

2015

July
September

TOURIST ARRIVAL QUARTERLY REPORT



Research and Statistics Department
Ministry of Tourism, Economic Development,
Investment & Energy
Statistics Division



Foreword

This report provides a quantitative analysis of visitors to Antigua and Barbuda for the second quarter of 2015.

The quantitative data was collected from the immigration cards of arriving passengers, via ports at V.C. Bird International Airport, Nelson Dockyard, Jolly Harbour, Deep Water Harbour, Heritage Quay, and Barbuda. The data was compiled by the Research and Statistics Department in the Ministry of Tourism, Economic Development, Investment & Energy, in collaboration with the Statistics Division within the Ministry of Trade, Commerce and Industry, Sports, Culture and National Festivals. The report was produced through the collaborative efforts of Tourism Research Officer Avonelle Alfred, Tourism Statistical Officer Lornel Mack, as well as Tourism Statistician Marissa Scott.

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OVERVIEW:

This report examines and analyses the third quarter (QTR3) visitor arrivals by sea and air to Antigua for the period 2011 to 2015. Also, look to analyze and compare data for the years 2014 and 2015, for the same period under review.

For the purpose of this report a visitor is classified as a person who stays more than 24 hours, but less than one year, within a country outside of their usual country of residence. Persons who are in transit and/or spend less than a day are not classified as visitors. Total sea arrivals are comprised of tourists arriving by cruise and yacht, with cruise visitors spending less than a day, and yacht visitors a day or more.

In the third quarter of 2015, July to September, a total of 90,205 visitors were recorded, as revealed in table 1. The table shows that 56% or the total number of visitors travelled by air. This quarter under review, of 2015, records the most visitors, particularly by sea, compared to the previous years. Then, the lowest recorded number of visitors for that period, QTR3, 2012, stands at 69,713.

The table also reveals a slight increase, in the number of visitors from QTR3 of 2014 to QTR3 of 2015, at 499. Further, there is an average total visitor arrival of 83227, for QTR3 from 2011 to 2015.

Table 1: Total Visitor Arrivals (QTR 3): 2011-2015

Mode	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	% change '14-'15
Air	52,075	50,165	52,193	49,810	50,172	0.73
Sea	27,747	19,568	34,478	39,896	40,033	0.34
Total	79,822	69,733	86,671	89,706	90,205	0.56

Source: Ministry of Tourism, Economic Development, Investment & Energy, November 2015

