

Aruba eNewsletter

WHAT THEY'RE SAYING ABOUT OUR
ISLAND!

Modern Bride

TOP 10 WORLD'S BEST
HONEYMOON SPOTS

**Calendar
of Events
2003**



**TRAVEL
+ LEISURE**
RATES OUR BEACHES

CARIBBEAN
TRAVEL & LIFE
RATES ARUBA'S
RESTAURANTS

PADU
MUSICIAN & MYSTIC
Learn about Aruba's most
well known patriot

**Top 10
Reasons**
Why Visitors Choose
Aruba



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Look What They're Saying About Our Island!

TRAVEL + LEISURE

DOS PLAYA, Aruba
Fronting a jagged, limestone coast that's perpetually awash in salty surf, this isolated sliver of sand has rolling dunes and Dr. Seuss-like cacti burrowed into the rocks. Leave your snorkel at the hotel - the waves are too wild for swimming - and watch the wind surfers from the safety of a picnic blanket

CARIBBEAN TRAVEL & LIFE

Aruba's native cuisine combines the influences of its Dutch heritage with island Creole, which yields such dishes as keshi yena, a spicy seafood or chicken stew topped with Gouda cheese. Madame Janette (011-297-587-0184), an alfresco eatery named after a locally grown chili pepper, pays homage to keshi yena with its shrimp casserole in a creamy mushroom sauce, topped with a Gouda and Gorgonzola melt.

Another outdoor restaurant, Papiamento (011-297-586-4544), which shares in moniker with Aruba's unofficial language, provides drama as well as flavor with Eduardo's seafood pot. It's served in a clay vessel you break at the table - lots of fun and good eatin' to boot. Open-air Nos Cunucu (011-297-582-7122) is genuine Aruban, right down to the daily specials scrawled on a chalkboard in Papiamento. Your waiter will translate the names of down-home dishes such as galina stoba (stewed chicken) with funchi, a polenta-like cornmeal side dish.

- Rich Rubin



Modern Bride

It's easy to see why Aruba is a perennial honeymoon favorite. The "A" in the ABC islands (the others are Bonaire and Curaçao) has long stretches of pure white sand kissed by cooling tradewinds, some of the Caribbean's best dining and a slew of nightlife options from hopping clubs to glitzy casinos (which helped it garner #4 for Best Places to Get Lucky and #10 for Wildest Places to Party). Solitude-lovers will find bliss in untouched wilderness and isolated beaches (Aruba ranks #6 for Best Bets for Beaching and #10 for Coolest Snorkeling / Diving Spots), where your only company is apt to be a curiously bent divi-divi-tree.



PADU

by Bea Broda Connolly

Learn about Aruba's most well-known patriot

Some of the world's well-known single-named celebrities are Cher, Madonna, Oprah, Jackie and Diana.

In Aruba, everyone knows the name Padu.

As an accomplished composer, musician, artist, author and parapsychologist, there is no question that this proud Aruban who is still active in his eighth decade has left a major mark on the island.

Most famous for having co-written Aruba's national anthem with another local legend, Rufo Wever, Padu's musical aspirations came at an early age. A musical atmosphere prevailed at home where the skillful piano playing of his dad, Henry Lampe, inspired both Padu and his two brothers who itched to join in. Together, they mixed and matched violins, quattros, weries (a steel instrument) and clarinets to create their own music. Playing completely by ear, Padu developed a personal style that was Caribbean flavored, combining all of the rhythms that got Arubans up on the dance floor,

from the tumba, waltz, danza and mazurka to meringue and salsa. Playing more piano as the years passed, Padu never hesitated to pick up any of the basic instruments whose rhythms and melodies he would stir up into traditional Aruban compositions of his own making

It wasn't until the 1950's that Padu's cousin, Casey Eman, acquired a tape recording machine that was pretty good for its time and insisted that all this good music be recorded for posterity. When Casey succumbed to cancer not long after, he left the tape recorder with its one microphone to Padu. This was all Padu and Rufo needed to motivate them to embark on a creative musical partnership that was to last until Rufo's death some 25 years ago.

Using Aruban folklore as a central theme, the duo went on to make 78's and LP's, although the technology to make an LP didn't arrive on the island until the late 1970's.

