



THE JAMAICAN



DESTINATION MAGAZINE + PRODUCT UPDATE



JAMAICA
HEARTBEAT OF THE WORLD

VOLUME #5

WWW.VISITJAMAICA.COM

SUMMER/FALL 2020

**AFTER THE DARKNESS OF THE NIGHT AND THE MIST OF
THE MORNING, THE SUN RISETH AND A NEW DAY DAWNS!**



**JAMAICA BELIEVES IN THIS NEW DAY AND ASSURES YOU, OUR VALUED
TRAVEL PARTNERS, THAT WE WILL CONTINUE TO BE HERE FOR YOU. WE
RECOGNIZE AND APPRECIATE YOUR GOOD WORK. THANK YOU FOR YOUR
CONTINUED SUPPORT. WE LOVE YOU! XOXOXO.**

**THANK YOU TO ALL OUR FRONT
LINE & ESSENTIAL WORKERS.
WE APPRECIATE YOU!**



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Travel/ Tour Professional

CONTACT US
876-619-1565 | 876-381-0299 (Local)
954-837-6290 (Skype)
Email: reservations@vipattractions.com

VISIT US ONLINE
www.vipattractions.com

EASIEST PLACE TO GET TO!

Jamaica has made it a priority to ensure we have convenient airlift, to help your clients make it down to our Island hassle-free. We are served by all your favorite airlines and tour operators.

THERE IS AIR SERVICE TO JAMAICA, EVERY SINGLE DAY OF THE YEAR!

sunwing



WEST JET



SWOP



Caribbean Airlines



Air transat



**AIR CANADA
rouge**



TravelBrands

MONTEGO BAY
SANGSTER INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT



KINGSTON
NORMAN MANLEY INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT



BOSCobel
IAN FLEMING INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT



There are new entry protocols for Jamaica!
All travelers must complete an on-line travel authorization application. It must be submitted within five (5) days of intended travel date to Jamaica.

Please find your travel authorization form here:
www.visitjamaica.com/travelauthorization



JAMAICA
HEARTBEAT OF THE WORLD

Do you live in Jamaica?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Welcome to Travel Authorization for Jamaica platform. Introduced in June 2020, the sole use of the information collected here is to assess the health risks of all persons intending to travel to Jamaica and to auto-populate portions of the Immigration and Customs C6 form to enhance the process on your arrival.

HOTEL + RESORT UPDATES

NEW



HALF MOON ADDS NEW ROOMS!

Jamaica's iconic resort destination is home to three distinctive accommodation experiences – Rose Hall Villas, Founders Cove and Eclipse. The newly unveiled Eclipse captivates discerning travellers through unique luxury experiences. These include beautifully-appointed rooms and suites, epicurean fare and the enhancement of Half Moon's two miles of beachfront with natural swimming lagoon and infinity-edge pool. **Stay More, Save More** and enjoy a private villa with five-to-seven bedrooms and private pool. www.halfmoon.com

NEW



OCEAN CORAL SPRINGS OPENS!

H10 Hotels expanded to Jamaica with its first property located in the Falmouth area of Greater Montego Bay. With 513 suites; 8 restaurants; 2 pools and a host of other elegant amenities, this resort offers a spectacular white sand beach on Jamaica's north west coastline. Swim-up master suites; rooftop master suites; theatre and disco; Despacio spa centre; bowling alley; gaming room; this resort has all the comforts to enjoy the time of your life in Jamaica! There are 14 suites specially adapted for physically challenged guests.

NEW



EXCELLENCE OYSTER BAY DEBUTS NEW SEASIDE BUTLER SUITES!

These most luxurious 1,510 square foot Beach Villas place you on your own secluded stretch of beach. Each of the 5 Beach Villas comes with their own 226 square foot private pool which is just steps from their private beach. The inside boasts a separate living room complete with bar area, a master bedroom with ocean views and walk in closet. Enjoy your private courtyard garden, where you can indulge in a soak in and outdoor jacuzzi for two.

NEW



AC MARRIOTT OPENS NEW HOTEL IN KINGSTON!

