March 2, 2012 By Shelly Hines, Travel Copywriter

Montego Bay: The Destination for Amazing Jamaica Holidays

If you are looking for the perfect Caribbean getaway, look no further than Montego Bay, Jamaica. Montego Bay (Mo Bay as the locals call it) offers even more than you might first expect in Jamaica holidays. While you certainly will find all the beauty the Caribbean is known for, with the white sand beaches, sea green waters, and amazing sunny blue skies, but visitors will also find many exciting things to see and do while visiting this bay paradise.

While Montego Bay is Jamaica's second largest city, it is *the* tourism capital of this island nation. Cuddled between the gently rising slopes of the Bogue, Kempshot, and Salem hills, Montego Bay is made up of two areas: Gloucester Avenue, the main tourist strip which is referred to as "Hip Strip," and the city proper, or "downtown." Most visitors never venture past the strip, which is made popular by the sparking bay surrounded by coral reef and three even more spectacular public beaches. It is here in Montego Bay that you get the best of what Jamaica has to offer.

Montegonians are proud yet friendly and consider Montego Bay "The Friendly City." It is not unusual to hear "Hey Mon, no problem!" when conversing with the locals. This laid-back view is a way of life for them, and you may just find yourself adopting such an attitude as you enjoy all the fun activities and lively culture. Montego Bay has an infectious, native, Reggae spirit. With music and night life to partake of, there is always something going on that will ignite your senses, from discos, to live music shows, and colourful festivals. Dive in the reefs; laze in the sand; go Jungle River Tubing or Bamboo Rafting; do a canopy tour with zip line through the rainforest; or simply shop for local souvenirs and crafts in duty-free shops at City Centre and the Montego Craft Market. Then enjoy the fine Jamaican and international cuisine (from Chinese to Italian) at one of the many casual and upscale restaurants.

A visit to Montego Bay, Jamaica can be surprisingly affordable. With regular and all-inclusive resorts, as well as villas, guest houses, and timeshares, there are plenty of choices in Mo Bay and the surrounding areas to match your budget to make for an unforgettable Jamaica holiday.

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