$15/day for family protection. Remember, though, that Annual and Multi-year Ultimate memberships cost much less – only about \$1.35/day for family plans. Plus, they're guaranteed renewable without regard to advancing age or declining health. If you get a short-term plan, once it has expired, it is done, and you must reapply and requalify for another when you next travel. With Annual and multiyear Ultimate memberships, all you need do is renew before the renewal deadline – no need to reapply unless your membership has lapsed and the grace period has ended.

Q6. Is there an age limit for applications?

1. There is no age limit to apply. There's no age limit on renewals, either.

Q7. Can you cancel my protection at a certain age or if I get really sick?

1. Annual and multi-year Ultimate memberships are guaranteed renewable, as noted above. They will not be cancelled simply because you're a certain age or because your health has changed.

Q8. Will you raise the price of my membership at a certain age or if I get sick?

1. Once you're a SkyMed member, at renewal time you'll pay the same low renewal fees that everyone else with your type of membership pays. If you join at age 75 or older and purchase the X-Pat plan because you live in Mexico, the Bahamas, Bermuda, or the Caribbean, the X-Pat plan is more expensive than the standard traditional (Annual or multiyear Ultimate) plan.

Q9. What exactly does SkyMed cover? Is it health insurance?

1. You'll find an overview of all key SkyMed Features & Benefits here:
<http://www.everythingsxm.com/sxmweeklynews/SkyMedServices.pdf>

This is the same list you'll find on the back of our current membership applications. SkyMed provides up to 18 benefits related to medical evacuation if you suffer a serious or critical illness or injury while traveling. It is not health insurance – in the "SkyMed universe," SkyMed *Takes You Home®* to doctors and hospitals you know and trust, where your health insurance works.

Q10. What about pre-existing conditions? Are they covered?

1. Yes: for short-term memberships, medevac protection (including items listed in the answer to Q9, above) is included for critical illnesses or injuries related to pre-existing and non-pre-existing conditions. For Annual and multiyear Ultimate memberships, pre-existing conditions are covered after a brief 90-day waiting period.

Q11. I want guaranteed renewable protection because of my age, but I'm going on a trip sooner than 90 days. What can we do about that?

1. Get our inexpensive short-term membership to cover your near-term trip, including medical evacuations for serious or critical illnesses or injuries due to pre-existing conditions. At the same time, apply for an Annual or Ultimate membership, to kick in once your near-term trip ends.

Q12. I'm not traveling for a while. When should I apply?

1. Get SkyMed before you need it – just like fire insurance. Since you don't know when you'll need it – and since health can change in a heartbeat thanks to falls, accidents, or other issues – it's always better to do it sooner rather than later. Beyond that, if you have pre-existing conditions and get SkyMed Annual or multiyear Ultimate medevac protection now, that 90-day exclusion period for pre-existing conditions protection may well be finished by the time you travel.

Q13. What kind of questions do you ask in your application? Do you send somebody to do a medical exam?

1. There's no medical exam. Our application is simple, asking about hospitalizations in the last six months, your current medical conditions, and your prescriptions – and on the prescriptions, all we need is their name, not dosage info. If you have a complex medical history, SkyMed may ask for a "HQ" (health questionnaire) to be completed by your doctor and submitted to SkyMed by fax. You should also have your passport number handy; we record it so it's there in case you need help outside your home country.

Q14. How long does it take before I hear whether I'm accepted?

1. Generally just a few business days, but it's always best to do your application early to ensure sufficient time for processing.

Q15. I have more questions. Where do I find the answers?

1. SkyMed Ambassador Jeff Berger, located in Massachusetts, will be happy to answer your questions. Call his private line at 508-747-8281.

Q16. Can I sign up online?

1. For fastest results, we always suggest you contact us directly. We've done thousands of applications and can whisk you through the process in minimal time and with minimal bother. To get additional information first and see some customer stories, check our site, www.skymed.com/jmb. But to sign up, always call 508-747-8281. The process normally takes about 10 minutes, if that.

Q17. Who can get SkyMed?

