

Dream Enterprise Villa

Helpful Info

Holiday Ethics

We operate an ethical policy whereby the local community benefits. The manager on call is a local expert. Payments for tours offered go directly to the local taxi/bus driver and not into the hands of a foreign tour operator. The cleaning and laundry services provide help to support local families. We encourage you to shop locally and support the traders in the neighbourhood. As with all travel in the third world, be aware of where your money is going and patronise locally-owned inns, restaurants and shops. Try to keep your money within the local economy, so the people you are visiting can benefit directly.



The Jamaican flag

Meaning:

"Hardships there are but land is green and the sun shineth."



The flag was born on August 6th 1962 and designed by a bipartisan committee of the Jamaica House of Representatives. The Black represents the hardships overcome by Jamaica's people, and those to be faced. The Gold stands for the beauty of sunlight. The Green stands for the lush agricultural resources on the island.

The Jamaican Coat of Arms

The Jamaica Coat of Arms is a badge of great historical significance to the entire nation.



Made in 1661, it has seen 3 official changes during its 346 year history, occurring in 1692, 1957 and 1962.

The figures on the Arms represent different aspects of Jamaica, pineapples are the country's indigenous fruits, The Tainos were the first known human inhabitants, the Crocodile is the country's indigenous reptile. The Royal Helmet and Mantlings are unique to Jamaica.

Language

Patois (pronounced Pat'wah) is the island's form of language made up mainly of English words. The official language is English.



- Irie - Happy
- A who dat? - Who's that
- Wha go on? - What's new?
- A' Yard - at home
- Soon come - Wait a second or Later
- Ice wata - Cold water
- Chriss - Lovely, nice
- A wan Irie likkle place – It's a very nice place

Weddings



Can be arranged; ask well in advance as there are 101 things you might want us to organise!

Food



When in Jamaica do try some of the local cuisine. Akee & Salt fish is the national dish. You can see the beautiful red Akee pushing out its yellow fruit on the trees during the Summer months. Yams, Sweet Potatoes, Fish and Bammy are Jamaicans' favourite breakfast - feast on these and you are fuelled up for the day. Piping hot Jamaican Patties are available from many vendors and bakers. Curry Goat is a speciality. Callaloo and Okra are delicious accompaniments.

However, European and American breakfasts are served in the local restaurants. St Elizabeth has many restaurants including Italian, Chinese, Pizzas and Burger King. Fresh fish can be obtained by waving to fishermen on the beach at Alligator Pond or ask the Villa Manager to supply you with fresh fish or arrange a Barbeque in the garden. Red Snapper and Conch are local favourites.

Drinking Water

Local tap water should not be used for drinking. Drinking water can be purchased from most local stores and supermarkets.



Non-Smoking Policy

Our villa operates a non-smoking policy. Guests who wish to smoke are asked to do so on the veranda areas only.



Nightlife

There are sunset shows at Little Ochi and Treasure Beach just a few minutes away. From time to time big artists perform locally; ask the Villa Manager what is coming up during your stay. The famous annual Reggae Sunfest is held in Montego Bay every March.



Dress

St Elizabeth is casual. You will not need your high heels here. Forget your bath robes and jackets, it will be too warm. Beautifully coloured sarongs are available from local traders. In the winter you may need light sleeves when strolling along the beach at night.



Car Hire



Car hire available, as is airport transfer. Contact Us for more information.

Taxis



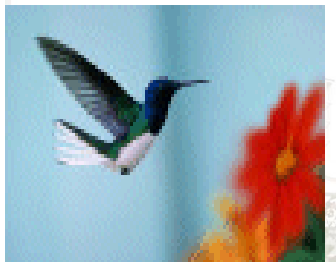
Only use marked licensed taxis whose insurance covers tourists. They are recognisable by red number plates.

Hair Dressing



Local businesses offer a hair dressing service. Be careful to wear a hat even in the water to avoid getting your head burnt.

Bird watchers



Look out for the huge Barn Owls as they wake to their nocturnal hunt for food for their fluffy chicks. Parakeets, Yellow Birds and the national bird, the Humming Bird are also residents of the neighbourhood. The best time to look out for birds is early morning or late afternoon. The Doctor Bird or Swallowtail Hummingbird (*Trochilus ploytmus*) lives only in Jamaica and is one of the most outstanding of the 320 species of Humming Birds.

It is well to note that the beautiful feathers of these birds have no counterpart in the entire bird population and produce iridescent colours characteristic only of that family. The Doctor Bird has been immortalised for many decades in Jamaican folklore and song.

Money Money Money...



Jamaica is an island in the Caribbean which relies on many imports; international trade deals do not offer a balance of income. Imports are mainly paid for with US dollars. The rate fluctuates regularly so check on the internet or with your bank before you leave home.

Foreign currency is easily exchanged in the town of Junction, St Elizabeth from Monday to Friday. You may wish to carry Travellers Cheques or just carry your ATM/Cash Point card. There are several ATMs in Junction but do remember to bring your Personal Identification Number (PIN) for any card you may think you will need to use. You must have your Credit Card PIN with you as you need to 'Chip and Pin' in Jamaica!

The Villa operates a currency exchange service at very competitive rates, see the Villa Manager. Here you will get as good a rate as at the banks without the need to queue and waste your precious holiday time. For an idea of the current exchange rate go to the XE website.

Mobile Phones



A temporary mobile phone can be hired from Villa Manager. Alternatively, you can have the chip in your own phone changed in Junction town.

Haggling

Bargain fairly and with respect to the seller. Again, remember the economic realities of where you are. The final transaction should leave both buyer and seller satisfied and pleased. Haggling for a carpet for example, is part of many cultures; but it is not a bargain if either person feels exploited, diminished or ripped-off.



Malaria

There is neither malaria nor rabies in Jamaica but check with your local GP or call NHS Direct (U.K.) for up to date information. Upon arrival stock up on bug repellent if you are susceptible to insect/mosquito bites.



Medical Medical

The nearest hospital is 25 minutes away in Mandeville.

Travel Insurance

Make sure your policy covers Jamaica. Some policies do not provide worldwide cover. The owners, management and staff are not liable in respect of loss, damage or changes caused by force majeure (eg strikes, airport closure, floods, adverse weather conditions) or for any accident, loss or damage incurred during your stay, whether on or near the property. Parents should be particularly vigilant for their children in new surroundings. All guests are asked to refer to this section of our web site before making final payment.

The Law



Cannabis, Marajuana, Pot, Weed, Ganja, Herb... It doesn't matter what you call it - **IT IS ILLEGAL!** Full stop.