Although 80% of the music was instrumental, they made constant efforts to include lyrics in their compo-



sitions, eventually leading up to the writing of Aruba's national anthem. It wasn't their original intention to pen a national anthem, but rather a song that would stimulate a patriotic feeling about Aruba. Padu took his inspiration from Henry Eman, the grandfather of one of Aruba's Prime Ministers, as he was surrounded by vibrant people who were passionate about a movement called Separation that would take Aruba out of the group of the Dutch Antilles.

An "Aruba consciousness" was born, and Padu's and Rufo's composition became the natural song to choose for an anthem when independence was eventually achieved. Music was not Padu's only childhood influence. As a youngster, Padu looked around and clearly loved what he

saw, beginning a lifelong love affair with the canvas and brush. While a young teen he painted what he believed was the most typical of Aruban landscapes, including a man on a donkey, cactus and boulders. Around that time, a visitor came to the island with the goal of collecting 40 to 50 traditional art pieces from various countries for an international collection to be displayed at the New York World Fair in 1939!

Whereby earlier works featured distinctive Aruban scenes, current pieces are more abstract in nature, using calming color to engender serenity and well-being.

He is also the author of three books, two in the English language and one in Aruba's native Papiamentu, on the topics of Metaphysics and paranormal phenomena. "The Third Element," now in its second printing, teaches

**"The Third Element,"
now in its second
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meditate, live in harmony
with universal laws and
live life abundantly.**

es how to meditate, live in harmony with universal laws and live life abundantly. Given the philosophy and artistic contributions of the author, the book can be considered a highly reliable source. (Padu's books are available at bookstores in Aruba.)

A master of mixed media, Padu's first painting was brought together with business, his art is often exhibited along with his music, and he has a daughter who both plays piano and studied Psychopathology. (His wife passed away 15 years ago.) As well, Padu's music has been mixed with politics to inspire a pride in Aruba.



Padu Del Caribe

One of my favorite questions to ask Arubans, whom it is understandable to believe live in "paradise," is what they love most about Aruba, I wasn't at all surprised when Padu answered my question with the words he wrote for Aruba's National Anthem.

Aruba's National Anthem

Aruba Precious Country

Aruba beloved home
Our venerated cradle
Though small and simple you may be
You are indeed esteemed

Aruba our dear country
Our rock so well beloved
Our love for you is so strong
That nothing can destroy it

Your beaches so much admired
With palm trees all adored
Your coat of arms and flag
The symbols of our pride.



What's New in Aruba!

Restaurants

Chez Mathilde Online

One of Aruba's oldest, fine-dining restaurants has just unveiled their new website www.ChezMathilde.com.

The look and feel of this new, informative website reflects the atmosphere of the dining you'll experience at the "Maison Mathilde" - the only 19th century dwelling in the center of the city which has been kept entirely in its original state.

Their menus are now online and you can even make a reservation. It's definitely worth a visit.

King Ribs Reopens

After about two months of extensive building, King Ribs, Aruba's most famous King of the BBQ Grill is once again "at your service."

This place offers the best after-beach meal, to those who just want to munch on something different.

Alex, the owner, tapped

into Aruba's favorite meal and created the successful formula for King Ribs a few years ago, selling his popular BBQ Ribs and chicken combos out of his mom's garage.

As word spread, he had to expand and ended up in an empty lot on L.G. Smith Blvd. He expanded his menu, but kept the prices affordable, even when problems arose on the world meat market, he kept quality and food safety his priority.

This year, Alex decided it was time to expand and offer his clients a little more comfort and a nice eating and waiting place.

King Ribs is open from 11:00AM to 11:00 PM.



Entertainment

Aruba Panorama

In September 2003, visitors to Aruba will soon be able to experience a multi-screen presentation called, Aruba Panorama at the Crystal Casino theatre.

At a cost of US \$1.15 million, 5 screens - 66 feet wide and 10 feet high, curved at 115-degree angle will create a three dimensional-like view of Aruba. 5 cameras are currently filming the images that will be projected, and will be supported by an all-new, multi-channel, surround sound system.

The presentation will have a duration of 20 minutes and the showings are scheduled to take place every hour between 11:00 AM and 5:00 PM. The entrance fee will be \$10 per person.

Aruba's cultural and historical side are presented to both locals as well as the tourists visiting Aruba.



Singles Week in Aruba

The Holiday Inn Sunspree Resort is hosting Aruba's annual Singles Week.

