

OUR BIGGEST EVER SXM WEEKLY NEWS (55 Stories) BEGINS BELOW:

*First, this very important message:*

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**From JMB / SXM Weekly News 12/12/22: Delta Pilots Close in on New Contract; SXM Villa Vacation Giveaway Winner; How to Be a Finalist in Our Next SXM Vacation Giveaway; Twin 13-Story Condo Towers Coming to Cupecoy in Aqua Project; SXM's Second Adonis Hotel Coming to Anse Marcel (Perhaps); Desmond Culbert Opens His Fourth SXM Restaurant; [Issue #1375 55 Top SXM News Stories for Tourists]**

Can't see this newsletter? Go [HERE](#) for our SXM Weekly News PDF Archives.



Vol. 4, #1375 ---- Monday, December 12, 2022  
News From Sint Maarten / Saint Martin / SXM

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## Member News

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

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

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

Weekly News is part of JMB's St. Maarten / St. Martin website: [www.everythingsxm.com](http://www.everythingsxm.com)

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to be sure you receive this newsletter every week.

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**Important Note:**

This is Jeff Berger's / JMB Communications' St. Maarten & St. Martin / SXM Weekly News, published every Monday (Tuesdays during most holiday weeks). *You are receiving St. Maarten & St. Martin "SXM" Weekly News because you subscribed to it and/or are a JMB Website Supporters 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 379,000 people around the world.***

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### TOP STORIES IN THIS ISSUE:

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- *Oil Prices Fall; Might Airfares Follow?*
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### **Timeshare Rental and Sale of the Week**

Each week JMB randomly picks timeshare condominiums for rent and for sale in SXM from the huge selection at

[http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/timeshare\\_rent\\_sale/index.shtml](http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/timeshare_rent_sale/index.shtml) and features them here.

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

#### ***SXM Timeshare (or Condo) Rental of The Week:***

**RENTAL 1/14/2023 1/21/2023 2 Royal Islander Club La Plage Magnificent complex featuring open air lobby, marble floors and lush tropical landscaping. Beautiful, unobstructed sea and pool views from the fifth floor on Maho side (quiet side). One bedroom/king size plus sleeper sofa in living room. Unit sleeps 4. Fully equipped kitchen. Convenient to everything, restaurants, shopping, casino, Sunset bar, airport and more. Timeshare tax of approx. \$50 per week is renters responsibility. Same unit is also available for week 1. \$1400 per week Vi 631-523-8600 [vi06@optonline.net](mailto:vi06@optonline.net)**

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

#### ***SXM Timeshare (or Condo) Sale of The Week:***

**SALE 2/4/2023 2/11/2023 Week 5 The Atrium Resort and Spa Selling ocean-front 4th floor, 2 bedroom/2 bathroom suite (king-size beds). Fixed week, deeded property. Stunning 220 degree view of entire Simpson Bay Beach, Atrium pool area and harbor. Fully equipped kitchen with dishes, 3 TVs, air conditioning. Resort brings clean towels daily and fully cleans unit mid-week. Full wrap-around deck off living area with second deck off the bedroom. Recently remodeled bathrooms and new deck furniture. Pullout sofa in living area accommodates additional guests. Grocery stores, numerous restaurants, and casino within walking distance. No need for car. We've cherished it for 11 years and loved every minute -- aging makes travel difficult, so we are selling. Start your memories today. \$7,500 Gina 612-618-9969 [ginaltrutt@gmail.com](mailto:ginaltrutt@gmail.com)**

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

#### ***Villa Rentals Now Offered On Our Site Too:***

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

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

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

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

#### **Search the SXM Weekly News Archives:**

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

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

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

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

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

[http://www.everythingsxm.com/sxm/about\\_sxm/paypal.shtml](http://www.everythingsxm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml)

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

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

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

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

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

## THIS WEEK'S STORIES:

Stories are numbered; scroll down for stories of interest.

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

#### GETTING HERE:

## 1. Delta Closes in On Strike-Averting New Contract Agreement With Pilots

Details are still to be hammered out, but substantial progress has been made in the latest round of negotiations between Delta airlines and the union for its pilots, who have been after a new agreement for a long time. An Agreement-in-Principle is now being finalized.

Although final language is being completed and must be agreed to, and a ratification vote must be held with pilots, it'll be another six weeks or so before ratification — but from the looks of things, this agreement seems solid and positive.

The details include an 18% immediate wage increase followed by additional increases over the course of the contract. There are many other provisions that pilots have been after.

Here are [the details](#).

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## 2. If Confirmed & Ratified, Delta Pilots' New Contract Should be a Template for Others to Follow

The anticipated deal between Delta airlines and its pilots is expected to serve as a template in negotiations by pilots from other airlines; both United and American are in heavy talks with their pilots and JetBlue is moving down the same path.

Here's [more](#).

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## 3. jetBlue Introduces Updated True Blue Frequent Flyer Program

Through an announcement sent by email last week to members of its TrueBlue frequent flyer program, JetBlue has announced major updates to the program. Whether TrueBlue members will regard the updates as *upgrades* remains to be seen; changes to airline frequent flyer programs are usually made to make them better for the airline's bottom line rather than better from the standpoint of consumer usefulness and value to consumers.

For much more information, see [www.jetblue.com](http://www.jetblue.com) which will provide links to the TrueBlue program updates effective next month.

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## 4. Oil Prices Fall; Might Airfares Follow?

Although airlines might argue to the contrary, wages and salaries for pilots represent only a small portion of airline expenses. Fuel represents a much larger portion of airline operating costs. And although surging oil prices in the wake of the Russian invasion of Ukraine motivated airlines to jack up their prices this year, oil prices have fallen substantially in recent months -- apparently to about the same level where they were prior to the invasion. And high demand and high usage by passengers has yielded huge profits for airlines regardless of fuel prices.

