

**From JMB / SXM Weekly News 1/3/22: Entry Requirements Updates; Important Info on The Cost of Quarantining; News from the CDC (Two Stories); News Coming About The Short- and Long-Term Future of SXM Airport; Air Caraiibes Airbus A330 Suffers Compressor Stall After Takeoff; Only \$1.64/day for Annual or Multiyear SkyMed Medevac Protection; SIX Vacation Giveaway -- Complete List of Prizes; [Issue #1329 -- 40 Top SXM News Stories for Tourists]**

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Vol. 4, #1329 ---- Monday, Jan. 3, 2022  
News From Sint Maarten / Saint Martin / SXM

A HEALTHY & HAPPY NEW YEAR TO OUR READERS!

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This Week's Stories

Airfare, Airlines & Weather News

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**Member News**

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

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

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

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**Important Note:**

This is Jeff Berger's / JMB Communications' St. Maarten & St. Martin / SXM Weekly News, published every Monday (Tuesdays during most holiday weeks). *You are receiving St. Maarten & St. Martin "SXM" Weekly News because you subscribed to it and/or are a JMB Website Supporters member.*

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## ***In This Issue: 40 News Stories***

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## **Timeshare Rental and Sale of the Week**

Each week JMB randomly picks timeshare condominiums for rent and for sale in SXM from the huge selection at [http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/timeshare\\_rent\\_sale/index.shtml](http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/timeshare_rent_sale/index.shtml) and features them here.

To rent out or sell timeshares you own in SXM or anywhere else worldwide, for no ad charge or commission, join JMB Website Supporters. Visit [http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/about\\_sxm/paypal.shtml](http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml) for info. Membership now delivers a growing list of about 300 St. Maarten and St. Martin-focused travel benefits -- and your membership subscription helps keep these weekly SXM newsletters coming.

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

**RENTAL** 1/14/2022 1/21/2022 2 **Royal Palm Beach Resort** 2 bedroom, 2 bath, few steps from beach at just renovated brand new resort \$2,300 Joe 647-227-3434 [jgarro55@gmail.com](mailto:jgarro55@gmail.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** 1/16/2022 1/23/2022 week 3 **Simpson Bay Resort & Marina Beaumontia** building, fixed and deeded week, weeks 1,2,4 also available, Sunday to Sunday one bedroom sleeps four. third floor oceanview. Highly discounted from Resort resale 8,000 8152360642 [cubsgo100@gmail.com](mailto:cubsgo100@gmail.com)

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

"Like" Our All-New ["Everything St. Maarten / St. Martin / SXM" MeWe Group](#)

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

Search the *SXM Weekly News Archives*:

*Current Archives (Since 4/2014) in PDF Format:*

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

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

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

Check Out Our Linked-In "St. Maarten and St. Martin Travelers" Group (Free; Timeshare Focus):

[www.linkedin.com](http://www.linkedin.com)

Get a growing 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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## How To Get a **GROWING LIST of 300+ Money-Saving St. Maarten- and St. Martin-Focused Travel Benefits**

Visit <http://www.everythingsxm.com/secret> , the \*secret\* site for JMB Website Supporters members only, for low fares to SXM from cities across the USA, Canada, and Western Europe, plus a growing list of 300+ additional major travel benefits.

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

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### All JMB Newsletters Read \*From JMB\*

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This newsletter and mail from JMB Website Supporters to members read \*From JMB\* in the subject area so you won't misinterpret them as spam.

## THIS WEEK'S STORIES:

Stories are numbered; scroll down for stories of interest.

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

#### GETTING HERE:

## 1. Entry Requirements Update (Important)

With the growing global presence of the omicron variant of Covid 19, nations have been working hard to minimize the impact of this variant on their people and on their healthcare systems. One country doing this is the Dutch side of SXM, home of SXM Airport, where the vast majority of island visitors enter the country.

***The Dutch side implemented updated entry Requirements effective January 1, 2022. The most important aspect of the announcement is that people who are fully vaccinated and have received a booster within a specified time period before their flights (9 months) still do not need to be tested prior to visiting SXM. That fact is huge, since in an unscientific survey we took a few weeks ago, it appeared that the vast majority of people visiting the island are fully vaccinated — and by now, likely boosted as well.***

Here are two key items of interest. The first is the entire text of the announcement of the new Entry Requirements effective January 1, 2022:

TRAVEL REQUIREMENTS SCHEDULED TO CHANGE AS OF JANUARY 1ST 2022; APPLICABLE FOR PERSONS 18 YEARS AND UP

22 December 2021

*Minister of Public Health, Social Development and Labor (VSA) Omar Ottley hereby informs the public that, given the rapid worldwide spread of the Omicron variant, Sint Maarten will be implementing various protective measures.*

*With Omicron fast becoming the dominant variant in numerous countries, the following changes to Sint Maarten's entry protocols will go into effect as from Saturday January 1st 2022 for all incoming travelers to Sint Maarten.*

***Unvaccinated persons will require a 48 hour PCR test, while persons who received both doses of an approved COVID vaccine will require a 48 hour PCR test or a 24 hour antigen test. Persons who are 18 years and older and who have taken a booster shot will be able to enter Sint Maarten without a COVID-19 test.***

*Persons 17 years and younger who are eligible to take a COVID-19 vaccine can enter without a COVID-19 test once they have taken both doses of an approved COVID vaccine.*

**SECOND Item of Interest... SXM Weekly News has obtained the information below which was supplied by EHAS to airlines and other affected parties last week. It gives a concise readout of what's happening:**

**Entry Requirements as of January 1, 2022  
As per decision minister VSA**

Note: changes will be programmed on December 29 late evening in order to be effective as of January 1. There may be a few arrivals on 30 of 31 which may slip through.



