

Dominica



President Nicolas Liverpool resigned on 17 September 2012. Parliament immediately elected Eliud Williams as his successor, although not without controversy when the opposition United Workers Party boycotted the vote, declaring the process to be 'unconstitutional'. Nevertheless, President Williams was sworn in the same day.

The economy

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) reported in 2012 that although Dominica's economic recovery was continuing, it was, however, losing momentum. It forecast that gross domestic product (GDP) in 2012 would be 0.4 per cent, compared with 1.2 per cent in 2010 and 1 per cent in 2011.

Tropical storms in the second half of 2011 took a heavy toll on Dominican agriculture, while the sector was still recovering from Hurricane Tomas of 2010. The elements attacked again on 23 November 2012 with a 4.6-magnitude earthquake off the east coast of Dominica. There was no reported damage although there was a slight shaking in parts of the island.

Tourism

Colin Piper, Dominica's Director of Tourism, has said that Dominica is pushing its nature and ecological tourism products.

The island had approximately 75,000 stay-over visitors in 2011, according to Piper, along with between 250,000 and 300,000 cruise passengers. The country received a significant blow with the loss, in 2012, of the Carnival Victory cruise ship, which had accounted for 160,000 annual cruise arrivals, and which had contributed around US\$6.3 million.

COUNTRY PROFILE

Historical profile

1493 Christopher Columbus visited the island and named it Dominica (Sunday Island).

1627 Despite attempts by the Earl of Carlisle, who was put in charge of Dominica by England, initial attempts at colonisation are fiercely resisted by the indigenous Carib community.

1635 France claimed Dominica. Resistance by the Carib Indians continued.

1763 Britain won possession of Dominica in accordance with the Treaty of Paris, which had ended the Seven Years' War between France and Britain. Britain established a legislative assembly, representing only the minority white population.

1831 Britain conferred political and social rights on free non-whites.

1834 Slavery was abolished.

1838 Dominica become the first British colony in the Caribbean to have a black-controlled legislature.

1865 Britain replaced the elected assembly with one consisting of one-half elected members and one-half appointed.

1896 Dominica became a crown colony again.

1940 The administration of Dominica was transferred to the Windward Islands.

1951 Universal adult suffrage was established.

1958 Dominica became part of the UK-sponsored West Indies Federation.

1960 Dominica was granted self-government by the UK.

1961 Edward leBlanc (Dominica Labour Party) (DLP) became chief minister.

1974 LeBlanc retired and was replaced by Patrick John (DLP).

1967 Full autonomy of its internal affairs was gained.

1978 Dominica became an independence republic and a member of the

KEY FACTS

Official name: The Commonwealth of Dominica

Head of State: President Eliud Thaddeus Williams (from 17 Sep 2012)

Head of government: Prime Minister Roosevelt Skerrit (DLP) (from 2004; re-elected 18 Dec 2009)

Ruling party: Dominica Labour Party (DLP) (since 2000; re-elected 18 Dec 2009)

Area: 750 square km

Population: 71,000 (2010)* (71,293; 2011 census figure)

Capital: Roseau

Official language: English

Currency: East Caribbean dollar (EC\$) = 100 cents

Exchange rate: EC\$2.70 per US\$ (fixed)

GDP per capita: US\$7,022 (2012)*

GDP real growth: 0.45% (2012)*

GDP: US\$497.00 million (2012)*

Inflation: 2.29% (2012)*

Balance of trade: -US\$142.00 million (2012)

* estimated figure

Commonwealth. Patrick John (DLP) became prime minister.

1980 The Dominica Freedom Party (DFP) won a convincing victory and Eugenia Charles become prime minister – the first female prime minister in the Caribbean.

