



Latin American and the Caribbean Climate Week 2022 Information Note

17 June 2022

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Introduction

Latin America and the Caribbean Climate Week 2022 (LACCW 2022) will be held from 18 to 22 July in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic.

LACCW 2022 is hosted by the Government of the Dominican Republic and organized by UN Climate Change in collaboration with global partners UN Development Programme, UN Environment Programme and the World Bank Group. Partners in the region include the Inter-American development Bank, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the Development Bank of Latin America.

The Climate Week is a platform for governments, cities, private sector leaders, financial institutions and civil society to discuss how to build forward by identifying opportunities to enhance climate action. The event brings together key stakeholders to take the pulse of climate action in the region, showcase solutions and explore challenges and opportunities.

Meeting Venue





El Embajador, a Royal Hideaway Hotel

Avenida Sarasota 65 Ensanche Bella Vista 10110 Santo Domingo Dominican Republic Website | Google Maps

Participant Registration

Registration for LACCW 2022 is free of charge. To register, visit the <u>LACCW 2022 webpage</u> and follow the instructions provided. Please note that registration before 17 July is highly recommended to avoid any delays accessing the conference venue. On-site registration will be available during the event with additional details to be provided when available.

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Air Travel to the Dominican Republic

Participants are responsible for their own travel bookings to Santo Domingo. For more information about travel arrangements, procedures and documentation, click <u>HERE</u>.

The Dominican Republic has seven international airports. Each one is strategically located on the coastline and near the country's most popular provinces and destinations.

Las Américas International Airport (SDQ) features good access to the LACCW 2022 venue and is recommended to all participants travelling to Santo Domingo.

It is the second busiest airport in the Dominican Republic and serves international destinations from around the world. With two terminals, numerous international airlines fly into and out of SDQ, including Delta, JetBlue, United, Aeromexico, and Spirit. At arrival, rental cars or taxis are available to drive to the city as there are no other public transport options.

Transportation

There are several options for LACCW 2022 participants to get around the island of Hispaniola, where the Dominican Republic is located. The Dominican Republic can be considered a relatively safe country, but special care should be taken in the capital, where personal security measures should be followed. Avoid travel in isolated and dark areas, do not to use transport services that are not clearly identified, take precautions when using ATMs outside banks, do not carry large amounts of cash, etc.

Taxi, Shuttle and Shared Van

There are several options for individuals and groups to hire a driver from the airport to the venue or hotels in the immediate area. It is recommended that services are arranged through a hotel, car service or major 24-hour taxi service companies. When making a reservation, you should ask the taxi phone operator to confirm the color of the car, estimated wait time and fare to your destination, as rates are set by taxi associations within cities. Many hotels offer a shuttle or can connect guests with a taxi or van service. Uber, Cabify and Didi are also available in major cities, including Santo Domingo.

Rental Car Service

All major car rental companies provide service at international airports, as well as in-city. To secure a vehicle at a good rate, book online ahead of your travel. To rent a vehicle, you must be 25 years of age or older and bring a valid drivers' license from your home country. Full insurance coverage is recommended, and you may consider adding the *Casa del Conductor* option, which ensures you are not immediately sent to jail in case of a serious accident injuring another party. Renting a car is useful if you're exploring the countryside or coastline, but In-city rentals are also available.

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Public Transportation

Santo Domingo features modern public transportation with buses and a metro, but please be aware there is no service to Las Américas International Airport or direct connection to the venue. OMSA buses and Metro Santo Domingo provide excellent ways to get around the city. It is best to ride buses or the Metro in groups of two or more.

Visas

All visitors preparing to enter the Dominican Republic are responsible for checking visa requirements and must have a valid passport for at least six months prior to date of entry. LACCW 2022 attendees should apply for a tourist visa, which can be issued for one or several entries. Any person, regardless of nationality, can visit Dominican Republic if they are a legal resident of or if they have a valid visa in their passport from one of the following: United States, Canada, United Kingdom or Schengen. Travelers who do not have a passport or visa from these countries or from other authorized countries need to apply for a visa, which requires a passport valid for at least six months.

