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Hello Everyone

Welcome to our little piece of paradise, Negril, Jamaica. If you are visiting for the first time, we sincerely hope you are having the best vacation experience ever, and for our returning guests, welcome back.

This, our 2020 edition of the Guide to Negril, will provide much of the information that visitors need to make their stay in Negril a safe and enjoyable one. We are happy that you are reading it.

Negril is a diverse destination with much to offer. We have evolved from a small fishing village in the 1970s with residents offering their homes to visitors who fell in love with our beautiful pristine beach and cliffs and kept coming back. We now offer accommodations at the other end of the spectrum and everything in between.

We invite you to experience all that Negril has to offer - the beach, the cliffs, the hills, the culture, the music, the amazing food, the people, the attractions, the natural beauty of our island. You will discover what many others already have and will be all the better for it, and hopefully keep coming back for more. Our people are great and most will do their best to ensure that our visitors have a safe, exceptional vacation.

The Negril Chamber of Commerce continues to advocate on behalf of our beloved town to make it a better place for not only our visitors but also those of us who live and work in Negril. We recognize that there is a lot to do to improve the vacation experience that we now offer and our dedicated board of directors will be relentless in the pursuit of this.

We will continue to lobby our government and fellow citizens to help to protect our precious environment, which provided us with this amazing resort in the first place, we will work hard to ensure the effects of climate change and development will not adversely affect Negril. We would like to ask you, our visitors, to do the same as well so that our children and grandchildren will continue to enjoy our island paradise for years to come.

On behalf of the entire community, we thank you for choosing Negril and look forward to seeing you again soon!

One love!

Richard A.M. Wallace
President, Negril Chamber of Commerce
## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>From the President</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Information</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel Essentials</td>
<td>6-7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Map Of Negril pullout</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FEATURES:</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From Fishing to Tourism</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Negril - Each One, Teach One</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Destination Coral Restoration</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women in Business</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Negril Great Morass</td>
<td>54-55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UWI: Applying Theory to Practice</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GETTING AROUND:</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Negril Health Clinic</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finding Your Way Around Negril</td>
<td>14-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Negril Recycling Center</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lobster / Conch</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Favorite Jamaican Dishes</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Negril.com</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Negril Weekly Entertainment</td>
<td>36-37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Negril Entertainers</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ganja: Health &amp; the Law</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Every Likkle Ting</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Listings: Support Local Businesses</td>
<td>56-57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NEGRIL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual Report</td>
<td>Membership</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**NEGRIL GUIDE 2020**

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www.negrilchamber.org

www.facebook.com/negrilchamber2018
NEW DATE

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2020

Join us, Runners & Walkers From Over 40 Countries, for Reggae Marathon, Half Marathon & 10K, in Negril, Jamaica

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Fire station  957-4242
Coast Guard  967-8193

MEDICAL
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Lucea Hospital  956-2233 / 956-2704
Negril Health Clinic  957-4926
Savanna-la-Mar Hospital  955-2533
Psychiatry/Psychology  462-1088

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WestJet  1-800-204-0020

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Tim Air Negril  957-5374
Inter Caribbean Airways  1-800-572-7628

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First Citizens Bank (New Kingston)  960-2348
National Commercial Bank - Negril  957-4163
Scotia Bank - Negril  957-4236 / 957-9466

CHURCH SERVICES
Saturday:
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Sunday:
Anglican Episcopal - 8AM
Assemblies of God - 11AM
Family Church on the Rock - 10AM
Mary Gates of Heaven Catholic - 10AM
New Testament Church of God - 9AM, 7PM
United Church - 11AM
United Pentecostal - 12:30 PM

CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS
Kiwanis Club of Negril  443-0812
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Negril Library  957-4917

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(Nicole Tassin)  275-1985
German (Inge Hill)  957-4052
Italian (Dominique McGann)  957-4170,
(Enrico Lionello)  364-1139
Japanese (Misako Kasai)  418-7191
Portuguese (Nonie Arthurs)  770-0369
Spanish, French, Greek, Hebrew
(Dr. Eva Johanson)  462-1088

As of May 31, 2018, mandatory 10 digit calling became effective. Be sure to add 876 when calling the above numbers. Another area code (658) will also be introduced in Jamaica.
Did you know?

