

JAMAICA TOURIST

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EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW FOR THE PERFECT HOLIDAY EXPERIENCE

ISSUE 5 - SPRING 2007

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"IT'S ALL IN THE GAME"

AN INTRODUCTION TO CRICKET BY

JAMAICA'S FORMER PM,

THE MOST HONOURABLE P.J. PATTERSON

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**YOUR
FREE
ISSUE**

SEE ISLAND MAP INSIDE



The "Windies" celebrate another victory. (Photo: Reuters)

JUS' COOL

Welcome to Cricket Fever in the West Indies! Excitement is building up to the world class event as the islands host the ICC Cricket World Cup for the very first time in history. Make sure you read former Prime Minister P.J. Patterson's introduction to the mysterious game in our **CRICKET** section, published for the first time in the Jamaica Tourist. We

also recommend that you make your way to one of the several 'Team Villages' across the island, which will be at the core of the cricket action with good food, plenty of drink and cricket matches on large screens.



Respec' (A lot of respect), 'Gwaan an Kum' (Go and come), 'Mi Criss' (I'm alright), 'Pickney' (Small child) and 'Walk Good' (Safe journey/ Take care).

The varied heritage from all corners of the world has also created a unique cuisine, perhaps the island's richest history lesson. Don't forget to get your fingers greasy on Jerk pork or chicken at the local 'Pork Pit', which must be eaten with a locally brewed Red Stripe beer. Taste the national dish 'Ackee & Saltfish', a dish that you will taste nowhere else on the planet and 'Curry Goat', another culinary delight. Often flavored by local herbs, such as Pimento (also called Allspice), the island's Chefs continue to bring out unique combinations of foods and ingredients, tempting even the most picky eater. Check our **DINING** and **NIGHT OUT** sections for places to dine or reggae away the night.

The islands resort areas are as diverse as it's people. A stay in Montego Bay, the number one tourist resort, is not complete without a visit to the bars, eateries and nighttime action on Gloucester Avenue, locally known as 'Hip Strip'. 'Mobay's original claim to fame was the waters off Doctor's Cave beach, believed by many to have curative powers, and the beach is still a favorite of many. Spectacular rounds await golfers at Rose Hall's three golf courses, each with different challenges and designs, and excursions to all other areas of the island are plentiful. For a taste of the local Jerk, Scotchies or the Pork Pit are highly recommended.

The resort of Negril, branded the 'Capital of Casual', is famous for its beautiful seven-mile beach and the daredevil cliff divers at the 'West End'. Water-sports, such as scuba diving and snorkeling, in the turquoise waters off the beaches and cliffs are plentiful. Follow the plume of smoke to Smokey Joe's 'road side' stand on Norman Manley Boulevard, an official Negril secret that most visitors are in on to by the time they leave, to taste #1 Jamaican jerk, mild or spicy on request.

Jamaica's most famous natural attraction, Dunn's River Falls, is located in Ocho Rios, which was once a sleepy fishing village. Climb the limestone tiers of the dramatic 600-foot drop of cascading water, and bathe in it's refreshing waters. 'Ochi', as it is called by the islanders, is also home to Dolphin Cove, where you can swim with bottlenose dolphins, sharks or stingrays and Prospect Plantation, where you can enjoy nature from the back of a camel. Art lovers should pay a visit to 'Harmony Hall' art gallery a few miles out of town.

Port Antonio was made famous by Errol Flynn and his many Hollywood celebrity friends, and this sleepy village is still a favorite spot for many. Go for a swim in the turquoise waters made famous by the movie 'The Blue Lagoon', and visit nearby Boston Beach for its island jerk, slow-cooked in pits. Read our pages on **GOLF** and **ISLAND ADVENTURES** for more ideas on how to get the most out of your days.

You will soon find out that reggae great Bob Marley remains firmly embedded at the core of Jamaica's soul. While his style pulses in the recordings of a new generation of musicians, his handsome face beams out, around the country,



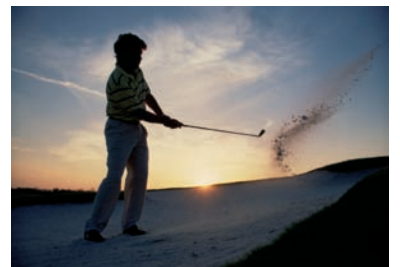
Enjoying the sunset together



Negril Beach (Photo: Heidi Zech)



Smokey Joe's in Negril (Photo: Heidi Zech)



Golf in the Jamaican sunset



JAMAICA

APPROX DRIVING MILEAGE	Black River	Falmouth	Kingston	Mandeville	Montego Bay	Negril	Ocho Rios	Port Antonio	St. Ann's Bay
Black River	*	62	107	43	46	49	94	156	87
Falmouth	62	*	81	53	23	75	44	110	37
Kingston	107	91	*	61	119	153	54	61	59
Mandeville	43	53	61	*	70	92	72	117	62
Montego Bay	46	23	119	70	*	52	67	133	60
Negril	49	75	153	92	52	*	117	181	110
Ocho Rios	94	44	54	72	67	117	*	66	7
Port Antonio	156	110	61	117	133	181	66	*	73
St. Ann's Bay	87	37	59	62	60	110	7	73	*

from billboards, T-shirts, children's books, bottles of liquor and telephone directories. Marley lives on at the heart of the island's people, who love of everything reggae. Visit the Bob Marley museum in Kingston, or take a trip with Jamaica Tours to Nine Mile, the village where he was born, to learn more about the music icon who bestowed global fame onto his small, island nation.



Total relaxation

Jamaica surprises most first time visitors with its natural beauty and laid back people, who despite their many hardships, continue to smile. The majority of people who have discovered the island's charm, continue to return to its shores. You may even fall in love and decide to make Jamaica your second home. Local real estate is booming with the construction of the island's gated second home community, The Palmyra Resort & Spa, the luxurious development in Rose Hall which has opened the real estate market to foreigners in a major way. Read our **REAL ESTATE** section to find out more.

Above all, put on your sandals get into the local rhythm and 'Jus' Cool'. Immerse yourself in the local culture and enjoy the things that make Jamaica so special. Watch the local cricket fever with some Jerk chicken and a Red Stripe. And most importantly; 'Walk Good!'



Operations Manager of Immigration, Dennis Blissett (Photo: Heidi Zech)

WELCOME TO JAMAICA!

Gone are the days when visitors to the island had to wait for hours in long lines. A new and improved Immigration Department at Sangster International Airport, Montego Bay, along with a brand new international concourse, is surely a winning combination for Jamaica's tourism.

For repeat visitors to Montego Bay, it is evident that great effort has been made to enhance the immigration processing of visitors. Obvious signs of improvements include less congestion in the Immigration Hall, twice as many immigration stations and roving officers on hand to assist visitors. Additionally, immigration assistants make the process smoother and quicker by reviewing all completed immigration forms before visitors reach the immigration stations.

Reveal Operations Manager of Immigration, Dennis Blissett and Acting Supervisor Juleen Paul-Clarke; "A lot of emphasis has been placed on improving our Immigration service. This includes on-going recruitment as well as customer service and computer training of immigration officers." Manned 24 hours with 6 different shifts, the majority of staff is on duty for the peak arrival period between 11:00 am to 3:00 pm. Adds Paul-Clarke; "Our officers are highly motivated and enthusiastic. Adding to their comfort, the immigration staff now also has additional office space and a new lunch room.

Both senior managers praise MJB Airports Ltd., who they describe as very helpful in creating more space and making their surroundings more comfortable to work in. "We have received commendations from organizations and individuals who used to be major critics," says Blissett.

When asked about memorable celebrity moments, Blissett recalls being the processing immigration officer during one of Stevie Wonder's visits. The superstar's comment to him was; "Didn't I see you the last time?"



"Welcome to Jamaica!" Immigration staff at Sangster International Airport, Montego Bay. (Photo: Heidi Zech)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS SPRING 2007

WITH ONLY A SHORT TIME IN THE ISLANDS, YOU'LL WANT TO MAXIMIZE YOUR STAY BY ENJOYING SOME OF THE FUN EVENTS HAPPENING THROUGHOUT YOUR VACATION.

MARCH 8 - 10:	THE ROYAL JAMAICA YACHT CLUB SPRING FISHING TOURNAMENT, KINGSTON
MARCH 11 - APRIL 24:	ICC WORLD CUP CRICKET 2007
MARCH 16 - 17:	JAMAICA SPRING FESTIVAL, MONTEGO BAY
MARCH 18:	TRELAWNY BICYCLE ROAD RACE, FALMOUTH, TRELAWNY
MARCH 25:	SOMERSET JERK FESTIVAL, PORTLAND
MARCH 25:	MISS JAMAICA UNIVERSE, KINGSTON
MARCH 25 - 26:	JAMAICA ORCHID SOCIETY SHOW, KINGSTON
MARCH 26:	MISTY BLISS NATURE FESTIVAL, KINGSTON
MARCH 28:	ACTOR BOY AWARDS (THE JAMAICAN OSCARS), KINGSTON
MARCH 28:	ST. ELIZABETH HORTICULTURAL SHOW, BLACK RIVER
MARCH 31 - APRIL:	SPRING BREAK 2007 NEGRIL AND MONTEGO BAY COMES ALIVE WITH LIVE REGGAE CONCERTS, BEACH VOLLEYBALL, COMPETITIONS, FASHION SHOWS SUPREME VENTURES JAMAICA CARNIVAL
MARCH 28 - APRIL 4	KINGSTON JAMAICA CARNIVAL - BACCHANAL ROAD MARCH & LAST LAP
APRIL 20 - 22:	5TH BOWDEN BAY MARINA SPRING FISHING TOURNAMENT, ST. THOMAS
APRIL 1:	TRELAWNY 50K BICYCLE RACE
APRIL 9 - 15:	JAMAICA AND BACCHANAL CARNIVAL, KINGSTON OCHO RIOS, NEGRIL AND MONTEGO BAY
APRIL 17:	MONTPELIER AGRICULTURAL SHOW, ST. JAMES
APRIL 9 - 11:	FUN IN THE SUN GOSPEL CHRISTIAN FESTIVAL, OCHO RIOS
APRIL 9:	TRELAWNY YAM FOOD FESTIVAL, TRELAWNY
APRIL 14 - 16:	MONTEGO BAY YACHT CLUB'S EASTER REGATTA
APRIL 28 - 30:	JAMAICA WELLFEST, KINGSTON
MAY 6:	TREASURE BEACH OFF-ROAD TRIATHLON, ST. ELIZABETH
MAY 21:	HEALTH & SPA TOURISM EXPO, KINGSTON
MAY 25:	CALABASH INTERNATIONAL LITERARY FESTIVAL, SOUTH COAST
MAY 23 - 27:	STYLE WEEK INTERNATIONAL, KINGSTON
JUNE 6:	CARIBBEAN FASHION WEEK, KINGSTON
JUNE 17:	OCHO RIOS JAZZ FESTIVAL
JUNE 28 - JULY 2:	EPICUREAN ESCAPE FOOD & WINE FESTIVAL, NEGRIL
JULY 1:	INTERNATIONAL REGGAE DAY, KINGSTON
JULY 2:	PORTLAND JERK FESTIVAL
JULY 8:	LITTLE OCHI SEAFOOD CARNIVAL, SOUTH COAST
JULY 15 - 22:	REGGAE SUNFEST, MONTEGO BAY

EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE CALL TOLL FREE	1-888-991-9999	POLICE	119
US CONSULATE, MONTEGO BAY	952-0160	AMBULANCE	119, 110
BRITISH HIGH COMMISSION, KINGSTON	1-510-0700	FIRE	110
MOBAY HOPE 24/7 CLINIC, HALF MOON VILLAGE	953-3981	CANADIAN CONSULATE, MONTEGO BAY	952-6198

PLAYING A ROUND IN PARADISE

Despite your level of play and despite the fact that you probably only brought flip-flops, shorts and T-shirts in your luggage, you can enjoy great golf the “Jamaican Way”.

Executive Vice President of PGA Magazine, Kirk Pagenkopf, thinks that the island offers a unique experience and total relaxation. “Of all the places I have had the pleasure of playing golf, only Jamaica creates that special feeling of being home and completely away at the same time. Additionally, the destination provides a level of golf that is second to none”, says Mr. Pagenkopf.

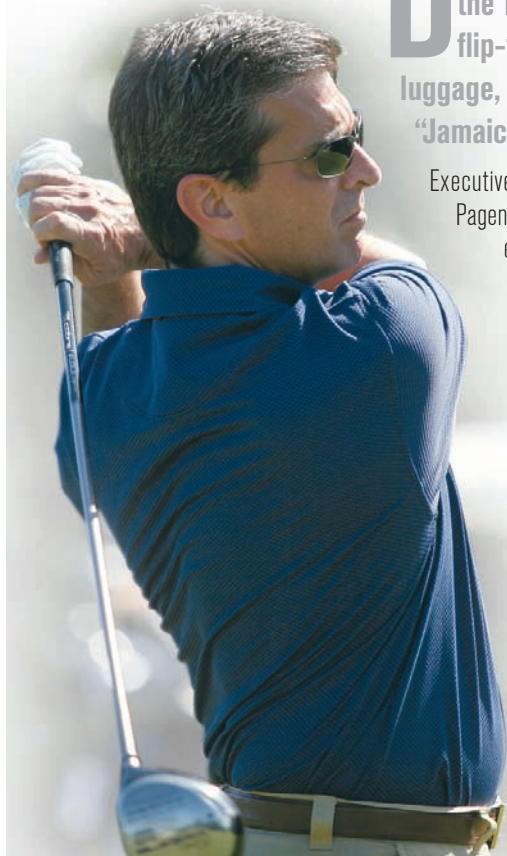
With more than 18 years experience within the golf industry, Pagenkopf’s job has taken him all over the globe introducing PGA Professionals to emerging golf destinations and world class resorts. In the last 5 years alone, he has traveled with more than 300 PGA Professionals to roughly 400 resorts, playing golf along the way.

Says Pagenkopf; “As a frequent guest of Jamaica, I speak from experience when it comes to struggling with how I want to

allocate my time. However, there is one activity that I would recommend all visitors experience at least once while in Paradise.” According to Pagenkopf, it would practically be a cardinal sin to leave the island without trying at least one of it’s spectacular golf courses. Says Pagenkopf; “I would recommend that you find some time for a quick nine holes or take a leisurely afternoon to play 18 holes while on the island. Jamaica, and specifically the Rose Hall area, just outside of Montego Bay, offers what I consider to be some of the best golf in the Caribbean.

“There are three very different types of courses in the Rose Hall area.” Explains Pagenkopf; “While Half Moon, a parkland golf course designed by Robert Trent Jones, plays more like a private club than a resort course, Cinnamon Hill’s layout winds from the interior to the seaside and into the mountains. Totally diverse from these two courses, the White Witch is carved into the hillside of the surrounding mountains, ranging from elevated tees to undulating fairways.”

Says the golf destination expert; “While you could probably find similar golf course designs in the United States as well as other parts of the world, it is the Jamaican Golf Experience that truly sets these three courses and the region apart from the rest of the world.” Says Pagenkopf: “No Clubs, No Worries Mon! All three courses have rental clubs for your use. No Shoes, No Problem Mon! Play in your flip flops or your tennis shoes, or if you are really serious the courses may even have a pair of shoes in your size. Not A Good Golfer, C’Mon! It’s not about your score, it’s about the experience!” According to Pagenkopf, the ultimate use of an island day is to hit the beach in the morning and the links in the afternoon. “Give yourself some stories to tell about playing around in paradise – sorry, that is Playing A Round in Jamaica!”



Kirk Pagenkopf

Cinnamon Hill Golf Course



PAGENKOPF’S COMMENTS ON THE THREE COURSES:

WHITE WITCH: VIEWS SO SPECTACULAR THAT YOUR SCORE REALLY DOESN’T MATTER.

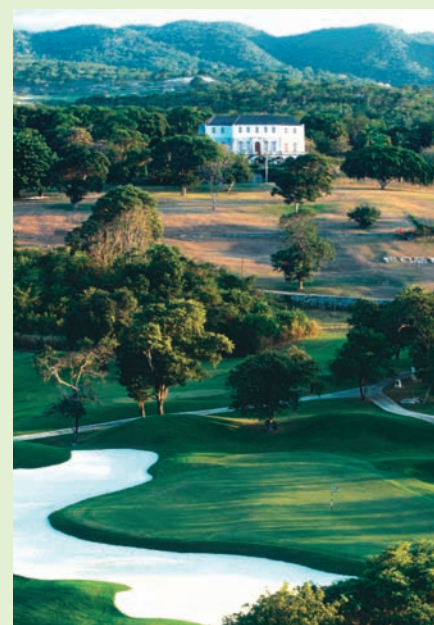
If you love the look of the Caribbean Sea from the shore, you have to see it from 16 of the 18 holes at the White Witch. ‘The Witch’ will give you one breathtaking view after another. All the while, you are trying to concentrate on your game - hitting target shots to tight fairways riddled with bunkers or trouble, to pins tucked menacingly in a part of the green that excites and terrifies you at the same time, or trying to bite off as much you can on some of the doglegs. The golf is amazing and the views are even better.



White Witch Golf Course, Rose Hall

CINNAMON HILL: GREAT LAYOUT, COOL HISTORY AND SOME AMAZING VIEWS

Of all three courses, this is my favorite design, and the history surrounding the course makes it a really cool place to tee-it-up for the afternoon. Johnny Cash and James Bond both have ties to this course. The late Cash’s estate sits along the fourteenth fairway and if you hit your ball far enough to the left on the fairway, you can sneak a view of the house over the wall. A scene of the James Bond movie ‘Live and Let Die’ was filmed on the 15th hole near the waterfall with then Bond Girl Jane Seymour, a.k.a. Solitaire, clad in a typical Bond-style bikini. Roger Moore was 007. The waterfall still flows and you can definitely see where the scene was shot.



Cinnamon Hill Golf Course, Rose Hall



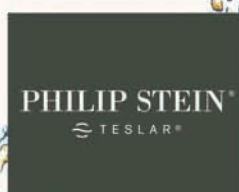
HALF MOON: A GREAT WALK, A GREAT STORY AND SOME GREAT GOLF

The history of Jamaica rests in the minds of the caddies at Half Moon and it doesn’t take too much prompting to get them to entertain you with stories of the people, the place, their proud heritage, and where they see Jamaica fitting into the world. A stroll down the well manicured fairways with a Half Moon Caddie is sure to provide you with some great stories to tell back home.

Half Moon Golf Course



The Shoppes at *Rose Hall*



OPENING SUMMER
2007

SPECIALITY BOUTIQUES
DESIGNER JEWELRY

LUXURY WATCHES
FINE DINING

OFF THE BEATEN TRACK: EXPLORE A DIFFERENT SIDE OF JAMAICA

Jamaica offers something for everyone, and plenty of unique tours are available to people who like to get off the beaten track. Pick coffee beans in the mountains, visit reggae icon Marley's birthplace, explore the historic Cockpit Country or experience the thrill of fishing! Jamaica Tours offers numerous excursions for every age and interest. Contact your Jamaica Tours Hotel Desk to indulge in any of the following tours and many more...



Dunn's River Falls. (Photo: Heidi Zech)

OCHO RIOS & DUNN'S RIVER FALLS

Available from: Montego Bay, Negril and Ocho Rios

Duration: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Days: Monday, Wednesday and Friday

No trip to Jamaica is complete without visiting Jamaica's main attraction, Dunn's River Falls. Enjoy a leisurely ride along Jamaica's scenic north coast to Ocho Rios, the shopper's paradise and home to the world stunning waterfalls made famous by the Tom Cruise movie 'Cocktail'. Spend the morning browsing through the town's many craft markets before you climb the cascading waterfall, splash around in the crystal clear pools at the base of the falls and come away feeling refreshed and relaxed.



Bob Marley. (Photo: Reuters)

SPIRIT OF REGGAE: THE BOB MARLEY EXPERIENCE

Available from: Montego Bay, Negril & Ocho Rios

Duration: 7:00 am - 6:00 pm

Days: Tuesdays & Fridays - Montego Bay

Wednesdays & Fridays - Ocho Rios

Fridays only - Negril

The Legend of Bob Marley comes alive as you walk through the village of Nine Miles, his birth and final resting place. Feel the spirit of "The King of Reggae Music" as you are expertly guided through the very house that Marley lived in as a young boy. Get first hand knowledge of the life and times of this great musician, from the people who lived there with him. Learn about his culture, his passion, and the unique religion of

Rastafarianism that made him the man he became. And of course, no Reggae Tour is complete without indulging in a lavish Jamaican Jerk lunch to culminate your day.