The Dominican Ministry of Foreign Affairs is the institution that issues visas. A <u>Ministry chat line</u> is available in English and Spanish for visa questions or other issues. For all visitors arriving in the Dominican Republic, we suggest to check the <u>Go Dominican Republic website</u> for entry forms and other travel requirements.

Participants are strongly encouraged to submit visa applications well in advance of travel.

COVID-19 Measures

As of February 2022, all restrictive measures imposed by COVID-19 are suspended. It is up to each individual to take measures to safeguard their own health. Face masks, social distancing and vaccination cards are the responsibility of each individual.

The Dominican Republic has a robust health care system able to quickly detect cases of COVID-19 in the country. Please visit the Ministry of Public Health website for the latest on the coronavirus in Dominican Republic or download the COVID-RD mobile phone application, available on the App Store and Google Play. The app allows visitors to report their condition and access many services and information.

PCR Testing

The venue has a dedicated test center should you require testing during your stay in Santo Domingo. The cost per test is reasonable. You can also visit a clinic in Santo Domingo. Please visit the <u>Go Dominican Republic website</u> for a list of clinics where COVID-19 PCR and antigen tests are available, including locations, times and costs.

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Accommodations

Participants are responsible for their own hotel bookings and should directly contact the hotel of choice. Participants are also responsible for payment of their accommodation and any cancellation/no show fees, as applicable, according to hotel policies. A list of recommended hotels* near the venue is provided below with special event prices**.

HOTELS	COST (USD\$)	BOOKING LINK
Homewood Suites by Hilton Santo Domingo	\$139	Booking (code: KOS)
Embassy Suites by Hilton Santo Domingo	\$145-\$175	Booking (code: PK2)
Catalonia Santo Domingo	\$109-\$119	<u>Booking</u>
Crowne Plaza Santo Domingo	\$105-\$110	<u>Booking</u>
Holiday Inn Santo Domingo	\$110-\$115	<u>Booking</u>
Real Intercontinental Santo Domingo	\$215-\$230	<u>Booking</u>
Quality Real Aeropuerto Santo Domingo	\$85	Booking

^{*}Reservations may be subject to rooms availability. Prices may vary depending on the reservation. All hotels provided include a 28% hospitality tariff.

General Information for Santo Domingo

Currency and Forms of Payment

The currency of the Dominican Republic is the Dominican peso (RD\$). US dollars, Euros and travelers' cheques are easily exchanged. Only exchange money at banks or official exchange offices (casas de cambio).

ATMs are widely available from established banks, including Scotiabank and Banco Popular. They are safe to use for withdrawals in the local currency and provide good exchange rates. Choose an indoor ATM location and stick to daytime use.

Language

Spanish is the official language of the Dominican Republic.

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^{**}Other hotels are available near the venue without special pricing.

Climate and Weather

The Dominican Republic enjoys a tropical climate with the typical year-round warm and humid conditions associated with the Tropics. Seasonal mean temperatures range from 20-25°C in the winter months of December to February, to 25-32°C in the warmer months of June to August and September to November. The wet season occurs between May and November, during which most regions receive at least 100-200 mm per month.

Communications

SIM cards can be obtained through telecommunications providers such as Claro, Altice & Viva. To get a phone and internet connection, visitors need to go to a provider branch location with a copy of their passport. SIMS cards are available at Santo Domingo Las Américas International Airport (SDQ).

Telephone Country Code

The Dominican Republic international dialing codes are 1-809, 1-829, 1-849.

Time Zone

Dominican Republic observes **Atlantic Standard Time (GMT-4)** all year. Daylight-Saving Time is not observed and the Dominican Republic is GMT/UTC -4. During LACCW 2022, the time will align with the time in New York.

Electrical Appliances

For Dominican Republic there are two associated plug types, types A and B. Plug type A is the plug which has two flat parallel pins and plug type B is the plug which has two flat parallel pins and a grounding pin. Dominican Republic operates on 110V or 120V supply voltage and 60Hz.



In Case of Emergency

In case of an emergency, please dial 911.

We look forward to welcoming you in Santo Domingo!

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