



## **Anguilla: Tourism Summary Data February 2004**

Visitor arrivals continued to show healthy increases in February 2004 with an annual increase of 16% up from 14% in January. A total of 11,797 visitors came to the shores of Anguilla, the highest number for February since 1998.

The U.S.A continued to be the most important market from which visitors originate representing 60% of all visitors but the largest increase in terms of country of origin was from the UK and Germany showing increases of 24% and 55% respectively. This may be due to the depreciated value of the US dollar against which the EC dollar is fixed.

### **Tourists (Stay-over visitors)**

Stay over visitors was the main source of increase in visitor arrivals in February. On an annual basis tourist arrivals increased 24% to reach a record 5,563 tourists for the month of February. Tourists from the United States increased 24% and those from Germany increased a whopping 123% but this country only represents 1% of all tourists. The USA represented 77% of all tourists in February.

Of the 5,563 tourists, 42%, stayed in Anguilla for longer than a week, compared to 39% in January 2004. The longer length of stay results in a greater contribution to the economy and occupancy rates.

Traveling by sea was more important in February than January. Blowing Point received 45% of all tourists this month compared to 39% in January.

### **Excursionists (Day Trippers)**

Excursionists also continued to increase in number in February although the increase was not as strong as for tourists. There were 6,234 excursionists, which represented a 10% annual increase and was the largest number for February since the year 2000.

Of the 6,234 excursionists 98% of them entered through one of the seaports, with Blowing Point registering 4,465 and Sandy Ground 1,668 of the arrivals respectively. However the airport showed the largest monthly increase as a means of visiting Anguilla for less than a day. The more regular flights available with Winnair from St. Martin may have contributed to this increase.

As with the tourists, the U.S.A was the country of origin from which most of the excursionists came. However the UK and Germany showed the highest rates of annual increases.