1. All countries **very high risk** until further notice
2. Vaccination requirements:
  - a. **Non-fully vaccinated five years and older:** 48 hour RT PCR test
  - b. **Fully vaccinated plus booster shot (not older than nine months): no test**
  - c. **Fully vaccinated without booster shot 18 years and older:** 48 hour RT PCR test or 24 hour antigen test.
  - d. **Fully vaccinated without booster shot under 18 years:** no test
3. In the EHAS check a field **minor under 18 yes/no** will be added for your convenience, similar to the child under five yes/no.
4. **A mandatory checkbox for booster shot yes/no** will be added next to the one for vaccinated yes/no at the bottom of the EHAS review page so the booster shot will be added or not to the QR code on the preapproval.

Dr. E. Best  
12/27/2001

**From SXM Weekly News:** Our [Guide to Entry Requirements](#), mentioned elsewhere on this page, has been updated as of Monday, 12/27/21 to reflect this upcoming change. The change will be fully integrated into the text of the Guide in the next couple of days. When SXM further updates Entry Requirements, we will publish those updates here in *SXM Weekly News* and in our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#)..

## 2. CDC Has Good News About Delayed Flights to US & Testing Validity

In case your flight to the U.S. is CANCELED OR DELAYED, please note that your negative COVID test result will remain valid as follows: If the first flight in your trip is delayed past the 1-day limit of testing due to a situation outside of your control (e.g., delays because of severe weather or aircraft mechanical problem), and that delay is 24 hours or less past the 1-day limit for testing, you do not need to be retested. If the delay is more than 24 hours past the 1- day limit, then you will need to be retested.

You can read more [here](#) on the CDC website. :

## 3. CDC Shortens Recommended Quarantine Isolations

In a remarkably controversial move, the US Centers for Disease Control, CDC, has shortened the recommended quarantine time for people who test positive for Covid.

Details on this decision are [here](#).

## 4. Air Caraiibes A330 Jet Bound for Paris Suffers Engine Compressor Stall After Take-Off

A widebody Air Caraiibes Airbus A330 aircraft took off from SXM last week on what passengers expected would be a normal nighttime flight back to Paris. A few seconds after takeoff, however, as the plane was turning southward over Simpson Bay lagoon and Cole Bay, people aboard the aircraft and people on the ground heard two loud bangs, followed by a short burst of what looked like fire from the left engine.

The plane had suffered a compressor stall, something that can happen in jet engines and for which pilots are routinely trained. The flight crew immediately contacted departure control at the airport and a code red emergency was declared immediately so the plane could quickly return to SXM Airport. It landed safely moments later with no injuries.

A top airport official the following day told us that the plane was expected to remain incapacitated at the airport for about a week so that the failed engine could be replaced. On the morning of New Year's Eve, there was a crew surrounding the engine, whose metal coverings were raised for observation much like a car hood is raised to look at the engine.

By later New Year's Eve, the plane remained parked on tarmac adjacent to airport road a few hundred yards east of the terminal building, clearly visible to passersby. An official of another airline told us that technical personnel from Air Caraiibes were stationed in nearby Guadeloupe. Most likely in this case is that a replacement engine will be flown in from Paris or elsewhere in Europe.

We've seen the aircraft both from airport road and from the opposite side of the airport with a strong telephoto lens and from those vantage points to non-technical people, the engine looks normal — though it clearly wasn't.

The Air Caraiibes flight crew and the air traffic control personnel involved in the return of the flight to the airport minutes after this event should be commended for their textbook response which kept everyone safe both in the plane and on the ground.

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## 5. NEWS About the Future of SXM Airport (Short- and Long-Range) Coming Soon

We are currently working on a major story concerning the future of SXM Airport — both short term regarding the restoration efforts currently underway and longer-term, regarding plans to improve the ability of the airport to serve more people throughout the region more quickly.

The article should appear here in *SXM Weekly News* during the next week or two and will be of keen interest to all visitors to SXM — now and for several years in the future. Your friends should be subscribed to *SXM Weekly News* so they don't miss this and other important articles we will be publishing in the weeks and months ahead.

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## 6. Flight Cancellations Rise As Crews Are Disrupted by Omicron

Omicron and bad weather were both major causes of cancellations of thousands of flights across the US last week. Crew shortages aggravated by omicron are accelerating as winter weather comes into play on cue to add more havoc to airline schedules.

Airlines have apps that enable you to monitor the status of your flights. Given current weather and omicron conditions, it's wise to make full use of those applications.

See also story 2 about testing results and flight cancellations.

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## 7. Flight Disruptions Due to Face Masks Are Few & Far Between

Although flight disruptions due to people objecting to wearing facemasks are widely reported in media, the fact is that they are very rare events.

A seasoned pilot for a major airline explains it this way:

*If anyone is worried about flying based on media reports of violent and disruptive passengers: Don't think twice about it.*

*The incidents you see portrayed in the media are the very rare exceptions to airline operations. I was on approximately 200 flights in 2021, and have not seen anything like what you see in the media.*

*I know of two flights where passengers have been removed this year:*

*-One I was operating where passengers tried to upgrade themselves to better seats, then proceeded to mouth off to a flight attendant when he told them they could not sit in those seats.*

*-One operated by a colleague where a passenger used inappropriate racial language directed at another passenger.*

*Neither of these incidents involved alcohol or mask issues. The passengers on the flight I operated apologized when they were removed and were allowed to travel the next day.*

*People make mistakes and have bad days, and violence towards others will not be tolerated or accepted. However, what you are seeing in the media is a gross exaggeration, a sensationalistic version, a glorification of the exception of the reality of air travel today. The chance of you encountering this is very remote.*

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## 8. Our "Guide to Entry Requirements," Second Edition, Answers All Your SXM Travel Questions (Just Updated)

Our completely new Guide to Entry Requirements — all new and completely different from the first edition — simplifies SXM Entry Requirements to make it easier for our readers to understand exactly what the island is looking for and to



successfully navigate SXM's Electronic Health Authorization System EHAS website, through which visitors to SXM apply for the required preapproval. The Guide has been updated to include the new requirements effective January 1, 2022.