The Negril Guide has been published annually by the Negril Chamber of Commerce since 1985 and is widely distributed within Jamaica, as well as around the world. In addition to the popular hard copy, it is available as a downloadable PDF and an online flipbook at www.negrilchamber.org.

The Negril Guide was the first travel guide to be published in Jamaica and issues have become collector's items over the years. Some people proudly claim that they have a copy of every issue!

If you are interested in advertising, please contact the Negril Guide Team via email at guide@negrilchamber.org.

Need local or foreign currency ($US)?

Visit a Scotiabank ATM at any of the locations listed below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Time Square</td>
<td>Norman Manley Boulevard, Negril</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Negril Craft Market #1</td>
<td>Norman Manley Boulevard, Negril</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scotiabank Negril</td>
<td>Negril Square, Negril</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Visit a Scotiabank branch or call 888-4-SCOTIA of visit jm.scotiabank.com
ENTRY REQUIREMENT
Everyone travelling to Jamaica (including minors) must present a valid and approved travel document (passport) as evidence of their identity and nationality.

Note: All visitors are required to travel with a round-trip or onward ticket.

ANIMALS
Animals are not allowed to enter.

CELLULAR & INTERNET ACCESS
Cell phone service is available but may be expensive. Check with your own provider before traveling. Cell phone rentals are available, but compare rates. Wireless Internet access is at many hotels and other sites around Negril.

TIME ZONE
Jamaica observes Eastern Standard Time throughout the year. There are no Daylight Saving Time clock changes.

AIRPORT TRANSFERS
Many hotels to provide return bus transfers from Sangster’s International Airport (Montego Bay) or consider pre-booking transport when purchasing a ticket.

CLOTHING
Lightweight tropical clothing is best throughout the year.

ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS
110 volts/50 cycles are standard, 220 volts is available at some hotels.

FIREARMS
It is illegal to take arms or ammunition into or out of Jamaica.

GENERAL CONSUMPTION TAX
A 16.5% Government tax is payable on all purchases, except where specified. Note fruit and vegetables do not have GCT added.

MEDICAL FACILITIES
There are facilities in all major resorts areas. Contact your hotel’s front desk or use the emergency information located in this guide.
CURRENCY EXCHANGE
Most local ATMs accept Visa, MasterCard, Cirrus and most dispense money in Jamaican dollars. Keeping your PIN secure secure is critical - shield keypad when using ATMs. All local or foreign currency in excess of US$10,000 (or equivalent in foreign currency) must be declared to Jamaican Customs.

TAX-FREE STATUS
Most expenses incurred for holding a meeting or convention in Jamaica are tax deductible.

WATER
Most drinking water in Jamaica is purified by modern methods. According to the Water Resources Authority, the quality is among the best in the world.

TIPPING & SERVICE CHARGES
A gratuity of 10%-20% is generally accepted at most restaurants. Some restaurants include it on the check, noted as a service charge, so look over your bill. Most hotels have a service charge of 10%-15%. This is not a tip. Many travelers tip those who carry bags US$1 per bag or US$3-$5 to housekeepers per night.

DUTY FREE
The following goods can be brought into Jamaica by all passengers who are 18 years old or older without payment of duties, and provided they do not exceed the allowed amounts:
- Perfume 170ML, Eau de Toilette 340ML
- Alcoholic Beverages 1 Litre
- Tobacco 200 cigarettes (or 50 cigars or 230 grams processed tobacco)

SAFETY & SECURITY:
A State of Emergency (SOE) was initiated in certain areas of Jamaica including Negril in 2019. In reality, this meant that the Government positively directed additional resources for safety. But be wise, use your common sense and don’t do anything you wouldn’t do at home.