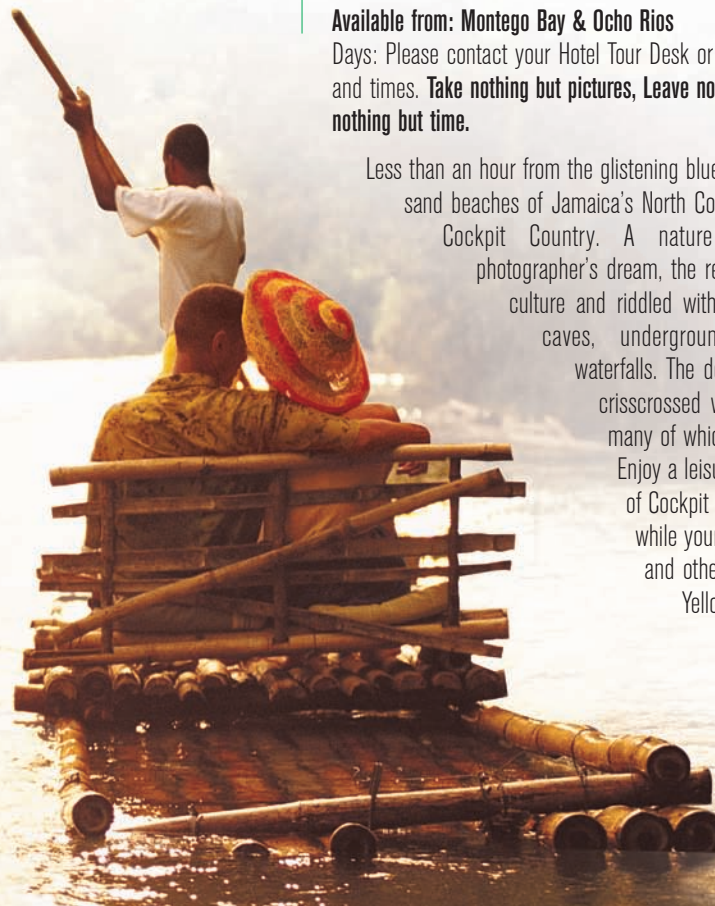
BAMBOO RIVER RAFTING

Available from: Montego Bay and Ocho Rios

Duration: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm, **Days:** Daily

Glide down the Martha Brae on your own personal bamboo raft and relax as an expert rafter guides you lazily down this enchanting river. Your captain will detail the colorful folklore of the region and you can stop as you wish to explore the lush tropical riverbanks. An optional lunch may also be included in the tour.

Gliding down the Martha Brae on a bamboo raft. (Photo JTB.)



Mangrove forest on the Black River Safari tour. (Photo JTL.)

BLACK RIVER SAFARI, YS FALLS & LUNCH

Available from: Montego Bay, Negril and Ocho Rios

Duration: 8:00 am - 7:00 pm

Days: Thursdays & Fridays - Montego Bay

Tuesdays - Ocho Rios

Thursdays & Sundays - Negril

Let us show you some of Jamaica's most outstanding natural beauty on the Black River Safari Tour. Your air-conditioned bus takes you along the beautiful and largely undeveloped South Coast past quaint fishing villages and small towns. Board

your boat at the Black River for an exciting expedition along Jamaica's longest River. See crocodiles in their last remaining habitat, an abundance of native birds and fishermen in their dug out canoes fishing for river shrimp. A traditional Jamaican lunch is served at Luana. Visit the Orchid house where a wide variety of beautiful plants are shown, from seedling to plant and from plant to bloom. Then it's on to YS Falls - said by name to be the most beautiful waterfalls in Jamaica.

THE ULTIMATE COFFEE TOUR

Available from: Montego Bay & Ocho Rios

Days: Tuesdays & Thursdays, Montego Bay: 7:30 am - 3:30 pm

Monday & Wednesdays, Ocho Rios: 8:00 am - 3:00 am

Jamaican High Mountain coffee is rated as one of the world's best. Visit Baron Hall Estate, 2,000 ft above sea level, and pick your own coffee beans on The Ultimate Coffee Tour! This enchanting tour of the largest coffee plantation in Jamaica reveals the production secrets behind the world famous coffee and includes an exciting jitney tour of the property, a sample of the full bodied taste of the Jamaican Coffee and a hands-on experience to last a lifetime.



Coffee plant at Baron Hall Estate (Photo: JTL)

COCKPIT COUNTRY HIKING & CAVING TOUR

Available from: Montego Bay & Ocho Rios

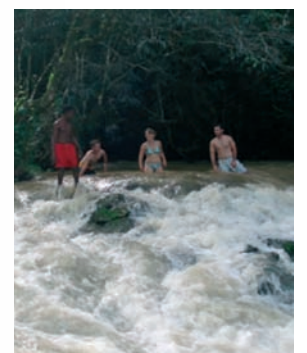
Days: Please contact your Hotel Tour Desk or Jamaica Tours for days and times. **Take nothing but pictures, Leave nothing but footprints, Kill nothing but time.**

Less than an hour from the glistening blue water and sparkling white sand beaches of Jamaica's North Coast lies the area known as Cockpit Country. A nature lover's paradise and photographer's dream, the region is rich in history and culture and riddled with towering cliffs, limestone caves, underground rivers and flowing waterfalls. The dense, wet limestone forest,

crisscrossed with hiking trails, is home to exotic plants, birds and reptiles, many of which are found nowhere else in the world.

Enjoy a leisurely walk or a more adventurous hike through the beautiful hills of Cockpit Country and learn about traditional herbal remedies and folklore, while your guide points out the many endemic species of ferns, epiphytes and other plants. Keep an eye out for endangered species such as the Yellow Boa, Giant Swallowtail Butterfly and Yellow and Black-billed Parrots as you hike along these lovely evergreen lands.

Discover and explore the maze-like Printed Circuit Cave and it's many interesting formations and chambers throughout its 1.5 mile descent. Emerge wet and dirty, ready to relax and swim in the cool pools of the Mouth River cascades. An experience for all energy levels!



Cockpit Hiking (Photo: STEA)



FISH WORLD ATTRACTIONS AND NATURE TRAILS

Available from: Montego Bay & Negril
 Days: Please contact your Hotel Tour Desk or Jamaica Tours for days and times

You catch it, we cook it! Come and experience the true meaning of escapism. Experience the thrill of your life landing a large snook, tarpon, koi tilapia; we guarantee a catch. The ultimate adrenaline rush of landing it is up to you! Fish, some larger than 45 lbs, will leap straight into the air right before your eyes.

A fishing trip you will never forget! (Photo JTL)

After your fishing adventure, go sightseeing on horseback and uncover the secrets of the Nature Trail. It is the closest you will get to experiencing Jamaica in its true essence, seeing indigenous birds and plants, protected wildlife, beautiful flora and untouched fauna. Return to an ice-cold Red Stripe Beer, refreshing fruit juice and reggae music, before you head over to the jerk center to enjoy the catch of the day.



WHITE RIVER VALLEY

Available from: Montego Bay and Ocho Rios
 Duration: 9:00 am - 2:00 pm, Days: Daily

White River Valley, a 300-acre property in Cascade, St. Mary, is a nature lover's dream come true. A quaint Jamaican village nestled in beautiful gardens and skirted by the White River. Here, thousands discover nature's hidden wonders - magnificent rock formations, interesting flora and fauna whilst enjoying the sanctuary of Jamaica's natural beauty. Tours include the signature river tubing, horse-rides, kayaking, hiking and horticultural tours. The grounds are also particularly well suited to group activities and functions and there is already news on the winds of fantastic new tours to come

White River tubing. (Photo: JTL)



The charming tour guides at the Rose Hall Great House. (Photo: Heidi Zech)

MONTEGO BAY CITY TOUR

Available from: Montego Bay
 Duration: 10:00 am - 2:15 pm Days: Daily

Travel along the north coast to Greenwood Great House, one of the finest antique museums in the Caribbean. Built in a contradictive era of elegance and brutality, the Great House has retained its 19th century atmosphere. The tour then continues to the legendary Rose Hall Great House, home to the infamous 'White Witch' Annie Palmer, who is rumoured to have killed her three husbands. Your guided tour includes a visit to Annie's Pub in the dungeon of the Great House. After this historical tour, we visit the West Indian Art Gallery and the Craft Market to shop souvenirs.

NEGRIL DAY & SUNSET TOUR

Available from: Montego Bay and Ocho Rios

Duration: 9:00 am - after the sunset

Days: Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday from Montego Bay.
 Wednesday and Saturday from Ocho Rios

Experience the beauty and the tranquility that is Negril Beach, where time stands still and laid back attitude is a way of life. Savour the sun and cast away all your inhibitions while you explore seven miles of uninterrupted white, sandy beach. At the end of the day, watch the sunset and spy on local cliff divers at the famous Rick's Café.



Sunset on the cliffs in Negril (Photo JTB)

SPECIAL OFFER TO JAMAICA TOURIST READERS!

This voucher entitles you to a discount on a private car tour from Jamaica Tours. Book your private car through your Jamaica Tours Hotel Tour Desk, travel agent or call us on 953-3700. Email: jtladmin@jamaicatoursltd.com

Please present this voucher upon making your reservation.



VIP LIMOUSINE SERVICE

JAMAICA TOURS LIMOUSINE SERVICE - LET US TAKE YOU THERE!

For those who would like to explore the island in style, Jamaica Tours has a fleet of private sedans, including Mercedes Benz, Lincoln Town Cars and Toyota Camrys waiting to take you around the island at your own leisure. Special custom tours to all the popular island attractions and other destinations can be arranged by your Hotel Tour Desk. Cars are rented by the hour or by the day. VIP Airport Transfers are also available.

DOLPHIN COVE AT TREASURE REEF

Available from: Montego Bay, Ocho Rios

Dolphin Cove at Treasure Reef, the largest Marine Attraction in the Caribbean, is truly a family day for all. Experience the thrill of entering the marine world, interacting with the amazingly friendly bottlenose dolphins or enjoy the exciting 'Shark Show' first hand! Brave visitors can take advantage of a rare opportunity to meet the ocean's most fascinating and feared creature; the shark, up close and personal. Hold, touch and experience sharks in their own habitat. Snorkel and discover the underwater world with it's abundance of fish and fascinating stingrays that you can feed, pet and have your picture taken with. Walk through the rainforest to meet exotic animals, birds, snakes and iguanas. Stroll the boardwalk to Caribbean rhythms and pay a visit to 'Little Port Royal', a replica of Jamaica's famous pirate haunt, where pirates roam and treasures are found. Or take a glass bottom kayak through secret waterfalls to experience the adjacent Dunn's River Falls. To book your visit to Dolphin Cove, talk to your hotel tour desk or call **tel. 974-5335**.



(Photo: Dolphin Cove)

FLIGHT SEEING BY HELICOPTER

Helicopter transfers from Island Hoppers Helicopter Tours are now available to customers who arrive Montego Bay by private and corporate aircraft.

Commented Captain John Morris, Director of Operations for Island Hoppers Helicopter Tours; - "The entire company joins me in celebrating the opening of our second operating base at Montego Bay Sangster International Airport. For the convenience of our customers, our new check-in counters and offices are located inside the domestic terminal".

Morris, the owner of Island Hopper, has more than 13,000 hours helicopter time as a commercial helicopter pilot in New Zealand, USA, & Canada. With more than 35 years in the helicopter cockpit, he holds American, Jamaican, and New Zealand Commercial Helicopter Pilots licenses and for the past ten years, he has flown tours & charters in Jamaica. "All our Island Hoppers pilots have American and Jamaican Commercial Helicopter pilot's licenses," explains Morris. In addition to airport transfers and chartered flights, the two Bell Jet Ranger helicopters also offer Flight Seeing Tours for people who prefer to see the island from a bird's eye view. The service is expected to become a popular feature for both tourists and cricket fans visiting for Cricket World Cup in March.



Captain John Morris, owner Island Hoppers

Helicopter tours of 20-, 30-, and 60- minutes tours offering stunning aerial views of the north-coast are available. Says Morris; "We feel that the most popular tour from Montego Bay will be the 'Memories of Jamaica' tour. On this 30 minute 'flight seeing' adventure, we fly you along the coastline past the Rose Hall Great House, to Falmouth, Jamaica's third oldest town. Turning inland, we fly over the Hampton Sugar Estate and the Cruise ship wharf on the way back to the exclusive Round Hill area, before returning to MJB Airport. The views are simply spectacular".

Island Hopper Helicopter Tours also operate out of Reynolds Pier in Ocho Rios.

Visit www.jamaicahelicoptertours.com or call **974-1285** for more information.

TREASURE REEF

OCHO RIOS, JAMAICA

EXPERIENCE THE THRILL... SWIM WITH THE DOLPHINS

Dolphin Cove
OCHO RIOS, JAMAICA

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BLISS BAMBOO

'CREATED FROM THE SOULS OF OUR PEOPLE'

With its unique finishing and weaving techniques, Bliss Bamboo has established itself as the main bamboo furniture manufacturer in Western Jamaica. Utilizing the abundance of bamboo resources in the Hanover region, the project generates enough funds to continue future conservation activities of the Dolphin Head Forest Reserve, one of the most valuable terrestrial habitats in the Caribbean.

The Dolphin Head, a small limestone mountain that reaches only 1,785ft (544m) above sea level, has long been known as an area of unique biodiversity. Located in the hills of Hanover near the small town of Lucea, midway between Negril and Montego Bay, the reserve is abundant in botanical diversity, making the fragile habitat extremely valuable for scientific as well as recreational purposes.



Paula Hurlock

Established in 1993, The Dolphin Head Trust is an Environmental Non-Government Organization dedicated to the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources in and around the reserve. It was formed by a group of concerned citizens in Western Jamaica who were aware of the area's ecological value and in 2000, the Environmental Foundation of Jamaica and the United Nations Development Program co-funded a 14-month feasibility study which resulted in a recommendation for designation as a National Park.

Under the stewardship of Executive Director Paula Hurlock the Trust has conceptualized and administered six projects valued at over JA \$20million, focusing on livelihood development, environmental education, community and ecotourism development.

Run by a small local staff, The Dolphin Head Trust collaborates with numerous international organizations and universities, benefiting greatly from ongoing support by the Environmental Foundation of Jamaica, Japanese International Cooperation Agency and the United States Peace Corps. "The government and embassy of Japan were instrumental in the realization of the project and were ready to assist only a couple of month after the plan was presented to them," says Paula Hurlock, Executive Director of the Trust.

Continues Paula "The Bamboo Conversion and Utilization facility is a cornerstone project for the Dolphin Head Trust, and an initiative that will create environmental awareness along with job opportunities for the area residents."

With a higher density of local endemic plant species and rare or threatened plants per unit area than anywhere else in Jamaica, the Dolphin Hills may well be the richest floristic locality in the entire West Indies. In an area

of 1300 hectares, 600 species of vascular plants; 162 endemic to Jamaica and more than 20 never before found on the island, have been identified.

Since the greatest challenge to Dolphin Head's natural environment is man, and a 'Slash and Burn' agriculture that threatens to destroy the unique habitat by upsetting it's natural balance, the Trust identified several simple means to promote sustainable coexistence between human and environmental needs. "Our mobile display unit was designed to educate fishermen, market vendors, students and other members of the community with alternatives to environmentally destructive activities," explains Paula.

While the efforts have been positively received, the need for additional development throughout the parish is also impressed upon the Trust and since the start, numerous additional projects have been pursued, each more ambitious than the previous.

One of the projects undertaken is the development of the 'Bliss Bamboo' furniture and accessory line. According to Paula; "These products are created from the souls of the people in the area. They are familiar with the materials and know how to express their creative nature."

The Bliss Bamboo work force consists of 6 women who specialize in 10 different weaving techniques and decorative items such as wind chimes, candle holders, rain sticks, picture frames, planters and screens, complemented by 5 men who manufacture roughly 15 furniture designs including love seats, arm chairs, coffee and side tables and throne chairs.

"We are also in the process of developing the Dolphin Head hiking trail funded by the Environmental Foundation of Jamaica and the Live Botanical Museum, which is funded by the GEF Small Grant Programme. We are planning to launch the Dolphin Head Nature Trail in February 2007," says Paula. Merging the best of Jamaican nature, culture and science, the 2.5 km long Nature Trail is an ideal attraction for plant lovers, researchers and educators.

In Montego Bay, Bliss Bamboo is sold at 'Bohios' at Fairview Shopping Center and in selected gift shops. In Negril, you can find Bliss Bamboo at 'Jamaica Jane' on Norman Manley Boulevard (957-9079). Contact Bliss Bamboo on Tel: 382-4678 or 307-9591 or email bamboo@dolphinhead.org. You may also visit www.dolphinhead.org for further details.



Skilled bamboo furniture maker Orette Samuels cuts bamboo to prepare chair.



Ladies from the factory prepare bamboo strips to create weaves as part of the unique furniture designs.



Ferdinand Trench constructing a bamboo chair.



All pictures were supplied by Bliss Bamboo.

KINGSTON

(Photo: JTB)



At the foot of the Blue Mountains, overlooking the world's seventh-largest natural harbor, Jamaica's vibrant capital with a population of 579,137 (Kingston Metropolitan Area) is the largest English-speaking city south of Miami. The center of the country's government and commerce, Kingston is also Jamaica's cultural heart, with a wide variety of historical and cultural attractions. A sophisticated, upbeat nightlife and diversity of dining venues offer a cosmopolitan contrast to the rest of the island's slow and easy pace.

CULTURAL ATTRACTIONS

The city's waterfront includes the Jamaica Conference Centre, which was built to United Nations specifications, and the National Gallery of Jamaica, with a fine collection of past and modern Jamaican works of art.

Nearby are: The Money Museum, housed in the Bank of Jamaica building; the African Caribbean Institute of Jamaica, with its displays of masks and jewelry; and the Victoria Crafts Market, where vendors sell colorful batiks, wood carvings, straw baskets and other locally crafted wares.

Historic landmarks include Kingston Parish Church, where the earliest grave is dated 1699. The Parade is a busy square, once the site where British soldiers drilled and now a vibrant commercial center and meeting point. Devon House on Hope Road is an elegantly restored Georgian mansion built in 1881 by a wealthy Jamaican who made his fortune mining gold in Venezuela. Open to the public, its period rooms are decorated with exquisite antiques, while the grounds outside hold several interesting shops and restaurants.

Always a hub of activity is the Bob Marley Museum, housed in the late musician's former home and recording studio on Hope Road. On display is an extensive collection of photographs, newspaper clippings and personal effects; a 20-minute video provides insight into the reggae star's life and times.

Near the University of the West Indies campus, flowers and trees bloom year-round at the 200-acre Hope Botanical Gardens, which opened in 1881 and features an orchid house. The University



Hope Gardens (Photo: JTB)

itself was founded in 1948 on the grounds of a former sugar plantation, and is now the region's most famous center of learning, with additional campuses in Trinidad and Barbados.

Equestrian enthusiasts flock to the race meetings at Caymanas Park & Polo Club, held every Wednesday and Saturday, and on holidays. Horseback riding is offered at Guardsman Farm in Bushy Park, Old Harbour, where nature tours also are available.

FASCINATING MUSEUMS AT NEARBY SETTLEMENTS

Until the earthquake of 1692, Jamaica's principal settlement was Port Royal, located at the end of the Palisadoes Peninsula that curves around Kingston Harbour. In the 17th century, this was the lair of buccaneers Henry Morgan and Calico Jack Rackham, with a bar for every 10 men. Relics of the town's wicked past can be seen at the small Fort Charles Museum. With special permission, scuba divers can explore buried ruins about 30 feet (nine meters) from the shore.

Fort Charles, built by the British shortly after they seized the island from the Spanish in 1655, is another highlight for visitors to Port Royal. Cannons still point out toward the sea. The small Maritime Museum here offers a reproduction of the quarters where Admiral Horatio Nelson resided as a 20-year-old lieutenant.



