



Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
Ministry of Tourism, Culture and the Arts

Levels 8 & 9, Tower C,
International Waterfront Complex,
1A Wrightson Road, Port of Spain,
Trinidad and Tobago

Phone: 624-1403
Fax: 624-6737

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MEDIA RELEASE

Trinidad and Tobago welcomes CARPHA's new tourism safety measures

Trinidad and Tobago is committed to providing a safe and healthy space for travellers as it navigates COVID-19 and prepares for the post pandemic world.

Minister of Tourism, Culture and the Arts, the Honourable Randall Mitchell told the regional launch of the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA) Caribbean Travellers Health Assurance Stamp and the Caribbean Travellers Health App that these two timely interventions underscores this country's assurance to its travellers.

CARPHA launched the stamp and app this morning as part of the agency's novel, innovative tools for tourism. The stamp, which is measurable and verifiable, is an assurance to travellers that the hospitality facility they are using qualifies as "healthier, safer, tourism," while the Healthier Safer Tourism (HST) awarded facilities will be listed on the app.

Minister Mitchell said that "...in our new normal, we must offer assurances that visitors' health and safety are paramount. Here in Trinidad and Tobago, we understand this, and the tourism, culture and the arts sectors are working with the Ministry of Health, CARPHA, and other relevant agencies to develop and roll out comprehensive plans for our stakeholders."

Chief Executive Officer and Director General of the Caribbean Hotel and Tourism Association (CHTA), Frank Comito who also spoke at the launch said a recent survey of travellers showed that 60 percent of the respondents identified, knowing and agreeing with the destination's management of the COVID-19 pandemic from a health perspective, as a top consideration when choosing a destination.

To date the Ministry of Health produced several health and safety guidelines for the reopening of the country's economy and Piarco International Airport and the A.N.R. Robinson International both achieved accreditation through the Airport Council International and the Airport Health Accreditation Programme.

Minister Mitchell said he is confident that stakeholders in Trinidad and Tobago will qualify for CARPHA's stamp and will be listed on the app.

"We at the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and the Arts stand ready to continue supporting these efforts as we navigate this pandemic and prepare our destinations for our post-COVID world," he said.

CARPHA collaborated with the Caribbean Tourism Organisation (CTO), the Caribbean Hotel and Tourism Association (CHTA), the Global Tourism Resilience and Crisis Management Centre (GTRCMC) and the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) to create the stamp and the app. The app is now available for download on the Apple Store and Google Play.

The virtual launch took place at the Hilton Trinidad Hotel and Conference Centre, St Ann's.



Minister of Tourism, Culture and the Arts the Honourable Randall Mitchell (left) receives a token of appreciation from the Director of Surveillance, Disease Prevention and Control at the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA), Dr Lisa Indar following this morning launch of CARPHA's Caribbean Travellers Health Assurance Stamp and the Caribbean Travellers Health App.



Minister of Tourism, Culture and the Arts the Honourable Randall Mitchell at the regional launch of the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA) Caribbean Travellers Health Assurance Stamp and the Caribbean Travellers Health App, which was held earlier this morning.