

Caribbean holidays: These islands are open for business after last year's hurricanes

looks at which islands have recovered, and where is currently open for business. By ELLY BLAKE

CARIBBEAN update: Following a horrific hurricane season last year, Express.co.uk

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Among the worst was Hurricane Irma, a category five storm which was the most powerful one to ever be recorded across the Atlantic Ocean. This was rapidly replaced with Hurricane Jose,

according to the Red Cross.

Many Caribbean islands were devastated last year including Anguilla and Barbuda

which wreaked havoc on Antiqua and Barbuda. Days later, Maria, a category three hurricane, devastated the islands of Dominica and Puerto Rico - with winds of up to 160 mph recorded.

The islands of St. Kitts, the Dominican Republic and Antigua all miracously managed to remain

Last year, the 2017 hurricane season caused unrivalled levels of carnage across the Caribbean leaving communities battered and devastated - causing close to £210 billion worth of damage,

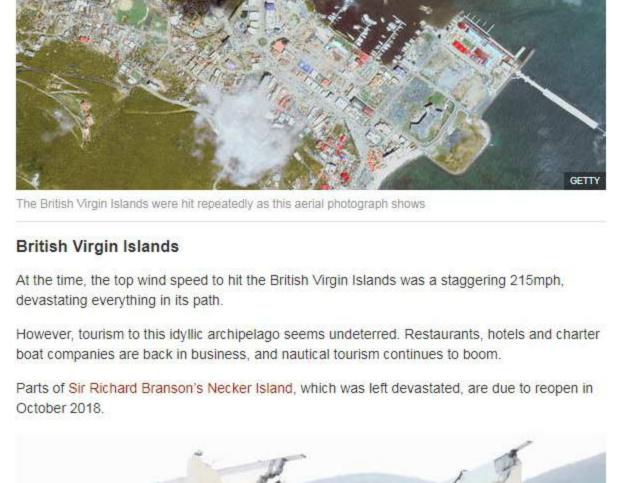
unscathed. However, over six months on, the Caribbean islands are making major progress on the road to recovery. According to the Caribbean Tourism Organisation's (CTO) hurricane update, some of

the worst affected destinations - including Dominica, Barbuda, British Virgin Islands, Anguilla and Puerto Rico - "continue to make progress", it was reported by TTG.



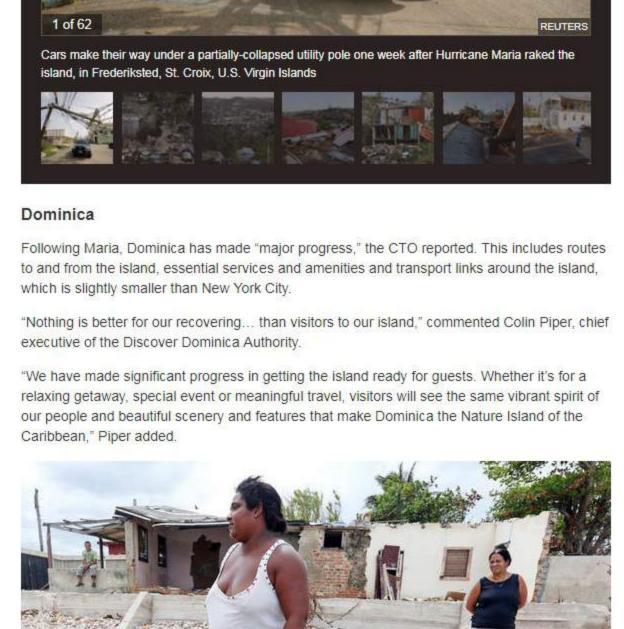
Zemi Beach House.

The island has also welcomed a number of new luxury hotels since January 2018, such as









time for the winter season. The Red Cross has been working in Cuba to restore access to clean water, improve sanitation and rebuild damaged homes.

Puerto Rico

by flood damage.

Cuba

Cuba was also struck by Hurricane Irma

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100,000 Cuban homes were slammed by Hurricane Irma, and Havana was one of the worst hit

However, much of Havana was cleaned up within weeks and tourism facilities re-opened in

Tsunami warning after earthquake strikes Caribbean

ORIGINAL 7.6 M

MAGNITUDE

6.6+ 5.6+

4.6+

1,000 3.6+ EARTHQUAKE OFF HONDURAS, TSUNAMI WAVES POSSIBLE

100

According to TTG, there were more than 120 Puerto Rico Tourism Company-endorsed hotels open as of mid-February, with more set to re-open during the year.

Over the Easter Break, many hotels operated at or near 100 per cent occupancy, showing promising signs that the island is back open for business. All airports to the country are now also open, and the capital San Juan has even been tipped as one of Lonely Planet's best cities to visit in 2018.

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