Liberty Hall (Photo: JTB)

Just a short drive from Kingston, Spanish Town was the island's capital under both the Spanish and, until 1872, the British. The Cathedral Church of St. James (St. Jago de la Vega) is located here; built in 1523, this is the oldest cathedral in the Western Hemisphere. Spanish Town's attractions also include the Old King's House, once the British governor's residence and now an archaeological museum, and the adjacent Museum of Craft and Technology, featuring vintage farm implements, musical instruments and pottery.

A few miles away, a fascinating collection of artifacts in the Taino Museum depicts island life before the Spanish arrived. This is run by the Institute of Jamaica, which is based near Kingston's waterfront and encompasses the National Library and the Natural History Museum, containing a world-renowned herbarium with more than 130,000 plant specimens.



National Dance Theatre Company of Jamaica (NDTC), (Photo: JTB)



Jamaican Mento Band (Photo: JTB)

PERFORMING ARTS

Kingston's cultural life thrives after dark with performances by the internationally acclaimed National Dance Theater Company as well as the Jamaica Folk Singers, the Jamaica Philharmonic and the National Chorale. Music is everywhere, and clubs offer a wide range, including reggae, jazz and alternative rock. Among the hot spots are Pepper's, Asylum and The Quad club.

ACCOMMODATIONS

As the capital city of Jamaica, Kingston offers an excellent choice of hotel accommodations for business travelers, many with sophisticated meeting facilities. Longtime favorites include the Terra Nova Hotel (Tel. 926-2211-2), The Hilton (Tel. 926-5430), the Courtleigh (Tel. 929-9000), the Knutsford Court (Tel. 929-1000) and The Pegasus (Tel. 510-8023). Nearby are also several attractive resort properties with great facilities for family groups, rustic accommodations for hikers and an extraordinary retreat halfway up the Blue Mountains.



Ward Theatre in Kingston (Photo: JTB)

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CAFÉ AUBERGINE (European & Jamaican Cuisine) The Market Place, Constant Spring Rd. Tel: 754-1865

AKBAR (Indian Cuisine) 11 Holburn Road. Tel: 926-3480

JADE GARDENS (Exquisite Chinese Cuisine) Sovereign Centre, Hope Road. Tel: 578-3476

CUDDY'Z SPORTS BAR & GRILL New Kingston Shopping Centre. Tel: 920-8019

CHEZ MARIE (Middle Eastern) 7 Hillcrest Avenue. Tel: 927-8078

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BRENDA LAGRANGE JOHNSON, U.S. AMBASSADOR TO JAMAICA

U.S. Ambassador to Jamaica, Brenda LaGrange Johnson greets you with a disarming manner, a broad smile and a firm handshake. A philanthropist with a love of art who has given years of service in many areas of her country's national life, LaGrange Johnson is part of an elite group of 35 women among a total of 170 distinguished individuals, who has been appointed to represent the United States as Ambassadors abroad. The label 'successful business woman' is only one of the many this remarkable lady has acquired along the way to one of the U.S.'s most prominent appointments, a role in which one of the missions is to provide a link between the world of ideas and the world of policy.

Despite the great responsibility she carries on her shoulders and the body guards that form part of her daily life, Ambassador LaGrange Johnson's sense of humor is still intact. Referring to her blond locks and blue eyes, and perhaps her close friendship with President George W. Bush and First Lady Laura Bush, she laughs and tells us with a wink that "everybody thinks I come from Texas!"

Keeping ahead of the constantly changing world around her with a frequently vibrating Blackberry, you soon realize that little is missed by this grandmother of four, a former Brooklyn primary schoolteacher, who is clearly in possession of an alert personality and a quick, intelligent mind.

A diehard Yankee fan who was born and bred in Forest Hills Gardens on New York City's, LaGrange Johnson wears her New York Yankee baseball cap whenever the opportunity presents itself. According to her; "You can't grow up in New York and not love the Yankees! I am a die-hard fan and George Steinbrenner is a personal friend of mine."



Says U.S. Ambassador Brenda LaGrange Johnson: - "People always ask me about the best places to visit and things to do during their stay. Americans, I find, are fascinated by Jamaican culture and love the food, the atmosphere, and especially the music. Bob Marley and reggae are still very popular in the United States."

But being bred in the former hometown to the U.S. Open, made tennis her natural choice of sports. "The U.S. Open was a major event in my life each year and I met some of the great tennis stars like Ken Rosewall, who encouraged my love for the game at a young age."

Married to husband J. Howard Johnson in 1968, LaGrange Johnson first visited Jamaica on their honeymoon. When asked if she thought that the island had changed a lot upon her return to Jamaica, the Ambassador replies; "Yes and no. I had never visited Kingston, so it was new to me, but the resorts of Montego Bay remain as beautiful as I remembered. Many parts of Jamaica still retain the traditional qualities that made them special decades ago."



U. S. Ambassador LaGrange Johnson with Prime Minister Portia Simpson Miller wearing hard hats at the ribbon cutting ceremony for the opening of a new power plant.

Surprised to find that so much of Jamaica reminds her of her own hometown, LaGrange Johnson explains; "The friendliness of the Jamaican people, the sense of community and the traditions are very similar to the environment I had as a child. I also admire the strong religious values that Jamaicans hold. Faith is an important part of my life, and I identify with that facet of the Jamaican identity. These are also my favorite things about the island, along with the beautiful beaches, of course!"

LaGrange Johnson's main job as U.S. Ambassador is to protect all American Citizens living in and visiting Jamaica, as well as promote American business interests on the island. However, this seems to have provided LaGrange Johnson with a launching platform for a multitude of local projects that she is actively involved with. "Being a U.S. Ambassador is the best job! I feel I have prepared all my life for this amazing experience. As President Bush's representative to Jamaica, I work closely with the White House and the State Department, especially Secretary Condoleezza Rice and Under Secretary for Public Diplomacy Karen Hughes."

Particularly proud of the good relationship between the United States and Jamaican governments, and her rapport with both Prime Minister Simpson-Miller and her Cabinet as well as the leader of the Opposition, Bruce Golding, LaGrange Johnson affirms; "Every day in the life of an Ambassador is an adventure. I am a 'people' person and love getting to know the diverse population of Jamaica. The very best part is working with my dedicated staff who truly wants to make a difference here in Jamaica and in their many other 'postings' around the world."

LaGrange Johnson recently hosted the official opening of the new US\$72 million U.S. Embassy in Kingston, and calls the investment a reaffirmation of the U.S. commitment to a good relationship with Jamaica. "One of the most exciting things for an Ambassador to experience is the opening of an Embassy and our recent opening was no exception. I am so proud of our new home. It is a state-of-the-art, 107,000 square foot facility that finally allows our 91 American and 223 Jamaican employees to work together under one roof. It has been wonderful for the morale of the Embassy staff to enjoy the new space and to be together after decades of working in separate buildings. I know that our new Embassy will be a real asset to our mission in Jamaica for years to come." says LaGrange Johnson.

With regard to the duration of her appointment, LaGrange Johnson explains that she serves at the pleasure of the President of the United States. "When President Bush leaves office in January 2009, I will leave my appointment in Jamaica."

About the particular goals LaGrange Johnson would like to accomplish during her time in Jamaica, LaGrange Johnson says that she would like to see the private sector and the Government encourage the creation of small businesses, especially those headed by women. Says the Ambassador; "It is particularly challenging for women to receive small business loans and this needs to change. In the United States, our Small Business Administration provides loans and technical assistance to small businesses, helping them during the critical start-up period. That kind of public assistance would be extraordinarily beneficial here in Jamaica."

A business executive and a partner with BrenMer Industries for 27 years, importing and marketing consumer products, LaGrange Johnson works closely with the American Business Community and the local American Chamber of Commerce. States LaGrange Johnson; "I feel a strong connection with the business community and know that they are one of our most important partners in solving some of the most difficult social problems that we face."

LaGrange Johnson also shares the goals of the U.S. First Lady Laura Bush for literacy and education. Explains the Ambassador; "As a former school teacher for seven years in Bedford Stuyvesant in Brooklyn, New York, I am particularly proud of the President's Center of Excellence for Teacher Training (CETT) program in Kingston. The CETT Program trains and empowers teachers who work with children in rural and urban poor communities across the Caribbean. Since its inception just three years ago, the program has already produced outstanding results in improved literacy and classroom performance among elementary school students in some of the most impoverished areas of Jamaica. I have written to First Lady Laura Bush asking her to visit Jamaica to see the program in action."

As U.S. Ambassador, LaGrange Johnson works with local schools in a number of different ways. "In addition to the work being done through CETT, we supply educational materials, hold educational seminars, counseling sessions and provide information on studying in the U.S. With the Jamaica Fulbright-Humphrey Alumni Association, we organize inspirational talks in inner-city schools." Through a grant to Friends Advancing Community Education (FACE) Jamaica, the U.S. Embassy is also working with Carl Brown of Boy's Town to support the Trench Town Reading Center.



The new U.S. Embassy in Kingston

Says LaGrange Johnson, about the 107 Peace Corps volunteers who work all over the island to support schools, health clinics and community projects, helping children get the tools they need to succeed in school; - "Healthy kids make better students and our Peace Corps volunteers are hard at work to give Jamaican children a brighter future."

True to a mission of being an architect for positive change, the U.S. Ambassador points to the recently opened Grants Pen community policing center in the parish of St. Andrews as a groundbreaking project. "This pioneering project has been the model for community policing centers around the world and we are very proud of that. It promotes a better relationship between the police and the community," she says. A pioneer project between United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the American Chamber of Commerce and the Jamaica Constabulary Force, the new St. Andrews community and police complex provides a safe place for members of the community to gather and access essential services such as health clinic, post office and an internet café.

Additionally, the U.S. contributed US \$30,000 to the Jamaican Red Cross through the Ambassador's Fund in November 2006, in support of a national anti-stigma and discrimination campaign for those living with HIV/AIDS. "The aim of the campaign is to reduce the level of discrimination experienced by persons living with HIV and AIDS, so that they are able to live normal lives and access all the relevant resources such as education, health and social security." Ambassador LaGrange Johnson is set to host the sixth annual Chiefs of Mission Conference on HIV/AIDS in October 2007, at which 11 U.S. Ambassadors from missions all over the Caribbean gather to discuss U.S. efforts to combat HIV/AIDS in the Caribbean, and determine how those efforts can be improved.



Johnson family photo taken at Tryall in Montego Bay in August of 2006.

Starting with Howard Johnson, Schuyler Sargent (age 4) her mother, Johnson's daughter Heather Sargent, Grant Johnson, Crawford Sargent (age 7), Brett Johnson (twin of Grant), U. S. Ambassador Brenda LaGrange Johnson, Garrett Johnson (5), Grange Johnson and Griffin Johnson (2) Susan Johnson. Heather's husband John Sargent was golfing in Scotland and is missing from the photo.

As a Board Member to the President's Advisory Council to the Arts (PACA) for the J.F.K. Center for Performing Arts, appointed by U.S. President George W. Bush in 2002, and a member of the Duke University Advisory Board of the Nasher Art Museum, Ambassador LaGrange Johnson is a philanthropist and devoted fan of culture and the arts. Reveals LaGrange Johnson; - "I'm especially proud of the aid we have provided through the Ambassador's Fund for Cultural Preservation to help cultural institutions preserve Jamaican history, heritage and tradition. In 2006, the U.S. granted US \$24,800 to the National Gallery of Jamaica to maintain the condition of about 1700 pieces of valuable Jamaican art. Art is such an important part of a country's identity and I am so pleased to be able to support cultural preservation in Jamaica."

Says LaGrange Johnson, who together with her husband Howard is an avid collector of contemporary art; - "Our favorite artists are Willem DeKoeing, Hans Hoffman, Wolf Kahn and Sam Francis. However, since we have been in Jamaica, we have become good friends with Barrington Watson and have fallen in love with his paintings. His son, Basil, is also an amazing sculptor and we are proud to display the masterpieces of both father and son in our home."

Prompted to name the most positive things to take place in Jamaica in the last five years, LaGrange Johnson says; "Even within the past year, we have seen Governor General Kenneth O. Hall take office as the first new Governor General in fifteen years. We have also witnessed Portia Simpson-Miller become the first female Prime Minister in Jamaica's history. These are monumental changes for Jamaica. The excitement of the Cricket World Cup has also brought positive results to the island and will be a time for national unity and celebration."

Although the Ambassador admits to only having attended one cricket match in her life, at which everyone had such a wonderful time eating and drinking that they didn't pay much attention to the game; LaGrange Johnson promises to try to learn more about the sport during the Cricket World Cup. Asked who she thinks will win, LaGrange Johnson says; - "I don't know, but I do know that Ireland will face Pakistan on St. Patrick's Day in Jamaica and that it will be quite an event!"

The Ambassador firmly believes that the Cricket World Cup is Jamaica's chance to showcase the island and create economic growth; "Even before I arrived to assume my new assignment as Ambassador, I had meetings with Ambassador Gordon Shirley and others in Washington, D.C. in preparation for the Cricket World Cup. The Cricket World Cup has the potential to make Jamaica a shining star in the eyes of the world and is a golden opportunity for Jamaica to showcase its homegrown talents. Just like the 2006 Olympic Games catapulted Italy's Turino onto the world stage, the Cricket World Cup is Jamaica's chance to capitalize on the international attention that the games will bring."

What would she like to tell visiting American tourists? Shares LaGrange Johnson; "Most American tourists come to Jamaica for the world-famous pristine beaches, but I would tell them that there is so much more to enjoy if they choose. Jamaica offers a great variety of experiences for those of all interests, including amazing hiking in the Blue Mountains, white water rafting down the Black River in St. Elizabeth, breathtaking scuba diving in Port Antonio, and horseback riding in Trelawny. There truly is something for everyone in Jamaica, and the scenery rivals anywhere in the world."

A devoted grandmother, LaGrange Johnson confesses to missing her four grandchildren, but in the same sentence proclaims herself to be very lucky. "Our four grandchildren have already visited us in Jamaica about seven times in the past year. They live in New York City and are just a three and a half hour plane ride away. Their bags are always packed to come and visit!"

Asked if she has anything she would like to add, the Ambassador affirms; - "I love my job and am so blessed to represent the United States of America to the great nation of Jamaica. God bless America and God bless Jamaica!"

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ISLAND REAL ESTATE BOOM

With a record 3 million visitors in 2006, and a multitude of infrastructure improvements taking place in all industry corners, Jamaica's economy continues on a positive track. This economic growth is influencing the local real estate market, which is experiencing a veritable renaissance.

The many island-wide improvements have stimulated an unprecedented growth in commercial activity, but no other industry has witnessed a more explosive boom than the real estate sector.



Deborah Cumming, Managing Director at Century 21 Heave-Ho Properties

Says Deborah Cumming, Managing Director at Century 21 Heave-Ho Properties; "Foreign hotel groups have rushed to secure real estate for hotel sites, and a string of new hotels currently under construction; particularly along the north coast of the island, stretching from Negril to Ocho Rios." 60% new hotel rooms are forecasted to be added over the next five years, by large Spanish hotel groups including RIU, Pinero, Iberostar, Fuerte, Fiesta and Excellence as well as local brands Sandals, Couples, Super Clubs and Sunset Resorts.

Continues Cumming; "The demand for private coastal real estate has increased along with the demand for commercial property, such as hotel sites."

Much of the growth can be attributed to the Jamaican Governments recent deregulation strategy, allowing private companies a major role in the creation of a new, market driven economy. Key projects include the North Coast Highway, which, when completed, will stretch from Negril in the west to Port Antonio in the east, and the redevelopment and expansion of MBI Sangster International Airport. Aside from becoming the most modern airport facility in the Caribbean, the new airport will accommodate 9 million visitors per year spurring further growth in an already booming tourist industry. Both management and a substantial part of the capital for the two above projects have been provided by private companies. Other projects with private venture involvement include the redevelopment of Norman Manley International Airport in Kingston and the expansion of the Port of Kingston, now the largest trans-shipment centre in the Caribbean Basin. Additionally, private enterprises are playing a vital role in stimulating the massive growth the island is seeing within the banking, telecom, energy, hotel and transport sectors, believed to prompt an increase in the number of smaller, service related businesses.

In response to the growing demand for real estate on the northcoast, Century 21, who opened their main office in Kingston in 1996, has recently opened a second real estate office in Montego Bay. Says Cumming; "Despite an increase in price over the last 4 years, waterfront land on the island is still considered to be a bargain when compared to other Caribbean islands. Beach and waterfront land will continue to be in demand and prices will augment as supply is limited."

More than 40 Century 21 real estate agents cover the whole island, and Cumming encourages potential buyers to contact a real estate professional who can guide them in the right direction. States Cumming; "The Century 21 brand name is a reassuring sign to many overseas buyers who want to work with a company they know and trust. We will ensure you find your dream property."

According to Cumming, the investment opportunities in the Jamaican real estate market are many. "The Palmyra Resort and Spa at Rose Hall, for example, is a truly visionary development which will redefine luxury living in Montego Bay. This development should give excellent returns." Located on what has been nicknamed the GOLD COAST due to the unprecedented construction activity that is taking place along the coastline, this exclusive gated community has catapulted Jamaica into the Caribbean real estate market. At prices 30-40% below that of other Caribbean developments such as the Ritz-Carlton in Grand Cayman, the Harbour Side development in Paradise Island, Bahamas, and the Viceroy development in Anguilla, the Palmyra is compelling buyers to open up their eyes to Jamaica as a second home destination.

"Another resort worth consideration is Golden Eye Villas and Spa, located just outside Ocho Rios, on a property that once belonged to James Bond creator Ian Fleming. This resort offers privacy, intimacy and true island living."

In Jamaica, there are no restrictions for foreigners wishing to purchase property. Importantly, services such as financing and mortgage brokering are now available to foreigners at competitive rates, and the island has no capital gains taxes.

"If you are thinking about investing in real estate, now is the time. Our island's economy is seeing tremendous growth, and I feel very confident that Jamaica is the place to invest," concludes Cumming.

Montego Bay at 11 Fairfield Road, Catherine Hall. Deborah Cumming, Managing Director, CENTURY 21 Heave-Ho Properties. C21jam@century21jm.com Tel. 906-4710. Visit www.century21jm.com

LILLYFIELD, ST ANN



This lovely 52-acre lot is located in the hills overlooking Chukka Cove at Lillyfield, St Ann, approximately 15 minutes from the North Coast Highway. There is a magnificent 270° view from Discovery Bay to Oracabessa and the land is at approximately 1,700 ft elevation.

There is preliminary sub-division approval for 8 lots of about 5 acres each. Access is facilitated by a road leading to the property. There is electricity and phone service. The terrain is gently undulating and is ideal for development.

PRICED AT US\$390,000

CORAL GARDENS, MONTEGO BAY



Situated to the east of the Montego Bay International Airport, this 3-acre seafront lot, with beach is ideally suited for the development of a luxury villa or small hotel.

PRICED AT US\$1,500,000

LTU VILLAS, NEGRIL



LTU Pub and Villas is located in Negril's fashionable West End, which is truly one of Jamaica's delightful hide-aways. Situated on approximately 1 acre of lush gardens, on the cliffs overlooking the Caribbean Sea, this property consists of 8 guest rooms, a suite and an apartment, in addition to its popular pub and restaurant. There is also room to expand.

This popular boutique hotel is being offered for sale as a turnkey operation- make your dream come true!

PRICED AT US\$1,650,000



www.century21jm.com

c21@century21jm.com

INTEREST IN ISLAND'S PREMIER REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT SURGES AS CONSTRUCTION GOES VERTICAL

As construction of The Palmyra Resort & Spa is going vertical, excitement for what is widely considered a 'watershed' project for Jamaica is increasing. Stretching along one-half mile of pristine Caribbean oceanfront within the elite enclave of Rose Hall, the Palmyra offers residents tasteful luxury in a tropical destination at prices up to 30% less than neighboring Caribbean islands.



Construction is moving ahead at the Palmyra Resort & Spa

Jamaica feels remote and tranquil, but still is easily accessible via direct flights from a multitude of major international hubs, and with the introduction of The Palmyra Resort & Spa the island has firmly positioned itself as a contender on the Caribbean property scene.