Despite the expected new pilots contract agreements, the impact of the new wage agreements on airline costs is not expected to be consequential. The drop in oil prices is starting to exert downward pressure on fares for next Summer and beyond -- even from some major hubs to SXM. Fare prices for this Winter are still high. But the outlook is positive for passengers starting this Summer.

We will continue to keep an eye on airfares and report what we find here.

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## 5. Final 747 Rolls off Boeing Assembly Line After 50 Years of Production

After 50 years of producing 747 jumbo jets at its Everett Washington facility, Boeing has now produced the last 747 — this one a freighter for carrier Atlas air. 747s from KLM and other carriers routinely visited SXM until several years ago, when airlines accelerated replacement of aging 747s with newer, more energy-efficient aircraft. 747s are missed here because they provided a remarkable experience to those who watched them land and take off over Maho Beach.

Here is [more](#) on this story.

Nonetheless, occasionally huge four engine Airbus A340 and huge two engine Boeing 777 aircraft do land here, usually as charters or privately owned aircraft. When something unique happens regarding aircraft landing at Princess Juliana SXM airport, we report on it in our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#) — usually photographically. If you have not yet joined that group, we urge you to do so — you can specify that you are a subscriber to *SXM Weekly News* there when answering the vetting questions.

## 6. SXM Airport Gets Busy With Pre-Christmas Private Jets

Dozens of small and mid-size (737) private jets from around the world are converging in SXM already for the Christmas and New Year's holidays this month. Some of the owners are going to estates of the lowlands, others are being lifted by helicopter to estates in St. Barths, and others are going to the many Megayachts that are already here and that have been arriving since mid-November.

SXM Airport this year has a bit more room than it has had in the past several years since the 767 owned by Russian oligarch Roman Abramovich that usually stays here for much of the winter isn't here now. Both his 767 and his newer 787 hightailed it out of here along with his megayacht Eclipse late last winter and headed for parts unknown (since discovered) when it became obvious that Russian oligarchs were about to be sanctioned and those items would be seized if they were left here. A good thing is that it does leave room for more smaller jets here at Princess Juliana SXM Airport.

*We saw a big launch from Eclipse come to the shore against outgoing Heineken Regatta traffic one morning during the Regatta and Eclipse workers unloaded several very long but slender boxes and brought them to somewhere in the neighborhood near the drawbridge. We never heard anything more about what they unloaded there...or why.*

## 7. Megayachts Returning to SXM in Full Force

We've shot some pictures in the last few days of some of the many Megayachts that have returned to the Simpson Bay area this year for the holidays. Both in Simpson Bay lagoon and anchored in the waters of Simpson Bay and on the French side, there are now dozens of megayachts around SXM and there will be more sailing from here to St. Barths and back in the coming weeks as rich and famous holiday festivities take place over there.

Expect to see us post these pictures in our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#).

## 8. Make Sure the Taxi You Pick Is Real

On SXM, there are some Taxis referred to as Gypsies that are unlicensed and uninsured as well as illegal. They may have a plastic sign on their roof saying Taxi but anyone can get those -- and real Taxis don't necessarily have them.

***What real Taxis have on the Dutch side is license plates that say "Taxi" or in some cases just "T" — they are licensed and insured. French side taxis have plates with the letters TXI on them. Avoid any vehicle that does not have this proper identification since they could be driven by anyone regardless of lack of qualification.***

Sometimes the Gypsies are rather brazen and will roll down their windows in downtown Philipsburg or Simpson Bay or elsewhere and offer you a ride and tell you they are much cheaper than regular taxis — they are Gypsies and you should stay away.

## 9. Repeating: SXM Has No Entry Requirements Re: Covid



SXM's Entry Requirements related to Covid went away on November 1, which means that passengers entering SXM need only have their passports and their return tickets. There are no Covid testing or vaccine requirements, though we suggest it would be wise for people who are fully vaccinated to bring proof of vaccination anyway in case the requirements change at some point, for any reason, though that's not likely.

## 10. MEDICAL EVACUATION COSTS SOAR; Got \$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](mailto: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.

**SKYMED's EXTRA-WEEKS BONUSES WITH PURCHASES END 12/31, SO GET SKYMED NOW FOR THEIR BEST OFFERS! SEE NEXT STORY:**

### ***Final Two Weeks!***

## 11. FINAL TWO WEEKS == ABSOLUTELY ENDS 12/31: 22 Additional Weeks FREE From SkyMed with Ultimate Global 5-year Medevac Memberships\*\*\* (Act Quickly If You're Planning a Trip Next Year Across the Pond or to Asia, Africa, Australia, or South America )

The 22-week **FREE MEMBERSHIP BONUS** for buying SKYMED's best GLOBAL membership, the SkyMed 5-yr. Ultimate, **ENDS 12/31.** *If you travel beyond the USA, Canada, Mexico, Bermuda, the Bahamas, and all the nations of the Caribbean, this is the BEST and LEAST EXPENSIVE product SkyMed sells on a cost-per-day basis: it will pay you to get these bonus 22 free weeks while they are still offered. Email me at [jeff.berger@skymed.com](mailto:jeff.berger@skymed.com) with your phone number and time zone or call us USING WHATSAPP (free) 721-588-4188 or text or phone us at 508-591-3483.*

Available only to Americans, Canadians, or both living as xPats in the countries noted above. DO IT NOW WHILE IT'S FRESH IN YOUR MIND....SKYMED TAKES YOU HOME® when you become seriously ill or injured while traveling for pleasure or on business!

## 12. 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 weather or staffing shortages?

This [article](#) gives you answers.