Marriott Hotels & Resorts added to its Jamaica product line with the new AC Hotel by Marriott in Kingston's chic business district. The first AC hotel in Jamaica and only the second in the Caribbean. This hotel is geared towards the modern traveler. Its 220 rooms & suites offer all the creature comforts and then some! Plush linen, hi-speed internet, fully stocked mini bar, outdoor lounge and pool, plus a 24 hour fitness centre will make your clients' stay in the Capital a pleasant respite.



RIU OCHO RIOS HOTEL OPENS AFTER MAJOR UPGRADE!

Fresh from its \$85 million USD upgrade, the new RIU Ocho Rios is almost a brand new hotel! Every section and every amenity received an upgrade at this resort. Boasting 45 new rooms and a spanking new "Splash Water World" water park, RIU also completed a total refurbishing of its existing rooms. Important to note the new rooms include two- bedroom family rooms, bringing the total room stock to 901.

HOTEL + RESORT UPDATES

NEW



SANDALS ROYAL CARIBBEAN ADDS NEW SANDRINGHAM WING!

The newly constructed Sandringham building boasts the spacious Beachfront Honeymoon One-bedroom walk out Butler Suites with tranquility soaking tub; the Royal Beachfront Club Elite Suites with balcony tranquility soaking tub and the Royal Beachfront Butler Corner Suite with balcony tranquility soaker tub. It's not just new rooms though! The Spices Pan-Caribbean restaurant and the Bombay Club Indian-themed restaurant complement the regal experience your clients will enjoy!



FRANKLYN D RESORT GETS NEW AMENITIES!

Kids & families love FDR, particularly for its legendary super nanny program! The Honeycomb restaurant has been expanded all the way to the beach! A new adults-only bar now complements the Overproof restaurant, which serves authentic Jamaican cuisine. New furniture, tiling, paint and soft furnishings have been enhanced in all the suites. Flat screen TVs, cabanas added around the main pool area and new huts on the beach are among the new additions to the property.



MELIA BRACO ADDS SOFT ADVENTURE PARK!

Already noted for its expansive property, while maintaining the atmosphere of a village within a village, the Melia Braco has made it easy for its clients to have their soft adventure experience right there on property! Conquer the new Adventure Park at Melia Braco, featuring unique, energetic and fun experiences. An 11 meters rock climbing wall, ziplining, trampolines obstacle course, paintball and laser tag activities are on offer. Trained guides shepherd guests through the myriad tours in the park.



ROUND HILL HOTEL & VILLAS ENHANCES ITS CUISINE OFFERINGS!

The award-winning Round Hill Hotel & Villas in beautiful Montego Bay brings new dining flavours to excite the taste buds of travellers. "Wright Life" is a new eatery at the property, serving fruits and vegetables in their original uncooked state. Food and juices are prepared with organic fruits and vegetables to bring the best of health and wellness to guests. Heartful protein shakes for a post-workout refreshment or a plant-based pizza for a late night snack!



LIGUANEA CLUB OFFERS ROOMS & RECREATION IN KINGSTON

With just 38 rooms, the hotel evokes the feel of a Georgian inspired country cottage. With the original hardwood floors restored to its former glory; the rooms on the main building are reminiscent of our colonial heritage mixed with modern simplicity of a minimalist design. Each room has a private balcony overlooking the fruit tree spotted lawns. The rooms on our tennis court block are dressed in clean white walls and crisp white linens and are accented by bursts of colour. High ceilings and ample space makes for a sublime retreat.

www.theliguaneacub.com

SPOTLIGHT ON SMALL HOTELS

Destination Jamaica's product versatility is one of its strongest selling points. Included in that product range, is a wide array of charming Inns & small hotels, spanning the length and breadth of the Island. Most are owner-operated, so your clients will enjoy authentic Jamaican hospitality, often literally at the home of their hosts. For more information on Jamaica's Inns & small hotels, visit: www.jamaicainnsandhotels.com



