

From JMB / SXM Weekly News 6/13/22: SPECIAL EDITION - 30TH ANNIVERSARY -- YOUR SUMMER VACATION IN SXM; US No Longer Requires Negative Covid Tests When You Fly Home; Best Beaches for Kids; Best Places to Stay; Special Things to Do on SXM With Friends; Hiring a Driver; Hiring a Personal Chef; (Many Stories Related to your Summer Vacation on SXM); Huge SkyMed Summer Sale Now Underway; Make Your Own Perfume; How to Enter Our Six-Vacation Giveaway; Two New SXM Euro-Oval Car Stickers for You; Message to SXM Weekly News Readers from Jeff Berger [Issue #1351 -- 50 Top SXM News Stories for Tourists

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Vol. 4, #1351 ---- Monday, June 13, 2022
News From Sint Maarten / Saint Martin / SXM

+++++ SPECIAL EDITION -- Your Guide to SUMMER VACATIONS in SXM +++++

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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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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 Island Discount Program](#) member.*

Please do stay with us for all the latest tourist-oriented news from St. Maarten / St. Martin / SXM all year long. Now read by over 370,000 people around the world...

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This narrow format is easily readable on all mobile devices. Scroll down for this week's news.

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

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

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

SXM Timeshare Rental of The Week:

RENTAL 9/10/2022 9/24/2022 Week 37 and Week 38 **Simpson Bay Resort, Marina and Spa Two bedroom, two full baths, sleep-eight top floor Penthouse Unit overlooking the Caribbean Sea. Super location. Marina building (handicap accessible with elevator). Spacious Penthouse unit has long balcony overlooking the water for sunning and spectacular sunsets. Two King size beds , two Murphy beds, plus queen-size sleep sofa, sleeps eight total. Full a/c, full kitchen, large private jacuzzi, flat screen TVs, DVD players, free Wi-Fi and much more. Free reserved park spot just feet from your door. All amenities of SBR, two beaches, five pools, swim-up bars, several restaurants, including beach bar/restaurant, sports bar, casino, nightclub, deli, tennis, exercise facilities. Full Marina with watersports, snorkeling, scuba, sailing excursions etc.. A Five-Star, Resort of Distinction Award Winner. Convenient to airport, shopping, entertainment and restaurants in SXM. \$1750 per week, \$3300 for both weeks total Gerald 856 392 7049 gwilliams6@comcast.net**

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

SXM Timeshare Sale of The Week:

SALE 11/6/2022 11/13/2022 Week 45 **Flamingo Beach Club Beautifully renovated studio, sleeps 4, water view overlooking the pool. \$5,000.00 Marie mobolero@hotmail.com**

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

Villa Rentals Now Offered On Our Site Too:

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

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

"Like" Our 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://everythingxsm.com/sxm/free_newsletters/sxmweeklynews.shtml

Archives prior to April 12 2014 (old format):

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

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

www.linkedin.com

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

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

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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:

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SECTION 1: Getting Here: Flights, Airlines, Airports, Cruises, Covid, & Weather; Etc.

GETTING HERE:

1. LEAD STORY: USA Rescinds Requirement for Americans to be

Covid-Tested Before Returning Home

For as long as many of us can remember, thanks to the Covid Pandemic the United States has required citizens returning home from foreign travel to show proof of a negative Covid test within a day of returning home. Effective at 12:01 AM yesterday (Sunday) morning, the United States has rescinded that rule. It's great news for tourists since it eliminates the hassle of being tested before you go home — as well as the cost.

Here is [the complete story](#) directly from the US CDC.

NOTE: This is one reason we still recommend that when flying you continue to wear a face mask until the epidemic is truly over. Your choice - but masks do work.

2. For Now, Requirements for Entering SXM Remain Unchanged

As the world slowly and fitfully begins to edge away from the record-breaking Covid 19 Pandemic, a number of nations around the world have started easing Covid-era restrictions on entry by foreign nationals.

At this time, we have no news concerning any forthcoming changes to Covid 19-related Entry Requirements imposed on foreigners by SXM. We aren't going to predict when changes may be coming or what they might be — but we urge all readers to watch future editions of **SXM Weekly News** and to visit our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#) where we intend to publish news on this topic and many other topics as it happens.

3. Where to Find Our Guide to SXM Entry Requirements / Return to US Requirements (Updated)

Tens of thousands of tourists will be visiting SXM this summer and fall, with hundreds of thousands coming next winter. Planning for all of these visits is well underway.

Our **Guide to Entry Requirements** (Second Edition, just updated) 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 must still apply for the required preapproval.

To access the just-updated second edition of our Guide to Entry Requirements, *which is free*, go [through this link](#) (revised) to the files area of our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#). You should be able to access the file easily if you are already a Facebook member.

Further updates may happen as the number of hospitalizations on the island stays very low. See next story.

4. Got a Spare \$45,000? You May Need It, In Cash in Advance, to Get a MedEvac Jet Home in a Medical Emergency

\$45,000 or more payable in cash in advance could be what you must pay out-of-pocket should you need emergency medical evacuation while traveling anywhere in the USA, Canada, Mexico, Bermuda, the Bahamas, or anywhere in the Caribbean. By contrast, SkyMed *Takes You Home*® for zero dollars when you become critically ill or injured in any of those countries *if you are a SkyMed member. All it takes is one phone call and SkyMed does everything. That \$45,000 you might have to spend without SkyMed assumes that you can make all the arrangements, find and hire the jet, make sure it is properly outfitted for the specific medical problems you face, staff it with appropriate medical professionals who are cleared to travel back home to the US or Canada, and take care of customs, immigration, and loads of other paperwork including Ambulances and getting your records to your Destination hospital.* By contrast, SkyMed does all of that and its members pay \$0 for the evacuation or ambulances.

Setting up medical evacuations sounds complicated because it is — and having to do all this in a medical emergency is a daunting task for anyone who has never done it. *For about \$1.64/day for an annual or multiyear SkyMed membership. SkyMed will do all of this stuff once you make that single quick phone call.*

For more information, call us today at 508-591-3483 or Jeff.Berger@skymed.com. Include your phone number and time zone so we can call back and get all your questions answered. We can also take your application by phone in roughly

10 minutes.

5. What To Do If Your Flight is Canceled Or Delayed...

What should you do if your flight is canceled or delayed as happens fairly often now due to winter weather or omicron related issues?

This recently published [article](#) gives you exact answers.

Etc./Weather

6. About Summer Weather in SXM

Spring in SXM, which is about to draw to a close, tends to be quite dry. Although early summer also tends to be dry, summer weather may be punctuated by occasional tropical weather fronts which can bring brief but much-needed downpours to the island.

In general, summer weather continues to be hot and breezy thanks to tradewinds, without the sweltering humidity that is common throughout much of the United States during summer. Thanks to ocean temperatures in the 80s, coupled with those continuing sea breezes, temperatures stay warm day and night during the summer but temperature surges into the high 90s, if they happen at all, are extremely unusual here, unlike what happens in the US.

Hurricane season began June 1 and ends November 30, though storms can and do occur before and after that window. For complete tropical weather information, see the other stories in this section.