The fun includes beach olympics, beach BBQ dinner, jeep safari, catamaran snorkel sail, various sports activities, night bar-hopping tour, elegant dining, salsa lessons/dining, gambling lessons, and more!

The cost is \$199/person. for this funfilled sun-drenched week for singles. Price includes full week of scheduled activities. Does not include room accommodations, transportation, applicable taxes or activities outside of the program. Call: 1-800-934-6750 for more details.



Hotels

Travel + Leisure Magazine Top Picks

Aruba has once again been recognized as having the world's best hotels. Travel + Leisure and Condé Nast both issued their "World's Best" issues in which Aruba received several mentions.

The Aruba Grand Beach Resort & Casino, Aruba Marriott and Hyatt Regency Aruba all were recognized.

La Cabana's Expands Culinary Offerings & Wedding Delights

Under the direction of Gerry Mans, the resort's food and beverage director, La Cabana has expanded its culinary offerings to include a seafood restaurant (E Piscado), a casual outdoor eatery (The Islander Grill), a popular and casual snack hut (Pizza & Pastabilities), a sushi bar (O-Sushi-Mi), an open-air tapas restaurant (Las Ramblas

Terrace), and an establishment serving international and local fare (The Captain's Table).

To enhance the wedding planning experience for the soon-to-be betrothed, La Cabana All Suite Beach Resort in Aruba has created a special "Weddings Made To Order" form that couples can complete with all they desire for their special day.

This form allows the bride and groom to select their choice of wedding ceremony locations, specifics for flowers, clothing requirements, photographer services, salon services, details of the reception, and any "after wedding" requests.

The form is available online at La Cabana's web site, www.lacabana.com/resort.

**Playa Linda Now Green Globe Certified**

Staff, management and the Green Team of the Playa Linda Beach Resort were in a jubilant mood after Mr. Ray Kirsten of the Green Globe Organization announced the resort be recommended for the prestigious Green Globe 21 Certification. This signifies that the resort has gained the distinction of being the first among Aruba's high-rise resorts to achieve the honor, having successfully been audited against Green Globe 21 requirements. The Palm Beach-based resort is now a member of the global family of environmentally friendly hotels that practice the "three R's" of Reducing, Re-Using and Recycling.



Events

The 10th Annual Aruba Reef Care Project

Aruba, an island devoted to preserving the environment, is once again showing its commitment to keep the island beautiful. For the 10th year in a row, the Aruba Tourism Authority is proud to host the annual Aruba Reef Care Project (ARCP), which will be held this year on July 5th and 6th. ARCP brings together local dive operators, individual groups, volunteers and visitors to clean up the island's beaches, dive sites and coral reefs.

"We are very happy to be celebrating the Reef Care Project's tenth anniversary. Every year, volunteers dedicated to maintaining Aruba clean and beautiful come together for the clean up. We hope to set an example for future generations so they will carry on this important tradition," said Marcial F. Ibarra, Aruba's director of tourism for North America.

As part of the Reef Care Project, volunteers also reach out to schools, giving lectures to an estimated 8,000 students collectively in the past 10 years. An exposition highlighting the ten-year history of the ARCP will be held from May 19 through June 13, 2003 at the public library, Biblioteca Nacional in Oranjestad.

This island wide event is open to the public. Each year, local dive operators, watersports companies, schools, hotel green teams and social organizations offer their time to help out. If interested in volunteering your time or participating in the Aruba Reef Care Project, please contact Sjeidy Feliciano or Castro Perez at 011-297-582-3777 ext. 235 & 239 or email at s.feliciano@aruba.com or c.perez@aruba.com.

**International Female Model Search 2003**

Aruba will host the world renowned model contest, International Female Model Search 2003, on June 29th. ATA, AHATA, American Airlines, Wyndham Aruba Resort, Radisson Aruba Resort, are among the mayor sponsors of the event.

Over 40 female models from all over the world; USA, Russia, Ukraine, Peru, Venezuela, Colombia, Brazil, Canada, Nigeria, Denmark, and Bahamas to name a few, will be present on the island from June 25th through June 30th to compete and meet with the world's top model agencies. Wilhelmina Model Management, Next Model Management, Ford Models, Request Models, Karin Models, and many more have already confirmed their presence in Aruba to be part of this grand model search.

The event, presented by international Aruban designer Ronchi De Cuba, will be an extravagant presentation of fashion, models, and Aruba's Carnaval.

