



Jamaican Country Guide

Page 1 of 5 Important Information Prior to Travelling to Jamaica Passport and Tourist Visa Conditions

Australian passport holders do not usually require a visa to enter Jamaica as a tourist for a period of up to six months. It is recommended that passports be valid for six months beyond the period of intended stay in Jamaica. Travellers should also be able to show documentation confirming their ability to financially maintain themselves during their stay, their itinerary and tickets/entry documents for their next destination.

For further information, and to confirm that you are eligible to travel without a visa, please contact a Jamaican mission on the details provided below. Persons travelling via the US are reminded of their obligation to comply with US entry and transit requirements.

Vaccinations and Health Precautions

The following information is intended as a guide only and in no way should it be used as a substitute for professional medical advice relative to a traveller's individual needs and vaccination history. No guarantee is made as to its accuracy or thoroughness. For further information, please contact The Travel Doctor on 1300 658 844.

Vaccination against Hepatitis A is recommended for travellers to Jamaica. Vaccination against Hepatitis B and Typhoid (particularly when travelling to areas with poor sanitation and hygiene) should be considered especially by frequent or long stay travellers. As dengue fever and the Zika virus occurs, insect avoidance measures are recommended. Jamaica is listed as a Zika category 1 country. For information on the risks the Zika virus poses to pregnancy, including up to 6 months following the exposure of either parent, see www.who.int/csr/disease/zika/en/.

Regardless of destination, all travellers should be up-to-date with their routine "background" vaccinations. Please consult a medical practitioner or contact The Travel Doctor for your specific risk to these preventable diseases and the appropriate avoidance measures. Australians travelling to Jamaica should ensure that they have adequate travel insurance to cover the length of their stay. Medications that are legal in Australia may be illegal in other countries. For further information on insurance, taking medication overseas, the Zika virus and other issues please visit www.smartraveller.gov.au/tips.

Current DFAT Travel Advice

This advice is current for Mon, 5th November 2018.

Exercise a high degree of caution in Jamaica because of high levels of serious crime. Pay close attention to your personal security at all times. A state of emergency remains in place until October 2018 due to ongoing violence in the Parish of St James, including Montego Bay, and in St Catherine North, including Spanish Town, Linstead and Bog Walk, and in parts of Kingston Central, Kingston Western and St Andrew South Police Divisions. Anticipate road closures and travel delays. Monitor local media and follow instructions issued by local authorities. See [Safety and security](#).

Violence can erupt in Kingston with little or no warning. There are high levels of lawlessness and gang violence, particularly at night. Be alert. Avoid demonstrations and large public gatherings - they can turn violent, possibly involving firearms. See [Safety and security](#). Roads can be closed and curfews can be imposed at short notice. Monitor local media for updates. Plan accordingly. See [Local travel](#).

The hurricane season is June to November when landslides, mudslides and flooding may occur. See [Natural disasters](#).

The above information is an edited excerpt of the Travel Advice Summary from The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Travellers are encouraged to read the travel advice in full, subscribe to updates to this advice and to register their presence in Jamaica at www.smartraveller.gov.au.

Jamaican Representation in Australia and Abroad

Honorary Consulate of Jamaica, Sydney

7/159 Princes Highway
ST PETERS, NSW 2044

Tel: 0402 205 266

High Commission of Jamaica, UK

1-2 Prince Consort Road
LONDON SW7 2BZ

Tel: (+44) 20 7823 9911
Web: www.jhcuk.org



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Time Differences between Jamaica and Australia

Jamaica is Greenwich Mean Time -5 hours. Daylight saving time is not observed. The applicable time zone is called Eastern Standard Time (EST). The following times in Australia are a day ahead of the time in Jamaica, for instance if it's Sunday afternoon in Jamaica, it's Monday morning in Australia.

Jamaica, 12 noon, June = Perth 1am; Adelaide, Darwin 2:30am; Brisbane, Hobart, Melbourne, Sydney 3am.

Jamaica, 12 noon, December = Perth 1am; Darwin 2:30am; Brisbane 3am; Adelaide 3:30am; Hobart, Melbourne, Sydney 4am.

