

St. Lucia Cancels 2020 Jazz Festival in Wake of Coronavirus

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The Events Company of Saint Lucia and the Saint Lucia Tourism Authority (SLTA) on Friday announced the cancellation of the 2020 Jazz Festival, stating they've been closely monitoring recent developments concerning the spread of COVID-19, and the global health crisis it has created.

"There is unanimous agreement that the priority has to be the health and safety of our people, and having weighed all considerations, the Events Company of Saint Lucia and the Saint Lucia Tourism Authority decided to cancel this year's Jazz Festival," the entities said in a statement.

With the official statement on March 11 by the World Health Organization (WHO), that declared the coronavirus outbreak a pandemic, both agencies convened a meeting to take a hard and realistic look at the risks, versus the benefits of continuing with plans to host the Saint Lucia Jazz Festival, scheduled for May 7 - 9, 2020, according to a release by the St. Lucia Government.

The agencies also had discussions with the Chief Medical Officer and the Ministry of Health, so as to be guided by their expertise on this matter.

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