

From JMB / SXM Weekly News 1/17/22: Air Traffic Controllers Briefly Snarl Saturday Traffic; Omicron Causes Some Cruise Lines to Cancel Port Visits; Govt. Looking Closely at Preclearance; Simpson Bay Resort; Oyster Bay Beach Resort; Divi Little Bay Beach Resort; [Issue #1331 -- 39 Top SXM News Stories for Tourists]

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Vol. 4, #1331 ---- Monday, Jan. 17, 2022
News From Sint Maarten / Saint Martin / SXM

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY

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

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

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From: www.jmbcommunications.com

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

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

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Each week JMB randomly picks timeshare condominiums for rent and for sale in SXM from the huge selection at http://everythingsexm.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://everythingsexm.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 4/23/2022 4/30/2022 Week 17 **Simpson Bay Resort and Marina Beautifully renovated Flamboyant Building Penthouse end unit, ocean front, pool side. Sleeps six. Two private king bedrooms each with a full bath, two Murphy beds in living room, full kitchen and dining area, oversize balcony on both floors.** Convenient parking is just outside of the unit. \$1,800 Donna 585-298-4026 dgozia@rochester.rr.com

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

SXM Timeshare Sale of The Week:

SALE 3/5/2021 3/19/2021 Week 10 &11 **Diamond Resort Royal Palm Enjoy 2 continuous weeks in a newly totally reconstructed top 5 th floor unit on Simpson Bay and a beautiful beach.** This is a 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom full

condo with porch, living room with pull out bed for 2 more people, and dining room and full kitchen. Resort has pool with a beautiful beach, gym, and is within walking distance to grocery, casino, and great restaurants. These weeks usually encompass Heineken Regatta and you can enjoy it from your balcony and view the boat parade as it passes through the channel past the SXM Yacht Club \$3400.00 per week Judith. 440-231-0383 jutzke@yahoo.com

See them all at http://everythingsexm.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/jeffbergerseverythingsxmmewegroup>

Search the *SXM Weekly News* Archives:

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

http://everythingsexm.com/sxm/free_newsletters/sxmweeklynews.shtml

Archives prior to April 12 2014 (old format):

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

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

www.linkedin.com

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

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

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

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

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

All JMB Newsletters Read *From JMB*

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

THIS WEEK'S STORIES:

Stories are numbered; scroll down for stories of interest.

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

GETTING HERE:

LEAD STORY: Airport Air Traffic Snarled on Saturday as ATC Personnel Stage Slowdown; Court Orders Return to Work

In a complicated series of events that began early Saturday morning, air traffic controllers based at SXM Airport briefly shut down the control tower there, but it was soon reopened with reduced staff. The air traffic controllers were reportedly protesting a number of grievances and apparently decided that not going to work on a Saturday, the busiest day of the week at the airport, would be a nifty way to make their points.

Although many tourists dutifully headed to SXM Airport three hours ahead of their normal Saturday flight time, they found it crowded with people waiting for flights that had not yet taken off from their points of embarkation in the US because of ground holds initiated when the tower had been briefly shut down.

At US and other airports, those ground holds turned into some extended delays and cancellations. One report said that the tower was short staffed all day, requiring a slowdown in the arrival of incoming planes to ensure safety while fewer air traffic controllers were on duty.

Ultimately, many planes took off and headed to SXM, while others were rescheduled to Sunday morning. The problem was aggravated for a time when SXM Airport said it would shut down at 6 PM Saturday for safety despite the fact that a number of planes heading for the airport would not be able to arrive, turn around, and head back to their origins until well after 6 PM. Later in the day, the announced 6 PM shut down Saturday night was extended to 9 PM, which solved most of the flight problems.