To download the new second edition of our Guide to Entry Requirements, *which is free*, go to the files area of our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#); you can get there [through this link](#) if you are a Facebook member. Otherwise, Facebook will prompt you to join, which is free. To join our group, answer the simple vetting questions. Once you go to the files area, search for Entry and you'll be able to download the PDF of our new second edition Guide to Entry Requirements -- **or just [go here](#)**.

*We always urge everyone to download the **Guide to Entry Requirements** directly from our files area, since that area enables you to ensure that you are downloading the latest available version. We do expect the Dutch side government to make more changes as the Covid Pandemic evolves and hopefully wanes. It was updated again recently, and will continue to be updated as necessary.*

## **WEATHER:**

## **9. Where to Find Current SXM Weather Info**

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.*

## **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)***

**Etc.**

## **10. 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 508-591-3483 (NEW NUMBER) any weekday. Thanks..

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## **SECTION 2: Accommodations: Hotels, Resorts, Timeshares, Villas Etc**

### **11. Two Side-by-Side Two Bedroom Condos at Rainbow For Private Sale by Owner**

This is a very rare find that may just resonate with close friends or extended family members that want to relocate or at least back a condo or two here in SXM.

Two side-by-side two bedroom condos at Rainbow on the buildings fourth floor are available now for private sale directly by their owners. They have been well maintained in the residents are happy with the location, but one is overseas in Europe most of the year and the other has bought a villa for his growing family.

These can be bought as separate villas or you can buy both, do a bit of construction, and wind up with a big four bedroom condominium. Here are the details:

**Asking \$540K per 2 BR condo. I don't own these; a friend does. PM me your name, phone number, email address, and your interest and I'll give the info to the owner for callback. I'm doing this as a favor for a long-time friend.**

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### **12. Hundreds of SXM Timeshare Condo Rentals Available This Winter**

**Dozens of new listings of timeshare condominiums for rent and for sale for 2022 have been added to our timeshare sales / rental page in our main SXM site, [www.everythingsxm.com](http://www.everythingsxm.com).** If you're looking for a place to stay, that's where to find it. All of our listings are from members of our JMB Website Supporters island discount program so you deal directly with timeshare owners — there are no middleman or agents or anything else charging commissions. Usually, timeshare owners charge close to their actual annual maintenance fee costs.

Dozens of new entries were posted over the last few days.

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### **13. 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*.

## 14. 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 package of about 300 discounts and other benefits including the ability to post up to 10 ads per year in our rental pages at everythingxml.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

## 15. \$100 Jewelry Gift Card Being Emailed This Week to All JMB Website Supporters Members: NEWS About JMB Member Discounts / Benefits Updates - Updated 1/3/22

One of the newest benefits of JMB Website Supporters membership is a \$100 Gift Card from Caribbean Gems. The Gift Card will be sent this week by email to all members of our JMB Website Supporters Island Discount Program, and will then be added (for one-time use only) to our members-only passworded "Secret" Website. Details on its use will accompany the card.

We are now working to further increase the already huge number of restaurants, jewelry stores, hotels, car rentals, 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. *We hope to complete the upgrade of this unique program later during the first quarter of 2022.*

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

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

**Only \$1.64/day - \*LESS THAN A CUP OF COFFEE\* -- gets you annual or multiyear SKYMED MEDEVAC protection for your next trip! Buy it NOW, \*BEFORE\* you need it -- just like fire insurance. It's GUARANTEED RENEWABLE and PRICE GUARANTEED FOR LIFE, too. For info see the links below, for answers to questions or to sign up by phone call 508-591-3483 (you can text to that number & leave voicemail 24/7). My prices ARE LESS THAN YOU WOULD PAY ONLINE.**

## **16. Only \$1.64/day Gets You Guaranteed Renewable, Price-Guaranteed-Forever SkyMed Annual or Multiyear Medevac Protection:**

### **WHAT IS SKYMED?**

SkyMed is a medical evacuation membership company. "SkyMed *Takes You Home*®" when you become seriously or critically ill or injured when traveling anywhere throughout the USA, Canada, all the nations of the Caribbean, Mexico, Bermuda, and the Bahamas. Global protection is also available. SkyMed members pay nothing for SkyMed-arranged medical evacuation flights that would cost non-SkyMed members \$35,000 and up – payable in cash, in advance. Why risk that? Of course, you must get your SkyMed membership before you need it – just like fire insurance. **You'll find an overview of all SkyMed Services [here](#), and you'll find Frequently Asked Questions [here](#).**

### **LOW GROUP PRICING:**

All of the SkyMed memberships we sell go to either members of our JMB Website Supporters Island Discount Program, to members of our various online SXM groups, or to readers of *SXM Weekly News*. **The prices we charge for all multiyear Ultimate memberships are substantially less than the retail prices you will see online from SkyMed's website. Call or email us (contact info below) for details on all of our major-league savings on SkyMed Ultimate multi-year membership prices.**

### **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 2022 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

### **HOW TO CONTACT US: Phone us ANYTIME at 508-591-3483 (new number, where you can also text us) 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.**

### **When and Where SkyMed Protects You:**

Basic SkyMed short-term and annual memberships protect you throughout the USA, Canada, Mexico, Bermuda, the Bahamas, and all the nations of the Caribbean. In that SkyMed universe, SkyMed *Takes You Home*® when you become critically ill or injured. Optional protection covering most of the rest of the world is provided by GETS, Global Emergency Transportation Services, a SkyMed company.