Offering preferred access to Rose Hall's internationally renowned golf courses, white sand beaches and a private club lifestyle that is unrivaled in the Caribbean, The Palmyra is catching the attention of real estate buyers looking for a tropical island home with the modern conveniences of home. World-class amenities in the private sanctuary includes a Clubhouse, two on-site restaurants, two swimming pools, white sand beaches and a 23,000 square foot signature destination spa, designed by award-winning spa designer Susan Harmsworth, founder and CEO of natural product company ESPA.



Debra Derrick, Director of Sales

Says Debra Derrick, Director of Sales at the Palmyra Resort & Spa; "The ESPA signature spa, has been a big hit, particularly with the women. The fact that it is designed by one of the world's foremost luxury spa designers, speaks for itself. But it is the combination of fantastic golf, the resort's excellent amenities, the many adventures of the surrounding area and the natural beauty of Jamaica that makes The Palmyra such an irresistible real estate proposition."

With Personal Concierges, Butlers and Chef's on hand to help fulfill residents' every need, whether it is organizing baby-sitting, restaurant reservations or stocking the refrigerator with your favorite foods prior to arrival, The Palmyra promises to be a place to totally unwind from the pressures of daily life. Explains Derrick; "We think that the most important thing you can do is take time out and spend time with your family, in a relaxing haven that really allows you to recharge your batteries.

At The Palmyra, we are building a tropical sanctuary where families can spend time together in relaxing surroundings and create future memories together."

With architecture and design inspired by the vibrant island culture, The Palmyra is breaking ground in resort creation by incorporating the latest in modern conveniences with the natural beauty of its location. Each of the residences is carefully positioned to capture the unique views of the turquoise Caribbean Sea, featuring generous balconies and open framed roof areas to extend the living space outside and allow Palmyra's residents to fully enjoy the wonderful climate. Designed by Florida based SB Architects, who have extensive experience with resort creation, exteriors are built in the timeless, grand tradition of British Colonial architecture.

Inspiration for the residences interior décor has been taken from the natural palette of the community's adjoining shores, ocean, mountains and greens. Rich stone, sumptuous floors and soft textured walls are combined with a medley of clean lined upholstery and timeless seating styles to create a home for all generations.

Continues Derrick; "People particularly love the village feeling of the resort, the tasteful interior decor and the magnificent ocean views. It is so easy to imagine yourself relaxing on the balcony of your own island tropical home, enjoying amazing views of the Caribbean Sea." Another advantage to buyers is that all units come fully furnished, with the latest in modern appliances and digital connectivity.

Prices for the fully furnished one-, two- and three-bedroom condominiums, penthouses and three-bedroom villas range from the mid US \$400s to \$3.5m, far below the prices for similar luxury real estate available on other Caribbean islands. In response to an increasing demand for smaller, entry level units, the Palmyra has recently launched two new 'Caribbean Suite' studio designs of 645sqft and 700sqft, positioned in the community's third condominium building; Sentry Palm. Following the complete sell-out of the community's Sabal Palm building, as well as the 3 floor, beachfront villas, demand continues to be strong for the two available condominium buildings, Silver and Sentry Palm, as well as the 3 floor, beachfront villas.

The Palmyra Director of Sales expects a quick sellout of the development's first phase offering; "With competitive mortgage financing available to overseas clients wishing to purchase property in Jamaica, people are opening their eyes to Jamaica as a second home destination."



Natural palettes and timeless interior design for Palmyra's luxurious residences. Comfortable tonal fabrics accented by tropical patterns and color complement the furnishings, bringing the outdoors inside.

Derrick invites everyone who is curious about the real estate opportunity to visit the Palmyra Sales Office at the Palms, Rose Hall, for a no obligation real estate tour; "A trip to Jamaica is not complete without a visit to the Palmyra and we encourage you to come and see us during your stay on the island."



Enjoy terrace dining under the stars at the Clubhouse as well as Palmyra's signature restaurant.

Sea." Another advantage to buyers is that all units



Palmyra residents have preferred access to Rose Hall's three acclaimed golf courses

Call Jamaica Toll Free No: 1 888 PALMYRA or 953 9787 visit The Palmyra Sales Center at 'The Palms', adjacent to the Ritz-Carlton and only a mile from Half Moon resort. Transportation will be arranged.

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT WWW.THEPALMYRA.COM

SALES CENTER 953 9787



PALMYRA SPA DESIGNED BY NUMBER ONE GLOBAL SPA BRAND

A destination in itself for pampering and rejuvenation, the concept and design of the Palmyra ESPA, has been developed under the guidance of award-winning spa designer Susan Harmsworth, the founder and CEO of ESPA. According to Condé Nast Traveler, five of the top 10 spas worldwide are designs of the global spa-guru, including the spas at the Mandarin Oriental in New York, Miami and London and Sandy Lane in Barbados.

“ The difference between a good spa and a great spa is the attention to the finer details. The Palmyra ESPA, will offer a superlative spa journey and a therapy team who will provide world-class treatments second to none. ”

Susan Harmsworth, Founder and CEO, ESPA



Artist rendering of the Palmyra ESPA courtyard.

The spectacular Palmyra ESPA is organized around a beautiful garden courtyard with private outdoor areas for treatment and relaxation. It's modern, island style simplicity reflects the rich architectural heritage of Jamaica with deep, eaved verandahs, grand staircases, jalousied windows and doors and warm stone walls. Much of the guest's experience in this two-level spa will take place outdoors on the many terraces, water gardens and connected courtyards.

“Our concept for The Palmyra ESPA is to merge the spa's natural setting and beautiful architecture with our natural healing and relaxation practices, providing our guests with an unforgettable experience as they move from being into wellbeing,” said Laura Boss, ESPA project manager.

The Palmyra ESPA will rival the world's best, offering state-of-the-art heat experiences, men's and women's indoor/outdoor relaxation areas, hot pools, tai chi, yoga, pilates, personal training, customized treatments, signature products and more. A top of the line fitness center will be located in the building's ground floor.

Other spa's under development by ESPA include the One & Only Resorts at Reethi Rah Maldives and Cape Town, South Africa; The Peninsula Hotels in Hong Kong, New York, Bangkok, & Tokyo; Ritz Carlton Tokyo; Four Seasons' at Bora Bora, Baltimore and The Regent Beverly Wilshire; The Rosewood Acqualina in Florida; Grand Hotel Bahia del Duque, Tenerife; and the Loch Lomond Golf Club, Scotland.

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PALM TREE LINED WHITE SAND BEACH FOR PALMYRA RESIDENTS AND GUESTS



One of the many species of marine life. (Photo: JTB)

More than US\$3 million is being invested in the creation of a spectacular white sand beach with an abundance of palm trees along the Palmyra's one-half mile of Caribbean oceanfront.

Says Robert T. Trotta, moving force behind the Resort Properties Group, developer of The Palmyra; "We recognize that visitors coming to the Caribbean want the luxury of a wonderful, white sand beach with the signature tropical palm trees, and we are going to give our residents just that."

Fish species such as Butterflyfish, Angel fish, Parrotfish and Doctorfish are only some of the tropical species that inhabit the waters in front of the Palmyra. Says Trotta; "We want to do our part in creating an environmentally friendly, natural ecosystem and preserve the abundance of marine life that exists on The Palmyra coastline."

Protected by three groynes, the Palmyra's shoreline and white sand beach features 52,000 sq.ft. of habitable beach area, and more than 65,000 sq.ft. of protected, swimmable beach area. Says Larry Pickell, Director of Construction at The Palmyra; "We are working in close collaboration with the National Environment Planning Agency (NEPA) to ensure minimal impact to the surrounding marine environment.

In accordance with local NEPA requirements, 23,000 sq.ft. of marine sea grass has been relocated to the outside of the breakwater. In addition, 97 coral heads including finger coral, star coral, starlet, hill and fire corals have been relocated off-shore. By moving the sea grass and the coral, we are able to dredge the bottom and provide a clear, sandy swimming beach to our residents and guests."

A 400 foot walkway along the western groynes leads to a beautiful Gazebo, perfect for a tropical island wedding. Says Pickell; "We are proud to be creating a beach environment that preserves our marine life, and at the same time gives our buyers and guests a beautiful setting that they can fully enjoy with their families."



Larry Pickell, Director of Construction at The Palmyra



Palmyra beach construction (Photo: Heidi Zech)

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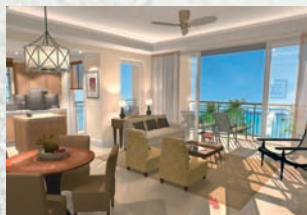
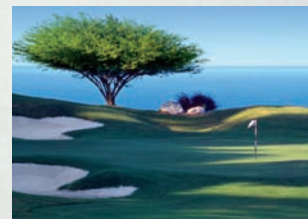
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Ritz-Carlton Executive Chef Lee Goble

NEW RITZ-CARLTON CHEF WITH LOVE FOR THE LOCAL FARE

Local patois expressions such as 'Dun Know', 'Nuff Respec', 'Gwaan an Kum', are the menu offerings at the Mango's casual poolside restaurant. This new set of choices are inspired by the innovative Lee Goble, Ritz-Carlton's new Executive Chef, who with a watchful eye oversees all culinary activities at the property's restaurants, lounges and banquet kitchens.

Chef Lee Goble recently joined The Ritz-Carlton Golf & Spa Resort in Rose Hall, after running a 550 room resort in Egypt where he supervised six restaurant outlets featuring Egyptian, International, Italian, Seafood and Beach Grill Cuisine. Born and educated in London, Chef Goble has held a number of positions in Europe and Canada with organizations as diversified as The Ritz London, Inn on the Lake Hotel and the Rocksdale Restaurant, owned by Classical Cuisine.

Goble's first visit to Jamaica took place in 1996, when he vacationed at the Eaton Hall Hotel (presently Breezes Runaway Bay) for 2 weeks. On his return to London, Goble was stuck in traffic one freezing cold morning and started thinking about returning to the warm climate of Jamaica. Upon his return to the island in 1997, Goble immediately landed a job at the Sans Souci Hotel in Ocho Rios, a SuperClubs property, where he got involved with the Jamaica Cultural Development Commission and Culinary Arts. Thus, he became a member of the gold medal winning Caribbean Culinary Team in Texas, 2000.

Says Goble, who got into cooking because he wanted to travel; "Cooking in the Caribbean is different; you have to learn the

basics because you start to cook from scratch and the ingredients are different". As a result he has developed his own style over the years which he calls 'Contemporary Caribbean Cuisine' – a mix of slightly sweet, sour and spicy. His staff is made up of 98% Jamaicans and this has also inspired him.

States Goble, whose wife Loquicia hails from the parish of Trelawny, about island life; "To be here in Jamaica, as part of the island's only AAA five diamond resort is a wonderful opportunity to introduce new service standards and techniques that can influence the island's exotic cuisine with international flavors that our sophisticated traveler guest can enjoy."

RITZ-CARLTON DINING OPTIONS

Guests can select "Horizon" restaurant for breakfast and dinner, "Mango's" for casual poolside dining and the beachside "Reggae Jerk Center" for authentic jerk cuisine. Ritz-Carlton's very popular "Jasmines" restaurant is a delightful choice if you want to dine on Jamaican & Asian fusion dishes, while "The White Witch" restaurant features panoramic views of the Caribbean Sea and is a wonderful spot to lunch. Try the "Cohoba Lounge" for Jamaican coffees, rums and cocktails and the famous Chocolate Martini. For reservations, call the Ritz Carlton Concierge on tel: 953 2800 (Ext: 5607 for Ritz-Carlton guests.)



The Culinary Team from Mango's Ritz-Carlton

The Houseboat Grill
Restaurant and Bar

Open for Dinner daily, 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm
Tel: 979-8845
Reservations Recommended

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FOR AN ELEGANT NIGHT OUT

Jamaican food is a mixture of Caribbean and local dishes, and the island's heritage from the far corners of the world has created a unique cuisine. A versatile variety of excellent restaurants, blending the flavors of the tropics with the charm of Jamaican hospitality are available for an elegant night out.

MONTEGO BAY

THE NATIVE

Location: 29 Gloucester Avenue, Montego Bay

CUISINE: JAMAICAN & INTERNATIONAL



Enjoy a beautiful view of the bay from the patio at The Native, whose breakfast, lunch and dinner are enthusiastically supported by a wide cross section of locals and visitors alike. Breakfast favourites include Ackee & Codfish and Banana Berry French Toast while the Native's dinner menu features traditional Jamaican dishes such as Curried Goat and Jerked

Chicken. A more exotic specialty is Boonoonoonoos; a big platter with a little bit of everything-meats, fish and vegetables billed as 'A Taste of Jamaica.' Smooth, live music courtesy of the in-house band complements your dining experience Tuesday thru Saturday. Dinner is served from 5:30 pm onwards and reservations are recommended. A free, door-to-door dinner shuttle service is provided. **Tel: 979-2769 or 940-4390.**

NIKKITA'S

Location: Gloucester Avenue, Montego Bay

CUISINE: INTERNATIONAL WITH A CARIBBEAN TWIST



Nikkita's many satisfied customers continue to come back to this new hotspot. With more than 30 years in the restaurant business, Nikkita's owner and Executive Chef Robert Joseph understands the value of a great dining experience. The Kingston native is involved in every aspect of the food preparation, the presentation of his innovative

dishes and the service. Nikkita's always attentive staff will make sure that you have an unforgettable dining experience and we highly recommend trying the sinful desserts and the extensive wine list. Reservations are recommended. Open every night from 6:00 pm - 11:00 pm. **Tel: 979-6473.**

MARGUERITES SEAFOOD BY THE SEA

Location: Gloucester Avenue, Montego Bay

CUISINE: CARIBBEAN SEAFOOD

Marguerites has established itself as the north coast's finest seafood restaurant. Originally built in the fifties and formerly owned by a succession of expatriates, including a US senator, this elegant and sophisticated water edge bistro, specializes in fresh, creatively prepared seafood. Enjoy a romantic and intimate dinner served on the oceanfront terrace by attentive staff, while you watch the fish swim in the turquoise ocean below. Caribbean seafood specialties include Cognac Lobster, Pimento Smoked Blue Marlin and Tijuana Shrimp. Flambé specialties are prepared at your table. Open for dinner only. Complimentary shuttle service is provided in the Montego Bay area. Reservations are recommended. **Tel. 952-4277.**



OTHER POPULAR MONTEGO BAY DINING SPOTS:

TOWN HOUSE RESTAURANT, GLOUCESTER AVENUE

Located in a historic building, this restaurant is renowned for its delicious offerings as well as its ambience. **Tel. 952-2660**

THE HOUSEBOAT GRILL, MONTEGO BAY MARINE PARK FISH & BIRD SANCTUARY

The unique floating restaurant, bar and grill, continues to be a favourite choice for a romantic dinner on the water. **Tel: 979-8845.**

JASMINES, RITZ-CARLTON GOLF & SPA RESORT, ROSE HALL

The Ritz-Carlton's signature restaurant features Jamaican & Asian fusion. Featured on Conde Nast Traveler Top 100 New Restaurants Hot List. Closed Sundays. **Tel: 953 2800**

MA LOU'S GOURMET SHACK, GLOUCESTER AVENUE

Treats your taste buds to an array of fine Caribbean cuisine that captures the essence of the region. **Tel: 952-4130.**

THE VINEYARD, COYABA BEACH RESORT

Local gourmets swear by the Vinyard, where you can dine on unique Caribbean-Continental to live music. **Tel. 953-9150**

AKBAR & THAI GARDENS RESTAURANT, HALF MOON SHOPPING VILLAGE

For exquisite Indian and authentic Thai cuisine, this is the perfect choice. Open for lunch and dinner. **Tel: 953-8240**

TOWNHOUSE BY THE SEA

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OCHO RIOS

THE RUINS, OCHO RIOS

CUISINE: FUSION



One of the most romantic spots on the island, dinner at The Ruins is an experience that will leave a lasting impression. Enjoy the spectacular view of a 40 feet cascading waterfall, while dining to the backdrop of soft music and gracious service. The menu features a healthy mixture of Jamaican, Chinese and

international cuisine, blending the finest ingredients with spices and herbs. Beautifully Located at 17 Dacosta Drive, Ocho Rios, The Ruins is open daily from 12:00 pm – 3:00 pm for lunch and from 6:00 pm – 10:00 pm for dinner. **Tel: 974-8888.** Website: www.ruinsjamaica.com.

OTHER POPULAR OCHO RIOS DINING SPOTS:

EVITA'S ITALIAN RESTAURANT

Dine al-fresco on fabulous homemade pasta and other fusion specials. A favourite celebrity hangout, host Eva enjoys making sure that her patrons eat well and have a good time. **Tel. 974-2333**



TOSCANINI, HARMONY HALL

With homemade Italian pastas, fine wine and a beautiful environment this restaurant is perfect for an extended lunch or a romantic dinner. Located 2 miles east of Ocho Rios. **Tel: 975-4785.**

ROYAL PLANTATION RESORT, MAIN ST.

An all-inclusive, you must purchase a pass to enter. Once inside, you can dine as lavishly as you want at any of their trio of restaurants. An evening here, dining and dancing by candlelight, is one of the most romantic experiences in Ocho Rios. **Tel. 974-5601**

THE CASANOVA, SANS SOUCI RESORT & SPA

Enjoy French cuisine in one of the most elegant enclaves along the North Coast, a super choice when you feel like dressing up. 3 miles east of Ocho Rios. **Tel. 994-1353**

ALMOND TREE RESTAURANT

Jamaican and continental specialties are served high above a Caribbean cove at this popular eatery. **Tel. 974-2676**

NEGRIL

NORMA'S ON THE BEACH

CUISINE, NEW WORLD CARIBBEAN



Norma Shirley, the 'Julia Child of the Caribbean', was recently awarded a three diamond rating by the AAA 2006 edition of the Caribbean Tourbook. Norma's creatively prepared dishes are often referred to as some of the best food in the Caribbean and the eclectic fusion from the bounties of different nations at

this romantic dining spot is definitely worth savoring. Located at the Sea Splash Hotel on Norman Manley Boulevard, Negril, Norma's is open daily from 7:30 am – 11:30 pm for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Free, one way pick up service is offered in Negril. **Tel: 957-4041.**

OTHER POPULAR NEGRIL DINING SPOTS:



THE ROCKHOUSE RESTAURANT

A gorgeous setting to enjoying some of the best food in Negril. A lighter, modern interpretation of classic Jamaican cooking. **Tel: 957-4373.**

KUYABA ON THE BEACH

The setting is about as rustic, laid-back, and funky as you'll find and a great choice for a romantic dinner. **Tel. 957-4318.**

FOR A CASUAL MEAL

Many places offer casual meals in a laid-back atmosphere. Be adventurous and try the island's famous jerk chicken or pork, a very smoky local version of grilling, with some baked yams or breadfruit. The national dish, ackee & saltfish, is a definite must, as is one of the local curries.

MONTEGO BAY

JAMBREW CAFÉ

Location: Shop #2, Doctors Cave Beach Hotel, Gloucester Avenue

Enjoy the island's finest coffees in this quiet little coffee house located at the Hip Strip. Jambrew Café offers a wide variety of wonderful coffee beverages such as Cappuccinos, Café Lattes, Mochaccinos, flavored Frappuccinos as well as their famous Oreo Frappuccino. To complement the coffee specialties, croissants, danishes, bagels and cream cheese are also on offer. The hearty breakfast includes eggs, bacon & sausages and a colorful Jamaican fruit plate. Jamaican bread pudding and cheesecake of the day is a must try! Cool down on a hot day with icy lemonades and a variety of smoothies. Stop in, relax and enjoy great service with a smile!



Opening soon is a second branch across from Coral Cliff featuring Jamaica's # 1 Devon House I-Scream (ice cream). Open 8:00 am – 6:00 pm. Call **971-9284.**



Fish & Chips at Pier 1 (Photo: Heidi Zech)

PIER 1 SEAFOOD RESTAURANT & BAR

Location: Howard Cooke Boulevard

With its waterfront location on the bay, Pier 1 takes full advantage of the local fishermen's bountiful catch brought to shore every day. Boasting a stunning view of the bay's turquoise water and the Cruise Shipping Pier, Pier 1's motto; great seafood is prepared with a Caribbean flare by the expert Chef's. Locally caught lobster, shrimp, red snapper and blue marlin are just a few of the seafood items you find on the menu in addition to tasty chicken dishes, steaks and burgers. One of the unique menu items that caught our attention was Pier 1's 'Fish and Chips', featuring deep fried fish dipped in a coconut batter and served with a delicious mango sauce. It turned out to be a great choice.