7. Some Questions & Answers Re: '22 Hurricane Season

Based upon recent news reports concerning tropical storm Alex and the 2022 hurricane season in general, here are a few questions and answers:

First, does the fact that this first storm developed so early in the season have any meaning for how many storms will develop, where they will develop, or what might happen?

Answer, no. Virtually all competent weather authorities have already stated that there could be up to 21 named storms this year, capping an unprecedented string of years with greater than normal hurricane activity. All it takes is one storm for it to be a bad season where you are — and there is no way to tell in advance what Mother Nature's targets will be — and when. The height of the Cape Verde hurricane season, which is the season that generates most of the storms that have a major impact in the Northeast Caribbean, isn't until early September. Although storms can develop almost any time, it's rare that they bother SXM outside of September or October — but it happens.

Second, if the odds of getting hit are greater in September, what if I just plan my trip in some month other than September?

Answer, there is no way to tell now where hurricanes will hit during hurricane season. That said, many people plan SXM vacations in September, which is the busiest month of the year for hurricanes. They love the weather then and realize that the odds are still against a major storm hitting in the particular week when they are here. If you decide to come in September, virtually all resorts and many restaurants remain open then, but a number of restaurants plan do their annual closing for part of September.

Third, how well is SXM prepared to cope with a hurricane?

Answer, SXM is far better prepared now to withstand a hurricane than it was before the appearance of Irma and Maria in 2017. Many tropical weather systems aren't hurricanes at all, but tropical waves (tropical depressions) or tropical storms, which deliver lots of wind-driven rain with the possibility of thunder and isolated tornadoes. Hurricanes can be more severe. Both sides of SXM have followed the creed [build back better](#) during the rebuilding process after the 2017 hurricanes. SXM may now be the island in the Caribbean best prepared to withstand visits from future hurricanes.

8. Be Properly Prepared for Hurricane Season

Compiled by NOAA and the National Hurricane Center, this information can help anyone who is ever in the path of any tropical cyclone hopefully make it through that event safely. For your own safety, download [this document](#) and save it after reading -- and feel free to share it with others.

9. Where to Find The Latest SXM Weather Information

Although hurricane season officially begins June 1, nonetheless it's best to be prepared before then. In recent years, tropical activity has begun around mid-May. Stay in touch with any or all of these sources of tropical weather information...

Here are SIX sources of current SXM weather info:

- 1) [Crown Weather Services](#) whose very inexpensive subscription service is, we feel, the best in the business.
- 2) Our "Weather Center / Hurricane Center" at www.everythingsxm.com -- it has current satellite images and radar loops 24/7/365 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. *That page also includes real-time or near-real-time satellite images and radar loops.*
- 3) Our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#) 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 so you'll 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.
- 6) 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.*

In addition... When storms form or pass near SXM, we expect to run the latest forecasts, watches, warnings, and observations in our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#), and we will post all of that material directly in the weather center of our everything SXM website, www.everythingsxm.com.

[Changing Your Email Address?](#)

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and Sign Up Your New One
for your SXM Weekly News subscription
Quickly and Easily
at our Site: www.sxmweeklynews.com**

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

10. For SXM Condo Buyers, Some Critically Important Advice

Moving to the Caribbean requires a multi-step procedure that involves different citizenship programs. While territories in the Caribbean region have made relocation to the Caribbean easier for people, it's still a meticulous process. It's best to go through the application with seasoned immigration consultants.

Our partner [BrightPath Caribbean](#) is an expert immigration agency that has helped countless people move to their slice of paradise in the tropics. Investors, retirees, and skilled workers who were assisted by the BrightPath team now enjoy life in the land of sun, sea, and sand.

By working with BrightPath's immigration consultants, you don't have to deal with the nitty-gritty of the complicated immigration process. Plus, you avoid delays and increase your chances of approval.

Moving, retiring, and opening a business in Sint Maarten (country abbreviation SXM) all involve complicated, multi-step processes. So leave the nitty-gritty to professionals who are well-versed in immigration and the business climate in this Caribbean country.

BrightPath Caribbean makes your move to Sint Maarten smooth-sailing and fuss-free. You no longer have to deal with complicated paperwork or complex immigration, incorporation, or retirement procedures. Our consultants in Sint Maarten will oversee everything so that you can focus on the important thing — your new life in paradise.

Moving to St. Maarten

BrightPath Caribbean provides various services to prepare for your relocation, retirement, or venture in Sint Maarten.

Immigration Services

Our team handles immigration matters for individuals who want to relocate to St. Maarten. Moving to this country is no easy task, but the effort is more than worth it. Its beautiful beaches and scenery make it seem like you're on vacation all year round.

BrightPath immigration consultants in Sint Maarten:

- Walk you through the various immigration avenues in Sint Maarten, including investment, employment, family reunification, cohabitation agreements, and more
- Collect required documents based on the avenue for immigration and review them for completeness and accuracy
- Oversee the entire application process and guide you every step of the way

Business Incorporation Services

Our business incorporation consultants see to it that you start your company on the right legal footing. You'll get expert-level guidance in:

- Business License. Our experts deliver reliable advice about the right business license for your company if you haven't applied for one yet. We also guide you in applying for the license in St. Maarten.
- Name Search. BrightPath consultants check if your chosen business name is available. If not, we can work with you to form a cleared name.
- Preparing the Articles of Incorporation. Our team prepares and makes sure the paperwork is complete and error-free. We'll also be the ones to file the articles of incorporation.

Business Banking Services

Our team opens bank accounts for existing or planned businesses in SXM to make sure your company starts on the right financial footing. You'll be assisted as you:

- Choose Your Bank. Our consultants review your business's banking needs, as well as your in-person and online banking preferences, to help you choose the right bank. Our goal is to find a bank that provides scalable solutions and day-to-day banking convenience.
- Gather Requirements. Our team helps you collect the required documents and review them for accuracy and completeness. We'll also be the ones to submit them and set an appointment with your chosen bank in Sint Maarten.
- Sign Forms. You simply attend the appointment and sign the forms.

Retirement Planning Services

You'll develop a personal retirement planning strategy that takes into account your personal financial goals, the financial risks you face, and the kind of life you want to lead during your golden years in the Caribbean. Our retirement service consultants in Sint Maarten:

- Help you set clearly defined goals for your retirement in St. Maarten
- Improve tax efficiency and help you maximize your benefits
- Plan your legacy in case you want to leave something to your grandchildren or a charitable institution

Sint Maarten Awaits:

There's more to Sint Maarten than beautiful beaches and breathtaking landscapes. The culinary scene is rich and diverse, representing over 100 nationalities, including French cheeses and Mediterranean wines. The shopping experience is divine, and the festivals are spectacular.

If you're eyeing St. Maarten for your retirement or new venture, then you've made the right choice.

11. Hundreds of SXM Timeshare & Condo Rentals Available for 2022 and Now 2023

Dozens of new listings of timeshare and other condominiums for rent and for sale for both 2022 and 2023 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 middlemen or agents or anyone else charging commissions. *Usually, timeshare owners charge close to their actual annual maintenance fee costs.*

Dozens more new entries were posted over the last couple of weeks.

12. Realtors to See for SXM Condos & Villas

The following list of our sponsor realtors tells you how to contact SXM's best sources of condos and villas across the island:

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>

Villa Steel Magnolias (new 1/22)

40Weeks SXM Vacation Rentals (new)

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

Villa Kimon

Daffodil Villa

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](#). (Link is being updated).