### **Key Differences Between SkyMed Short-Term & Annual Memberships:**

Many people who buy SkyMed memberships first request short-term protection. Is that the best solution for most people? That's a decision you have to make, but before you do, here's some important info. **First, short-term memberships** are available only for a specific defined short term. They protect you with SkyMed *Takes You Home*® membership that applies throughout the United States, Canada, Mexico, Bermuda, the Bahamas, and all the nations of the Caribbean including Cuba. Short-term protection cannot be upgraded or renewed since you buy it for specific trip; it's temporary protection. There is no waiting period for any benefits. When you want protection for a future trip, you must make a separate application for it. It is economical if you seldom travel and if you take brief trips. The cost is \$9/day per person, or a maximum of \$15 a day per family (parents and kids 21 or younger). ***We always tell people who are 50 or over about the most important advantages of SkyMed annual and multiyear memberships. The single most important benefit is that SkyMed annual and multiyear memberships are guaranteed renewable, regardless of advancing age or declining health.*** Details are in SkyMed's Member Services Agreement. We currently have members who are still traveling and are in their upper 80s and 90s. ***The cost of annual memberships per family — far more economical than the \$15/day per family for short-term coverage -- is now only about \$1.64/day total.*** Multiyear memberships are also about \$1.64/year and have more features; contact me for full information about features of each type of SkyMed membership. **Ultimate memberships protect you worldwide.** I can answer all your questions by phone in minutes, and can also take your application by phone (that way I get credit). Phone anytime at 508-591-3483 (NEW NUMBER). That's a direct line to Jeff Berger.

## [SkyMed Frequently Asked Questions / FAQ](#)

Feel free to contact me via Facebook Messenger as well or now WhatsApp, 721-588-4188 (through WhatsApp ONLY), or use our new office line, 508-591-3483. Or email me at [jeff.berger@skymed.com](mailto:jeff.berger@skymed.com) (SkyMed inquiries only please). You can also send texts to that 508 line and leave voice messages. Please include your phone number, time zone, callback number, and email address.

--Jeff Berger  
1/3/22

## 17. TWO MORE 2022 BARGAINS FROM SKYMED FOR BOTH BUSINESSES & FAMILIES (YOURS AND YOUR KIDS)

**For FAMILIES:** Buy SkyMed for your grown children and their families -- get global coverage at bargain prices for your own family and for them at prices that will be **guaranteed for life**.

**For BUSINESSES:** Get "Key Person" memberships for all your top employees (and their families); global coverage is available.

Feel free to contact me via Facebook Messenger as well or now WhatsApp, 721-588-4188 (through WhatsApp ONLY), or use our new office line, 508-591-3483. Or email me at [jeff.berger@skymed.com](mailto:jeff.berger@skymed.com) (SkyMed inquiries only please). You can also send texts to that 508 line and leave voice messages. Please include your phone number, time zone, callback number, and email address.

--Jeff Berger  
1/3/22

## 18. Midwinter Sale for our JMB Website Supporters Island Discount Program ENDS JANUARY 15

### Join or Renew Your Membership in Our *JMB Website Supporters Island Discount Program* Today; Great *Last-Chance* Sale Prices & You'll Beat The Coming Price Increase!

Our biggest sale of the year -- now better than ever since it precedes a price increase on multiyear memberships coming January 15 -- is now underway. It offers pricing that will not be back... take advantage of these great MIDWINTER SALE OFFERS before they disappear, soon!

## What's In It For You:

All multiyear memberships bought now through 1/15 receive one full year of membership in addition to what's stated on the site. **Want two full years?** Our LONGEST DURATION multiyear membership offers **TWO FULL YEARS EXTRA**, on us, through the end of the sale January 15. **BUY NOW, THIS SALE ENDS 1/15.** *And because of the looming price increase, these values will soon be gone forever....*

To sign up, please visit our main site, [everythingxsm.com](http://everythingxsm.com), and click the page curl at the top of the home page. That takes you to where you can join, helping us continue to produce *SXM Weekly News* ... continue to organize and deliver our complete Weather Center / Hurricane Center on our main site, [everythingxsm.com](http://everythingxsm.com) ... and continue to expand our JMB Website Supporters benefits significantly in efforts already underway.

Please don't put it off... we do ask you to join (or renew, if you're already a JMB member) today. Thank you.... Please allow several days for processing your new membership or renewal / reinstatement.

.....**Here's More Island News**.....



## 18A. EHAS and Your Insurance Claim

### EHAS and your insurance claim

Part of the requirements to come to St. Maarten includes filling out the EHAS form and purchasing the COVID19 insurance. Your insurance is activated the moment that you test positive for COVID19 by any of the government's recognized testing centers on the Dutch side.

We have had some of our members share their concerns about two or more members of their party testing positive for COVID and having to pay extra for their hotel stay. One would think that if everyone pays individually for their insurance, that the insurance claim would cover them individually. What has been happening is that members are being asked to either pay the full amount for their accommodations or pay the difference of the USD\$125.00 per night.

**If you are in a group and everyone is staying in the same room, insurance will only cover up to USD\$125.00 for that room no matter how many people with insurance are in that room. In addition to this, meals are not included in the insurance package. Considering the time of the year when prices are normally higher and the type of accommodations you may have selected, you can find yourselves paying extra for quarantining.**

It is very important, at this point, to consider if supplementary insurance should be purchased based on the number of people in your party, the duration of your stay on the island, your budget and type of accommodations you'll need. For more information on what the local insurance purchased through the EHAS covers please visit their website: <https://www.sxmprotectionplan.com/>. NOTE: *Some plans other than the required plan may exclude coverage of pandemics.*

**Vacationing on the island still continues to be an amazing experience with hundreds of COVID19 compliant places to visit. We've seen many locals with their masks on serving their patrons and many store owners taking the necessary precautions to keep their visitors safe. We would like to encourage everyone to continue to be safe and wear their masks. While you're on vacation, COVID19 is not, and an ounce of prevention is better than the pound you'll have to pay if you have to quarantine...**

## 19. Front Street "Bricks" To be Re-leveled/Fixed Now

As tourists and locals who navigate Front Street know too well, the roughly 15-year-old thoroughfare is in serious need of repair — which is about to happen, officials have announced.

What's about to happen now is a *repair* of Front Street — not a full repaving. Parts of the road have settled over time so some drivers refer to its surface as moguls.