Have a great vacation!
FROM FISHING TO TOURISM

The History of Negril

Negril has a long vibrant history starting with a close knit group of families who made their living by fishing. They owned their canoes and sold their fish in the markets at Savannah La Mar and Lucea. Negril, once considered swamp land, did not become well known until the late 1950s when the Jamaican government decided to develop it into a resort location. Let’s take a journey back in time:

1915

G. Logan McLeod purchased 1,800 acres of land in Negril from the Santflebens of Lucea. The rest of Negril Beach belonged to local fishermen, who split it up among their families.

One of those families on the beach, Rhoda Jackson was born in Negril and raised four children / 16 grandchildren, including Cosmo Brown, retired owner of Cosmo’s Seafood Restaurant and returning resident Dalton Williams. She walked to Savannah La Mar weekly to sell coconut oil, which she carried on her head.

1944

All coastal traffic between Negril and Green Island was done by sea or by walking along the beach and rockheads. Ivan McLeod and local fisherman hacked out an eight foot wide sandy-dirt road, which was approximately five miles long.

1959

The Jamaica Tourist Board visits Negril to take a close look at developing it as a tourist resort. It was considered to be the most attractive seven miles of white sand beach / coastline in the entire island of Jamaica.

Caribbean Construction Company was awarded a $500,000 GBP contract to construct 10 miles of road, which followed the old sandy-dirt road and to provide minimal drainage with a cut-off canal.
The Lodge Restaurant & Bar

"Perhaps Negril's Best Cuisine"
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Email: kenny.tours@cwjamaica.com
Website: www.KENNYTOURS.com
Lena and Lester Donaldson, also resided on Negril Beach. When families gathered at their home, they would tell stories of a great celebration held for all the subjects and colonies of Great Britain. This one story was about Dr Drew, who lived in Negril but also worked for the Queen, he provided every child from Mt. Airy to Sheffield with new uniforms. They marched through Negril for the entire day singing a new song “Rule Britannia, Britannia Rule the Waves”.

Other families in the area included the Arthurs who owned 13 acres of land on Negril Beach, known as Barosssa Pen.

1961
The Negril-Green Island highway was completed.

1963
Negril Sands - a small restaurant and bar on the beach - opens to the delight of tourists finding their way to Negril for the first time. Eleanor and Hans Gubler were the welcoming proprietors.

1965
The Sundowner Resort opens with accommodations for 16 people. It was owned and operated by Gerhard Jojan and his wife Rita Muirhead.

1967
The groundbreaking is held for the Negril Sands Beach Club, which hoped to open for the 1967/68 winter season. With this new expansion of their former place, Eleanor and Hans Gubler were delighted to meet and greet tourists from all over, but often hosted local beach parties as well.

More small hotels and guest houses followed - such as T-Water Cottages, Crystal Waters, White Sands - to name just a few.

1969
The Urban Development Corporation (UDC) designated another section of the Negril coastal area for development. This 6,000 acre area contained a portion of the Great Morass and included three bays - Orange Bay, Bloody Bay and Long Bay. Plans were designed to create a comprehensive tourist resort while keeping the essential character of Negril with strict zoning laws and adequate open spaces.

1974
Rick’s Cafe is considered the first public bar / restaurant located on the West End.

1977
Negril Beach Village opens with 250 rooms located at Rutland Point. (Who remembers the shark teeth?! This resort later became Hedonism II.)
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Over the past two years, the Negril Chamber of Commerce has been spearheading a Public/Private Partnership, alongside Government Departments and officials, to improve and overhaul the Negril Health Clinic by raising $150,000,000 JMD so that medical services can be increased, additional staff can be recruited, and it can become a comprehensive Level 5 health centre.

As a current Level 3 health center, ongoing meetings are held with the Negril Health Clinic and the Western Regional Health Authority to guide the future path. This is your opportunity to contribute no matter how large or small.

