

**From JMB / SXM Weekly News 6/14-6/21/21: BULLETIN: SXM Updates Entry Requirements Effective 7/1; Full Planes; Cruises Get Going; Hurricane Season Gets Busy; New West Coast Connections; SXM's Top Timeshare Resorts; Eric Loor's Mess at Ocean Club; Sharks; Lolos; Dany's Smooth Cupecoy Beach Bar; [Issue #1302 -- 00 Top SXM News Stories for Tourists]**

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+++++DOUBLE ISSUE +++++

Vol. 4, #1302 --- Monday, June 14, 2021  
and Monday, June 21, 2021  
News From St. Maarten / St. Martin / SXM

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

*St. Maarten & St. Martin's Most Relied-Upon Source  
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### ***SXM Timeshare Rental of The Week:***

**RENTAL 6/25/2022 7/2/2022 26 Simpson Bay Resort, Spa, and Marina Lovely penthouse unit in Flamboyant building directly on the beach. Master bedroom is upstairs with gorgeous view of Simpson Bay. A second bedroom is on the first floor of the unit.** There is a full kitchen and living room and great balcony with breathtaking view of the beach and the turquoise waters of the bay. There are 2 bathrooms, one with master bedroom and one downstairs. Renter will be responsible to pay a \$50 resort tax at the end of the week upon checkout. \$1,650.00 Pam 757-868-6001 [pam\\_falls@msn.com](mailto:pam_falls@msn.com)

**See them all at [http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/timeshare\\_rent\\_sale/index.shtml](http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/timeshare_rent_sale/index.shtml)**

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

**SALE 5/14/2022 5/28/2022 20 and 21 Royal Islander LaPlage Comfortable King bedroom, hide-a-bed in living room, kitchen and bathroom. Unit sleeps four. Legal fees to be paid by buyer. \$1200 per week Diane 207-837-9695 [diane.briggs@comcast.net](mailto:diane.briggs@comcast.net)**

**See them all at [http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/timeshare\\_rent\\_sale/index.shtml](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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### ***"Like" Our All-New ["Everything St. Maarten / St. Martin / SXM" MeWe Group](#)***

<https://mewe.com/join/jeffbergerseverythingsxmmewegroup>

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[http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/free\\_newsletters/sxmweeklynews.shtml](http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/free_newsletters/sxmweeklynews.shtml)

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

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

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

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To Pull The Trigger on SkyMed Medevac Protection:  
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## THIS WEEK'S STORIES:

Stories are numbered; scroll down for stories of interest.

### SECTION 1: Getting Here: Flights, Airlines, Airports, Cruises, Weather, and COVID-19

#### GETTING HERE:

## BULLETIN: SXM Updates Entry Requirements Effective July 1

SXM has now formally announced two major changes to its Entry Requirements for US citizens to visit SXM. The first of these is already in effect and the second goes into effect July 1 — and is far more important.

Effective July 1, SXM will continue to accept both PCR and antigen tests already listed in our [Guide to Entry Requirements](#) in the files area of our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#). Once in the files area, use the search window to find "Entry".

*The difference effective July 1 is that the number of hours you can take the PCR test ahead of the departure of your final flight to SXM will be changing from 120 hours to 72.*

There are several reasons for this.

First, 72 hours is what the island wanted some time ago, but the difficulty in obtaining tests that quickly in the US at that time forced it to change to 120 hours on a temporary basis. Because of the widespread availability of PCR testing in the US and faster turnaround now, 72 hours is now a doable number for the vast majority of Americans - so the switch is coming effective July 1.

Second, SXM's main job is to continue to protect the health of its people and its citizens. On the Dutch side, more than 22,000 people have already been vaccinated against Covid and those numbers continue to rise daily. Nonetheless, Covid still exists on the island and the government is doing everything it can to stop its spread permanently. This change is part of that effort.

Third, the turnaround time for antigen tests remains unchanged at 48 hours and because of the wide availability of that type of test, many people in recent months have started using that for entry instead of the PCR test. Check locally to see what is quickly available in your area — but first, see our **Guide to Entry Requirements** mentioned above; by noon Wednesday of this week, our Guide will have been updated to include the new information — but remember that it is not effective until July 1.

The other change is that when approving negative tests, EHAS, in the preapproval materials it sends to applicants for admission to SXM, will include a "QR" code which you should print and take with you to the airport. Either at the airport or in SXM, officials will scan your QR code to verify your preapproval for admission to SXM — so it is important that you print it and bring it with you, along with the preapproval from EHAS and your printed negative test results.

Also... SXM had said some time ago that at some point it expects to modify entry requirements for people who are already fully vaccinated and can prove it in a way that is satisfactory to officials. It has not yet either introduced that program or announced when it may do so. When that happens, we will announce it here in *SXM Weekly News*, in a Bulletin to our [JMB Website Supporters Island Discount Program](#) members, and also in our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#). There is no indication yet of when that may occur.

Again, complete information on the update in Entry Requirements effective July 1 will also appear in the next update of our Guide to entry Requirements published in the files area of our Everything SXM Facebook group. As noted above, that update will be completed sometime on Wednesday, June 16.

## 1. LEAD STORY: Planes Stay Nearly Full - But Here's Why to be Ready for Cancellations, Reschedules

Usually at this time of year, SXM is getting busy for summer. But now, it is substantially busier — and some businesses in SXM are telling us that it is as busy as it was in 2019, before Covid began. Some restaurants are reporting being packed, as Toppers was for the last several days as it prepared to close its iconic location in Simpson Bay on Kimsha beach, so it can move to the Carousel.

This long-predicted upsurge in business has been great for the island. But airlines have been caught somewhat flat-footed since top executives of airlines at the beginning of the Covid Pandemic encouraged pilots by the thousands to

take early retirement. So now, airlines are scrambling to get enough pilots to pilot all the airplanes they're bringing back in service from the deserts of the American Southwest.

So... be prepared for the possibility in the next few months that flight reservations you make aboard US airlines could be changed or canceled by your airline due to lack of pilots. Future reservations are already at or above 2019 levels and 2 million people every day are using the nation's airports.

We will continue to cover this topic in this section on a frequent basis.

**Meanwhile -- reports of Air Rage, possibly caused by PTSD as the Covid Pandemic wanes, continue.** [Here is that story](#) regarding an off-duty Delta flight attendant who became unruly a few days ago on a flight out of LAX and had to be subdued by flight attendants and other passengers.

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## 2. LEAD STORY: The Huge Cruise Tourism Fly in the Ointment

For most cruise lines, it's the same approach: all passengers and crew must be fully vaccinated a few weeks before departure and all must have a negative Covid test a specific number of days before departure. Consequently, the odds of anyone who is sick getting on the ship are very small.

If the ship simply left port and sailed around for a few days then returned to port, things would be simple: the odds of anyone getting sick would be minuscule.

But that's not what cruise ships do.

Cruise ships go from port to port, island to island. In each port, passengers get off, gather together for land tours (sometimes with masks, sometimes without), and visit local shops, bars, and restaurants (sometimes with masks, sometimes without). Consequently, since the Covid Pandemic is not over, and since no vaccine is 100% effective at stopping infection from Covid, it is inevitable that some of the individuals who get off the ship at some of the ports will become infected with Covid. And if they hang out with other people on the ship — including passengers and crew — it's also inevitable that they will spread the disease to those people, which happens far more easily when people aren't wearing masks.

It's wonderful that cruise ships are sailing again. It's wonderful for ports that will earn revenue from cruise ship tourists -- an important source of income.

But the fly in the ointment is clearly that not everyone has been vaccinated in the ports being visited, and that increasing numbers of people are walking around among others not wearing masks.