1981 Two attempted coups failed and the Dominican Defence Force was disbanded.

1995 The United Workers' Party (UWP), led by Edison James, won the general election, defeating the ruling DFP.

2000 The UWP lost the election to a coalition composed of the Dominica Labour Party (DLP) and the DFP. Prime Minister Roosevelt Douglas died suddenly and Pierre Charles was appointed as his successor. Under legislation, the National Commercial Bank was permitted to engage in offshore financial services.

2002 Dominica ended the sale of passports under its economic citizenship programme.

2003 Dr Nicholas Liverpool became president, elected by parliament despite an opposition boycott of the sitting.

2004 Prime Minister Pierre Charles died; Roosevelt Skerrit was sworn in as his successor. Diplomatic relations with Taiwan was cut in favour of China, which agreed to provide aid of US\$100 million over five years. An earthquake damaged buildings in the north of the island and cost millions of dollars in repairs.

2005 Roosevelt Skerrit's DLP won the parliamentary elections; the DFP, the junior partner in the former coalition government, lost both of its seats – the first time in 35 years that the DFP did not win a seat.

2006 A section of the fibre optic cable, which when completed will traverse the entire Eastern Caribbean (around 1900km in length), reached Dominica.

2007 Hurricane Dean ruined around 99 per cent of the banana crop, severely damaging the country's principal industry. However, the tourist infrastructure remained largely untouched.

2008 President Liverpool agreed to serve another term in office.

2009 Dominica formally applied for US\$5 million from the IMF Rapid-Access Component of the Exogenous Shock Facility (ESF). The ESF is intended to assist small islands respond to adverse external economic conditions, brought about by the global financial crisis. The ruling DLP won parliamentary elections; Roosevelt Skerrit remained in office as prime minister.

2010 Dominica celebrated 40 years of membership in *La Francophonie*, the international organisation of French speaking countries.

2011 An agreement to jointly fund a project to drill exploratory geothermal wells

was signed in April between the government, Agence Francaise de Development (French Development Agency) and the EU, with work beginning at the end of July. A new ferry service *L'Express Des Iles* was launch, carrying up to 350 passengers between Dominica, St Lucia and other neighbouring French-speaking islands. Former ambassador Irwin LaRacque was appointed as Secretary General of the Caribbean Community. In August citizens of the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) – Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, St Kitts and Nevis, St Lucia and St Vincent and the Grenadines – were granted freedom of movement, allowing them to reside, work, establish businesses and provide services throughout the organisation.

2012 On 16 March, Panama and Dominica agreed to establish diplomatic and ambassador level relations with one another. President Liverpool resigned on 17 September due to ill health and Eliud Williams was elected by parliament, despite a boycott by the opposition UWP, which declared the procedure was unconstitutional.

2013 The 2013 to 2014 National Budget Presentation took place on 24 July. Prime Minister Roosevelt Skerrit said a slight growth in Dominica's economy was expected, although there would be no new taxes.

Political structure

Independence date

1978

The executive

Executive power rests with the prime minister who acts on the advice of the cabinet.

The role of the president, as Head of State, is largely ceremonial. The president is nominated by the prime minister, in consultation with the leader of the opposition, and is then elected by the House of Assembly for five years, renewable once.

National legislature

The unicameral House of Assembly has 32 members, of which 21 (representatives) are directly elected in single seat constituencies for five-year terms. Senators are elected (by votes of Assembly representatives) or may be appointed (a maximum of five senators by the president on the advice of the prime minister and four on the advice of the leader of the opposition). There is also an *ex officio* member with the remaining seat is held by the speaker of the Assembly.

The assembly appoints the president, who is a ceremonial head of state. The prime minister is the leader of the majority in the House of Assembly and the leader of the opposition is appointed by the president

as leader of the main grouping outside the government.

Legal system

The legal system is based on English common law. There are three local levels of judiciary courts. The Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court, located in St Lucia, hears appeals. The Privy Council in the UK is the highest court of appeal.

