



your *Jamaica* fact sheet

GETTING THERE: The easiest ways to get to Jamaica is by air or cruise ship port of call. You can fly to Sangster International Airport (MBJ) in Montego Bay or Norman Manley International Airport (KIN) in Kingston. A cab or minibus will be the easiest and safest way to get around Jamaica. Be sure that you only use official taxi cabs run by the Jamaica Union of Travelers Association (JUTA) or the Jamaica Co-operative Automobile & Limousine Tours (JCAL). You will know they are official by their acronym stickers on the cars.

LANGUAGE: The official language in Jamaica is English. There is also an unofficial language called Patois, or Jamaican Creole.

CLIMATE: Tropical and hot all year round, with year-round average daytime temperatures of about 86°F. Jamaica does fall in the hurricane belt and has its rainy season April to October. High season is January to April when it is driest and coolest.

MONEY/CURRENCY (CREDIT CARDS, DEBIT CARDS, TIPPING, ATMS): The main currency is the Jamaican Dollar (JMD). The US Dollar is well accepted in the more touristy areas like resorts across the island. Small shops, markets or less touristy towns will likely only accept the Jamaican Dollar. Tipping is acceptable in most places aside from select all-inclusive resorts. Though there is no set rule, it is customary tip 10-15% for service.

ELECTRICITY: Type A and type B plugs operating on 110V supply voltage and 50Hz.



TOURS/EXCURSION IDEAS

1. Take a Martha Brae River rafting trip
2. Take a surfing lesson
3. Climb Dunn's River Falls
4. Hike Blue Mountains
5. Tour Blue Mountain Coffee company
6. Wander a craft market
7. Ride the bobsled in the rainforest
8. Take a catamaran ride out at sunset



5 FAST FACTS

1. Jamaica is divided into six unique resort areas with something for everyone: Montego Bay, Ocho Rios, Port Antonio, Kingston, South Coast, and Negril.

2. Kingston is the birthplace of reggae, dancehall, and ska music and has the most recording studios per square capita in the world.

3. Jamaica has no less than at least 10 famous waterfalls to explore.

4. Pack your costume and warm up those soca beats. You have four separate Carnival celebrations from which to choose to celebrate each year – Xamaca International, Bacchanal Jamaica, Xodus Carnival, and One World Rebellion.

5. The Jamaican national reggae month is held each February and welcomes an average of 40,000 visitors yearly.



WHAT TO PACK

1. Sunblock and bug spray. Most resorts will have a small sundry shop on property but may charge much more than you'd like for these simple, must-have items.

2. Light and comfortable clothes. The climate can be very warm and muggy. Don't forget to check your resorts dinner dress code too. Some may require long pants and closed toe shoes. But be sure to avoid packing your favorite camouflage as it is illegal to wear in the country.

3. Water Shoes. With so many great waterfalls to enjoy like Dunn's River Falls, you will want your water shoes for better traction.

4. Reusable straw and insulated mug. This is something growing in popularity among frequent all-inclusive resort travelers. Resorts may have limited paper straws available. And the insulated mug will allow you to enjoy your frosty drinks longer as you lounge on the beach.

5. Extra medicine in your carry-on luggage. Due to ever-changing country entry and exit requirements, it is good to plan for extra days should an unplanned situation arise.