



DISCOVER DOMINICA AUTHORITY

1st Floor Financial Centre, Kennedy Avenue

P. O. Box 293, Roseau

Commonwealth of Dominica, W.I.

Tel: 767 448 2045; Fax: 767 448 5840

Email: tourism@Dominica.dm

Website: www.DiscoverDominica.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Roseau, Dominica (September 28, 2015)

***** Dominica's Tourism Sites & Attractions – On the Road to Recovery *****

Discover Dominica Authority, the Ministry of Tourism and Urban Renewal and other tourism stakeholders have been working steadfastly in assessing and assisting in restorative works at Dominica's premier tourism sites and attractions post Tropical Storm Erika to ensure that Dominica is on the path to readiness for the start of the tourism season. Currently, the following sites and attractions are operational and accessible:

- Mero Beach
- Emerald Pool
- Ti Kwen Glo Cho
- Trafalgar Falls
- Botanic Gardens
- Morne Bruce
- Kalinago Barana Aute
- L'escalier Tete Chien
- Concord River
- Cold Soufriere
- Freshwater Lake
- Museum & Old Market
- Bubble Beach Spa & Soufriere Catholic Church
- Scott's Head Peninsula
- Bois Cotlette Estate
- Rodney's Wellness Retreat
- Purple Turtle Beach
- Cabrits
- Antrim Valley Gallery tour
- Hibiscus Eco Village
- Whale & dolphin watch safaris
- Syndicate Nature Trail
- Indian River Tours
- Old Mill Cultural Centre

Assessments are ongoing and updated information will be provided as required.

***** DDA Certified Service Providers - Operational Status *****

Discover Dominica Authority announces that the majority of its certified service providers are now operational as of September 24, 2015. Potential guests are therefore advised to call ahead of time to ascertain the properties state of readiness.

Accommodation

NORTH:

Atlantique View Resort & Spa

Comfort Cottages

Picard Beach Cottages

Picard Family Guest House

Portsmouth Beach Hotel

Sea Cliff Cottages
Secret Bay
The Champs

SOUTH:

Cocoa Cottage
Chez Ophelia
Diamond View Apartments
Fort Young Hotel
Garraway Hotel
Hummingbird Inn
La Flamboyant Hotel
Narakiel's Inn

EAST:

Beau Rive
Hibiscus Valley Inn
Pagua Bay House
Sunrise Farm Cottages

WEST:

Caribbean Seaview Holiday Apartments

INTERIOR:

Crescent Moon Cabins

Tour Operators

(All are operational or will be by the start of the cruise season on October 5, 2015)

KHATTS

Whitchurch Tours

Fun Sun Inc.

WRAVE Ltd. *

Hibiscus Eco Tours

JTAS

Rainforest Riding

Mally's Taxi Service

Insite Inc.

Alexis Taxi Services

*Depending on tour and road access

***** Dominica Access Schedule as of September 21, 2015 *****

Dominica is now in recovery mode after the passing of Tropical Storm Erika on August 27, 2015. Dominica continues to be resilient in its efforts at rebuilding, with the outpouring of support from neighboring countries and international partners. The island of Dominica would like to thank the Caribbean community and others for the support we continue to receive.

In regards to access, the following stands as the most recent information:

DOUGLAS CHARLES AIRPORT (DOM)

Antigua

Departure times from ANU

- **LIAT Flight 581 – 7:10AM *daily***

Departure times to ANU

- **LIAT Flight 580 – 8:30AM *daily***
- **LIAT Flight 364 – 4:00PM *daily***

Barbados

Departure times from BGI

- **LIAT Flight 364 – 2:20PM *daily***

Puerto Rico

Departure times from SJU

- **SEABORNE 3:25PM *daily***

Departure times to SJU

- **SEABORNE 7:00AM *daily***

St. Maarten

Departure times from SXM

- **WINAIR 3:45PM *Wednesdays & Saturdays (Effective Saturday, October 3)***

Departure times to SXM

- **WINAIR 9:30AM *Wednesdays & Saturdays (Effective Saturday, October 3)***

Guadeloupe

Departure times from Guadeloupe

- **WINAIR 8:30AM *Wednesdays & Saturdays (Effective Saturday, October 3)***

Departure times to Guadeloupe

- **WINAIR 4:45PM *Wednesdays & Saturdays (Effective Saturday, October 3)***
- **LIAT Flight 364 – 4:00PM *Tuesday, Thursdays, & Saturdays***

CANEFIELD AIRPORT (DCF)

Antigua

Departure times from ANU

- **CARIBBEAN HELICOPTERS** 8:30AM *daily*
- **CARIBBEAN HELICOPTERS** 10:20AM *daily*
- **CARIBBEAN HELICOPTERS** 3:15PM (*except Fridays & Sundays*)