READING REEF CLUB, MONTEGO BAY

Situated on the Bogue Lagoon in west end Montego Bay, this 28 room property is a home away from home for the traveler looking for a property with true Jamaican hospitality! Its large rooms with equally large verandahs; its private 91.5 meters beach with jetty; its beautiful coral reefs nearby and only 20 minutes from the Montego Bay airport, all make Reading Reef Club Hotel a choice location. Diving enthusiasts will find much to love at this property. **876-952-5909**



JAMAICA INN, OCHO RIOS

For generations, the world's most noted citizens & connoisseurs of luxury have retreated to the Jamaica Inn, for the soft sophistication and gracious service it is known for. Unwind in antique-appointed, yet recently modernized accommodations; savour exquisite island-fresh cuisine and enjoy the magnificence of the glistening Caribbean Sea along its own private beach cove. The accommodations are spacious, impeccable and tasteful. Open your taste buds and partake of creative dishes in an ambiance complementing the salubrious setting. And don't forget the spa! It's one of the Inn's best kept secrets!

www.jamaicainn.com



TERRA NOVA ALL-SUITE HOTEL, KINGSTON

For over 60 years the Terra Nova All-Suite Hotel has remained a timeless gem among Kingston hotels. It's a luxurious marriage of classic sophistication & inviting family-friendly warmth – all in a convenient setting, in the heart of Jamaica's capital. Upon entering Terra Nova, a sense of old world glamour and serenity embraces you. The setting is supremely tranquil, the accommodation lavish and the cuisine, hospitality and amenities beyond compare. Whether business or pleasure brings you to Kingston, you will feel as if an exclusive corner of the Caribbean has been reserved just for you!

www.terranovaljamaica.com



THE CLIFF HOTEL, NEGRIL

A private paradise awaits in Negril, where luxury and relaxation go hand in hand. Here amid the tropical tranquility of Jamaica's West End and perched on a picturesque plateau overlooking Negril Cliffs, the cares of daily life give way to living in the moment. You've arrived. Take your pick from 33 spacious luxury suites and villas, all individually appointed. Selected artwork and furnishings keep Jamaican influences intact with a palette that invites calm, taking its cue from cooling colours of the Caribbean sand and sea.

www.thecliffjamaica.com

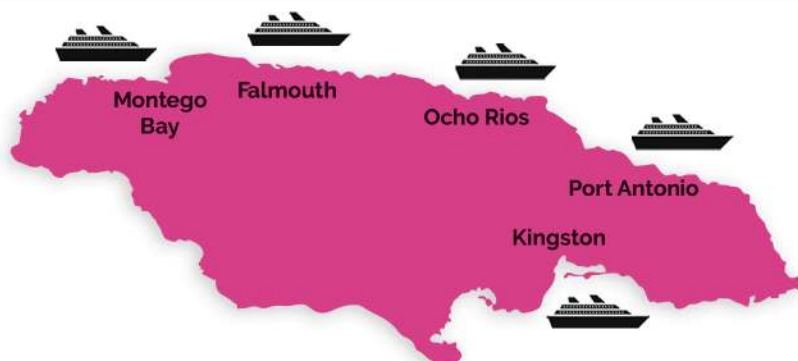


SHIP AHOY! CRUISE NEWS!



The Jamaican port of call experience is a unique blend of adventure and delight - one that will remain in your client's memory long after they have left our shores! Whether their port of call is historic Falmouth; colourful Ocho Rios; complete Montego Bay; lush Port Antonio or energetic Kingston: our island offers an exciting menu of special shore activities. There are excursions and tours organized to please every member of the family. For more information on port of call Jamaica, please log on to www.cruisejamaica.com

Jamaica continues to improve the cruise visitor experience at all its ports of entry. Cruise visitors who have been coming to Jamaica over the years, will notice the marked improvement in infrastructure and hospitality at our cruise ports.



JAMAICA'S NEWEST CRUISE PORT IS PORT ROYAL!