While it is true that the infections vaccinated people get may in many cases show no symptoms or show symptoms similar to that of a common cold, those individuals not wearing masks who are thus infected will spread the disease to others — and the others *if they are not vaccinated* can become severely ill or die from Covid. Consequently, the reopening of the cruise economy is a double-edged sword and it underscores how important it is for everyone to get vaccinated promptly with proven vaccines that are on the market now.

If you go cruising or vacationing, remember that the pandemic is not over and it would be extremely wise to continue all the precautions you've taken for the last 15 months for some additional months to come: It is far better to be overly cautious than to wind up infected by and spreading Covid as a result of inadequate cautious behavior.

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## 3. SXM Airport Kicks Passenger Processing into High Gear

In anticipation of two major events (which we'll describe momentarily), SXM airport recently retrained some of its staff and reorganized its procedures for processing both arriving and departing passengers. Consequently, a week ago this past Saturday, when there were 17 commercial airliners arriving in SXM, the airport was fully prepared to process arriving and departing passengers far faster than it could in recent weeks.

What were the two major events?

First, Celebrity Millennium, the cruise ship, is now home ported in SXM and leaves the port Saturday evening. That means that many cruise ship passengers will be arriving on Friday and Saturday — a significant event and an important challenge for airport processing abilities.

Second, the numbers of tourists arriving and departing from SXM has been steadily increasing, with restaurants often packed and the airport significantly busier than it has been in the last 15 months.



*SXM Weekly News* is delighted to have received many very positive reports about how fast incoming and departing passengers are now being processed at SXM Airport. We've heard directly from many passengers and their reports had been universally positive — some great news for visitors and for the island itself. Passenger numbers are expected to continue increasing at least through the next couple of months.

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### 3a. Jet Blue Resumes Nonstop Flights From Bay Area to Boston & JFK - Good for SXM Connections

JetBlue has announced the resumption of nonstop flights between San Jose California in the Silicon Valley and Boston, with nonstops to JFK resuming shortly.

What this means is that people from the Bay Area will now have a new avenue of flight to enable them to return to SXM. Boston has seasonal nonstops to SXM and New York Kennedy also has frequent nonstops.

Other cities throughout the West also have JetBlue flights to JFK, Boston, Newark, and Fort Lauderdale, JetBlue's four current SXM gateways.

For more information, contact jetBlue directly, go to [www.JetBlue.com](http://www.JetBlue.com), or contact your travel agent.

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### 4. Celebrity Millennium Leaves Saturday Nights, Easing Worries for Saturday Arrivals

In an article in last week's *SXM Weekly News*, we suggested to readers who will be departing from SXM aboard one of the ships now home ported there that they attempt to fly to the island on some day other than Saturday because of weekend airport congestion. Saturday is now and always has been the busiest day of the week at SXM Airport, and cruise ship passengers do need to get to town expeditiously to meet their cruise departure time.

That suggestion remains in place, since it would give arriving cruise ship passengers potentially a few days to become familiar with the island before their cruise ship sails. However, based upon the example a week ago when the airport had 17 arrivals, it does seem to us that the airport may now be much better prepared to handle a substantial Saturday increase in Arriving/Departing tourist traffic.

Bottom line, cruise ship passengers are still better off to arrive in SXM a day or a few days ahead of time rather than on Saturday. However, assuming the ship continues to leave the island at 9 PM or after (check your ship's boarding information), getting in a few days early may not be as critically necessary as many had believed before the airport had upgraded its passenger processing.

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### 5. After Their Cruise, Two Celebrity Millennium Passengers Test Positive for Covid

If you're fully vaccinated against Covid and you were a passenger aboard the first Celebrity Millennium cruise a bit over a week ago, the notification that two passengers aboard that ship had tested positive for Covid did not have the same stunning impact that it would have had a year ago, when the potential lethality of a Covid diagnosis was first becoming evident.

Nonetheless, the appearance of Covid among some passengers returning to the island created inconvenience for people who had come into close contact with them aboard the ship and during land excursions. The cruise line was following appropriate procedures to ensure the safety of all concerned. Both of the passengers, who had been staying together in the same stateroom on board the ship, were asymptomatic.

We will continue to watch further developments concerning this situation during the coming week and will publish any significant news about this next week in *SXM Weekly News* and also in our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#) if there is consequential breaking news.

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### 6. Dutch Side Makes Minor Changes in Entry Requirements

These two changes were posted 6/9. [See also the Bulletin at the top of this section regarding the major Entry Requirements changes that are effective July 1.](#)

The first is the EHAS Travel Requirements were modified to include this language at the top of the document: "EHAS TO ISSUE A QR CODE WITH THE HEALTH AUTHORIZATION PRE-APPROVAL AS OF JUNE 9. TRAVELERS ARRIVING WITH AN EARLIER ISSUED PRE-APPROVAL WILL BE ADMITTED." "QR" codes are square "Quick Response" codes which can be scanned to provide information. We expect EHAS is using these to expedite traveler admission in SXM since Summer is expected to be quite busy. Make sure you print out at least two copies of your PRE-APPROVAL from EHAS and bring them with you to the airport. The airlines and the SXM Government will need to see them, scan them, and stamp them for you to be allowed to board your flight and be admitted to SXM.

ALSO, Item #4 in Travel Requirements has been modified. It now reads: "The application must be completed in order to be processed. This includes proof of a negative COVID-19 test result, information on the vaccination status (including proof of completed vaccination in case fully vaccinated), and the purchase of the mandatory COVID-19 insurance in case required. Children must have the online health form filled out by their parents. Provide a working email address on which you are reachable." See below and read this Guide COMPLETELY for other critically important information. Our Guide to Entry Requirements, as noted in the above Bulletin (at the beginning of this section), will be updated with the latest changes during the day on Wednesday June 16.

## 7. Not There Yet, But Dutch Side Says it Will Soon Stop Requiring Covid Testing for People Who Are Fully Vaccinated

In an announcement roughly two weeks ago which we immediately communicated to members of our JMB Website Supporters Island Discount Program and to members of our [Jeff Berger's Everything SXM Facebook Group](#), the SXM government announced that it would soon stop requiring Covid testing for Americans who have been fully vaccinated against Covid.

No information was released about when this new policy will go into force, how it will be implemented, what its impact might be on children, or whether the government has any information on whether the United States is going to alter its current testing requirement before Americans visiting overseas return home. When we have that information, we will publish it immediately to our JMB Website Supporters Island Discount Program members and in our [Jeff Berger's Everything SXM Facebook Group](#), as well as in the next edition of *SXM Weekly News*.

## 8. Repeat: If Your Passport Is Within 6 Months of Expiring Before Your Next Trip, Renew Pronto

It's important to make sure before you travel that your passport is valid at least six months beyond the end of your trip. If that is not the case we urge you to renew your passport now.

Because of the sudden increase in travel, the demand on the US government for passport renewals is huge. There have been delays recently of months for passport renewals or new passports, and delays of several weeks even for expedited service which is available at higher cost.

Before Renewing, we strongly suggest you go on our everything SXM Facebook group and post something asking if people in your area or elsewhere are receiving anything remotely resembling expeditious service for their new passports or passport renewals. Give yourself extra time regardless of their response, to make sure you have adequate space in your calendar to receive your new passports well before your trip begins.

You have a lot of company going after passports so do leave yourself plenty of time.

