



The Journal

FAC examines impact of war on global food security.



Marriott Frenchman's Reef in St. Thomas: A destination hub in the Caribbean after a \$50M renovation.

October 2, 2022; U.S. Virgin Islands. Last month the beachfront Marriott Frenchman's Reef, completed its renovation and opened to the public. It is the largest resort in the U.S. Virgin Islands, boasts a beautiful hilltop location overlooking a private beach with sweeping views of the sea and Charlotte Amalie harbor. Shuttle service operates between the main resort and the beach below, and ferries make the five-minute run across the harbor to downtown Charlotte Amalie for shopping, sightseeing and dining. Frenchman's Reef and the beachside Morning Star Resort share restaurant and sports/beach facilities. An optional inclusive plan is available.

For 37 years, the Marriott's Frenchman's Reef Resort has delivered stunning views for guests seeking the ultimate Caribbean island experience. Sitting high on a cliff, the property delivers an expansive look at St. Thomas' Charlotte Amalie Harbour.

Excitement was running high, for both loyal returning guests and first-time St. Thomas visitors, in anticipation of the Marriott investing \$50 million in a sweeping summertime makeover of the property. An October re-opening will reveal luxurious upgrades to the Frenchman's rooms, spa, pool, restaurants, and exercise facility.

For travelers planning on a summer time escape to St. Thomas, don't let the Frenchman's Reef makeover stand in your way. The Morning Star Beach Club, the Frenchman's neighboring sister property, will welcome guests seeking a summer retreat on the



Frenchman's Reef in St. Thomas

doorstep of the Caribbean Sea.



Oscartek new design elements as part of the remodel

Frenchman's Reef – The Future is Now

Frenchman's Reef renovation began on May 1 with fresh décor upgrades of their spacious rooms, major expansion for the new Reef Spa, and a complete redesign of all the pool areas. Guests will also discover a strategic relocation and upgrade of the resort's cardiovascular and strength training facility. The Frenchman's Reef's legion of admirers will be thrilled that all restaurant renovation will be pointed toward the hotel's landmark view of Charlotte Amalie Harbour.

Indoor and Outdoor Dining on the Water

When selecting a Caribbean hotel, dining ranks second only to the beach in traveler importance. All restaurant redesigns at the Frenchman's Reef will place a premium on what guests see, hear, taste, and feel. The renovations on the legendary Windows on the

Harbour restaurant means dining with a view goes from better to best. An awe-inspiring harbor view will be part of the experience, whether you're having breakfast and lunch.

When in the Caribbean, partaking in outdoor dining is a must. The Frenchman Reef's Sunset Bar & Grill is a as part of the pool and harbour setting option steeped in the tropical ambiance that only island fare provides. Want more? The Rum Bar Lounge is a popular indoor/outdoor venue with a terrace view embracing the Sea. This is the perfect setting for sampling local Cruzan rum drinks or a rainbow of fruit coladas.

If a meal that is on the beach is why you came to St. Thomas in the first place, then shuttle or stroll over to Coco Joe's at the Morning Star. Coco Joe's is mere steps from the Caribbean Sea and is practically a toes in the sand outdoor dining option. Imagine starting your day with a panoramic ocean view along Morning Star Beach. Savor the scenery while enjoying crab cake benedict for breakfast or grilled ahi salad at lunch?

If you're looking for the latest and greatest in island cuisine, check out Havana Blue at the Morning Star. Sipping comes easy when you try a mambo margarita, a blueberry mojito, or a tall sunset sangria. Surf and turf entrees like Miso sea bass, tuna trinity, and Chile espresso filet are all can't miss dinner choices.

Gaga Over the Spa

The Reef Spa will expand to a luxurious 4,000 square feet. The Reef's ultra-contemporary spa facility translates into seven treatment rooms, a couples room, massage cabanas, a eucalyptus steam room, and beauty salon. The new treatment menu will include LaStone Therapy, Mango Indulgence Wrap, skin revitalizers, facials, manicures, and pedicures.

Excursions and Activities Beyond the Blue

When in the U.S. Virgin Islands, one tends to do what St. Thomas islanders do. This means snorkeling, scuba, fishing, boating, golf, and tennis. A continuing convenience at the Frenchman's Reef is having all these island activities at your fingertips. Knowledgeable excursion agents are on duty in the Frenchman's front lobby. The resort even has its own dock facing Charlotte Amalie Harbour. If one wishes, guests can reserve any or all of these activities online, prior to arrival. For tennis buffs, the Frenchman's Reef tennis court is unlike any other you'll find in the Caribbean. The backdrop to this court is perched right on the Caribbean Sea. Even if your game is off, the views and photos opportunities are spot on.

