BERMUDA
TOURISM AUTHORITY

# Q12016 Report

# Research & Business Intelligence Division

# During Q1 of 2016, the Research & Business (RBI) Intelligence Division accomplished the following:

- Assisted Executive team in setting objectives for 2016 and implemented measurements and monitoring tools to track performance against objectives.
- Conducted additional research amongst local residents to ensure alignment between visitors' and locals' expectations on Bermuda's beach experience as a part of the BTA's internal working group on beaches.
- Presented findings from the beach research and the Beach Vision to all pertinent stakeholders as well as the Economic Development Committee of Cabinet.
- Assisted Investment Division in creating cost/benefit model for hotel development incentives.

- Updated vacation rental inventory in Bermuda to include any new properties that have come into the market since mid-2015.
- Conducted ad hoc surveys and completed analysis on the following topics:
  - Restaurant Weeks People's Choice award
  - 2. Stakeholder survey on the next phase of the National Service Standards Program
  - 3. Stakeholder survey on map & brochure usage
  - 4. Hotel survey on America's Cup event weeks in 2017 to gauge availability, services that will be provided, etc. This will be repeated periodically.
- Continued to report monthly and quarterly on tourism KPIs (air/cruise/yacht arrivals, air service, visitor expenditure, visitor satisfaction, hotel performance, future projections)

## In addition, RBI continued the continued the following:

- Monitoring and providing analysis on air service to Bermuda:
  - 1. Monthly reports on capacity, load factors and route performance
  - 2. Stakeholder survey on air service capacity, routes, usage, etc.
  - 3. Analysis on potential new routes
  - Compiling future schedules for projections and use by staff, partners and stakeholders
- Monitoring online demand and conversion by geographic region and persona targets.
- Measuring Return on Investment of marketing initiatives by geographic region and specific campaigns.
- Assisting ACBDA Economic Impact sub-committee by becoming a member and providing inputs needed for calculating economic impact to Bermuda.

## RBI also continues to be involved in the development of:

- Programme for the Product Development Division to measure/track quality across the tourism chain vs. competitors.
- Features in CRM partner portal to enable stakeholders to input data and have access to industry reports.
- Online dashboard which will track all key metrics against targets for Sales & Marketing and Executive team.
- Pilot online cruise passenger survey to enhance information gathered to gain insight on habits, advertising exposure, potential conversion to/from air passengers, etc.

# Product & Experiences Division

# During Q1 of 2016, the Product & Experiences Division accomplished the following:

#### **Experiences Investment**

Roll out of BTA-supported experiences continued successfully through the first quarter 2016, covering arts/culture as well as sport, e.g.

- International Marathon Weekend Jan 13-15
- Bermuda Regional Bridge Championships Jan 23 30
- Bermuda Festival of the Performing Arts Jan 22- Mar 5
- Memorable Evening in Bermuda (Mark Twain dinner theatre at Verdmont Museum) –
   Jan Apr
- Bermuda Triangle Cup soccer tournament Mar 24 28
- Bermuda Triple Challenge Spartan race event Mar 18 20

**Experience Investment 2015**: Post experience reports for 2015 received as at end-quarter showed that ROI on BTA-supported events and experiences under this initiative generated over 3,600 visitors and 18,900 room nights directly.

## **Sports Tourism Strategy**

BTA's partnership with the National Sports Centre (NSC) is yielding positive results. Enquiries have increased and to date over a dozen sports teams have selected Bermuda for spring training under this initiative. We have also attracted new tournaments under the overall strategy, with high-quality first-time visitors, as well as increased registrations for existing and signature events, e.g.

#### NSC:

- Bermuda Ruby 7s 12 visiting colleges/universities, including Yale, Dartmouth; attracted over 190 visitors
- Danish Swim Team team included 15 Olympic Medalists and World Champions, who used NSC for training in preparation for 2016 Olympics in Rio
- SwimMac Carolina another group of world class accomplished swimmers came to the island for spring training at the NSC pool in March. The team included American Olympic gold medallist Cullen Jones, Zimbabwean Olympic gold medallist Kirsty Coventry, Bahamian Olympian Arianna Vanderpool-Wallace, and Bermuda's Olympian Roy Allan-Burch
- CAIS Women's Soccer 12 Canadian accredited schools confirmed in the quarter, comprising over 200 visitors

## **Sports Tourism Strategy**

## Sailing



#### **NEW REGATTAS:**

- RC44 Bermuda Cup Regatta took place from 2-6 March, with very positive feedback from the
  participating billionaire yacht owners and their professional crews. Participants and
  accompanying friends and family generated accommodation room nights and incremental
  business for restaurants and retailers at a traditionally soft tourism period. The RC44 class
  management, owners and crew all expressed the desire to return to Bermuda.
- M32 Series the Bermuda M32 Winter Series has been running successfully since January and will end in April. Feedback from crews and management to date reflects high satisfaction from both sailing and overall Bermuda experience perspectives.
- Antigua to Bermuda Classic confirmed to take place in April 2017, right after Antigua Sailing Week. This race will take advantage of yacht repositioning activity that has traditionally bypassed Bermuda. Response through Q1 since the launch announcement has been very active, with over 30 boats already registered. Local sloop Spirit of Bermuda will participate, as well as the replica yacht America from the America's Cup.
- Viper North American Championships set for 16-19 November 2016, Q1 recorded 50 boats already registered for the event. This event is anticipated to be the largest one design keel boat regatta held in Bermuda.

## **Sports Tourism Strategy**

## Sailing (con't)

**Existing Regattas:** Key regattas also reported significant increased applications and registrations through the quarter, e.g.

- Annapolis to Bermuda as at March 1, 33 confirmed entries an increase of 83% over 2015
- Newport to Bermuda 180 confirmed participants, well on track to the 200 target

#### Golf

The 63<sup>rd</sup> Goodwill Golf Tournament and Grey Goose Par 3 tournament both took place successfully. The Goodwill Tournament attracted 41 teams, a total of 160 players. Grey Goose met its target of 152 players – 120 from overseas – achieving a sell-out for the event.



## **Cruise Ship Strategy Developments**

## Including America's Cup (AC)

Industry outreach and business development – BTA conducted meetings with existing and potential cruise line partners at the SeaTrade Conference, from 14-16 March in Fort Lauderdale. The Bermuda team comprised the Chief Operating Officer of the America's Cup Events Authority in addition to senior leadership from the BTA.

Meeting participants included Royal Caribbean, Norwegian Cruise Line, Celebrity Cruises and Silversea. We also met with various port authority personnel, including from New York and Charleston. Discussions included the potential to establish AC cruise itineraries around the event.

We also continued to explore the possibility of a cruise ship charter for the AC period as a "floating hotel" with industry representatives.

