



Anguilla: Tourism Summary Data October 2005

October, historically, is usually a slow period for tourists visiting the island. While the total visitors for October 2005 were consistent with the fact that October is an off season month, 6,177 visitors made Anguilla their place of destination for either vacation or business. This total represents an increase of 20% in comparison to the 5,134 visitors that came in October 2004.

January to October 2005 brought the total number of visitors to the island for the year thus far to 114,664 compared to 97,856 for the same period in 2004, resulting in a 17% increase.

Persons come to Anguilla for both pleasure and business purposes. During this month, out of the 6,177 visitors that visited, 469 persons came for business purposes compared to 310 in October of last year and 5,708 came for pleasure compared to 4,824 during October 2004.

Passenger Movements

Arrivals

Arrivals, which include Anguillans as well as tourists, through the Wallblake Airport for this period were 2,578 compared to 224 during October 2004 (*during the latter part of 2004, the runway at the Wallblake Airport was under construction, therefore flights into Anguilla were restricted*), while arrivals through Blowing Point Port were 11,422 compared to 13,733 in October last year. Arrivals through Sandy Ground were 32 this October compared to 91 during October of 2004.

Departures

Departures through Wallblake Airport during October 2005 were 1,291 compared to 238, while departures through Blowing Point Port were 10,838 compared to 12,981 in 2004. The port of Sandy Ground saw 70 departures during this month compared to 104 during October 2004.

Tourists (Stay-Over Visitors)

Tourists accounted for 34% of the total number of visitors to Anguilla during October 2005. Over the period October 2004/2005, this type of visitor increased by 40% to reach 2,093 tourists for the month under review.

59% of the tourists that visited Anguilla in October entered through the Wallblake Airport. 1,238 persons came through this Port compared to 84 persons during the same period last year (*during the latter part of 2004, the runway at the Wallblake Airport was under construction, therefore flights into Anguilla were restricted*). The port of Blowing Point recorded a 38% decline in tourist arrivals passing through for this period from October 2004. It was the port of entry to Anguilla for 853 persons compared to 1,379 persons during October 2004. Tourists passing through the port of Sandy Ground made up just under, 1% of overall tourists entering the island.

Of the 2,093 tourists visiting, 34% stayed in Anguilla for longer than a week (4-15 days), while 30% stayed for 1 – 3 days and 4% stayed for 16 or more days. On average, the length of stay for the month was 8.3

days compared to 7.9 days in October last year. The longer length of stay results in a greater contribution to the economy and occupancy rates.

During October 2005, most of the tourists, 44%, originated out of the U.S.A., annually (Oct05/04) arrivals from this country increased by 40%. The U.K was the second largest market with 11% and arrivals from this country increased by 22%. Other European Countries (to include Switzerland and Austria), accounted for 8% of the market share and arrivals increased by 48% over October 2004.

Arrivals from Italy, Canada and Germany declined by 57%, 15% and 8% respectively.

Excursionists (Day-Trippers)

Excursionists also continued to show an increase in number during October 2005. They represented 66% of the overall visitor arrivals to the island. 4,084 excursionists visited this month, resulting in an increase over the year (October 05/04) of 12%. The cumulative total for the period January to October at 65,387 day-trippers is up 20% from the 54,328 arrivals recorded over the same period in 2004.

The port of Blowing Point was the main port of entry for persons coming to the island who were visiting for a day. There was a 9% increase in traveler activity through this port over last year. 3,922 persons included Anguilla as part of their vacation for a day for the period under review compared to 3,583 in October last year.

Most of the major tourist markets experienced increases in excursionist travels during this period. Day-trippers from Italy and the Caribbean recorded declines of 64% and 21% respectively.

This report along with other Tourism Data, are available at the Government of Anguilla's website: <http://gov.ai/statistics/tourism.htm>