



Princess Juliana
International Airport

THE SXM AIRPORT

HORIZON

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IN THIS EDITION

- ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES BACK INSIDE TERMINAL BUILDING
- HIGH TOURIST SEASON LOOKS BRIGHT AT SXM AIRPORT WITH AIR TRANSAT RETURNING THIS MONTH
- DIVI DIVI AIRLINES LAUNCHED INAUGURAL FLIGHT
- SXM AIRWAYS ADDS SABA TO ITS CHARTER NETWORK
- SPECTACULAR LANDINGS AT SXM AIRPORT
- WINAIR ADDS CAPACITY FOR THE CHRISTMAS SEASON
- PICTORIAL OF ST. MARTIN DAY CELEBRATIONS AT SXM AIRPORT TEMPORARY PAVILIONS
- AIR CANADA RESUMES FLIGHTS TO SXM AIRPORT
- SYMPHONY OF THE SEAS MAKES INAUGURAL CALL
- WOMEN AT THE HELM OF TOURISM
- DOCUMENTARY VIDEO "AVIATION LEGENDS OF THE PRINCESS JULIANA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT" TO KICK-START 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF SXM AIRPORT
- SXM AIRPORT EMPLOYEES CELEBRATE JOB ANNIVERSARIES
- MORE PRIVATE JETS RETURNING TO SXM AIRPORT



The Arrival and Departure Halls are now operational at the SXM Airport Terminal Building

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES BACK INSIDE TERMINAL BUILDING

First to move back into the building were the Arrivals, with passengers on board a WINAIR flight from Saba that landed at 7:56AM on Tuesday, December 11, 2018 being the first to be processed in the Arrival Hall inside the Terminal Building.

Similarly, Departure operations moved back into the Terminal Building for the first time since the catastrophic Hurricane Irma, with passengers aboard another WINAIR flight to St. Eustatius that left at 7:22AM on Friday, December 14, 2018



being the first to make use of the revamped facility.

Staff of SXM Airport, particularly of the Operations Department, worked round the clock to ensure that the transfer of both the Arrival and Departure operations went ahead seamlessly and on schedule.

The dismantling of the Temporary Arrival and Departure Pavilions has already begun and is

expected to be completed by December 15, 2018. "This is a very important development for us for two reasons," said Ravi Daryanani, acting CEO and CFO of the airport. "First, December 15th is traditionally the official start of the high tourist season. It is therefore significant that we are able to operate from inside the Terminal Building ahead of that date."

"Secondly," he continued, "being back in the Terminal Building after some 15 months since it was destroyed by hurricanes Irma and Maria also gives us a psychological boost."

For his part, Chief Operations Officer, Michel Hyman, thanked the staff and all those who worked so hard to meet this deadline.

"I am very grateful to each and every one of them and all our partners for their dedication. Some of them worked until 4:00AM to make sure that everything was in place. I can't thank them enough," Hyman said, adding that "step by step, we are getting back to normal, although we still have quite a way to go."

The official ceremony marking the return to the Terminal Building will be held on Tuesday, December 18th, 2018. This will also kick off the 75th anniversary celebrations of the airport.

Both Arrival and Departure operations are now fully back inside the Terminal Building of the Princess Juliana International Airport, (SXM), thus bringing to an end the use of the Temporary Pavilions erected in the wake of hurricanes Irma and Maria, which severely damaged the airport, rendering the Terminal Building inoperable until now.

The 2018 high tourist season which runs from December through April 2019 looks very promising, according to the Management Board of the Princess Juliana International Airport, SXM. Long-haul airline flight frequency in the first quarter of 2019 will be at 81% of what it was in 2017, culminating in March 2019 at 98% of 2017.

According to the Winter program for 2018/2019, the Air Transat airline has announced that it will be returning to SXM Airport starting December 22, 2018. Air Transat was named the World's best leisure airline in 2018. The many Canadian vacationers will have the pleasure of rediscovering St. Maarten/St. Martin, while islanders will enjoy a weekly direct flight to Montreal, as well as a weekly direct flight to Toronto, Canada. The Air Transat flight can carry a capacity of 149 to 189 passengers. Bookings are available via your local travel agency or online at www.airtransat.com.

The Winter program for 2018/2019 also confirms Sunwing returning its operations in February 28, 2019 originating out of Montreal and Toronto, Canada for weekly flights on Thursdays.



IMAGE ONE Air Transat aircraft

HIGH TOURIST SEASON LOOKS BRIGHT AT SXM AIRPORT WITH AIR TRANSAT RETURNING THIS MONTH

The JetBlue flights to Fort Lauderdale have also caused a stir of interest, with daily flights originating out of Florida starting on February 14, 2019, Valentine's Day.