## ***Etc./Weather***

### **13. Tropical System Forms, Then Fizzles Near Sargasso Sea**

For a while early last week, it appeared we would have a mid-December tropical system well northeast of SXM in the vicinity of the Sargasso Sea. It spun up, the National Hurricane Center talked about its chances for development, and then it fizzled. As of today, as this was written on Sunday, there was nothing significant on the weather map nor is anything expected.

The 2022 hurricane season ended uneventfully (for SXM) on November 30. Of course, it was anything but uneventful for people in other areas — particularly Florida. Our thoughts are with the people affected throughout Florida and elsewhere during this busy hurricane season.

The 2023 hurricane season begins June 1 and ends November 30.

### **14. Rain Diminishes, But Pounding Surf Brings Photo Opportunities**

The rain that was dumped on the island during November has stopped, as island weather begins its normal transition from rainy season to the dry season that begins after the first of the year and that gets progressively drier until hurricane season. There have been occasional so-called December winds but the most remarkable thing has been high surf, which had offered many photo opportunities during last week; we posted pictures of heavy surf in our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#).

During the rains and previous high surf, the beach at Maho was pretty much completely washed away. However the heavy surf of the last few days pushed all the sand back onto the beach and some of it spilled over onto Beacon Hill Road, the two-lane road that connects Maho with the Beacon Hill residential area. That's where at times during the winter a plow arrives to remove beach sand dumped in the road by rough surf.

***Get your SKYMED MEMBERSHIP \*BEFORE\* you need it. Air ambulances are now more costly than ever: when you become seriously or critically ill or injured while traveling, SKYMED TAKES YOU HOME® to doctors and hospitals you know & trust. Otherwise you must pay tens of thousands of dollars in cash in advance to get a medevac jet -- if you can even do it (NOT easy or fast if you don't know how). SkyMed annual or multiyear memberships are only about \$1.64/day, and they're guaranteed renewable regardless of age or medical condition at renewal and they are PRICE GUARANTEED FOR LIFE. Why wait? CALL today 508-591-3483 or email us at [jeff.berger@skymed.com](mailto:jeff.berger@skymed.com); include your callback number & time zone please. Protect your family NOW with SkyMed®!***

### **15. 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](http://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](http://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](http://www.everythingsxm.com).

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## **Changing Your Email Address?**

**Now You Can Unsubscribe Your Old Email  
and Sign Up Your New One  
for your SXM Weekly News subscription  
Quickly and Easily  
at our Site: [www.sxmweeklynews.com](http://www.sxmweeklynews.com)**

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

## **16. Site Prep Begins for Aqua Residence Near Porto Cupecoy; Twin 13-Story Towers & More**

Another big construction project is now underway in Cupecoy, where both of the "Fourteen" twin 21 story towers have been completed. The first "Fourteen" tower is already partially occupied and finishing touches are being made to the exterior of the second tower, immediately to the east of the first.

Site preparation activity is now underway immediately south of blue mall on the huge new Aqua residence development project which is expected to bring many more new condos to market in 2024 or thereabouts. Aqua is planned to front on Simpson Bay Lagoon and it includes its own marina.

Although the promoters of this property did not return calls from us seeking further information, we expect the property will be offering residential condominiums and possibly some small retail/commercial activity such as restaurants or small shops. That's speculation at this point but we will report when we have pull information from the developer.

An artist's drawing of this property was posted last week in our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#). The skyline of the Cupecoy area, the fastest growing residential area on the island, is becoming very impressive. See next story.

Here is [more information](#).

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## **17. Cupecoy's Impressive Skyline Becoming Still More Impressive; Watch for Construction Trenches**

Demand for residential condos on SXM, despite an extended interruption from Irma and then from Covid, continues to surge. The current development of the area started more than 10 years ago when the Cliff was built, the luxury condominium that truly accelerated the trend in SXM.

A few years ago, Mario's Bistro, one of the finest restaurants in the Caribbean, relocated to the Cliff, where it has been hailed as a great addition to that facility. Perhaps more important, Mario's Bistro remains open to the public although reservations are essential to guarantee seat availability. The restaurant is closed on Mondays and on Sunday evening, but is open most of the days for lunch at night except Monday for dinner.

But we digress -- though food is important to all our readers.

As you drive from the Maho area into the first couple of curves in the road through the golf course to Cupecoy, you will notice the growing Cupecoy skyline, headlined now by the twin towers of the Fourteen project. Be sure to safely pull off the road before trying to take any pictures in this area. **Note:** if you are on the island now and wish to stop to take pictures, make sure you are nowhere near the utility trenches on one or both sides of the road; they are currently being filled but the project seems to be taking forever.

Another thing to be aware of: there are currently no streetlights working on the road through Mullet Bay between Maho and Cupecoy -- a problem that should never have happened but that's possibly related to the trenches. **Pay close attention to the location of the trenches when driving and don't allow yourself to be distracted: the trenches are a few feet deep which makes them dangerous to motorists.**

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## 18. About The Cliff: The Queen of Cupecoy

Although other buildings give it stiff competition, we have come to regard the Cliff as the Queen of Cupecoy. It's Marble floors are just the beginning; the building is gorgeous inside and out and as mentioned above, it is topped off (on the first floor overlooking the ocean) by Mario's Bistro, one of the finest restaurants of any kind in the Caribbean or beyond. We think it deserves this title.

For more information on The Cliff, see [this](#).

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## 19. SXM's Second Adonis Hotel Coming to Anse Marcel, French Side - Perhaps

We spoke a few years ago with the developer of the Adonis Hotel in Cupecoy, which was just opening at the time we spoke with him. The owner of a number of hotels around Paris as well as this Adonis in SXM told us at that time that he planned to open another hotel somewhere near the port in Philipsburg and a third on the French side in the following couple of years — then Covid entered the picture.