## 9. Where To Find Our JUST UPDATED "Complete Guide to SXM Entry Requirements"

Ever since SXM first instituted Entry Requirements more than a year ago, we have published those requirements in-depth here in *SXM Weekly News*. However, since the pandemic appears to be starting to ease, we have removed it from weekly news but continue to run it (continually updated) in the files area of our everything SXM Facebook group, at this web address: [www.facebook.com/groups/mySXM/files](https://www.facebook.com/groups/mySXM/files). If you don't see the Entry Requirements near the beginning of the list of files, use the search window in the files area for the word Entry and the latest version of our **Guide to Entry**

Requirements will appear.

In addition, if there are any major changes to Entry Requirements, that is news that we will cover it here in *SXM Weekly News* as usual.

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## **WEATHER:**

### **10. Hurricane Season Starts Cooking**

The first storm of the 2021 hurricane season happened a few weeks back northeast of Bermuda, causing no issues and making no impact except to shipping in that area.

This past weekend, Tropical Storm Bill formed off Cape Hatteras and headed northeastward out to sea.

There are signs that a third storm starting to take shape in the Bay of Campeche (on the west coast of the Yucatan) as well. Meteorologist Rob Lightbown of Crown Weather, who is our chief meteorologist and also chief meteorologist for Island92 radio, is watching the area closely and does believe development is rather likely later this week. It could well have impacts somewhere between the Texas/Louisiana border and the northeastern Gulf of Mexico coast with heavy rains looking increasingly likely.

If you live in that area or if you live or work anywhere in the Caribbean, Bahamas, or along the US Gulf or Atlantic coastline or Atlantic Canada, we urge you to check [www.crownweather.com](http://www.crownweather.com) and become members there. When you do, Rob will send you periodic weather bulletins to keep you aware of everything that's happening: Rob is the go-to source for accurate storm information for many thousands of subscribers everywhere. We have subscribe to his private forecasting bulletins for many years and they are always the primary source of our most important weather information.

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### **11. About Our New Daily Tropical Outlooks**

Effective last week, we started posting daily Tropical Outlooks in our [Jeff Berger's Everything SXM Facebook group](#) at some point during each day. If some tropical activity is underway, our posts will generally be happening in the evening. But if nothing is going on, our Tropical Outlooks from the National Hurricane Center may be posted at any time during the day.

*We are also making sure that significant information is posted every day in the weather center of our main website, [everythingSXM.com](http://everythingSXM.com).*

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### **12. Final Reminder: 2021 Hurricane Preparations Heads Up from Rob Lightbown**

Storm forecasting specialists Crown Weather, our go-to source of accurate, reliable hurricane information for many years, is already issuing tropical updates to its subscribers. We have long recommended that if you are ever in the path of any tropical storm or hurricane, you subscribe to their immensely valuable but very inexpensive service; for more info, see [www.CrownWeather.com](http://www.CrownWeather.com).

A few week ago, Crown Weather issued a very important bulletin concerning 2021 hurricane preparations; here is that text:

***Finally, I wanted to mention one thing to keep in mind when making your hurricane preparations this season & that is the marked increase in supplies, especially building supplies. Building supplies, especially lumber, has doubled & even tripled in just the past year due to the whole "supply and demand". So, when making your preparations this season & you think you may need plywood for your windows or other construction items, buy early because it's quite possible, if not likely, that plywood, lumber and other items will be sold out long before any Hurricane Warnings go up. It's a real complicating factor going into this hurricane season.***

Editor's Note: This has already started to happen. If you are not fully prepared for whatever the 2021 season offers, do it now; this is our final warning.

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### **13. Where to Find Current SXM Weather Info (Revised 3/8/21)**

You'll find detailed observations and forecasts by visiting our main SXM website, [www.everythingsxm.com](http://www.everythingsxm.com).

Here are four more sources of current weather info:

- 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](http://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](http://www.island92.com). They report island warnings at once and know exactly what's going on. You can listen on the web anytime through live streaming.
- 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.*

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## 14. Where to Download an Official NHC Hurricane Chart

You can get it right here: [click to download](#).

**Or read this:**

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 now 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. You might want to print a few of these now and *not* save doing that for later.

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## 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](http://www.sxmweeklynews.com)***

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### COVID-19: General Information

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## 15. Important Covid Information Has Moved...

We have moved our complete coverage of Covid, including Entry Requirements, to the Files area of our Everything SXM Facebook Group. Click [here](#) to access that info, then use the search window to find "Entry" and you'll see the correct file.

## **COVID-19: Guide to Entry Requirements - Please Read and Retain - REVISED 6/16/2021**

### **IMPORTANT NOTICE CONCERNING THE GUIDE TO ENTRY REQUIREMENTS**

## **16. Our Continually Revised Guide to SXM Entry Requirements Has Moved**

We now publish our complete Guide to Entry Requirements only in the files area of our everything SXM Facebook group. Because the Pandemic is starting to cool down in the US, there is no need for it to appear in both places. There, online, we have the ability to make changes in seconds, a key asset regarding Pandemic news and entry requirements changes. That's why we have done this. We urge you to go to the files area now at [facebook.com/groups/mySXM/files](https://facebook.com/groups/mySXM/files), then use the search window to search for Entry and the entire guide to entry requirements will be on your computer or other device. We won't stop publishing news about Covid and its impacts on SXM tourism, but we have now stopped publishing the guide here every week. Please make a note of this so you will be able to access the guide anytime you want online. Latest revision occurs 6/16/21.

### **Going Home to the US: (NEW SECTION)**

## **17. Our Info on US-Required Covid Testing Before You Go Home Has Moved**

We now publish our Info on US-Required Covid Testing only in the files area of our Everything SXM Facebook group. Because the Pandemic is starting to cool down in the US, there is no need for it to appear in both places. There, online, we have the ability to make changes in seconds, a key asset regarding Pandemic news and entry requirements changes. That's why we have done this. We urge you to go to the files area now at [facebook.com/groups/mySXM/files](https://facebook.com/groups/mySXM/files), then use the search window to search for Entry and the entire guide to entry requirements will be on your computer or other device. We won't stop publishing news about Covid and its impacts on SXM tourism, but we have now stopped publishing the guide here every week. Please make a note of this so you will be able to access the guide anytime you want online.

### **Etc.**

## **18. SkyMed TRAVEL Guarantees 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 15% 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](http://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**

## **19. Why You Might Want to Consider Timesharing in SXM**

Roughly 40 years ago, timesharing first appeared in SXM. In the years since, timesharing has appealed to more than 80,000 timeshare owners (estimated) and resorts have sprung up across the Dutch side of the island. It has given them an opportunity to own multiple vacation weeks throughout the year at a small fraction of the cost of full-share ownership — offering an opportunity to enjoy multiple tropical vacations every year at a very reasonable per-week cost.

After hurricane Irma nearly obliterated the island almost 4 years ago, virtually every one of the timeshare resorts on SXM was **built back better and stronger**. Consequently, essentially all SXM timeshares currently open are now built to do a better job of withstanding severe hurricanes and offer economical pricing.

*Much more important to consumers, most resorts have been improved to offer the kinds of features consumers seek, including workout facilities, pools, tropical beaches, and in many cases multiple restaurants from beach bars to award-winning gourmet dining.* If you're considering visiting SXM at least once a year, you owe it to yourself to look into some of the island's timeshare resorts — among them several that we recommend, that you'll find listed and described in the next article. Do check them out; you will not be disappointed.

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## 20. What Are SXM's Best Timeshare Resorts?

Clearly the word "best" leads to some subjectivity, as we freely admit. In no special order, here are several resorts that we feel are worth your consideration either for staying during a rented week or three or buying.

We do suggest you try out these resorts by renting from current timeshare owners. You will find hundreds of weeks for rent on our main site, [www.everythingsxm.com](http://www.everythingsxm.com), where you'll find an entire section devoted to timeshare sales and rentals directly from timeshare owners: no middleman fees, no commissions.