The good news is that the first step in a multiple step process to repair all the moguls is about to begin. The areas that are settled or sunken will be regraded to yield a flat surface throughout the full length of Front Street. The process is not expected to cause any significant disruption.

If you're planning to head into Philipsburg to visit your favorite Jeweler (or to investigate enticing pictures you seen in our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#) from jewelers across Philipsburg, please check story 30 so you know where to park. All will be delighted once Front Street is easier to navigate and more inviting — especially for people in wheelchairs who have had a hard time with the current road surface.

As always, we'll keep you posted..

## 20. TDH Successfully Used Photography to Campaign Against Beach Trash, Cars on Boardwalk Blvd.

The Dutch side of SXM has only one major print newspaper — the *Daily Herald*. They should be lauded for recently running pictures of cars navigating on what has recently been called the Boardwalk Boulevard, which is officially the Great Bay Beach Promenade which was originally designed for use by pedestrians and perhaps occasional bicycles.

The *Herald* ran pictures of vehicles including automobiles, some small trucks, and motorcycles on the boardwalk where they don't belong. Not long after seeing a couple of articles posted by the *Daily Herald*, the Dutch side government announced that it would start enforcing existing laws by removing cars there illegally and levying fines on people driving cars at other vehicles on the "boardwalk." We hope they do this consistently to keep the promenade clear for pedestrians, as intended — and we are sure that the Herald will keep watching as well and keep the public aware of whether the government is keeping its promises.



The *Herald* also reported that trash containers on the beach were overloaded and not emptied until the end of the day. Perhaps some local residents or businesses are putting trash in those containers overloading them - a practice that needs to stop.

It is never a good thing for tourists who come to the boardwalk looking for a highlight of their vacation to encounter small mountains of trash on one of the island's most beautiful beaches. It's not good for the environment, it's not good for tourism, and it's a poor way to welcome visitors.

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## 21. An Incentive to Get Parked Cars off Front Street Permanently...

At one point, a US restaurant chain had signs in some parts of its parking lots reading "cars parked here illegally will be towed, crushed, and melted." Although the signs were humorous, they made the point that car shouldn't park there.

In St. Maarten, many M and P cars, owned by local individuals, are illegally parked in front of businesses on Front Street. At times, police have come by telling them to move but enforcement is not constant and the unsightliness of illegal parking continues.

Perhaps it's time for SXM to post signs similar to those used at the restaurant chain in the US — and perhaps it really could tow such cars and heavily fine their owners to stop this process permanently....

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## 22. Jeff "Dr. Soc" Sochrin Steps in, Yet Again, To Facilitate Dog Adoptions

Well-known morning radio personality from Island92 radio in St. Maarten Jeff "Dr. Soc" Sochrin loves dogs and has stepped in many times over the years to promote the adoption of local dogs by tourists. Adoptions are far less expensive than most tourists may think... and the pets are delivered to local airports around the country by willing SXM tourist/passengers flying on major airlines whose only role is to give a little bit of love to the animals during the flight back home.

Recently, Dr. Soc posted about some pets requiring a flight home and thanks to his efforts, volunteers to accompany them were quickly found. The story appeared Saturday morning, New Year's Day, in our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#). In that article, and in many others that have appeared on our site over many months, dozens of volunteers who have accompanied pets back to airports near their future forever homes in the US spoke about how wonderful their experience was bringing a dog home — and many others have commented over time about their dog's behavior after their adoption. It's an obvious show of affection for their new adoptive families.

**SXM Weekly News wanted to recognize Jeff's role for many years in facilitating dog adoptions from SXM by people across the US.** If you are interested in adopting a "coconut retriever" from SXM, see story 32 in this issue for more information. Dr. Soc posts occasionally on our site about dog adoption opportunities of which he is aware, and many other dog adoption opportunities are frequently posted by Moderator Cyndi Shell in our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#). She acts as the central point of contact for those who wish to post dogs for adoption on our site in addition to Dr. Soc, who remains willing to help people through the process. More on dog adoption procedures and costs is in the Files area of our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#).

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## 23. Jai's Celebrates Its First Anniversary

Jai's wonderful fusion restaurant in Simpson Bay -- technically "contemporary Indian" -- quietly celebrated its first anniversary a few days ago. A party had been planned with lots of free hors d'oeuvres, but because of the increase in omicron cases and the large number of people who wanted to come, Jai canceled it, not wanting to give any assistance to omicron.

So Jai's celebrated their first anniversary quietly and are taking a few days off, but will be back very soon. If you haven't tried it yet, CIA graduate Jai and his very capable staff will knock your socks off with their enormous creativity, delicious flavors, and wonderful aromas. Jai's is around the corner from Republic Bank in Simpson Bay and well worth your visit.

## 24. Restaurant of the Week: The Coffee Lounge

Technically, The Coffee Lounge is an amazing place for fresh-roasted coffee - not a restaurant. They roast their own coffee beans so the coffee could not be fresher. Lots of varieties. Lots of teas and other drinks. And lots of pastries and sandwiches too, all handmade in their store in Philipsburg and sold both there and in their Simpson Bay location next door to Domino's.

You can call them to make "High Tea" reservations in their Philipsburg location and get great teas plus lots of pastries. Contact them at <https://www.facebook.com/sxmcoffeelounge>.

The Philipsburg location is currently at the head of town (the far East end of the street) on the second floor, the Great bay side of Front Street. A new Philipsburg location opens soon on the Boardwalk behind Horizon View Hotel, near the center of town.

Ilene is a coffee lover and thought her iced coffee was great. For me, I did Perrier with a big chunk of freshly made carrot cake. In subsequent visits, I had other pastries during High Tea, mentioned above (get reservations). Their big chicken teriyaki sub may well be next -- it looks amazing.

Visit soon. Tell them Jeff Berger sent you...the place is great and new to our list. Terrific food and amazing coffees. .

Here are recently featured SXM restaurants:

**The Coffee Lounge, (featured 1/3/22) Simpson Bay next to Domino's and in Philipsburg at the head of town.**

Great freshly roasted coffees, pastries, and sandwiches. Don't miss it.