The full extent of the grievances being expressed by air traffic controllers has not been shared with *SXM Weekly News*. Once we have that information, we will publish it. *However it should be clear to all concerned that turning air traffic controller grievances into a political football and victimizing tourists as part of the process is a remarkably poor and unenlightened way to publicize and overcome grievances in an economy that is totally dependent upon tourism. There are other ways to make points that don't involve inconveniencing thousands of tourists who remain the lifeblood of the island's economy.*

Court Action Stops Strike:

COURT TELLS AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS TO RETURN TO WORK BY 5PM TODAY (SATURDAY) OR THEIR UNION MAY FACE FINES OF USD\$100,000 PER HOUR:

Re: Airport Situation, Summary Proceedings (Kort Ceding)

The decision:

The Court of First Instance of Sint Maarten prohibits the union from continuing or supporting the de facto strike that is currently taking place and orders the union to call on its members to start work from 17:00 this afternoon, on pain of a penalty of US \$100,000 for each hour that it fails to do so, determines that this

prohibition applies until otherwise decided in summary proceedings, declares this decision provisionally enforceable on the minute and on all days and hours, determines that the hearing of this summary proceedings will take place on Monday, January 17, 2022 at 1:30 pm at the Courthouse, defers any further decision. *Courtesy of Alita Singh*

1. Preclearance Cost Estimated at \$60-\$80-Million, Central Bank Study Says

Preclearance, which would provide US customs and immigration services in SXM for people flying to the USA, could have a startup price tag of between \$60- and \$80-million according to a study by the Central Bank of Curaçao and St. Maarten.

Various parts of the Dutch side government have been looking into preclearance for several years; it is already a reality in Aruba, which also spends over \$20 million in an average year on promoting tourism — compared to about one or \$2-million spent by SXM. Aruba is also believed to have much higher tourism numbers than SXM and therefore, far more tourism income to island businesses and to the island government, which can use it for whatever it wants including infrastructure improvements.

Preclearance offers huge advantages wherever it is implemented. For example, planes from SXM entering the US do not need to go to an international terminal that has customs and immigration facilities; instead, they can go anywhere there is an airport capable of receiving it, which greatly expands the number of airports that could have nonstop services to SXM.

Breeze Airways, serial aviation entrepreneur David Neeleman's newest airline, is one carrier that we believe would be elated to see this development. Two of Neeleman's prior airlines already serve SXM — JetBlue and WestJet. Low-cost carrier Breeze, using state-of-the-art new Airbus A220 aircraft, serves an increasing number of smaller cities near metropolitan areas, providing point-to-point service that did not previously exist — and preclearance at SXM could greatly enhance Breeze's desire to serve SXM.

In addition, Southwest Air has said repeatedly that it wants to come to SXM but wants preclearance here to become a reality first. Southwest serves many smaller cities with low fares and could be a competitive shot in the arm helping to reduce fares here from a number of metropolitan areas.

We will soon be running an interview with a top official of SXM Airport in which preclearance is discussed. It is not cheap to start but we think SXM will find ultimately that it's an absolute competitive necessity in the Caribbean marketplace.

2. Royal Caribbean Cancels a Few SXM Port Calls

Royal Caribbean cruise lines, one of the largest cruise companies on the planet, has canceled some cruises and limited port calls worldwide thanks to effects from omicron. The effect on SXM should be relatively minor, impacting about half a dozen cruise stops on the island over the next couple of months. The largest Royal Caribbean ships do not currently appear to be impacted.

Here is the full [story](#) about Royal Caribbean's global schedule changes due to omicron.

3. Norwegian Caribbean Cancels Cruise But Leaves Passengers Stuck on Board

Cruise lines seem to be have been impacted more seriously and earlier by omicron than other sectors of the economy, though the entire global economy has certainly been whacked by omicron.

Norwegian Caribbean is no exception. This story regards a Norwegian Caribbean cruise during which three port stops were canceled but the passengers were kept on board, with the ship's return to New York left unchanged. Passengers complained primarily of boredom; here is that [story](#).

4. Crippled Air Caraiibes Airbus A330 Still Stuck in SXM

That crippled Air Caraiibes Airbus A330 that suffered an apparent left-engine compressor stall after taking off on a flight from SXM to Orly in Paris is still stuck on the ground here in SXM. It had returned safely to SXM Airport after the incident, with no injuries to anyone in the air or on the ground.