Here are some of our choices, again in no special order, along with comments about each resort:

**Simpson Bay Resort** in the heart of Simpson Bay has its own beaches, beach bars, breakfast and lunch restaurants, plus dinner at a spectrum of restaurants including an outstanding new steakhouse, excellent sushi, authentic gourmet Mexican dining, great pizza, a full-fledged sports bar with multiple screens, and even more.

The resort is known for the outstanding quality of its management and the long-term service of its employees, as well as the great depth of its food and beverage offerings and its services. Simpson is the island's largest and most popular timeshare resort, and it has more timeshare owners than any other SXM resort and is a consistent winner of our **Everything SXM Award of Excellence**. For much more, see [www.simpsonbayresort.com](http://www.simpsonbayresort.com).

Despite its name, **Belair Beach Hotel** is a timeshare resort which, like Simpson Bay Resort, also makes unsold rooms available for use as hotel suites. The resort wisely points out in its marketing materials, "The only thing we overlook is the ocean," and in fact every room has a breathtaking ocean view. The resort has its own private beach as well as its own bar/restaurant, and both a minimarket and car rental office are directly on site. The resort is also close to Philipsburg, the capital of the Dutch side and the island's dominant commercial center with more beach bars, jewelry stores, and souvenir shops than the rest of the island put together. It is also just minutes away from Simpson Bay home to dozens of restaurants in a spectrum of categories and many more shops and businesses. Both Belair and Divi, the next Resort we list, also have received our **Everything SXM Awards of Excellence**.

**Divi little Bay Beach Resort**, now nearing the completion of major growth where it is doubling in size, also has its own beach, all newly renovated rooms with the latest amenities, and a palate-pleasing spectrum of expertly run restaurants. Gorgeous new multilevel pool in the heart of the resort, too. Do not leave the island without meeting the parrot Gizmo, a character of near legendary status. Both the resort and their principal restaurant are winners of our **Everything SXM Award of Excellence**.

**Oyster Bay Beach Resort** in the oyster pond/Dawn beach area is on the Dutch side near the French border -- that's on the island's East Coast. It has breathtaking views of St. Bart's, offers outstanding snorkeling on the beach just a few steps away, and is conveniently located equidistant from both downtown Philipsburg and the famous Orient beach area, the island's most popular beach. "OBBER" delivers an amazing spectrum of accommodations types from luxury two-story suites to beautiful units overlooking scenic Dawn beach. Oyster Bay Beach Resort also includes many units at the adjoining Coral Beach Club — ultraluxury units for discriminating guests. Not only does OBBER offer multiple restaurants, it also is centrally located in an area known for its own restaurants. Plus, it's only about a 15 to 20 minute ride to Grand Case, which is often referred to as the culinary capital of the Caribbean.

We have selected only a small number of the many timeshare resorts on the island. For timeshare owner opinions of what the best resorts are, we invite you to join our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#) which now has close to 30,000 members, a majority of whom are SXM timeshare owners who will be happy to give you their opinions.

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## 20A. JMB Takes Steps to Ensure Authenticity in SXM Rental Ads

Ever since we first started our JMB Website Supporters (JWS) Island Discount Program back in 1992, we have been running timeshare rental and timeshare sale ads from in our main everythingSXM.com SXM website -- **ads accepted exclusively from JMB members**. Thanks to that fact, we have never heard a single complaint against any timeshare owner from anyone renting a timeshare week from them through our site.

However it's well worth noting that when you answer a timeshare Rental Ad virtually anywhere else, all the person who's advertising has to do is pay a fee and their ad is posted. **That is not the case with us, since we do accept advertising only from our JMB Website Supporters members**. If there ever were any problems, we are fully prepared to comply with legal requests for information on the timeshare owner — though we are delighted to report we have never been asked to do that. *Many advertiser / timeshare owners are people we have met personally over the years during our visits to the island, too.*

**If you want to rent timeshare units for a tropical vacation lasting a week or longer, check out our ads in the timeshare rental/sales section of our main site, [www.everythingsxm.com](http://www.everythingsxm.com).** If you'd like to rent for longer and stay in one specific place, see the Sponsors list elsewhere in this issue of *SXM Weekly News* — it gives you the name of SXM's top real estate and vacation rental companies, who we can strongly recommend rentals of full-share condos and villas across the island that precisely meet your needs.

## 21. More Information from Ocean Club Timeshare Owners

We wrote here last week about the plight of timeshare owners at the Ocean Club in Cupecoy, almost totally destroyed by hurricane Irma and left in ruins ever since by its owner, Eric Loor.

**"Ocean Club SXM Timeshare Owners"** is a Facebook group "for the timeshare owners at the Ocean Club SXM where we can connect and share information. Post Irma it is also so we can brainstorm to coordinate a united effort to get information about the status of the resort and rebuilding from Mr. Eric Loor-the resort owner."

Loor a few years ago apparently offered timeshare owners migration to some other resorts, none of which were on St. Maarten — offered at a high cost. Related info is below. It appears he continues to be mute to attempts from timeshare owners to obtain information about their investments.

***What follows is an assortment of comments about the situation from Ocean Club timeshare owners whose identities we are keeping private, followed by a comment from us about solving the misery suffered by a number of tourists who have analogous problems:***

"As I understand it, almost three years ago in early fall 2018, OC offered to migrate OC ownerships to Vacations International. Don't believe many took them up on the offer because VI has limited Caribbean options. Unaware of any other migration offers, but certainly could be wrong."

"Unfortunately since the offer in 2018 that most refused to accept-no one has heard from Eric Loor. He has dropped off the face of the planet. None of the phone numbers or emails work any longer and his attorney I was in contact with no longer responds since we refused his ridiculous migration and told him we would fight in court for what's ours. We were preparing to start working with an attorney when all of a sudden no one could find him. He settled with some of the outright owners of the tower building but that's all we have learned...we were also originally told he was going to rebuild as soon as possible but it would be a hotel and we would be able to re-purchase our weeks at the hotel but at a substantial cost and it would be nothing like the condos and villas we had. Clearly he hasn't started rebuilding anything and no one was interested in re-purchasing something they already owned."

"Eric and OC employees sold everything they could. After Irma when they didn't know I was on island, I walked into my private villa with friends as people were packing up my furniture. They actually had a business going for about a year after Irma. I know people who bought things from maids etc."

***COMMENT: Timeshare Owner Consumer Protection legislation has been sitting in the SXM Parliament for years. Occasionally, when prodded, some SXM politicians react as if they are aghast to hear this, but the fact is that they are the ones sitting on it. Meanwhile, timeshare debacles on SXM continue to pile up -- not just Caravanserai / Alegria, but also Towers at Mullet Bay and Ocean Club -- and no doubt some older condo projects (remember Red Pond? remember also Royal Islander Great Bay?)...***

***Timeshare owners in these projects continue to be left holding the bag, losing a lot of money they had invested in SXM in good faith. Where is the "Good Faith" on the part of the government of SXM to protect people who invest in timesharing there? The delays need to stop and people who are contributing big-time to SXM's economy -- tens of thousands of timeshare owners -- need to be shown the respect -- and the action -- they***

*deserve.*

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## 22. Update on Simpson Bay Resort

Simpson Bay Resort is one of many companies in this hemisphere to recently suffer a ransomware attack, and we've been reporting here about their progress is normalizing their communications infrastructure in its wake.

Here, briefly, is the latest:

Recovery continues to be a work in progress, however "we are making good progress," reports resort General Manager Marcel Javois. "Check in / Check out system up and running. POS system at F&B [food and beverage] outlets operational allowing guests to charge to their units. Email addresses should be restored next week."

We will continue to report on this going forward.