Figure 1: Visitor Arrivals by Air and Sea (QTR3): 2011-2015

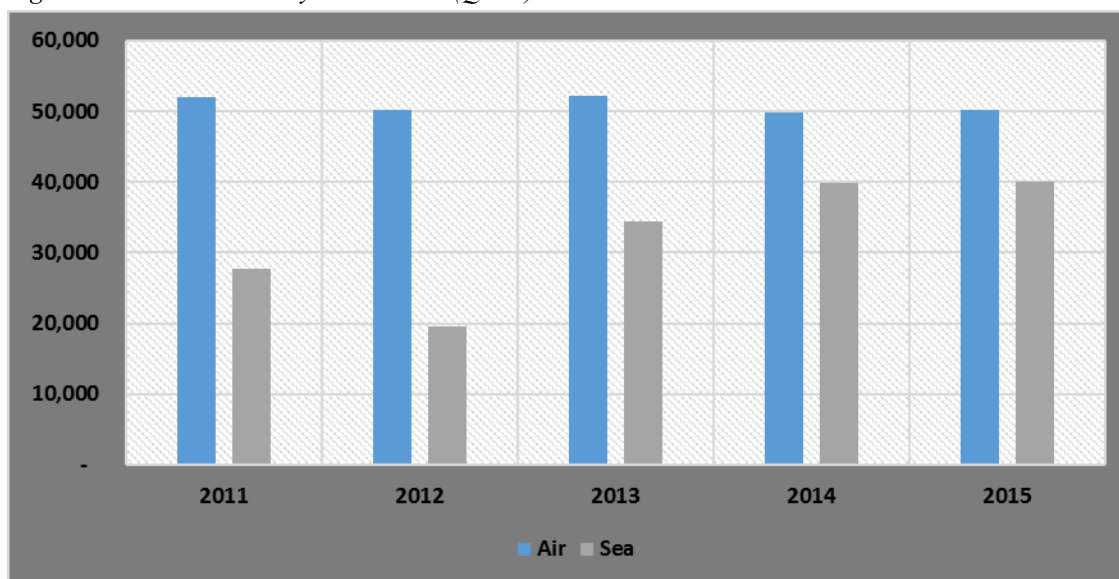
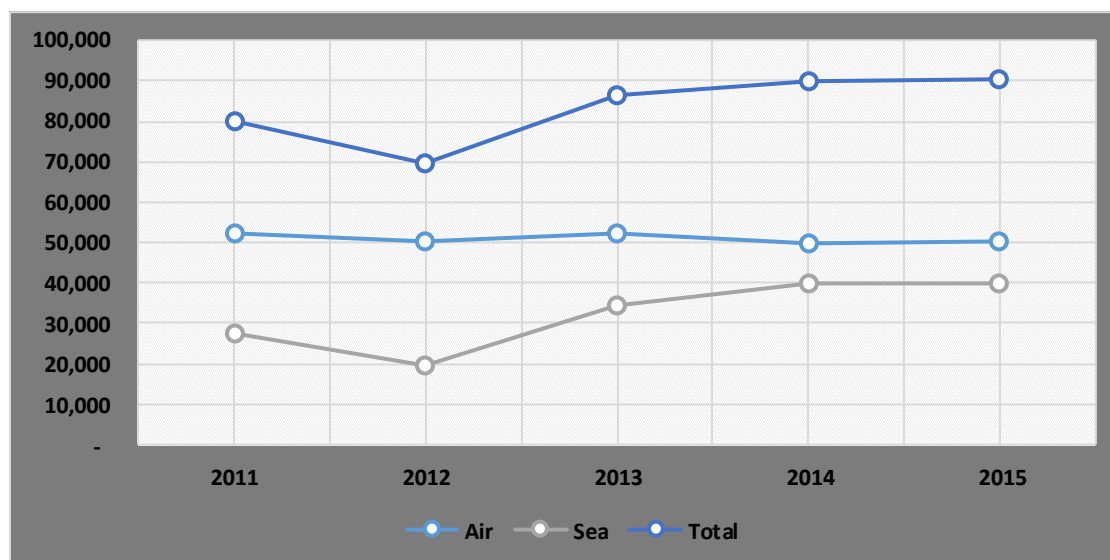


Figure 1 shows and compares visitor arrivals by sea and air for QTR3, from 2011 to 2015. Travelling by air is the preferred option as seen above. There is an almost similar number of visitors travelling by air to Antigua, the most being QTR3 of 2013. However, there has been a gradual increase in sea travel especially from 2012 to 2014, and then the number of visitors travelling by sea in QTR3 of 2015, being almost the same at QTR4 2014.

Figure 2: Total Visitor Arrivals compared to Air & Sea Arrivals (QTR2): 2011-2015



The Line graph again compares visitor arrivals by sea and air for QTR3 from 2011 to 2015. The number of visitor arrivals by air is almost steady with moderate changes from 2011 to 2015. On the other hand, sea arrivals show significant decreases from QTR3 2011 to QTR3 2012 with increases thereafter. Here, gradual increases can be seen from 2012 to 2013 and further improves from QTR3 2013 to QTR3 2015.