We photographed the plane around midday Saturday when technicians appeared to be huddled around the left engine, where the apparent compressor stall took place. A senior official of SXM Airport had told us the day after the incident that he expected the plane to be stuck at the airport for about a week during a time of huge demand by private jets, taking up room on tarmac usually reserved for private jets. The plane has now been stuck in SXM for close to three weeks.

It may be that many people expected that for an airline to replace an engine or other critical component simply involved shipping one from a warehouse to the airport where the plane was and installing it — but apparently it's quite a bit more complicated. Supply chain issues caused by Covid also impact virtually everything on the planet.

We'll keep an eye on this for you and let you know what's happening.

5. Transition to Normal Winter Weather Seems All But Complete

SXM's transition from the fall rainy season to normal winter weather seems to be just about complete. The change begins early in December with Christmas winds and usually is finished by mid-January, when drier conditions prevail. Already, some fields on the island have started to become parched despite the fact that showers continue to happen — just less frequently and lighter day by day, with more days almost entirely dry.

During the winter, temperatures in SXM are generally in the lower to mid 80s with nighttime temperatures sometimes plunging to the low 70s when hats and sweaters may be seen worn by locals.

6. Recently Surging Global Omicron Numbers, Winter Weather Continue Impacting Flights

Although omicron often infects people symptomlessly, frequent testing of airline employees and required quarantining (now five days in the US instead of the previous 10) in the past has wreaked havoc with airline flight schedules, though that should decline thanks to the reduced period of required quarantining now in effect in the US.

Besides omicron, normal winter weather in the US also impacts flights, including flights this past Friday and Saturday as well as yesterday and today thanks to storms from the central Atlantic to the Northeast affecting Charlotte, New York, New Jersey, Boston, Philadelphia, and other points of embarkation to SXM for flights in and around the weekend.

7. Not All Covid Questions Can Be Readily Answered

Although our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#) is focused on SXM, and not on Covid or omicron, it nonetheless continues to answer questions related to Entry Requirements and US / Canadian requirements for people returning home.

SXM currently requires people who test positive to be quarantined on the island for 10 days, though we and many others hope that 10 day period will be reduced to the five days currently used in the US. Even if people don't test negative after five days, if a doctor says they are no longer contagious and gives them a letter specifying that, they should be able to return to the US with that letter.

SXM's quarantine policies are handled by EHAS (Electronic Health Authorization System) and the insurance company that provides the island's Covid insurance that pays \$125 per day per insured person in the room for them to stay on the island — usually in their own hotel or timeshare room.

We are receiving a number of questions that we are trying to answer within the confines of our mission to focus on SXM and address omicron/Covid only with relation to entry or exit requirements. However, we sometimes received questions which cannot be readily answered. For example, some people are asking us where they would be staying a few months from now were they to test positive. Questions like that are purely hypothetical and factually unanswerable. Where people are put depends on where they are, availability, caseloads, their condition, and other factors.

People who are in timeshare units are frequently kept in those units but relieved of their keys so they can't go in and

out. Food is brought to them at their expense. Many of their rooms have terraces where they can be in the sun.

When unanswerable questions are submitted to us, we generally send a note to those asking them but decline to publish such questions.

8. 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.

9. 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:

10. Where to Find Current SXM Weather Info

You'll find detailed observations and forecasts by visiting our main SXM website, 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 -- it has current satellite images and radar loops and now all the latest NHC weather forecasts, outlooks, and advisories as well. There are now also active weather widgets on the site's home page.
- 3) Our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#), which publishes the latest advisories, watches, and warnings when SXM is threatened by any storms.
- 4) **On or off the island, listen to Island 92** -- 91.9FM or see www.island92.com. They report island warnings at once and know exactly what's going on. You can listen on the web anytime through live streaming.
- 5) For a quick look at weather radar exactly where you are or where you're going, try the My Radar phone app or My Radar for Windows -- excellent programs.