Please check this link to [BrightPath Caribbean 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. Tell them 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 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.

15. 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 ♦Δ♦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 3: JMB Member Discounts & Benefits

16. Reminder: \$100 Jewelry Gift Card Emails Sent to All JMB Website Supporters Members: News About JMB Member Discounts / Benefits Updates (Updated 1/31/22) How To Get Your \$100 Gift Card to Caribbean Gems

One of the newest benefits of JMB Website Supporters membership is a \$100 Gift Card from Caribbean Gems. The Gift Card was sent last month 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 late during Summer, 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. We recently sent Certificates to all JMB members.

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

17. Reminder: Members May Now Advertise Both Timeshare Weeks They Own and Privately Owned SXM Condominiums On Our Site

We are now accepting advertising for both timeshare resort condominiums as well as privately owned condominiums on the island directly from their owners who are members of our JMB Website Supporters Island Discount Program. This is effective immediately and includes weeks from both 2022 and 2023. Submit your ads through the members-only "Secret" website.

Not a member? Join us by clicking the page curl on our main site, www.everythingsxm.com. All the details you need are there.

18. JMB Website Supporters Island Discount Program Major Update Expected to Complete Late This Summer...

The huge update we have been working on for some time of our JMB Website Supporters Island Discount Program — which coincides with a major server upgrade and upgrades to two mission-critical programs for our new servers — is taking longer than we had originally hoped.. Unfortunately, this seems to be a common theme among many businesses dealing with personnel shortages among their principal contractors. In any case, we believe this major upgrade should be finished sometime late this summer. We will keep you aware of program changes and apologize for the delay.

19. Updated Contact Information for JMB Website Supporters and SkyMed Sales Inquiries (UPDATED 6/6/22)

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**. You may also call our JMB office, 508-747-8281.
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.
3. **Our new email is jmbcomms@gmail.com; use it for JMB Website Supporters membership questions**. Thank you.

SECTION 4: Island News, Info, & Features

20. HUGE SUMMER SALE NOW UNDERWAY BY SKYMED: IF YOU'RE TRAVELING "ANYWHERE" THIS SUMMER, FALL, or NEXT WINTER, *This is Huge News from SkyMed:*

Up To 22 Weeks FREE (PLUS Military/First Responder Free Weeks) with New Multiyear SkyMed Purchases ==Only \$1.64/day Gets You Guaranteed Renewable, Price-Guaranteed-Forever SkyMed Annual or Multiyear Medevac Protection

***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.

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). NOTE: My prices for multiyear memberships ARE MUCH LESS THAN YOU WOULD PAY ONLINE.

.....SKYMED's BEST PROMOTION 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**

& FIRST RESPONDERS:

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

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

***What are "Ultimates"? See next story.**

*****These MILITARY benefits are IN ADDITION TO the benefits for all new members!*****

21. THE SALE STORY: Only \$1.64/day Gets You Guaranteed Renewable, Price-Guaranteed-Forever SkyMed Annual or Multiyear Medevac Protection:

WHAT IS SKYMED? WHERE DOES SKYMED WORK?

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 \$45,000 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](#).

WHAT ARE "ULTIMATES"?

SkyMed Ultimates are SkyMed's best memberships and also its LEAST EXPENSIVE on a cost-per-day basis (about \$1.64/day for family protection). They offer a suite of 18 services and protect you worldwide -- almost everywhere. They are offered in monthly-pay (minimum payment period two years), three-year, and five-year versions.

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 **DIRECTLY (contact info below)** for details on all of our major-league savings on SkyMed Ultimate multi-year membership prices.

LIFETIME PRICE GUARANTEE / GUARANTEED RENEWABLE MEMBERSHIPS:

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. SkyMed annual and longer memberships are also Guaranteed Renewable when annual or multiyear fees are paid on time -- guaranteed renewable regardless of advancing age or declining health.

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 - that way I get credit.**

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 Travel 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 a specific trip; it's temporary protection. There is no waiting period for benefits. When you want protection for another future trip, you must make a separate application for it. Short-term protection 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 is far more economical than the \$15/day per family for short-term coverage -- it's now only about \$1.64/day total.* Multiyear memberships are also about \$1.64/day 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. *Updated 5/2/22.*

- ***What is the SkyMed Ultimate?**

Again, the Ultimate is SkyMed's best - and least expensive (on a daily cost basis) form of medical evacuation membership. With SkyMed "Takes You Home"® services in the USA, Canada, Mexico, Bermuda, the Bahamas, and all the nations of the Caribbean, plus Global Emergency Travel Services (GETS) almost everywhere else worldwide, the Ultimate is for people who visit Europe, Africa, Asia, and almost anywhere else your wanderlust takes you. It also delivers 18 critically important travel-related services as opposed to 12 with SkyMed annual memberships. **You'll find an overview of all SkyMed Services including those provided with Ultimate memberships [here](#).**

- [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
6/6/22

22. Answering Your Questions: Examples of What SkyMed Does & How SkyMed Works

---An Important Message from Jeff Berger to All SXM Weekly News Readers---

We've always said SkyMed TAKES YOU HOME® when you become critically ill or injured -- home to doctors and hospitals you know and trust, and home where your health insurance works. **In recent weeks as many of you have decided to resume traveling, you've asked us for examples of what SkyMed does.** Several examples are right here:

For answers to questions or to sign up, email me at jeff.berger@skymed.com or call me at 508-591-3483. Open to Americans & Canadians & xPats only. Based in Scottsdale, Arizona, for the last 33+ years, SkyMed TAKES YOU HOME® when you become critically ill or injured while traveling anywhere in the USA, Canada, Mexico, Bermuda, the Bahamas, or all the nations of the Caribbean. Global protection is available. Cost for family membership is as little as \$1.64/day on annual and multiyear plans. IMPORTANT: Buy directly through me; our pricing for multiyear memberships is much lower than SkyMed's pricing published

on the web.

Here are specific examples of how SkyMed works for its members:

On a recent Thursday at Mullet Bay Beach, a woman at the edge of the water fell and accidentally knocked down her friend, standing close by. The friend felt pain in her leg as she got up, went to a hospital, and was told she had a "soft tissue injury" and should relax in the sun. Pain continued. Next day she went to the Maho Clinic for another opinion since she couldn't put any weight on the leg without pain. The doctor there sent her to the French Side for a new x-ray. That diagnosis came back - broken leg and she had to be medically evacuated back to the US for surgery. A few days before, the woman had bought short-term SkyMed medevac protection for her short trip to SXM. Cost, under \$100. She was sent home by jet by SkyMed. The charge for the jet: \$0. Without SkyMed, had she needed a medevac jet, the \$26,000 (approx.) price of that jet home would have had to be paid in cash in advance; with SkyMed she was home and in the hospital of her choice the next day for \$0 out-of-pocket.

Mary Beth and her partner Don were vacationing in SXM when Don fell and broke his hip -- only about a month after they had bought SkyMed. SkyMed flew them home on a medevac jet for the hospital care he needed. Flight cost to the patient: \$0. Savings: over \$35,000.