Now the website noted below announces that work may be underway at the Adonis property in Anse Marcel, on the northern section of the French side of the island. We don't know the exact location but SECRETS Resort (now advertised on US TV as part of Hilton) is in the same general area, and the Anse Marcel Beach Hotel is also located here. Whether the new Adonis will be anywhere near them in Anse Marcel we don't know.

We tried to contact the developer during the weekend to confirm that this project is ongoing he didn't answer our messages.

As always, we'll keep an eye on all significant accommodations developments on both sides of the island.

Here is [more](#) on this.

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## 20. Road to SECRETS Resort Upgraded? Not Really

The French side is becoming famous for proclaiming things it's going to do that either never happen or don't happen until years later. For example, they have long proclaimed that they're going to make major improvements to downtown Marigot that the only thing that has happened so far is that they have repaved part of the road in front of the cemetery and installed a new centerline treatment. On the other hand, a big hotel project is under construction just East of the Sandy Ground drawbridge.

The French side government also said that they would at long last improve the rather ancient, bumpy road that takes people to Anse Marcel Beach Hotel and to SECRETS Resort. That road begs for repaving but it still has not been repaved.

It appears that all authorities have done here so far is paint the curb stones white and create a new scenic overlook that is easily missed because of construction material left there. There is no sign of any ongoing construction that would get the road repaved, which is what is really needed here and has been for at least 20 years. Perhaps the road is one of the reasons there have been four different nameplates on the property that is currently SECRETS during the last 20 years or so; another may be its remoteness. Hopefully the French side government will deliver on its implied promise to put this road in proper shape.

## 21. Establish Residency FIRST if You're Buying a Condo or Villa in SXM

Despite the somewhat curious global economy, sales of condominiums here in SXM continue to roll ahead.

If you plan to buy an SXM condo and spend several months a year here, it is to your advantage to establish residency early. With 10 years of experience, BrightPath Caribbean has the knowledge, expertise, and infrastructure to help you do that with the minimum inconvenience and minimum time spent shepherding the process.

In other words, they know their stuff, they know the latest wrinkles in the law, and they can simplify and expedite the process for you. Mention that you heard about them from Jeff Berger's **SXM Weekly News** and call them toll-free from the USA and Canada at 1-855-203-0050 or in SXM call 1-721-554-8900 to get started.

## 22. 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 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.

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## **23. 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*.**

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## **24. 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](http://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**

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## 25. Many 2023 SXM Timeshare Condo Rentals Now Available

**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](http://www.everythingsxm.com).** If you're looking for a place to stay, that's where to find it. All of our listings are from members of our JMB Website Supporters island discount program so you deal directly with timeshare owners -- there are no 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.

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## 26. Reminder: JMB 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](http://www.everythingsxm.com). All the details you need are there.

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## 27. How To Rent Out Or Sell Your Timeshare Units

If you own timeshare weeks that you would like to rent out or sell on our main [everythingSXM.com](http://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](http://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 everythingxsm.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.

## 28. SkyMed TRAVEL Guarantees Big-Time Savings on Hotels, Cruises, Car Rentals

We're now giving JMB Website Supporters members and *SXM Weekly News* readers access to a private, "members only" travel wholesale club that offers incredible prices not only on airfares but on travel reservations and packages worldwide.

**SkyMed Travel** offers exceptional pricing on everything and almost invariably beats everyone else's pricing. We have found their pricing excellent across the board and their 15% low rate guarantee on hotels and car rentals is real news.

**Normally, SkyMed Travel charges \$99 to join plus \$99 annual renewals. But for our JMB Website Supporters members and now for *Weekly News* readers, the cost to join is zero as will be the cost for renewals. Join the Club by going to <https://www.skymedtravel.com/register>, sign up, and provide the requested information. Complete the first sign up item (SkyMed Membership Number or Representative ID) by entering the code 391330; doing that ensures that you pay nothing for your SkyMed Travel Club membership. No code, no free entry to the club's phenomenal pricing. If you are a SkyMed Member, however, enter your SkyMed Membership Number there to get the absolute greatest possible discounts.**

You won't be disappointed.

**Not a SkyMed member?** Learn more about it at [www.skymed.com/jmb](http://www.skymed.com/jmb), then call us with questions or to sign up. Call 508-591-3483 (NEW NUMBER) any weekday. Thanks.

### SECTION 3: JMB Member Discounts & Benefits

## 29. \$100 Caribbean Gems Gift Card for All Current JMB Members NOW LIVE: Where to Find it

Want a free one hundred dollar gift card for purchases at Caribbean Gems? If you're a JMB Website Supporters island discount program member, **you can download your all-new gift card to Caribbean Gems from the secret site home page effective some time today, Monday, December 12, or on Tuesday.** The link to it will be at the bottom of the first page of the secret site. You can login to the secret site using your assigned username and password in the orange login box below the masthead on all pages of our main site, everythingSXM.com.

**What if you're not a JMB Website Supporters member?** JMB Website Supporters is our island discount program and it's easy to join -- go to our main site, everythingxsm.com, and click the page curl icon for the sign-up page. *Don't miss this opportunity — act now.*

## 30. Discounts/Benefits Updates Continues

The major update that we've been telling you about to our **JMB Website Supporters Island Discount Program** is continuing. The stage we expect to complete in the next week or so involves updates to eliminate the last group of partners whose businesses have not survived either Irma or Covid; there have been a number of those. There are also a number of other updates.

For us the most fun part of this is adding new discounts and benefits, a process which will run through December. We will continue to add more new discounts going forward into 2023, as planned, though all those that are already nailed down will be posted during December.

