



DOMINICAN REPUBLIC MINISTRY OF TOURISM WEEKLY UPDATE

September 17, 2018

What's new in Dominican Republic:

- **Playa Bávaro To Open New Hotel Summer 2019** | *Grupo Lopesan, through its hotel subsidiary, Ifa Hotels, will welcome a new hotel complex in Playa Bávaro. The construction is currently entering its final phase, with structures already in place. Doors are expected to open in the summer of 2019.*
- **Samaná Highlighted as Caribbean Gem** | *Leading outlet, USA Today recently recognized Samaná as a Caribbean hidden gem and highlighted the regions history, culture, and eco-tourism offerings. The feature touched on unique offerings such as whale watching in Samaná Bay, caving and bird watching in Los Haitises National Park and more. www.USAToday.com*
- **Six Dominican Hotels Highlighted as Top Wedding Venues** | *The popular wedding-planning site, Wedding Wire, published a guide to getting married in the Dominican Republic. The article highlighted six top properties. Featured hotels include Barceló Bávaro Grand Resort, Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Punta Cana, Excellence El Carmen, Excellence Punta Cana, Casa de Campo, and Lifestyle Holidays Vacation Resort. www.WeddingWire.com*
- **Dominican Republic Sees Increase in Tourism Revenue** | *Hector Valdez, governor of the Central Bank of Dominican Republic confirmed data that showed touristic gross domestic product in the Dominican Republic grew 5.2% in the first half of 2018, with a total cumulative growth of 5.9% this year.*
- **Cap Cana To Host International Billfish Tournament** | *Next month Cap Cana will host the International Billfish Shootout, a fishing tournament that promises luxury prizes and charitable donations. The three-day fishing tournament will take place at the Cap Cana Marina. www.IntlBillfishTourns.com*

News releases, images and the press kit also can be accessed from the official DR Ministry of Tourism website: www.GoDominicanRepublic.com. For additional photos, b-roll and more specific needs, please contact Annie Holschuh (annie.holschuh@bvk.com) or Callie Murphy (callie.murphy@bvk.com), BVK Word for the Dominican Republic Ministry of Tourism.