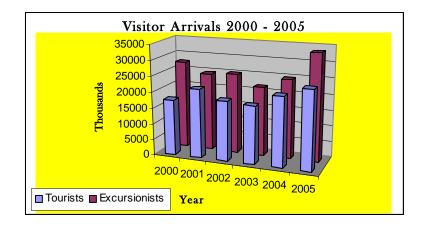


As the official tourist season begins to taper off, visitor activity is still strong as data for visitor arrivals to Anguilla during the month of April, showed a 12.0 percent increase over April 2004. 13,792 persons visited during this month. This by far is the largest monthly total in arrivals over the last decade to the island. To date 58,180 persons have visited Anguilla, a 22.0 percent increase over the same period last year.



Tourists (Stay-Over Visitors)

In April this year, tourist arrivals were up 2.0 percent over April 2004. Though the smallest increase to date for the year, this month recorded the highest total in arrivals since April 2001.

Both the Blowing Point Port and the Wallblake airport were equal in importance to tourists entering Anguilla as 50.0 percent entered through both ports. Sandy Ground was the port of entry for 23 persons for this period compared to 395 persons last year April.

19.0 percent of tourists visiting Anguilla during the month under review stayed for a period of 1-3 days. 48.0 percent stayed for just under a week (4 –7 days) and 33.0 percent stayed for a week or more. The average length of stay was 7.4 days compared to 6.8 days in 2004.

The United States was the main country of residence from which most of Anguilla's tourists came during this month. Of the total tourist arrivals, 4,311 were from this country, accounting for 70.4 percent of the market share, an increase of 11.0 percent over the same period in 2004.

However, the market showing the largest increase in arrivals for January was Canada with a 40 percent increase. All other markets showed increases over their corresponding 2004 figures except Germany and the Caribbean, which registered declines of 87.0 percent and 23.3 percent respectively.

Excursionists (Day-Trippers)

During this month 7,675 day-trippers visited Anguilla (*for a couple hours to enjoy some of its sites*) up 22.0 percent over last April when 6,287 day-trippers visited. To date 33,428 excursionists have made Anguilla a one-day destination stop compared to 24,830 in April 2004.

Blowing Point is still the main entryway to Anguilla for this type of visitor. During April 6,546 day-trippers passed through this port compared to 5,228 last April, resulting in a 25.2 percent increase. 152 day-trippers entered through the airport during this period while Sandy Ground's port of entry saw 977 persons using this port as their main port of entry to Anguilla during this reporting period.

The U.S.A was also the main source of excursionist arrivals to the island accounting for 3,928 of the 7,675 arrivals. The United Kingdom and Canada were the main markets that showed the largest increase in excursionist arrivals to the island increasing by 96.0 percent and 87.0 percent respectively. 325 persons who visited were from the U.K compared to 166 in April 2004 and 553 were from Canada this year compared to 296 last April.

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