1. SkyMed is available to residents of the USA and Canada, and to X-Pats living in the countries listed in Q1. X-Pat protection is necessary if you live outside the US or Canada for six months or more, in aggregate, in any 12-month period. Always notify SkyMed if you move.

Q18. I have a rather deep medical history. Will SkyMed still accept me?

1. Although SkyMed accepts the vast majority of applications, others do get health questionnaires (see Q13) and occasionally some do not qualify. There is no cost to apply if your membership application cannot be accepted. A history of a heart attack or cancer several years ago or other maladies does not automatically signal any issues for SkyMed. Apply – there is nothing to lose (again, no charge if you're not accepted). And as we noted in Q6 there is no age limit to apply and no age limit to renew.

SkyMed World Headquarters business office operations:

We are following the White House Coronavirus Task Force '15 Days to Slow the Spread' guidelines released March 16th, 2020.

We have team members fully functional and working from home. We are all connected on line and have access to all programs

necessary for efficient operations. We have a seamless business operation whether employees are working in the office or from home.

We are on duty 24 SEVEN for our members.

SkyMed Travel reservation # 1-800-568-8994 is open during regular business hours 8am to 5pm (MST). Messages can be left off hours.

Resources to help you:

Center for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) www.cdc.gov/travel

Canadian government updates www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection.html

National Institutes of Health (NIH) www.nih.gov

US Customs & Border Protection (CBP) www.cbp.gov

US State Department emergency assistance coronavirusemergencyUSC@state.gov

World Health Organization (WHO) www.who.int

SkyMed Travel reservations www.skymedtravel.com or email info@skymedtravel.com

SkyMed Member Services **1-480-946-5188** or **1-800-475-9633** or memberservices@skymed.com

Please do not hesitate to call or email us with your questions or concerns. We are here to help as much as we can.

Regular member

services are being conducted everyday.

Our thoughts and prayers are with everyone in the SkyMed Member family wherever you are in this time of uncertainty.

*Eleanore Klein, President
SkyMed Group of Companies*

From JMB:

How to Contact Us or Sign Up

Jeff is a SkyMed Ambassador. Reach him directly at 508-747-8281 during regular office hours, Eastern time. You can also find him in Facebook Messenger through www.facebook.com/groups/mysxm or you can email him at jeff@jmbcommunications.com with the Subject **SkyMed**. He has an alternate Skype number too, 508-591-3483. It is always best to sign up by phone directly with Jeff at the numbers above – it's fast & easy.

From:
JMB Communications
Membership Services
support@jmbcommunications.com

29. Restaurant of the Week:

We are temporarily discontinuing selecting a new restaurant of the week until the resumption of tourist flights to SXM has been announced, which hopefully will happen within the next several weeks.

Here are recently featured SXM restaurants:

White Swan Chinese Restaurant (featured 3/16/20) SXM's very best, delicious, authentic food, attentive service, generous portions, and reasonable prices. We loved it...

Vesna Taverna, www.vesnataverna.com (featured 3/9/20). Now open every day for B/L; dinner is offered Tuesday through Saturday. Outstanding dining and very reasonable pricing.

IZI Ristorante Italiano, www.izirestaurant.com (featured 3/2/20). Open for lunch and dinner except Mon., when they're closed. Great food from one of SXM's very best restaurants. Fun atmosphere, too.

Sale & Pepe (featured 2/10/20) Cool location among breathtaking megayachts, cool decor, knowledgeable staff, and great menu, service, and food. Sale & Pepe is hitting its stride. Chef Davide Zagami stays mostly in the kitchen ensuring things go just right.

SkipJack's SXM, <http://www.skipjacks-sxm.com/> (featured 2/3/20) SkipJack's triumphantly reopened with an entirely new dining deck late in January, 2019. Great place - go! Great staff and superb food in a picture postcard lagoon setting.