E! Entertainment Television, Fashion TV, Despierta America, and many more international press will be present in Aruba to cover this wonderful event and to send images of Aruba to over 400 million homes across the globe in more than 140 different countries.

Hold on to your beach hats - Aruba will be the center of fashion, beauty, and entertainment for five exciting days!



Aruba Value Added Program 2003



As an added bonus to the purchase of your vacation package, you are entitled to receive an Aruba Value Card.

*Special conditions apply.



The following is a list of just some of the special offers!

Allegro Resort Dinner Show

- Free Bottle of Wine for two for any dinner show with entertainment.

*May not be combined with any other offer.

Aruba Gastronomic Association Restaurants

- 10% discount on the dinner Dine-Around Program.
- 10% discount on the 5- breakfasts or lunch plus 4-dinner plan.

Published rates subject to 10% discount.

3 Dinners \$109, 5 Dinners \$177, 7 Dinners \$245,
5 Breakfast or lunch plus 4 dinners \$214

Each coupon is good for a three-course dinner at the member restaurants, including appetizer, entree, dessert, coffee or tea.

Beverages and surcharges for more expensive starred menu items are not included.

For your convenience, your dine-around coupon is also accepted at our VIP restaurants, not for a three-course dinner but as a US\$ 36.00 value deducted from your total dinner check.

Atlantis Submarine

- 20% discount per couple on all dives. Only valid with direct reservations, based on space availability. Not valid with any other discounts or promotions.
- 10% off gift items from our Gift Shop.



Checkpoint Color

- 50% discount on all film development and printing at any Checkpoint Color photolabs. Locations at Certified Megamall, Mainstreet, Seaport Village Mall, and Playa Linda.

Colombian Emeralds

- Free 2 carat Blue Topaz with any purchase.
- Colombian Emeralds will mount this for free. Chain included. (While quantities last).

Crystal Casino

- Play US\$50 on slots and get one Let's Go Latin show ticket free (value \$37), or play US\$75 on slots and get two Let's Go Latin show tickets (value \$74).
- Present promotion I.D. card at the Players Center of Crystal Casino and register in order to participate in the promotion. Maximum two free show tickets per person. Not valid with any other promotion.



De Palm Tours

- 2 for 1 on the Palm Pleasure Snorkel Adventure, Palm Pleasure Sunset Sail, Half day Rover Off –Road Adventure, and Discover Aruba Island Tour.
- US\$10 discount per couple on any SNUBA or Sea-trek combo's. Activities may be booked at any of De Palm activities desk located in major hotels or at De Palm Pier. Not valid with any other promotion or discount.

Economy Car Rental

- 20% discount on any car or 4X4 rental. Valid drivers license and major credit card are required. Must be 25 years of age. Insurance not included. Not valid with any other promotion.

Jolly Pirates

- 20% discount on the Jolly Pirates three-stop snorkeling trips, sunset sail or starlit dinner cruise. Only offered with direct bookings. Not valid with any other discounts.

Kukoo Kunuku

- US\$ 10 off per couple. An evening adventure including dinner and bar-hopping through the countryside in a wild and wacky "paranda bus." Valid only on Monday and Friday night. Must book by direct reservations. Not valid with any other discounts or coupons.

L'Escale Restaurant

- Complimentary bottle of house wine with dinner at L'Escale Restaurant at Aruba Renaissance Beach Resort. Reservations required. Not valid with any other promotion or discounts.

Let's Go Latin Show at Crystal Theater

- US\$ 5 off per adult. The biggest and best stage production in the Caribbean with 26 performers and over 180 costumes. Must book by direct reservations, not valid with any other promotion. Discount only valid for tickets purchased at the box office at Crystal Theater.

Mi Dushi Sailing Adventures

- US\$ 10 off per couple. A fabulous day of gourmet meals and exotic drinks made with only premium name brand liquors. Great fun snorkeling and on the rope swing await you on the morning Taste of Aruba cruise. Bar and meals included in the price of the trip. Valid only on Monday and Friday mornings. Must book by direct reservations, not valid with any other discounts or coupons.

Okeanos Spa

- US\$ 10 discount on Okeanos Spa's signature outdoor couples massage packages on Renaissance Island. Enjoy a soothing massage on Aruba's most beautiful private beach. Advance reservations required at Okeanos Spa at Aruba Renaissance Beach Resort. Please note that this offer only applies to outdoor couples massage packages on Renaissance Island.