Air Arrivals

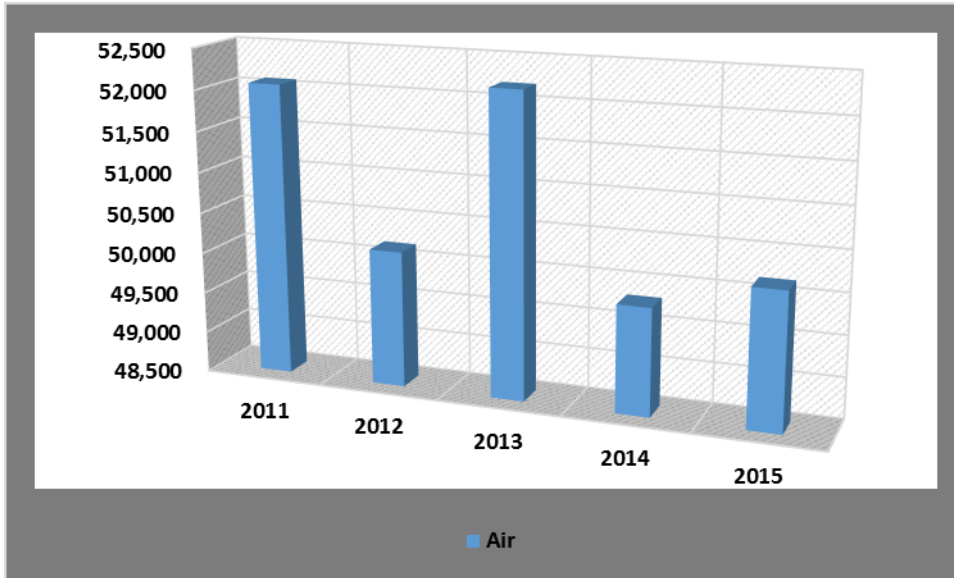
The table records and compares monthly visitor arrivals by air for QTR3 of 2014 and QTR3, 2015. There is a slight increase of 362 in visitor arrivals by air from QTR3, 2014 to QTR3 2015, representing a mere 0.7% increase. The highest monthly arrival in visitors by air is July, 2015, at 21,359. The average visitor arrivals in QTR3, 2014 is 16,603 and 16724 for QTR3, 2015.

Table 2: Monthly Air Arrivals (QTR 3): 2014-2015

July	August	September	Q3 2014	July	August	September	Q3 2015
21,001	17,524	11,285	49,810	21,359	16,660	12,153	50,172

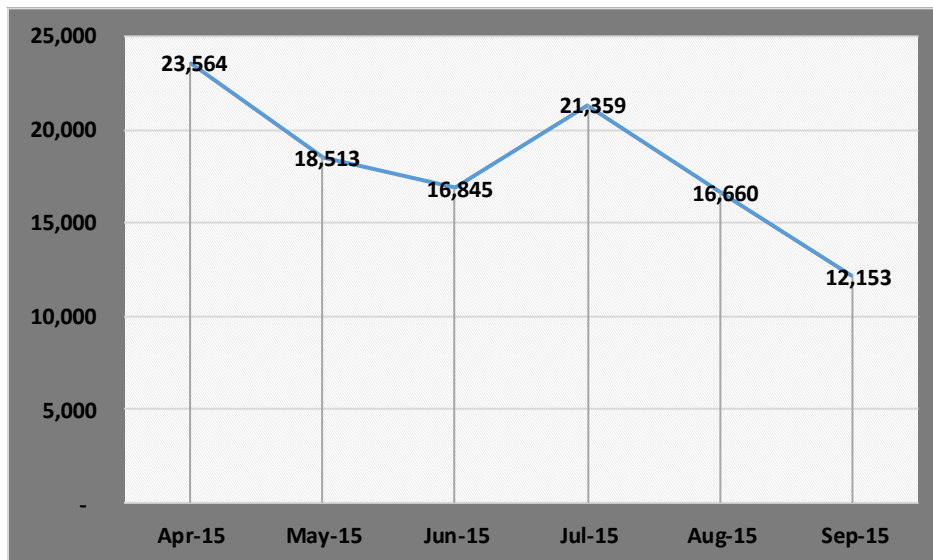
Source: Ministry of Tourism, Economic Development, Investment & Energy, November 2015

Figure 3: Air Arrivals (QTR3):2011-2015



Above is a bar graph which depicts visitor arrivals by air for QTR3 from 2011 to 2015. The graph demonstrates an inconsistency in QTR3 arrivals for the years 2011 to 2015. The number of visitors by air peaked in QTR3 only in 2011 and 2013. There are significant decreases in the years 2012, 2014, and 2015, with 2014 being the lowest.

Figure 4: Monthly Air Arrivals (QTR2 2015- QTR3 2015)



The Line graph above compares the arrivals by air for QTR 2 of 2015, with that of QTR3, 2015. There is a gradual decrease in visitor arrivals by air from April to June in QTR2, 2015, with a sharp, peaked increase in the month of July, this is a result of Antigua's Carnival celebrations. QTR3, then a gradual decrease from July to September, QTR3, 2015.

Air Arrivals by Market

The table demonstrates the arrivals by country of residence. A total of 362 more visitors were recorded in the third quarter of 2015, compared to the same period in 2014. The United States remains the main tourism market accounting for 37% of the total number of visitor arrivals for QTR3, 2015. This reflects only a 2% decrease from QTR3, 2014.