## **Hub 1 Cultural Tourism Initiative**

The Hub 1 Steering Committee has appointed Kristin White as Hub 1 Cultural Tourism Manager. This appointment will drive implementation of the Hub 1 cultural tourism plan.

Action is already underway under the plan, including a schedule of events to drive visitation into St. George's and St. David's; a new website specifically promoting St. David's and St. George's experiences and features; and a new marketing programme. An electronic newsletter and a major new event "Signature St. George's" – highlighting facilities, retailers and support for events and destination weddings – were both launched during the quarter. These aspects of the plan are being activated alongside ongoing initiatives to enhance tourism products in the Hub short-, medium- and long-term.

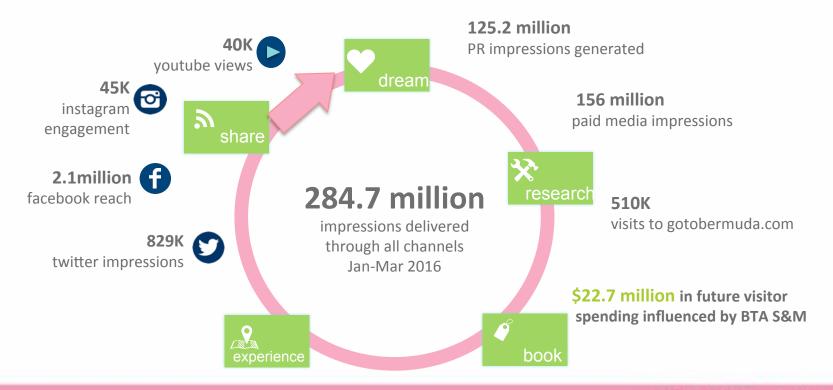


# Sales & Marketing Snapshot

## Travel, Roomnights & Group Dashboard

KEY METRICS	YTD 2016 ACTUAL	2016 GOAL	% OF GOAL YTD
Total Visitor Spending Influenced by BTA	\$ 22,745,526.62	\$47,773,975.57	58%
Total Room Nights Influenced by BTA	34,748	91,909	38%
Total Leisure Room Nights	30,571	51,919	59%
Total Group Room Nights	4,033	25,866	16%

## **2016 YTD Marketing Snapshot**



# Sales & Event Engagement

# Events & Engagement

Event Name	Location	Start Date	<b>End Date</b>	Type
Incentive Leadership Summit	Mexico	01/05/16	01/09/16	Group
London Boat Show & Top 100	London	01/08/16	01/10/16	Consumer
PINK SALE	Bermuda	01/08/16	01/25/16	Consumer
Chicago Boat/RV Show	Chicago, IL	01/16/16	01/17/16	Consumer
Chicago Yacht Club	Chicago, IL	01/17/16	01/17/16	Consumer
Destination Wedding & Honeymoon Showcase	Beverly Hills, CA	01/18/16	01/18/16	Group
American Society of Mechanical Engineers - Site Visit	Bermuda	01/19/16	01/21/16	Group
Caribbean Travel Marketplace (CHTA)	Bahamas	01/21/16	01/23/16	Leisure
Hoffman Media Photo Shoot	Bermuda	01/23/16	01/30/16	Media
Educational Travel Community Conference	St. Louis Missouri	01/24/16	01/27/16	Leisure
Virtuoso Forum Welcome Cocktail Reception and Networking	NY, NY	01/27/16	01/27/16	Leisure
La Nuit en Rose NYC	NYC	02/03/16	02/06/16	Consumer
Global Institute for Travel Entrepreneurs	Charlotte, NC	02/04/16	02/04/16	Leisure
Bayview Yacht Club	Detroit, MI	02/04/16	02/04/16	Consumer
LVACWS Oman	Oman	02/05/16	02/07/16	Consumer
Lake Lanier Sailing Club	Atlanta, GA	02/09/16	02/09/16	Consumer
Destination & Travel Foundation Dinner	Washington, DC	02/09/16	02/09/16	Group
BIT	Italy	02/11/16	02/13/16	Leisure
Bikabout Site Visit	Bermuda	02/15/16	02/20/16	Group
Metropolitan Golf Expo	Secaucus, NJ	02/19/16	02/21/16	Consumer

# Events & Engagement

Toronto Golf Show	Toronto, ON	02/19/16	02/21/16	Consumer
Virtuoso Travel Week - US Midwest	Chicago/Cincinnati	02/22/16	02/25/16	Leisure
Air Canada National Sales Meeting	Toronto, ON	02/23/16	02/23/16	Leisure
NYSAE MeetNY	New York, NY	03/02/16	03/02/16	Group
Social Group Sales Calls	Miami, FL	03/02/16	03/04/16	Group
Outdoor Gym Press Trip (RC 44)	Bermuda	03/02/16	03/06/16	Media
La Nuit en Rose Event	Miami, FL	03/04/16	03/06/16	Consumer
National Golf Expo Boston & Sales Events	Boston, MA	03/04/16	03/06/16	Consumer
Virtuoso Travel Week - Southeast	Richmond/Raleigh/Atlanta	03/07/16	03/09/16	Leisure
Boston Press Event	Boston, Ma	03/08/16	03/08/16	Media
ALHI Client Event - Maryland & Virginia	Baltimore/Annapolis	03/09/16	03/09/16	Group
California Yacht Club	Los Angeles, CA	03/09/16	03/09/16	Consumer
ALHI WDC Tradeshow & Reception	Washington, DC	03/10/16	03/10/16	Group
Northwest Maritime Center & Wooden Boat Foundation	Whidbey Island, Washington	03/19/16	03/19/16	Consumer
Travel Bulletin Roadshow	Newcastle, UK	03/22/16	03/22/16	Leisure
GoGo Vacations Canada	Toronto	03/22/16	03/22/16	Trade
The Globe/Filming of Tempest Soliloquies	Bermuda	03/22/16	03/24/16	Media
Mimi Slalow/LA Parent/Individual Press Trip	Bermuda	03/28/16	03/31/16	Media

## Sales Engagement Highlights

- Leveraged relationship with NYSAE and received comp booth at NYSAE Meet NY annual event March 2, 2016
  - Showcased Bermuda to more than 150 prospective association & corporate clients, making connections for future group sales activities.
- Seeing is believing Bermuda Site Visit results:
  - ACOG American College of OBYGN December/Client confirmed Fairmont

     Southampton /337 room nights (mid January)
  - ASME American Society of Mechanical Engineers - January/Client confirmed Hamilton Princess/III room nights (end February)



# Sales Engagement Highlights

#### **Bikabout**

- Hosted a site to introduce a new partner to the island for groups or leisure visitors
   February 15 - 20, 2016
- Bermuda became their Ist "Non USA" destination to be placed on Bikabout's website
- Bikabout travel guide created for Bermuda
- Currently partnering to develop a folding pocket map with various bike routes: low stress, scenic, etc. In addition to rental outfitters, eats, and attractions.