Pelican Adventures

- 15% discount on beginners scuba lessons.
 - 20% discount on sailing & snorkeling or sunset cruises.
- Not valid with any other promotion.

Pelican Nest Restaurant

- Free bottle of wine with the purchase of two 3-course dinners. Not valid with any other promotion.

Private Sailing, Boating and Fishing Charters

- 10% off private sailing, boating & fishing charters with the following participating vendors:



Private sailing & boating: Cat People, Wavedancer Watersports, Marcell's Watersports, Octopus Watersports, Tranquilo Charters Aruba, Windie's Watersports, Elegance at Sea, Roberto's Private Snorkeling.

Fishing Charters: Dorothy Deep Sea Fishing, Innes Watersports, J-String Charter, Mahi Mahi Fishing Charters, Marcel's Watersports, Melina Sportfishing, Rainbow Runner, Sweet Mary Charters, Teaser Charters.

Discount only valid for tickets purchased at the Aruba Visitor Information Center by Aruba Experts and are based on availability. This offer is not valid with any other discounts, coupons or special offers.

Rancho Notorious Horseback / "ATV" Tour

- US\$10 discount on horseback riding tour to: Beach

with snorkeling, Countryside and Alto Vista Chapel, Countryside and 2 beaches, or private tour on All Terrain Vehicle (ATV) "Quadracer" visiting 5 of Aruba's famous sites. Call direct for reservations. Not available with any other offer.

Red Sail Sports

- 25% discount on Sunset Sail.
- Not valid with other promotion.



Seaport Mall & Marketplace Discount Booklets

- Free discount booklets can be picked up at the information center located in Seaport Mall next to Gucci. Open from Mondays thru Saturdays from 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. Closed on Sundays. As long as supply last.

Seaworld Explorer

- 20% discount per couple on all dives. Only valid with direct reservations, based on space availability, not valid with any other discounts or promotions.

Tattoo Caribbean Party Cruise

- US\$ 10 off per couple. Aruba's premier dinner & dancing cruise includes buffet dinner, Aruba's most spacious dance floor and a \$ 1 bar or \$2 premium bar. Valid only on Tuesday and Wednesday night. Not valid with any other discounts or coupons.

Tierra del Sol "No Embarrassment" Golf Clinic

- Special price of US\$40 per person. Beverages not included, must make reservations and payment at the Golf Shop. Includes lunch.



*For new bookings only. Valid for travel until September 30, 2003. Ask for Aruba Value Card when you check into the hotel.

Calendar of Events

2003



Aruba

What's Happening in Aruba!



All Year Round

Bon Bini Festival

This year-round folkloric event is held every Tuesday night, from 6:30 8:30 p.m., at Fort Zoutman in Oranjestad. A small entrance fee applies.

June

June 24

DERA GAI (ST. JOHN'S DAY)

Special festive song, bright yellow and red costumes, and traditional dances surround the annual "Dera Gai" festival, celebrated on the day of Saint John the Baptist. Festival activities are held at various community centers.



June 28- July 6**ARUBA HI-WINDS (PKRA) WORLD CHALLENGE**

One of the most popular amateur competitions in the Caribbean happens here in Aruba with participation of over 30 countries. Windsurfers, depending on skill level and age, can compete in six different categories: men, women, juniors, masters, super masters and free style. Competitions are held off the beaches at Fisherman's Hut at Hadicurari.

Contact ATA Special Events at Tel: (297) 582-3777, Fax: (297) 583-7403, or visit www.aruba-hiwind.com for additional information.

**June 30****ARUBA'S 18TH INTERNATIONAL TRIATHLON**

Organized by the Aruba Triathlon Association, this triathlon is an international event with participation of 125 athletes. It consists of a 1.5 km swim, 40 km bike race and 10 km run.

For registration and more information contact Mr. Jesse Beukenboom at I.D.E.F.R.E., Tel: (297) 582-4987, Fax: (297) 583-6478, or E-mail: arubatriathlon@hotmail.com

July

July 4-5**HYUNDAI SPEED WEEKEND DRAGRACES**

A national point series event taking place at International Raceway Park Palo Marga in San Nicolas. Contact Roland Arends at Tel: (297) 584-0322, Fax: (297) 587-3884, E-mail draginaruba@hotmail.com or visit www.draginaruba.com for additional information.