An MD from Florida who always visits SXM was on a cruise vacation to the Greek Islands with his wife when he broke his femur aboard the ship. He was rushed to the hospital in Corfu but called SkyMed which arranged and paid for an emergency medevac flight to Athens for urgent surgery. A few days later SkyMed evacuated him again, with an excellent male nurse, all the way home to Florida, where an ambulance took him home for recovery. Required flight cost to the patient: \$0. Savings: huge.

A Summer trip ended in disaster when a child visiting her grandmother in Grand Case was bitten in the head by the grandmother's bulldog, imperiling the girl's eyesight. She was flown to Miami in a medical evacuation jet for emergency eye surgery that saved her sight. Flight cost to the patient: \$0.

A woman from Virginia shopped at an island grocer and headed back to her car carrying two bags of groceries. She tripped and fell on a curb and knew at once she had fractured her hip. After being stabilized locally, she was flown home on a medical evacuation jet from SkyMed where she had the surgery she needed. Flight cost to the patient: \$0.

Two men were riding their horses on a hill in Cay Bay when a car backfiring spooked one of the horses, which threw its rider. The other rider got off his horse to check his companion when the car again backfired, spooking the horse again which led it to kick its dismounted driver in the head, luckily causing "only" a severely dislocated jaw. The local hospital had no ability to solve that problem so the victim was airlifted by SkyMed back to Pennsylvania for surgery. Flight cost to the patient: \$0.

A member of the clergy fell down cement stairs and broke her leg. She too was airlifted home by SkyMed for surgery. Flight cost to the patient: \$0.

Not all trips end well: anything can happen when you travel. Being a member of SkyMed was the common thread in all these cases. SkyMed takes its members home when serious or critical injuries occur in the "SkyMed universe" , usually in a private, ICU-equivalent medical evacuation jet -- home to doctors and hospitals the patient knows and trusts -- and home where their health insurance works. That's just one of up to 18 benefits received by SkyMed members for about \$1.64/day for annual or multiyear memberships.

All this is why we always recommend SkyMed. Call Jeff Berger 24/7 at 508-591-3483 and leave your name, phone number, and time zone. Jeff will call back at a mutually convenient time and answer all your questions. He can also take your application by phone in about 10 minutes. *You're eligible to apply regardless of your age or health if you are a U.S. or Canadian citizen or an American or Canadian ExPat living in SXM or certain other countries.*

Anything can happen anywhere: Do it now, BEFORE YOU NEED IT. To learn more, visit www.skymed.com/jmb. JMB members get big discounts off SkyMed's online pricing for all multiyear memberships, the BEST memberships for most people age 50 or over. More contact info is above.

Thanks for reading this.

23. LEAD STORY: USA Rescinds Requirement for Americans to be Covid-Tested Before Returning Home

For as long as many of us can remember, thanks to the Covid Pandemic the United States has required citizens returning home from foreign travel to show proof of a negative Covid test within a day of returning home. **Effective at 12:01 AM yesterday (Sunday) morning, United States has rescinded that rule. It's great news for tourists since it eliminates the hassle of being tested before you go home — as well as the cost.**

Here is [the complete story](#) directly from the US CDC.

24. Sumner Sochrin, Jeff "Dr. Soc" Sochrin's Dad, Passes Away

Sumner Burton Sochrin, formerly of Milford and Seymour, Connecticut, USA and most recently from Shelton, Connecticut, USA passed away peacefully at home on May 31, 2022. He was a part time resident of Sint Maarten in the Dutch Caribbean. Mr. Sochrin was 88 years of age.

Sumner was predeceased by his wife of more than 56 years, Linda Karen Diamond Sochrin. He is survived by his son, Jeffrey Ward Sochrin, (known locally on St. Maarten as Dr. Soc of Island92 radio) of Simpson Bay, Sint Maarten in the Dutch Caribbean, his brother and sister-in-law, Gary and Phyllis Sochrin of Orange, Connecticut, his niece, Aimee Higgins and her husband, Justin Higgins of Orange, Connecticut, his niece Sheri Sochrin of Feeding Hills, Massachusetts, and his great-niece, Sarah Charlotte Higgins of Orange, Connecticut, in addition to his cat, Wendel and several grand-dogs and cats.

Sumner was born in Derby, Connecticut on February 27, 1934, to Benjamin and Sarah Sochrin (Hodos) of Seymour, Connecticut. He graduated from Seymour High School in 1951 and attended Admiral Farragut Academy in Tom's River, New Jersey. He was a graduate of the Georgia Institute of Technology with a Bachelors of Science degree in Industrial Management and graduated from the University of Bridgeport with a Masters of Science degree in Secondary Education. Mr. Sochrin served in the United States Army and earned the rank of Staff Sergeant. While in the army, he was stationed in Germany and traveled across the Atlantic on the same ship as the late Elvis Presley.

Upon completion of his service to the United States of America, Sumner returned to Connecticut where he played semi-professional baseball and served as a Teacher of Mathematics at Central High School in Bridgeport, Connecticut, for 33 years. At the same time, he began a coaching career that spanned more than 50 years at Seymour High School, Bridgeport Central High School, Yale University, Jonathan Law High School (Milford) and Derby High School. He was the first and only High School Baseball Coach to win a Baseball State Championship for the City of Bridgeport in 1978. With more than 500 career wins, Sumner Sochrin was named Coach of the Year by numerous state and regional organizations over five decades. He was inspirational to his students and his athletes, even after his retirement from Coaching in 2014.

Mr. Sochrin was a philanthropist who often quietly and anonymously assisted those less fortunate, especially athletes who loved the game of baseball. During his winter sojourns to the island of Sint Maarten, Coach Sochrin often worked with young athletes in the Players Development League, with assistance on the ball field and in the classroom.

Friends are invited to join Coach Sochrin's family for the funeral service and burial at Beth Israel Cemetery on Derby/Milford Road in Orange, Connecticut, on Tuesday, June 7, 2022 at 11 AM. Lesko Polke Funeral Home, 1209 Boston Post Road, Fairfield, Connecticut is handling all the arrangements.

A Private Period of Mourning will be observed by the family.

Memorial Contributions in the name of Sumner Burton Sochrin may be directed to the charity of the donor's choice. The Family would appreciate support of the St. Maarten Animal Welfare Foundation for those that feel so inclined at [paypal.me/TeamGoldendog](https://www.paypal.me/TeamGoldendog). For travel directions or to sign his online guest register, please visit www.LeskoPolkeFuneralHome.com

25. Causeway Bridge Quickly Reopens to Marine Traffic

As we reported here last week, the swing-bridge structure of the Dutch side causeway was ailing, having temporary technical issues that were preventing it from opening to allow marine traffic to move through. Replacement parts were ordered and arrived quickly, followed by technicians to complete installation and testing of the replacement parts. Once installation and testing were completed, the causeway bridge reopened to normal marine traffic.

Automobile traffic over the bridge structure was not affected by the temporary swing-bridge closure.

26. Repeat CAUTION: Sea Turtle Nesting Season on Island

Beaches

As we have reported in the last few weeks, sea turtle nesting season occurs between now and sometime in October. Very large female sea turtles return to the beaches where they were hatched, make shallow depressions in the beach sand, then lay a number of eggs in the depression, and cover the area and the eggs with a shallow amount of beach sand.