La Rosa Restaurant, Maho Plaza, 1/27/20: Loved the relaxing vibe, attentive service, GREAT food, reasonable prices, and BIG portions. www.larosarestaurant.com/index.html

Isola next to Hollywood Casino at Simpson Bay Resort, 1/6/20. Italian. Excellent food, many choices, busy, good specials. Many folks from Simpson Bay Resort dine here as well as many locals and lots of casino high-rollers. www.isolaristorante.com

Avantika Thai www.avantikasxm.com (featured 12/30/19) **Avantika is wonderful; SXM's best Thai.**

Mario Bistro www.mariobistrot.com/en/ 11/26/19 Mario's Bistro is one of the most spectacular culinary experiences you'll ever have. Go. Phenomenal dining at very reasonable prices. On the plaza at Porto Cupecoy, Cupecoy Beach.

Spiga, www.spiga-sxm.com (featured 11/18/19) New bar, great staff, service, and phenomenal food. Everything is great, appetizers are out of this world. Not to be missed.

Mama Pizza, Porto Cupecoy (featured 11/11/19) Excellent pizza, and sizeable portions / reasonable prices on numerous other Italian specialties. On the plaza at Porto Cupecoy, Cupecoy Beach.

Pineapple Pete, www.pineapplepete.com (featured 7/8/19) Known for great lobster Thermidor and lots, lots more. Generous portions, reasonable prices. Huge variety. Games for kids.

Wasabi Charlie Japanese Restaurant (formerly Sushiitto) (7/8/19) is the new name of Sushiitto, now relocated next door to Pineapple Pete in Simpson bay. Essentially the same menu, same staff, same great food/service.

Mandarin Pan Asian, Port de Plaisance (featured 6/10/19) Excellent Pan-Asian dining including Japanese, Thai, and Chinese. Nice setting near the casino at Port de Plaisance.

Emilio's at Emilio Wilson Estate (featured 4/21/19) is as stupendous as it ever was, with spectacular dining in an equally spectacular restored building on the Emilio Wilson Estate. Ask to see the wine cellar and the museum. Open for lunch and dinner: not to be missed.

Freedom Fighters ITAL SHACK Rasta Restaurant, www.sxmfreedomfighters.com/restaurant 4/15/19. Just go....

IZI Ristorante Italiano, www.iziristoranteitaliano.com (featured 3/11/19). Open for lunch and dinner except

Monday, when they're closed. Great food from one of SXM's very best restaurants. Fun atmosphere, too.

Topper's <http://www.sxmtoppers.com/> (featured 1/28/19) One of SXM's oldest and busiest restaurants, Breakfast, lunch, dinner, and late dining. Open morning until late night. Sports on TV. Karaoke some nights.

Dany's Smooth Cupecoy Beach Bar (on Cupecoy beach); follow the road toward Shore Pointe and turn near Shore Pointe to get there. (Featured 1/20/2019) Parking, drinks, chairs and umbrellas, lolo-type food, and an all-over tan. What could possibly be better?

La Patrona, Simpson Bay Resort (featured 12/30/18) La Patrona is SXM's only truly authentic Mexican restaurant. Highly recommended: great food, great service, not to be missed.

Enigma C3 luxury Catamaran, www.sailstmaarten.com (featured 8/7/17). Neil's new boat is as big as Celine Too was and it has now entered service. Neil is known for amazing cooking on board his boats.

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

The Hideaway, <http://www.lavistaresort.com/restaurant.html> (featured 10/31/16) Open; contact the restaurant for details and reservations. Updated 3/2/18.

Melange International Grill (featured 2/20/17) Reopened.

Papagayo, <http://www.cluborient.com/papagayo.php> (featured 10/17/16) Club Orient was wrecked by Irma; rebuilding is planned. ETA not yet known.

St. Maarten Yacht Club, at the Dutch Side Drawbridge Reopened.

Jimbo's, www.jimboscafe.com (featured 6/12/17) Reopened.

Taloula Mango <http://www.taloulamango.com/> (featured 4/20/15) Reopened.

You will find hundreds more restaurants from both the Dutch Side and French Side listed in the Files area of our [Everything St. Maarten / St. Martin / SXM Facebook Group](#). Our thanks to our Admin there, Contessa Aiello, who edited the restaurant entries on that site.

