



DOMINICAN REPUBLIC MINISTRY OF TOURISM WEEKLY UPDATE

April 23, 2018

What's new in Dominican Republic:

- **Hotel Occupancy Rate Reached 77 Percent in 2017** | Dominican Republic's hotel occupancy rate for 2017 was an impressive 77 percent. The properties with the highest occupancy rates were: Punta Cana – Bávaro (82.8%), and La Romana – Bayahibe (82%). This announcement was detailed at the DATE 2018 conference by Fausto Fernandez, Vice Minister of Tourism of International Cooperation.
- **Travel to Dominican Republic Up Nearly 15 Percent in March** | According to the Central Bank, travel to Dominican Republic increased 14.8 percent in March 2018 compared to March 2017. Recently at DATE, MITUR announced a 3.9 percent increase in 2017 overall tourism to the country, which surpasses the 1.7 percent growth for the Caribbean.
- **Dominican Republic Golf Travel Exchange Announces 2018 Dates** | The Dominican Republic Golf Travel Exchange will return for its fifth edition Sept. 1–6 for the second consecutive year SECRETS® Cap Cana Resort & Spa. The announcement follows the 2018 World Golf Awards where Dominican Republic was recently declared the Best Caribbean Golf Destination for the fourth consecutive year. www.DRGolfTravel.com
- **Off the Beaten Path Adventures in Dominican Republic Recognized by NatGeo** | Leading travel outlet National Geographic recently featured Dominican Republic and its off the beaten path adventures in the unexplored north east region and beyond, such as Los Haitises National Park, a horseback ride to El Limón Waterfall, among other activities. www.NationalGeographic.com
- **Dominican Republic Recognized a Top 20 Destination Wedding Location** | A top vacation company, HomeAway, recognized Villa Con Nico, located in Punta Cana as a top 20 wedding property for its exceptional destination wedding accommodations. From the coast to the mountains, Dominican Republic offers a breathtaking backdrop for weddings, honeymoons and anniversary vacations. www.HomeAway.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 Bridget Tisher (bridget.tishler@bvk.com), BVK Word for the Dominican Republic Ministry of Tourism.