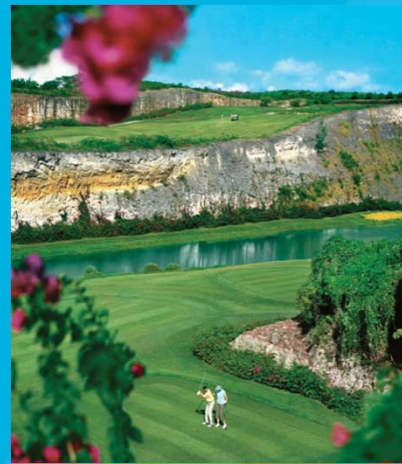


# Tourism and the Prevention of the Spread of Communicable Disease through Air Travel



# OUR TOURISM PRODUCT

- Historic Bridgetown and Its Garrison – UNESCO World Heritage Site;
- Fine dining experiences;
- Golf, watersports, polo, motorsports and various other sporting events;
- Festivals;
- Sun Sea and Sand;
- Safety and Security;



# BARBADOS' TOURISM ARRIVALS

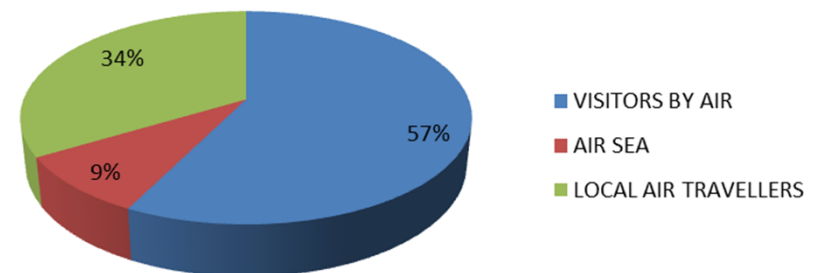
- Tourism Arrivals to Barbados generate over USD 900 million of revenue on island
- 95% of tourism revenue is generated by visitors who arrive by air.
- Air travel is therefore critical to the survival of our tourism industry.

MAJOR MARKETS	2012
UNITED STATES	131014
CANADA	72087
UNITED KINGDOM	177520
GERMANY	9242
OTHER EUROPE	24565
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO	38046
OTHER CARICOM	58313
BRAZIL	4633
OTHER CBEAN & L&S AMER	14819
OTHER	7458
<b>TOTAL ARRIVALS BY AIR</b>	<b>537,697</b>
<b>TOTAL CRUISE PASSENGERS</b>	<b>517,436</b>

# ARRIVALS BY AIR FOR 2012

PAX	ARR.	%
VISITORS BY AIR	537697	57%
AIR SEA PASSENGERS	84672	9%
LOCAL AIR TRAVELERS	314305	34%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>936674</b>	<b>100%</b>

**DISTRIBUTION OF AIRPORT ARRIVALS FOR 2012**



# Our Brazil Experience

- Expansion to South America and other new markets expressed as one of the Barbados Tourism Authority's strategic goals in 2008;
- Extensive research conducted on South America throughout 2009;
- Negotiations with GOL conducted from August 2009;
- Additional research conducted by GOL from August 2009 through January 2010;
- Contract signed and publicly announced in January 2010 for a June 2010 first flight;



# Our Brazil Experience

Advised by the Ministry of Health that  
“Yellow Fever was endemic in Brazil  
and Yellow Fever Vaccine would be  
required for all travelers travelling into  
Barbados from Brazil.”



# Why did the Research not Reveal this Fact

- As a standard for new routes visa restrictions in both directions are checked.
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs website simply refers to no Visa being required.  
<http://www.foreign.gov.bb/UserFiles/File/June%202012.pdf>
- It is now standard for vaccine requirements to be checked by the BTA when planning new routes;

COUNTRY	VISA REQUIREMENTS FOR BARBADIAN NATIONALS TRAVELLING ABROAD	VISA REQUIREMENTS FOR FOREIGN NATIONALS ENTERING BARBADOS	REMARKS
BRAZIL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ No Visa required</li> <li>❖ Visa required for persons travelling on Ordinary Passports for commercial business.</li> <li>❖ Visas NOT necessary for Tourist, Educational &amp; Scientific Conferences.</li> <li>❖ Visa obtained through the Brazilian Embassy here</li> <li>❖ One photograph</li> <li>❖ Application Form</li> <li>❖ Diplomatic &amp; Official Passports ONLY exempted from Visas up Until (90) days.</li> </ul>	No visa required	Nationals of Brazil can stay for a maximum of six (6) months without a visa
BRUNEI DARUSSALAM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Visa required</li> <li>❖ Visa obtained through the British High Commission</li> </ul>	❖ No visa required	Nationals of Brunei can stay for a maximum six (6) months without a visa
BULGARIA	❖ No visa required	❖ No visa required	Short-stay visa waiver signed between Barbados and the European Community on May 28, 2009. Nationals of both countries may visit the other country for a stay of up to three (3) months in any six month period.
BURKINA FASO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Visa required</li> <li>❖ Visa can be obtained from the Embassy of the Republic of Burkina in Washington, D.C.</li> <li>❖ Visa fee US\$50, bank draft</li> <li>❖ 2 photographs</li> <li>❖ 2 application forms</li> </ul>	❖ Visa required	No Visa Abolition Agreement established



# Vaccine Requirements are However Inconsistent



COUNTRY	YELLOW FEVER VACCINE	
	REQUIRED	EXEMPTIONS
ANTIGUA	YES	NONE
BAHAMAS	YES	NONE
BARBADOS	YES	GUYANA AND TRINIDAD
BVI	NO	
DOMINICA	YES	NONE
GRENADA	YES	NONE
GUYANA	YES	ARGENTINA, PARAGUAY, TRINIDAD, SURINAM
JAMAICA	YES	NONE
ST KITTS	YES	NONE
ST LUCIA	YES	NONE
ST VINCENT	YES	NONE
TRINIDAD	YES	NONE
USVI	NO	

- Regionally there appears to be inconsistencies in requirements and in monitoring;

- [http://www.who.int/ith/chapters/ith2\\_012en\\_countrylist.pdf](http://www.who.int/ith/chapters/ith2_012en_countrylist.pdf)





# Vaccine Requirement has caused Confusion Among Visitors

- A combination of the language barrier and the lack of conformity in Yellow Fever Vaccine requirement among countries has caused confusion among visitors as our rules appear exceptional to them;
- Aruba and Curacao receive higher volumes of visitors from Latin America than Barbados so that they may offer examples of how best to handle this issue;
- Why can a Yellow Fever Vaccine Declaration Form not be utilized as a way of monitoring and identifying persons at risk.



# Conclusions

As standards and recommended practices are developed for dealing with the prevention of the spread of communicable diseases through air travel we would recommend the following.

1. Measures need to widely disseminated and discussed with stakeholders.
2. Restrictions and vaccine requirements need to be given the same prominence as visa requirements.
3. Preventative measures need to be both realistic and relevant.
4. Preventative measures need to be provided to travelers in their own language.