30. Getting SXM Questions Answered Quickly

Join our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#) and you'll find about 25,000 SXM tourists who love SXM as much as you do.

Our site is the best place around to ask questions and get answers about SXM -- around the clock. Check it out.

31. Want to See Back Issues of SXM Weekly News? Here's How

Our *SXM Weekly News* PDF archives enable you to download any issue of Weekly News published since Spring 2014, including our amazing *2018 April Fools' Day parody* and many Special Editions.

Check it out [here](#). It has recently been thoroughly updated. Each week's newsletter is usually added just hours after mailing of that issue to its subscribers completes (Monday).

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

Ask Jeff for details -- call him at 508-747-8281 (SkyMed calls only, reg. hours Eastern time.) More info? See skymed.com/jmb. SkyMed is the Principal Sponsor of JMB SXM programs.

See the [rundown of all SkyMed Features & Benefits](#)

32. Are You Military, First Responder, or Nurse?

If you're U. S. Military with a DD214, you're able to get a Platinum-Status Military JMB Membership for \$16.99/year, the lowest we ever charge anyone. You get instant Platinum Status which is permanent as long as you're a JMB member plus 300+ SXM discounts and other benefits. All you do is pay for four years to start and renew in four-year increments (\$67.96). Nobody else pays so little -- our small way of expressing how grateful we all are for your service.

And now we're adding police, firefighters, EMTs, and nurses to our just-renamed Military / First Responder Memberships in recognition of their sacrifices for the rest of us every single day. We

just need you to send us documentary proof (ID) that you're one of America's very best. To sign up or upgrade your JMB membership to Military / First Responders, visit everythingxsm.com and click the page curl to sign up for your JMB military membership (the page still says Military). We'll also need a DD214 (or other police / fire / nursing ID) with your SS# obliterated for security. We'll be delighted to welcome you all to our new best-of-all JMB Website Supporters Platinum Memberships.

33. Less Money, More Benefits, Ten Year Price Guarantee on SkyMed Ultimate

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

Ask Jeff for details -- call him at 508-747-8281 (SkyMed calls only, reg. hours Eastern time.) More info? See www.skymed.com/jmb, our new site, going live shortly.

34. Please Patronize JMB Sponsors (Updated 4/27/20)

AMUSEMENTS

[Island Pedals Beer Cycle](#) (Philipsburg)

BOAT TOURS

Celine Charters (Enigma)

BREWERIES & DISTILLERIES

SXM Beer Brewery

Toppers Rhum & Vodka Distillery

CAR RENTALS:

[Leisure Car Rental](#)

[Sax Car Rental](#)

[Tropical-Tropicana Car Rental](#)

Exclusive Car Rental

CUBAN CIGARS:

[Cigar Mack](#)

[SXM Cigars](#)

DOLLAR STORES

[All in One Place](#)

EMERGENCY MEDICAL EVACUATION MEMBERSHIP PROGRAMS:

[SkyMed International](#) (Covers the entire USA, Canada, Mexico, Bermuda, the Bahamas, and all the nations of the Caribbean. Global protection available. Sold only to Americans, Canadians, and X-Pats living in these countries.)

JEWELERS:

[Zhaveri Jewelers](#) in Philipsburg.

[Caribbean Gems](#)

[Majesty Jewelers](#)

[Ray's Jewelers](#)

[Alpha Jewels](#)

[JN Jewelers \(Maho under Jax, open late\)](#) NEW!

Jewels & Beyond (Maho) NEW!

[Shoppers Haven](#)

PARFUMERIE / PERFUME

Tijon Parfumerie, Grand Case, www.tijon.com

REAL ESTATE COMPANIES: (See also VILLA RENTAL COMPANIES, below)

[Island Real Estate Team](#) is widely regarded as SXM's top real estate organization. A long-time JMB Sponsor, they offer both residential and commercial real estate in every price range. Call the number that follows and ask to speak with the agent who handles what you seek: 1 721 520 7284. Please let the agent know that you were referred by Jeff Berger's *Everything SXM Facebook Group*.

