

# **CARIBBEAN TOURISM ORGANIZATION LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS**



**JANUARY 2018**

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Caribbean Tourism Organization (CTO)

Seventh Floor, Baobab Tower  
Warrens, St Michael  
Barbados  
Tel.: (246) 427-5242  
Website: [www.onecaribbean.org](http://www.onecaribbean.org)  
E-mail: [statspub@caribtourism.com](mailto:statspub@caribtourism.com)

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## Overall Performance

- Arrival data was reported by 21 destinations in 2017 so far, 13 of which recorded growth, while declines were recorded in eight.
- Ten destinations reported arrival data for the period January to December, six of which recorded growth ranging from 3.8% in the Dominican Republic to 11.0% in Saint Lucia. Arrivals declined in the remaining four destinations ranging from -2.9% in Aruba to -17.9% in the British Virgin Islands.
- While growth in international arrivals was recorded in Bermuda (10.4%) and Guyana (6.1%) during the period January to November, Curaçao (-10.7%) registered a decline during this time.
- Out of the five destinations reporting arrival data for the period January to October, growth was registered in Barbados (6.0%), Martinique (3.8%), and Anguilla (0.3%), while arrivals declined in the two remaining destinations, Puerto Rico (-0.6%) and St. Vincent & the Grenadines (-4.4%).
- Dominica, the only destination reporting arrival data for the period January to September recorded growth of 7.9%.
- Similarly, during the period January to August, international trips increased in the US Virgin Islands (1.8%), the only destination reporting arrivals for this period.
- In contrast, the Turks & Caicos Islands, the only destination reporting arrival data for the period January to June, recorded a decline of -1.5% during this time.

## By Month

- In January, 11 out of 21 destinations reported increased international trips, while the other ten registered declines. The highest percentage increase in tourist arrivals during this month was recorded in Bermuda (36.0%). Other increases ranged from 0.7% recorded in both Belize and the Turks & Caicos Islands to 17.5% in Guyana. In contrast, declines recorded during this time ranged from -0.2% in both Anguilla and Barbados to -20.0% in Trinidad & Tobago.
- Thirteen out of 21 reporting destinations recorded growth in arrivals in February. Dominica (18.9%) recorded the highest percentage increase this month followed by Bermuda (11.9%) and Trinidad & Tobago (11.1%). Decreases were registered in eight destinations during this month ranging from -0.3% in Anguilla to -12.6% recorded in Curaçao.
- During March, seven out of the 21 reporting destinations saw increases while declines were registered in the other 14 destinations. Barbados led growth with 8.5% followed by Bermuda (6.1%) and Martinique (5.1%). Curaçao (-22.8%) recorded the largest percentage decrease during this time followed by St. Vincent & the Grenadines (-18.6%) and Aruba (-18.1%).
- April, the best performing month of the year, had 19 destinations out of 21 recording growth in international visits led by a 58.4% increase in Dominica and strong performances in Guyana (43.7%) and Anguilla (31.7%). Aruba (-1.9%) and Curaçao (-6.3%) were the only two destinations to register decreased arrivals during this month.
- The number of destinations recording growth in tourist arrivals in May dropped to 16 (out of 21 reporting) ranging from a flat performance in Aruba to 17.0% in Bermuda. Declines were recorded in five destinations ranging from -1.5% in the US Virgin Islands to -26.9% in Guyana.

- Twenty-one destinations reported data for June, 15 of which registered growth in arrivals ranging from 1.3% recorded in the US Virgin Islands to 21.1% in Saint Lucia. Declines recorded in the other six destinations ranged between -1.6% in Aruba and -10.4% in the Turks & Caicos Islands.
- In July, 12 out of 20 reporting destinations recorded growth in arrivals while eight destinations recorded contractions. Puerto Rico (21.2%) led growth during this month followed by Saint Lucia (14.7%) and Jamaica (9.0%). Curaçao recorded a -18.9% fall-off in tourist arrivals, the largest percentage decrease for this month.
- Out of the 20 destinations reporting tourist arrivals for August, 14 destinations recorded increases led by the British Virgin Islands (47.6%), Anguilla (39.6%), and Belize (19.1%). International arrivals decreased in the other six destinations reporting during this time ranging from -2.4% in Martinique to -19.6% in Curaçao.
- Seven out of the 19 destinations reporting for September registered growth ranging from 0.4% in Aruba to 14.8% in the Cayman Islands while the other 12 destinations recorded declines between -2.6% in Martinique and -90.8% in the British Virgin Islands.
- Growth in international arrivals was recorded in 12 out of 18 destinations reporting for October ranging from 0.3% in Martinique to 16.2% in Jamaica. Declines recorded in the remaining six destinations during this month ranged from -6.8% in Curaçao to -90.7% in the British Virgin Islands.
- During November, nine out of 13 reporting destinations recorded increased international visitor arrivals ranging between 4.2% in the Dominican Republic and 22.7% in Belize. On the other hand, four destinations registered declines led by the British Virgin Islands which recorded -87.7% fewer arrivals this month.
- Ten destinations reported international visitor arrival data for the month of December, eight of which recorded growth ranging from 3.1% in Antigua & Barbuda to 21.6% in the Cayman Islands. Trinidad & Tobago (-6.4%) and the British Virgin Islands (-79.5%) were the only destinations to record declines during this month.