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

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

[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**

Etc.

11. 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, then call us with questions or to sign up. Call 508-591-3483 (NEW NUMBER) any weekday. Thanks..

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

12. Big Changes at Simpson Bay Resort, Divi Little Bay, and Oyster Bay Beach Resort

Many people who are returning to SXM for the first time in the last couple of years are visiting restaurants that didn't exist when they were here last. In many cases, those restaurants are part of major timeshare resorts such as Simpson Bay Resort, Divi little Bay Beach Resort, and Oyster Bay Beach Resort — all of which have undergone many changes.

At Simpson Bay Resort, multiple new restaurants have shown up particularly on the plaza under their main building, which has its own docking facilities for some day cruises. There's a new steakhouse, a sports bar (Replay) that's now double the size it was a few years ago, and nearby there is also the all-new Sunset Spa.

Divi Little Bay has approximately doubled in size with many new units on the hill overlooking beautifully manicured grounds and the beach — and it has multiple restaurants, some of them new in the last year or so. Resident Parrot Gizmo is in charge as always.

Oyster Bay Beach Resort has added new amenities, more food choices, and even a new on-site grocery store. We've written about all of these changes over the last several months here in *SXM Weekly News*. If you are on the island or expect to be here soon, these are choices you might want to consider.

13. 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.

14. 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. 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.

15. 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*.

16. 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 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

17. \$100 Jewelry Gift Card Emails Sent to All "JMB Website Supporters" Members; How to Get Yours & News About JMB Member Discounts / Benefits Updates (Updated 1/17/22)

One of the newest benefits of JMB Website Supporters membership is a \$100 Gift Card from Caribbean Gems. The Gift Card was sent last week by email to all members of our **JMB Website Supporters Island Discount Program**, and will soon be added (for one-time use only) to our members-only passworded "Secret" Website. Details on its use 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 here in *SXM Weekly News* and will also be noted in our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#). We hope to finish these updates later during Q1, 2022.

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

Want your own \$100 Gift Certificate to Caribbean Gems? Join JMB Website Supporters and we will send it to you -- just be aware that the current MEMBERSHIP SALE -- described below -- must end on January 31.

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

18. Huge News About the 2022 SkyMed Sale

SECTION 4: Island News, Info, & Features

***IF YOU HAVE EVER THOUGHT ABOUT SKYMED,
NOW IS THE TIME TO ACT***

**SkyMed Never Does Sales
-- Except Right Now:**

**Only \$1.64/day - *LESS THAN A CUP OF COFFEE* -- gets
you annual or multiyear SKYMED MEDEVAC protection for
your upcoming trips!**

**Buy it NOW, *BEFORE* you need it -- just like fire insurance.
Annual and multiyear memberships are GUARANTEED
RENEWABLE and PRICE GUARANTEED FOR LIFE, too and
You'll Get Up To ***22 FREE WEEKS***
added to new SkyMed purchases!**

IF YOU HAVE EVER THOUGHT ABOUT SKYMED, ACT NOW:

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 for annual and multiyear memberships ARE MUCH LESS THAN YOU WOULD PAY ONLINE.

.....SKYMED's BEST SALE EVER IS NOW UNDERWAY!.....

For ALL NEW MEMBERSHIPS in 2022:

**22 FREE weeks added to all new 5-year ULTIMATES
12 FREE weeks added to all new 3-year ULTIMATES
22 FREE days added to all new Annual memberships**

"Thank YOU for Your Service"

Bonus for US & Canadian Military Veterans:

**6 FREE months added to all new 5-year ULTIMATES
3 FREE months added to all new 3-year ULTIMATES**

19. DETAILS: 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 *LOWER THAN THE PRICES ON THE SKYMED WEBSITE*:

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.**

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 (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
1/17/22

20. LAST CALL == MIDWINTER SALE FOR OUR JMB Website Supporters Island Discount Program MUST END JAN 31: It Funds SXM Weekly News, Our Hurricane Center, Our Facebook Site, & Lots More!