With great music, cool vibes and unlimited drinks, Pier 1's 'Sunset Happy Hour' is on every weekday from 5:00 to 7:00 pm. This hotspot is also known as 'the place to be' on a Friday night in Mobay, a weekly happening affectionately called the 'Pier Pressure' by its many devotees. Visitors can perform on stage is on Wednesday nights from 8:00 to 11:00 pm when the microphone is open to the 'Star Struck', and an exotic Caribbean style fashion show takes place. Another popular event is Pier 1's 'Seafood Sundays' with live entertainment, suitable for the entire family. Between 5:00 and 11:00 pm, you can buy fresh seafood by the pound from the open air seafood market, and have your 'catch of the day' cooked to order. Pier 1 offers free parking and complimentary dinner pick ups from most area hotels.

Lunch: 11:00 am – 4:00 pm. Dinner 4:00 pm - midnight. Call **952-2452** or visit www.pieronejamaica.com.

(Photo: Heidi Zech)



OTHER MOBAY FAVORITES



ROYAL STOCKS ENGLISH PUB & STEAKHOUSE, HALF MOON SHOPPING VILLAGE

An authentic establishment with all the ingredients of a genuine English pub: good food and good company, darts, satellite T.V., slot machines and occasional live jazz. Open from 10:00 am until late. **Tel. 953-9770.**

MANGO'S RESTAURANT, RITZ-CARLTON GOLF & SPA RESORT

It is hard to beat the casual setting overlooking the ocean and the friendly service. Mango's is a perfect choice for a more casual dining experience or an exotic cocktail. No reservation is required and the attire is casual. Lunch is served from 12:00 pm to 5:00 pm daily and dinner from 6:30 pm to 10:00 pm.



THE PELICAN, GLOUCESTER AVENUE

A local, diner style favourite, the family-friendly Pelican has been serving good food at reasonable prices for more than a quarter century. Great island fare, fresh seafood and more. **Tel. 952-3171**

SCOTCHIES JERK PIT, MONTEGO BAY

Scotchies is a very casual hang-out and locals go there regularly to eat Jamaican Jerk, have a cold Red Stripe beer and enjoy the reggae music. Opening hours: 11:00 am till you say when. **Tel: 953-8041.**



THE PORT PIT, GLOUCESTER AVENUE

The Pork Pit is famous for its authentic Jamaican cuisine - including pork, chicken, shrimp, ribs, fish and other delicacies and you can observe the 'jerking' process at this local spot. **Tel: 940-3008.**



THE JAMAICA BOBSLED CAFÉ, GLOUCESTER AVENUE

The Jamaica Bobsled Café is the official Café of the Jamaica Bobsled team, popular to many in the tourist capital for their Brooklyn style pizza, and their "Gold Medal" breakfast and lunch specials.

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OCHO RIOS FAVORITES

LITTLE PUB RESTAURANT, MAIN STREET

Located in a redbrick courtyard with a fishpond and waterfall in the center of town, this pub is the town's most popular. Enjoy a drink in the pub and proceed to one of the linen-covered tables for a great meal.

Tel. 974-2324

CAFÉ MANGO, MAIN STREET

Semi-open-air and inexpensive diner in a shady, central location. Jamaican and American breakfasts, also calamari, nachos, chicken wings, salads, some Mexican dishes, pasta and pizza. A nice spot for a long lunch or an outdoor dinner. Opposite the entrance to Jamaica Grande.

NEGRIL

RICK'S CAFÉ, NEGRIL

Location: Lighthouse Road, West End

Richard Hershman created a legend when he discovered the beauty of this cliff-side location in the fishing village of Negril and named Rick's Cafe "One of the 1000 Places To See Before You Die." After a day at Negril's seven mile beach, it is almost mandatory to be seen at Rick's Café for sunset watching, cliff jumping, good food and even better drinks. Specialty drinks like 'Rick's Famous Planter's Punch' and a 'Category 5 Hurricane' will even turn a coward into a cliff jumper. Open daily: 12.00 pm until late. Call 957-0380.



OTHER NEGRIL FAVORITES



THE HUNGRY LION, WEST END

Excellent vibes, food, music and art can be enjoyed at The Hungry Lion, a restaurant that has maintained its reputation as one of Negril's premier dining and drinking spots since its startup in the mid 80s. Tel: 957-4486.



THE SANDS AT THE CAVES, WEST END

Located on the most western point of the island, the Sands offers an offbeat, cool-out spot with loads of style and tasty grilled fare. Boasting Negril's original 'beach on the cliffs'; feel free to sunbathe, cliff-jump, swim, snorkel, lounge, eat, drink and basically lounge away the afternoon. Tel. 957-0269

FOR THE PERFECT NIGHT OUT



CORAL CLIFF ENTERTAINMENT RESORT, MONTEGO BAY

Location: Gloucester Avenue

Don't miss a visit to Coral Cliff Entertainment Lounge on the Gloucester Avenue 'Hip Strip', the island's pioneers in gaming experience and live nightly entertainment since 1996. This exquisitely decorated entertainment mecca is open 24 / 7 and has a 'Gaming Lounge' with more than 120 slot machines, tempting you with the chance to win the US\$70,000 jackpot! Varied live entertainment seven nights a week with live jazz, fashion shows, cabaret and vintage reggae. There is no cover charge and free transport from your hotel can be arranged upon request. Talk to your Concierge or call 952-4130 to arrange a night out at Coral Cliff.



BLUE BEAT JAZZ & MARTINI BAR, MONTEGO BAY

Location: Gloucester Avenue

Montego Bay was introduced to their first Jazz & Martini Bar in 2004. Located on Mo Bay's Hip Strip the venue has become increasingly popular among jazz lovers. The Blue Beat bar and lounge offers Asian Caribbean Cuisine complimented by nightly live music and the hotspot has received several local awards, including 'Best new concept', 'Coolest watering hole' and 'Best service with a smile'. Tel: 952-9609, open 6:00pm until...



THE BREWERY, MONTEGO BAY

Location: Gloucester Avenue

The Brewery, a combination of restaurant, bar and night club in the heart of the hip-strip is very popular with the locals. The atmosphere is relaxed and casual in the full service restaurant and pub style bar, where people meet to relax and gossip over their favourite brew and good food. Regular theme nights include Disco, 70's/80's music, Reggae, Dancehall and Karaoke. The bar area features a large TV screen showing sports event. Tel: 940-2433



Photos: Ray Chen

JIMMY BUFFETT'S MARGARITAVILLE CARIBBEAN BAR & GRILL,
Montego Bay, Negril and Ocho Rios

Look for Jimmy Buffett's Margaritaville on Montego Bay's renowned 'Hip Strip', on Negril's famous 7-mile white sand beach or at the Island Village Shopping Village in Ocho Rios. With three oceanfront locations on the north-shore, Margaritaville provide perfect hangouts for anyone looking for exciting entertainment, a lively atmosphere and delicious food. The all day 'fun in the sun' concept of this popular island chain is hard to beat. Famous for their tropical Margaritas, Cheeseburger in Paradise and Key Lime Pie, the popular island establishments provide all-day family fun and night-time entertainment. By day, patrons can enjoy international sporting events on the big screen TVs and jam to the laid back sounds of Jimmy Buffett. 'Ville' Mobay entices visitors with a 110ft waterslide, two giant water trampolines and a rooftop whirlpool, while 'Ville' Negril patrons



Margaritaville Island Village, Ocho Rios. (Photo: Island Village)



Margaritaville Island Village, Ocho Rios.

can bounce around on the giant water trampoline or show off their skills on the rock-climbing wall. 'Ville' Ocho Rios, the island chain's largest establishment, features 3 bars, a two story, 100ft long waterslide and a rooftop whirlpool. At sunset, Margaritaville's 'fun in the sun' ambience transforms into an urban and 'nightclub-y' atmosphere. To the sounds of in-house DJ's, party people strut their stuff on Karaoke, Latin and Pajama Party theme nights. Don't miss a visit to your nearest Margaritaville during your stay, it is sure to become an immediate favorite. Upon leaving the island, aficionados can get a last tropical Margarita at the new and fabulous Air Margaritaville in Sangster Airport departure hall. Open every day from 11:00 am till very late.

Wet by Day

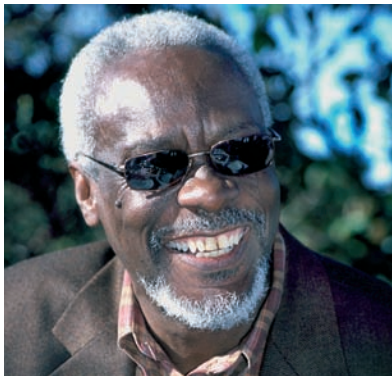
Wild by Night

Jimmy Buffett's MARGARITAVILLE CARIBBEAN

**VISIT US IN:
 MONTEGO BAY, OCHO RIOS, NEGRIL & AIR 'VILLE'**

IT'S ALL IN THE GAME

Cricket, to the West Indies, is what baseball is to the Bronx, bullfighting is to the Spanish and soccer is to the Brazilians. A tight woven part of West Indies history, cricket is a main ingredient in the island's culture, embedded in the national psyche. Published here for the first time, Jamaica's former Prime Minister, The Most Honourable P. J. Patterson, shares the mystery of the game that to the outsider, is surrounded by a veil of secrecy. An avid lover of this enigmatic pastime, Patterson draws from a lifetime of experience at the cricket oval to reveal traditions that only the insiders fully appreciate.



Jamaica's former Prime Minister, The Most Honourable P.J. Patterson. (Photo: Robert Landau)

BY: THE MOST HONOURABLE P. J. PATTERSON

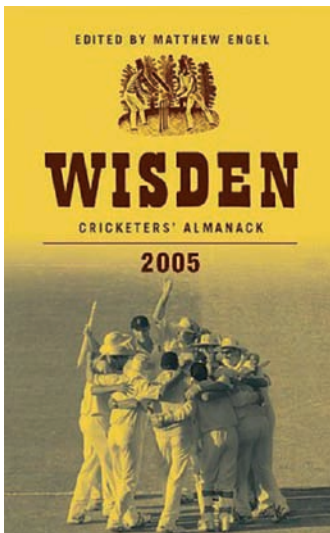
Every sport has its own intricate rules and peculiar jargon, but surely to the uninitiated, none has more mysterious laws and such a plainly misleading vocabulary.

However strange or confusing newcomers to this pastime may find its terminology, the game is no laughing matter to its passionate devotees. As is the case with ideologues, the extremists are prepared to live or die for it – Many, many more readily forfeit an entire night's sleep – Princes, Professors, Preachers, Pupils, Paupers and Prime Ministers alike.

ORIGINS

Its name is said to have originated in France but the historical records of actual playing date back to the Middle Ages during the reign of King Edward I in 1300. The basic rules of the modern game were fixed in 1774.

Since 1863, there has been an Annual Almanac, first produced by John Wisden on his retirement as a player. Today, huge wagers are promptly settled only after due reference to Wisden, which remains the final word on the laws and statistics of the game.



Wisden Cricketers' Almanack or "the Bible of Cricket" is the longest running sports annual in history. (Image: Wikipedia)

Even when the sun eventually set on the British Empire, its pervasive cultural influence could not be uprooted. The Dutch also play it. Indeed, there is no time of the day when it is not being played somewhere on the globe. It currently commands most popular adulation on the Indian Sub-continent. Some reports suggest that the recent admission of Bangladesh to Test status was greeted with widespread national enthusiasm that almost matched the achievement of its Independence. Its imagery has spread so far and wide, that even those who have never seen the game, unwittingly employ it.

The game has produced some of the greatest writers of English prose and outstanding broadcasters with their bewitching voices and distinct accents. Neville Cardus, John Arlott, Jack Fingleton, E. W. Swanton, Brian Johnson, Richie Benaud, Tony Cozier are among those who instantly spring to mind. In that literary masterpiece, "Beyond A Boundary", a genius and erudite scholar, C.L.R. James, undertook a most penetrating analysis of West Indian Society, by reflecting on the game. He wrote: "To establish his own identity, Caliban, after three centuries

must himself pioneer into regions Caesar never knew".

Photographers, ranging from Patrick Eagar through to our own Headley "Dellmar" Samuels, have made sure its rich legacy is fully "caught in the frame". Lord Kitchener and Lord Beginner improvised calypsos in celebration.

Who can forget the memorable Test at Lord's, "with those little Pals of mine, Ramadhin and Valentine"? David Rudder composed our first Caribbean Anthem, all in accord with the rhythm and excitement of the game.



West Indies close in fielders surround India's Kumble in Basseterre. (Photo: Reuters)

ON THE FIELD

Let's examine some of the more esoteric field-positions of the game:

Three men can be in slips, although fully clothed in conventional white shirts and long trousers;

Another may be at fine leg or square leg, nothing whatever to do with any weight problem;

The person close to the striking batsman in leg slip is poised like one about to pick his back pocket.

Then there's point and silly point. . . mid-on and silly mid-on. . . nothing to do with one's intellectual capacity;

There's backward point. . . nothing to do with socio-political views;

The man in the gully is not near a ravine, but on level ground;

Neither cover, cover point nor extra cover provides any shade from the sweltering sun for those fielding there;

Third man has nothing to do with any spy story. . . it's a person who is set so close to the ropes as to get a drink of water or the sip of some spirit from a friendly spectator nearby.

BATTING

We have yet to talk about a batsman who may be run out, caught behind the wicket, stumped, leg before wicket (better known as lbw) or worst of all, clean bowled – although his lily whites have not been washed in bleach.

The great Shane Warne took special delight when the batsman was befuddled by his "googly" or "flipper".

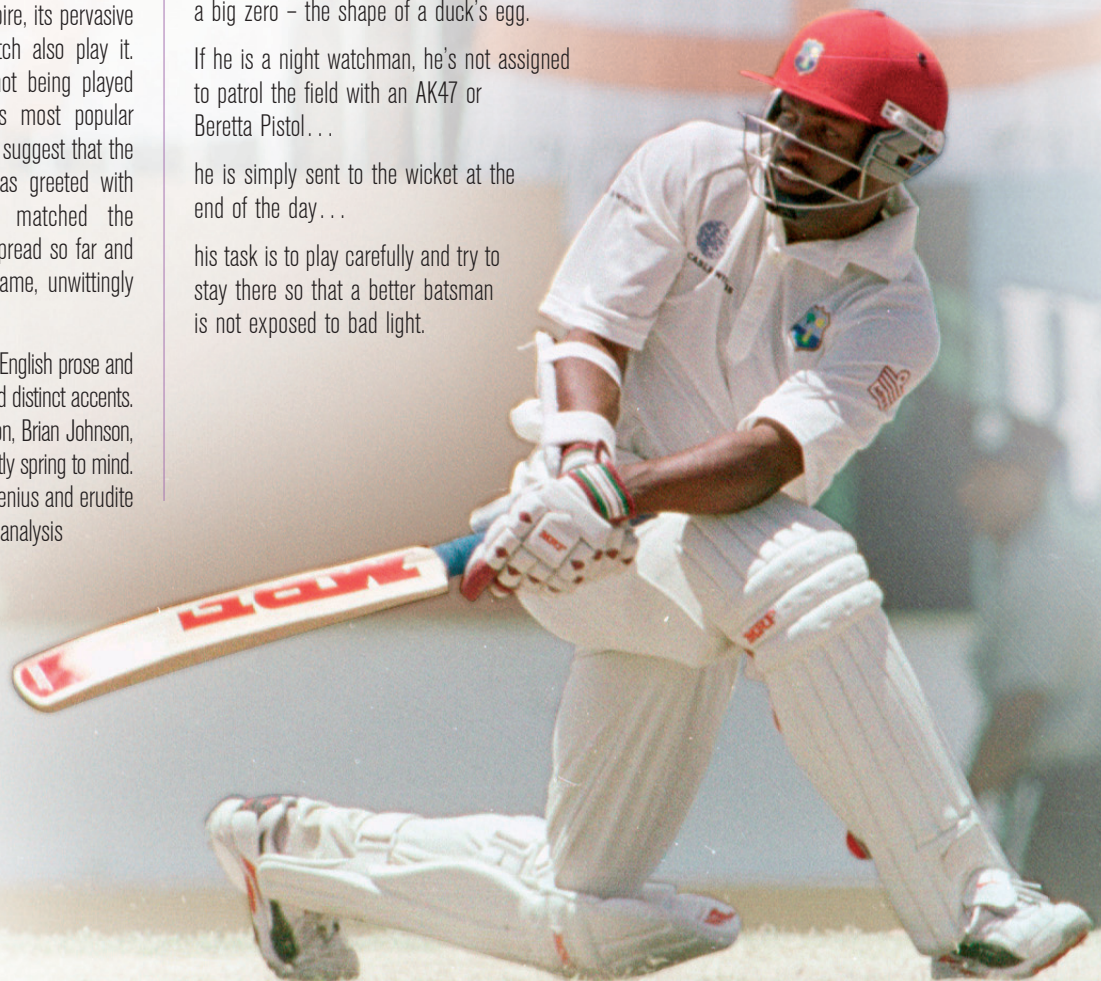
Woe betide the batsman who cannot read Muralitharan's "doosra". He will find no further help by reference to the best dictionary in order to decipher it.

If he is out for a duck it means he scored no runs. . . a big zero – the shape of a duck's egg.

If he is a night watchman, he's not assigned to patrol the field with an AK47 or Beretta Pistol. . .

he is simply sent to the wicket at the end of the day. . .

his task is to play carefully and try to stay there so that a better batsman is not exposed to bad light.



Brian Lara, the current captain of the "Windies", affectionately nicknamed "The Prince". (Photo: Dellmar Photo)



With 519 wickets in 132 test matches, Courtney Walsh defied all logic by stretching his career over an astonishing 17 years. (Photo: Dellmar Photo)



Right-arm fast bowler Curtly Ambrose, the "Little Bird". (Photo: Dellmar Photo)



Michael Anthony Holding was christened "Whispering Death" by umpires due to his quiet approach to the bowling crease. (Photo: Dellmar Photo)

BOWLING

To bowl a maiden over does not mean a damsel is being overcome by your charms – it signifies that the batsman has not scored.

A hat trick has nothing to do with sleight of hand. It just means that the bowler has got three batsmen out with successive balls.

Jim Laker was a splendid spin bowler, not because he was a whirling dervish, but he managed like the guileful Lance Gibbs to confuse everyone as a "spin doctor" would intend.

Only a left-hander can bowl a chinaman, but that is neither a racial slur nor a slur on those right-handed.

The foursome of Roberts, Holding, Garner and Croft were truly lethal. Batsmen usually felt they had a better chance to escape from terrorists rather than confront the "pace like fire" from this quartet. Holding, dubbed as "Whispering Death", was at the same time described as the Rolls Royce of bowlers, because of his smooth action.

Facing the "bouncers" and "yorkers" of Marshall Malcolm, Curtly Ambrose and Courtney Walsh was for many a batsman worse than torture. Suffering from pains all over the body, those condemned to face such awesome fast bowlers were often left in considerable fear as to what would be their final sentence; decapitation, throat-cutting or emasculation.

IMMORTALS

Sir Donald Bradman, universally acclaimed to be the "greatest", was an "Immortal" several times over, long before he died. Lawrence Rowe, who happily is still alive today, became one in his very first Test Appearance. George Headley at one time carried the entire West Indies on his shoulders and so became known as "Atlas". Names like W.G. Grace, Wally Hammond, Victor Trumper, C. V. Grimmett, Learie Constantine are only uttered by the cognoscenti with the utmost reverence.

Renowned for his stately gait and dancing feet, the best all-rounder in batting, bowling and fielding since the game began was Gary Sobers. But none could square cut like Everton Weeks or hook over the fence like the burly Clyde Walcott.

Brian Charles Lara is far away from being a quinquagenarian, but like Roger Bannister who ran the first four minute mile, he broke the barrier to enter a new frontier by compiling 500 'not out' in the Antigua Test Match.

THE CULTURE

There are very few games that can last for up to five days and end happily with absolutely no result...when after 30 gruelling hours there is a draw, who wants to hear about over time! This one can!