Last elections

18 December 2009 (parliamentary); 18 Sep 2012 (presidential)

Results: Parliamentary: Dominica Labour Party won 61.21 per cent of the vote (17 seats out of 21), United Worker's Party 34.85 per cent (four); three other political parties won less than 2.5 per cent of the vote each and failed to win any seats. Turnout was 37.9 per cent.

Presidential: Eliud Williams was re-elected by parliament unopposed

Next elections

2014 (parliamentary)

Political parties

Ruling party

Dominica Labour Party (DLP) (since 2000; re-elected 18 Dec 2009)

Main opposition party

United Workers' Party (UWP)

Political situation

Dominica has been struggling to replace the export revenue it used to earn from bananas. The end of the so called 'banana wars' was signalled in December 2009 when Europe, the world's biggest banana market, initialled the treaty to halt the preferential treatment it gave to Africa, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries.

The banana producing countries of the ACP, like Dominica, are mostly small islands which will struggle to meet the economies of scale of their competitors in central and south America. Agriculture still dominates the economy, employing some 30 per cent of the workforce. The government has encouraged the diversification of the agricultural sector into other high-value crops suitable for small-holders, such as coffee, patchouli, aloe vera, cut flowers, and exotic fruits.

Dominica does not have the typical white sandy beaches of other Caribbean islands and missed out on the first wave of tourist destinations. It has, however, managed to promote its landscape of mountains, hot-springs and fresh water lakes to a more adventurous holiday maker. Cruise ship stop-overs have also increased since the construction of a new dock with waterfront facilities in Roseau.

Dominica is still one of the poorest countries in the Caribbean and receives aid from both the IMF Rapid-Access Component of the Exogenous Shock Facility (ESF) and the joint Caricom and Caribbean Development bank, Caribbean Catastrophic

Risk Insurance Facility (CCRIF) when necessary.

In the last elections, held in December 2009, the Dominica Labour Party was re-elected and Roosevelt Skerrit continued as prime minister. The president is elected by the prime minister in consultation with the leader of the opposition.

Population

71,000 (2010)* (71,293; 2011 census figure)

Last census: 14 May 2011: 71,293

Population density: 97 inhabitants per square km. Urban population 67 per cent (2010 Unicef).

Annual growth rate: -0.2 per cent, 1990–2010 (Unicef).

Ethnic make-up

Black, mixed black and European, European, Syrian, Carib.

Religions

Roman Catholic (77 per cent), Methodist (5 per cent), Pentecostal (3 per cent), Seventh-Day Adventist (3 per cent), Baptist (2 per cent).

Education

Literacy rate: 94 per cent, adult rate (2003)

Compulsory years: Five to 16

Health

The country has experienced notable improvements with a decline in infant and maternal mortality and communicable diseases and an increase in life expectancy; chronic and other non-communicable diseases are now the leading causes of death and ill-health, even as new problems such as HIV/Aids present themselves.

Life expectancy: 74 years, 2004 (WHO 2006)

Fertility rate/Maternal mortality rate: 2.0 births per woman, 2004 (WHO 2006)

Birth rate/Death rate: 17 births per 1,000 population; seven deaths per 1,000 population (2003).

Child (under 5 years) mortality rate (per 1,000): 13 per 1,000 live births (WHO 2012)

Welfare

Dominica has a national insurance system in which employee contributions are 3 per cent of salary and employer contributions are 7 per cent.

Main cities

Roseau (capital, estimated population 13,067 in 2012), Canefield (3,596), Portsmouth (3,335), Salisbury (2,699), Marigot (2,665), Atkinson (2,212).

Languages spoken

English and French-Creole.

Official language/s

English

Media

Press

There are no daily newspapers. Weekly publications include *The Chronicle* (www.dachronicle.com) *The Times*, *The Sun* and *The Tropical Star*.

Online news is carried by Dominica News (www.dominicanewsonline.com), Dominican Weekly (www.dominica-weekly.com) News-Dominica

(www.newsdominica.com) and Cakafete (www.sakafete.com).

