



DOMINICAN REPUBLIC MINISTRY OF TOURISM WEEKLY UPDATE

March 25, 2019

What's New In Dominican Republic:

- **February Tourist Arrivals Up Eight Percent** | According to the Central Bank, tourist arrivals to Dominican Republic were up eight percent in February 2019 compared to the same time in 2018, welcoming 604,977 travelers just last month. The Central Bank stated 65 percent of tourists arrived from North America by air or cruise ship. www.DominicanToday.com
- **New Record Set for Cruise Arrivals** | In just the first two months of 2019, Dominican Republic welcomed a record 400,000 passengers and crew by more than 126 cruise ships. The bulk of the travelers arrived in the months of January and February. www.HostelTur.com
- **Major Hotel Company Breaks Ground on First Punta Cana Project** | President Danilo Medina recently attended a ground breaking ceremony for the Hampton by Hilton Punta Cana Airport and Commercial Center. The 150-room property will be the first-ever Hilton branded hotel in Punta Cana. Adjacent to the Punta Cana International Airport, the hotel will include several pools, conference rooms, bars and restaurants. www.Expreso.com
- **Top Travel Magazine Shares Unique Dominican Experience** | Few things cause travel writers to become speechless. Swimming with migrating humpback whales is one of them. Travel + Leisure Magazine details their experience swimming with the whales off the coast of Puerto Plata in the Silver Bank Sanctuary. See what the adventure was like and learn more [here](#).
- **Budget-Friendly All-Inclusive Properties Coast to Coast** | Leading travel resource recently highlighted Emotions Puerto Plata and Emotions Juan Dolio as budget-friendly options for travelers seeking an all-inclusive experience. Dominican Republic is often considered one of the most affordable vacation spots in the Caribbean, and all-inclusive experiences are no exception. www.SmarterTravel.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.