Yes, it demands considerable physical stamina but is arguably more cerebral than chess.

Claims that only mad dogs go out in the midday sun are proven incorrect in this traditional game, for at mid-day (or thereabouts), in the first class events, the players all take a long lunch break... and in the early afternoon tea-time is a critical part of the game. These breaks are no less sacred than the rules which prevail on the oval of play.

Most players indulge in having lunch and taking tea in proper English style... not so for those West Indian spectators who are always in merry mood, devoutly consuming mounds of food and gallons of drink. At the village level, a wide variety of good food is to be expected.

At times the match is better remembered for the quantity of the curry goat served for all in attendance than the quality of the day's play.

When the Captain on the field orders the new ball, it often calls for special celebration in the stands. It's time to break a seal on a fresh bottle of rum, a ritual which is strictly observed at various landmarks during the game. With the festive spirit (pun intended) in which West Indians approach this game, these occasions

become more and more frequent and less distinguishable as the liquor seeps in.

If you are facing a difficult situation you are perceived to be batting on a 'sticky wicket'. The highest score a batsman can make from one ball is six runs and so, if you suffer a set back in any area of life, your opponent is said to "lick you for six"!

PERFECTION

The game is played to strict standards and venerable traditions. Their observance was regarded as far more sacrosanct than winning. So if one's behaviour is less than honourable, whether or not a player of this noble game, then it's simply not cricket.

Let me try to bewilder you no further! That's the game I've tried to introduce you to...cricket, lovely cricket. As if you didn't know!

The English invented it – the Australians have mastered it. It is the West Indies, led by such astute Captains as Frank Worrell, Clive Lloyd and Viv Richards, who converted it to the finest art form.

It is therefore fitting that for the very first time the West Indies will host the ICC Cricket World Cup.

The entire Region is proud to welcome to our Caribbean shores the players and spectators who will visit with us for the 7th World Cup Cricket Series to revel in the excitement, the hospitality and the natural beauty for which our region is so well renowned.

We eagerly anticipate a most enjoyable encounter.

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Sir Isaac Vivian Alexander Richards, the "Master Blaster". (Photo: Dellmar Photo)

THE ICC CRICKET WORLD CUP 2007

For the very first time in the history of the International Cricket Council (ICC), the Cricket World Cup is being hosted in the West Indies this year. An estimated 2000 international media representatives from around the world will cover the world's third largest sporting event, broadcast to an estimated 2 billion TV-viewers worldwide.

Jamaica is hosting the event together with the eight other West Indian islands of Antigua & Barbuda, Barbados, Grenada, Guyana, St. Kitts & Nevis, Saint Lucia, St. Vincent & the Grenadines and Trinidad & Tobago.

Kicking off March 13 at Sabina Park, Kingston and concluding April 28 with the finals at Kensington Oval, Barbados, The ICC World Cup is played according to a One Day International (ODI) format, featuring 16 teams allocated into four groups of four. Teams in each group will play in a round-robin format to determine the top two teams to advance to the 'Super Eight' round.

The eight teams that advance to the 'Super Eight' will again play in a round-robin format, with the exception of the team that advanced from their group of four. The top four teams from the 'Super Eight' round will advance to the semi-finals and the winners of the semi-finals will then compete in the final.

The field of 16 teams is the largest ever to compete in the Cricket World Cup. Eleven teams have One-Day International status and were automatically qualified for the tournament; Australia, England, South Africa, West Indies, New Zealand, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Zimbabwe, Kenya and Bangladesh, while Bermuda, Canada, Ireland, Scotland and The Netherlands were selected from the ICC Trophy matches.

GROUP TABLES (RANKINGS IN BRACKETS)

Group A	Group B	Group C	Group D
St Kitts & Nevis	Trinidad & Tobago	St. Lucia	Jamaica
Australia (1)	Sri Lanka (2)	New Zealand (3)	Pakistan (4)
South Africa (5)	India (8)	England (7)	West Indies (6)
Scotland (12)	Bangladesh (11)	Kenya (10)	Zimbabwe (9)
The Netherlands (16)	Bermuda (15)	Canada (14)	Ireland (13)



Recently completed, the state-of-the-art Trelawny Multipurpose Stadium has a seating capacity of 25,000.

the game throughout the British Empire has never won the title, despite being finalists on three occasions: 1979, 1987 and 1992.

Current champions, Australia, who have won the tournament three times, will aim to become the first team to win three consecutive World Cup titles, following their 1999 victory in England and their 2003 win in South Africa. Contenders include The West Indies, know as the 'Windies', who won the first two World Cups, as well as India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka who each have won the prestigious event once.

An estimated 1500 performers will take part in the March 11th Gala Opening Ceremony at the newly constructed Trelawny Multi-purpose stadium, which has a seating capacity of 25,000 spectators. Representing the entire region with the theme "Caribbean Energy", the Opening Ceremony will depict the common culture that binds the region together - the music, the dance, and the heritage of the people. Located an approximate 40 minutes drive from Montego Bay, Trelawny Multi-purpose stadium is also the venue for four warm up games.

Held every four years, the first three Cricket World Cups were staged in the game's ancestral home, England, starting in 1975 when it was won by the West Indies. England staged the event in 1979 and 1983, while India/Pakistan were hosts in 1987, Australia/ New Zealand in 1992; India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka co-hosted in 1996 and South Africa hosted the event in 2003. Ironically, England, the nation that spread



Reigning World Champions, Australia



Welcome by
The Most Hon. Portia Simpson Miller ON, MP
Prime Minister of Jamaica
For visitors to ICC Cricket World Cup 2007

On behalf of all Jamaicans I welcome our visitors who have journeyed from around the world for a grand time at the 2007 ICC Cricket World Cup. The event promises to be competitive yet very exciting and every effort has been made our officials, workers and stakeholders in the hospitality industry, to ensure that your stay will be an enjoyable one.

In addition to enjoying a great game cricket, I encourage you to make this a unique Jamaican holiday experience over the course of your stay. Do take time out to visit some of our world renowned tourist attractions including Dunn's River Falls and share in our popular Jamaican arts, culture as expressed through our music and various forms of entertainment.

Whatever your interest, Jamaica has an experience to match your unique style and taste so do join us at any of the events associated with the staging of Cricket World Cup 2007.

I look forward to seeing you at the opening ceremony at our newly constructed Greenfield Stadium in Trelawny on the North Coast where a kaleidoscope of Caribbean art, entertainment and culture will be on display. See you in the stands at the warm-up or semi-final matches which will be played in Jamaica.

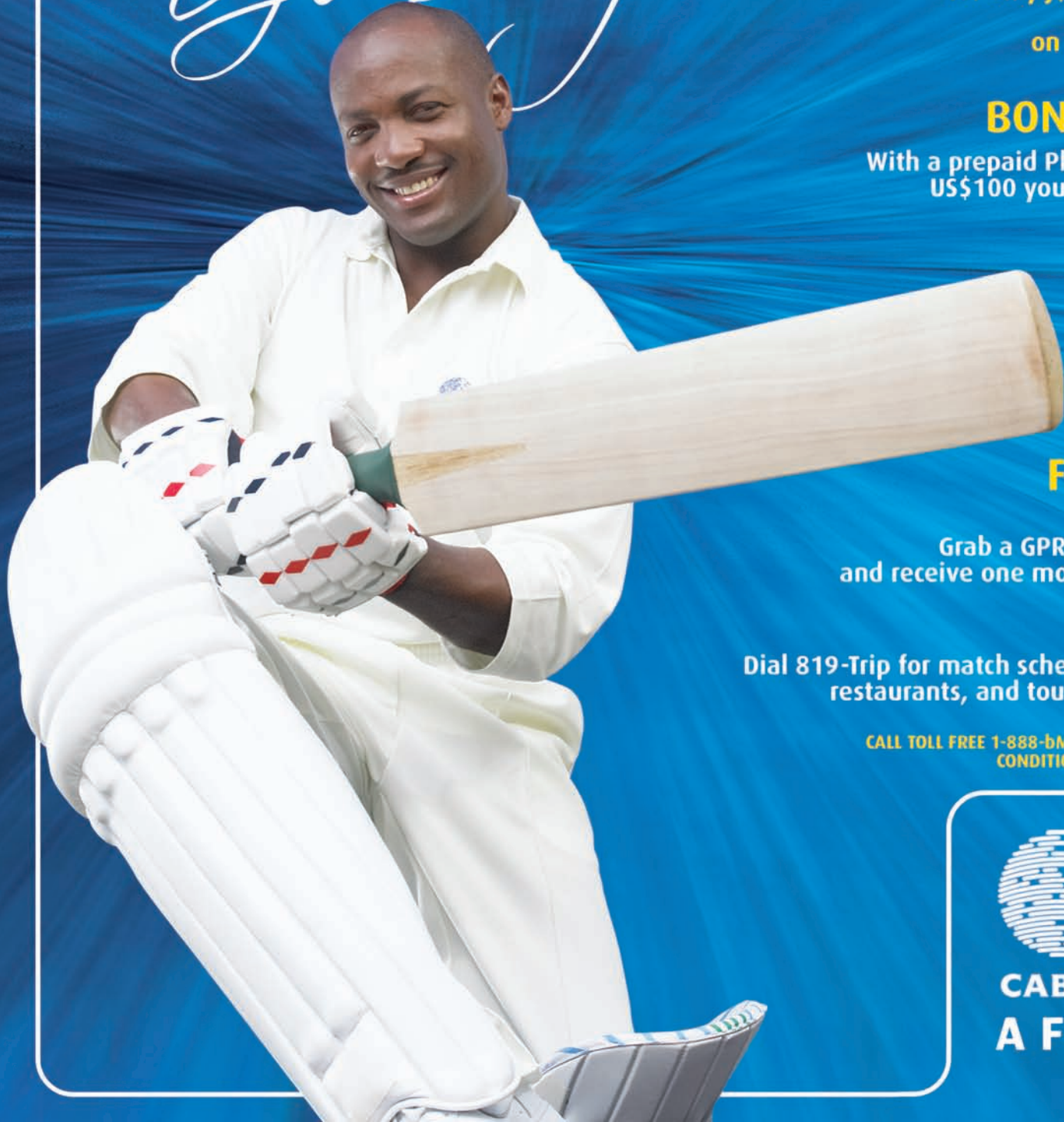
Whatever you do while here, I know this holiday experience will rank among your most memorable ever. After all, this is Jamaica and, once you go you know.

Portia Simpson Miller
Prime Minister of Jamaica



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Lively Up Yourself!



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PLAYERS TO WATCH BY PAUL REID

Every sport has its superstars and cricket is no exception. This era has seen some of the best to have ever played the game and ICC World Cup 2007 will be graced by some of the greatest.



SACHIN TENDULKAR - INDIA

India's 'Little Master' Sachin Tendulkar would stand out in any era of the game and Wisden (the bible of Cricket), rate him as the second greatest batsman ever.

As of late last year, Tendulkar had the highest amount of runs: 14,479 and most centuries: 40. He had played in 371 ODIs and is the only player in the game's history to have over 100 innings of 50 runs or more. Tendulkar has been consistent over the years, and has the record of scoring 1000 ODI runs in a calendar year, six times between 1994 and 2003.

Tendulkar is the first cricketer and fastest cricketer to cross 10,000-run mark, 11,000-run mark, 12,000-run mark, 13,000-run mark and 14,000-run mark in ODIs and is the only cricketer to cross 14,000-run mark in ODIs.

He has not failed to shine in World Cups, (1732 at an average of 59.72) and his 673 runs in 2003 World Cup, is the highest achieved by anyone in a single Cricket World Cup. Tendulkar was named the Player Of The 2003 Tournament.

RICKY PONTING - AUSTRALIA

Currently the World's leading batsman and with good reason. The Australian captain scored a century in both innings of a Test match three times in the 2005-06 season, and became the first player to score a century in each inning of his 100th Test match. He is only the second player (after Sunil Gavaskar) to score centuries in both innings of a Test match 3 times, and the first to do so in a single season. Across 12 matches in Australia, South Africa and Bangladesh in that season, Ponting scored 1483 runs at an average of 78.05 with 8 centuries.



He began the 2006-07 Ashes series in Australia with scores of 196 and 60 not out at Brisbane and 142 and 49 at Adelaide. These two centuries took him past Steve Waugh for the Australian record for Test centuries and raised his career average above 60, taking his calendar-year-to-date average to 104.08. He was 539 runs behind the new calendar year record established on 30 November 2006 by Mohammad Yousuf.

Ponting is the reigning ICC Test Player of the Year and ICC Player of the Year, and Allan Border Medal winner (for the most outstanding Australian cricketer of the past season). He is the only player to have won the award twice. At the 2006 ICC Awards he was named in the World Team of the Year for both Tests and ODIs.

A veteran of 263 ODI (January 2007) he had up to then scored 9503 runs at an average of just over 41.00 with 20 centuries and 56 half centuries with a top score of 154.

MUTTIAH MURALITHARAN - SRI LANKA

Muttiah Muralitharan of Sri Lanka is statistically the most successful off-spin bowler in cricket history, and one of his country's most successful players. However, Muralitharan's career has not been without controversy, with the legality of his bowling action being called into question a number of times since his cricketing debut.



One of few Tamils ever to play for Sri Lanka, Muralitharan has taken over 600 Test wickets and over 400 One-day International wickets, and was the first man to take 1,000 wickets in all international cricket.

He has the second highest number of Test wickets-674 and ODI wickets- 432 and his 19 ten-wicket hauls in a match is the most ever.

Along with Jim Laker of England, Muralitharan, is the only other cricketer to have taken nine wickets in a Test match twice.

He is the only player to take 50 or more wickets against every Test playing nation and only player to take 10 wickets in a Test against every Test playing nation.

BRIAN CHARLES LARA-WEST INDIES

Few players can take over a game with a bat like Brian can and he has earned the respect of all his peers with his brilliant batting technique.

With 19 ODI centuries, including a highest score of 169 against Sri Lanka in Sharjah in the United Arab Emirates 1995, the West Indies captain has carved a niche for himself in the history of the game.

The leading scorer in Test cricket history, Brian scored 277 runs for his maiden Test 'ton', the fourth highest maiden Test century by any batsman, the highest individual score in all Tests between the two teams and the fourth-highest century ever recorded against Australia by any Test batsman.

Lara broke the World Record for highest individual score twice, both times at the Antigua Recreation Grounds (ARG) and both times against the same opponent; England. He first made 375 in 1994, but that mark was surpassed by Australia's Ricky Ponting in 2003 before he returned a year later with a sparkling 400 not out as he became the first batsman to score two Test triple centuries and the second player to score two career quadruple centuries. The only player to achieve both these milestones, Brian regained the distinction of being the holder of both the record first-class individual innings and the record Test individual innings.

He also holds the First class single innings record of 501 not out while playing County cricket in England for Warwickshire against Durham.



MOHAMMAD YOUSUF - PAKISTAN

Mohammad Yousuf of Pakistan is on a high, having just set the World Record of centuries in a calendar year with nine, breaking the 30 year-old record held by former West Indies great Sir Vivian Richards.

He also broke Zaheer Abbas's record for the most runs made by a Pakistani batsman in a three-Test series. Abbas had made 583 runs against the visiting Indians in 1978-79.

After his 191 against the West Indies at Multan he became the first player in Test history to have been dismissed 3 times in the 190's, with all three innings coming in 2006.

Yousuf also equalled Australian great Don Bradman's record of scoring six centuries in successive Tests - although it took him only five matches compared with Bradman's six.

In 228 ODIs he has scored 7608 runs with an average of 41.34 and a high score of 141 not out with 11 centuries and 51 half centuries



JACQUES HENRY KALLIS - SOUTH AFRICA

One of the best all-rounders in the modern game, Kallis is a dogged right-handed batsman and muscular fast-medium bowler who can swing the ball both ways off a good line and length. As of September 2006 he became the only cricketer in the history of the game to hold more than 8,000 runs and 200 wickets in both Test and One Day International cricket. Kallis is only the third player in Test history (after Sir Donald Bradman and Mohammad Yousuf) to make a century in five consecutive matches.

Kallis has a very impressive batting average of over 55, and is rated as one of the best batsmen in the world. Although still a very capable bowler with over 200 Test wickets, he has impressed mostly with the bat in recent years. He was awarded the captaincy of South Africa for the third and final Test match against Australia in 2006, when Graeme Smith stood down with an injury.



As one of the most enduring batsmen of his generation, Kallis' wicket has become arguably the most prized in Test cricket, with the exception of Australia captain Ricky Ponting and Indian captain Rahul Dravid. As Kallis, Dravid and Ponting are in their early 30s, with time on their side, they are seen to be in a race for the world record tally of Test runs, held by West Indian great Brian Lara.

STEPHEN PAUL FLEMING - NEW ZEALAND

Stephen Paul Fleming is the current captain of the New Zealand cricket team, known as the "Black Caps". A left-handed batsman, Fleming made his Test debut in 1994 against India and assumed the captaincy role during the home series against England in 1997. Known for his astute tactical abilities, he is New Zealand's most successful Test captain, having led the side to 27 victories (as of July 2006) and having won Test match series against India, England, West Indies, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Zimbabwe.

Affectionately referred to by fans as "Flem", Fleming was long regarded as an underperformer with the bat, with one of the worst 50 to 100 conversion ratios in world cricket. However since the 2003 tour of Sri Lanka, Fleming has silenced his critics with 274 not out against Sri Lanka - when Fleming selflessly declared rather than staying to reach 300. As a fielder, Fleming has taken over 150 catches giving him the 4th highest Test aggregate for a non-wicketkeeper.



BRETT LEE - AUSTRALIA

Brett Lee, who will spearhead the Australian attack with the retirement of Glen McGrath, is widely regarded as one of the world's finest and most feared bowlers. He was ranked by the ICC as the No. 1 ODI bowler in January 2006 and has been ranked among the top ten ODI bowlers since the start of 2003.

His bowling strike rate of around 30 puts him amongst the most incisive in this form of the game. He also has a One-day International hat-trick to his name, achieved in the 2003 World Cup against Kenya. Lee was the first Australian and fourth bowler to ever achieve this feat in World Cup history.

Lee is also only behind Pakistani spinner Saqlain Mushtaq as the bowler with the second highest number of wickets after 99 ODI matches with 176 wickets. He surpassed Allan Donald as the fast bowler with the most number of wickets after 99 ODI matches.



Lee also has a devilish slower ball in which the amount of pace removed from the ball with no discernable change in grip or bowling action is one of the largest in world cricket. This ball can be anywhere from around 100 km/h to around 125 km/h and is used sparingly.

While Lee's average and strike rate in ODIs rank him as one of the best bowlers in ODI history, he can still be erratic occasionally, as shown by his relatively high economy rate. However, at his best, he is an extremely damaging bowler and can rip through any batting line-up.

ANDREW 'FREDDIE' FLINTOFF - ENGLAND

The former England captain who at 6' 4" is one of the giants of the international game. A fast bowler and aggressive batsman, he is widely regarded as one of the best all-rounders in the modern game. He plays county cricket for Lancashire, where he picked up the nickname 'Freddie' or 'Fred' due to perceived similarities with Fred Flintstone.

He attracted comparisons to the great Ian Botham when he first came on the scene, and has overcome a series of injuries to be one of the key players in the England set up.

CHRISTOPHER HENRY GAYLE - WEST INDIES

One of the fiercest hitters of the ball in cricket today and was rated as the top all-rounder up to late last year. The Jamaican has played in 155 ODIs (up to January) with a total of 5633 runs including 15 centuries and 28 half centuries with a high score of 153 not out.

Also handy with the ball Gayle has 129 ODI scalps at an average of 38.69. Gayle is one of the characters of the international game, wearing sunglasses even while bowling and silver shoes to add to his gleaming smile.



TEAMS TO WATCH BY PAUL REID

AUSTRALIA

Australia is the leading cricket team in the world at present and despite several top players calling it a day over the last few months, the ICC trophy is theirs to lose. Shane Warne, the world record holder for most wickets taken in Test cricket with 708 in 145 games, will not be on the World Cup team, nor will his bowling partner Glen McGrath or batsman Damien Martyn who retired in the middle of the Ashes Series against England. However, Australia will still be very potent with the likes of Captain Ricky Ponting, Michael Kasprowicz, Justin Langer, Matthew Hayden, Nathan Bracken, Stuart Clark and Brett Lee.