# Trade Engagement Highlights

#### **Virtuoso Travel Week Tours:**

Continued partnership with
Virtuoso by educating more than 175
key travel agents during 1 to 1
meetings in both of their multicity
tours:

Mid-West (February 23 - 25)
South East (March 7 - 9)



# Trade Engagement Highlights

- Exhibited at the Global Institute for Travel Entrepreneurs (GIFTE) trade show in Charlotte, NC February 4<sup>th</sup>
- Opportunity to network, and engage with more than 150 trBermuda's offeringsavel experts on





## **Event Engagement Highlights**

## La Nuit en Rose

- February 3 6: NYC Garden
   Party with more than 1500
   attendees
- March 4 6: Miami exclusive dinner for 40 with more than 800 attendees at the multi day events



Instagram

bermuda

# **Co-op Marketing**

#### **TOUR OPERATOR FLYERS:**

- Hotelplan The Reefs / Cambridge Beaches
- Naar T/O Coco Reef, Grotto Bay, The Reefs, Cambridge Beaches, Elk
- La Fabbrica Dei Sogni Cambridge Beaches, Grotto Bay
- American World Grotto Bay/The Reefs

These flyers are posted in our website www.gotobermuda.lt

In addition, the above tour operators mailed a combined total of 17,100 flyers to their travel agent database



a fabbrica dei sogni

## **Co-op Marketing**

#### **TOUR OPERATORS FLYERS:**

Karisma travelnet - New York/Bermuda Alidays - New York/Coco Reefs Bermuda I Viaggi del Toghiro - Alaska & Bermuda

These flyers are posted in our website Www.Gotobermuda.lt



# **Trade Fair**

- Over 1500 brochures were distributed during the fair over three days
- 25 bloggers came to see us
- Trade media as well as freelance journalists were invited to meet with us
- Tour operators: hotelplan, press tours, best tours, la fabbrica dei sogni, alidays met with us at set appointments at our stand
- Approx. 400 travel agencies met with us
- Live podcast interviews were recorded as well as a brief interview for the bit television



## **Events**

- Golf event held at green club lainate to present bermuda as the ideal golf destination to 140 players
- Invited to do presentation at bogogno golf club to their members - 90 golfers attended.



# Paid Media & Partner Marketing

# Media Report

# 21 Overview & Highlights

- Q1 integrated media programs attained more than 156 million gross impressions
- Garnered a total of 211,814 digital media web visits and 1,133,986 non-web engagements for the quarter
- CTR increased to .33% for Q1, and compares favorably to the industry standard of .05 - .15% CTR
- Total engagements already 33% of total last year, through March 2016
- Key focus on non-stop markets including New York & Boston with increased exposure in print for retail focused pink sale efforts as well as OOH and digital
- Cost per engagement at \$0.47
- Significant increases in Trip Advisor sponsorship page traffic from premium sponsorship - 200% increase over Q4
- 2,141 flights and 47 hotel nights booked as reported from Adara Impact

# Q1 Media Highlights

**TIMING** 

Heavy media in January for Pink Sale to create demand early in the year with increases in bookings YoY

**MESSAGING** 

Rolled out new Bermuda branding with new look and feel. Continue to test versions for best performance

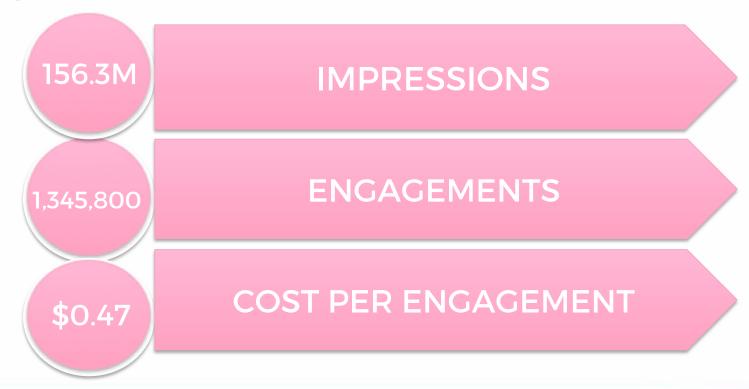
TRAVEL ENDEMIC PLATFORMS

Secured integrated campaigns with Afar, Travel + Leisure, New Yorker, NYMag, NYTimes

**CUSTOM SOLUTIONS** 

Tasting Table custom content, dynamic creative for market specific messaging & increased video efforts for brand awareness. Layered in new Adara Impact to understand economic impact tied to media

# Q1 Total Metrics



# **Brand Overview**

#### **Campaign Details**

 Create a new brand identity to bring Bermuda into the conversation and get people to think differently about Bermuda. The new brand will connect with the audience emotionally and will inspire a vacation to Bermuda.

#### **Targeting Tactics:**

- Geo Targeting: Boston, NYC, DC, Chicago, Philadelphia, Toronto & Atlanta
- Age: 25+, HHI \$100k+
- Active searches to Bermuda + comp set, Behavioral + Contextual targeting, retargeting and prospecting for new visitors

### **Strategies:**

- Media mix includes OOH, digital (email, display, social) magazine and newspaper
- Blend broad reach retail newsprint & OOH with targeted digital to maximize reach and efficiency

#### Goal

Increase air arrivals and economic impact on island, particularly in paid accommodations

# Q1 Brand Results

- 69.8MM impressions (digital + offline)
- 793,966 engagements (62,642 web visits, 731,324 non web engagements)
- \$0.29 cost per engagement
- 2,755 Signals of intent; click to book
- 442 leads; request for more info
- Sites include:
  - Adara
  - Afar
  - Sojern
  - Kayak
  - National Geo
  - Tasting Table



# **Pink Sale Overview**

#### **CAMPAIGN DETAILS:**

- Booking window Jan 8- Feb 1 (extended past initial Jan 25 date)
- Travel window Jan 8- April 30, Sept 7- Dec 31st

#### **TARGETING TACTICS:**

- Geo Targeting: Boston, NYC, DC, Chicago, Philadelphia, Toronto & Atlanta
- Age: 25+, HHI \$100k+
- Active searches to Bermuda + comp set

#### STRATEGIES:

- Combine tactics to increase impact of targeted digital messaging
- Program includes pricing, OOH, digital (email, display, social)
- Blend broad reach retail newsprint & OOH with targeted digital to maximize reach and efficiency
- Dynamic creative based on 30 degree temp difference from market and Bermuda Active searches to Bermuda + comp set

#### **PINK SALE RESULTS:**

- 62 MM impressions (digital & offline)
- 529,158 engagements (136,496 web visits, 402,662 non web engagements)
- \$0.49 cost per engagement
- 14,780 Signals of intent; click to book
- 127 leads; request for more info





