



## Anguilla: Tourism Summary Data February 2005

With the tourist season in its peak, data shows that Visitor arrivals continue to show healthy increases. In comparison with February 2004 visitor data for February 2005 showed a jump of 20%. This month recorded the highest number of visitors for the month of February to visit Anguilla over the last twelve years. 14,137 visitors arrived in Anguilla during this month compared to 11,797 for the same period last year.

Persons come to Anguilla for both pleasure and business purposes. During this month, out of the 14,137 visitors that visited, 326 persons came for business purposes compared to 239 in February of last year and 13,811 came for pleasure compared to 11,558 during February 2004.

### **Passenger Movements**

Passenger movements- (arrivals) (which includes Anguillians as well as tourists) through the airport for this reporting period were 3,925 as compared to 3,635 during February 2004, while arrivals through Blowing Point port were 17,713 in comparison to 14,231 in February of last year. Arrivals through Sandy Ground were 1,321 this February as opposed to 2,019 last year's February.

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

Tourists accounted for 44 percent of the total number of visitors to Anguilla during February. Over the period February 2004/2005, this type of visitor increased by 12 percent to reach a record 6,208 tourists for the month of February.

Of the 6,208 tourists, 44 percent stayed in Anguilla for longer than a week, compared to 42 percent in February 2004. The longer length of stay results in a greater contribution to the economy and occupancy rates.

Traveling both by air and sea were equal in importance by tourists making their way to Anguilla. The Wallblake airport received 48 percent of all tourists to Anguilla while the port of Blowing Point received 52 percent. With the reopening of the Wallblake airport and the flight schedules getting back on track, tourists once again have the option of flying into Wallblake instead of flying into St. Martin/St. Maarten and taking the ferry across to Anguilla.

The United States was the main country of residence from which most of Anguilla's tourists came during the month of February 2005. Of the total tourist arrivals, 4,604 were from this country, accounting for 74 percent of the market share, an increase of 8 percent over the same period in 2004.

However, the Caribbean region saw the greatest increase in tourist arrivals for the month of February 2005. On average arrivals from this region (*which includes*

*French and Dutch West Indies*) rose a whopping 192 percent over February 2004. This region accounted for only 10 percent of the market share.

Other markets that recorded increases were Canada, the United Kingdom and Italy with 27 percent, 25 percent and 19 percent respectively.

Arrivals from Germany and Other European Countries declined by 29 percent and 56 percent respectively.

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

Excursionists were the main source of the increase in visitor arrivals during February. 7,929 excursionists decided to make Anguilla an island day trip destination. Arrivals by this type of visitor grew by 27 percent over its corresponding period in 2004.

The majority of these day-trippers entered through the port of Blowing Point as this port is main ferry terminal and most of these travelers originate out of St. Martin. 82 percent or 6,501 day-trippers passed through this port. 1,308 or 17 percent entered through the port of Sandy Ground and 2 percent entered through the Wallblake airport.

As with the tourist arrivals, the U.S.A was the country of origin from which most of the excursionists came. A 36 percent increase was registered over the corresponding period in 2004. Additionally, Italy registered the highest increase in excursionists of 133 percent over its corresponding 2004 figures followed by Canada and the United Kingdom with 107 percent and 35 percent respectively.

### **Cruise Passengers**

5 small cruise vessels made calls to Anguilla during February 2005 with some visiting on more than one occasion. There was an overall passenger total of 939 with each vessel carrying on average a total of 188 passengers. This compares to the 7 vessels that made calls to Anguilla during the same period last year with an overall passenger total of 1,461.

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