Important Contact Numbers

Country Code for Jamaica: +1 876

To Dial Australia Call:
011 61 <City> <Number>

Travelex Card Services:
Call the US on +1 954 838 8294

Visa Global Assistance:
0 800 847 2911

MasterCard:
0 800 307 7309

American Express Travellers Cheques:
(1) 800 877 3060

Jamaican Tourist Board:
Kingston - 929 9200
Montego Bay - 952 4425

Emergency Services: 119

Important Information to be Recorded

Travellers are encouraged to carry photocopies of all important documents separately to their originals, and to leave a set of these photocopies with someone in Australia. This includes those documents listed below.

Passports

Name: _____ Passport #: _____
Name: _____ Passport #: _____

Credit Cards

Name: _____ Institution: _____
Card Number: _____
Name: _____ Institution: _____
Card Number: _____

Travel Insurance

Name: _____ Institution: _____
Policy #: _____ Emergency #: _____
Name: _____ Institution: _____
Policy #: _____ Emergency #: _____

Australian Representation in Jamaica

Australian High Commission, Trinidad and Tobago

18 Herbert Street
St Clair
PORT OF SPAIN

Tel: (+1 868) 822 5450
Fax: (+1 868) 822 5490

Web: www.trinidadandtobago.highcommission.gov.au

Australian Honorary Consulate, Jamaica

80-82 Second Street
Port Bustamante
KINGSTON 13

Tel: (+1 876) 361 1332

The Honorary Consulate in Kingston can only provide limited services. The Australian High Commission in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago is accredited to this country and can provide full consular assistance.

Alternatively, Australians may obtain assistance by contacting the 24 hour Consular Emergency Centre in Australia on (+61 2) 6261 3305. Australians in Jamaica are encouraged to register their presence and contact details with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade at www.orao.dfat.gov.au.



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Duty Free Allowances for Jamaica and Australia

Duty Free limits when entering Jamaica:

Alcohol: Up to 1 litre.
 Tobacco: 200 cigarettes, 50 cigars or 230g of tobacco.
 Perfume: 170ml or 340ml of eau de toilette.

Duty Free limits when entering Australia:

Alcohol: 2.25 L.
 Tobacco: 25 cigarettes plus one open packet of cigarettes.
 Other Goods: Up to a value of \$900 (\$450 if under 18 years).

Minors may not claim alcohol or tobacco products. Further restrictions apply when entering/exiting Jamaica and Australia. Travellers are encouraged to familiarise themselves with these restrictions before crossing the borders of either country. For information on Jamaican customs visit www.jacustoms.gov.jm, or for information regarding Australian customs visit www.border.gov.au.

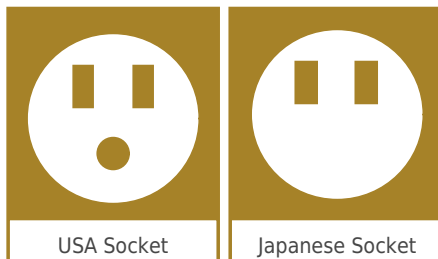
Electrical and Telephone Adaptors

Electrical Socket type: USA and Japanese

Voltage: 110-120 volts (different to Australia, voltage/frequency converter required).

Modem Plug: USA.

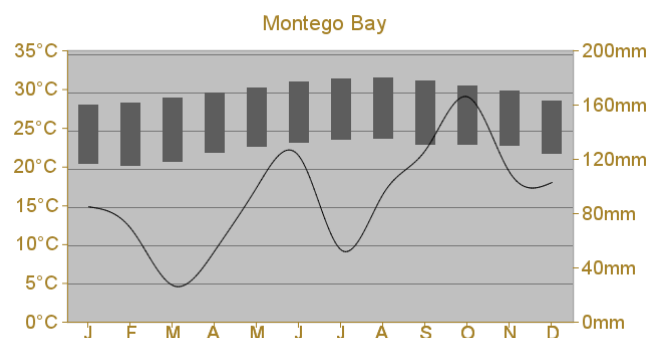
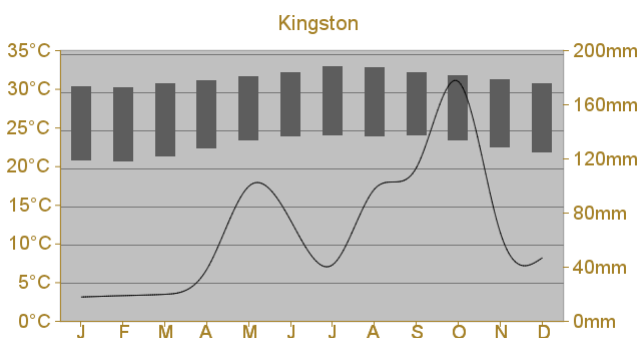
To purchase electrical adaptors, or for further information, please go to www.korjo.com.au.