=====>Join or Renew Your Membership in Our *JMB Website Supporters Island Discount Program* Today; Great Last-Chance Sale Prices & You'll Beat The 2/1 Price Increase!

Our biggest sale of the year -- now better than ever since it precedes a price increase on multiyear memberships coming Feb. 1 -- 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 1/31 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 31. BUY NOW, THIS SALE ENDS 1/31. And because of the looming price increase, these values will soon be gone forever...**

To sign up, please visit our main site, 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 ... 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.....

21. Front Street Repairs Continue; No Shopping Impact

Road repairs to Front Street are continuing and may finish by the end of this month, some merchants are telling *SXM Weekly News*. Although the road is closed to vehicular traffic, it is completely accessible to pedestrians and is set up largely as a pedestrian mall for optimal pedestrian convenience.

Information on where to park is in a related story below.

22. "Mardis de Grand Case" / Harmony Nights Canceled for '22

Mardis de Grand Case, more familiarly known as Harmony Nights by long-time visitors, was a celebratory street fair held in Grand Case Tuesday nights in midwinter. It was not a time for quiet celebration, but was Street Fair involving many street vendors, occasional marching bands, musicians, and much more. It brought thousands of people to Grand Case along with lots of traffic and lots of noise but most of all, lots of fun for everyone.

Now the bad news: it won't happen this year. Because the organizers have no way to check a single point of entry into the Fair, there was no way to make sure all attending are properly vaccinated. Consequently, the Préfet — the administrative representative of the French state for both St. Martin and St. Barth — has canceled the event for 2022. Hopefully it will be back next year.

23. Heineken Regatta Still On, But Expect it To Be Different

At this point, the Heineken Regatta is still scheduled for early March; more information about it can be found at www.HeinekenRegatta.com. Here is an official comment from the Heineken Regatta website:

The party schedule for the 2022 St. Maarten Heineken Regatta will be announced at a later stage. Due to COVID-19 the event will be organized in a safe and professional manner taking all regulations into consideration to guarantee the safety of our guests. Currently organizers are looking at ways to offer onshore entertainment while maintaining proper protocols.

24. Nightly Business Shutdown or Curfew, It's 11PM on Both Sides - But Each Side Differs

11 PM is the nightly witching hour for both sides of the island — but what happens at that hour differs depending upon which side of the island you're visiting.

On the French side, 11 PM is a strict curfew. You need to be off the road and at your final destination (home) by 11 PM, which is also closing time for all businesses. Business employees require identification to be on the road heading home after 11 PM.

On the Dutch side, things are different. Businesses must also close at 11 PM, however people can be driving around at

will later than that; it's not curfew, but a time of business closure. However, since there is no place to go, the government apparently believes people will simply go home.

The objective of all this is to stop or limit social gatherings in an attempt to reduce the spread of omicron.

25. Restaurant of the Week: Mario's Bistro, Cupecoy Beach

How do you describe a restaurant that is absolutely divine? Mario's Bistro quite literally has everything you could possibly want in a fine dining restaurant:

Setting / Location: It's at the Cliff on Cupecoy Beach, a very upscale condo / vacation rental property that immediately gives you a sense of warmth and tranquility. The restaurant is inside on a deck overlooking beautiful gardens and the Caribbean, but fully open to those soothing Caribbean breezes. It's as convenient to Simpson Bay as it is to Marigot.

Offerings: Mario's offers a unique spectrum of flavors, aromas, and textures from around the world. It's Continental / European / Fusion / French with Caribbean influences. Mario Tardif, the owner, hails from Quebec -- "Mario's" is not an Italian restaurant, despite its name. In addition to his renowned duck breast, the restaurant always offers multiple fish selections, beef, lamb, and vegetarian offerings. Presentation is gorgeous so don't be surprised to see people taking pictures. Desserts are scrumptious works of art, one more beautiful than the other - so save room.

Mood: Elegant ambiance -- superior product quality and impeccable service are the hallmarks here.