## **Pink Sale Performance**

KEY METRICS	2016 YTD	2015 ACTUAL	% Δ Growth From 2015	2014 ACTUAL	% Δ Growth From 2014
Website Sessions	171,857	199,739	-14%	88,628	125%
Pink Sale Page Sessions	92,396	132,172	-30%	43,701	202%
Exit Link Clicks (to hotel partners)	N/A	11,552	N/A	6,084	90%
Total Reservations	4,428	1,667	166%	1,149	45%
Room Nights	19,900	6,895	189%	5,552	24%
Direct Visitor Spending	\$8.8 million	\$4.2 million	110%	\$3.3 million	24%
ROI	16:1	16:1		13:1	

## Airline Co-op Programme Overview

- 24,358,013 impressions
- 12,676 airline page visits
- Continue to promote direct flights to Bermuda with key air partners
  - o Air Canada
  - o Delta
  - o Jetblue
  - United
  - WestJet
- Create custom programmes to increase sales & flight lift in key markets by airline
- Partner with air service providers to drive traffic to custom Bermuda destination pages within airline booking back to enhance engagement and conversion

## OTA Programme Overview & Highlights

- Maintain and expand upon partnerships with key OTAs and travel-endemic channels
  - Expedia
  - Orbitz
  - TripAdvisor
- 33,395 Impressions across Expedia Inc, click off back to GoToBermuda.com
- 2.1 MM impressions on Trip Advisor for brand efforts
- Create programs that enable year-round presence with seasonally appropriate messaging
- Launching new first to market dynamic ads powered by nSight data
- Testing dedicated email offerings via Pink Sale to Expedia database
- Continued beta test partner for new Destination Sponsorship pages, initial results show a 200% increase in page views from Q4

## ADARA IMPACT

**MARCH DATA** 

## Q1 ADARA IMPACT

### TRAVEL TYPE SUMMARY

Activity	January	February	March
Flight Searches	44,694	13,397	40,163
Hotel Searches	18,471	13,752	18,777
Flight Bookings	647	263	1,231
Hotel Bookings	25	12	10

# Website, SEM, SEO & Analytics

## Web Metrics



Web traffic was down 28% in Q1 YOY, and organic and paid search traffic was up. The decrease in site traffic is due to a decrease in Global Display Network (GDN) Advertising.

2015 Q1 Overall Site Bounce: 56.63% 2016 Q1 Overall Site Bounce: 53.50%

\*2015 bounce rate increase coincides with when GDN started running

### **POPULAR LANDING PAGES**

/pinksale-int – 27.58% of traffic

Homepage – 21.50% of traffic

/emailsignup.aspx – 4.86% of traffic

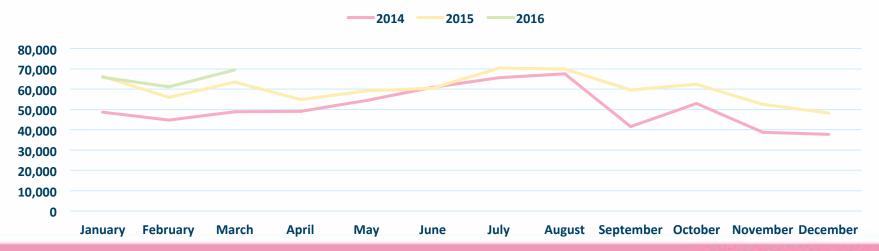
/about-bermuda/our-island/ - 4.29% of traffic

/where-to-stay/ - 4.12% of traffic



## **Total Search Traffic**

- Total Search Traffic consists of Organic Search, Paid Search, Referrals from Google.com and 50% of Direct traffic based on Industry Research\*
- YTD growth of 6% for Total Search Traffic to the website
- 10% YOY growth in March 2016



## Google Rank Improvements

 The number of keywords the site ranks on Page 1 of Google has increased 68% or more than 500 keywords YOY

	March 2016	March 2015	YoY Change
Ranked on Page 1	1,281	762	+68%
Ranked on Page 2	589	424	+39%
Ranked on Page 3	394	225	+75%
Ranked on Pages 4-10	2,453	1,304	+88%

## Google Rank Improvements

Sample of high-volume keywords that moved into Page 1 YOY

Keyword	Blended Rank March 2016	Rank Change vs March 2015		Search Volume	Category
pink sale	10	+91	www.gotobermuda.com/travel-deals/	8,100	Regular Web Listing
hamilton bermuda	8	+93	www.gotobermuda.com/HubPage/CityOfHamilton/	3,600	Regular Web Listing
where is bermuda	5	+96	www.gotobermuda.com/about-bermuda/our-island/	2,400	Regular Web Listing
flights to bermuda	9	+92	www.gotobermuda.com/get-here/travel-basics/	1,900	Regular Web Listing
bermuda beaches	2	+99	www.gotobermuda.com/what-to-do/beaches/	1,300	Images
coco reef bermuda	6	+95	www.gotobermuda.com/where-to-stay/Coco-Reef-Bermuda/	720	Regular Web Listing
st george bermuda	6	+95	www.gotobermuda.com/StGeorge/	590	Regular Web Listing
what to do in bermuda	4	+97	www.gotobermuda.com/what-to-do/activities/	590	Regular Web Listing
royal naval dockyard bermuda	6	+95	www.gotobermuda.com/Royal-Naval-Dockyard/	480	Regular Web Listing
royal naval dockyard bermuda	10	+91	www.gotobermuda.com/Royal-Naval-Dockyard/	480	Images
america's cup bermuda	5	+96	www.gotobermuda.com/The-35th-Americas-Cup/	390	Regular Web Listing
bermuda golf courses	4	+97	www.gotobermuda.com/what-to-do/golf/	320	Regular Web Listing
crystal caves bermuda	8	+93	www.gotobermuda.com/Crystal-Caves/	320	Regular Web Listing
horseshoe bay beach	12	+89	www.gotobermuda.com/Horseshoe_Bay_Beach/	260	Regular Web Listing
christmas in bermuda	1	+100	www.gotobermuda.com/christmas-in-bermuda/	170	Regular Web Listing





## **2016 Bermuda Events**

- New events page launched in early February
- 3,000 page views since launch

## SEM Performance in Q1

• In Q1, SEM campaigns delivered a total of 96,144 clicks, with an average CPC of \$1.20 & a CTR of 1.91%. Total spend for the quarter was \$115,026.24, with 17,354 total conversions.