Jamaican Public Holidays 2018

01 Jan:	New Year's Day	01 Aug:	Emancipation Day
14 Feb:	Ash Wednesday	06 Aug:	Independence Day
30 Mar:	Good Friday	15 Oct:	National Heroes Day
02 Apr:	Easter Monday	25 Dec:	Christmas Day
23 May:	Labour Day	26 Dec:	Boxing Day

Average Temperature (Bar) and Precipitation (Line) in Jamaica



Source: Meteorological Service of Jamaica. For local forecasts please go to www.metservice.gov.jm or www.bbc.co.uk/weather.

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Exchange Rate with Jamaica

Interbank Rate

1 Australian Dollar (AUD) = 92.09 Jamaican Dollars
 100 Jamaican Dollars (JMD) = 1.09 Australian Dollars

With 4% Margin

1 Australian Dollar (AUD) buys 88.54 Jamaican Dollars
 100 Jamaican Dollars (JMD) will cost 1.13 Australian Dollars

All rates were correct at a point in time on Monday, 05 Nov 2018. The "Interbank Rate" does not take into account any exchange fees, while the "With 4% Margin" adds 4% to the exchange rate to simulate a typical margin that would be paid when exchanging currencies. These currency rates have been rounded and should not be used when calculating transactions of large value.

Currency Cheat Sheet

J\$50	=	\$0.56 AUD	This cheat sheet uses the "With 4% Margin" rate of exchange listed above.		
J\$100	=	\$1.13 AUD	J\$1,000	=	\$11.29 AUD
J\$200	=	\$2.26 AUD	J\$2,000	=	\$22.59 AUD
J\$300	=	\$3.39 AUD	J\$3,000	=	\$33.88 AUD
J\$400	=	\$4.52 AUD	J\$4,000	=	\$45.17 AUD
J\$500	=	\$5.65 AUD	J\$5,000	=	\$56.47 AUD
J\$600	=	\$6.78 AUD	J\$6,000	=	\$67.76 AUD
J\$700	=	\$7.91 AUD	J\$7,000	=	\$79.06 AUD
J\$800	=	\$9.03 AUD	J\$8,000	=	\$90.35 AUD
J\$900	=	\$10.16 AUD	J\$9,000	=	\$101.64 AUD
			J\$100,000	=	\$1,129.37 AUD

Jamaican Currency

The legal currency of Jamaica is the Dollar, which is officially abbreviated using the symbol "\$", but the symbol "J\$" may also be used to distinguish it from other dollar currencies. The following units of currency are the most common but other versions and denominations are also in circulation. Pictures are not to scale. As it is illegal in many countries to print copies of bank notes, travellers are advised to remove the below images prior to travelling.





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Full Name: Jamaica (no long form).
 Independence: 6 August 1962 (from the UK).
 Size: 10,991 sq km (16% the size of Tasmania).
 Coastline: 1,022 km.
 Population: 3 million. Kingston 580,000.
 Religion: Protestant 63%, Catholic 3%, none 21%.
 Language: English and Jamaican Creole.
 GDP Per Capita: US\$9,100 (Australia US\$40,800).

Significant Dates:
 Pre 1494 - Taino peoples inhabit Jamaica.
 1494 - Christopher Columbus sights Jamaica on his second voyage, landing at St. Ann's Bay.
 1509 - Spain occupies Jamaica. Much of the indigenous peoples die from disease. African slaves imported to work on sugar plantations.
 1655 - Jamaica is captured by the British.
 1692 - The capital Port Royal, center of Caribbean commerce and infamous for its debauchery and harbor of pirates, is destroyed by an earthquake.
 1838 - British abolish slavery, 250,000 slaves freed.
 1944 - Universal adult suffrage introduced.
 1962 - Jamaica gains independence from Britain.