Broadcasting

Radio: DBS (Dominica Broadcasting Services) (www.dbcradio.net) is the government-operated radio service. Commercial stations include Q95 FM

(www.wiceqfm.com), Kairi FM (<http://kairifmonline.com>) and Voice of Life Radio (www.voiceoflife.com) plays religious programmes

Television: There is no national TV service although a Marpin Telecoms (www.marpin.dm) provides a cable service with 52 channels.

Other news agencies: Caribbean Net News: www.caribbeanetnews.com

Economy

Preliminary GDP estimates for 2011 indicate that economic performance for the year remained positive amid continued global economic woes. The economy has grown conservatively by 1.9 per cent, 1.2 percentage points more than the growth rate of 2010. This improvement in performance was due mainly to growth in the agriculture, construction, and tourism sectors.

The economy is still largely dependent on primary industries, particularly agriculture, with around 30 per cent of the workforce employed in farming, fishing and forestry. Mining of minerals, such as pumice and gravel, for the construction industry is also important. Manufacturing is dependent on agriculture as it uses domestic produce to make foodstuffs, such as fruit juice and alcohol, and soap from coconuts. The service sector, in particular tourism, has grown to be the largest component of GDP.

Dominica is subject to extreme weather conditions as hurricanes have caused widespread devastation. The island has one of the highest rainfalls in the Caribbean (averaging 150cm–370cm on the coast, 635cm in the highlands), and following the commercialisation of its water resource since 2009, has benefited from the export of fresh water.

Around 5.5 million expatriate workers sent US\$23 million (6.7 per cent of GDP) in remittances in 2009, which were projected to increase to US\$25 million in 2010, with money flowing directly into family budgets. Private enterprise is still

considered to be the long term solution to high unemployment and poverty. GDP per capita fell from US\$5,006 in 2008 to US\$ 4,976 in 2009, before expecting to rise to US\$5,148 in 2010. Although the rise mirrored the rise in GDP growth, the rate was less than the rate established in earlier years.

In July 2010 the European Investment Bank provided credit of US\$10 million to support small and medium enterprises (SME) and projects for renewable energy in Dominica. The EU has also provided assistance in the development of the government's tourism development plan, which seeks to promote Dominica's ecotourism, as well as help to develop geothermal energy resources.

External trade

Dominica is a member of the Caribbean Community and Common Market (Caricom) and operates within the single market (Caribbean Single Market and Economy (CSME)), which became operational in 2006. As a member of the Eastern Caribbean Currency Union (ECCU) Dominica uses the common Eastern Caribbean Dollar.

Light manufacturing has become more important to Dominica's export trade as banana exports to the EU were cut in the mid-2000s.

Imports

Principal imports include manufactured goods, machinery and equipment, food and chemicals.

Main sources: Japan (33.4 per cent of total in 2011), US (15.3 per cent), Trinidad and Tobago (13.6 per cent).

Exports

The principal exports include, soap, bay oil, vegetables and citrus fruit, foodstuffs and fresh water. Bananas are still an export commodity, despite their fall in production and pre-eminence.

Main destinations: Japan (43.5 per cent of total in 2011), Antigua and Barbuda (7.8 per cent), Jamaica (6.9 per cent).

Agriculture

Agricultural production accounted for 11.2 per cent of total GDP in 2011, with an overall increase in the sector of 5.1 per cent compared to a 7.7 per cent decline in 2010. Positive growth was recorded in all of the major sub-sectors except livestock. An increase of 6.3 per cent was recorded in crops; mainly attributable to bananas which recorded a marked increase of 23.1 per cent and forestry which recorded growth of 0.44 per cent. Fishing yielded a positive growth of 11.8 per cent after a decline of 17.5 per cent in 2010.

The typical annual fish catch is over 1,100t, plus 4t of other seafood. Forestry potential is not exploited.