The United Kingdom remains the second largest market accounting for 30% of visitor arrivals in QTR3, 2015.

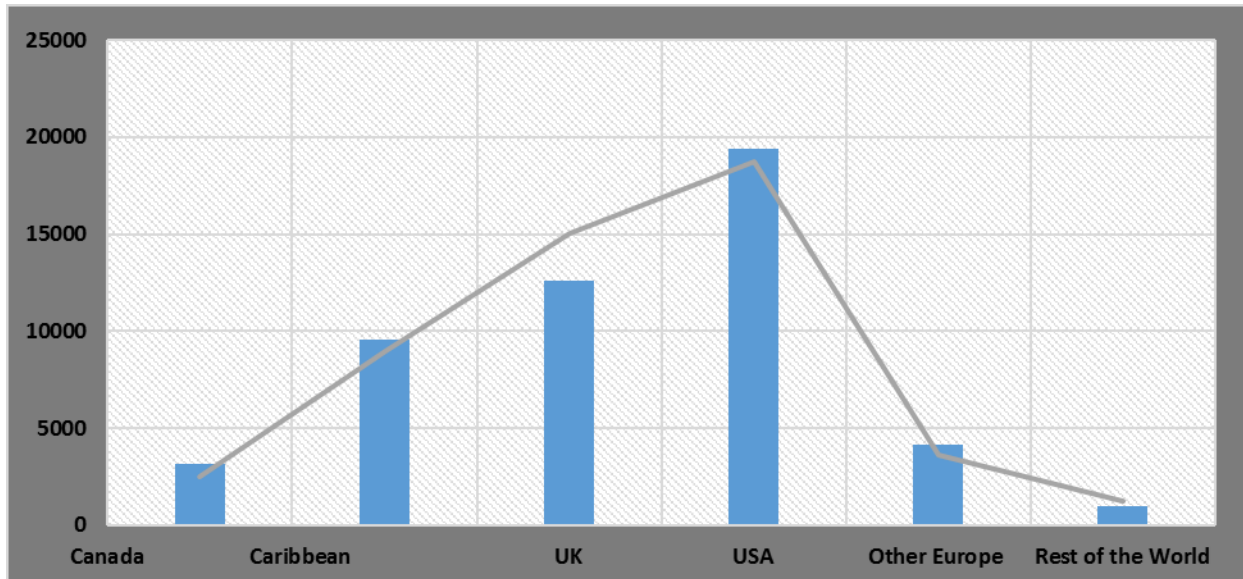
The all Caribbean arrivals accounted for 18% of the total visitors for QTR3, 2015, 13% more than Canada for the same time period, QTR3, 2015.

Table 3: Air Arrivals by Country of Residence (QTR 3): 2014-2015

	Jul-14	Aug-14	Sep-14	Q3 2014	Jul-15	Aug-15	Sep-15	Q3 2015
Total Visitors	21,001	17,524	11,285	49,810	21,359	16,660	12,153	50,172
Europe	6,606	5,787	4,374	16,767	6,912	6,218	5,570	18,700
of which: UK	4,959	4,103	3,563	12,625	5,511	4,700	4,851	15,062
USA	9,049	6,471	3,845	19,365	8,942	6,349	3,454	18,745
Canada	1,152	1,349	670	3,171	959	898	643	2,500
All Caribbean	3,821	3,578	2,154	9,553	4,016	2,835	2,139	8,990
CARICOM	2,827	2,696	1,577	7,100	2,912	1,982	1,709	6,603
of which: OECS	1,275	1,388	733	3,396	1,404	957	811	3,172
Other Caribbean	511	485	307	1,303	424	324	168	916
of which: French West Indies	51	95	28	174	137	198	33	368
of which: Dutch Caribbean	144	94	74	312	182	90	55	327
of which: Cuba	31	25	10	66	9	8	10	27
South America	82	95	61	238	267	139	107	513
Central America	28	20	27	75	45	25	84	154
Other Visitors	259	221	153	633	214	191	155	560
Not Stated	4	3	1	8	4	5	1	10

