

Jamaica

Michael Read



Destination Jamaica

Pulsing with music and awash in the zesty smells of its singular cuisine, Jamaica is a destination for the senses. To many people, Jamaica means reggae and Rastafarianism. Others come to renew their pact with the sun goddess on stunning white-sand beaches. Some come solely to concentrate on the three Rs: reggae, reefers and rum. Others crave water sports, horseback riding, fishing, golf or any number of more offbeat adventures. You'll find colonial-era estates to explore, along with centuries-old botanical gardens and forts. You can choose a private villa with your own beach; laugh your vacation away at a party-hearty resort; or enjoy the camaraderie of backpackers at an economical guest house.

Most of Jamaica is rugged and mountainous, reaching 2256m in the Blue Mountains, where the world's most sought-after coffee is grown. Wetlands harbor endangered crocodiles and manatees. Parched cactus-covered savannas line the south coast, where traditional fisherfolk draw up their nets on otherwise lonesome dark-brown beaches. And visitors familiar with sleepy Caribbean capitals will be surprised to find bustling Kingston to be a hotbed of cosmopolitan culture.

Stray from the north coast resorts and you'll discover radically different environments and terrain – perfect for exploring when you burn out on the beach. Take to the back roads and hills and, bringing humility with you, you might discover how gracious and hospitable Jamaicans can be. Buy some jerk chicken or pepper shrimp from roadside vendors, share time at sea with a local fisher or learn about herbal remedies from a guide in 'de bush.' Travel with an open mind and you'll have 'no problem, mon!'

JON DAVISON



CARIBBEAN SEA

COCKPIT COUNTRY (pXXX)
Disappear into Jamaica's most otherworldly terrain to enjoy hiking, caving and solitude

FALMOUTH (pXXX)
Consider the troubled history of slavery in the best-preserved Georgian town in Jamaica

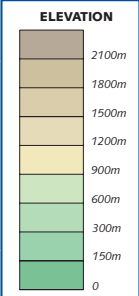
YS FALLS (pXXX)
Pack a picnic and spend a day splashing about at Jamaica's most beautiful and accessible waterfalls

NEGRIL BEACHES (pXXX)
Throw your cares to the wind and toast the sunset in Jamaica's 'capital of casual'

BLACK RIVER GREAT MORASS
Boat up a gorgeous swampland waterway to find alligators and countless birds

PELICAN BAR (pXXX)
Play dominoes with a fisherman at this singular bar in the middle of the sea

TREASURE BEACH (pXXX)
Live the good life in Jamaica's yet-to-be-discovered southeastern coast



78°30'W

78°15'W

78°00'W

77°45'W

77°30'W

18°45'N

18°30'N

18°15'N

18°00'N

17°45'N

17°30'N

17°15'N

78°30'W

78°15'W

78°00'W

77°45'W

77°30'W

77°15'W

77°00'W

76°45'W

76°30'W

76°15'W

NINE MILE (pXXX)

Pay homage to Bob Marley at his place of birth and final resting place

DUNN'S RIVER FALLS (pXXX)

Join hands with a stranger and climb the Caribbean's most famous waterfall

BOSTON BEACH (pXXX)

Savor the flavors of spicy jerk pork and chicken, or hit the beach for the island's best surfing

FIREFLY (pXXX)

See what author Noel Coward had in mind when he wrote the word 'swanky'

LONG BAY (pXXX)

Ease into a laid-back lifestyle in Jamaica's up-and-coming counter-cultural retreat town

PORT ROYAL (pXXX)

Walk the street where pirates strode in the town once called 'the wickedest city in Christendom'

BOB MARLEY MUSEUM (pXXX)

Take the pulse of Kingston at this museum devoted to Jamaica's most revered contemporary hero

BLUE MOUNTAINS PEAK (pXXX)

Hit the trail in the dark of night to scale Jamaica's highest peak by sunrise



CARIBBEAN SEA

77°15'W

77°00'W

76°45'W

76°30'W

76°15'W