Industry and manufacturing

Industry accounts for 24 per cent of GDP. The manufacturing sector is small-scale and centred on soap production, construction, agricultural processing (mainly coconut oil and copra), canned fruit juices, cigarettes, cigars and rum. Water bottling for export is also important.

Tourism

The hotel and restaurant sector is estimated to have grown by 6.1 per cent in 2011 in contrast to marginal growth of 0.5 per cent in 2010. Total number of visitor arrivals up to December 2011 is estimated to have decreased by 1.2 per cent. The number of cruise calls and passengers is also estimated to have decreased significantly, due mainly to a very inactive off-season during which there were no cruise calls. However, noticeable increases in the average daily expenditure and average length of stay have compensated for the shortfall in numbers. Total visitor expenditure has increased from US\$251.5 million in 2010 to US\$304.7 million in 2011.

There are no known hydrocarbon reserves. Import of oil was 1,000 barrels per day in 2008. In 2005, Dominica, plus a number of other Caribbean states, signed an agreement with Venezuela to establish PetroCaribe, a multi-national oil company, owned by the participating states. PetroCaribe buys low-priced Venezuelan crude oil under long-term payment plans.

Any use of natural gas or coal is commercially insignificant.

Energy

Total installed generating capacity was 24MW in 2006. The Dominica Electricity Services (Domlec) has exclusive rights, until 2025, to provide generation, distribution, transmission and sale of electricity. Power is generated by both hydro and conventional thermal plants.

Plans for the commercial development of a geothermal-fuelled power plant, developed by the Eastern Caribbean Geothermal Development Project (ECGDP) (or Geo-Caraïbes), which is estimated will provide 60–120MW overall, will be operated by the West Indies Power Limited (WIPL), and owned by ECGDP countries.

Financial markets

Stock exchange

Eastern Caribbean Securities Exchange (ECSE)

Banking and insurance

The seven members of the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS), Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, Montserrat, St Kitts and Nevis, St Lucia and St Vincent and the Grenadines, share a common currency (the East

Caribbean dollar (EC\$) and central bank. The British Virgin Islands and Anguilla are associate members.

Central bank

Eastern Caribbean Central Bank, St Kitts and Nevis.

Offshore facilities

The offshore financial sector makes a significant contribution to Dominican GDP and it is an area that the government would like to see progress. The government introduced anti-money laundering legislation and in 2003 Dominica was removed from the OECD blacklist of non-compliant countries.

Time

GMT minus four hours

Geography

Dominica is situated in the Windward Islands group of the West Indies, lying between Guadeloupe to the north and Martinique to the south.

The island has a rugged mountainous interior. It has volcanic activity, with the second largest boiling lake in the world (after Rotorua, New Zealand), where a waterfall feeds water onto a crater that is thought to have a magma chamber below. Morne Diablatins is the highest peak at 1,447 metres.

Much of the island is virgin rain forest with steep rivers flowing down to the shore of either black volcanic or golden sands.

Hemisphere

Northern

Climate

Sub-tropical with year-round tradewinds moderating the heat. Daytime temperatures range from 24–32 degrees Celsius; coolest from December–March. It is driest from January–May. The hurricane season, when storms can be very violent, is from June–October; rainfall is much higher in mountain areas. Annual rainfall in Roseau is 125–200cm and much higher inland.

Dress codes

Formal business attire.

Entry requirements

Passports

Required by all except, Canadian citizens travelling with proof of citizenship with photo ID and French nationals using their national *Carte d'identité*. Proof of onward/return passage is also required. Canadian nationals require a passport for re-entry to their country from January 2007).

Visa

Tourist visas up to 21 days are valid for all visitors who can show proof of a return/onward ticket and sufficient funds for the duration of the stay. Longer visa-free stays are only granted to designated nationals of the Americas, Europe and

Australasia. Business visas will be issued to visitors who represent foreign companies, who must present proof of employment.