**Vesna Taverna, [www.vesnasxm.com](http://www.vesnasxm.com) (featured 12/27/21).** Now open every day for B/L; dinner is offered Tuesday through Saturday. Outstanding dining and very reasonable pricing.

**Pineapple Pete, [www.pineapplepete.com](http://www.pineapplepete.com) (featured 12/20/21)** Known for great lobster Thermidor and lots, lots more. Generous portions, reasonable prices. Huge variety. Games for kids & their parents.

**Wasabi Charlie Japanese Restaurant (12/20/21)** now combined with Pineapple Pete at the Pineapple Pete location, opposite IZI Ristorante Italiano in Simpson Bay. GREAT sushi rolls and sashimi and much more.

**Emilio's:** outside Philipsburg (featured 12/6/21) offers extraordinary fine dining in an historic, classic ambiance. **Not to be missed.** <https://emilios-sxm.com/menus/dinner-menu/>

**Jai's Contemporary Indian Cuisine** (featured 11/29/21), **Simpson Bay** Leave your preconceptions behind! A 15-second walk to the side of the building from Republic Bank.. Outstanding dinners (and soon lunches a few days weekly) in Jai's, a fun new contemporary fusion restaurant operated by two young SXM graduates of the Culinary Institute of America (CIA). Super creative, artfully presented, phenomenally executed selections spanning a spectrum of flavors, aromas, textures, and tastes. You gotta try Jai's! Highest recommendation.

**IZI Ristorante Italiano, [www.izirestaurant.com](http://www.izirestaurant.com) (featured 11/22/21).** Open for dinner starting at 5pm except Mon., when they're closed. Fantastic food from one of SXM's very best restaurants. Fun atmosphere, too.

**Astra Steak & Seafood (featured 11/15/21)** 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/>

**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.

**Isola** next to Hollywood Casino at Simpson Bay Resort, (featured 10/25/21). 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)

**Topper's** <http://www.sxmtoppers.com/> (featured 10/11/21) One of SXM's oldest and busiest restaurants, now in a beautiful new over-water setting at the Carousel building on Simpson Bay lagoon. Lunch, dinner, and late dining. Karaoke. Co-located with Toppers Rhum Distillery so have some rum (rum is the French spelling) and rum cake when you dine. Open until late night. Sports on TV. From cops to billionaires, everyone loves Toppers.

**Mandarin Pan Asian** at Port de Plaisance Resort off the Union Road, Cole Bay, (featured 9/27/21). Excellent selection of palate-pleasing offerings from Japan, Thailand, and China. Highly recommended.

**La Patrona, Simpson Bay Resort** (featured 9/13/21) La Patrona is SXM's only truly authentic Mexican restaurant. Highly recommended: great food, great service, not to be missed.

**La Rosa Restaurant,** Maho Plaza, 9/7/2021: Loved the relaxing vibe, attentive service, GREAT food, reasonable prices, and BIG portions. [www.larosarestaurant.com/index.html](http://www.larosarestaurant.com/index.html)

**Blue Bitch Bar** [www.bluebitchbar.com](http://www.bluebitchbar.com), formerly Taloula Mango's Blue Bitch Bar, is THE bar/restaurant to visit on the Boardwalk in Philipsburg. (featured 8/9/21) Great open-air atmosphere, outdoor dining/drinking, entertainment. Their menu is extensive with excellent food, fun atmosphere, and beautiful ocean views. Located on the beach, at the Boardwalk....

**Mama Pizza,** Porto Cupecoy & Oyster Pond, (featured 8/2/21) Big, outstanding pizza, and sizable portions plus reasonable prices on numerous other delicious Italian specialties. They also have a number of fresh fish entrees you

should not miss. On the plaza at Porto Cupecoy, Cupecoy Beach, and on the main drag through Oyster Pond, French side. <https://www.facebook.com/Mamapizzaisthebest>

**Spiga**, [www.spiga-sxm.com](http://www.spiga-sxm.com) (featured 7/12/21) 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.

**Avantika Thai** [www.avantikasxm.com](http://www.avantikasxm.com) (featured 7/6/21) Avantika is wonderful; SXM's best Thai. Delicious food artfully presented and reasonably priced, backed by knowledgeable service. Go...you'll become a regular.

**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.

**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.

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.

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## 25. Our Everything SXM 2022 Awards of Excellence Are About to be Distributed

Early every year for the last 10 years, JMB Communications has been distributing its **Everything SXM Awards of Excellence** to superior businesses throughout the French and Dutch sides of the island. We been working on our 2022 awards and will be distributing them over the next few weeks. Once we've distributed all of them, we will show you the list here in *SXM Weekly News* and also in our [Everything St. Maarten / St. Martin / SXM Facebook Group](#).

We highly recommend all of these fine establishments.

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## 26. How SXM's Airport Became a "Parking Lot"

It's a parking lot out there! We're not sure quite how they did it, but SXM Airport parked dozens and dozens of private jets at different points on their tarmac over the last couple of weeks as the rich and famous gathered here, flying into the closest jetport near St. Barth, where most of them gather onshore or offshore on their yachts for New Year's Eve festivities including multiple private fireworks displays.

SXM Airport told us that its private jet business this year is way ahead of forecasts, and that the jets are consuming enormous quantities of jet fuel from SXM Airport. We've seen jet fuel tanker trucks rolling through Simpson Bay from early morning until late evening every day, helping the airport keep up with demand.

Pictures of dozens of jets have been posted in our [Everything St. Maarten / St. Martin / SXM Facebook Group](#), if you'd like to see them.

As of Saturday, the Air Caraiibes A330 disabled by an engine problem earlier last week has been parked among them, making things even tighter. A separate story about the Air Caraiibes jet appears in the first section of this week's newsletter.

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## 27. Sargassum Seaweed Is Taking a Vacation...