July 5-6**10th ANNUAL ARUBA REEF CARE PROJECT**

This annual marine environment awareness campaign focuses on the preservation of clean underwater sites and beaches.

Contact the Aruba Tourism Authority at Tel: (297) 582-3777, Fax: (297) 583-7403 or E-mail: c.perez@aruba.com for additional information.

**July 4****15TH HEINEKEN MUSIC FESTIVAL**

Different bands from the Caribbean perform in this free concert at Don Elias Mansur Ballpark. For information contact Mr. Garcia at Tel: (297) 582-9093, Fax (297) 583-0778 or E-mail: garcias@setarnet.aw

July 13-20**7th YOUTH BOWLING INTERNATIONAL TOURNAMENT**

Event held at the Eagle Bowling Palace, Pos Abao. Participating countries are Puerto Rico, Venezuela, Curacao, USA, Sto. Domingo, Colombia, Costa Rica, Panama, Guatemala and Aruba. Contact Mr. Jacobo Arends at Tel: (297) 582-6443, Fax: (297) 583-6310 or E-mail: lillyputtersaruba@setranet.aw for additional information.

**August****August 19****Symphony of the Americas**

The Symphony of the Americas has pledged to take the leadership role in fostering cultural relations with all the Americas, initiating musical exchanges over three continents with an excellent European chamber orchestra as part of its Summerfest music festival.

August 24-26**ARUBA INTERNATIONAL PRO-AM GOLF TOURNAMENT**

Professional and amateur golfers team up in this 2-day, 36-hole tournament that includes gifts, prizes, special events and parties.

Contact ATA Special Events at Tel: (297) 582-3777, Fax: (297) 583-7403 or Tierra Del Sol at Tel: (297) 586-7800, Fax: (297) 586-4970, or E-mail tierra.rent@setarnet.aw

Aug. 29-30**TEXACO ONE COOL SUMMER INTERNATIONAL DRAGRACES**

Drag race qualifying competition takes place at the International Raceway Palo Marga. Contact Roland Arends at Tel: (297) 584-0322, Fax: (297) 587-3884 E-mail: draginaruba@hotmail.com or visit www.draginaruba.com for additional information.

September**Sept. 7-14****LATIN AMERICAN TENNIS CLUB CHALLENGE CUP**

Aruba Racquet Club hosts the Copa Aruba tournament with participation of players/members of clubs in Aruba and South America.

For additional information contact Mr. Humphrey at Tel: (297) 586-0215, Fax: (297) 586-0215 or E-mail arctennisclub@setarnet.aw or a.boekhoudt@aruba.com

Sept. 10-11**BMW GOLF TOURNAMENT**

Golfers team up in this 2-day 36-hole tournament that includes gifts and prizes for the winners.

Contact Tierra Del Sol at Tel: (297) 586-7800, Fax: (297) 586-4970, E-mail: tierra.rent@setarnet.aw or visit their web site www.tierradelsol.com

Sept. 18-23**INTERNATIONAL PAINTBALL COMPETITION**

An NPPL event, 5-man paintball teams will compete for points on world ranking. For additional information contact Mr. Jossito Mansur at Tel: (297) 582-6747, Fax: (297) 582-8551, www.arubaopen@aol.com or ATA Special Events at Tel: (297) 582-3777, Fax (297) 583-7403 or E-mail a.boekhoudt@aruba.com

Sept. 27**ARUBA'S CARIBBEAN FEST 2003**

Organized by the San Nicolas Business Association (SNBA) and featuring local and Caribbean acts in Joe Laveist Sport Park in San Nicolas.

Contact Mr. Hubert Redhead at Tel: (297) 584-0353, Fax: (297) 584-0369 or E-mail: tebulonv@setarnet.aw for additional information.

O c t o b e r**October 17-18****KLM OPEN TOURNAMENT**

Featuring international players from Latin America and USA.

Contact Tierra Del Sol at Tel: (297) 586-7800, Fax: (297) 586-4970 E-mail: tierra.rent@setarnet.aw or visit www.tierradelsol.com for additional information.

October 10-11**ARUBA MUSIC FESTIVAL**

Is the spectacular, star studded, two days international festival bringing renown R&B, Rock & Roll, and Latin musicians together for the spectacle of the year.