Departure times to ANU

- **CARIBBEAN HELICOPTERS** 9:35AM *daily*
- **CARIBBEAN HELICOPTERS** 12:05PM *daily*
- **CARIBBEAN HELICOPTERS** 4:30PM (*except Fridays & Sundays*)

St. Maarten

Departure times from SXM

- **HUMMINGBIRD AIR** 9:15AM *Mondays & Fridays*
- **WINAIR** 9:30AM *Mondays, Tuesdays, & Fridays* (through October 25, except Friday October 9)
- **WINAIR** 10:25AM *Wednesdays*
- **WINAIR** 10:20AM *Sundays* (through October 25, except Sunday October 11)

Departure times to SXM

- **WINAIR** 11:35AM *Mondays, Tuesdays, & Fridays* (through October 25, except Friday October 9)
- **WINAIR** 12:25PM *Wednesdays*
- **WINAIR** 12:20PM *Sundays* (through October 25, except Sunday October 11)
- **HUMMINGBIRD AIR** 3:30PM *Mondays & Fridays*

St. Thomas/St. Croix

Departure times from St. Thomas/St. Croix

- **HUMMINGBIRD AIR** (St. Croix) 7:30AM *Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, & Sundays*
- **HUMMINGBIRD AIR** (St. Thomas) 12:30PM *Tuesdays & Sundays*
- **HUMMINGBIRD AIR** (St. Thomas) 8:30AM *Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, & Sundays*
- ***AIR SUNSHINE** (St. Thomas) awaiting times *Mondays, Wednesdays, & Fridays*

Departure times to St Thomas/St. Croix

- **HUMMINGBIRD AIR** 3:30PM *Mondays & Fridays*
- **HUMMINGBIRD AIR** 10:30AM *Tuesdays*
- **HUMMINGBIRD AIR** (to St. Thomas only) 10:00AM *Thursdays & Sundays*
- **HUMMINGBIRD AIR** (to St. Croix only) 3:00PM *Thursdays & Sundays*
- ***AIR SUNSHINE** 1:30PM *Mondays, Wednesdays, & Fridays*

***flights also allow for connection in Tortola**

ROSEAU FERRY TERMINAL (RFT)

Guadeloupe

Departure times from Guadeloupe

- L'EXPRESS DES ILES 8:00AM *Mondays, Wednesdays, & Fridays*
- L'EXPRESS DES ILES 1:00PM *Saturdays*

Departure times to Guadeloupe

- L'EXPRESS DES ILES 3:15PM *Mondays*
- L'EXPRESS DES ILES 11:45AM *Thursdays*
- L'EXPRESS DES ILES 9:15AM *Saturdays*
- L'EXPRESS DES ILES 5:45PM *Sundays*

Martinique

Departure times from Martinique

- L'EXPRESS DES ILES (St. Pierre) 1:30PM *Mondays*
- L'EXPRESS DES ILES (Fort de France) 9:30AM *Thursdays*
- L'EXPRESS DES ILES (Fort de France) 7:00AM *Saturdays*
- L'EXPRESS DES ILES (Fort de France) 3:30PM *Sundays*

Departure times to Martinique

L'EXPRESS DES ILES (St. Pierre) 10:30AM *Mondays*

- L'EXPRESS DES ILES (Fort de France) 10:30AM *Wednesdays & Fridays*
- L'EXPRESS DES ILES (Fort de France) 3:30PM *Saturdays*

St. Lucia

Departure times from St. Lucia

- L'EXPRESS DES ILES 7:00AM *Thursdays*
- L'EXPRESS DES ILES 1:00PM *Sundays*

Departure times to St. Lucia

L'EXPRESS DES ILES 10:30Am *Wednesdays & Fridays*

***** Discover Dominica Authority Increases Press Trips Post Tropical Storm Erika *****

Discover Dominica Authority is preparing to host a series of media professionals from reputable print, digital and television companies to visit Dominica. The idea is to inform potential visitors and the travel trade that Dominica is indeed still beautiful and the private sector is very much open for business.

The first scheduled press trip was that of Sean Sheehan, a freelance writer who has confirmed three commissioned articles for *Glass Magazine*, *The Irish News* and *The Gentleman's Journal* in the United Kingdom. *Glass Magazine* is a luxury glossy magazine which is published quarterly. It circulates to 50,000 high net worth individuals who are interested in culture, travel, fashion and beauty. Sean Sheehan visited Dominica from September 17 – 23, 2015 to obtain fresh content on Dominica's tourism sector.

The second press trip will feature travel writer Josephine Matyas from Toronto, Canada who will be visiting Dominica for the second time from September 27 to October 1, 2015. She has confirmed an assignment from the Toronto Star, the largest daily newspaper in Canada, with a circulation of 361, 000. The story is expected to be published in October to let travellers know that the Nature Island is recovering and open for business. As a freelancer, Ms Matyas plans to write more than one story for placement in other media outlets.