For tourists, is great news from the island's beaches: Sargassum seaweed is taking a vacation.

That's the stuff that drifts throughout the Caribbean and the Gulf of Mexico from the Sargasso Sea; its presence has been an issue since 2012. Right now, there's practically none of it anywhere on the island -- an excellent situation and one which makes visitors happy about the warm, clear Caribbean waters.

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## 28. Mosquito Milk Repellent is Coming Back

We reported here a few weeks ago that mosquito milk, the very popular tropical mosquito repellent, was in short supply. Phone calls to the company headquarters in Europe were unanswered and their website didn't appear to be current. When people tried to buy the product at SXM pharmacies and in some supermarkets, it wasn't available — and there was speculation that the venerable company, serving customers for decades, had gone out of business.

We speculated here in *SXM Weekly News* that perhaps it was a supply chain issue, like so many other businesses are facing worldwide.

In recent days, we've had several reports of people again seeing mosquito milk in stores and stocking up — so perhaps everything with mosquito milk is cool. It's a great product that we've used for years and we've not seen it available at retail in the US, though it has appeared available online.

## 29. Six-Vacation Giveaway Entries Now Underway; Complete Prize List for "Eight Million Thanks"

EverythingSXM.com will be celebrating 8 million visits to its suite of SXM websites by giving away SIX SXM vacations late this coming March.

The vacations will be at:

**Villa En Sea** high on a hill overlooking beautiful Great Bay and downtown Philipsburg;

**Colony Manor Golden Daze** condo on Simpson Bay beach;

**Simpson Bay Resort, Marina, & Spa** in the heart of Simpson Bay, on its own private beach;

**Belair Beach Hotel** on its own private beach minutes from Philipsburg;

**Divi Little Bay Beach Resort**, on its own private beach with a gorgeous multi-level pool and lots of great restaurants on-site; and

**Azure Hotel & Art Studio**, a small family-owned hotel on the beach and within walking distance of many fine Simpson Bay restaurants.

In addition, there will be a car rental from **Leisure Car Rental** for the grand prize winner, several dinners for two at top island restaurants (see below), and a \$400 women's or men's watch from **Caribbean Gems** in Philipsburg.

Dinners for two will be at **Mario's Bistro; Emilio's Restaurant; Isola Restaurant; Vesna Taverna; Mama Pizza;** and **IZI Ristorante Italiano**. (There may be more).

Our **GRAND PRIZE** winner will also appear live on **Island 92 radio with Jeff "Dr. Soc" Sochrin** on his Fresh Air in the Morning Program.

**ENTRIES ARE NOW OPEN AND IF YOU RECEIVE YOUR OWN COPY OF *SXM WEEKLY NEWS*, YOU ARE ELIGIBLE TO WIN BUT YOU STILL MUST ENTER. [ENTER HERE](#).** If you do NOT subscribe, you must go to [sxmweeklynews.com](http://sxmweeklynews.com) now to subscribe FREE before entering this giveaway. **ENTRIES FROM NONSUBSCRIBERS ARE NOT ELIGIBLE TO WIN.**

## 30. Where to Park in Philipsburg (Revised 12/20/21)

**From Rakhee Sakhrani, Royal Jewelers, Philipsburg (Edited 12/20)**

Visiting Philipsburg but don't know where to park or there are no spaces available? Take a look at the map for road markings/names posted by Rakhee in our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#). [Use the Search feature in the group to find her posts; the maps are there.]

I added a few pictures for easy & convenient visuals of the parking spots! There are free & paid areas. It's approximately a 5-7 min walk to front street from these spots!

**Free Parking:** The Pondfill: Unmarked spots: As you drive into town, you can pull into a spot, it's usually

unpaved/dirt/rock area.

**Marked free parking spots:** There are designated free parking lots on the Pondfill. These are usually full by 11am. If you are an early bird great, otherwise you may have to wait 'til a car pulls out.

New Government bldg free lot: Another free lot, but it's a decent walk to front street. Take the turn by the center roundabout and head toward the white/yellow/green(roof) building.

**Paid parking:** Center of town: The parking lots is literally in the center of town by the WIB Bank/KFC. This fills up very quickly. **The lot reopened on Monday, December 20, 2021.**

**Old Library:** This is a new area for paid parking. Very convenient. It is \$2.00 an hour. Easy walk to front street.

**Bobby's Marina:** This is a little farther down Philipsburg, however it is a great place to park. It's near the grocery store Fairway. Once parked, there is a pathway accessible to the boardwalk via Greenhouse restaurant. Takes you straight to front street. It is a nice scenic walk.

We hope this helps! Don't forget to visit us after you park. Royal Jewelers 44A Front Street (Across from Horizon view hotel)

*Thanks Rakhee Sakhrani for this information!*

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## 31. Award-Winning Simpson Bay Restaurant For Sale

**VERY WELL KNOWN, AWARD-WINNING SIMPSON BAY RESTAURANT FOR SALE.** Prime location with on-site parking; all-new kitchen; experienced staff. 100 seats -- indoors and outdoors. Great 6-year lease; motivated owner. TURNKEY OPERATION; SERIOUS INQUIRIES ONLY. For information send your name, address, email address, qualifications for buying, and phone number VIA WHATSAPP TEXT ONLY to Jeff Berger; WhatsApp 721-588-4188. Jeff will pass the information to the owner. WHATSAPP TEXT INQUIRIES ONLY PLEASE. Asking 595K..

**Note from Jeff:** I have no involvement in this transaction; am just gathering inquiries for the owner, a long-time friend.

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## 32. How to Adopt an Island Dog ("Coconut Retriever")

Have you ever thought how wonderful it would be to adopt a dog or cat from SXM? "Rescue" animals come in many breeds and sizes and all they need is a new forever home — perhaps with you.

If you think it's prohibitively expensive to adopt a rescue dog from SXM, we have a pretty wonderful surprise for you: it's way less expensive than you may think.