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## 23. LAST CALL! Entries to our Orient Beach Club Vacation Giveaway ***MUST END 6/21!***

SXM Weekly News/EverythingStMaarten/JMB Communications will be giving away a one-week Orient Beach Club vacation to a lucky winner later this month.

**ENTRIES MUST END this coming Monday, June 21, the day after Father's Day. We have scheduled the drawing to occur live on the air during Fresh Air in the Morning on Island92.com between 945 and 10 AM Eastern time on Monday, June 28.**

**Orient Beach Hotel is a perfect place to stay for your next summer vacation** — even if it's in an additional vacation beyond what you already planned. July is the most perfect month on SXM, with great weather, just about every restaurant still open, plus low traffic and plenty of room on all the beaches — how's that for a change from the endless traffic jams (and current crazy overcharging) on the Jersey shore, Cape Cod, or Lake George?

SXM in summer is a great vacation place: it's time you took a real summer vacation and get away from all that traffic, noise, and congestion that you find where you usually go.

Come visit us in SXM this summer and start yourself a great new tradition!

**HOW TO ENTER THIS GIVEAWAY:** [Go here.](#)

The form is LIVE now and you are free to enter. **IMPORTANT:** You ***MUST*** be a subscriber to *SXM Weekly News* (NOT a passalong reader) to win, but subscriptions are FREE. Subscribe now at [sxmweeklynews.com](http://sxmweeklynews.com).

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## 24. Condo Sales Continue Through the Roof - Who to Contact

See the Realtors in our Sponsors list below; they are the most qualified to help you learn more about and acquire a condo on SXM that meets your specific needs. Also see the story immediately below about BrightPath Caribbean, a company that can help enormously with required paperwork. They know what they're doing.

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## 25. Buying a Condo in SXM: Important Procedural Help

A while ago, 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 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*.

## 26. Where to Find SXM Condo Rentals from JMB Members for 2021-22: EverythingSXM.com

SXM timeshare owners who are members of JMB Website Supporters are posting 2021 and now 2022 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 this Summer, Fall, and beyond.

## 27. 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.

### SECTION 3: JMB Member Discounts & Benefits

## 28. HIGHLY Updated NEWS About JMB Member Discounts / Benefits Updates (Updated 6/14/21)

Once Covid is gone and the fallout from it has cleared, we will resume 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](#). Please see the next section.

### SECTION 4: Island News, Info, & Features

## 29. Been Thinking of SkyMed? Why NOW Is the Best Time To Pull The Trigger on SkyMed Medevac Protection: Under \$1.35/day for Ongoing SkyMed Protection!

### Anything Can Happen Anywhere...

**SKYMED Takes You Home®** when you become critically ill or injured while traveling. Get it BEFORE You Need it for as little as \$1.35/day OR LESS DURING THIS UNPRECEDENTED SALE (annual & multiyear plans) that are *guaranteed renewable regardless of advancing age or declining health*. Without SkyMed, you'll need to pay the current price of an evacuation in cash, in advance -- and that could easily be \$35,000 to \$50,000 or more -- sometimes much more. Why risk that? See these important links:

You'll find an overview of all key SkyMed Features & Services [here](#).

You'll find Frequently Asked Questions [here](#).

Here are the details of this unprecedented sale:

- **LIFETIME PRICE GUARANTEE:**  
All existing SkyMed memberships and new SkyMed membership purchases of one-year or longer are now price-guaranteed for life. The price of your membership will not increase if you buy during this 2021 sale or if you already are a SkyMed owner of any annual or longer membership: *this applies as long as your renewals are paid on time.*

**FREE BONUS WEEKS (UP TO 21 WEEKS) FOR PURCHASES OF SKYMED'S MOST POPULAR MEMBERSHIPS:**

- **Buy a new 5-year Ultimate SkyMed membership OR UPGRADE TO ONE and get an added 21 weeks of medevac protection at no added cost.** More on SkyMed memberships is on our site, [www.skymed.com/jmb](http://www.skymed.com/jmb) or call us at 508-747-8281 for answers to any questions. Guaranteed renewable *as long as your renewals are paid on time.* Does not apply to monthly-payment 5-year Ultimates.
- **Buy a new 3-year Ultimate SkyMed membership OR UPGRADE TO ONE and get an added 12 weeks of medevac protection at no added cost.** More on SkyMed memberships is on our site, [www.skymed.com/jmb](http://www.skymed.com/jmb) or call us at 508-747-8281 for answers to any questions. Guaranteed renewable *as long as your renewals are paid on time.*
- **Buy a new annual (one-year guaranteed renewable *as long as your renewals are paid on time*) SkyMed membership and get an added 21 free days of medevac protection at no added cost.**

**REWARDS FOR REFERRALS FROM SKYMED MEMBERS FOR NEW MEMBERSHIPS:**

- **21 Free Weeks added to your SkyMed membership** when you refer someone who buys a 5-year Ultimate.
- **12 Free Weeks added to your SkyMed membership** when you refer someone who buys a 3-year Ultimate.
- **21 Free Days added to your SkyMed membership** when you refer someone who buys an annual SkyMed membership.
- **HOW TO CONTACT US: Phone us during normal business hours EDT at 508-747-8281 for answers to questions or to sign up. When you call us directly, we get credit for the sale. You can also email us directly through SkyMed at [jeff.berger@skymed.com](mailto:jeff.berger@skymed.com).**

My SkyMed website: <http://www.skymed.com/jmb>. But please call me directly with questions or to sign up.

Feel free to contact me via Facebook Messenger as well or now WhatsApp.

--Jeff Berger

**30. Help Keep SXM Weekly News Coming:**

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**MEMBERSHIP SALE NOW UNDERWAY**

**BUT IT MUST END SOON!**

**NOW: Get A Full Year or TWO of FREE Membership**

**in Our**

**JMB Website Supporters Island Discount Program**

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**as our thanks when you  
HELP US CONTINUE TO PUBLISH  
SXM WEEKLY NEWS  
BY JOINING / RENEWING / REINSTATING  
ANY MULTI-YEAR MEMBERSHIP IN OUR  
"JMB WEBSITE SUPPORTERS"  
ISLAND DISCOUNT PROGRAM:**

We know readers / JMB members have uncertainties -- for clearly obvious reasons. Our business has been adversely affected by Covid-19 as have most businesses worldwide and we need your help now to continue be able to research, write, produce, and distribute SXM Weekly News to you, its more than 355,000 worldwide readers every week as we have since 1992...

You'll certainly return SOON, so please sign up for, renew, or reinstate today.

**HOW IT WORKS:** *Buy any new multiyear JMB Website Supporters membership, or renew/reinstate any JMB membership for multiple years, and while this promotion continues we will give you a full additional year FREE. Memberships to which this applies are noted as (+1) below.* But the maximum number of offered years (renewal/reinstatement/new membership) and you get **TWO FREE ADDITIONAL YEARS (+2)**

Military / First Responder memberships available too at huge discounts. Details below.

**a) New Memberships Get Great Benefits:**

Here are our low new membership prices:

- 1 year \$59
- 3 years \$109 (+1)
- 5 years \$139 (+2)

Sign up by going to [everything.sxm.com](http://everything.sxm.com) and clicking the page curl, or phone us.

**b) Here are all the multiyear renewal / reinstatement rates for all current or former members:**

- The **one-year** renewal or reinstatement is \$49.
- **Three-year** renewal/reinstatements, \$89 (+1)
- **Our Best Offer:** Six-year renewal/reinstatements, \$149; please ACT NOW. (+2)

You can do both renewals and reinstatements [right here](#), in our membership reinstatement center (prices are identical to renewals). For new memberships, click the page curl on our main site, [everything.sxm.com](http://everything.sxm.com), for info or to sign up. Your renewal begins when your current subscription ends. Reinstatements of expired memberships take just a few days to process. You can reinstate an old membership regardless of how many years ago it expired, too. We email you a new membership card once processing has been completed.