Welcome to Jamaica's newest cruise port of call, Port Royal, Kingston! Well known for its stories of the 1692 earthquake which tossed a major part of the town into the sea, it is steeped in history, heritage and romance. Port Royal was the home of the most famous buccaneer, Sir Henry Morgan. Some popular sites to visit include Fort Charles, the Giddy House, old military artillery store and St Peter's Church. No visit to Port Royal would be complete without enjoying a fresh meal of fried or steamed fish at Gloria's Seafood restaurant!



MARELLA DISCOVERY 2 – FIRST CALL AT PORT ROYAL!

The Marella Discovery II cruise ship was the first major cruise line to call at the Port Royal pier earlier this year in January. Passengers were met by Jamaican government and tourism industry dignitaries and treated to an energetic display of Jamaican hospitality. It wasn't just formalities though, as delectable island cuisine was also on offer to give visitors a real taste of Jamaica! Then, they were off to explore Port Royal on walkabouts, as well as board buses to go see Kingston, the Capital city.

They visited places like Devon House, Bob Marley Museum, Emancipation Park, Gardens & Zoo, University of the West Indies, Kingston Craft Market, The National Gallery among other landmark attractions.

FOCUS ON ATTRACTIONS

Beyond the fantastic resorts and beautiful beaches, Jamaica offers her visitors an exciting array of attractions to meet every comfort level. Whether you are looking to explore caves; swing on a zip line through our lush vegetation or relax on a calm raft ride down a lazy river, Jamaica has something for everyone! There are over 140 different attractions on the Island. Here are a few to tell your clients about! To see more attractions, log onto: www.visitjamaica.com



CINNAMON HILL GREAT HOUSE TOUR; MONTEGO BAY

Cinnamon Hill Great House has been the Jamaican home of the "The Man in Black", legendary country & western singer Johnny Cash and his wife, June Carter Cash for 40 years. This Georgian inspired Great House was originally owned by the family of 19th century poet, Elizabeth Barrett Browning. It was then purchased by the Cash family as their Jamaican retreat after they fell in love with the island. Journey into their lives and experience the essence of who they truly were and the life they lived!

www.rosehall.com



MYSTIC MOUNTAIN-JAMAICA BOBSLED; OCHO RIOS

Mystic Mountain is the adventure experience you must have on any visit to Jamaica! Rainforest Bobsled Jamaica at Mystic Mountain boasts over 100 acres of land. Stretching from the coastal entrance near Dunn's River Falls to over 213 meters above sea level! Environmentally friendly fun for all ages await you here. Explore the unique tropical forest ecosystem with several exhilarating excursions. Enjoy ziplining, nature trail, hummingbird garden, waterslide, chairlift, gondola sky explorer rides, bobsled rides, look out tower or try the brand new Anancy Web rope course and 30 foot climbing wall. All curated for your day of fun and adventure!

www.rainforestadventure.com



UCC CRAIGHTON ESTATE GREAT HOUSE & COFFEE PLANTATION TOUR, KINGSTON

The 200-year-old Craighton Estate Great House has remained one of Jamaica's best preserved Georgian style houses. The Estate was always privately owned and used exclusively as a prestigious summer home for Jamaica's Governors; clergymen and dignitaries, who sought respite from the Kingston summer heat.

The most exciting part of the tour is the Craighton Coffee Plantation! Guests will be taken to see how coffee is grown and also enjoy the best of freshly brewed Blue Mountain Coffee!

www.uccjamaica.com



JAMWEST MOTORSPORTS & ADVENTURE PARK, NEGRIL

JamWest Motorsports and Adventure Park started as JamWest Speedway in 2003. Located 28 minutes outside of Negril, Jamaica's "capital of casual", the park is home to the largest speedway in the region. There are lots to do at JamWest! Start with an ATV tour like no other. The "Racing Zip" is exclusive to JamWest with zip-lines running parallel, allowing 2 people to race each other simultaneously. Challenge yourself on JamWest's rock-climbing adventure, take a dip in the mineral bath; plunge into the pool from the extreme water-slide or saddle up and enjoy an exhilarating horseback ride into the warm Caribbean Sea. Check out the aviary, the petting zoo or even drive a race car!

