

DOMINICAN TOURISM SET TO BOOST THE COUNTRY'S ECONOMY



Dominican tourism industry is expected to have a successful year 2017, due to the number of investments and projects that will be undertaken throughout the year, according to Dominican Tourism Minister Francisco Javier García.

"The year 2017 will be extraordinary for Dominican tourism," Garcia said. The official said that **in the first 15 days of January this year more plans were submitted for new investments than last year.** In that regard, the Tourism Minister stated that the impact of tourism in 2017 will be unprecedented.

"In the coming weeks, new projects for Dominican tourism hubs will be unveiled. This will further strengthen the country's economic growth," he said.

García noted that in 2016 the tourism sector generated more than 6.7 billion dollars.

In addition, he pointed out that last year more than 5,000 new hotel rooms were opened, while at the same time he said that another 6,500 rooms are under the construction or in the finishing stage.

For his part, the CEO of Banreservas, Simón Lizardo, indicated that **Universal Bank has granted loans of more than 42 billion pesos to hotels and restaurants.** During this period, Banreservas's loan portfolio has been the fastest growing.

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