Contact the nearest High Commission or embassy for further information and application form.

Currency advice/regulations

The import of local and foreign currency is unlimited but must be declared, export is limited to the amount imported. Travellers cheques are accepted but to avoid extra exchange fees US dollar denominations are recommended. ATMs are available.

Health (for visitors)

Mandatory precautions

Yellow fever vaccination certificate required if arriving from infected area.

Advisable precautions

Immunisation for hepatitis A is useful. Other lesser risks include typhoid, bacillary and amoebic dysentery and occasional outbreaks of dengue fever as well as haemorrhagic dengue fever. Water precautions should be taken in rural areas. As visitors are required to pay up-front for treatment, it is strongly recommended to take out full medical insurance.

Hotels

Most hotels are family-run and situated around the capital. Hotel bills include a 10 per cent service charge.

Credit cards

All major cards are accepted.

Public holidays (national)

Fixed dates

1 Jan (New Year's Day), 3 Nov (Independence Day), 4 Nov (Community Service Day), 25–26 Dec (Christmas).

Variable dates

Carnival (Feb), Good Friday, Easter Monday (Mar/April), May Day (first Mon in May), Whit Monday (last Mon in May), August Monday (first Mon in Aug).

Working hours

Banking

Mon–Thu: 0800–1500; Fri: 0800–1700.

Business

Mon–Fri: 0800–1600. Sat: 0800–1300.

Government

Mon: 0800–1300, 1400–1700; Tue–Fri: 0800–1300, 1400–1600.

Telecommunications

In December 2006, a section of the fibre optic cable, traversing the entire Eastern Caribbean (around 1900km in length), was landed in Dominica. The cable begins in Puerto Rico and ends in Trinidad, connecting 12 islands. The cable delivers internet and telephony services.

Mobile/cell phones

GSM 850 and 900/1900 services available throughout most of the islands.

Electricity supply

220/240V AC, 50 cycles, with European three pin plugs.

Social customs/useful tips

Dominica's national dish is made from a large land frog, the *crapaud* or mountain chicken. In 2004, a ban was placed on hunting the amphibians, which are facing extinction.

Getting there

Air

National airline: None

International airport/s: Melville Hall (DOM), 64km north-east of Roseau; Canefield (DCF), 5km north of Roseau. Both of these airports are too small for international jets; access by air is via Antigua, Barbados, Costa Rica, Martinique or Guadeloupe.

Airport tax: Departure tax: EC\$55, for a stay of more than 24 hours.

Surface

Water: There are ferries to surrounding islands.

Main port/s: Roseau (Woodbridge Bay) and Portsmouth (Prince Rupert's Bay).

Getting about

National transport

Air: Regional airline Carib Express based in Barbados.

Road: The network is over 750km, most of which is classified as first class.

City transport

Taxis: Available at airports and through hotels. Fixed rate system.

Car hire

A temporary local driver's permit is required, priced EC\$30, and can be obtained on production of an national driving licence. Drivers must be aged between 25-65 years with at least two years experience.

The speed limit is generally 20mph.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

The addresses listed below are a selection only. While World of Information makes every endeavour to check these addresses, we cannot guarantee that changes have not been made, especially to telephone numbers and area codes. We would welcome any corrections.

Telephone area codes

The international direct dialling code (IDD) for Dominica is +1 767, followed by subscriber's number.

Chambers of Commerce

Dominica Association of Industry and Commerce, 6 Cross Street, PO Box 85,

Roseau (tel:448-2874; fax: 448-6868; e-mail: daic@marpin.dm).

Banking

Agricultural, Industrial & Development Bank (AID Bank), Charles Avenue, Goodwill (tel: 448-2853).

Bank of Nova Scotia, 28 Hillsborough Street, PO Box 520, Roseau (tel: 448-8580).

Banque Française Commerciale Antilles Guiyane, Queen Mary Street, PO Box 166, Roseau (tel: 448-4040).