Month	Impressions	Clicks	CTR	CPC	Spend	Avg Pos.	Conversions
Jan	1,683,288	32,954	1.96%	\$ 1.18	\$ 38,731.11	1.6	4,541
Feb	1,825,601	33,100	1.81%	\$ 1.23	\$ 40,638.13	1.5	5,811
Mar	1,524,388	30,090	1.97%	\$ 1.19	\$ 35,657.00	1.5	7,002
Total	5,033,277	96,144	1.91%	\$ 1.20	\$ 115,026.24	1.5	17,354

- Bounce Rate for Q1 was 41%
  - down from the previous quarter of 44%, & down YoY from 48%
  - Industry goal we aim for is 45% or below
- CTR has grown YoY from 0.95% to now 1.91%

# Campaign Performance in Q1

**New Campaigns live in** Q1

- Pink Sale
- Warm Weather
- Seasonal Events
- Zika Free Vacation





# Google Ads & Banners in Q1

### Bermuda Beach Resort

Search All-Inclusive Resort Deals. Book Your Vacation Today And Save! www.gotobermuda.com

### Beautiful Bermuda Island

Make The Best Of Paradise. Visit Official Site For Deals & Specials! www.gotobermuda.com

### Stunning Bermuda Resorts

All-Inclusive Packages And Deals. Book Your Stay Today And Save! www.gotobermuda.com





### Things to Do in Bermuda

Official Site: View Our List of 21 Free and Affordable Things to Do! www.gotobermuda.com





## eNewsletters & Performance

## eNewsletter Overview

PERFORMANCE AND INSIGHTS

## Overview & Highlights

### **Q1 2016 ENEWSLETTERS**

### Template Changes

- In January, updated Constant Contact email template to incorporate the new brand look.
- In March, introduced new, responsive template and started sending through ExactTarget.

### Content Updates

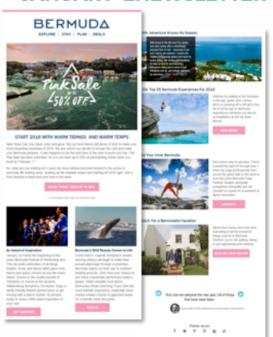
- In addition to revising the template over Q1 2016, we have also added in a few different content areas to use within monthly eNewsletters.
- In February, we introduced the "Upcoming Events" section and have updated it in March with the new creative. This will feature 2 upcoming events in the Bermuda area to get subscribers more familiar with what is going on in the area.
- We now have the ability to add in featured social media content as a part of the new template. We will start testing this in April.

### Monthly Results Recap

- January had the highest open rate (15.7%) compared to the other two months. This is attributed to the Pink Sale hero section.
- March had the highest click-to-open rate (17.9%), increasing month-over-month by 10% and surpassing the highest Pink Sale CTO Rate by .9%. This was the first month we used the new responsive template which seemed to attract more of our openers to click-through.

## Q1 2016 eNewsletters

### **JANUARY ENEWSLETTER**



### **FEBRUARY ENEWSLETTER**



### MARCH ENEWSLETTER



# Q1 Newsletters

## JANUARY TRADE NEWSLETTER PERFORMANCE

 eNewsletter targeted towards travel trade (meetings, incentive and agents) to showcase new developments and experiences on island

Distribution: 4,911

Open Rate: 14.5%

CTR: 4.8%

### BERMUDA





#### LIFE IS BETTER IN PINK

Bermuda': Pink Sale offers visitors 50% off of one of 14 participating hotels. Only eligible
when booked now through February 1, 2016, Bermuda's Rink Sale is valid for travel through
April 30, 2016 and September 7 to December 31, 2016. Offers can be booked through
participating hotels or through travel professionals. (Nates commissionable by hotel.)

### **BERMUDA BUZZ**

- Starting February 11, 2016, American Afrines will add six flights a week between New York's JFC airport and LF. Wade International airport to their schedule, giving visitors more convenient access to Bermuda.
- United Airlines is offering non-stop service between Bermuda and Newark throughout the winter. The airline will operate flights every Monday, Wednesday and Friday.
- Bermuda's will beauty comes to life in springtime, when majoric homoback whales
  make their annual arrival to our contail variety. For the chance to see these charismatic
  performens up-close, briand flour Centre makes booking a whole variety going with
  an array of other excursions and activities in Bermuda, a breeze. When booking tours for
  clients, please ask an ideal flour Centre representative about commissionable ratios.
- Inversel's Executive Suites recently re-opened following a complete remodel of the entire geogety. Specifically catering to corporate and business travellers, one-bedroom suites now feature a fully equipped kitchen, walk-in closet, separate living and dining rooms and a private balcons.

# Q1 Newsletters

## MARCH TRADE NEWSLETTER PERFORMANCE

Distribution: 4,887

Open Rate: 15.3%

• CTR: 5.8%

### BERMUDA





### RITZ-CARLTON RESERVE COMING TO BERMUDA IN 2018

• The Bermuda-based real estate company Morgan's Point Ltd, announced its plans for Caroline lay, a development on the island's west end with a 78-noom fitt-Caritan Reserve, residences, restaurants, high-end retail shops and a mega-yacht markina. Located in an area of historical significance on the western end of Bermuda, the site offers over 2.5 miles of shoreline and includes an expansive peninsula extending into the Great Sound. The property will operate under a long term management agreement with George's Bay Hotel Ltd. and George's Bay Residences Ltd. Construction for the project has already started and is expected to be completed in 2018. The Sales Center for The Ritz-Cariton Residences will be open on-site in June 2016 and the first building of Ritz-Cariton Residences are slated for completion in April 2017, Renderings from 38 Architects.

#### **BERMUDA BUZZ**

- Mosedon Hotel announced it has been accepted as Silven-level GreenLeader into the TripAdvisor\* GreenLeaders\* gregorem, which helps traveliers around the world plan greener trips by highlighting hotels engaging in environmentally friendly practices. The property has also completed renovations on their Deluse room category.
- In April, Cambridge Bosches Resort 8, Sos will introduce 10 newly renewated rooms, featuring new bathrooms, soft goods, outdoor furniture and interior furniture. This fell, an additional 10 refurnitured rooms will be unveiled.