As is customary, the weekends will be the peak days in terms of scheduled aircraft movements and passengers. According to the Operations Management of the Princess Juliana International Airport (SXM), the peak hours for passenger

volumes will be from 12:00pm through 5:00pm on Saturdays and Sundays.

During the month of August 2018, the airport saw an impressive influx of travelers with the arrival counts recorded at 35,623 and 37,706 departing passengers. The overall total passenger volume from January through September 2018 measures arrivals at 235,024 with departures at 268,344.

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DIVI DIVI AIRLINES INAUGURATES FLIGHTS TO SXM



The inaugural flight of Divi Divi Airline was held on Monday December 10th, making traveling to Curacao even easier. The airline will be using a 737 aircraft with a seating capacity of 189 passengers and booking is available Sunday, Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

It's a code share flight with Divi Divi and Insel Air.



SXM AIRWAYS ADDS SABA TO ITS CHARTER NETWORK

St. Maarten Airways is now offering on demand services to the island of Saba using its Britten Norman Islander (BN2-A-26), a STOL aircraft (Short Take-off & Landing) capable of landing on the 1312 foot runway. The Managing Director of St. Maarten Airways, Mr. Elvis Queeley is proud to add this destination to its network and to do its part by providing alternative options for Sabans, tourists and business travelers alike.

SPECTACULAR LANDINGS AT SXM AIRPORT

PHOTO COURTESY: Irving Maduro



WINAIR ADDS CAPACITY FOR THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

WINAIR has announced that it is increasing capacity on its flights to Curacao, Aruba, Bonaire and Santo Domingo for the Christmas season. The airline stated that “effective December 1, 2018 to January 15, 2019, its service to Curacao on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays will be upgraded from 48 to 72 seats. Aruba services on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays will also be upgraded to the new Super ATR-72, as well as the Bonaire service on Sundays.

WINAIR will also increase services St. Maarten – Santo Domingo – St. Maarten to daily flights



with the Super ATR-72. Dominica service will increase from 4 to 5 weekly flights.

“Customer feedback and the seasonal travel demands indicated that seat inventory remained insufficient. By utilizing the larger and new

Super ATR-72 aircraft WINAIR fulfilled these demands and is able to increase its capacity by 50% 4 days a week. With these enhancements we will be able to accommodate our customers needs.” stated Michael Cleaver, president and CEO.

PICTORIAL OF ST. MAARTEN DAY CELEBRATIONS AT SXM AIRPORT TEMPORARY PAVILIONS



Staff of Juliana Airport Handlers

AIR CANADA RESUMES FLIGHTS TO SXM AIRPORT



Passengers disembarking the Air Canada flight at SXM Airport

Air Canada is Back.
Air Canada resumed flights to the destination on Saturday, December 15th, 2018. This will allow travelers easy access to flights between Toronto on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

PHOTO COURTESY: Ambient Digital Services

SYMPHONY OF THE SEAS MAKES INAUGURAL CALL



On November 27, Symphony of the Seas, the new addition to the Royal Caribbean fleet made its inaugural call to Port St. Maarten. MS Symphony of the Seas is an Oasis-class cruise ship owned and operated by Royal Caribbean International and is the largest passenger ship in the world by gross tonnage at 228,021 GT.

Minister of Tourism & Economic Affairs Stuart

Johnson led a delegation on-board to welcome the ship. This was the ship's first port of call in the eastern Caribbean after leaving Miami with 6054 passengers on-board and a complement of 2200 crew.

Captain Rob Hempstead said during the official welcome and plaque exchange ceremony that it was nice to be back in St. Maarten, and that it was



Group photo after the plaque exchange for the inaugural call of Symphony of the Seas, with the St. Maarten delegation led by Stuart Johnson, Minister of Tourism Affairs (R) and Captain Rob Hempstead.

a pleasure and honor to bring in the flag ship of the RCI fleet.

Captain Hempstead said he was glad to see the quick rebound and rebuilding effort of the destination and thanked the St. Maarten people for all their hard work as this was his favorite port in the eastern Caribbean.

WOMEN AT THE HELM OF TOURISM

It's the last leg of the year and the women charged with the responsibility of tourism for St. Maarten and St. Martin are just getting started. The Director of French St. Martin, Aida Weinum and Director of St. Maarten Tourist Office, May-Ling Chun have honored the Memorandum of Understanding signed on May 11, 2018 and are collaborating on all tourism related projects. This has been a longstanding promise made by similar offices, however these ladies are putting their best feet forward to have this realized and stabilized.

