

Anguilla: Tourism Summary Data August 2003

Visitor arrivals for the month of August 2003 saw an increase of 7.3% over last year. This is an indication that the tourism sector is continuing to show strength, which was first reflected in last month's figures for visitor arrivals. The increase can be attributed to the Carnival/Summer Festival activities, which were held during this month. A total of 11,947 visitors came to the island in August 2003 compared to 11,132 in August last year. This year's arrivals were the highest recorded since 1995.

Tourists (Stay-Over Visitors)

The increase in August visitor arrivals was mainly driven by tourist arrivals, which increased by 9% over last year's corresponding period. This is the fifth consecutive month that tourist arrivals have increased, with August accounting for the third highest increase after July and June this year. Year to date tourist arrivals are up 3.4%.

Tourist arrivals for August through Blowing Point port were 1,647, up by 27% from August 2002. Arrivals through Wallblake Airport declined by 2% from 2,218 last year August to 2,180 in same period this year.

2,670 of the 3,856 tourists visiting in August 2003 spent between 4-15 days, 817 spent 1-3 days, while 369 spent 16-23 days. On average the length of stay was 8.1 days compared to 7.8 days in August 2002

Tourists out of Italy increased by 12% over the corresponding period in August 2002. Other countries showing increases were United Kingdom, U.S.A and Germany with 18%, 14% and 7% respectively. Those with declining tourist arrivals under the corresponding 2002 period were Canada and Europe with 50% and 13% respectively.

Excursionists

Excursionists continued to show a steady increase of 6.5% in August 2003. 8,091 excursionists visited Anguilla in August 2003 as compared with 7,596 in the corresponding 2002 period. This brought the total for the year to 46,687 compared with 49,954. . The recovery in excursionists only started in July with the year to date figures still showing a decline of 6.5% over the same period last year.

Most excursionists arrived through the port of Blowing Point. Of the 8,091 excursionists coming to Anguilla, over 80% arrived through this port, while 19% came through Sandy Ground and the other 1% came via Wallblake Airport.