# Pink Sale Email Recap

**INTERNAL DATABASE EMAIL DEPLOYMENTS** 

#### DIRECT EMAILING

### TOUR OPERATORS' FLYERS CONTAINING SPECIAL OFFERS AND BDOT/RESORTS PROMOTIONS SENT TO OUR DATABASE OF TRAVEL AGENTS

AND CONSUMER (OVER 7.500 CONTACTS) http://www.gotobermuda.it/travel-deals/?utm\_source=newsletter&utm\_medium=email&utm\_campaign=travel-deals#offerte









## Promotions & PR

### YTD COVERAGE SNAPSHOT

Number of Articles: 37

Impressions: 111,702,435

Media Cost: \$2,201,127

Average Score: 80



Robb Report – February 2016 Issue: America's Cup

WORTH MAGAZINE – February 2016 issue: *America's Cup* 



Canadian Yachting – January 25, 2016: Gosling's Rum





Bloomberg.com – February 2, 2016: *Destination Feature* 



Wall Street Journal and WSJ.com -March 19, 2016: Destination Feature

### A Bermuda Vacation: More Family-Friendly Than You'd Think

This prim-and-proper island may seem an unlikely choice for a spring-break getaway with the kids, but it's surprisingly easy and full of strategic distractions



AN ISLAND KNOWN for exclusive golf clubs, rum swizzles and insurance executives may not seem like the ideal destination for a family with three young children under 9. But Bermuda, as my wife and I recently discovered over spring break, is as practical as it is picturesque-especially during the off season, November through March, when crowds have thinned and you can snag a deal on a hotel room big enough for your brood.



WestJet Magazine - February 2, 2016: Dark 'N Stormy

### **UPCOMING COVERAGE HIGHLIGHTS**

- AAA Travelers Worldwide April 2016 (Destination)
- LA Parent May Issue
- WestJet Magazine May Issue
- AAA Northeast (Destination):
  - Rhode Island May 2016
  - Connecticut May 2016
  - Massachusetts May 2016
  - New Jersey May 2016
- Recommend June 2016 (Honeymoons)
- Destination Weddings & Honeymoons June/July (Cocktails)
- Shape Magazine TBD (Outdoor Gym Fitness FAM)
- Outside TBD (Outdoor Gym Fitness FAM)
- Toronto Star TBD (November Visit)
- NBC.com TBD (January Visit)
- Black Enterprise TBD (January Visit)
- Additional Hoffman Media placements TBD (January Visit)
- Destinations Magazine TBD (Cover of Issue)
- Hemispheres, John Scott Lewinski TBD (ACWS FAM)



AAA Car & Travel – February 8, 2016; Destination Feature

## **Press Trips**

## OUTDOOR GYM FITNESS FAM MARCH 2-6, 2016

- 4 Attendees:
  - Brittany Smith, Men's Fitness
  - Bill Springer, Forbes
  - Erin Beresini, Outside Magazine
  - Cassie Shortsleeve,Shape

### **Q1 INDIVIDUAL MEDIA VISITS**

Mimi Slawoff, LA Parent, March 28-31

## **Press Trips**

### **COVERAGE GENERATED FROM PRESS TRIPS**

## **MENS FITNESS**

### VIDEO: HOW ORACLE TEAM USA IS TRAINING FOR THE 2017 AMERICA'S CUP

Modern sailors must be healthier and fitter than ever for an increasingly physical sport. Here's how the defending champs are preparing to defend their title.



MensFitness.com – March 24, 2016: *America's Cup* 

Elegant, Exotic and English: Why Bermuda Is the Ultimate Island Escape



As a guy who's been lucky enough to spend more than my fair share of time on exclusive islands around the world, and more specifically, summer getaway destinations in the Northeast—Nantucket, Martha's Vineyard, Cape Cod, coastal Maine, and the Hamptons—a recent trip to Bermuda has rocked my world.

Forbes.com – March 21, 2016: Destination Feature Men's Journal – March 4, 2016: Destination Feature



## **Press Trips**

### **COVERAGE GENERATED FROM PRESS TRIPS**



Prevue – March 7, 2016: Destination Feature

## DESTINATION WEDDINGS HONEYMOONS



Destination Weddings & Honeymoons – March 30, 2016: Weddings



Destination Feature

travel**e**escapes

FOUR WAYS TO FUN TOWN

21, 2016:

National Post - March

Destination Feature

# Media Meetings

### **BOSTON MEDIA MISSION - MARCH 8**

- Entertained six journalists at a press lunch:
  - Alexandra Pecci Hemispheres
  - Bill Springer, Forbes
  - Tara Medeiros Sip & Intermezzo
  - Cassie Shortsleeve, Shape
  - Kim Mackinnon Boston Globe
  - Steve Jermanok Boston Globe, Yankee Magazine

## UK PR Report Q1 2016

### **PR INITIATIVES**

- Total earned media coverage 168 articles with AVE of \$598,836
- Features published from press trips inc Hello, Tatler and Yachts & Yachting
- Secured key articles in Mail On Sunday, Vanity Fair, TTG, Selling Travel, Travel Bulletin and Travel Weekly
- Family Traveller 26 page guide to Bermuda
- Tatler & Vogue advertorials
- Developing and implementing PR plans for 2016
- Regular pitching of what's new and travel trends to media and influencers to produce consistent coverage and secure places for forthcoming press trips
- Worked closely with partners inc tour operators, the 1851 Trust and RYA to maximise coverage opportunities, announce new products and source special offers
- Coordinated with on-island partners including hotels and the RBYC to promote new products
- Negotiations with Shakespeare's Globe regarding The Complete Walk partnership and arranged filming access

## **Press Review**











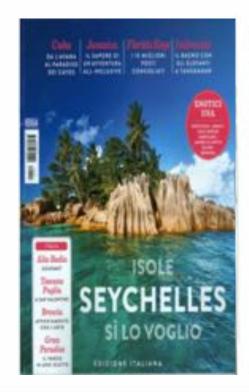




Bermuda: 13 esperienze da fare nell'isola rosa aspettando la Coppa America

Alla scoperta dell'isola atlantica che ospiterà le regate della prossima America's Cup. Vi portiamo fra le spiagge color cipria, le grotte spettacolari e le tradizioni di questo lembo di oceano dal carattere british e dal sorriso caraibico

## **Press Review**

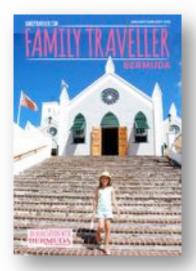






## Press review





















Coverage highlights

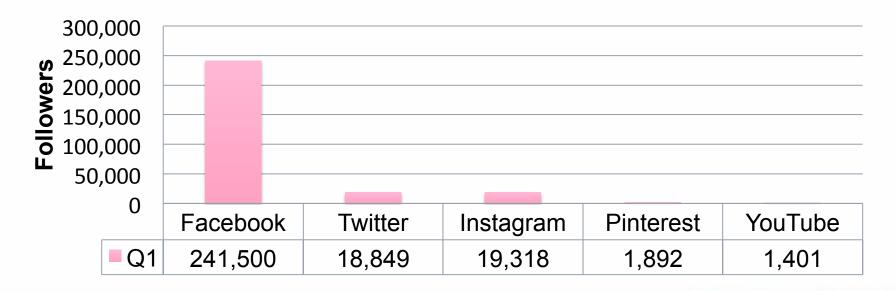
## Social

## Social Media Advertising

Q1 2016

## Q1 Social Channel Growth Highlights

- Adding more tweets to or posting cadence led to boosts in engagement and audience numbers on this channel
- Content on both Pinterest (two new pinboards) and YouTube (nine new video uploads), which lifted audience growth on these channels this quarter
- Continued to optimize content to increase reach, i.e. posting videos natively, creating content that produces engagements favored by network algorithms (especially Facebook) and optimizing YouTube for search



## Q1 Social Media Engagement Highlights

- Since <u>Facebook's recent algorithm change</u>, paid support of posts is essential for content to be visible to more users. We have been closely monitoring this and adjusting/optimizing paid strategy.
- Interactive content (i.e., Twitter polls) performed extremely well on all channels
- Engagement on Instagram increased 46% month-over-month. In previous months, the average engagement total was (10,600). This month Bermuda garnered over 20,000 engagements.