Also as part of DDA's aggressive campaign to attract potential visitors in key source markets, a familiarization trip was arranged with Mrs. Isabelle Dugay, Product Manager of Terres D'Aventure. This France based tour operator has huge potential since it is considered to be the number one tour operator for trekking activities. The general manager of this company is keen on including Dominica on its program next season. Mrs. Dugay was on island from September 20 – 23, 2015 and she was able to meet with potential partners, discover various aspects of Dominica's rich natural beauty and enjoy gastronomical delights while staying at some of DDA's top certified accommodations.

Discover Dominica Authority continues to support the hosting of journalists, as content produced on Dominica receives great international exposure, which will attract more visitors to our shores.

***** Dominica's Tourism is mentioned in British Newspaper – UK Sunday Telegraph *****

The Sunday Telegraph recently included two mentions of Dominica in their round-up of the 50 best Caribbean holidays. The mention, published September 16th, appeared first in their list of Nature holidays, in which the paper reported "green and mountainous Dominica is an island for walkers, divers and nature lovers" and listed Dominica at #19. Rosalie Bay Resort was their suggestion as a base for this trip. Dominica was also mentioned in their Caribbean Travel News round-up with a press release following tropical storm Erika. Read the full excerpt below:

Green and mountainous Dominica is an island for walkers, divers and nature-lovers. Highlights include hiking part of the 155-mile Waitukubuli Trail, snorkelling at Champagne Reef, where subterranean geothermal springs make the sea fizz with bubbles, and visiting

the Kalinago Territory where descendants of the Carib people live. Parts of the island suffered severe damage when Tropical Storm Erika passed through last month, but major efforts are under way to get back to normal for the winter season.

The international exposure this article will receive is quite significant since the ***The Sunday Telegraph*** currently has a daily circulation of 374,283 and a total UK reach of 12.4 million across their print, digital and mobile platforms.

(PDF file attached)

***** Seven Segments of the Waitukubuli National Trail remain open *****

According to the Forestry Division, seven of fourteen Waitukubuli National Trail segments remain open and accessible to hikers while they repair obstructions and damages to infrastructure on other segments of the trail post Tropical Storm Erika. In a post on the division's Facebook page, they announced "The general public is advised that several segments of the Waitukubuli National Trail are closed until further notice due to obstructions as a result of land slippage as well as damage to crossings, sustained during the passing of Tropical Storm Erika and subsequent heavy rainfall. The Segments are One, Two, Five, Seven, Eight, Nine and Ten.

Trail users are advised to exercise usual caution while hiking the open Segments and the Waitukubuli National Trail Management Unit will continue assessments along the Trail and update the public as the information becomes available."

The seven open segments are segments Three, Four, Six, and Eleven, Twelve, Thirteen and Fourteen.

Source: <https://www.facebook.com/WaitukubuliNationalTrail>

***** CTO UK Media Event Raises Funds For Dominica *****

~ Meet the Media event raised over £400 all of which to go towards post Tropical Storm Erika recovery efforts ~

(London, UK) 16 Sept 2015 – The Caribbean Tourism Organization (CTO) hosted its Meet the Media members' event on Tuesday 15 September in Central London. This event was attended by over 30 travel media professionals and about 25 CTO UK Chapter members.

The evening allowed members to discuss and update the media on their products and the latest developments within their destinations. Attendees included a wide range of high-calibre media, ranging from national newspaper travel and feature correspondents and editors, glossy magazine writers, newspaper supplements and online editors to key freelancers and influential travel and lifestyle bloggers. Also in attendance were representatives from the Morant Bay Distillery, who kindly supplied a sample of their rum and chocolates to the attendees.

The Morant Bay Rum is made from Jamaican molasses sourced from an estate in Jamaica. The rum is produced using temperature-controlled conditions at a site in the United Kingdom, replicating the climate of Jamaica for rum production, distilling, and ageing with the bottling process, according to the company.

During last evening's event, a business card prize draw was held, with prizes supplied by the CTO's members. In addition, a special charity raffle was conducted to raise relief funds for Dominica which suffered over EC\$600m in damage from Tropical Storm Erika. Attending media had the opportunity to enter the by donating a minimum of £10 each to win a selection of prizes.

Carol Hay, the CTO's director of marketing for the UK and Europe stated: "We are always keen to support our member countries, in any way we can and we are very appreciative of the support offered by our media and trade partners at our 'Meet the Media' event".

Source/ Media Contact: Johnson JohnRose – Caribbean Tourism Organization, Tel: (246) 427-5242, Email: jjohnrose@caribtourism.com

For more information on Dominica, contact Discover Dominica Authority at (767) 448-2045. Or, visit Dominica's official website: www.discoverdominica.com or follow Dominica on Twitter and Facebook and take a look at our videos on YouTube.