



Jamaica

Joined the Commonwealth in 1962 – visited by the Queen in 2002



Jamaica is an island nation in the Caribbean Sea

Pop: (2012) 2,769,000 Capital: Kingston Area: 10,991 sq km

Jamaica, the top of a submerged mountain range, rises to 2,256m at Blue Mountain Peak. Its indented coastline has many good, natural bays with fine sandy beaches. With offshore coral reefs, a tropical climate and fresh sea breezes plus a vibrant music scene, Jamaica is a haven for tourists.

The luxuriant and rich tropical vegetation includes over 3,000 species of flowering plants including 194 types of orchid. There is a rich variety of bird life, a healthy number of bat species and 14 species of butterfly unique to the island. Manatees live in the coastal waters.

Valuable supplies of bauxite are exported to Canada. Sugar cane, coffee, bananas and rum are also important exports. However, Jamaica lies in the hurricane zone and farming, mining and tourism can often be adversely affected. In April 2014 an agreement was signed to make Kingston the fourth node in a Global Logistics Chain serving shipping to and from the Americas. This will bring a very significant boost to the economy.

Blue Mountain coffee

