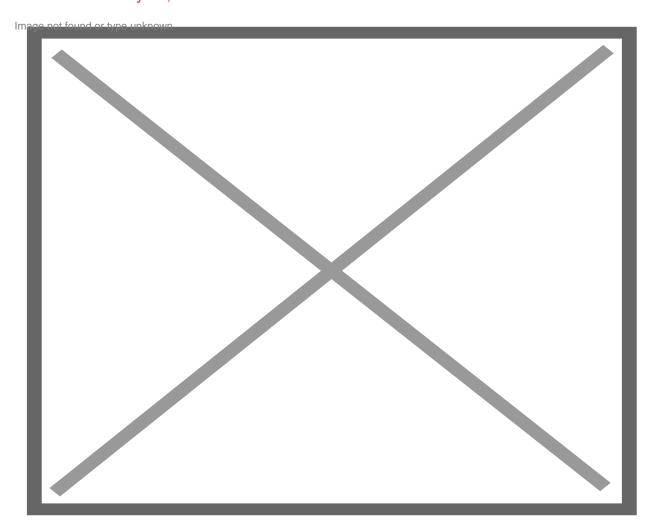
New Airline Connecting Dominican Republic and St. Croix Starts August 23

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A SkyHigh Dominicana aircraft.

SkyHigh Dominicana, the carrier which <u>commenced operations</u> at the Cyril E. King Airport in March, is bringing flights to St. Croix at the Henry E. Rohlsen Airport beginning August 23, the Consortium can confirm.

The new flights provide the island — whose Dominican Republic population is substantial — with a much-needed option to connect to DR, and it comes after the launch in St. Thomas, which has proven successful for SkyHigh.

The flights will be twice weekly, on Wednesdays and Saturdays on a 97-seater aircraft (the Embraer 190 plane), the Consortium has learned. When SkyHigh started operations in St. Thomas,

the airline used a 50-capacity aircraft as it was testing out the market.

V.I. Port Authority Executive Director Carlton Dowe, when reached for comment, said VIPA is always looking for new carriers to provide service to both islands, using incentives as enticement. "We're glad that they have decided to fly to St. Croix and we will continue to make incentives available to attract more flights," Mr. Dowe said. The executive director further stated that SkyHigh flights to and from St. Croix were in the discussion from the outset of negotiations with the carrier, so this latest development is welcomed news.

Reservations can be made through the airline's website, or by 809-591-4412.

The Director of SkyHigh Dominicana, Juan Chamizo, had expressed his enthusiasm for the St. Thomas route, sentiments that extend to St. Croix. "We are proud to bring these two amazing destinations closer with our new regular service," he said. "This is an important milestone for SkyHigh Dominicana, as it demonstrates our commitment to enhancing regional connectivity and promoting tourism between Santo Domingo" and the USVI.

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