We're making many other changes here behind the scenes including upgrading to a new main server and a new main



mail server, all of which are targeted for completion during April (after SXM's high season ends), to prevent any significant disruption during high season.

The effects of Irma and Covid on SXM's tourism economy have been quite substantial and some major businesses were impacted. In some cases we were hoping they would be able to come back but, sadly, that has NOT always happened.

Fortunately, there are a number of new businesses on the island and they are doing quite well and we're doing our best to reflect that in this major upgrade.

We will post more about this as it continues to move toward completion.

## 31. Own a Business in SXM? Offer Our Members a Discount or Incentive to Visit You!

If you own a St. Maarten or St. Martin business that caters to tourists, we have a free program that we like you to join: it's called our JMB Website Supporters Island Discount Program. By participating in the program, you will offer our over 30,000 JMB Website Supporters members some kind of discount or incentive for visiting your establishment. We are especially looking for restaurants, bars, beach bars, and related businesses. There is currently no charge for this program.

There are also separate opportunities for SXM businesses to promote what they offer to the 35,000 members of our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#) (about 98% tourists); for information on that program, please PM any admin of the [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#).

## 32. Updated Contact Information for JMB Website Supporters and SkyMed Sales Inquiries (UPDATED 10/17/22)

**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](mailto:jeff.berger@skymed.com). Leave your phone number and time zone and he'll return your call. SkyMed is sold only to Americans, Canadians, and xPats. **If you prefer, phone Jeff at 508-591-3483 and leave a message; that is a NEW NUMBER** on which you can also leave text messages
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. You may also phone Membership Services directly at 508-591-3483, which also takes texts.
3. **Our new email is [jmbcomms@gmail.com](mailto:jmbcomms@gmail.com); use it freely for JMB Website Supporters membership questions.** Thank you.

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

**33. ONLY ABOUT TWO WEEKS LEFT ----- ABSOLUTELY ENDS 12/31: Get Up to 22 Bonus Weeks FREE When You Buy SkyMed---**

**Up To 22 Weeks FREE (PLUS Military/First Responder Free**

**Weeks) with New Multiyear SkyMed Purchases === Only \$1.64/day, Our LOWEST RATE, Gets You Guaranteed Renewable, Price-Guaranteed-Forever SkyMed Annual or Multiyear Medevac Protection**

\*\*\*\*\*

**THIS UP-TO-22-FREE-WEEKS OFFER**

**MUST END 12/31!**

**MAKE YOUR MOVE TO SKYMED NOW AND GET 22 WEEKS FREE WITH YOUR NEW PURCHASE OF OUR BEST -- A FIVE-YEAR SKYMED ULTIMATE, OUR LOWEST-COST-PER-DAY, MOST FEATURE-RICH MEMBERSHIP!**

\*\*\*\*\*

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

\*\*\*\*\*

**SkyMed Routinely Never Does Bonuses -- Except Right Now (ENDS 12/31):**

**Only \$1.64/day - \*LESS THAN A CUP OF COFFEE\* -- gets you annual or multiyear SKYMED MEDEVAC protection for virtually all 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) or email [jeff.berger@skymed.com](mailto:jeff.berger@skymed.com). NOTE: My prices for multiyear memberships ARE MUCH LESS THAN YOU WOULD PAY ONLINE.**

**.....SKYMED's BEST BONUSES EVER MUST END 12/31/22.....**

## **BONUSES**

**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\***

**ALL THESE BONUSES GO AWAY 12/31/22!**

**=== PLUS ===**

**"Thank YOU for Your Service"**

**Bonuses 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!\*\*\***

### **34. SKYMED DETAILS: 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](mailto: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 (number above).** Or [jeff.berger@skymed.com](mailto:jeff.berger@skymed.com)

- **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. **Although at \$15/day per couple SkyMed short-term protection is the most expensive product SkyMed sells on a cost-per-day basis,** short-term protection is economical if you seldom travel and take brief trips. The cost is \$9/day per individual, 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 also 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 that also accepts text messages. Updated 6/20/22.

- **\*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](mailto:jeff.berger@skymed.com) (SkyMed inquiries only please). You can also send texts to that 508 line and leave voice messages. Please include your phone

number, time zone, and email address.

--Jeff Berger  
10/17/22

## 35. Answering Your Questions: What Exactly Does SkyMed Do? --- *from Jeff Berger*

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](mailto: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](http://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.

## 36. Your Invitation to Our January 20 SkyMed Member Appreciation Luncheon in SXM

This is your personal invitation to register to attend our **SkyMed Member Appreciation Luncheon** in St. Maarten on January 20. This luncheon is open exclusively to Americans, Canadians, and xPats (ADULTS ONLY) and **advance registration is required; seats are strictly limited so please register NOW.** *You need not be a current SkyMed member to attend, though we warmly welcome all SkyMed members who are on SXM January 20 to register & attend.* We encourage you to bring a few friends who will be on the island January 20 and who would like to go, but they MUST preregister as well (asap). **Formal Registration is REQUIRED and it is now open BUT REGISTRATION CLOSSES EARLY IN JANUARY.** Please REGISTER NOW.

### How to Register:

1. Go to [skymed.com/jmb](http://skymed.com/jmb).
2. At the top of the page, **click the RED** button; it reads "Appreciation Events."
3. **Select the Country DUTCH WEST INDIES**, then Select **Simpson Bay, SM**, then **Click Here to Register (blue button)**. Enter the requested information. Each person who plans to attend needs to register separately. Please let me know once you have registered; send me a note at [jeff.berger@skymed.com](mailto:jeff.berger@skymed.com).
4. **Feel free to share this email with friends who will be on SXM 1/20 and whom you feel would like to attend.** Thanks! I'll be there and look forward to seeing you.

