

ACCESS DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

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More flights to Punta Cana this winter

Those who wish to fully enjoy the sun and the beaches of Punta Cana, one of the Caribbean's most important tourism destinations, will now have a greater number of flights from which to choose from during the 2011-2012 winter season.

The number of flights is scheduled to jump by eight percent, according to information provided by airlines using the Punta Cana In-

ternational Airport. The winter season ends in April 2012.

Some 8,031 flights have been scheduled for the upcoming season, 597 more than the number registered last winter. These flights represent overall 1.6 million seats, 85,000 more than last year's numbers. This represents a 5.6% increase in seats.

THE UNITED STATES

The largest increase in the number of flights is from the United States. Flights from the US will increase by 373, representing 34% of all new scheduled flights. The total number of US flights is 2,675, or 420,000 seats.

The majority of these flights are run by American Airlines, representing 59% of the additional seats and 50% of all new flights scheduled for the upcoming season. In total, American Airlines has scheduled 667 flights for the 2011-2012 winter season, 186 more than last year. JetBlue comes in second with 309 flights, and 84 new flights. Both airlines account for 80% of the 59,000 additional seats coming in from the United States. American Airline seats represent 127,000 seats, while JetBlue account for 46,000 seats

CANADA

Flights originating in Canada represent 432,000 seats. This winter Canada will add 17,000 seats to their regularly scheduled flights (a 4.2% increase). The main carriers are Air Transat and Sunwing Airlines, each with 500 flights during the season. These flights represent 50% of the 2,204 programmed flights.

SOUTH AMERICA

The region is expected to bring in 1,109 flights, 100 more than the number registered last winter (representing a 10% increase in flights). In total, these flights represent 180,000 seats. COPA Airlines is the most important carrier, with 558 flights, or 50% of all programmed flights.

EUROPE

There are 548,000 seats scheduled for the winter season, a drop of 11,000 (or 2%) in comparison to last winter. These numbers remain high in spite of the negative economic situation faced by many European nations. Some 1,584 have been scheduled, 24 less than the previous year. In all, these figures represent a drop of 1.5%.

To summarize: the flow of tourists from France (169,000) remains the same; Spain grows by 14%; Belgium is up by 35%, and Russia will increase by 23%. Lower numbers are expected from Germany, Portugal, UK, Switzerland and Holland. There are no programmed flights from Italy, the Czech Republic and the Ukraine.

Dominican Republic

Punta Cana

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Forest Whitaker



Andy García



Eva Longoria

Andy Garcia, Eva Longoria and Forest Whitaker in the Dominican Republic

Cuban-born actor Andy Garcia and his American colleagues Eva Longoria and Forest Whitaker recently visited the Dominican Republic to participate in the filming of the action thriller “The Truth,” directed by Canadian Damien Lee.

The film also featured the Canadian-American actor Kim Coates, Canadians Deborah Kara Unger, Kevin Durand and Bostick Devon, as well as Steven Bauer, the Cuban-American actor.

Filming took place in Santo Domingo’s Colonial Section, declared by UNESCO as a Patrimony of Humanity. Shooting also took place in the town of Haina, situated some 20 kilometers west of the capital city.

Filming of “The Truth” moved to the Dominican Republic after shooting was completed in Canada, explained Todd Zeller, publicist for the film.

In the film Andy Garcia plays a former CIA agent turned anchor for a television political program. He is hired as spokesperson by a company who wants the massacre of villagers in a South American country to be kept secret.

Ellis Perez, president of the Dominican Film Industry, said that “this is the first foreign film that makes use of tax incentives and other facili-

ties offered by the Dominican Republic’s new law on films.”

FAMOUS FIGURES IN THE DR

On other occasions the Dominican Republic has been used by world-famous directors to film what have become popular international films. Examples: Robert Redford, Robert De Niro, Andy Garcia, Al Pacino, Lena Olin, Isabella Rossellini, Colin Farrell, Jamie Foxx, Angelina Jolie and Matt Damon.

FAMOUS PRODUCTIONS FILMED IN THE DR

- 2001 Dreaming of Julia (USA/Germany)
- 2002 Ernstfall in Havanna (Switzerland)
- 2003 “Cosas de Brujas” (Spain)
- 2004 The Lost City (USA)
- 2004 Beneath the Surface (USA)
- 2005 “Papa se Volvio Loco” (Argentina)
- 2005 Miracle Banana (Japan)
- 2005 “Vers le Sud” (France)
- 2005 The Feast of the Goat (Spain)
- 2005 Miami Vice (USA)
- 2006 The Good Shepherd (USA)
- 2009 Fast and Furious (USA)
- 2009 “El Veneno del Baile” (Spain)



Dominican tourism fair scheduled for april 2012

The thirteenth Dominican Tourism Exchange (DATE) 2012 has been scheduled for April 17-19, 2012, in Punta Cana, on the country’s easternmost region. The event is organized by the National Association of Hotels and Tourism (ASO-NAHORES) of the Dominican Republic, the country’s Tourism Promotion Council and the Ministry of Tourism.

International tour operators, travel agencies and tourism-related professionals come together during the fair to define business strategies with local hotels and tour operators.

Last year’s event attracted over 200 tour operators, hoteliers and other tourism-related companies. The event was held at the first “all inclusive” hotel in the world of the Hard Rock Hotel chain, in Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Punta Cana.

INTERNATIONAL FAIRS IN WHICH THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC WILL PARTICIPATE

JANUARY

FITUR, Madrid. 18 - 22

FEBRUARY

Holiday World, Prague. 15 - 18

BIT, Milan. 16 - 19

The Boston Globe Travel Show, Boston. 10 - 12

ANATO, Bogotá. 22 - 24

MARCH

The New York Travel Show,

New York. 2 - 4

ITB Berlin. 7 - 11

INTOURMARKET, Moscow. 17 - 20

MITT, Moscow. 21 - 24

TUR, Gothenburg, Sweden. 22 - 25

UITT, Kiev, Ukraine. 28 - 30



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Bayahibe, one of the Caribbean's most important tourism destinations, was recently included among the ten best family destinations in the Caribbean and Mexico. The survey was carried out amongst visitors to the Trip Advisor travel website.

Bayahibe, situated in the country's eastern region, came out in ninth place in the Travelers Choice 2011 survey. Says Trip Advisor on Bayahibe: «For years professional divers have been traveling to Bayahibe. However, thanks to the construction of top-rated hotels, the region has become a popular destination for families. Visitors will enjoy white-sand beaches, a thrilling zip-line dive or explore the breathtaking National Park of the East.»

Off the coast of Bayahibe lies Saona Island, a haven for divers and snorkelers. The island is surrounded by stunning coral

reefs, coastal lagoons, a large variety of birds and reptiles, as well as archaeological sites and caves which were once used by the Tainos, the original inhabitants of the island.

Saona Island is the most visited place in the Dominican Republic. It is part of the National Park of the East.

Bayahibe is a former fishing community. That is where visitors will find Bayahibe Beach, considered to be one of the most beautiful beaches in the country's eastern region. Just a few kilometers away is Dominicus Beach, also an incredibly beautiful beach. In the past few years the area has experienced extraordinary growth in tourism development.

The Best Family Vacations is a Trip Advisor category, where millions of travelers can express their opinions on various travel-related issues. For more information, visit www.tripadvisor.es/TravelersChoice.

ACCESS

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