Since sea turtles are endangered, their nesting sites are protected by law from poachers — and people are warned strongly to stay away from the area near the nesting sites so the eggs hatch and the hatchlings return safely to the sea.

Only a small percentage of sea turtle hatchlings make it to adulthood. Many are eaten by predators and others are endangered by human presence.

Here is information about the [sea turtle nesting and hatching experience](#).

27. Free Range Lobsters Relax in the Caribbean's Largest Lobster Area

The very popular and relatively new Astra Steaks and Seafood restaurant in Simpson Bay near the entrance to the Isle de Sol Marina is home to the Caribbean's largest saltwater lobster "pool". The area has saltwater creatures including lobsters and some freely swimming small fish in a section of Simpson Bay lagoon behind Astra restaurant, where tourists, locals, and other visitors can watch the lobsters in their cage-free environment.

A key management figure at the restaurant told us that Caribbean spiny lobsters are nocturnal creatures who are active in the pool either in the evening or overnight when lights are off. You can see that for yourself by observing activity in the cage free environment behind the restaurant at Astra seven nights a week. Great food and fun at Astra.

28. Special Edition: Your Guide to Summer Vacations in SXM

SXM is a very special vacation spot during the summer as well as all year long.

Virtually everyone knows the attributes of SXM for winter travel; winter weather in SXM enables visitors to enjoy warm summerlike weather and very warm sea water temperatures year-round. But not many people realize that weather conditions in SXM, thanks to ever-present tradewinds, delivers air temperatures that are normally more moderate than those in the US, along with great restaurants, less congestion than summer vacation spots across the USA, and often significantly less cost than the US because in SXM, everything but winter is off-season. *Summers in SXM present a perfect time for a supremely comfortable and reasonably economical tropical vacation.*

The guide that follows delivers much of the information you may seek to plan your upcoming summer vacation in SXM.

Enjoy the following stories:

29. Summer: THE Perfect Time to Try New Restaurants

Although SXM remains busy this summer — busier than many summers in recent memory — it's nonetheless not as busy as during high season (winter). As a result, service in many businesses — restaurants, jewelry stores, hotels, and more — is more personalized and custom-tailored to your needs in Summer. You can spend more time talking with business owners about what they offer.

Some people have suggested that it's the best time of year to try new restaurants since you can spend more time looking into what people think of them in our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#), a perfect place to gather intelligence about new places to visit and things to do. In fact, if you want to suggest new restaurants or report on restaurants you recently experienced, our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#) is the perfect place to do it; sharing your experiences is what that site is all about.

30. Long Weekend Getaways Increasingly Popular With Family or Friends Groups

When you [get the urge for going](#) this summer, take a long weekend with friends or family and spend some time doting on yourself in SXM. Long weekend getaways are increasingly popular with friends, family, or other special people. Spend time on quiet beaches, roaring down a mountainside with an experience you've never had, parasailing, parachuting out of a plane, enjoying exquisite food in a beautiful villa — the possibilities in SXM are truly infinite and a VERY long weekend is one of many ways you can leverage the greatness of SXM and have a time you'll never forget.

This is an opportunity you shouldn't pass up. See the stories that follow for more.

31. Hiring a Driver for a Day or More Makes Everything Easier

If you want to enjoy your time in SXM to the max without having to worry about driving after a few drinks, talk to the people who own your car rental agency or look in the Files section of our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#) to find a private driver who can shepherd you through some of the biggest attractions of SXM for a day or two or more.

Hiring a driver who knows where you want to go and what you want to do makes everything easier -- and it gives you a sense of relaxation which may be unobtainable otherwise. Much more information about private drivers is in the Files area in our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#) — give it a try.

32. Special Things to Do on SXM With Friends: *Making Perfume; Jewelry Shopping; Beaching it; Hiring a Private Chef; Loterie Farm; Rainforest Adventures at Emilio Wilson Estate; The Tasting Menu at IZI Ristorante Italiano; The Incredible Art of Roland Richardson*

SXM is remarkably diverse in the attractions it offers to a universe of visitors. Here we list a number of adventures you can take while on the island that will make your trip one of the most memorable you will ever do:

Making perfume at Tijon Parfumerie: Ever since Ilene and I first visited Tijon Parfumerie in Grand Case opposite Spiga years ago and discovered that they have single-session courses on how to create your own Fragrance (perfumes for women, colognes for men), we have been hooked on doing it. Ilene so far has created two fragrances, and I've created one — and we have reordered them several times each. (Tijon maintains records of the ingredients you blend to create your unique perfume or cologne, so they can re-create it for you in the future when you are back on island or if you wish by mail.)

During the Pandemic, the Parfumerie also offered the ability for its customers to create perfumes online, virtually — with a moneyback guarantee that you will love the fragrance you create. But we will freely tell you that doing it in person is one major hoot so if you plan to go this summer or during the fall or next winter, you should reserve a spot now with Tijon Parfumerie. You can call them at the telephone number or use the contact capability on their website at www.Tijon.com; tell them Jeff Berger suggested you contact them. The cost to learn how to make your own fragrance is small, the fun is tremendous, and you will love the results.

Jewelry shopping: there are literally dozens of jewelry stores on Front Street in SXM, many of which offers pieces that are unique to their store. Whether you're looking for a rock the size of your eyeball or some gorgeous, eye-catching piece that will only set you back a couple of hundred bucks, SXM offers a spectrum of jewelry and an equally tantalizing spectrum of pricing that we believe is unmatched anywhere in the Caribbean. The jewelers here take great pride in making sure that what they sell is top-quality — and they also offer customizations, repairs, upgrades, etc. to ensure that what you select in SXM becomes uniquely you. **Spend some time walking among the stores throughout town after seeing posts with photos from some of the best jewelers we know of posting in our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#).** If you see pieces from a particular Jeweler that you find especially eye-catching, do a search on the site for additional posts by the same Jeweler and you'll find a number of pieces that may typify what they offer; then contact the Jeweler directly to see lots more. There is a lot to love offered in the Jewelry stores on Front St., Philipsburg, especially within a few hundred yards east and west of the historic courthouse at the center of town.

Beaching it: Read all the characteristics of every key beach on SXM in the beaches section of our main site, everythingSXM.com — then decide where to go. We feature hidden gems, crazy places (Maho beach where planes arrive a few feet over your head or depart while blowing aircraft exhaust at you, blowing you into the water along with everything and everyone with you on the beach — not everyone's cup of tea but definitely different), clothing optional strands, gorgeous places for sunsets, and more — dozens of beaches across the island, many with services.