### (Briefly) About SkyMed:

When you become seriously or critically ill while traveling anywhere in the USA, Canada, Mexico, Bermuda, the Bahamas, or all the nations of the Caribbean, **SkyMed TAKES YOU HOME®** to doctors and hospitals you know and trust, delivering a suite of up to 18 vital, life-saving services. A separate suite of 26 services is available with our Ultimate global memberships that protect you around the world. Both our Annual and Ultimate memberships cost as little as \$1.64/day and are guaranteed renewable for life regardless of advancing age or declining health, plus they are price guaranteed for life.

P. S.: Don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions. My contact information is below. --Jeff Berger, SkyMed Ambassador. My email is above, and my phone is 508-591-3483 which also takes Texts.

## 37. Our Villa Kimon Villa Vacation Winner is Announced

She was among a significant body of finalists who were contacted and told they were finalists before our drawing for our Villa Kimon villa vacation giveaway last Monday. The difference was that Stephanie from Delaware was the person who actually got the phone call. She answered the phone after a couple of rings and she won the giveaway. She plans to take her vacation late next summer or very early in the fall. Villa Kimon is perched high on a hill along the main road near Divi and Belair Beach Hotel with a commanding view of Great Bay and the mountains beyond. It is only a few minutes away from downtown Philipsburg and 15 to 20 minutes away from Orient beach -- and just 10 to 15 minutes from all the nightspots in Simpson Bay.

In addition to winning that seven day, six night vacation, Stephanie also won a dinner for two at Izi Ristorante Italiano in

Simpson Bay, recently voted the best restaurant of any kind on SXM by the readers of TripAdvisor.

Our warmest congratulations go to Stephanie with the hope that she has a wonderful St. Maarten vacation at Villa Kimon.

*Villa Kimon is the largest and most spectacular villa overlooking Great Bay Harbor. Prepare to be impressed when you walk in to this queen of mansions in St. Maarten. This is one of those special homes where memories are made. Villa Kimon can be rented as a 3 bedroom or 6 bedroom villa complete with pool, deck and breathtaking views. Additionally, there is a 1 bedroom and 2 bedroom apartment available. If you want to host a very large family gathering or company retreat, you have a total of 9 bedrooms, 4 kitchens, 11.5 baths and multiple living/dining areas. Villa Kimon is ideally positioned to enjoy the proximity to beaches, restaurants, downtown Philipsburg, the boardwalk and all the best that St. Maarten has to offer. Sunny mornings filled with giggles, shady afternoons under the gazebo with a book, all day swimming, late night cookouts and so much more. For more information on the villa, including contact info, search for them on Facebook.*

## 38. How You Can be a Finalist In Our Next SXM Vacation Giveaway

Although we haven't announced it yet, we do plan another SXM vacation giveaway sometime next year. Would you like to be a finalist?

If your answer is yes, go to our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#) and look for the thread asking you to guess when we will reach 40,000 members there (we are currently accepting in excess of 100 new requests for membership every week in our group). Then, give us your guess for when we will reach 40,000 members: we will reach 35,000 in the next two or three weeks or thereabouts. If you guess correctly or if you're even the closest guess without guessing beyond the date when it actually happens you will be a finalist to win one of the vacations in our next giveaway sometime late next year — probably late in the fall. We will be notifying all finalists in that giveaway about when the winners' names will be drawn so it will be up to the finalists to answer the phones when they ring or they forfeit the prize. When you answer, you win – so go to our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#) now, find the article, then post your best guess.

## 39. St. Maarten Voted "Best Caribbean Shopping Port"

Many readers of *SXM Weekly News* are long-time SXM visitors, as are members of our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#). That's why the fact that St. Maarten has been voted best Caribbean shopping port is not much of a surprise. Regardless, our warmest congratulations to all of the businesses in Philipsburg that have made SXM such a fabulous place to shop — remember that Front Street is the heart of Philipsburg shopping and you should spend time there in your favorite jewelry store (the best are listed in our Sponsors list in this issue of *SXM Weekly News*) and for electronics you cannot beat Klass in downtown Philipsburg. More info is [here](#).

## 40. Heavy Surf Pounds Beaches, Knocks a Sailboat Way Off Course

During the latter part of last week heavy surf hit area beaches, offering many photo opportunities but also knocking at least one sailboat over; that boat wound up beached on its side on the French side. There may have been more damaged boats thanks to the surf but as of press time on Sunday, we had not heard about other incidents. Early during the weekend, a photo of one beached sailboat in Marigot was published in our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#).

## 41. RN7 Repaving on French Side Progressing Quickly & With Quality Results

Here's a good piece of news about road construction on the French side: substantial repaving of the main RN7 route that goes eastward from Marigot toward Anse Marcel and Orient is well underway — and authorities have done an outstanding bit of work. That which has been done so far has been completed quickly and the work delivers smooth driving. There appears to also have been very little impact on traffic on the heavily traveled road.

We will keep you posted as this project continues.

## 42. Desmond Culbert Opens His Fourth SXM Restaurant

Running a restaurant is a life-consuming business: anyone who has friends in the business can recite the many reasons this is true.

One of SXM's most accomplished serial culinary entrepreneurs is Desmond Culbert, who owns both Mama Pizza restaurants (one at Porto Cupecoy, Dutch side, and the other at oyster pond, both of which offer a great deal more than just pizza); the Le Mediterranean restaurant next door to his Mama Pizza restaurant at Porto Cupecoy, serving a variety of Mediterranean food; and his newest restaurant, Fleur de Sel, which is literally a few feet to the right of the main entrance door to the big Super U store in Hope Estate, French side. This new restaurant serves breakfast and lunch and is already widely used by many people working in the area. Great food and very reasonable prices. We'll have more on all of these soon here in *SXM Weekly News*. Everybody speaks English, so don't worry about the French menu: you'll be fine. BTW the dollar and Euro are currently exchanging at 1:1.

