



Negril & West Coast

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Best Places to Stay

- » Caves (p198)
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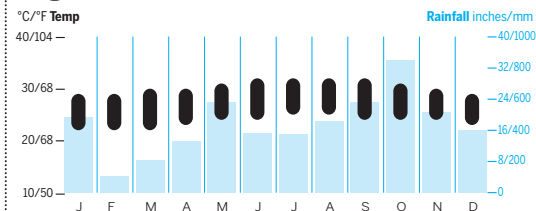
Why Go?

Negril is an interesting combination of the best and worst of Jamaica. On one hand there's the 11km Long Beach which, despite being cluttered with hotels, guest houses and resorts, is still perhaps the most beautiful beach in the country, a stretch of snowy powder lapped by a teal bay where the sunsets are simply perfect. On the other hand, the explosion of development has attracted the most obnoxious elements of mass tourism: prostitution (aimed at both genders), extremely persistent hustlers, lots of drugs and a general shattering of innocence.

Many travelers prefer the charms of natural escapes just to the south of Negril, in the sunny reaches of Jamaica's west coast, and the laid-back West End of Negril proper. Here the beach may not be as accessible, but the vibe is more like the Negril that once was. The sunset's just as magnificent from the cliffs, after all...

When to Go

Negril



Apr-Jun It's not wet here as the rest of Jamaica, but small thunderstorms do occur.

Jul-Oct Rooms dip into low-season rates, and short frequent bursts of rain are common.

Nov-Mar It's sunny, clear and dry. Weather-wise, it's the best time to be in town.

Negril & West Coast Highlights

- 1 Plumbing the grottoes and reefs off **Negril** for some of the island's best scuba diving (p191)
- 2 Clambering, clawing and occasionally sliding around the slick rocks and white water of **Mayfield Falls** (p209)
- 3 Gazing into the perfect sunsets that set on fire the sugary sand of **Seven Mile Beach** (Long Beach; p189)
- 4 Disappearing into the country at one of Jamaica's most scenic and atmospheric caves at **Roaring River Park** (p211)
- 5 Riding a chestnut horse across the hills east of Negril from **Rhodes Hall Plantation** (p207)