- Total Engagements: 179,350
- Total Reach:2,155,163
- Engagements per Post: 1,062



- Total Engagements: 19,751
- Total Impressions: 828,520
- Engagements per Tweet: 1,623



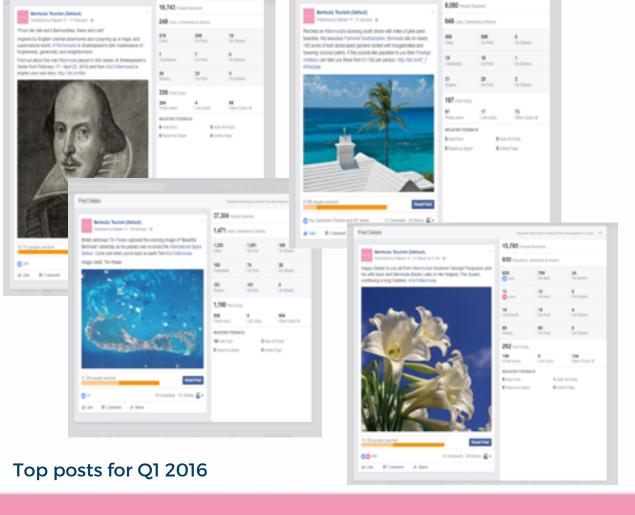
- Total Engagements:50,585
- Engagements per Post: 538



- Average Daily Impressions: 27,937
- Average Daily Repins: 10
- Average Daily Clicks: 7



- Total Video Views: 43,658
- Average Daily Video Views: 485
- Total Engagements:527



### **UK Social Media**

- UK Facebook community grown by 2372 to a total of 14,832 fans
- Total reach 231,410
- Total engagement 11,280
- Most popular post Tim Peake's Beautiful Bermuda from space with 977 likes / shares & a reach of 18,175

### **Co-op Marketing**



Carreblu Tour Operator based in Torino, published an videoclip on social media promoting Bermuda for the forthcoming summer season. (16/03/2016)

#### **PINTEREST**

**101 FOLLOWERS** 

### Increased by 80 followers since March 2015



## Investment Division

# During Q1 of 2016, the Investment Division focused on the following:

The investment division continued its mandate of developing an investment environment for domestic and international investors and operators in Bermuda. The division remains focused on working with the Bermuda Government to introduce revised legislation to attract foreign direct investment and review and modernize legislation that currently retards investment in tourism related industries. The outreach to both local and international investors and operators as well as infrastructure service providers remains a core activity and focus.

## **Activities and accomplishments during the quarter included:**

- The Morgan's Point Ltd revised private act and financial guarantee were passed in Parliament.
- With Ministry of Public Works, reviewed the Horseshoe Bay transportation hub redevelopment costs for final Cabinet's capital approval.
- Participated in the selection of the Horseshoe Bay concessionaire as part of the Government committee.
- Joined WedCo sub committee charged with identifying, through public consultation, the potential end uses for Cross Island, Dockyard post America's Cup.

## Activities and accomplishments, con't

- Met with key stakeholders in an effort to broaden the BTA's Tourism Infrastructure Plan.
- Introduced international hotel brands to Bermuda developers.
- Continued attendance at investment and development conferences to raise awareness of impending changes to Bermuda's investment environment.



## Operations Division

For the Operations Division, Q1 was focused on grass roots community outreach and tourism appreciation programmes, widening stakeholder engagement, growing the Island's Certified Tourism Ambassador force and BTA's internal performance measurement process.

### **HUMAN RESOURCES**

As at March 31, 2016 BTA had 39 employees in the Bermuda and New York offices. This includes full time permanent staff and one full time-fixed term contract.

The breakdown of the divisions is as follows:

Investments	2
Operations	11
Product & Experience	6
Research & Business Intelligence	2
Sales & Marketing	18

There were no new full-time employees hired in Q1, and no resignations/terminations. One BTA employee is continuing their secondment with the ACBDA through the America's Cup races in 2017.

#### **BTA ROTATIONAL PROGRAMME**

BTA's first Rotational Development Programme participant commenced participation in the programme in Q1. This initiative, part of the BTA's succession planning and retention initiative, seeks to identify and prepare competent individuals to move laterally or into key positions in the organization. As part of the year long programme, participants will rotate within internal divisions to gain a greater understanding of how each contributes to the overall goals of the organization; while external

#### PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT

Keeping in line with the BTA's commitment to retaining and motivating performance of employees by tying monetary incentives to high performance, the formal performance appraisal process was conducted in March 2016 in New York and Bermuda. Absent a finalized budget, goals and objectives for 2016 were to be finalized by end-of-April 2016.

#### **COMPENSATION REVIEW**

BTA's compensation philosophy is reflective of its desire to be a high-performance organization that meets objectives through effective teamwork: Hire employees at the low/mid-range of their respective salary band and provide opportunity for additional compensation based on performance. Team performance, and the individual effort therein, as well as the process for recognition and retention of high performers separate, was the subject of a full review in Q1 by both Operations and the Board and relevant adjustments are expected to be made during Q2.

#### **REVIEW OF BTC JOB BANDS**

The review of BTA positions and their relevant job and salary bands, encompassing Bermuda and New York, was completed in Q1 as well. This exercise highlighted the complexity of BTA's compensation programme due primarily to the lack of comparable positions in Bermuda (outside of IB); staff expectations based on a former unionized environment; the evolving nature of a new enterprise; budget uncertainties and the subsequent impact on goals and objectives; and the drive to build a high performance culture under intense public scrutiny.

#### **MEASUREMENT AND METRICS**

An Employee Survey will follow the conclusion of the performance appraisal period to gain feedback and identify areas where staff engagement can be strengthened. HR will continue to use the questions and responses to this survey as well as other "heartbeat" questions going forward to assist in tracking the success of, and improving the effectiveness of, organizational initiatives, programmes and goals to ensure alignment with BTA goals, employee perceptions and expectations, and the organization's unique culture.