## 43. Tens of Thousands of Tourists Making Their First Return Visit to SXM Since Before Irma

We don't know of any way to verify the exact number beforehand, but we do know that tens of thousands of tourists are making their first return to the island this winter since before Irma. Many had stayed away for a couple of years following Irma only to encounter the exploding Covid Pandemic when they had originally expected to return. We've had many requests via our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#) from people who are asking about where to stay (since some lost their timeshare during Irma), what car rentals are available, restaurants, and much more. Although not every structure damaged by Irma or even by Luis in 1995 has been repaired or replaced, the island is vibrant and busy -- and we're sure it will deliver a warm welcome to all the prior visitors who are at long last returning.

## 44. Sources of Perfect Holiday Gifts (In Person Here or Online)

You still have a bit of time to order precious gifts for precious people from your favorite places here in SXM. See our list of the best jewelers on the island below in the Sponsors list and also check posts from the best SXM jewelers in our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#); you will find many beautiful pieces there.

**Regardless of whether you are on the island or at home, you can still give great gifts through the Tijon Parfumerie in Grand Case diagonally opposite SPIGA restaurant.** Check [www.tijon.com](http://www.tijon.com) and you can order existing fragrances and other items -- **or you can schedule a perfume making class either at the Parfumerie or a virtual class from home — and you are guaranteed to love the results of what you create.** We've created multiple fragrances over the last few years and consistently reorder them. It's a wonderful experience regardless of where you do it.

## 45. POPULAR DUTCH SIDE RESTAURANT FOR SALE

Prime location in Simpson Bay... 100 seats... Interior and terrace... Fully equipped... In excellent condition... Good lease... Correct rent. Off-street parking.

Price including current N. V. concept, name and good will, fit-out and inventory, \$595,000. Price for the lease, fit out, and inventory only, \$395,000. For further information please contact [SXMrestaurantforsale@gmail.com](mailto:SXMrestaurantforsale@gmail.com)

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## 46. Restaurant of the Week: Mandarin Pan Asian

**What/Where:** Mandarin Pan Asian at Port de Plaisance Resort (near the casino entrance) offers dinners and includes vegetarian entrees.

**Particulars:** Whether you like Chinese, Japanese, or Thai, Mandarin Pan Asian offers all of them under one roof. Large variety of dishes capably prepared, generous portions, and reasonable prices. Just go...

### Here are recently featured SXM restaurants:

**Mandarin Pan Asian** at Port de Plaisance Resort off the Union Road, Cole Bay, (featured 12/12/22). Excellent selection of palate-pleasing offerings from Japan, Thailand, and China. Delicious food and excellent service. Highly recommended.

**Jai's Contemporary Fusion Cuisine** (featured 12/5/22), **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 7/25/22) is the newest creation of the organization that also operates Avantika and Movida in the same area of Simpson Bay. It's new, gorgeous, constantly evolving, and has highest-quality written all over it. We go often and love it. See <https://www.astrasxm.com/>

**Bamboo House** (11/21/22), located high on a hill in Cole bay has spectacular island views and equally spectacular dining and service. Exquisite sushi, steaks, and lots more. Vegetarians welcome; people with special dietary needs are well cared-for here too. Jeff rates Bamboo with one huge WOW -- go; you will absolutely be visiting more than once.

**Mario's Bistro at the Cliff**, formerly Mario's Bistro [www.mariobistrot.com/en/](http://www.mariobistrot.com/en/) 11/14/22 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.

**IZI Ristorante Italiano**, [www.izisxm.com](http://www.izisxm.com) (featured 11/7/22). Open for dinner starting at 5pm except Mon., when they're closed. Fantastic food from one of SXM's absolute best restaurants. Fun atmosphere, too.

**Avantika Thai** [www.avantikasxm.com](http://www.avantikasxm.com) (featured 10/31/22) Avantika is flat-out wonderful; SXM's best Thai; Delicious food artfully presented and reasonably priced, backed by seasoned service. Consistently excellent. Go...you'll become a regular.

**Mama Pizza**, Porto Cupecoy & Oyster Pond, (featured 10/24/22) Big, outstanding pizza, and sizable portions plus reasonable prices on numerous other delicious Italian specialties. They also have 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>

**Pineapple Pete**, [www.pineapplepete.com](http://www.pineapplepete.com) (featured 9/12/22) Known for great lobster Thermidor and lots, lots more. Generous portions, reasonable prices. Games for kids & their parents.

**Bold Buddha Bar/Restaurant**, 49 Front Street at Horizon View Hotel, Philipsburg (featured 7/5/22) Cool new place with seasoned service, very good tapas / Caribbean / Asian and other food, a superb location, and a perfect concept. Highly recommended; something new and different. Ideal place to cool off with a delicious drink and make your taste buds happy.

**Vesna Taverna**, [www.vesnasxm.com](http://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](http://www.larosarestaurant.com/index.html)

**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.

**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.

**Spiga, [www.spiga-sxm.com](http://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.

**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.

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

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

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

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

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

**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..

## 47. Enormous Library of SXM Information is On The Web (Updated)

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 -- 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.

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 35,000 members, not counting their friends and spouses. The vast majority of our members are tourists who have spent years visiting SXM and 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.

## 48. Flying Next Winter? Here's Something Else You Should Know

If you are traveling anywhere this winter, 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 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 cup of coffee. Call me at 508-591-3483 or [jeff.berger@skymed.com](mailto: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.

## 49. 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 33,000 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](http://www.facebook.com/groups/mySXM).