PAKISTAN

After being runners up in 1999, Pakistan bowed out in the first round four years ago in South Africa and will come prepared to erase those bitter memories. The team is considered a strong but unpredictable team. Traditionally Pakistani cricket has been filled with players of great talent, but limited discipline. The banning and subsequent controversial clearing of pace bowlers Shoaib Akhtar and Mohammad Asif, who both tested positive for banned anabolic steroids, is just one of the few controversies that have surrounded the team. In 2006, Pakistan became the first team in Test history to forfeit a game, after Australian umpire Daryl Hair accused swing bowler Umar Gul of tampering with the ball. They were eventually cleared of the charges, but captain Inzamam-ul-Haq was banned for four matches.

SOUTH AFRICA

"Snake bitten" is how some would describe South Africa's cricket history, due to a series of incidents that have conspired to keep them from winning a major title. The team has achieved some success, despite being hampered by the retirements of many star players, including fast bowler Allan Donald and one-day specialist Jonty Rhodes. As a result, they had a poor 2004 season, only winning against the West Indies. However, South Africa is currently ranked second in the world in the One Day International Cricket rankings and in the top five for Test cricket rankings, mainly due to a long winning streak January - November 2005.

WEST INDIES

Selected here out of sheer sentimentality, the West Indies once ruled the roost. After making it to the finals of the first three World Cups and winning the first two, the Caribbean cricketers have not graced the top of the podium. Their 'on and off' form has frustrated their legion of fans, but under the guidance of the Australian coach Bennett King the 'Windies' have shown steady improvement.

The provisional 30-man list is a curious blend of youth and experience, but it is likely King will go with the tried and proven, as he aims to take the Windies back to the top.

This could be the final time talented two-time World Test batting record holder, Brian Lara, takes part in the ICC World Cup, and the man who scored 501 in an English County game and 400 in a Test match against England in Antigua, will want to go out with a bang.

'THE WINDIES'			
Brian Lara	Trinidad	Fidel Edwards	Barbados
Ramnaresh Sarwan	Guyana	Daren Ganga	Trinidad & Tobago
Shivnarine Chanderpaul	Guyana	Denesh Ramdin	Trinidad & Tobago
Corey Collymore	Barbados	Pedro Collins	Barbados
Ian Bradshaw	Barbados	Dwayne Smith	Barbados
Deighton Butler	St. Vincent	Darren Sammy	St. Lucia
Rawl Lewis	Grenada	Wavell Wayne Hinds	Jamaica
Dave Mohammed	Trinidad	Marlon Samuels	Jamaica
Dwayne Bravo	Trinidad & Tobago	Runako Morton	Nevis/Trinidad & Tobago
Tino Best	Barbados	Deighton Butler	St. Vincent
Daren Powell	Jamaica	Christopher Gayle	Jamaica
Jerome Taylor	Jamaica	Sewnarine Chattergoon	Guyana



The historic Sabina Park in Kingston will host the six first round group matches, including the opening match of the tournament and one semi-final match.

GROUP GAMES

GROUP A

St Kitts (all start 1345 GMT)

March 14	Australia v Scotland
March 16	Netherlands v South Africa
March 18	Australia v Netherlands
March 20	Scotland v South Africa
March 22	Netherlands v Scotland
March 24	Australia v South Africa

GROUP B

Trinidad (all start 1345 GMT except*)

March 15	Bermuda v Sri Lanka
March 17	Bangladesh v India
March 19	Bermuda v India
March 21	Bangladesh v Sri Lanka
March 23	India v Sri Lanka
March 25	Bangladesh v Bermuda (*1445 BST)

GROUP C

St Lucia (all start 1345 GMT)

March 14	Canada v Kenya
March 16	England v New Zealand
March 18	Canada v England
March 20	Kenya v New Zealand
March 22	Canada v New Zealand
March 24	England v Kenya

GROUP D

Jamaica (all start 1445 GMT)

March 13	West Indies v Pakistan
March 15	Ireland v Zimbabwe
March 17	Ireland v Pakistan
March 19	West Indies v Zimbabwe
March 21	Pakistan v Zimbabwe
March 23	Ireland v West Indies

SUPER EIGHT

(all start 1445 GMT)

If any seeded team does not finish in the top two in their group, the non-seeded team qualifying will take their allotted place in the Super Eight fixture list.

March 27	D2 v A1	Antigua & Barbuda
March 28	A2 v B1	Guyana
March 29	D2 v C1	Antigua & Barbuda
March 30	D1 v C2	Guyana
March 31	A1 v B2	Antigua & Barbuda
APRIL 1	D2 v B1	Guyana
APRIL 2	B2 v C1	Antigua & Barbuda
APRIL 3	D1 v A2	Guyana
APRIL 4	C2 v B1	Antigua & Barbuda
APRIL 7	B2 v A2	Guyana
APRIL 8	A1 v C2	Antigua & Barbuda
APRIL 9	D1 v C1	Guyana

APRIL 10	D2 v A2	Grenada
APRIL 11	C2 v B2	Barbados
APRIL 12	B1 v C1	Grenada
APRIL 13	A1 v D1	Barbados
APRIL 14	A2 v C1	Grenada
APRIL 15	B2 v D1	Barbados
APRIL 16	A1 v B1	Grenada
APRIL 17	A2 v C2	Barbados
APRIL 18	D1 v B1	Grenada
APRIL 19	D2 v B2	Barbados
APRIL 20	A1 v C1	Grenada
APRIL 21	D2 v C2	Barbados

SEMI-FINALS

APRIL 24	Super Eight 2nd v 3rd,	Jamaica (start 1545 BST)
APRIL 25	Super Eight 1st v 4th,	St Lucia (start 1445 BST)

FINAL

APRIL 28	Winner SF1 v Winner SF2,	Barbados (start 1445 BST)
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FROM SWITZERLAND TO THE BLUE MOUNTAINS

One of the most sought after watches of all time, Rolex have become status symbols of the rich and famous. Renowned for their quality and exclusivity, their timepieces are loved by adventurers and worn by famous personalities like Eric Clapton, Paul Newman, Jack Nicklaus and James Bond 007.

'Must have' of the 'Who is Who', the story of how this global brand reached the shores of Jamaica is an interesting piece of history.

In 1932, the Swiss-born rum merchant Rudolf Wäckerlin, who lived in Jamaica, traveled regularly through Switzerland by train, peddling rum for his company. On one of his many train journeys, Wäckerlin happened to be seated across from a businessman named Hans Wilsdorf, the founder of Rolex. Traveling through Switzerland peddling Rolex watches, Wilsdorf convinced Wäckerlin to take a couple of his Rolex watches back to Jamaica to try to sell them there, only one year after the first self-winding Rolex watch was offered to the public in 1931.



From left to right Peter Bangerter, Juergen Kusten, Luly Waeckerlin, Hans Peter Waeckerlin (son of Rudolf Waeckerlin) at Swiss Stores 1966 during 8th Commonwealth Games in Kingston.

The first watch company to create a truly waterproof watch, Rolex made their brand name unforgettable prominently displaying their watches inside a fish tank totally submersed in water, in jewelers shop windows, a powerful image that would make the Rolex brand name unforgettable. Wilsdorf even went so far as to have a specially made Rolex watch attached to the side of the Trieste, a deep-diving research bathyscaphe ("deep boat") with a crew of two people, which reached a record-breaking depth of about 10,900m at the bottom of the Mariana Trench. The watch survived and tested as having kept perfect time during its descent and ascent.

Back in Jamaica, Wäckerlin sold the watches, more were ordered and as the watch business prospered, Wäckerlin opened the first Swiss Store in Kingston in 1935. Hence, the first Rolex watch in Jamaica in 1935 was 'officially' sold to a gentleman called Henry Lopez of Abbey Court Great House by the Swiss-born merchant.

One of the first Rolex retailers in the Caribbean, Swiss Stores has established itself as one of the finest jewelry and watch stores on the island. The pioneering spirit and the quest for perfection, qualities first embodied by Rolex founder Hans Wilsdorf, live on through it's present organisation. Some 75 years later, Swiss Stores is still under Swiss management with Peter and Ueli Bangerter at the helm. With four locations, after-sale services, and a new state-of-the-art workshop, Swiss Stores continue to be the only official Rolex retailer in Jamaica.



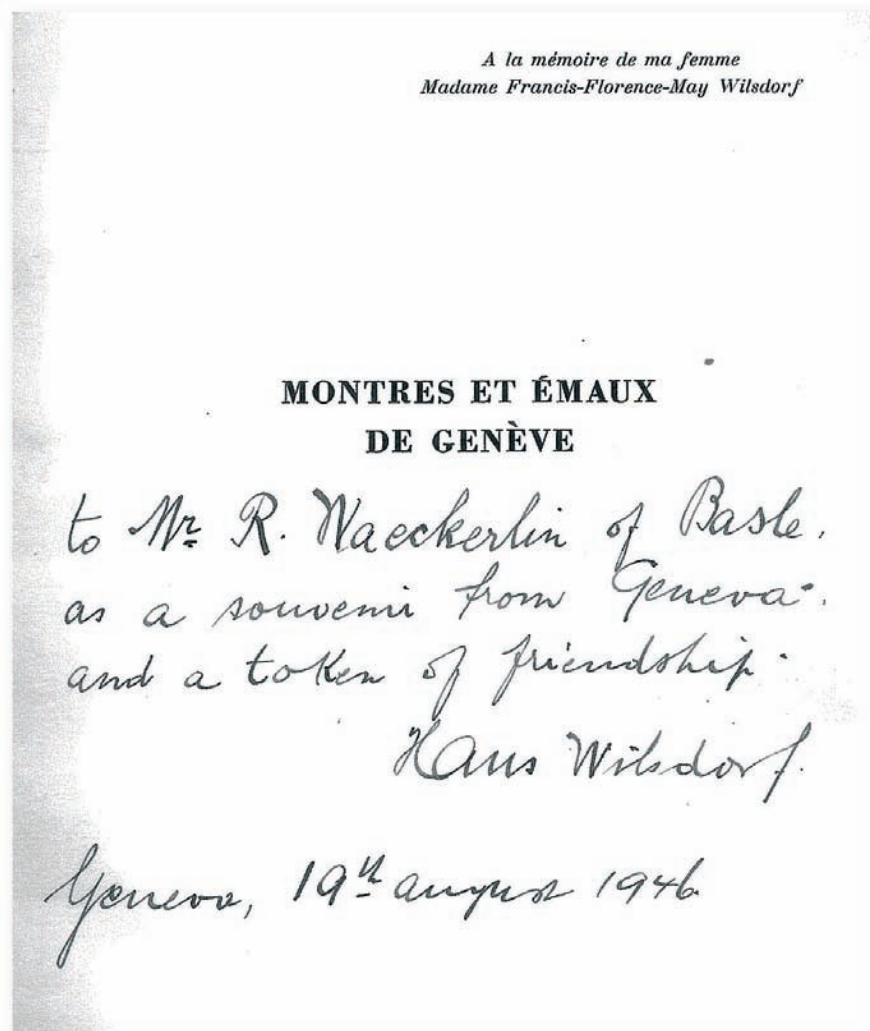
Swiss Stores state-of-the-art workshop at Harbour Street in Kingston.

"Our relationship with our customer doesn't end with the sale of a timepiece or a fine piece of jewelry. Swiss Stores wants to be your partner beyond the sale and to build a long lasting relationship. We have therefore established ourselves over the past seventy years as the best name in after-sales service in Jamaica." says Ueli Bangerter.

Finishes Bangerter; "We are proud to have a watch repair workshop with the latest



Peter and Ueli Bangerter



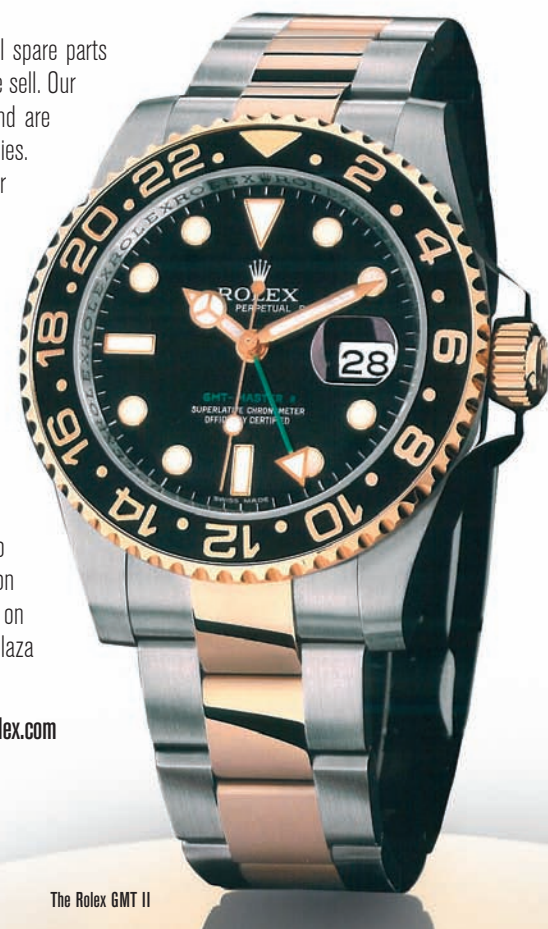
Note from Hans Wilsdorf to Rudolf Wäckerlin 1946

electronic equipment, thousands of original spare parts in stock and are approved by the brands we sell. Our watchmakers are trained in Switzerland and are kept up to date with the latest technologies. Our jewelry manufacturing atelier guarantees the highest quality in servicing, and we are more than happy to assist you in keeping your jewelry in perfect condition."

Other watch brands carried are OMEGA, Tissot, Hamilton, Swiss Army, Alfex, and Calvin Klein along with high quality jewelry.

In Montego Bay, Swiss Store is located on Gloucester Avenue (952-4274), in Ocho Rios at Island Village (675-8975) and on Main Street (974-2519) and in Kingston on Harbour Street (922-8050) and Mall Plaza Constant Spring Road (926-6537).

Visit www.swissstoresjamaica.com or www.rolex.com



The Rolex GMT II

SANGSTER INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT WELCOMES IAM JET CENTRE TO MONTEGO BAY

Following the opening of International Aircraft Management's (IAM) brand new Jet Centre at Sangster International Airport, operations at the new corporate and private terminal commenced on December 15, 2006. The facility's first flight, a private Gulfstream IV, arrived at 12:45 p.m. and was met by IAM and MBJ's management.

The 4,500 square foot facility includes dedicated in house customs and immigration facilities, luxurious lounges, pilot facilities and a private roadway entrance.

General Manager for IAM Jet Centre - Montego Bay, Wyley Sweeney explained that his customer service team is empowered to meet and exceed the world class level of service that is demanded of an IAM Jet Centre. "We have a focus on detail to enhance the service we provide from the moment our guests step off their aircraft and again when they depart. We are always pleased to carry out requests for specialized services". When asked about the services, Mr. Sweeney replied "we are able to arrange everything from ground transportation to in flight catering. Most of our guests are regular visitors to Jamaica, they require a smooth process and for us to provide for all their needs. We do everything possible to exceed expectations".

Jorge Sales, Chief Executive Officer of MBJ Airports Limited commented "The IAM Jet Centre is especially convenient for private and corporate aircraft that are based in Jamaica, as it gives them the opportunity to be among the first to use the exclusive new facility. For our VIP customers who are returning to Sangster International Airport in private aircrafts, we can assure them world class service."

For additional information please contact IAM Operations at aviation@iamjetcentre.com, Tel: 246-428-1704 or visit www.iamjetcentre.com.



IAM Jet Centre's First Flight. (left to right) IAM Jet Centre CEO, Paul Worrell; Captain Peyton Enloe; First Officer James Boudreaux; IAM Director, Heather Wittsire; MBJ CEO, Jorge Sales and IAM General Manager, Wyley Sweeney.

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FINE WATCHES AND JEWELRY

An outstanding collection of special jewelry pieces and fine watches, at up to 30% savings, is available at the islands major Duty Free stores. Don't forget to visit the new luxury shopping village 'Shoppes at Rose Hall', scheduled to open in April. Here is a selection of some great purchases...

CHOPARD JEWELRY AT TROPICANA

Chopard's Happy Diamonds Sundial white gold watch in 18 carat with the bezel entirely set with diamonds, white crocodile strap and white gold buckle is the ultimate women's luxury timepiece. With mother of pearl sun themed dial and numbers set in white diamonds, featuring 3 mobile diamonds at the 12h, this quartz movement is waterproof until 30 meters. Hugely popular, the sun shaped Happy Diamonds pendants are available in 18ct white or pink gold with 5 mobile diamonds set in its centre, on an onyx plated backdrop or a backdrop entirely set in white diamonds. Tropicana also have a selection of fine watches for watch lovers, including exquisite timepieces from Patek Philippe and Breguet. Visit one of Tropicana's island location. In Montego Bay, you find Tropicana shops at the Half Moon Shopping Village (Tel. 953-2242) or downtown at the City Center (Tel. 952-6982). In Ocho Rios, at Tajmahal Shopping Center (Tel. 974-2928) or Island Village (Tel. 675-8774), and at the Time Square Mall in Negril (Tel. 957-9530).



Chopard's Happy Diamonds Sundial white gold watch in 18 carat with the bezel entirely set with diamonds

www.tropicanajewelers.com

CARTIER AT CASA DE ORO

The symbol of timeless luxury, Cartier is the creator of precious pieces: fine jewelry, prestige watches, luxury gifts and accessories.

Visit Casa de Oro to take a closer look at the Cartier Roadster, an extra large mode in 18K gold, chronographic function, bezel and crown set with round cut diamonds, silvered sunray effect dial, Roman numerals and black oxidized steel hands. The Pasha de Cartier watch is another beautiful timepiece worth seeing, created in 18K yellow gold, set with round cut diamonds, silvered sunray effect dial and diamond-shaped blue steel hands. In Montego Bay, you find Casa de Oro at the City Centre Building (Tel. 952-3502) downtown or at the Half Moon Shopping Village (Tel. 953-9755). In Ocho Rios at Soni's Plaza (Tel. 974-5392) and Island Village (Tel. 675-8999) and in Negril at Time Square Plaza (Tel. 957-3631).



The Cartier Pasha in 18kt Yellow Gold with Diamond Bezel



The Cartier Roadster Chronograph in 18kt White Gold with full Paved Case

www.casadeoro.com

BREITLING AT BIJOUX JEWELERS

Visit Bijoux to look at the new Breitling Bentley GT. A real eye candy, this sparkling timepiece is equipped with a rotating pinion bezel and a variable tachometer and water resistant up to 100m. With an 18kt yellow gold case and impressive packaging, the Breitling Bentley GT is sold at a duty free price up to 30% lower than regular retail price. The timepiece is available in steel; steel combined with gold and a limited white gold series with dials manufactured in arctica, diamond black, Moroccan blue, sunset, spruce, magnolia and cypress. Visit Bijoux at the Half Moon Shopping Center (Tel. 953-9717).