**c) Military and First-Responder memberships** offer you four years for just \$67.96 (at \$16.99/year paid at inception). That is the best deal we have ever offered anyone for any memberships, on a yearly standard-price basis. DD214 or other proof of US military or first-responder service required. **Please ACT NOW. ALL MILITARY MEMBERSHIPS, NEW OR RENEWAL/REINSTATED, ARE (+2) BUT THIS SALE ENDS VERY SOON SO ACT TODAY!**

We hope you are having a pleasant Spring, **but please ... join, renew, or reinstate today.**

**Don't want to use PayPal to sign up or renew** (even though you need not be a PayPal member)? Just call our office any day from 8am to 8pm EDT at **508-830-3456** and we'll be happy to take your info by phone. If lines are busy and you get our answering system, you can leave your info on our secure line. We'll appreciate anything you can do to help.

If you already did this and have not yet received your membership materials, we're moving as quickly as we can with a temporarily reduced staff. We hope to be fully caught up shortly

**THANK YOU!**

Jeff Berger / Tracy / Susan / Michael / Greg and the entire JMB team.  
JMB Communications  
P. O. Box 1812

Plymouth, MA 02362-1812

## ::::::::::::Here's More Island News::::::::::::

### 31. Why There's a French Side Curfew...

When we last checked about a week ago, the French side had approximately 300 active cases of Covid. Few people were hospitalized, but for the French, the capability of the French side hospital to accommodate people needing hospitalization for Covid is the linchpin for making decisions such as those concerning the current curfew. If French side authorities believe they have little additional hospital capacity, they institute measures which they think will counteract the problem.

It's their government and their decision. However, the problem isn't when restaurants open or close, it is how people are allowed (or not allowed) to behave in bars — and that, in our humble opinion, is one crux of the problem. The other is the vaccination rate which on the French side isn't what it needs to be. If the authorities want to solve this problem (and we're sure they do), they need to enforce mask requirements and boost their vaccination program. Now, from what we see, that isn't happening. Hopefully it soon will.

### 32. French Side Curfew Extended a Few More Days

The French side curfew of 8 PM for restaurants and bars has been in effect for a relatively short time. It has been extended by a few days at a time on multiple occasions, and is currently scheduled to expire midweek this week. Why it exists is covered in the article above.

As we said in that article, what the French side needs is more enforcement of its mask regulations in bars and much more effective promotion of its vaccination program. Doing both can stop the pandemic. Science has proven that the vaccines are safe and effective. Some people who have not become convinced of that will certainly be quite ill if they become infected with Covid — and worse, they will spread the infection to their friends, families, and coworkers, a sad and totally unnecessary state of affairs.

### 33. Are There Really Sharks in SXM Waters?

Are there really sharks in SXM waters?

A new member of our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#) asked that question last week. Last fall, there were several eyewitnesses to an attack by what was believed to be a tiger shark on a swimmer about 300 feet from shore off Orient beach; the attack tragically proved fatal. The victim was a woman tourist from France who was an accomplished swimmer.

There are sharks throughout the oceans of the world, including the waters off SXM. However, shark attacks here have been astonishingly rare and until last fall, fatal shark attacks have been virtually unheard of here. There are no warning signs about sharks on the island — but they are here. They're also in the waters off favorite vacation places like Cape Cod, the Jersey Shore, Florida, etc. The ocean is their domain.

To avoid sharks, stay close to shore and follow the directions of beach authorities wherever you swim. Never wear shiny bathing suits or shiny jewelry in the water. If there are warnings about sharks, follow the instructions of authorities explicitly as noted above.

### 34. The Inside Scoop on SXM's Incomparable "Lolos"

LoLos are SXM's popular roadside grills where widely loved dishes such as ribs, chicken, lobster, and sometimes others are grilled to perfection and served with a small variety of sides — usually at amazingly low prices.

Perhaps the most popular roadside grill on the island is Cynthia's Talk of the Town in Grand Case, but there are many others — in downtown Marigot, at the northern end of Marigot on the side of the road near the stadium, in the St. Louis area on the French side, and our own favorite, Dany's smooth Cupecoy Beach Bar.



There, order your food directly from Dany when he passes by with drink offers / orders and he'll deliver it right to your lounge chair. The food is delicious and as we said relatively inexpensive — and the ambiance absolutely cannot be beat anywhere on the island. You're on a tropical beach, mon!

See next story.

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## 35. Dany's: SXM's Most Authentic, Inviting Beach Bar

Dany's Smooth Cupecoy Beach Bar is not a full-service restaurant — it's simply the best, most authentic Caribbean Beach Bar on the island.

True, it doesn't have a big menu. But it does have very real Caribbean ambiance since it's located on the beach in a temporary structure at Cupecoy, Midwinter home of the legendary lemondroppers. The bar has full drink service, interesting conversation with visitors from around the world (literally), and delicious, inexpensive food.

If you ask about Dany's at Cupecoy Beach it in our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#), you'll find lots to recommend it. We've also run a number of pictures of it there.

Tell Dany we suggested you visit.

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## 36. Re: Last Week's SXM SCUBA Feature... & Pure Maple Syrup

Last week's *SXM Weekly News* featured a story by SXM visitor / SCUBA lover Stacey Schnee, a New York native who visits the island from her home in Central Massachusetts. There, she does lots of things, among them brewing pure maple syrup by hand in small batches.

Her syrup sales can help her visit SXM again, so look: "I sell my homemade 100% pure maple syrup for \$12/pint or \$23/quart. Golden, Amber, and Dark syrup is currently available. I will ship nearly anywhere (shipping cost varies by location and quantity). A number of people requested her contact info for ordering syrup, so here it is: Facebook: [facebook.com/staceyscitysyrup](https://facebook.com/staceyscitysyrup) or email [stacey@schnee.com](mailto:stacey@schnee.com).

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## 37. SXM Airport Bird Monument Fully Restored Thanks to a Tourist's Generosity

A tourists great generosity has brought back the beautiful brown pelican bird monument at the SXM Airport roundabout. Here is the full [story](#) from *The Daily Herald*.

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## 38. Whatever Happened to D Boat?

D boat, a familiar sight in Simpson Bay lagoon and adjacent waters for the last several years wound up on the rocks after the storm more than a year ago and could not easily be removed.

A former small freighter, D boat had been converted into a party boat that was told into the waters of Simpson Bay to entertain guests. Fortunately, it's engine had long since been removed as had its fuel tanks, so there was no environmental damage when it tore loose during a storm during the winter of 2020.

Efforts are currently underway to remove many sunken boats from the vicinity of Simpson Bay lagoon and other areas around the island, and the contractor involved agreed to meet to remove D boat as part of the process. This should be completed sometime this summer, if it hasn't been already.

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## 39. Where / When SkyMed Covers You

SkyMed short-term and guaranteed renewable annual memberships "TAKE YOU HOME@" when you become seriously or critically injured throughout the USA, Canada, Mexico, Bermuda, the Bahamas, and all the nations of the Caribbean. Global protection through Global Emergency Transport Services (GETS) is a low-cost option on annual memberships and is included in multiyear Ultimate memberships.

SkyMed's Caribbean coverage defaults to protect you through high-season, 11/1-4/30 yearly. If you visit at other times of year, please call Member Services a 1-800-475-9633 and let them know. Important: if you are on SXM or anyplace outside the USA or Canada in aggregate for 6 months or more per year, you'll need xPat protection. Call Jeff Berger directly and he can help you upgrade your membership to full xPat coverage.