## 50. 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](mailto:jeff.berger@skymed.com). Leave your phone number and time zone and he'll return your call. SkyMed is sold only to Americans, Canadians, and xPats. **If you prefer, phone Jeff at 508-591-3483 and leave a message; that is a NEW NUMBER.**
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](mailto:jmbcomms@gmail.com); use it for JMB Website Supporters membership questions.** Thank you.

## 51. Who Our Sponsors Are, & Why You Should Patronize Them (Updated 11/21/22)

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 Sponsors' help makes our JMB Website Supporters members-only Island Parties possible (resuming next year) as well as all the work 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).

### **ARTISTS**

Roland Richardson  
Patty Meotti  
Laura Fisher Saxon

### **AUTHORS/NOVELISTS**

**Russell Clark**

**Jacky Rom**

### **BAKERIES / DINE-IN & TO GO**

**Le Sucriere**, Dutch side near Fedex (new 11/22)

### **BARS**

**Juggie's "The Smallest Bar In The World," Philipsburg**

### **BOAT TOURS / BOAT CHARTERS**

[Celine Charters](#) (Enigma)

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

**Rumbelly Boat Charters** Pleasure boats, motorized and catamaran

### **BOUTIQUES**

**En Vogue**, Billy Folly Road opposite Atrium Resort

### **BREWERIES & DISTILLERIES**

**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**

**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.

**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 \(Maho under Jax, open late\)](#)

Jewels & Beyond (Maho)

[Shoppers Haven](#)

Royal Jewelers

Kay's Fine Jewelry

Joe's Jewelry International

Ballerina Jewelers

#### LIVE MUSIC

Hole in the Wall, Maho Plaza, Dutch side

MAPS (SXM MAPS and others in the Caribbean)

[Kasprowski Publisher](#)

MASSAGE see Spas

#### PARFUMERIE / PERFUME

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

[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 Beach Hotel

### **RESTAURANTS, BARS, & BEACH BARS** (see also BAKERIES)

[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, Gelateria, & Rhum Distillery

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 del SOL

SUNSET CAFE (Grand Case)

AVANTIKA

MOVIDA

ASTRA

JAI'S CONTEMPORARY FUSION CUISINE

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

BOLD BUDDHA Restaurant, Great bay beach Promenade at Horizon View Hotel (new)

BUCCANEER BEACH BAR

NAVY BEACH

BAMBOO HOUSE (new 5/16/22)

**LE PERLE BLEU** Restaurant Simpson Bay & **Le Perle Bleu Beach Bar** (Welfare Road) (new 11/22)

**FLEUR DE SEL** Hope Estate / **French Side** (new 11/22)

### **RESTAURANT ORDERING ONLINE**

Orders.sx

### **SOUVENIRS**

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

### **SPAS**

**Sunset Spa**, Simpson Bay Resort (11/21)

**Patty's Healing Hands Massage** (7/22)

### **STAR WARS / YODA GUY MUSEUM**

[Nick Malley, Front Street](#)

### **VILLA RENTALS / RENTAL COMPANIES:**

If you're interested in making a villa reservation (doing it with close friends can be fun and more economical than you'd imagine), contact our top recommended Villa rental/sale partners at [Island Real Estate Team](#). Call the number that follows and ask to speak with the agent who handles villa rentals: 1 721 520 7284. Please let the agent know that you're interested in a rental and you were referred by Jeff Berger's *Everything SXM Facebook Group*. Hundreds of villas are now online.

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

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

[GoBeach Vacations](#)

[Sunshine Properties](#)

[Monte Verde / Belle Vue](#)

**Villa Acropole:**

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

**Villa Vijoux:**

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

**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 11/21/22

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

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

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

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## **53. Want to See Back Issues of SXM Weekly News? Here's How**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Tune In Island92 at 91.9 FM**

**or On Your Internet-Connected Device**

at island92.com ...

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.

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

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

Our **JMB SXM Web Media Sponsorships** enable SXM businesses to present their products or services to a huge, responsive audience of tourists from around the world, but primarily the USA and Canada. (Our site is based in the U. S. and is focused on the needs of tourists traveling to SXM.) If you own an SXM business and want to look into and take advantage of this unique marketing opportunity, please email [susank@jmbcommunications.com](mailto:susank@jmbcommunications.com) with the subject "JMB Sponsorships". Or PM us on FB for an even faster response. We'll get complete information to you quickly. (Or again, just PM Jeff Berger on Facebook Messenger or phone us / text us on WhatsApp at 721-588-4188.)

Tourism is returning in a big way and with it, plenty of opportunity to bring more tourists into your business not only in the short term, but especially as tourist business increases in the months ahead. Contact us today for more information.

\*\*\*\*\*

**St. Maarten / St. Martin Homes, Villas, Businesses, Commercial Properties, and Residential Properties for Sale (NEW):**

[Click to access our recommended real estate agent, Arun Jagtiani, featured on HGTV.](#)

### Rent Out or Sell Your Timeshare (both SXM and Worldwide)-- Frequently Updated

JMB members can run up to 10 free ads on our website per 12-month period to rent out or sell St. Maarten / St. Martin timeshare weeks they own -- or any timeshares, anywhere worldwide. If you're not a member, learn more about membership here: [http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/about\\_sxm/paypal.shtml](http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml) .

**Want to rent or buy a week?**

"2022 St. Maarten / St. Martin Timeshare Weeks For Rent or Sale" are posted at [http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/timeshare\\_rent\\_sale/index.shtml](http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/timeshare_rent_sale/index.shtml) Listings are now updated weekly. Ads are free (no commission) but are accepted from our JMB Website Supporters members only.

### SECTION 5: For Members Only

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### Our main St. Maarten / St. Martin website:

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

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

12/12/22 #V4-1375 600 am AST | [Terms of use](#) |

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