The Breitling Bentley GT

www.bijoux-jewelers.com

JAEGER LECOULTRE AT TAJ MAHAL

Back in 1833, self-taught watchmaker Antoine LeCoultre founded a little workshop, which was to become the world renowned manufacturer Jaeger LeCoultre. LeCoultre, a brilliant inventor who trained with his father, devoted his whole life to the quest for absolute precision and reliability. In 1931, Jaeger LeCoultre created the first Reversal for British Colonials and Indian Maharajas as a sports watch. Ingeniously, the watch dial can be reversed 360°, protecting it's crystal front from knocks or scratches during sports. The recently released 75th

anniversary edition is a square version of the normally rectangular timepiece. For a peak at the Jaeger LeCoultre Reversal Squadra, as well as other outstanding pieces, visit Taj Mahal Duty Free at Half Moon Shopping Center (Tel: 953-9237). In Ocho Rios, visit Jewels in Paradise at the Taj Mahal Shopping Center (Tel: 974-6929)

www.tajmahaldutyfree.com



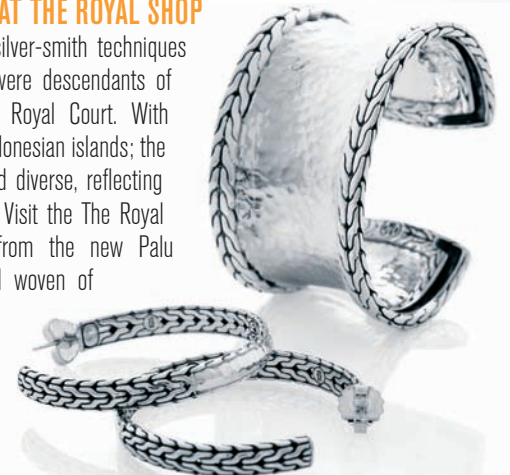
Jaeger LeCoultre reversible watches



JOHN HARDY'S NEW PALU COLLECTION AT THE ROYAL SHOP

In 1975, John Hardy arrived in Bali to study silver-smith techniques with Balinese craftsmen. Some of his tutors were descendants of artisans who made jewelry for the Balinese Royal Court. With craftsmen from Bali, Java, Sumatra and other Indonesian islands; the culture of Hardy's design studio is inclusive and diverse, reflecting the multi-cultural nature of Indonesian society. Visit the The Royal Shop to see heavenly handcrafted pieces from the new Palu Collection, hammered from 22-karat gold and woven of sterling silver. The Royal Shop is located at the Half Moon Shopping Village (Tel. 953-3504) and the City Center Building (Tel. 952-2254) in Montego Bay.

www.theroyalshop.com



Heavenly handcrafted silver pieces from John Hardy; Palu Collection Cuff and Hoop Earrings.

ROLEX AT SWISS STORES

The Rolex Prince draws inspiration from an original 1920s model. In 1928 Rolex created the Rolex Prince which, thanks to its precision timekeeping, would go on to achieve huge success and earn a place in horological history befitting its name. Rectangular in shape, the Rolex Prince is a gem amongst wristwatches. Furthermore, Rolex developed and patented the watch's unique display of hours and minutes on one side of the winding stem and of seconds on the other. Four distinct styles of the slim, elongated case offer something to suit every taste, and the transparent caseback adds an extra touch of elegance. The leather strap has been fitted with a gold butterfly clasp, giving the watch perfect balance. Visit Swiss Stores in Montego Bay, located on Gloucester Avenue (Tel. 952-4274), in Ocho Rios at Island Village (Tel. 675-8975) and on Main Street (Tel. 974-2519). In Kingston visit Swiss Stores in Harbour Street (Tel. 922-8050) and Mall Plaza Constant Spring Road (Tel. 926-6537).

www.swissstoresjamaica.com

Part of the Cellini range, the Rolex Prince is available in steel and 18K gold with ceramic bezel.



Chopard



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ISLAND GIFT IDEAS



Hand made paper mache trays and place sets

Available in various colors and with a variety of traditional Jamaican Belissario images, flowers and birds, these unique trays and placemats make great gift items. Handmade out of paper mache and locally obtained materials, some of which are recycled, the trays are available in three sizes, 12 x 12, 9 x 9 and 6 x 6. Octagon shaped place mats in sets of 4, match the trays perfectly a make a wonderful combination.

UNIQUE TRAYS AND PLACEMATS

Available from the following locations: Montego Bay: Rita Simpson's Resort Wear at Half Moon Shopping Village, the Gallery of the West Indian Arts, Tortuga Cake Shop in Spring Farm, Coyaba Resort and Heaven 67 at Doctors Cave Bathing Club. Negril: Couples Swept Away or Jamaica Jane's on Norman Manley Boulevard. South Coast: Jake's in Treasure Beach. Kingston: the Craft Cottage. Montego Bay Airport Departures: Coffee and Spice Coffee Shop.

HANDMADE JAMAICAN DOLLS

These real Jamaican dollies, 100% handmade with hand painted faces and stuffed with fiber by the Kingston based Roelchi Trading company, make superb gifts. Available as 'School Pickneys' (children) in original uniform fabrics or 'Rastamen', complete with hat, dreadlocks and bright outfits in red, gold and green. An array of more traditional looking 'Sally Dolls' are also available. Available from the following locations: Montego Bay: Rita Simpson's Resort Wear at Half Moon Shopping Village. Ocho Rios: Island Village. Negril: selected gift shops. Montego Bay Airport Departures: Extra Extra Gift Shop



Hand made Jamaican Dolls



Beautiful Clay Wind Chimes

Village. Ocho Rios: Island Village. Negril: selected gift shops. Montego Bay Airport Departures: Extra Extra Gift Shop

CLAY WIND CHIMES

Listen to the soothing sound of these magnificent chimes, swinging in the gentle breeze, and you will instantly be reminded of your Jamaican dream vacation. Or extend your vacation memories to friends and family with this distinctive gift.

Made from 100% Jamaican clay and hand painted in light blues, greens and earthy tones, the chimes look and sound different from ordinary bamboo or metal ones. Available from the following locations: Montego Bay: Rita Simpson's Resort Wear at Half Moon Shopping

SANDALS FROM HAVAIANAS

The current craze for Havaianas extends beyond fashion conscious women to men and teenagers. Havaianas, also called the best rubber sandals in the world, owe their boom to free publicity from devotees such as supermodels Naomi Campbell, Kate Moss and Gisele Bundchen. Havaianas company representatives stood next to big name designers such as Dolce & Gabbana handing out sandals to stars at last year Cannes Film Festival. The slab of rubber with a V-shaped strap clenched between the first two toes, typified by Havaianas, is the ultimate casual sandal, marking a trend where common sense comfort meets cheap chic. With bright, Jamaican colors, they have become the ultimate fashion buy. Available from the following locations: Montego Bay: Fontana Pharmacy, Western Sports and many stores on the Hip Strip. Ocho Rios: Reggae Yard, Island Village. Negril: Rock House and Time Square Plaza. Kingston: Go West and Craft Cottage. Montego Bay Airport Departures: Walk Good Jamaica.



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NEW LUXURY SHOPPING VILLAGE TO ROSE HALL

The latest addition to the Montego Bay's shopping arena, Shoppes at Rose Hall, is the new 'must visit' for luxury goods bargain hunters. Located on the North Coast Highway directly opposite the Rose Hall Great House, this new attraction is expected to become the major upscale shopping facility in Montego Bay.

Starting in April, visitors can trawl the latest addition to the Montego Bay shopping scene for luxury goods bargains of up to 30% savings. Designed by renowned Kingston architect Jeremy Millingen, Shoppes at Rose Hall features a variety of exclusive duty free stores complemented by landscaping, fountains, ponds and seating areas to create a laid back atmosphere.

"We want to offer our customers a complete experience that includes shopping, food and entertainment," explains Indru Dadlani, owner of Casa de Oro and one of the investors in Shoppes at Rose Hall. "No expense has been spared in the development of this US\$12 million project."

Built by Neville Daley from Savannah-La-Mar, the 12 duty free stores in Phase I include luxury goods outlets that showcase all the premier jewelry and fine watch brands, a fragrance & cosmetic store, branded clothing stores as well as high quality craft and souvenir stores.

Three food and beverage outlets form part of the main drag of the shopping village, including a Café Bar serving Blue Mountain Coffee, a chic, international full service bistro serves hungry shoppers and an elegant gourmet restaurant for special occasions.



Artists Rendering

Phase II will focus on the inclusion of a major attraction and a 'Caribbean Marketplace', showcasing the best of the region's culture, art and craftsmanship, as well as additional specialty shops.

Just a stone's throw away from the Ritz-Carlton, Half Moon and several upscale residential areas, the upscale shopping center is conveniently located opposite the Rose Hall Great House on the North Coast Highway. Says Dadlani; "With top hotels like the Half Moon and the Ritz-Carlton in the neighborhood and the new Palmyra Resort & Spa under construction, we see great potential for Shoppes at Rose Hall." The future thinking developers' grand plan includes a sub-divisional ocean side road conveniently connecting the area's hotels with the new shopping mall. To ensure top class service, special emphasis has been placed on customer service with all staff trained by the Tourism Product Development Company Ltd. (TPDCo).

With the creation of Shoppes at Rose Hall, the store owners of Tropicana, Bijoux, Jewel & Time, TajMahal, The Royal Shop and Casa de Oro, all investors in the shopping village, have made a major contribution to the local tourist product.

The six store owners, all Jamaican Duty Free entrepreneurs, have long been famous on the island for conducting business according to their motto; "During the work day we are competitors, after 5 pm we are family and friends..." Making a loud statement, this industrious group of investors has decided to extend their collaboration to cover '9 to 5', combining their multitude of talents to make a real impact. "Shoppes at Rose Hall will be in full swing starting April '07," says Dadlani. "We are estimating a soft opening at the end of March," says Dadlani.

A dispatching desk will provide transportation to and from the Shoppes at Rose Hall. For further information, please call 953-9718 or e-mail: srh@cwjamaica.com.

Shoppes at Rose Hall (Photo: Heidi Zech)



CREATIVE CONCEPTS AT THE MBJ AIRPORT SHOPPING MALL

The Eastern Concourse at MBJ Airport is home to Jamaica's largest shopping mall. Not only is the shopping prior to taking off from gates 8 to 19 outstanding; there are also several food and beverage outlets which every globetrotter should try out. When departing the island, make sure you get to the airport early and make it a part of your vacation experience!



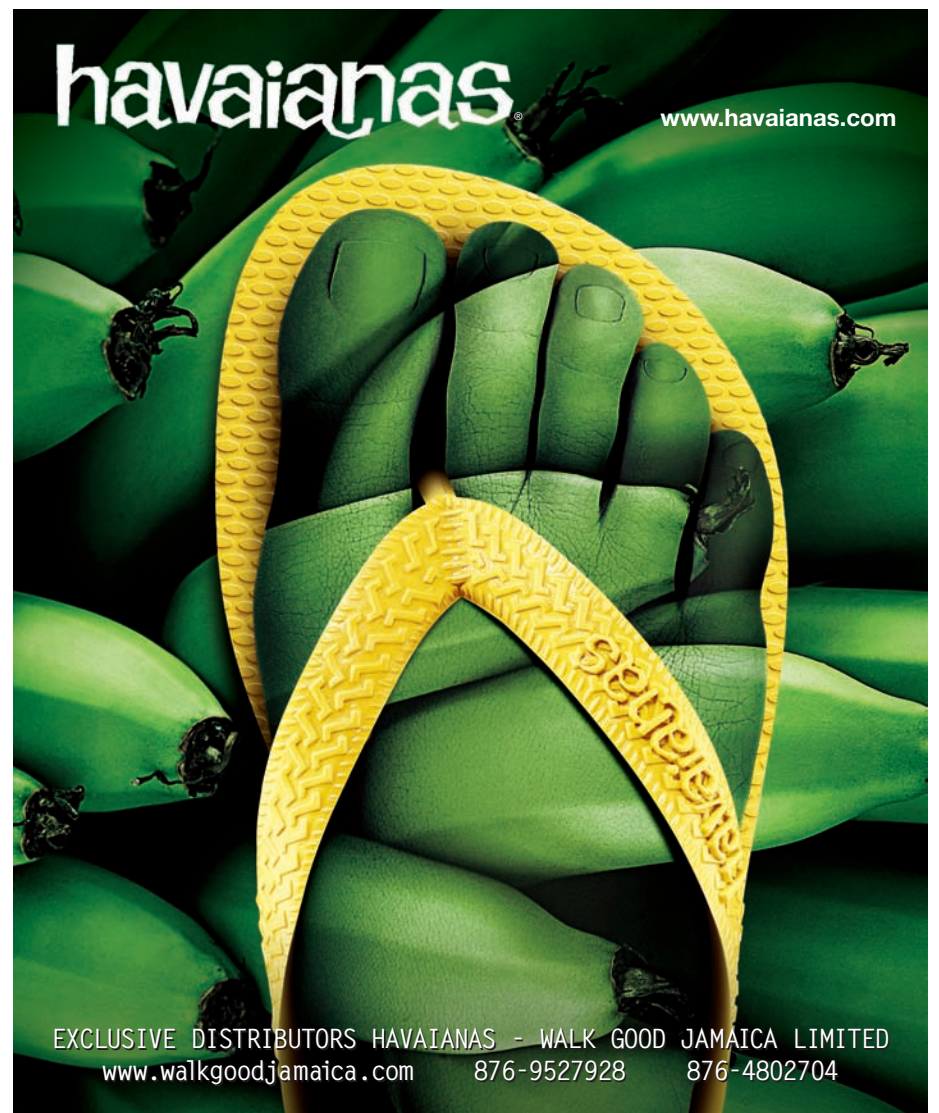
Everything 'Red Stripe'

For 20 years, Creative Host Services Inc. has operated a variety of locally and nationally branded concepts in the airport environment, offering a mixture of bars, restaurants and fast food locations featuring ethnic concepts and specialty coffees & desserts. Creative Host Services' mix of brands is diverse and includes distinctly branded US concepts such as Dunkin Donuts, Pizza Hut and KFC. With 44 airport outlets in the USA, the company has opened it's first set of Caribbean locations at MBJ Airport in Jamaica with the renowned local brands 'Jamaican Bobsled Café' and the 'Red Stripe Bar', coupled with the 'Vibe Smoking Lounge'.

The 'Jamaican Bobsled' brand is a favorite among the locals and visitors alike. Inspired by the legendary Jamaican Bobsled Team who featured in the movie 'Cool Runnings' followed its Olympic appearance, the Jamaican Bobsled Café on Montego Bay's Hip Strip has been a success story.

Now, fans can also feel the Jamaican Bobsled groove at MBJ's Eastern Concourse, where a popular 'Grab and Go' area offers a selection of pre-prepared dishes for travelers on the run. A regular sit down area is available for those who have some time before their flight, and the menu includes a variety of breakfast and lunch dishes, in addition to a separate menu for young travelers. Very cool 'Cool Runnings' merchandise is also available at this hotspot.

Lovers of the world famous Jamaican beer will feel welcome at 'The Red Stripe Bar'. Check out their fun menu while strolling around the great stores in the East Concourse, as a variety of quick delights is on offer. The menu includes something for everyone, including the 'Red Stripe Hot Dog', 'Peel & Eat Shrimp' as well as a variety of beer snacks and sandwiches. A wide selection of caps, T-shirts and other items boasting the popular logo are also on sale.



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All you need is your boarding pass to get away with great deals and great dining.



www.mbjairport.com

WHAT A GWAAN?



LOCAL VERSION OF 'CALENDAR GIRLS'

12 well-known, brave Jamaican women, have shed the majority of their clothes and posed semi-nude in a garden setting to raise money for The Jamaican Epilepsy Association. All over 50 years old, the women are featured on the annual calendar which is entitled "How Does My Garden Grow", just like in the movie "Calendar Girls". Giving inspirational quotes to help uplift persons with epilepsy in Jamaica, the purpose of the calendar is to increase public awareness and raise funds for The Jamaican Epilepsy Association. Buy the calendar, which retails for JS\$2000, at any of Novelty Trading Company's outlets island-wide or at the following Kingston locations: The Discount Centre in Manor Park, Canonball Cafe in Manor Park, Swiss Stores at the Mall Plaza and Signatures Boutique. The photos are taken by Franz Marzouca.

For more information contact: eperez@anngel.com



Congress Women Yvette Clark with her mother, Una Clark (left) and her father Leslie Clarke (right). (Photo: Courtesy of Errol Anderson)

Upon Owen's retirement this year, 42 year old Yvette entered a remarkably competitive four way race for the open House seat. Backed by her mother, who quit her day job to help run Yvette's campaign, the Clark women proved to be a powerful political duo in Brooklyn's growing Caribbean community. According to Yvette; "The victory had everything to do with the good will and name recognition that my mother has built up in the community over her years of public service." The Clark women, a 'stand alone' feminine movement in their own right, made it to Capitol Hill in only three generations.

The Clarke's are proud descendants of the Jamaican maroons, free blacks who came to Jamaica with the Spaniards and later fought the British for 80 years to gain their independence. Hence, Yvette's achievement is sure to be celebrated in Cockpit Country, native land of the maroons.

128 YEARS OLD AND COUNTING

She's a little hard of hearing and a bit scared of venturing too far from her bed, but Granny Mary's mind is surprisingly nimble, especially considering that she is believed to be 128 years old. If this is true, it would make the little woman from Mile Gully, Manchester, the oldest person alive in the world. Granny Mary is a pleasant woman and enjoys the company of anyone who pays her a visit. She loves a good conversation and is thrilled when she gets to meet new people. Mary Ewin, a mid-wife in her community many decades ago, has delivered most of the people in Mile Gully. "Some big strapping people you see walking around, I was the one who delivered them. Them big and taller than me, but is me born them," she said with a slight chuckle.



(Photo: The Gleaner)

Granny Mary doesn't quite remember what year she was born, but she said she knows that she is well over a hundred. "Me stop count when me pass hundred. Me reach far enough, it don't matter after that," she said. There's no consensus on just how old the woman is, but everyone with whom we spoke, agreed that she is more than 120 years old. The Manchester coordinator of the National Council for Senior Citizens confirmed that Granny Mary is 128 years old. Guinness World Records currently has a 116-year-old woman from the United States as the oldest person in the world. Source: Robert Lalah, Staff Reporter, The Gleaner



TEA WITH NORMA

Anybody who wants to escape from the hassle and bustle of the Montego Bay streets during Cricket World Cup, should have tea with Norma Mallasch. During the event, Norma will open the doors of her residence to educate visitors about local herbs and her extensive art collection, to which she has proudly added her own paintings. As a handpicked host of Jamaica Tourist Board's 'Meet the People' program for over 20 years, Norma is the perfect person to give you insight into the Jamaican way of life, nature and fine arts. She describes herself as 'free spirited' and a 'lover of life and beauty' and lives life according to her own motto: "remember yesterday, dream of tomorrow and live for today."

Call Norma on 953-2155 or e-mail her at mallasch@cwjamaica.com to schedule your visit.

MICHAEL BOLTON GOLFS AT THE WHITE WITCH

These lucky ladies ran into superstar singer Michael Bolton at the White Witch Club House in Montego Bay, in Jamaica to entertain the crowds at the annual Air Jamaica Jazz & Blues Festival. Said Noa Jensch; Training Consultant and wife of Bob Jensch, GM at the Ritz-Carlton Rose Hall; "Michael Bolton has such beautiful eyes! He was very sweet to us and said he loved the White Witch Golf Course and his stay at the Ritz-Carlton."



From left to right: Elisabeth Simonitsch, Angela Reid, Noa Jensch, Michael Bolton and Jaqueline Burrell. (Photo: The Ritz-Carlton Golf & Spa Resort, Rose Hall)



Kenny Rogers entertains the crowds

as well as a host of booths selling crafts, clothing, art and jewelry. "We were amazed at how well organized the event was", said two first time island visitors from the US.

10TH AIR JAMAICA JAZZ & BLUES FESTIVAL SMASHING SUCCESS

More than 28,000 visitors made their way to the annual jazz fest to enjoy the star lineup entertaining the crowds. Organized on the greens in front of Cinnamon Hills aqueduct, the festival featured a star studded lineup that included Michael Bolton, Earth Wind and Fire, Sean Paul, Shaggy, Freddie McGregor and Kenny Rogers, - the latter introduced on stage by Prime Minister Portia Simpson Miller.

The festival featured an abundance of food and drink stands, as well as a host of booths selling crafts, clothing, art and jewelry. "We were amazed at how well organized the event was", said two first time island visitors from the US.

CHILDRENS BOOK

The Jamaican Epilepsy Association in association with Braco Stables has produced a lovely children's book by the name of "Way to go, Flash!" Written by Barbara Ann Rigbye and illustrated by one of Jamaica's foremost artists, P.J. Stewart, the story features Flash, a horse with epilepsy, and is dedicated to all Jamaican children with epilepsy. The book retails for JS\$800 and can be ordered by contacting the Jamaican Epilepsy Association at eperez@anngel.com or Braco Stables at Tel: 954-0185.



SERENA AND VENUS WILLIAMS IN JAMAICA

African-American tennis champions, Venus and Serena Williams were in Jamaica in February as part of their Williams Sisters Caribbean Charity Tour. Among the sisters' activities while on the island was the staging of tennis clinics to support the Jamaica Social Investment Fund's (JSIF) inner-city programme. The clinics involved some twenty children taken from inner-city areas of Kingston, Montego Bay and Spanish Town

(Photo: Paul Reid)



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