



Montego Bay & Northwest Coast

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Why Go?

Home to the nation's largest airport and a busy Caribbean cruise terminal, Montego Bay is many people's first view of Jamaica before they get whisked off to the surrounding beaches, golf courses and all-inclusive resorts. So it's ironic that some of the area's most interesting haunts are not to be found in MoBay itself – an unremarkable city of clamor and traffic – but in the crinkled mountains and jagged coastlines that surround it. Lethe is a verdant jungle-like domain where resort escapees can partake in adrenaline sports such as zip-lining and river-rafting. Falmouth is Jamaica's historical masterpiece that still retains the grit of its slave-era roots. Cockpit Country is a roadless wilderness of hidden caves and eerily silent hills that's disorientating, even to hardened locals. Filling in the gaps is a dense network of small towns and tiny villages that pulsate with the rawness and romance of everyday Jamaican life.

Best Places to Stay

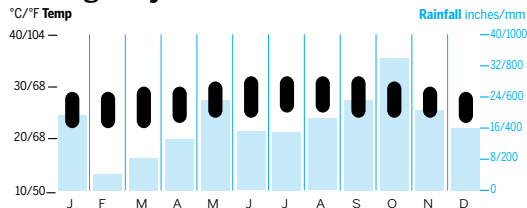
- ➔ Polkerris B&B (p118)
- ➔ Richmond Hill Inn (p119)
- ➔ Hotel Rio Bueno (p130)
- ➔ Fisherman's Inn (p129)

Best Tastes of Local Life

- ➔ Far Out Fish Hut (p126)
- ➔ Chilli Pepper (p120)
- ➔ Miss Lilly's (p134)
- ➔ Lobster Bowl Restaurant (p130)

When to Go

Montego Bay



Dec–Mar High season is good for avoiding rain, but expect high rates.

Apr–Aug In low season the coast and mountains are cooler, and lodging is cheaper.

Sep–Nov Low-key festivals and moody weather characterize shoulder season.

Montego Bay & Northwest Coast Highlights

- 1 Soaking up the sun with tourists and returned Jamaican expats at **Doctor's Cave Beach** (p109)
- 2 Exploring the halls of **Greenwood Great House** (p124)
- 3 Hiking into the heart of the wild **Cockpit Country** (p132)
- 4 Watching the algae glow on your fingers as stars twinkle overhead in the **Glistening Waters** (p128)
- 5 Imbibing the history, architecture and food of
- 6 Zip-lining above the abundant greenery in the jungles of **Lethe** (p131)
- 7 Enjoying a simple but spicy jerk at the Hip Strip's **Pork Pit** (p120)