Summary: Not to be missed; highest recommendation; a consistent award winner! Reservations are essential every evening especially during high season (now). See their site and call when they are open for reservations; closed Mondays.

Here are recently featured SXM restaurants:

Mario's Bistro at the Cliff, formerly Mario's Bistro www.mariobistrot.com/en/ **1/17/22** Mario's is one of the most spectacular culinary experiences you'll ever have -- here in SXM or anywhere else. *Go.* Phenomenal dining. 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.

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 (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 (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 (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/>

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

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

Blue Bitch Bar 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 (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 (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 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 (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.

26. 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.

27. Six-Vacation Giveaway Entries Now Underway; Complete Prize List for "Eight Million Thanks"; Want One?

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

Want one?

The vacations will be at:

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

Colony Manor Golden Daze condo directly 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; Movida;** and **IZI Ristorante Italiano**. (There may be more). *All are subject to limitations set by the owner; if you exceed the limit, you are responsible for the excess.*

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 now to subscribe FREE before entering this giveaway. **ENTRIES FROM NONSUBSCRIBERS ARE NOT ELIGIBLE TO WIN.**

28. 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!

29. Award-Winning Simpson Bay Restaurant For Sale; Pricing Options Offered

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. **Price including current N. V. concept, name, goodwill, fit-out and inventory, \$595K. Price for lease, fit-out, and inventory ONLY, \$395,000**

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

30. Make Your Own Scent at Tijon Parfumerie (Women & Men)

We've raved for years about how great an experience it is to create your own fragrance (women and men both) at Tijon Parfumerie in Grand Case opposite Spiga Restaurant. Do it alone, as a couple, or as a small group; make appointments at www.tijon.com. You can even do it online and they guarantee you'll love the scents you create. Plus, you can also order refills when you run out. **We've done it multiple times and LOVE IT...**

31. Do Not Miss "AMuseum Naturalis" On The French Side

This natural museum is wonderful. It's on top of the hill off the main road north from French Quarter to Orient Beach. You'll see their small sign on the right as you drive north. It's small, free, open 9-12 Tuesday through Saturday. They have free coloring books of local birds for your kids or grandkids and their parents. There's also a new book of color photos of the impact of Irma on local wildlife and many well-done, informative displays about wildlife found only in local islands.

The coloring books includes color photos of many local birds and all are identified. It's next to "The Old House" atop the hill overlooking Le Galion beach. Look for the white sign with script lettering before the road to le Galion; it lists "AMuseum Naturalis".

32. 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. 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.

33. Who Our Sponsors Are, & Why You Should Patronize Them (Updated 1/17/22)

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

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

COVID TESTING:

Medcare (near Avantika in Puerto del Sol)

Test-to-Fly (new 1/22)

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.)

FASHIONS FOR WOMEN

En Vogue, Billy Folly Road, Simpson Bay, opposite Atrium Hotel. (New 1/22)

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

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)**

SPAS

Sunset Spa, Simpson Bay Resort (11/21)

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

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 1/17/22

34. 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](#).

35. 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.

36. 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.

37. 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](#) or email Jeff at jeff.berger@skymed.com. SkyMed is the Principal Sponsor of JMB SXM programs.

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

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.

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

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

Our **JMB SXM 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 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.

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://everythingSXM.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://everythingSXM.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

B. **Password Recovery Info:** Your username is the email address you have registered with JMB Website Supporters. If you forget your password, click "forgot / change password" in the orange login box near the masthead at

www.everythingsxm.com. To change your password, click that same link.

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

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

See www.everythingsxm.com.

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

To unsubscribe, go here: www.sxmweeklynews.com. You **CAN NOT** unsubscribe either by replying to this email or, if you are an AOL user, by clicking the *spam* button on AOL.

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

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

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

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

Contact Us (Revised 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. 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.

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

Privacy Policy http://www.everythingsxm.com/sxm/privacy_policy/index.shtml (Updated 5/25/18)

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