www.jamwest.com



EYE ON VILLAS



Destination Jamaica boasts a wide selection of villas and apartments for your discerning clients. Many of our independent villas come with full service butlers, cooks, house keepers and grounds men, to keep your clients in the lap of luxury during their stay. Many others are part of larger villa complexes, with the conveniences of a traditional hotel and the extra special pampering of private villas. To explore more of our villa offerings, visit: www.javavillas.org



TEK TIME VILLA, MONTEGO BAY

Enjoy a pampered life at this glamorous villa located on Rose Hall Estates. Overlooking the 12th hole of Cinnamon Hill golf course, Tek Time offers everything you could want in your vacation: privacy, luxury and pampering from the dedicated staff of five. *TEK TIME* is Jamaican patois for advice that almost all of us need: Take time to slow down and take in all that's good and beautiful around us. Living in a glamorous villa with a staff of five who pamper their guests without ever intruding makes it easy to heed that advice. www.hostedvillas.com



RIO CHICO VILLA, OCHO RIOS

This magnificent 14-acre oceanfront estate is surrounded by lush vegetation, creeks and even waterfalls... not to mention 2 private beaches for you to call your own. To cool off, there's a main pool with a cliff-side infinity area, a beach-side pool and a natural waterfall pool. As you enter through Rio Chico's gates, you can't help but feel as though you've just stepped straight into paradise: passing lily ponds and ivy covered stone bridges on your approach through this magnificent estate. Enjoy its manicured lawns, lush tropical and heavily fruited gardens. English-country-garden meets Jamaican tropical paradise. It's everything you thought it would be & more!

www.riochico.com



LITTLE WATERS ON THE CLIFF VILLA, NEGRIL

This astonishing waterfront villa is situated near Negril on the western tip of Jamaica. Nestled on lush, elevated land with panoramic views of the Caribbean sunset, the property includes beautiful stone bluffs and grottos where guests can dine, relax, or plunge into the luminous water. The contemporary home offers an exquisite blend of vintage Jamaican ambiance and resort-style amenities, including a beautiful pool, whirlpool spa, and truly exceptional private staff. With accommodations for six guests—including two king suites with breathtaking views—this secure, wheelchair-accessible vacation rental is ideal for families or small groups of friends.

www.littlewatersnegril.com



MILLS VILLA, RUNAWAY BAY

True Jamaican hospitality awaits your clients at this 4-star villa, offering the best of the best Island experience Jamaica is known for. A restaurant, an outdoor pool, a jacuzzi and a free food / drink shopping service are available at this villa. Free Wi-Fi in public spaces and free self parking are also provided. Guests can also appreciate conveniences such as a spacious living room and five bedrooms with full ensuite bathrooms. Rooms open to picturesque balconies or patios. The fully staffed villa comes with cook, housekeeper, gardener and pool attendant and access to the nearby Cardiff Hall Beach Club. www.jamaicatreasures.com

HOT OFF THE PRESS! NEWS YOU CAN USE!

TUNE IN TO THE JAMAICA IRIE HOUR!

Jamaica Tourist Board Canada BDM Team is available to you all the time but we especially have a very special time for you every Tuesday at 2:30pm Eastern Time. It's the Jamaica Irie Hour!



Tune in on the Zoom platform and enjoy your weekly pick-me-upper, with your JTB Canada sales team and our special industry guests each week. To register, log on to www.visitjamaica.com/canada/engage

JTS MEMBERS CAN NOW BOOK THEIR MEET & GREET DIRECTLY ON-LINE!

Jamaica Travel Specialists no longer need to call the office or send an e-mail to book their meet & greet courtesies at the Montego Bay Airport. We have moved the entire process on line to make it easy and convenient for you! Just log on to www.oneloveagents.com Scroll down, then click on the meet & greet assist for Canadian Travel Agents and submit your request from there. You will then be contacted for follow up.

WHAT'S IN A NAME....INTRODUCING JIMMY CLIFF BOULEVARD!

