



GOVERNMENT OF SAINT LUCIA
Ministry of Tourism, Information and Broadcasting,
Culture and Creative Industries

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March 18, 2020

Dear Industry Partner,

Our industry at this present time confronts a most trying period, perhaps the most devastating in its recent history. Together with the rest of the world, the Government of Saint Lucia continues to navigate the dynamics presented by COVID-19 and is committed to sharing in the global efforts to combat this virus.

With rapid changes taking place globally, the impact on the travel industry is devastating. Around the world and in Saint Lucia, necessary precautions are being taken, to protect the health and safety of all citizens, visitors and residents.

In proactively outlining response actions for the challenging period ahead, the Ministry of Tourism and the Saint Lucia Tourism Authority (SLTA), convened with the Board of Directors of the Saint Lucia Hospitality and Tourism Association (SLHTA) on Friday March 13, 2020 to gather first hand information on the overall status of the tourism industry over the next ninety days. We have also had similar dialogue with travel trade partners, airlines and media.

As we endure this difficult time, lets us find inspiration from the multiple examples in history, which demonstrates to us, every time tourism has been resilient. Our collective will and shared resolve will overcome this.

Please note that we remain focused at this time to ensure that Saint Lucia is positioned to regain its market share when the travel landscape rebounds.

In an effort to contain the disease, the following measures have been taken:

- Activation of the National Health security Committee to develop the national response plan.
- Assessment of the capacities at the ports and health facilities and other relevant facilities to determine the capacity to respond and identify resource gaps.
- Training and procurement of resources.

- Imposed travel restrictions for Mainland China, Hong Kong, the Republic of Korea, Italy, Singapore, Spain, Iran, UK, Germany, and Mainland France and by Extension Martinique, *whether in- transit or originating*.
- Suspension of all yachting and pleasure craft calls into Saint Lucia until further notice.
- The Ministry of Health through the Bureau of Health Education commenced a public awareness and education campaign.

I urge you to observe all the necessary precautions outlined by the Health Authorities to stay protected from the COVID-19 epidemic and to work in tandem with the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Tourism and the Saint Lucia Tourism Authority, as we all remain strong and committed to the task.

I know that this must be a most difficult time for you, your management team and your line employees. Therefore, I would like you to know that myself along with the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Tourism and the Chief Executive Officer of the SLTA stand ready to act as a bridge of communication between yourselves and the Health Authorities during this difficult period.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Fedee". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Honourable Dominic Fedee
Minister of Tourism Information and Broadcasting,
Culture and Creative Industries