Barclays Bank, 2 Old Street, PO Box 4, Roseau (tel: 448-2571).

Dominica Co-operative Credit Union, Great Marlborough Street, Roseau (tel: 82-191).

National Commercial Bank of Dominica, 64 Hillsborough Street, PO Box 271, Roseau (tel: 448-4401).

Royal Bank of Canada, Bay Front, PO Box 19, Roseau (tel: 448-2771).

Central bank

Eastern Caribbean Central Bank, Agency Office, PO Box 23, Dorsett House, Corner Old Street and Hodges Lane, Roseau (tel: 448-8001; fax: 448-8002).

Stock exchange

Eastern Caribbean Securities Exchange (ECSE), www.ecseonline.com

Travel information

Cardinal Airlines, 26 King George V Street, PO Box 661, Roseau (tel: 449-8922; fax: 449-8923).

Ministry of tourism

Ministry of Tourism, Port and Employment, Government Headquarters, Kennedy Avenue, Roseau (tel: 82-401).

National tourist organisation offices

Dominica Tourist Board, National Development Corporation, PO Box 293, Roseau (tel: 82-045; fax: 85-840).

Division of Tourism (National Development Corporation), PO Box 73, Valley Road, Roseau (tel: 82-186, 82-351; fax: 85-840).

Ministries

Ministry of Agriculture and the Environment, Government Headquarters, Kennedy Avenue, Roseau (tel: 82-401; fax: 87-999).

Ministry of Communications, Works and Housing, Government Headquarters, Kennedy Avenue, Roseau (tel: 82-401; fax: 84-807).

Ministry of Community Development and Women's Affairs, Kennedy Avenue, Roseau (tel: 82-401; fax: 98-220).

Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth Affairs, Government Headquarters, Kennedy Avenue, Roseau (tel: 82-401; fax: 80-080).

Ministry of External Affairs, Legal Affairs and Labour, Government Headquarters, Kennedy Avenue, Roseau (tel: 82-401; fax: 85-200).

Ministry of Finance, Industry and Planning (The Economic Development Unit), Government Headquarters, Kennedy Avenue, Roseau (tel: 82-401; fax: 80-054).

Ministry of Health and Social Security, Government Headquarters, Kennedy Avenue, Roseau (tel: 82-401; fax: 86-086).

Ministry of Privatisation and Foreign Investment (National Development Corporation), PO Box 293, Valley Road, Roseau (tel: 82-045).

Ministry of Trade and Marketing, Government Headquarters, Kennedy Avenue, Roseau (tel: 82-401; fax: 86-103).

Office of the Prime Minister, Government Headquarters, Kennedy Ave, Roseau (tel: 82-406).

Other useful addresses

Co-operative Citrus Growers' Association, 21 Hanover St, Roseau (tel: 82-062).

Dominica Banana Marketing Corp (DBMC), Corner of Queen Mary St and Turkey Lane, Roseau (82-671).

Dominica Broadcasting Corporation, Victoria Street, Roseau (tel: 83-283; fax: 82-918).

Dominica Embassy in US, 3216 New Mexico Ave, NW Washington DC 20016 (tel: (+1-202) 364-6781).

Dominica Export-Import Agency (Dexia), PO Box 173, Roseau (tel: 82-780; fax: 86-308).

Dominica Hotel Association, PO Box 270, Roseau (tel: 84-436).

Dominica National Development Corporation (NDC), PO Box 293, Valley Road, Bath Estate, Roseau (tel: 82-045; fax: 85-840; internet site: <http://ndcdominica.dm/index.htm>).

International Business Unit, Ministry of Finance, Government Headquarters, Kennedy Avenue, Roseau (tel: 82-401; fax: 80-406; e-mail: ibu@cwdom.dm).

Other news agencies: Caribbean Net News: www.caribbeanetnews.com

Internet sites

Tourist website: www.avirtualdominica.com