You may have heard of the Hip Strip in Montego Bay; the same tourist artery running through the downtown resort area, otherwise known as Gloucester Avenue. Well, not anymore! The name has been changed to Jimmy Cliff Boulevard, in honour of Jamaica's pioneering musical legend, the Honourable Jimmy Cliff, OM. It's still fine to refer to the new Jimmy Cliff Boulevard as the Hip Strip though!



NEW ZIP LINING AT DUNNS RIVER FALLS & PARK!

Now visitors can not only climb the falls but also zip line over them! Chukka Caribbean Adventures have set up their latest installation at the world-famous Dunn's River Falls! With 7 ziplines and 4 hanging bridges, this is the perfect adrenalin rush experience during your Jamaica visit! The tour is available during the opening hours of the Dunn's River Falls & Park.

POPULAR RESORTS CHANGE HANDS!

A few properties changed hands in recent times: Sunscapes Splash and Sunset Cove Montego Bay are no longer part of the AM Resorts family. When they re-open for regular business, they will operate as Sunset Beach Resort, Spa & Water Park and Sunset Oasis respectively.

Sales contact: Carol Slee – cslee@sunsetresortsjm.com

Jewel Dunn's River and Jewel Runaway Bay resorts are no longer part of the Playa group. They remain closed and a new management entity will be announced in due course.

NEW UNDERWATER SCULPTURE PARK, PORT ANTONIO!

Port Antonio on the north-eastern coast of Jamaica is one of the greenest and lush parts of the country. Yet, there is as much beauty on land as underwater in this picturesque region of the country. The recently opened Underwater Sculpture Park is one such gem. Located in the Cold Harbour area, this attraction adheres to environmentally sustainable practices. It boasts the largest fish sanctuary in the country, spanning over six kilometres. It is a paradise for both novice and experienced divers and snorkelers.

HOT OFF THE PRESS! NEWS YOU CAN USE!



JAM AIR DOMESTIC CARRIER TAKES FLIGHT!

This airline provides fixed-wing domestic air service across Jamaica. Their fleet range from 5 seater Cessna 260 jet to a 37 seater Bombardier dash -8 aircraft. Offering both scheduled and charter flights, JAM Air serves all major resort areas. The airline is run by a team who are FAA and JAA certified aviation professionals.

www.flyjamair.com

CLUB MO BAY ENHANCES ITS OFFERINGS!

VIP Attractions – operators of Club MoBay & Club Kingston airport lounges have announced some enhancements to its product line. In addition to the new lounge spaces added to its airport operations, two new amenities have been put in place. The Nook Business Hub and the Teenage Gaming Lounge. Services may also be booked directly through the Reliable Lounge Booking App. Once the partner code is used, clients may sign in and sign out using the App. www.clubmobay.com

ROUND HILL NOW REPRESENTED IN CANADA BY CANLINK!

The award-winning Round Hill Hotel & Villas in beautiful Montego Bay is now represented in Canada by CanLink. This elegant villa complex is among the most exclusive resort offerings found in Jamaica. CanLink also represents two other elegant gems on the island. The Jamaica Inn over in Ocho Rios, steeped in the best of old world charm and modern hospitality. As well, The Tryall Club in Montego Bay, a 2200 acres luxury estate of 91 private villas. Contact Elaine Carnegie and the CanLink team! www.canlinktravel.com

KNOW THE TOP EVENTS HAPPENING IN JAMAICA!

Driven by both website and mobile phone App, this portal allows visitors and locals to find out information on the top events happening all across Jamaica at all times! Whether they be gastronomy events, health & wellness events, entertainment, sports, shopping or conferences, Top Events Jamaica covers them all! Log on to www.topeventsinjamaica.com or download the App from your mobile store.

INTRODUCING THE NEW FALMOUTH ARTISAN VILLAGE!

The old Hampden Wharf building on Harbour Street in the resort town of Falmouth has been transformed into Jamaica's first of a kind Artisan Village! The Artisan Village is intended to offer Jamaicans and visitors a unique experience which includes music, food, cultural arts and crafts. It offers Jamaicans with creative abilities an opportunity to connect to the tourism value chain and provide unique products for patrons to take home. The village also serves as a training plant for craft producers, supporting the development of new designs showcasing Jamaica's unique artisan products.