## **Training & Standards**





#### NATIONAL STANDARD SERVICE PROGRAMME

During Q1, BTA initiated the second stage of the National Service Standards Programme, which focused on fully defining industry service standards. As addressed by the National Tourism Plan, addressing service standards to provide a level of consistent service delivery is vital to enhancing visitor experience. The goal of this phase "to enhance the visitor experience and build a positive destination image," is one shared by stakeholders throughout the tourism value chain.

Industry input was sought to identify and build core service principles for Bermuda's tourism sector. An online survey was deployed and received a high rate of response. Focus groups will be held in Q2 after which there will be a full debriefing of the results, including a sustainable implementation pathway.

#### **CERTIFIED TOURISM AMBASSADORS (CTA)**

At end of Q1, 157 new customer-facing/front line hospitality and tourism employees had registered to participate in the Certified Tourism Ambassador (CTA) programme. 583 have now completed the course since its inception and are recognized as CTA's.

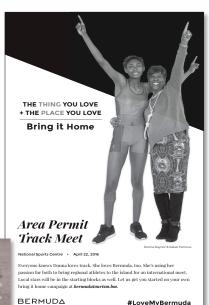
## **Public & Stakeholder Communication**

#### **BRING IT HOME CAMPAIGN**

For the release of the Bring It Home Campaign Q4, 2015, the message focused on the economic impact of group travel. Designed to motivate members of the public to influence the group travel decisions of friends and colleagues, it demonstrated how individual action could positively benefit the local economy.

In Q1 2016, the focus shifted to sports tourism and motivating members of the public to use their personal passions to inspire group travel. BTA profiled ads and social media posts that centered on the Aerial Re Rugby 7s tournament and the Area Permit Invitational Track Meet.





## **Tourism Forward TV**

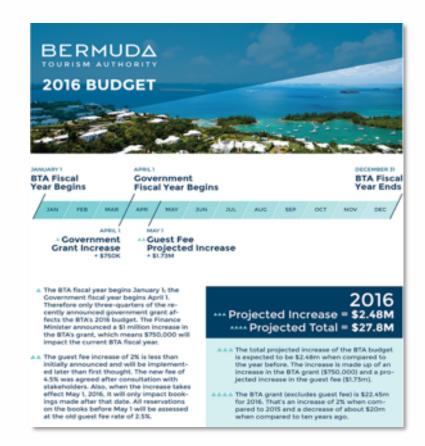
Beginning Q1, the first Friday of each month is Tourism Forward Friday and BTA distributes to stakeholders a short video that focuses on one relevant topic concerning the industry. This reuse of material not previously shown during the Tourism Forward television series in Q4 2015 and early Q1 2016, is a cost effective way to way for BTA to continue highlighting the wide-range of activities and programmes under remit. In addition to e-mail distribution, the video content is shared with Bernews who posts it as part of an advertorial agreement.

#### HERE'S WHAT HAS BEEN COVERED THUS FAR:

- February Group Travel & Employment
- March Bermuda Brand Identity

## 2016 Budget

Unexpected developments around BTA's 2016 budget made for a very difficult communication message. The Finance Minister's projections on the increase of the BTA budget, which were delivered in the House of Assembly and widely reported, were overstated by about 50%. However, as no mechanism existed for the Finance Minister to correct the record, it fell upon the BTA to communicate the revised number to the public. Not to have done so risked measurement of the BTA's 2016 performance 2016 on a \$5.3 million budget increase when in actuality the projected increase is \$2.48 million. This information was communicated directly to stakeholders using an infograph designed in house.



## Simpleview & Distribion

The work completed on BTA's new CRM and email marketing platform helped to launch the programme in Q1. It is used to communicate with stakeholders and local media more effectively. However, with many more tools to utilize, there is an ongoing process to roll additional functionality into the everyday operations of the BTA.

## **Beach Economy**

Interest in the work of BTA's internal Beach Economy Working Group, led by the Director of Stakeholder & Public Relations, has intensified. Presentations of the group's findings have been shared with a vast array of stakeholders including Cabinet's Economic Development Committee, BEST and the Parks Commission, and the summary findings have been published to the BTA's corporate website.

Work is currently underway by the Government to share the information more widely with its efforts being assisted by BTA.

## **Tourism Appreciation**

#### **#LOVEMYBERMUDA PHASE III**

This grass roots campaign continued as the BTA engaged local high schools in the #lovemybermuda video challenge. Two schools, MSA and Berkeley, participated utilizing SocialBox, an interactive photo and video booth that allows users to post their content online instantly.

In addition, a radio and video campaign featuring Certified Tourism Ambassadors (CTAs) was produced to air throughout April's Hospitality Month. The spots feature CTAs, selected from a cross-section of the industry, sharing why they feel the CTA programme is important and expressing how their love for Bermuda impacts their careers in the hospitality industry.

#### PHC COMMUNITY DAY

BTA signed on as a sponsor of the Pembroke Hamilton Club's (PHC) annual Good Friday Community Day to further fulfill its mandate to increase tourism appreciation. The event, titled #lovemybermuda, provided an ideal opportunity for outreach both onsite and across social media channels.

Hundreds of spectators actively engaged on their social channels throughout the day or directly through the BTA social tent. Content was streamed live from participants who were posting images and videos on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and others during the event. BTA's visible presence, positive community engagement and #lovemyBermuda theme will be repeated at this event next year.



## Neighbourhood Beautification

In support of BTA's mission to reinforce its role as a vested community partner, the Neighbourhood Beautification Programme (NBP) was launched at the end of Q1 with the following objectives:

- Build coalitions with key community constituencies
- Demonstrate the positive impact individual action can have on the tourism product and vice versa
- Raise community confidence in the BTA

The initiative, launched after more than six months of collaboration with the public and private sector, also serves to create a heightened sense of community and pride. Not only does the NBP serve a practical purpose, such as clearing and revitalizing roadsides in Bermuda, it also gives residents a greater sense of unity, friendship, and collective purpose.





### Neighbourhood Beautification, Con't

BTA partnered with businesses and support organizations who collectively utilized their expertise and resources to ensure the project's success, including: Keep Bermuda Beautiful, The Bermuda Landscaping Association, Almeida's Landscaping, Ministry of Works & Engineering/Highways; SAL Limited and Butterfield & Vallis.

Horseshoe Road, selected as the pilot for NBP, required the collective efforts of neighbours, professional landscapers and outside volunteers to tackle trash pickup, the clearing of landscaping and cutting back foliage. By all accounts, the pilot was a success, demonstrating community spirit and a noteworthy end result.

This is a three-part programme, addressing soft and hard landscaping issues as well as beautification. After completing a second pilot location in Q2, NBP will open for the wider community to participate.





## Out There

HAS ITS OWN MYSTIQUE.