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TRINIDAD & TOBAGO GETS READY TO WELCOME THE WORLD TO THE GREATEST SHOW ON EARTH

PORT OF SPAIN, Trinidad – February 5, 2016 – In less than 72 hours, the dual-island nation of [Trinidad & Tobago](#) will erupt into a parade of merriment as thousands of people from around the world are expected to participate in the biggest street party on Earth - Trinidad Carnival.

Officially celebrated on February 8 and 9 this year, the Carnival festivities began just after Christmas and will continue until Ash Wednesday, loaded with dozens of high energy parties and premier cultural competitions.

Opening with J’ouvert at 4 a.m. on Carnival Monday, revelers will parade through the streets immersed in paint, grease and mud until sunrise. Later in the day and all day on Tuesday, thousands of masqueraders will flood the streets throughout the islands in bold, colorful costumes, dancing through the parade routes to the exhilarating sound of soca, steelpan and calypso music.

From its diverse people and culture to its amazing biodiversity, Trinidad & Tobago breaks the mold of the typical Caribbean destination. The destination boasts a year-long calendar of cultural events and festivals on both islands, including friendly, multi-ethnic people and amazing opportunities for eco-adventure everything from birding to biking to hiking to diving and cave exploring.

A group of influential international journalists are currently visiting the destination, participating in a Carnival Familiarization (FAM) Trip, learning about both beautiful islands.

Organized by the Tourism Development Company Ltd. (TDC) in collaboration with overseas representatives, including Coral Gables based agency Cheryl Andrews Marketing Communications (CAMC), the press group includes Aron Huey a photo journalist for the National Geographic Magazines and Contributing Artist for Harper’s Magazine, Jennifer Hartley of Ottawa Life Magazine–Ottawa’s leading general interest and lifestyle magazine and Alain P. Arthur, co-founder and host of Caribbean Vibrations TV–a staple in the Canadian and Caribbean Community for over 10 years, airing on 3 major networks worldwide.

The FAM embraces an exciting opportunity for the journalists to experience the spectacle of Carnival as well an opportunity to sample culinary and eco adventure attractions such Maracas Beach, Fort George, Down the Islands and the Caroni Bird Sanctuary.

An eruption of color, music, revelry, and ingenuity, Trinidad's Carnival is a time for happiness and unabated fun. If you will be missing the celebrations this year, be sure to join the party on February 27 and 28, 2017.

About Trinidad & Tobago

Home to the largest Carnival celebration in the Caribbean, Trinidad & Tobago is the southernmost Caribbean nation located seven miles east off the Venezuelan coast. Ranked the happiest nation in the Caribbean by the United Nations' [World Happiness Report](#), in 2013 and 2015, the destination's distinct and harmonious blend of cultures, eclectic cuisine and eco-adventure activities continue to attract travelers of all ages to its shores. Birthplace of the limbo and the world famous steelpan, the only-acoustic instrument invented in the 20th century, as well as a diverse mix of monthly [festivals and events](#), it's little wonder that Trinidad is known as the 'cultural capital of the Caribbean.' Sister island Tobago offers a quintessential Caribbean vibe with secluded beaches, quaint villages, private villas and award-winning environmental treasures. Tobago is home to the largest brain coral in the Western Hemisphere and the oldest protected reserve in the Western hemisphere, The Main Ridge Rainforest. Come explore Trinidad & Tobago - the true Caribbean. For more information on Trinidad & Tobago, visit www.goTrinidadandTobago.com or www.visittobago.gov.tt.

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