MONTEGO BAY AIRPORT IMPROVEMENTS!

Montego Bay's Sangster International Airport serves 34 airlines and 60 international cities! A major renovation of the departure area was recently completed, with work set to begin shortly on the arrivals terminal. Renovation of the departure check in area to modernize the space; replacing roof, floor and washroom facilities are among the new features. The airport now boasts 50 self-service check in kiosks and over 30 immigration kiosks upon arrival.

LOTS OF NEW ROOMS SCHEDULED FOR JAMAICA!

Several well known brands and entities have announced future plans to construct new resorts or rebrand existing real estate in Jamaica. Among them: **Hilton Tapestry ROK hotel**, with 160 rooms in downtown Kingston; a 600 room **Planet Hollywood** resort in Trelawny; 4700 room **Sugarcane Bay** multiple resort development by Karisma; 500 room adults-only **Sunscapes Resort**; 300 room family friendly **Dreams** resort, both in Hanover; 1900 room **Hard Rock** resort in Montego Bay; and **Princess Hotels** 2000 room Resort in Green Island, Hanover. **Marriott International** also announced its first Caribbean all-inclusive resort, to be constructed in Trelawny with 800 rooms.

UPCOMING EVENTS 2021

There are lots of exciting events happening all over the Island all the time! Here are a few select ones that you may want to start telling your clients about! How about putting together a group trip? For more information on all up-coming events, visit www.visitjamaica.com/things-to-do

REBEL SALUTE: JAN 15-16

27 years and counting this annual event takes reggae from the roots to one of the largest and most discerning audiences of any music festival in the Caribbean. Rebel Salute continues to maintain a strict no meat, no alcohol policy that has, from inception, distinguished it from other events. Set in a vast venue that overlooks the Caribbean Sea, the festival offers 'Saluters' a range of locally and internationally acclaimed artists who perform from dusk til dawn..

www.rebelsalutejamaica.com

www.facebook.com/rebelsalutejamaica



REGGAE MONTH: FEB 1-28

The Annual Reggae Month features various reggae-infused activities for the month of February in Kingston. The signature events under the Calendar include: - Dennis Brown's Birthday Celebration - Orange Street - Bob Marley's Birthday- February 6 - Bob Marley Museum - Reggae Open University - every Tuesday and Thursday - Reggae Wednesdays featuring live performances www.JariaJamaicaMusic.com

JAMAICA RUM FESTIVAL: FEB 27-28

Unfolding in the lush landscape of Hope Gardens, nestled at the foot of the Blue Mountains, the festival will be the ultimate experience for true rum connoisseurs! There will be rum tastings, food & rum pairing workshops, as well as live Jamaican musical acts through-out the day on both the main and demo stages. Enjoy the joyful chatter of vendors while selling their authentically Jamaican wares in the craft village. Immerse yourself in the rich culture and heritage of Jamaica, while enjoying first rate musical entertainment and some of the best food Jamaica has to offer! www.jarumfestival.com

KINGSTON CITY MARATHON: MARCH 12-14

This is the 9th annual staging of this event, which includes a 5K race/walk, a 10K race and a half marathon. The aim of the run is to increase visitors to Kingston and highlight the city and its many cultural and heritage landmarks. The route takes participants along the path of some of Kingston's most iconic sites, down to the waterfront and back up to the business district. There is also a wellness fair; FIT Expo and a pre-race party and concert held in conjunction with Bacchanal Jamaica revelers. This is a Jamaica Tourist Board sponsored event. www.kingstoncityrun.com



JAMAICA BLUE MOUNTAIN COFFEE FESTIVAL: MARCH 18-21

The annual Jamaica Blue Mountain Coffee festival takes place in the hills of the world renowned Blue Mountain on historic grounds in Newcastle. With the music city of Kingston as your backdrop, come and experience three days of Jamaican food, coffee and culture along the Blue Mountain Culinary Trail, with Indigenous arts and crafts showcases, Live Reggae music performances and tours to some of Jamaica's best kept secrets www.bluemountaincoffeesfest.com