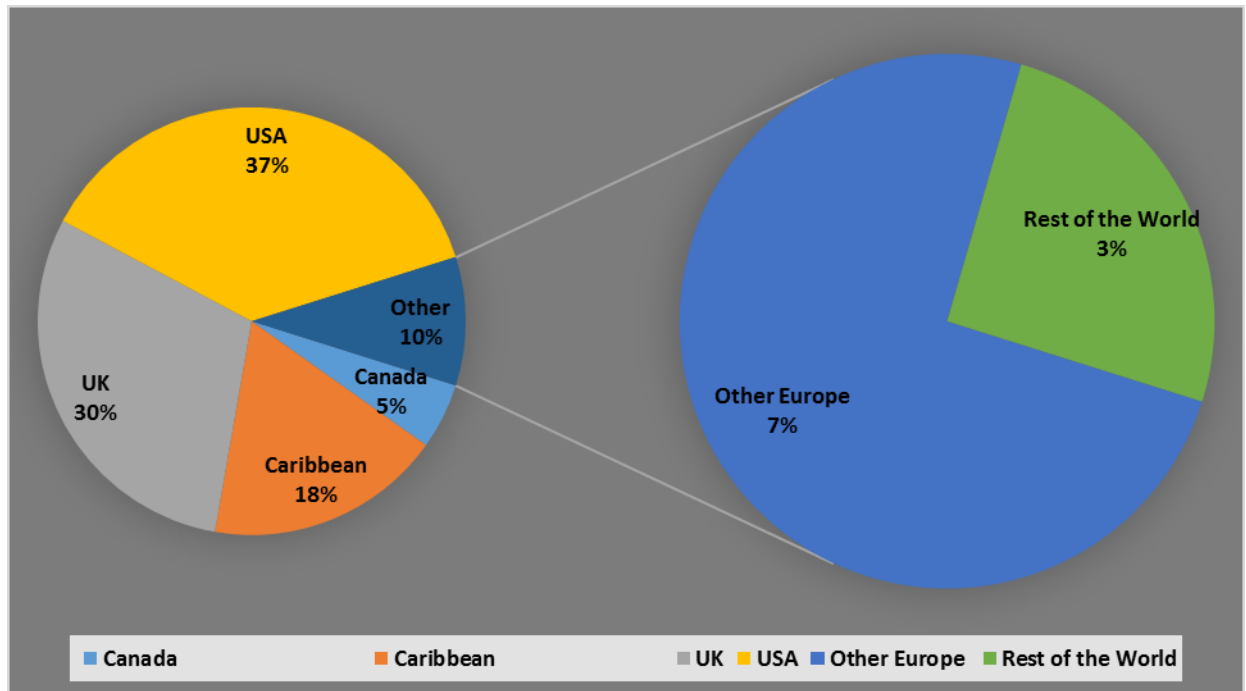
Source: Ministry of Tourism, Economic Development, Investment & Energy, November 2015

Figure 5: Air Arrivals by Country of Residence (QTR3): 2014-2015



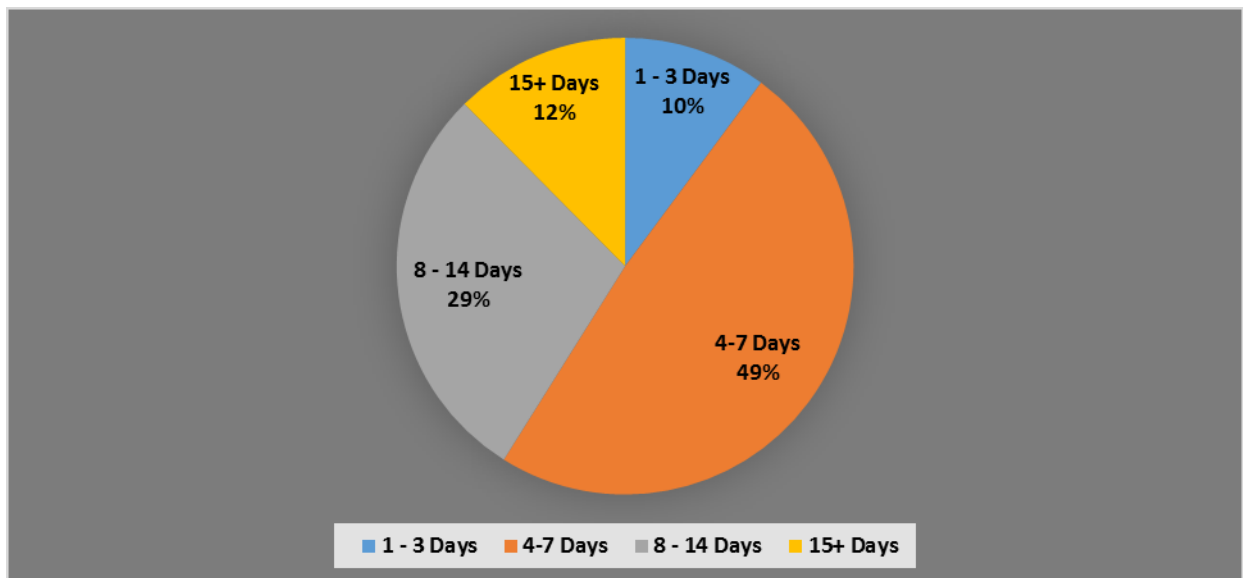
The Bar Graph depicts tourist arrival by country of residence for QTR3, 2014 and 2015. Most of the visitors in the two years mentioned come from the United States, the United Kingdom and the Caribbean. In fact, The United States accounts for the majority of visitor arrivals in QTR3 of the two years under review. This is followed, not closely, by the United Kingdom. The rest of the world accounts for the least number of visitors.

