



# Ocho Rios, Port Antonio & North Coast

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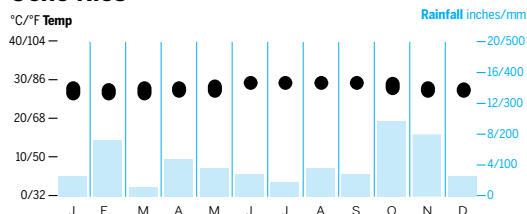
## Why Go?

Ocho Rios, Jamaica's third-largest town, dominates the north coast's tourist scene. Cruise ships call in several times a week, and although tourist numbers are large, they never seem overwhelming. Perhaps this is because there's so much to distract, from adventure activities to working plantations to sights unveiling the breadth of Jamaican history. It's a great place to base yourself.

Further east, sleepy Portland parish is the least developed resort area in Jamaica, and the most rugged and beautiful. Forested mountains with deep gorges and rushing rivers spread their fingers toward fringes of white sand and cool-blue surf that rolls into beach-lined coves. There's a relaxed vibe with zero hustle – its the favorite part of Jamaica for many Jamaicans. From Port Antonio, you can explore gorgeous, untouristed beaches, or head into the mountains and rainforest for hiking and birdwatching.

## When to Go

### Ocho Rios



## Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Toscanini (p86)
- ➔ Wilkes Seafood (p97)
- ➔ The Italian Job (p97)

## Best Places to Sleep

- ➔ Reggae Hostel (p81)
- ➔ Great Huts (p102)
- ➔ Cottage at Te Moana (p82)
- ➔ Germaican Hostel (p96)

**Aug–Oct** While rain may be persistent, you're likely to get good wind for serious adventure surfing.

**Dec–Mar** Even in the high season this region doesn't see nearly as many crowds as the rest of Jamaica.

**Apr–Jul** In the low season, temperatures reach their peak, but accommodation prices can be lower.



## Ocho Rios, Port Antonio & North Coast Highlights

- 1 Irie Blue Hole** (p80)  
Swimming and climbing one of Jamaica's most exhilarating sets of waterfalls.
- 2 Firefly** (p88) Savoring the jaw-dropping view from author

- Noël Coward's well-preserved former home.
- 3 Seville Great House** (p89) Exploring Jamaican history from the Tainos to the sugar slave plantations.

- 4 Mystic Mountain** (p80)  
Admiring panoramic views of the coast from the chairlift and zipping down Jamaica's longest canopy line.
- 5 Port Antonio** (p93)