ISSA BOYS & GIRLS ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIPS (CHAMPS: MARCH 23-27

The Inter-Secondary School Sports Association (ISSA) features competitions for girls and boys under age 19. They compete in track and field events spanning multiple distances and challenges. The most popular one include : 100 metres; 200 metres; 400 metres; 800 metres; 1500 metres; 3000 metres (girls only); 5000 metre races. As well, there are medley relays in the ranges of 4 x100 metres and 4 x 400 metres. Field events include high, triple and long jump; pole vault; discus; shot-put; javelin and heptathlon. This is a very intense and exciting 4 days of championships. Nowhere else in the world has such an event for secondary institution. It is part competition and part festival, with schools and their well-wishes displaying their vibrant colours and enthusiastic cheers for their teams. www.issasports.com

JAMAICAN CUISINE CORNER

Red Peas Soup Recipe

Red Peas Soup is usually made as a one pot meal. Yam and sweet potato as well as spinners are cooked in the soup, which is usually served on wash day, since it takes a little attention.

Ingredients

- ◆ 1 pint red kidney peas
- ◆ 4 quarts water
- ◆ 1 & 1/2 lbs soup meat (or stew beef)
- ◆ ¾ lb pig's tail or ham
- ◆ 1 whole unbroken green scotch bonnet hot pepper (or any other green hot pepper)
- ◆ 1 sprig of fresh thyme or 1/8 teaspoon dried thyme
- ◆ ½ lb potato or yellow yam
- ◆ 3 stalks escallion
- ◆ Salt to taste
- ◆ Spinners (rolled dumplings)



1. Soak pig's tail overnight to remove excess salt. You may also soak red peas overnight.
 2. Place soup meat, pig's tail and /or ham, cut in pieces, with peas in large soup kettle or pot with about 4 quarts of water. Bring to a boil and then simmer for approximately 2 hours until peas are cooked.
 3. Add seasoning, cut up potatoes, yam and whole unbroken hot pepper.
 4. Cook soup for about 30-45 minutes more. When soup is cooked, remove pepper and discard. For a smoother soup you may pass peas through a colander or sieve and rub with wooden spoon. Return to liquid and discard the peas skins. (Jamaicans like it with the peas whole).
 5. Taste for flavour and add salt to taste
 6. Add more boiling water if necessary. This soup should be moderately thick
- Serve with croutons
-Serves six (6).

Sangster International Airport

Montego Bay
www.mbjairport.com
Phone: 1.876.952.3124

Norman Manley International Airport

Kingston
www.nmia.aero
Phone: 1.876.924.8452

Ian Fleming International Airport

St. Mary
www.ifia.aero
Phone: 1.876.975.3101

Jamaica Customs

www.jacustoms.gov.jm
Phone: 1.876.952.2469
Email: quickresponse@jacustoms.gov.jm

Jamaica Immigration

www.pica.gov.jm
Phone: 1.876.952.2408

Canadian High Commission, Kingston

www.canadianinternational.gc.ca/jamaica
Phone: 1.876.926.1500

Canadian Consulate, Montego Bay

29 Jimmy Cliff Boulevard
Phone: 1.876.952.6198

Jamaican Consulate, Toronto

www.jcgtoronto.ca
Phone: 416.598.3008

Jamaican High Commission, Ottawa

www.jhcottawa.ca
Phone: 613.233.9311

Jamaica Tourist Board

Montego Bay
www.visitjamaica.com
Phone: 1.876.952.4425

Government of Jamaica

www.jis.gov.jm

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- ♦ Listing On visitjamaica.com
- ♦ Jamaica's Monthly E-Newsletter, Which Lists Deals Across The Island For Clients To Consider
- ♦ Top 50 Agents & Companions Invited To Annual "One Love Affair" Awards Ceremony



*Based on availability