## 40. Think About Where You're Going & About This:

***TRAVELING \*ANYWHERE\* THIS SUMMER? SkyMed TAKES YOU HOME® when you become critically ill or injured when traveling anywhere in the USA, Canada, Mexico, Bermuda, the Bahamas, or all the nations in the Caribbean. (Global protection is also available.)***

**So if you're traveling to SXM -- or anywhere else -- in the next few months, get SKYMED Medical evacuation membership FIRST: It could easily save you \$35,000 -- the approx. cash cost of an emergency medical evacuation YOU MUST PAY IN CASH IN ADVANCE should you become seriously or critically ill or injured on SXM -- or anywhere else -- and need to get home.**

**The SkyMed Difference: SkyMed members pay only the small cost of membership, currently under \$1.35/day on an annual basis -- but you must get SkyMed BEFORE you need it, like fire insurance. CALL JEFF FOR INFO OR TO SIGN UP: 508-747-8281 (8am-8pm EDT). Or email him at [jeff.berger@skymed.com](mailto:jeff.berger@skymed.com).**

## 41. Restaurant of the Week: Emilio's

Although you might think of a restaurant called Emilio's as Italian, it is not. It is named after the Emilio Wilson estate, an historic landmark on the island and encompasses some beautiful natural meadows and a hillside.

Under the direction of long-time SXM culinary figures Su and Norman Wathey, the restaurant has become a culinary landmark as well as an historical landmark. They have done extraordinary work in preserving the nature of the buildings on this property. When you go, arrange in advance to take a little time to see both major buildings that date back to when this property was a working Plantation hundreds of years ago....

Chef Sidney, who has been here for the last few years, has proven himself to be an able successor to renowned chef Dino Jagtiani and has kept this restaurant one of the very best dining spots on the entire island. The food is continental with a Caribbean flair. Stop by any weekend to make reservations for the following week. The restaurant is open limited hours and seating also is limited, so reservations are strongly advised.

The food is flat out spectacular, as thousands of loyal customers freely attest when talking about this restaurant in our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#). It is absolutely a must visit during your SXM vacation. You'll find many other tourists visiting as well as lots of locals who are here on a regular basis.

Don't miss it!

Here are recently featured SXM restaurants:

**Emilio's:** outside Philipsburg (featured 6/14-21/21) offers fine dining in an historic, classic ambiance. **Not to be missed.** <https://emilios-sxm.com/menus/dinner-menu/>

**Isola** next to Hollywood Casino at Simpson Bay Resort, (featured 6/7/21). Italian. Excellent food, many choices (pizza too), busy, good specials. Lively; busy; entertainment some nights. Many folks from Simpson Bay Resort dine here as well as many locals and lots of casino high-rollers. [www.isolaristorante.com](http://www.isolaristorante.com)

**IZI Ristorante Italiano**, [www.izirestaurant.com](http://www.izirestaurant.com) (featured 5/31/21). Open for lunch and dinner except Mon., when they're closed. Great food from one of SXM's very best restaurants. Fun atmosphere, too. \$10 pasta specials at lunch - lots of great food in every meal.

**Mario's Bistro at the Cliff**, formerly Mario's Bistro [www.mariobistrot.com/en/](http://www.mariobistrot.com/en/) 5/24/21 Mario's is one of the most spectacular culinary experiences you'll ever have -- here in SXM or anywhere else. Go. Phenomenal dining at very reasonable prices. Formerly on the plaza at Porto Cupecoy, Cupecoy Beach, they are now at the Cliff. Open every day but Monday, they serve both lunch and dinner six days a week. Traditional and highly creative Continental dinners, with Tapas and other selections at lunch. Do not miss it. Reservations essential. They do not use an answering machine, so call when they are open and let it ring.

**Jai's Contemporary Indian Cuisine** (featured 5/16/21), **Simpson Bay** A 15-second walk to the side of the building from Reveil Marin (R/M is a breakfast/lunch restaurant). Outstanding dinners in Jai's, a fun new contemporary Indian fusion restaurant operated by two young SXM graduates of the Culinary Institute of America (CIA). Super creative, artfully presented, top-notch delicious selections spanning a wide spectrum of flavors, aromas, and textures. You gotta try this place! Highly recommended.

**Topper's** <http://www.sxmtoppers.com/> (featured 5/10/21) One of SXM's oldest and busiest restaurants, Breakfast, lunch, dinner, and late dining. Open morning until late night. Sports on TV. Karaoke.

**Vesna Taverna**, [www.vesnasxm.com](http://www.vesnasxm.com) (featured 4/26/21). Now open every day for B/L; dinner is offered Tuesday through Saturday. Outstanding dining and very reasonable pricing.

**Spiga**, [www.spiga-sxm.com](http://www.spiga-sxm.com) (featured 4/17/21) Chef-co-owner Ciro Russo & Lara Russo haven't missed a beat here as Spiga has finally reopened. Incredibly irresistible food, great staff, service, and beautiful ambiance. Everything is great, appetizers are out of this world. Absolutely not to be missed. **Now reopened.**

**Mandarin Pan Asian** at Port de Plaisance Resort off the Union Road, Cole Bay, (featured 3/8/21). Excellent selection of palate-pleasing offerings from Japan, Thailand, and China. Highly recommended.

**Pure Ocean Restaurant** at Divi Little Bay Resort, Dutch side (featured 3/1/21) Fine new beachside restaurant serving breakfast, lunch, and fine dining dinners. Excellent choices for everyone, innovative menu, beautiful presentation, and downright delicious. Great Caribbean ambiance on their open-air beachside deck. Attentive service and responsive staff.

**Pineapple Pete**, [www.pineapplepete.com](http://www.pineapplepete.com) (featured 2/22/21) Known for great lobster Thermidor and lots, lots more. Generous portions, reasonable prices. Huge variety. Games for kids & their parents.

**Wasabi Charlie Japanese Restaurant (formerly Sushiiitto)** (2/22/21) now combined with Pineapple Pete at the Pineapple Pete location next door, opposite IZI Ristorante Italiano in Simpson Bay. See that entry, above.

**Astra Steak & Seafood** (featured 2/8/21) is the newest creation of Anish Chugani, who also operates Avantika and Movida in the same area of Simpson Bay. It's new, beautiful, and has high-quality written all over it. We just went and loved it. See <https://www.astrasxm.com/>

**Avantika Thai** [www.avantikasxm.com](http://www.avantikasxm.com) (featured 2/1/21) Avantika is wonderful; SXM's best Thai.

**La Patrona, Simpson Bay Resort** (featured 1/25/21) La Patrona is SXM's only truly authentic Mexican restaurant. Highly recommended: great food, great service, not to be missed.

**Mama Pizza**, Porto Cupecoy (featured 1/18/21) Excellent pizza, and sizable portions / reasonable prices on numerous other Italian specialties. On the plaza at Porto Cupecoy, Cupecoy Beach. **Now also open in Oyster Pond.**

**Sale & Pepe** (featured 1/11/21) Cool location among breathtaking megayachts, cool decor, knowledgeable staff, and extensive menu, good service, and delicious food. Chef Davide Zagami stays mostly in the kitchen ensuring things go just right. <https://www.facebook.com/saleandpepemarina/>

**La Rosa Restaurant**, Maho Plaza, 7/13/20: Loved the relaxing vibe, attentive service, GREAT food, reasonable prices, and BIG portions. [www.larosarestaurant.com/index.html](http://www.larosarestaurant.com/index.html)

**Freedom Fighters ITAL SHACK Rasta Restaurant**, [www.sxmfreedomfighters.com/restaurant](http://www.sxmfreedomfighters.com/restaurant) 4/15/19. Just go....