Figure 5: Air Arrivals by Country of Residence (QTR3): 2015



Length of Stay

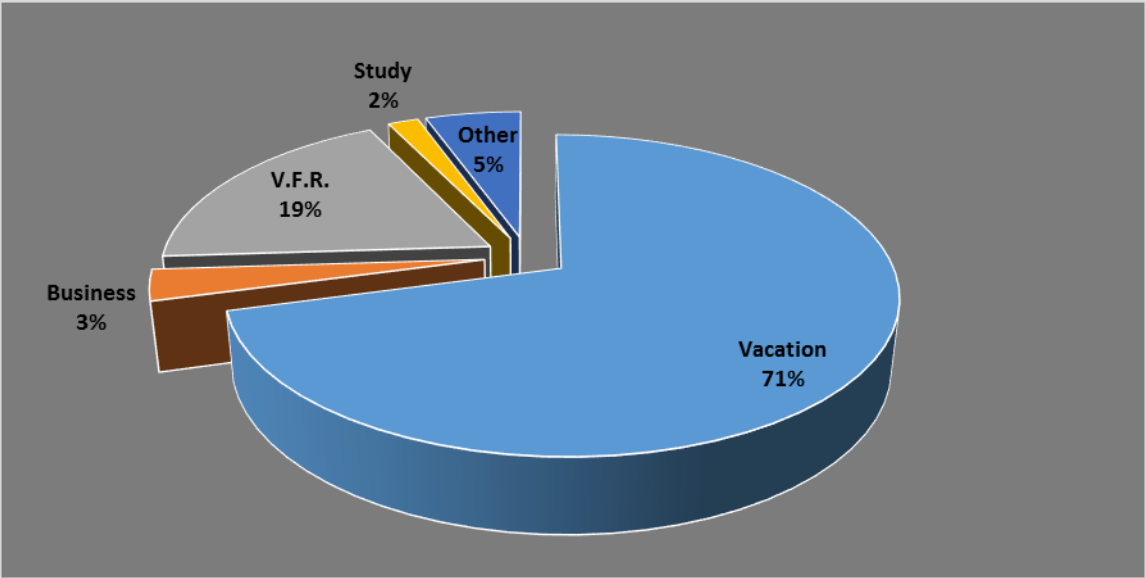
Figure 7: Length of Stay (QTR3) 2015



The graph above illustrates the length of stay statistics for quarter 3. It can be noted that visitors generally prefer to stay within the period of 4-7 days. As this period accounts for 49% of the total visitors coming to our shores. This is followed by 29% of visitors who stay for 8-14 days, 12 % spending 15+ days and 10% spending 1-3 days respectively. The average length of stay is noted to be 12 days.

Purpose of Visit

Figure 8: Purpose of Visit (QTR3) 2015



The chart depicts ‘purpose of visit’ for tourist arriving in Antigua and Barbuda. As seen, ‘Vacation is the most cited reason by visitors at 71%. This is followed by ‘Visiting Family and Friends (VFR)’ at 19%, ‘Other’ at 5%, ‘Business’ at 3%, and ‘Study’ at 2%.