Hiring a Private Chef: Many restaurants can cater for you, but if you have a great setting like a Villa rental with friends

and/or family, hiring a private chef is the way to go. Some restaurateurs also do private chef activity on their own — ask at your favorite restaurants. The most well-known and prestigious of all private chefs on SXM is, without a doubt, Dino Jagtiani, the celebrated Culinary Institute of America trained chef who years ago ran both the Temptation and Rare restaurants at Cupecoy before the much-hated Irma blew them away. [You can contact Dino here.](#)

Loterie Farm: If all natural foods and a return to nature are your thing, you can get a closer look at what the island was like hundreds of years ago by spending time hiking the trails at Loterie farm on the French side and trying some of their amazing natural food. It's a uniquely relaxing experience that is at the same time invigorating (you'll understand when you go). Look at this from their zipline: *If you're a speed freakin', thrill seeking' adrenaline junkie, then maybe our Fly Zone Extreme Canopy tour is for you. No, we're not going to push you off a precipice strapped into a seat attached to a cable for a momentary eye watering plummet. On our tour, your on your own, traversing our forest canopy from tree, yes, **TREE TO TREE**, where you can pause, reflect, discover, take a selfie with a monkey, interface with an iguana, or hear the call of the rare West Indian dove. You see, on our tour, you're **IN** the trees, **REAL** tropical trees, very much like the ones scientists utilized while adapting this method of forest discovery in Costa Rica decades ago; a method which has minimal impact on the biodiversity of the tropical forest that you're immersed in. Make no mistake, there **ARE** zip lines. Some are as long as 490 meters (1600 feet), which are sure to give you a thrill, **BUT**, that is not our focus. The real focus is the forest. And, as we all know by now, forests, especially tropical forests, are vital to our survival.*

***YOU**, will discover something that can not be found anywhere else on the island, and **WE**, will continue to protect and preserve our tropical forest through your participation. That's called a win/win.*

Rainforest Adventures at the Emilio Wilson Estate: Steepest zipline descent in the world, we think -- and some of the most amazing panoramic views of the island. Emilio's Restaurant is here too, one of SXM's very best. They are both must stops.

izi Ristorante Italiano Tasting Menu: If you've never done a tasting menu at Izi Ristorante Italiano in Simpson Bay (opposite pineapple Pete), prepare yourself for one of the most awesome culinary experiences you may ever have anywhere.

A tasting menu is when a chef displays for you the best of the best. Although Izi Ristorante Italiano has won numerous awards for culinary excellence and is consistently voted SXM's number one or number two restaurant (by visitors on TripAdvisor, a leading culinary website), the tasting menu at Izi is orders of magnitude above Izi's highly creative and amazing award-winning regular menu fare. *It is a number of courses customized for your group by David himself. The group can be from a few people to dozens, and the cost will be per person based upon the contents of the tasting menu. Advance reservations are a must, and you must also talk personally with David when making the arrangements since tasting menu experiences are unique and require significant advance preparation.* If you enjoy great dining and are seeking a truly apex culinary experience, set up a tasting menu experience well in advance of your next trip — and tell David we suggested you do so.

The Incredible Art of Roland Richardson: World renowned Caribbean Plein Air Impressionist virtuoso Sir Roland Richardson has been painting from life across the island for many decades. His ability to capture every hue throughout the visible spectrum – harnessing every imaginable heaven-created color with amazing iridescence — is widely regarded as unmatched. See his site, www.rolandrichardson.com, and make an appointment to visit his studio in downtown Marigot for a closer look at many examples of his extraordinary works. Sir Roland continues to paint here in SXM and elsewhere — meeting him and seeing his works is a very special experience. His wife Laura Richardson notes, *"Our Marigot gallery is closed for retail at this time while we hopefully transition it to become a national heritage site. In the meantime Roland has a very extensive and exquisite exhibition of over 100 artworks at La Samanna hotel and another very charming collection hosted at L'Auberge Gourmande in Grand Case. We can be reached very easily to discuss anything through our website and encourage everyone to sign up on line for our creative newsletter."*

33. Vacationing With Kids Or Grand Kids in SXM

Taking your young children or grandchildren (or even great-grandchildren) to SXM during the summer can be one of their ultimate childhood experiences — and one of yours as well. In the articles that follow, you will see several suggestions about places to go and things to do. You will also find more in our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#) — where you can freely ask for more suggestions from our 33,000 members and get dozens of new ideas.

SXM of course has great advantages over the traditional places where you might spend the summer.

- First, is less crowded than many traditional vacation spots in the US;
- Second, the weather is much different than the stifling humidity felt in many parts of the US during summer;
- Third, the high prices you see for accommodations in the US during the summer are countered by [low season pricing at hotels and villas across SXM](#); and
- Fourth, most restaurants remain open through the entire summer and are not crowded, so reservations are always recommended at the best restaurants which you will see recommended below in our Restaurant of the Week feature.

We hope you enjoy the following articles.

34. Best Places to Stay With Kids

Four big family reunions, we would certainly recommend reserving a villa on SXM. We list the names of top SXM realtors in our Sponsors list in this edition of *SXM Weekly News*; they are a great place to start to make your Villa selection.

If you prefer to stay in a hotel, some beach hotels on the island are perfect for families with kids.

The largest resort is **Simpson Bay Resort**, in the middle of Simpson Bay where there are dozens of restaurants of all descriptions ready to provide excellent food for your family or extended family. Simpson Bay has a number of restaurants on site as well plus a couple of large beaches available to its guests. Beach bars have excellent food and drink and there are also pools for those who prefer.

Mary's Boon Beach Resort and **Azure Hotel and Art Studio** along with **El Zafiro** hotel are all also on Simpson Bay, one of the longest beaches on the island. Both Mary's Boon and El Zafiro have their own restaurant convenient to the beach so if you prefer that and are looking for someplace smaller than a major resort like Simpson Bay but one that has a restaurant on site, these two work fine.

Once again, if you're looking for more suggestions, directly ask our members in our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#).

35. Best Beaches for Kids

Bear in mind, please, that none of the beaches in SXM have lifeguards — so if you're going to a beach, make sure it is one where you will spend your time watching your kids closely to make sure they are safe in the water.

That said, what beaches are best for kids?

Our suggestions here are based upon surf levels. Although rough seas happen occasionally on all SXM beaches, for kids we always suggest beaches that tend to be more calm more often. The first of these is **Friars Bay**, just north of Marigot. NOTE: The best way to make sure you get around the island efficiently and effectively is to have the island's best maps with you -- those are produced by the Kasprowski family and are offered at online at www.midok.com. The Kasprowski family produces maps for all the Caribbean islands and has one that does a beautiful job of covering all of SXM.

Another beach that is sometimes used by families with kids is **Mullet Bay**, but we do not recommend this beach for kids. The reason: surf can change here in a heartbeat and again, there are no lifeguards so the fact that the surf is so changeable may make it dangerous for kids. There are usually a few drownings on this beach every couple of years as well. Very crowded on weekends and disorganized parking.

Great Bay beach, next to Front St. in Philipsburg, is another relatively calm strand, and there are plenty of restaurants here as well. If you are staying at **Divi Little Bay** or **Belair Beach Hotel**, both hotels have beautiful beaches; *Belair has gingerbread Café on the beach* and *Divi Little Bay has multiple restaurants a short walk away into the resort plus Gizmo, their most famous employee* — a parrot who is very tame and entertaining.

36. Great Adventure for Kids of All Ages - Parrot Ville

Parrot Ville, not far north of Philipsburg off the main drag toward Orient beach, is a must for families of all ages. Bring your camera.

Here, you will find lots of parrot like birds of all sizes in a large outdoor cage where you can see them, have them land on your hand or shoulder, feed them, talk with them, etc. Great for people who love birds, perfect for kids, and great for people who love to photograph active tropical surroundings.