Century 21 St. Maarten (new)

Sunshine Properties (new)

RESORTS:

Belair Beach Hotel

Simpson Bay Resort

Azure Hotel & Art Studio

Baker's Suites

RESTAURANTS & BARS

[IZI](#)

[SPIGA](#)

[VESNA TAVERNA](#)

ISOLA

Frenchy Ludo's

SNOOPY'S

Mandarin Asian Bistro (Port de Plaisance)

Melange (Port de Plaisance)

Pelican Bistro

Soggy Dollar Bar

Sale and Pepe

Topper's Restaurant

LA PATRONA (Simpson Bay Resort)

MARIO'S BISTRO (Porto Cupecoy)

Pineapple Pete Restaurant

Wasabi Charlie Japanese Restaurant

Emilio's

Taloula's Blue Bitch Bar

Nowhere Special

ROXXY Bar / Restaurant (NEW)

LA ROSA (NEW)

NONNA ROSA (NEW)

LAZY LIZARD (NEW)

SWIMWEAR:

Endless Summer Swimwear, Philipsburg & Simpson Bay

VILLA RENTAL COMPANIES:

If you're interested in making a villa reservation (doing it with close friends can be fun and more economical than you'd imagine), contact our top recommended Villa rental/sale partners at **[Island Real Estate Team](#)**. Call the number that follows and ask to speak with the agent who handles villa rentals: 1 721 520 7284. Please let the agent

know that you're interested in a rental and you were referred by Jeff Berger's *Everything SXM Facebook Group*. Hundreds of villas are now online.

Jennifer's Vacation Villas has also joined us as a villa rental partner. *Jennifer's Vacation Villas* is a licensed management, real estate and villa rental company specializing in the rental of private villas and condos on both French and Dutch St. Maarten. Its proprietor, Jennifer, is a New Yorker who has been residing in St. Maarten for 40 years and whose goal is to provide guests with personal attention and to ensure that their vacations are memorable. Jennifer's Vacation Villas also does Weddings, Private Events, and any additional services including massages, boat trips, and private catering. Their aim is to make your vacation stay as comfortable, accommodating, and easy going as possible. Call 1 (721) 544-3107 | +1 (631) 546-7345. When you contact them, please tell them you were referred by Jeff Berger's *Everything SXM Facebook Group*.

Candie Billant does condo and villa rentals and sales. You will find her at blueparadiserealty.com.

GoBeach Vacations

Sunshine Properties

Monte Verde / Belle Vue (new)

Relocation / "Papers" Consulting Companies

Bright Path is already posting in our [Everything St. Maarten / St. Martin / SXM Facebook Group](#)

Updated 5/3/20

**Your Business
Deserves a Marketing-Centric, Customer-Focused
Website That Works.**

That's what we do:

www.websitesthatworkusa.com

In business since the web began --

a unit of JMB Communications.

35. SXM Business Owners: How To Increase Foot & Web Traffic

SXM Weekly News, our everythingSXM.com website and its Hurricane Center, and our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#) — along with our many Vacation Giveaways and hundreds of benefits of JMB Website Supporters membership — are all made possible through our partnerships with our JMB Website Supporters members and our Sponsors.

Our **JMB SXM Media Sponsorships** enable SXM businesses to present their products or services to a huge, responsive audience of tourists from around the world, but primarily the USA and Canada. (Our site is based in the U. S. and is focused on the needs of tourists traveling to SXM.) If you own an SXM business and want to look into and take advantage of this unique marketing opportunity, please email susank@jmbcommunications.com with the

subject "JMB Sponsorships". We'll get complete information to you quickly. Or just PM Jeff Berger on Facebook Messenger.

Tourism will soon return and with it, plenty of opportunity to bring more tourists into your business not only in the short term, but especially as tourist business increases beyond the shutdown. Contact us today for more information.

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

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

Contact Us (Revised 5/25/18)

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 (Updated 5/25/18)

5/18/20 #V3-1249 5:00 pm EDT 5/17/20

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