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british caribbean

ANGUILLA NEWSLETTER – MARCH 2019



It's been a sizzling winter for the Caribbean's hottest destination...and things are only going to get hotter in March! Record arrivals, a coveted award, and the return of a favourite festival promise to make this spring travel season an unforgettable one. Read on for Anguilla's top highlights over the past month ...and the upcoming events you won't want to miss.



MOONSPLASH RETURNS TO ANGUILLA FOR 2019

Anguilla's iconic Moonsplash Music Festival will once again take place under a full moon at the legendary Dune Preserve on Rendezvous Bay, from March 21 – 24, 2019. This year's Moonsplash returns to its roots as the Coolest Beach Party in the Caribbean. Timed to coincide with the first full moon of the month, the magical evenings unfold at the rustic Dune Preserve, the legendary retreat of Bankie Banx, that doubles as laid-back beach bar by day and pulsating dance party each evening.

Highlights of this year's Festival are two, not to be missed celebrations -- Sheriff Bob's 80th Birthday Bash and Third World and Friends 40th Anniversary celebration. Moonsplash kicks off at 6:30PM on

Friday, March 22nd with Funky Horns SXM on the Beach Stage, along with other supporting acts. Headliners on the Main Stage later that evening are Anguilla's own Omari Banks and the legendary Mighty Diamonds, with additional supporting acts to be announced.



ANGUILLA SET TO ATTEND OTTAWA TRAVEL & VACATION SHOW

The Anguilla Tourist Board will once again be on hand at the Ottawa Travel & Vacation Show, representing their idyllic island to thousands of interested Canadian travellers and trade representatives. The show is one of the foremost travel exhibitions in Canada, bringing together hundreds of countries and destinations for an informational showcase of attractions, packages, and deals.

The 2019 edition of the show will be hosted at the Shaw Centre in Ottawa, unfolding over the weekend on March 30 & 31. Anguilla's booth will prominently feature the island's diverse array of Charming Escapes – cozy, locally owned properties that make experiencing Anguilla more accessible than ever.

Stop by the booth to discover what's new and exciting in Anguilla or learn more about the show at <http://www.travelandvacationshow.ca/index.html>.



QUINTESSENCE HOTEL HONOURED BY FORBES TRAVEL GUIDE

Anguilla's beloved Quintessence Hotel was recently recognized as a new Forbes Travel Guide Four-Star Hotel, a prestigious accolade that places the luxury boutique property among the best in the world. The Forbes Travel Guide is the only global rating system for luxury hotels, restaurants, and spas. To qualify, properties must pass a rigorous inspection process based on over 900 exacting standards.

The Quintessence Hotel opened its doors on January 1, 2018, shortly after the passing of Hurricane Irma. Overlooking the picturesque beaches of Long Bay, the Quintessence features nine lavish suites, a wellness spa, a five-star restaurant, an infinity pool, and an award-winning wine cellar, among other attractions. The hotel quickly earned praise for its outstanding customer service and care, offering both butler and concierge service around-the-clock.

To learn more about the Quintessence Hotel and its world-class standards, you can read all about it on [ForbesTravelGuide.com](https://www.forbes.com/travel/guide/anguilla/).



ANGUILLA REPORTS STRONG CANADIAN ARRIVALS IN Q4, 2018

Anguilla confirmed earlier this month that it received a near-historic number of visitor arrivals from Canada in Q4, 2018. In a dramatic return to form from Anguilla' biggest foreign market after the U.S., Canadian arrivals in the last three months of 2018 reached 1,434. This figure is particularly noteworthy in the context of Hurricane Irma, which hit Anguilla earlier in the year and had a temporarily adverse effect on tourism.

While December saw pronounced increases in tourist arrivals across all of Anguilla's top markets, the rise was most visible in the Canadian market. Arrivals from Canada increased by 444.4% in December 2018 compared to the previous year. The U.S., U.K, and Italy were next in line, with 359.8%, 284.2%, and 288.2% increases respectively.

The announcement of these encouraging tourism results comes on the heels of a memorable dinner and presentation by the Anguilla Tourist Board in Toronto. Chairperson Donna Banks and Parliamentary Secretary Cardigan Connor brought a little Anguillan sunshine to the Four Seasons hotel in December, debuting a new Beyond Extraordinary brand for the island and affirming Anguilla's commitment to the Canadian market.

ABOUT ANGUILLA

Tucked away in the northern Caribbean, Anguilla is a shy beauty with a warm smile. A slender length of coral and limestone fringed with green, the island is ringed with 33 ivory beaches. Commonly regarded by savvy travellers and top travel magazines to be the Caribbean's "hidden gem", Anguilla's mix of natural beauty and modern luxury has earned it the distinction of being named the Best Island in the Caribbean—two years in a row.

Anguilla lies just off the beaten path, retaining a charming character and restful exclusivity. The island can conveniently accessed from two major gateways: St Martin and Puerto Rico.

For romance, barefoot elegance, and untrammelled bliss, Anguilla is truly Beyond Extraordinary.