If you are not particularly familiar with SXM, get one of the maps we mentioned in the story above at www.midok.com, the online store of the Kasprowski family that publishes Caribbean maps. Theirs is by far the best of SXM.

Those who are more familiar with SXM, take A. T. Illidge Road northward from Philipsburg through Mme. Estate and Dutch Quarter until you come to a roundabout where there is a McDonald's and -- Bishop Hill Road goes off to the right

(East toward Oyster Pond). On Bishop Hill Road about 150 yards East of the roundabout you will find Parrot Ville. There is a small parking area and a low fee for entrance. Don't forget to bring your camera; Parrot Ville is great for all ages.

37. Our Six-Vacation Giveaway is Still Slated for Summer; How to Enter & What You Can Win

EverythingSXM.com will be celebrating 10 million visits to its suite of SXM websites by giving away SIX SXM vacations this Summer.

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; IZI Ristorante Italiano** and **Spiga** in Grand Case. *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. PREVIOUS WINNERS ARE NOT ELIGIBLE.**

38. Restaurant of the Week: Vesna Taverna

Setting / Location: Simpson Bay on the east side of Airport Road just north of the Simpson Bay drawbridge.

Offerings: Full American breakfasts and lunches daily except Monday; some breakfasts include homemade bagels.

Dinners are offered daily from Tuesday or Wednesday through Saturday (depending on time of year), and include French, American, and Greek specialties. Saturday night is Greek night with Greek specialties all night long plus their full regular menu. Vesna makes all the desserts herself and they are fabulous; see the dessert case if you're there for breakfast or lunch -- you might well want to take some home -- or have dessert then and there.

Summary: Great food, informal atmosphere; one of SXM's busiest restaurants year-round. BIG menu so keep coming back until you've tried one of everything; it's that good. Our highest recommendation. Reservations are wise regardless of time of year.

Here are recently featured SXM restaurants:

Vesna Taverna, www.vesnasxm.com (featured 6/13/22). Now open every day but Monday for B/L; dinner is offered Tuesday through Saturday. Outstanding dining, reasonable pricing.

La Rosa Restaurant, Maho Plaza, (featured 5/23/2022): Loved the relaxing vibe, attentive service, GREAT food, reasonable prices, and BIG portions. www.larosarestaurant.com/index.html

Jai's Contemporary Fusion Cuisine (featured 5/9/22), **Simpson Bay** Leave your preconceptions behind! A 15-second walk to the opposite side of the building from Top Carrot. Outstanding dinners (and 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 an ever-growing

spectrum of flavors, aromas, textures, and tastes. You gotta try Jai's! Highest recommendation. See

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

Astra Steak & Seafood (featured 5/2/22) is the newest creation of the organization that also operates Avantika and Movida in the same area of Simpson Bay. It's relatively new, beautiful, constantly evolving, and has high-quality written all over it. We go often and love it. See <https://www.astrasxm.com/>

Melange International Grill, Port de Plaisance (next to Princess Casino entrance). (featured 4/18/22) A spectrum of delightful offerings from Europe, the USA, and South America. One of the most eclectic menus on SXM. Delicious dining.

Mama Pizza, Porto Cupecoy & Oyster Pond, (featured 4/4/22) 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>

Mandarin Pan Asian at Port de Plaisance Resort off the Union Road, Cole Bay, (featured 3/21/22). Excellent selection of palate-pleasing offerings from Japan, Thailand, and China. Highly recommended.

IZI Ristorante Italiano, www.izisxm.com (featured 3/14/22). 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.

Isola next to Hollywood Casino at Simpson Bay Resort, (featured 3/7/22). 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

La Patrona, Simpson Bay Resort (featured 2/28/22) La Patrona is SXM's only truly authentic Mexican restaurant. Highly recommended: great food, great service, not to be missed.

Bovin Steakhouse at Simpson Bay Resort, Marina Plaza next to la Patrona (featured 2/21/22) Upscale restaurant offering sumptuous dining, outstanding service, and more than just steak (though we expect lots of steak lovers will flock here.

Avantika Thai www.avantikasm.com (featured 2/14/22) Avantika is flat-out wonderful; SXM's best 4hai Delicious food artfully presented and reasonably priced, backed by seasoned service. Go...you'll become a regular.

Spiga, www.spiga-sxm.com (featured 2/7/22) Chef-co-owner Ciro Russo & Lara Russo haven't missed a beat here as Spiga continues to be simply the best restaurant of any kind in Grand Case, where it has a lot of competition. Incredibly irresistible food, great staff, service, and beautiful ambiance. Everything is great, appetizers are out of this world.

Absolutely not to be missed.

SkipJacks Seafood Grill, Bar, and seafood Market (featured 1/31/22) is one of the largest seafood restaurants on the island, located in a remarkable site overlooking Simpson Bay Lagoon and many megayachts. With many types of fresh fish cooked to order, SkipJack's is best known for lobster, both the local spiny variety and even some flown in from Maine. Pick your own and have it prepared as you like it. Lots of other choices too for all kinds of appetites. Classic attentive service and delicious everything. It's a must.

Emilio's at the Emilio Wilson Estate, Dutch Side, <https://emilios-sxm.com/>. [Featured January 2022] Truly fine dining in one of SXM's most well known and respected restaurants. The property is rich in history, the owners and Chef Sidney are culinary perfectionists, and you will kick yourself if you don't go here early in your trip so you have time to come back. Sunday Brunch is a must but requires reservations as does dinner. Not to be missed.

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.

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.

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.

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....

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.

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.

39. Two New SXM Euro Oval Stickers Now Available; Where to See Them & How to Order

As many readers are aware, we have SXM euro oval stickers available for sale to our readers for very reasonable prices. There are currently two versions available: our traditional green SXM Euro ovals with a large SXM overlaying a recently modified image of coconut palms in the background, and a purple sand chair SXM euro oval which features the SXM letters in large purple type with a purple sand chair in the background. Both of these are now available for ordering.

They are great for cars, smooth-sided luggage, mirrors in your home, and LOTS of other places. These are copyrighted by us and available ONLY from us by mail. (Sorry, no magnets but we ARE working on luggage tags...) Available for mailing only to USA, Canadian, and APO/FPO Addresses. **Pricing:** 1 for \$10, but THREE for \$20 including shipping; multiple orders of three accepted (order a total of 6 or more ovals and we'll send a surprise in the package). Unless you direct otherwise, We will send you our green coconut palms SXM euro oval to fulfill your order. If you'd like to have both the purple sand chair SXM euro oval and the new green coconut palm tree SXM euro oval, tell us how many of each you want when ordering.

To see pictures of both Euro ovals, please visit our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#) and search for "coconut" or for "purple sand chair" -- remember that prices are as indicated in the preceding paragraph when ordering.

HOW TO ORDER: Please use PayPal and submit payment to jeff@jmbcommunications.com. NOW BEING SHIPPED. Allow 3 weeks for delivery but they will likely arrive much sooner. Printed on vinyl and varnished for long life. Questions? TEXT US at 508-591-3483 or email us ONLY AT jmbcomms@gmail.com please. IF YOU DON'T USE PAYPAL send a US DOLLAR check payable to JMB Communications to JMB, P. O. Box 1812, Plymouth, MA 02362-1812. Include # of ovals you are ordering and your phone, email, and delivery address.