Whatever your reason for staying in St. Thomas, you'll find that the Frenchman's Reef aims to please. Their outdoor wedding gazebo site is as picturesque a setting as you'll find anywhere. The hotel also has 60,000 square feet dedicated to meeting rooms and banquet space. Frenchman's Reef is a destination for any inclination.

"We're so excited about what our guests will discover when we re-open our doors this fall. The rooms, the pool, the spa, the restaurants, and exercise facility will all be upgraded or redesigned. It was time for a change," General Manager Jose Gonzalez Espinosa said.

One thing that won't change at the Frenchman's Reef Resort is their stunning views of St. Thomas' scenic harbor. Some things change and others must stay the same. For nearly four decades, the Frenchman Reef Resort guests wouldn't have it any other way. Recent Major Renovation Project Completed: The Marriott Frenchman's Reef completed a \$50 million renovation project which included new interiors, modern furnishings and new color schemes in the main resort tower's 302 guest rooms (to include the Ocean Tower and Harbor Wing building). Restoration of "The Reef" included expansion and updating of the spa and health club, a redesign of the outdoor common areas including the pool and water features, a makeover of the Windows on the Harbor restaurant. Renovated guest rooms now feature elegant Caribbean décor, rain-style shower heads, Marriott's revive bedding featuring 300-thread-count sheets, down comforters and thicker mattresses with plush toppers and fluffier pillows. The Reef Health Club now features a new fitness center with a more accessible location and an exclusive spa pool featuring bubble beds, massage jets and plunge areas. The resort's pool and water features were transformed to create a more satisfying and fully integrated, aquatic experience. Other amenities available include private concierge services, Spa cabanas on the beach, room service, 2 tennis courts and pro shop as well as motorized and non-motorized water sports.

FAC examines impact of war on global food security.

10.03.2022 By Arvin Donley

LONDON, ENGLAND — The Food Assistance Committee (FAC) during a meeting on Sept. 30 discussed the impact of Russia's invasion of Ukraine on global grain markets.

“All members present except one overwhelmingly expressed concern about the direct effects of Russia’s invasion of Ukraine on global food security,” the FAC said. “These are exacerbating a situation that was already dire, taking hunger to unprecedented levels and affecting, in particular, the most vulnerable countries and populations.”

The session, held in a hybrid format, included representatives from Australia, Denmark, the European Union, Finland, France, Japan, Korea (Republic of), Luxembourg, Russia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland and the United States.

The majority of committee members condemned Russia’s attempts to blame other countries for the current food crisis.

The International Grains Council (IGC) Secretariat updated the FAC on the latest developments in grains and oilseeds markets, which included the impact of the Black Sea Grain Initiative and the resumption of seaborne shipments from Ukraine. In addition, the Secretariat also provided an update on 2022-23 crop prospects and highlighted some key drivers of demand, as well as developments in freight and currency markets. Furthermore, the Secretariat highlighted some potential risk factors, including restrictive export policies, the ENSO weather system developments and elevated fertilizer prices.

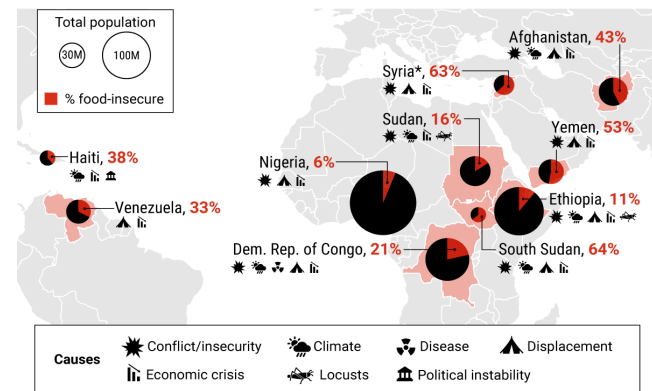
The FAC voiced strong support for the Black Sea Grain Initiative, which already has moved more than 5 million tonnes of grains and oilseeds from Ukrainian ports to world markets and highlighted that this essential initiative should continue without interruption. “In response to the global food crisis, FAC members are standing firmly by countries in need, stepping-up their humanitarian food assistance, multiplying advocacy efforts and taking measures to stabilize markets and prices,” the FAC said. The FAC reviewed the global situation regarding hunger, malnutrition and current food emergencies against the backdrop of recent developments, including the supply and demand outlook for global grains, rice and oilseeds markets.

In its most recent grain market report, the IGC forecast total world grains ending stocks will fall to an eight-year low in 2022-23, despite production being the second highest on record.

821 million
people go to bed hungry every day

Global hunger hotspots in 2021

Top 10 countries projected to have the most food-insecure people this year



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*Data for Syria include 1.7 million Syrians living inside camps
 Sources: Food and Agriculture Organization, World Food Programme



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