For example pups from SXM Paws can be had for ROUGHLY a \$150 adoption fee, and a flight fee of \$125 with Jet Blue (American Airlines is about the same). Kittens from The Island Vet are \$90 and flights same cost as above. That's very affordable.

Watch for posts about available animals in our Everything SXM Facebook Group. Or, if you'd like to do it now, contact Cyndi Shell in our Everything SXM Facebook Group; she coordinates adoptions with many people directly from our site.

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## 33. Important Updated Contact Information for JMB Website Supporters & SkyMed Sales Inquiries

**Updated Contact Information for Everything SXM / JMB Communications / JMB Website Supporters Membership Services and SkyMed Sales:**

Because of volume, email is not the best way to reach us. Here's what's best: First, a Suggestion: **Get the free WhatsApp app.** It lets you make free phone calls (including video calls) worldwide and send free texts, all for zero cost. It is very widely used around the world.

1. **SkyMed – Answers to Questions or to Sign Up by Phone:** If you're interested in learning more about SkyMed, contact Jeff Berger at [jeff.berger@skymed.com](mailto:jeff.berger@skymed.com). Leave your phone number and time zone and he'll return your call. SkyMed is sold only to Americans, Canadians, and xPats. **If you prefer, phone Jeff at 508-**

**591-3483**

**and leave a message: *that is a NEW NUMBER*.** (Our old numbers were knocked out by the recent Cape Cod storm and are still funky.)

2. **JMB Membership Questions/Issues -- JMB Website Supporters:** Use WhatsApp to send questions to Membership Services; use Jeff Berger's WhatsApp phone number, 721-588-4188, **but call or TEXT (texting is preferred) from within the WhatsApp application only.** Membership Services at our headquarters in Massachusetts handles all these calls. INCLUDE YOUR EMAIL, since all responses are made by email.

## 34. Who Our Sponsors Are, & Why You Should Patronize Them (Updated 12/27/21)

Our JMB SXM Web Media Sponsors help make it possible for us to research, write, produce, and email you *SXM Weekly News* every week. They also enable us to spend lots of hours making sure our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#) fulfills its mission to be SXM's only authentically managed [by a seasoned journalist] interactive conversational SXM news and information portal on Facebook. And their help makes our JMB Website Supporters members-only Island Parties possible (resuming next year) as well as all the working going into enhancing our Island Discount Program now for its thousands of loyal members. Thank You for patronizing our Sponsors! (JMB Communications is based in Massachusetts, USA).

### AMUSEMENTS

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

### ARTISTS

Roland Richardson  
Patty Meotti  
Laura Fisher Saxon

### AUTHORS/NOVELISTS

Russell Clark

Jacky Rom

### BOAT TOURS / BOAT CHARTERS

[Celine Charters](#) (Enigma)

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

**Rumbelly Boat Charters** Pleasure boats, motorized and catamaran (new)

### BREWERIES & DISTILLERIES

SXM Beer Brewery

Toppers Rhum & Vodka Distillery

Caribbean Brewing

### CAR RENTALS:

[Leisure Car Rental](#)

[Sax Car Rental](#)

Exclusive Car Rental



## **Tropicana Car Rental**

### **CHILD CARE & MORE FOR VISITORS**

Alisha Brookes

### **COFFEE / PASTRY & MORE (NEW):**

**Coffee Lounge & More:** Head of town in Philipsburg and Simpson Bay near Domino's

### **CUBAN CIGARS:**

[Cigar Mack](#)

[SXM Cigars](#)

### **DOLLAR STORES**

[All in One Place](#)

### **DUTY-FREE SHOPPING (NEW)**

**Great Deals on Watches, Bags, Wallets, Sunglasses and Fashion Jewelry:**

<https://www.facebook.com/buy.sxm>

### **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*.

## **Jennifer's Vacation Villas**

## **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.**

## **BrightPath Real Estate (new)**

## **RESORTS:**

## **Baker's Suites**

## **Belair Beach Hotel**

## **Simpson Bay Resort**

## **Azure Hotel & Art Studio**

## **RESTAURANTS & BARS**

## **IZI**

## **SPIGA**

## **VESNA TAVERNA**

## **ISOLA**

## **Mandarin Asian Bistro (Port de Plaisance)**

## **Melange (Port de Plaisance)**

## **Pelican Bistro**

## **Soggy Dollar Bar**

## **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)**

**COFFEE LOUNGE & More**, Head of town in Philipsburg & Simpson bay near Domino's **(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>**

**40Weeks (new)**

**Villa En'sea 5 bedroom Villa, overlooking Philipsburg bay (new)**

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

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

### **Wedding Planners / Wedding Venues**

[Fawnette Scott-Angelides - Azure Hotel and Art Studio](#) (Fawnette is a minister and she owns Azure, a venue on beautiful Simpson Bay Beach, where beach weddings are her specialty)

**Sint Maarten Marry-Me** Destination Weddings (new)

Updated 11/29/21

## **35. 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](#).

## **36. First Responders Now Get Platinum-Status JMB Discounts**

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

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

## **37. 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.

## **38. 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).

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

Ask Jeff for details -- call him at 508-591-3483. More info? See [skymed.com/jmb](http://skymed.com/jmb) or email Jeff at [jeff.berger@skymed.com](mailto:jeff.berger@skymed.com). SkyMed is the Principal Sponsor of JMB SXM programs.

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

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**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](http://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.**

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## **39. 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.](#)**

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## 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?

"2022 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 11/22/21)

1. **SkyMed – Answers to Questions or to Sign Up by Phone:** If you're interested in learning more about SkyMed, contact Jeff Berger at [jeff.berger@skymed.com](mailto:jeff.berger@skymed.com). Leave your phone number and time zone and he'll return your call. SkyMed is sold only to Americans, Canadians, and xPats. **If you prefer, phone Jeff at 508-591-3483 and leave a message; that is a NEW NUMBER.** (Our old numbers were knocked out by the recent Cape Cod storm and are still funky.)
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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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