## By Market

### United States

- International trips from the United States grew in 12 out of 19 reporting destinations overall and declined in seven.
- Growth in international arrivals from the United States was recorded in six out of nine reporting destinations during the period January to December led by Grenada (16.1%) followed by the Cayman Islands (13.4%) and Aruba (10.6%). The three remaining destinations registered declines of -0.5% in the Dominican Republic, -2.6% in Trinidad & Tobago, and -11.3% in Antigua & Barbuda.
- Out of the three destinations reporting arrival data for the period January to November from the United States, Curaçao and Bermuda recorded increases of 1.8% and 8.4% respectively while Guyana registered a decrease of -7.5%.
- During the period January to October, all four of the reporting destinations registered increased visitor arrivals from the United States ranging from 0.8% recorded in St. Vincent & the Grenadines to 13.9% in Barbados.
- Dominica, the only destination reporting arrival data from the United States for the period January to September, recorded a marginal decline of -0.8% during this time.
- International trips from the United States decreased in both destinations reporting for the period January to June, dropping by -1.6% in the Turks & Caicos Islands and -3.0% in the US Virgin Islands.

### Canada

- Visitor trips to the region from Canada increased in 16 out of 19 reporting destinations, while three destinations recorded declines from this market.
- All nine destinations reporting international arrivals from Canada during the period January to December recorded growth ranging from 4.7% in Trinidad & Tobago to 19.3% in Belize.
- Similarly, growth was recorded in all three destinations reporting arrivals from Canada during the period January to November, led by Bermuda (15.8%) followed by Curaçao (5.5%) and Guyana (0.1%).
- During the period January to October, visitor trips from Canada increased in two of the four reporting destinations, 9.9% in St. Vincent & the Grenadines and 9.6% in Barbados, but declined in Anguilla (-1.8%) and Puerto Rico (-7.0%).
- International arrivals from Canada increased by 9.7% in Dominica during the period January to September, the only destination reporting for this period.
- While the US Virgin Islands recorded a 10.9% increase in arrivals from Canada during the period January to June, the Turks & Caicos Islands registered a decline of -6.7% in arrivals from this market during this time.

## Europe

- Overall visitor arrivals from Europe increased in ten of the 19 reporting destinations with contractions registered in the remaining nine destinations.
- Growth in arrivals from the European market was recorded in five out of the nine destinations reporting for the period January to December ranging between 4.8% in Aruba and 17.6% in Belize. Four destinations recorded declines in arrivals from this market during this time, ranging from -3.4% in Grenada to -17.0% in the Cayman Islands.
- Bermuda (11.9%) was the only destination to record an increase in arrivals from Europe during the period January to November while the other two destinations reporting for this period, Curaçao (-1.6%) and Guyana (-11.3%), registered declines.
- Out of the four destinations reporting arrivals from Europe during the period January to October, growth was registered in Anguilla (8.6%) and Barbados (0.2%) while declines were recorded in Puerto Rico (-18.3%) and St. Vincent & the Grenadines (-24.5%).
- Visitor trips from Europe increased in Dominica (25.7%) during the period January to September, the only destination reporting arrival data from this market for this time.
- International trips from Europe increased in the US Virgin Islands by 13.1% during the period January to June, but declined by -4.4% in the Turks & Caicos Islands during this time.



## Cruise Arrivals

- Cruise passenger arrivals to the region increased in 16 out of 23 reporting destinations, while the remaining seven registered decreases.
- Growth in cruise passenger arrivals during the period January to December was recorded in seven out of nine reporting destinations ranging from 0.9% in Belize to 36.9% in the Dominican Republic. Grenada (-4.9%) and the US Virgin Islands (-26.6%) were the only destinations to register fewer cruise passenger arrivals during this time.
- During the period January to November, four destinations registered increased cruise passenger arrivals led by Curaçao (36.4%), while The Bahamas (-1.3%) and Puerto Rico (-12.7%) registered fewer cruise passenger arrivals for this period.
- Three destinations reported cruise passenger arrivals for the period January to October. While Martinique (5.9%) and St. Vincent & the Grenadines (40.3%) registered increased cruise passenger arrivals during this period, the British Virgin Islands registered a decline of -23.7%.
- Both Dominica and Trinidad & Tobago, the only destinations reporting cruise passenger arrivals for the period January to September, registered declines of -7.7% and -49.9% respectively.
- St. Kitts & Nevis was the only destination reporting for the period January to August, registering a 13.9% increase cruise passenger arrivals for this period.
- Cruise passenger arrivals increased in both of the destinations reporting for the period January to June led by 12.6% growth recorded in the Turks & Caicos Islands and followed by 5.9% in St. Maarten.