**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?

**Enigma C3 luxury Catamaran**, [www.sailstmaarten.com](http://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.

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

**Taloula Mango's Blue Bitch Bar** <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.

## 42. Join Our New Conversational Everything SXM Group on MeWe, the Facebook Alternative

For years, you have been able to obtain a great deal of SXM information and photos/videos in our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#). Unfortunately, not everyone is a fan of Facebook, so we have started a new Everything SXM group on a platform that has become a strong competitor Facebook — it is called MeWe.

We urge all fans of *SXM Weekly News* to become members of MeWe and join our group there; [here is the link](#).

## 43. Going Home? Check Your State's Return Policies

It's essential for visitors returning home to the US to know their home state's policies and procedures for passengers returning from overseas flights well before they head to the airport.

We suggest at least a couple of weeks before your return date that you visit your state's main web portal to see exactly what its requirements are regarding Covid. Some states may require a negative test be taken X number of hours before your return flight; others may require some degree of quarantine, and others may require nothing.

**The US REQUIRES Covid tests for everyone returning there from SXM.** Details are in our Guide to Entry Requirements, published early in this issue of *SXM Weekly News*. Ask about testing locations on SXM that you can use — to do that, go to our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#). Please do not ask questions there about your state's requirements — our group is SXM centric and will not accept such posts. Your state's web portal is certainly the best source of current, accurate information about requirements related to returning international passengers.

## 44. 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](http://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.

## 45. SkyMed Q&A / FAQ - Frequently Asked Questions

### **SkyMed® FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

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#### **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 canceled 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](http://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](http://www.cdc.gov/travel)

Canadian government updates [www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection.html](http://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection.html)

National Institutes of Health (NIH) [www.nih.gov](http://www.nih.gov)

US Customs & Border Protection (CBP) [www.cbp.gov](http://www.cbp.gov)

US State Department emergency assistance [coronavirusemergencyUSC@state.gov](mailto:coronavirusemergencyUSC@state.gov)

World Health Organization (WHO) [www.who.int](http://www.who.int)

SkyMed Travel reservations [www.skymedtravel.com](http://www.skymedtravel.com) or email [info@skymedtravel.com](mailto:info@skymedtravel.com)

SkyMed Member Services **1-480-946-5188** or **1-800-475-9633** or [memberservices@skymed.com](mailto: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](https://www.facebook.com/groups/mysxm) or you can email him at [jeff@jmbcommunications.com](mailto: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](mailto:support@jmbcommunications.com)

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## 46. Getting SXM Questions Answered Quickly

Join our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#) and you'll find about 28,000 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.

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## 47. 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 just been thoroughly updated. Each week's newsletter is usually added within a few days after mailing of that issue to its subscribers completes (Monday).

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## **Get The Current Low Price on SkyMed's Best 5-Year Ultimate Membership**

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

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

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## 48. 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 [everythingxml.com](http://everythingxml.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.

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## 49. Please Patronize JMB Sponsors (Updated 5/24/21)

### **AMUSEMENTS**

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

### **AUTHORS/NOVELISTS**

Russell Clark

Jacky Rom

## **BOAT TOURS**

[Celine Charters](#) (Enigma)

Luxury Private Catamaran Charters:  
[www.sxmstmartincatamarancharters.net](http://www.sxmstmartincatamarancharters.net)

## **BREWERIES & DISTILLERIES**

SXM Beer Brewery

Toppers Rhum & Vodka Distillery

## **CAR RENTALS:**

[Leisure Car Rental](#)

[Sax Car Rental](#)

Exclusive Car Rental

Tropicana 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](#)

Oro Diamante

[Majesty Jewelers](#)

[Ray's Jewelers](#)

[Alpha Jewels](#)

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

Jewels & Beyond (Maho) NEW!

[Shoppers Haven](#)

Royal Jewelers (new)

Kay's Fine Jewelry (new)

Joe's Jewelry International (new)

## **Ballerina Jewelers (new)**

## **LIVE MUSIC**

**Hole in the Wall, Maho Plaza, Dutch side**

**MAPS** (SXM MAPS and others in the Caribbean)

**[Kasprowski Publishers](#)**

## **PARFUMERIE / PERFUME**

**Tijon Parfumerie**, Grand Case, [www.tijon.com](http://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**

**Sunshine Properties**

**Candie Billant** does condo and villa rentals and sales. You will find her at **Caribbean Estate Agency N. V.**

## **RESORTS:**

**Baker's Suites**

**Belair Beach Hotel**

**Simpson Bay Resort**

**Azure Hotel & Art Studio**

## **RESTAURANTS & BARS**

**[IZI](#)**

**[SPIGA](#)**

**[VESNA TAVERNA](#)**

**ISOLA**

**Frenchy Ludo'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**

**LA ROSA**

**NONNA ROSA**

**LAZY LIZARD**

**RANCHO (new)**

**SUNSET CAFE (new)**

**AVANTIKA (new)**

**MOVIDA (new)**

**ASTRA (new)**

**JAI'S CONTEMPORARY INDIAN RESTAURANT (new)**

**JAX Steakhouse (Maho) (NEW)**

**STAR WARS / YODA GUY MUSEUM**

**[Nick Malley, Front Street](#)**

#### **VILLA RENTALS / 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 **Caribbean Estate Agency N. V.**

**[GoBeach Vacations](#)**

**[Sunshine Properties](#)**

**[Monte Verde / Belle Vue](#)**

**Villa Acropole:**

**[www.acropole-stmartin.com](http://www.acropole-stmartin.com)**

Villa Vijoux:

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

**Relocation / Business Formation / "Papers" Consulting Companies**

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

Updated 5/24/21

**Got a Radio While You're in SXM?**

**Want to Listen to SXM While You're Home?**

**Tune In Island92 at 91.9 FM**

**or On Your Internet-Connected Device**

**at island92.com ...**

**and hear Jeff Berger LIVE on the air every Monday**

**between about 9:45am and 10am island time**

**on "Fresh Air in the Morning" with Dr. Soc.**

## **50. SXM Business Owners: How To Increase Foot & Web Traffic**

SXM Weekly News, our [everythingSXM.com](http://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 Web 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](mailto:susank@jmbcommunications.com) with the subject "JMB Sponsorships". Or PM us on FB for an even faster response. We'll get complete information to you quickly. (Or again, just PM Jeff Berger on Facebook Messenger or phone us / text us on WhatsApp at 721-588-4188.)

Tourism is returning in a big way 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 in the months ahead. Contact us today for more information.

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**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](http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml) .

Want to rent or buy a week?

**\*2020 & 21 St. Maarten / St. Martin Timeshare Weeks For Rent or Sale\*** are posted at [http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/timeshare\\_rent\\_sale/index.shtml](http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/timeshare_rent_sale/index.shtml) Listings are now updated weekly. Ads are free (no commission) but are accepted from our JMB Website Supporters members only.

## SECTION 5: For Members Only

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

B. **Password Recovery Info:** Your username is the email address you have registered with JMB Website Supporters. If you forget your password, click "forgot / change password" in the orange login box near the masthead at [www.everythingsxm.com](http://www.everythingsxm.com). To change your password, click that same link.

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

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

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

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

To unsubscribe, go here: [www.sxmweeklynews.com](http://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](http://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 3/15/21)

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](mailto:support@jmbcommunications.com)

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

**Privacy Policy** [http://www.everythingsxm.com/sxm/privacy\\_policy/index.shtml](http://www.everythingsxm.com/sxm/privacy_policy/index.shtml) (Updated 5/25/18)

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