40. We Need Your Help Now -- to Avoid a 2022 JMB Website Supporters Island Discount Program Price Increase...

We depend on your support to enable us to publish *SXM Weekly News* every week. We also depend on your support to fund the work we do to publish news in our **weather center** and in our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#) concerning tropical weather approaching SXM for the US mainland. Your support also makes possible the winter parties we hope to resume next winter for our JMB Website Supporters members plus all the benefits of our JMB website Supporters Island Discount Program.

Earlier this year, we announced that we were going to increase prices — since the price increase was long overdue and held off because of Covid. **We never did that price increase**, wanting to hold the line for our members and we still want to hold the line. But Russia invaded Ukraine and crude oil prices have shot through the roof, as we all know, and the costs of everything have gone crazy. **At this point, we still don't want to raise prices but we need your help now to be able to hold the line on our current pricing for membership in our JMB Website Supporters Island Discount Program.** Please join or renew now, [here](#). *We will be grateful for your support as we begin our 31st year communicating about SXM to hundreds of thousands of readers around the world.*

This is important: we have been working on and continue to work on a significant upgrade of our JMB Website Supporters Island Discount Program. We are hoping the upgrade will be finished by the end of this summer, and we are depending on our partners and our sponsors to offer new discounts to all our JMB Website Supporters Island Discount Program members. If you are our Sponsor of JMB, please contact us at jmbcomms@gmail.com or text us through WhatsApp at 721-588-4188 so we can get things started for you.

Regardless of whether **you** are already a member of JMB Website Supporters, you can join or renew your membership and get hundreds of benefits through us now, [here](#). We are grateful for your support, as always. You make all this possible!

41. What Are the Best Sources of Accommodations Rentals?

We offer hundreds of timeshare condominium rentals directly from timeshare owners in the listings on our main site, www.everythingSXM.com. There, you're not buying from strangers — you're buying from other people who love St. Maarten as much as you do. We've been doing this since 1992 and we know that it's the way thousands of people have rented weeks successfully over the last 30 years. Give it a try. More information about Condominiums is in Section 2, above.

42. Enormous Library of SXM Information is On The Web

Regardless of what kind of SXM information you need, our sites deliver it.

Here are three examples:

a) our **SXM Weekly News PDF archives** include every edition of SXM Weekly News since 2014 – now approaching 9 years of editions and hundreds of thousands of words of SXM information. Our PDF archives are searchable by keywords to make it easy for you to find whatever information you seek quickly and easily on your computer. (A link to the Archives is in every edition of *SXM Weekly News*.)

b) our **Everything SXM Facebook Group** is a repository for an enormous amount of SXM information posted during its more than 10 years of existence. You can search all posts ever allowed, for any SXM topic — and you will find hundreds of posts on virtually any specific topic. If you don't find what you're looking for, you can always post a question on that site that will tap the brains of nearly 33,000 members — not counting their friends and spouses. The vast majority of our members are tourists who have spent years visiting SXM and who have a wealth of information available.

c) we have a **Files** area in our **Everything SXM Facebook Group** with another enormous reservoir/library of island information. Our files are also searchable directly from our everything SXM Facebook group. They are also frequently updated by our admins and moderators, particularly Contessa Aiello who has written most of them.

Take advantage of these resources — and don't forget to thank those who have made them possible.

43. Flying This Summer? Here's Something Else You Should Know

If you are traveling anywhere this summer, there is a way you can inject tremendous peace of mind into your travels...

For the first three months of any new SkyMed annual or multiyear membership, SkyMed excludes coverage of pre-existing conditions; after three months, those conditions are covered in full. **So...to AVOID ANY IMPACT on your travel plans this Summer or Fall, buy your new SkyMed annual or multiyear membership NOW, at least three months ahead of your planned Summer/Fall travel -- then the 90-day exclusion period for preexisting conditions will end before you travel...**

Why get annual or multiyear memberships? SHORT-TERM family memberships (for a week or two) are \$15/day, while guaranteed renewable for life, price guaranteed for life annual and multiyear memberships are only about \$1.64/day -- less than a decent cup of coffee. Call me at 508-591-3483 or jeff.berger@skymed.com for answers to questions or to sign up by phone.

Available exclusively to Americans and Canadians. SkyMed TAKES YOU HOME(R) when you become seriously ill or injured while traveling in the USA, Canada, Mexico, Bermuda, the Bahamas, and all the nations of the Caribbean. Global protection is also available through GETS, Global Emergency Travel Services, part of the SkyMed group.

44. Getting Answers to All Your Questions About SXM

Regardless of what questions you have about SXM, you can find the answers to any questions either in the files area of our **Everything SXM Facebook Group** (where we post our current Guide to Entry Requirements) that answers many

questions) or you can simply post a question on our site.

We have over 32,000 members, more than other active SXM Facebook sites combined. Our site is also a unique news and information portal, not typical social media where people post pictures of smiling cats, monkeys standing on their heads, and other pointless items. Our SXM site is strictly SXM focused with no drivel. Join it today at www.facebook.com/groups/mySXM.

45. Important Updated Contact Information for Everything SXM / JMB Communications / JMB Website Supporters Membership Services and SkyMed Sales (UPDATED):

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.**
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.
3. **Our new email is jmbcomms@gmail.com; use it for JMB Website Supporters membership questions.** Thank you.

46. Who Our Sponsors Are, & Why You Should Patronize Them (Updated 6/13/22)

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)

BOUTIQUES

En Vogue, Billy Folly Road opposite Atrium Resort

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

Dollar/Thrifty Car Rental

SixT 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](#) (Near Carrefour and now in Simpson Bay near Domino's)

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)

FISHING CHARTERS

Taylor Made fishing charters, Captain Dougie. Full day or half day Call WhatsApp # 721-524-7510

Immigration (SXM Residency) / Relocation / Business Formation / "Papers" Consulting Companies

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

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 Publisher](#)

PARFUMERIE / PERFUME

Tijon Parfumerie, Grand Case, www.tijon.com

PHARMACIES

Simpson Bay Pharmacy

Orange Grove Pharmacy

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.**

BrightFuture Real Estate (new)

[My Net Immo](#) (French Side, **Muriel Lemoine**)

40Weeks SXM Vacation rentals

RESORTS:

Baker's Suites

Belair Beach Hotel

Simpson Bay Resort

Azure Hotel & Art Studio

Mary's Boon (new 1/22)

RESTAURANTS, BARS, & BEACH BARS

[IZI](#) (See their new website)

[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)

NAVY BEACH

BOVIN STEAKHOUSE

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)**

BUCCANEER BEACH BAR

NAVY BEACH

BAMBOO HOUSE (new 5/16/22)

RESTAURANT ORDERING ONLINE

Orders.sx

SOUVENIRS

Flamboyant on The Boardwalk, Philipsburg (new 1/22)

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>

Villa Steel Magnolias (new 1/22)

40Weeks SXM Vacation Rentals (new)

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

Villa Kimon

Daffodil Villa

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 6/13/22

47. 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](#).

48. 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.

49. 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 most Mondays

between about 9:45am and 10am island time

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

(Resumes THIS MORNING!)

50. 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://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 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.**

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)

6/13/22 #V4-1351 2:00 pm EDT 6/12 | [Terms of use](#) |

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