Sea Arrivals

Table 4 shows the number of Tourist Arrivals by Sea over a period of 5 years. Arrivals by Cruise Ship recorded only a 2% increase from Qtr3 2014 – Qtr3 2015. Whereas, Yacht arrivals decreased by 77% within the same period. However, even with such a rapid decline in yacht arrivals, the quarter under review indicates growth in the total number of passenger arrivals by sea for the year 2015.

Table 4: Sea Passenger Arrivals (QTR 2): 2011-2015

Passenger	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	% change '14-'15
Cruise	26,824	18,802	33,573	39,051	39,841	2.02
Yacht	923	766	905	845	192	-77.28
Total	27,747	19,568	34,478	39,896	40,033	0.34

Source: Ministry of Tourism, Economic Development, Investment & Energy, November 2015

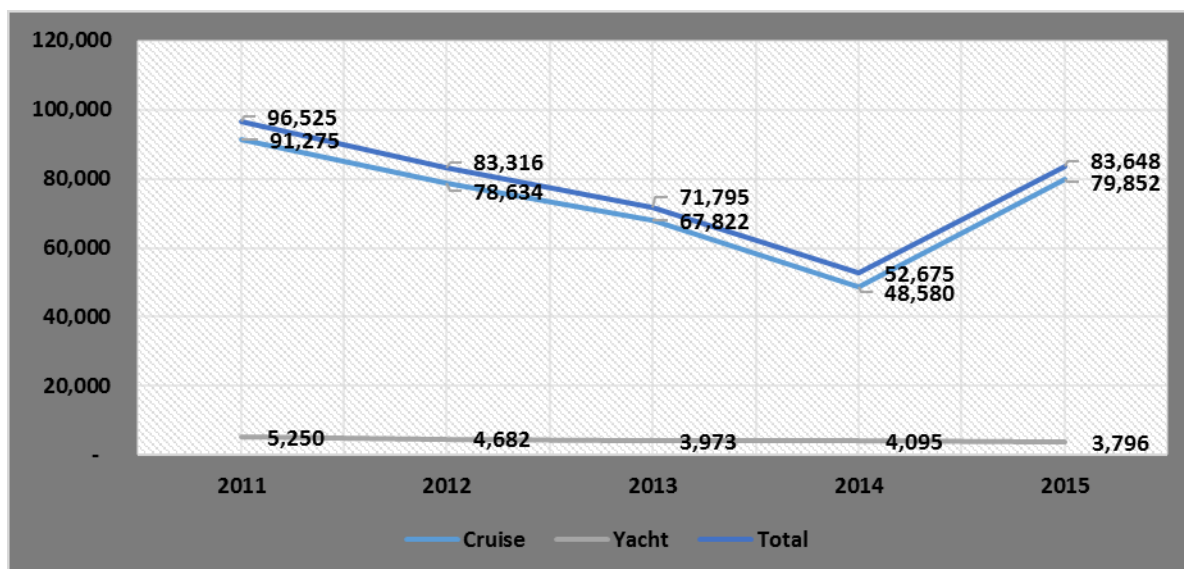
Table 5 accounts for the number of vessels visiting our shores for the quarter. It reveals a 26% decrease in the number of Cruise vessels coming to Antigua. Whereas, Yacht vessel remained constant. Thus, Total Vessel Arrivals decreased by 2% from Qtr3 2014 – Qtr3 2015.

Table 5: Sea Vessels Arrivals (QTR 3): 2011-2015

Vessels	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	% change '14-'15
Cruise	10	5	14	19	14	-26.32
Yacht	201	165	221	190	190	0.00
Total	211	170	235	209	204	-2.39

Source: Ministry of Tourism, Economic Development, Investment & Energy, November 2015

Figure 5: Sea Arrivals (Qtr3):2015



Summary

As compared to the previous quarter, low but positive increases can be observed in both Air and Sea arrivals. The overall Tourist Arrivals for (QTR 3) 2015 experienced an increase of 1%.

Sources:

Ministry of Tourism, Economic Development, Investment and Energy

V.C. Bird International Airport

Nelson Dockyard

Jolly Harbour

Deep Water Harbour

Heritage Quay

Barbuda