They understand the importance of promoting the destination as one unit, signaling to the world that St. Maarten/St. Martin is smiling again. Thus far, both tourist offices have represented the island jointly and traveled to major conferences, trade shows and international press conferences.

The destination fueled duo eats, sleep and breathes "tourism" communicating to the world at large that St. Maarten/St. Martin is ready to welcome you back to the friendly isle. Their overall message trickles from the start of the spectacular landing to beckoning them to return prior to their departure.

"2018 has been a great challenge for our territory giving us no choice but to start a new page and reinvent ourselves. Our strength, determination and motivation were essential in overcoming the different obstacles in this competitive industry. Therefore, I am convinced that our comeback will be greater than our setback," said Ms. Weinum.

"Leadership is about trust, commitment, communication and empowering others to carry out the vision for our Tourism industry". "It's about inspiring our young women to become leaders which will take them places where they won't necessarily want to go but

ought to be," said Ms. Chun in an invited statement.



L-R Aida Weinum, Interim Director, St. Martin Tourist Office and May-Ling Chun, STB Director

DOCUMENTARY VIDEO "AVIATION LEGENDS OF THE PRINCESS JULIANA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT" TO KICK-START 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF SXM AIRPORT



L - R Aviation Legends Jean Christian, First Female Air Traffic Controller at PJIA, Frank Arnel, Former Acting Manager at PJIAE, Ariana Halley, Co-Owner of Halley Aviation, Raul van Heyningen, Former Director of the Air Traffic Control

Aviation, Ariana Halley, and the former Operations Manager and Senior Air Traffic Controller, Elton Jones.

The documentary video will be uploaded on the social media pages of the Princess Juliana International Airport, which include Instagram, Twitter, and Facebook. It will also be available on the airport's website www.sxmairport.com.

Several other activities are planned to mark this milestone, including the publication next year of an anniversary book on the history of the airport.

A documentary video, titled "The Aviation Legends of the Princess Juliana International Airport," will be released on December 18, 2018 to jump-start the celebrations of the Airport's 75th Anniversary.

The video will feature interviews with several persons who have worked at PJIAE N.V. over the years, including the former director of the Air Traffic Control Raul Van Heyningen, the first female Air Traffic controller, Jean Christian, the

former manager of the Rescue and Firefighting Department, Roland Peterson, and the former Director of Finance and Manager of Human Resources Departments, Carl Richardson.

Others include the former manager of the Electrical Department Fritz Halley, former Managing Director of The Princess Juliana International Airport, Frank Arnel, former Acting Managing Director of The Princess Juliana International Airport Kenneth Kong, and co-owner of Halley



His Excellency Eugene Holiday, Governor of St. Maarten



•• HIGHLIGHTS FROM DOCUMENTARY VIDEO



75 YEARS OF CONNECTING THE WORLD TO THE CARIBBEAN



SXM AIRPORT EMPLOYEES CELEBRATE JOB ANNIVERSARIES



MORE PRIVATE JETS RETURNING TO SXM AIRPORT

More and more private jets are returning to the Princess Juliana International Airport, SXM, according to available figures spanning the peak period for the General Aviation sector. From Friday, December 14th, 2018 to Thursday, January 31st, 2019, a total of 114 aircraft have been approved to park at the airport with seven pending approval.

Boxing Day, December 26th, 2018 will be the busiest day with 21 private jets expected to arrive, while Saturday, January 5th, 2019 will see the largest number of departures with 15 aircraft scheduled to leave on that day.

The aircraft types have increased tremendously in comparison to previous years, with most of the jet-setters flying the latest aircraft.

SXM Airport was ranked second in General Aviation in the Caribbean, behind The Bahamas prior to Hurricane Irma. Aircraft movement in this sector dropped significantly by 1,488 last year from the record 7,939 it had hit in 2016. This was due to Hurricanes Irma and Maria that forced private jets that would normally come to St.

Maarten, especially from December to January, to seek other destinations.

“Under the circumstances, St. Kitts and Antigua have been cutting into our market share, but we are coming back stronger,” said COO Michel Hyman.

Plans are afoot for the remodeling and upgrading of the FBO facility which exclusively caters to the high-end travel operations. The existing facility located to the West of the Terminal Building was used temporarily for arriving passengers post-Irma.

The remodeling of the existing FBO will allow the jet-set traveler to move through the processing more efficiently and offers a more spacious area with a passport control, security point and customs. Modifications will also be made to the



lounge for the luxury traveler. The new design now calls for a two-story building, as the FBO operators will also be housed on the premises.

PHOTOS COURTESY: Irving Maduro