Headline acts include Crosby, Stills & Nash, Chicago, and more.

Contact ATA Special Events at Tel: (297) 582-3777, Fax: (297) 583-7403, E-mail: m.albus@aruba.com or www.aruba.com for additional information.

October 25-26**INTERNATIONAL DEEP SEA FISHING TOURNAMENT**

Annual championships held in October at the Aruba Nautical Club with participation of yachts from Venezuela, Miami, Puerto Rico, Curaçao, Bonaire and Aruba. Contact the Nautical Club at (297) 585-3022 for additional information.

**October 25-27****INTERNATIONAL TOUR OF ARUBA**

Cycling event organized yearly by the Aruba Cycling Federation Contact Mr. Reynaldo Macintosh at Tel: (297) 585-1952 or E-mail agnaldo@setarnet.aw for additional information.

Oct. 30-Nov. 1**CERBES BALASHI SUPER NATIONALS 2003 DRAGRACES**

International drag race event featuring competitors from the U.S., Puerto Rico, Venezuela, Curaçao, Bonaire, and St. Maarten. Takes place at International Raceway Palo Marga in San Nicolas.

Contact Roland Arends at Tel: (297) 584-0322, Fax: (297) 587-3884, E-mail: draginaruba@hotmail.com or visit www.draginaruba.com for additional information.

N o v e m b e r**November****ARUBA ROTARY GOLF TOURNAMENT**

Contact Tierra Del Sol at Tel: (297) 586-7800, Fax: (297) 586-4970 E-mail: tierra.rent@setarnet.aw or visit www.tierradelsol.com for additional information.

November 7-15**ARUBA INTERNATIONAL CATAMARAN REGATTA**

Celebrating its 13th anniversary, this annual international catamaran regatta decorates Aruba's turquoise waters with the colorful sails of catamarans from Europe, North & South America.

Contact ATA Special Events at Tel: (297) 582-3777, Fax: (297) 583-7403, E-mail: a.boekhoudt@aruba.com or visit the website www.arubaregatta.com

November 13-16**CENTRAL AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIP**

For the first time Aruba will be hosting in track and field a championship event. Sanctioned by the Central American and Caribbean Confederation.

Contact Mr. Harry Janssen at Tel: (297) 582-3886, Fax: (297) 583-1571 or E-mail: sportcaribe@yahoo.com

December

December 5**SAINT NICOLAS DAY**

Adults and children celebrate annually the birthday of Sinterklaas (Saint Nicolas) as he traditionally arrives, accompanied by his "Zwarte Pieten" (helpers) at the Paardenbaai Harbor in Oranjestad a few days just before his birthday to greet the children of Aruba and reward them with gifts for their good behavior during the year.

December 25**CHRISTMAS**

Official holiday

December 26**BOXING DAY**

Official holiday

**December 31****New Year's Eve**

The celebration to ring in 2004.



Trivia & Facts



Top Ten Reasons Why Visitors Choose Aruba

On Aruba.com we created a list of topics that asks what the visitors felt they enjoyed most about Aruba. From a poll of 15,000 people these are their choices.

1. The Weather	27.32%
2. People	19.09%
3. Hotels	13.32%
4. Languages	13.01%
5. Water Sports	7.28%
6. Fabulous Cuisine	6.48%
7. Customs/Clearance	5.64%
8. Land Activities	3.91%
9. New Airport	2.36%
10. Port of Call	1.58%

Did You Know?

This year marks the 50th anniversary for the Aruba Tourism Authority worldwide.



Aruba's most famous icon the Divi-Divi Tree points Southwest, because of the prevailing tradewinds from the Northeast. They can be used as a natural compass if you ever lose your way.



The aloe plant grows abundantly in Aruba because of the climate and soil. Noted for its high quality, aloe is to Aruba what wine is to French. Aruba's aloe oil is exported throughout the world and can be found in suntan lotions sold in most stores throughout Aruba.

Famous Arubans Abroad



Born: September 5, 1974, Santa Cruz, Aruba
Full Name: Calvin Gregory Maduro
Team: Los Angeles Dodgers
Position: Pitcher
Experience: 5 years



Born: November 2, 1976, Noord, Aruba
Full Name: Sidney Alton Ponson
Team: Baltimore Orioles
Position: Pitcher
Experience: 6 years

Version 1.2 arriving via the Internet soon... See you in Aruba!