Pay directly into the Negril Chamber of Commerce / Health Centre Fund account at Scotiabank Negril -

JMD Account - 830911
USD Account - 830912

All fundraising efforts over the past two years have been geared towards this major project and we are making steady progress for this purpose. The first target of over $1,000,000 JMD was achieved by January 2018. To date, almost $5,000,000 JMD has been raised and is held in the fundraising account held at Scotiabank Negril.

Violet Dell and Don-marc Smith (NCC office management) interviewed several Negril residents to understand their concerns:

Marjory, who has lived in Negril for 38 years, says “The nurses are great, but we need more doctors. Sometimes there are no doctors at the clinic for several days. The pharmacy is only open once a week”.

Beverly, who has lived in Negril for 30 years, adds “The clinic needs more space, more fans as it is so hot inside and more chairs in the waiting areas for the different services”.

NEGRIL HEALTH CLINIC
Le Restaurant “Le Vendôme”
Alfresco Dining on the Beach at Charela Inn

A very special experience where the fine art of French cuisine blends with Jamaican fresh produce and exotic spices. Healthy homegrown fruits and vegetables - many from our own farm. Imported French wines, daily five-course gourmet dinner, and an extensive “A la carte menu”.

We host special events such as anniversaries and weddings.

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Our Finest Cabaret Shows from 7:00 pm to 9:30 pm

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chareca@cwjamaica.com  www.charela.com (876) 957-4277
(876) 373-8180  Charelainn  Charela inn
The Town of Negril straddles two of Jamaica’s most western parishes - Westmoreland and Hanover.

There are only three major routes in Negril which all converge at the roundabout in the town center called Negril Square. Travelling around and exploring Negril couldn’t be easier if you remember that there are only these three main roads to act as your guide which can ensure that you get to your destination easily and as hassle free as possible.

Norman Manley Boulevard, or the Beach Road as it is better known, feeds north from the roundabout running parallel with the Seven Mile beach - hosting many all-inclusive resorts and other smaller beach resorts, family hotels, bars and restaurants - and on through to Lucea (which is the capital town of Hanover) and eventually arriving at Montego Bay and Sangster International Airport.

If you care to travel even further afield, then you will find your way after about three hours driving in Ocho Rios to join the toll road that is now a fast track to Kingston, Jamaica’s Capital.

The West End Road, sometimes called One Love Drive, winds its way past in-town shopping plazas, then heads southwest past the rugged cliff resorts like Rock House or Rick’s Café to the Lighthouse and beyond - eventually travelling through “Hogs Heaven” to the Deepest West End past Jackie’s on the Reef and the Westender Inn where you can continue up the hill towards Mount Airy and Orange Hill and eventually come round the outskirts of Negril and arrive back through Whitehall to Nonpareil Road.

Nonpariel Road feeds northeast towards Sheffield, through Little London and Llandilo, past Brighton Beach to the capital town of Westmoreland, Savannah La Mar, where most local Jamaicans tend to do their shopping.

Visitors need not wait very long to hail a taxi in Negril. Just stand by the road and by the time you
count to three, you will hear a horn “tooting” and you will have one. But remember to make sure that it is a licensed and insured taxi. You may choose a Route Taxi recognized by its distinctive black and white checkered panels along each side and its red license plates.

Always negotiate the price in US$ or JM$ before entering the taxi.

The local cost to travel is approximately $150JM per person, per route before a tip. Other people may be picked up and dropped off along the route to ensure the taxi is economically full. Note if using these after midnight, the fare is doubled.

Or you may charter a taxi recognized by the black and yellow checkered panels along the sides. Technically, these taxi operators can charge their own prices, but they must give you a price in advance.

Many of the hotels and resorts offer a taxi service from their reception area, so check the prices. Alternatively, you can rent a car to explore around Negril. Vehicles range from US$50 – US$130 per day but remember to drive on the left in Jamaica. Flights from Negril Aerodrome to Montego Bay, Ocho Rios, Port Antonio and Kingston, offer visitors the chance to see other places of interest.

The Knutsford Express Coach provides transport throughout the island and has an office opposite Time Square Shopping Centre. In addition, check with your hotel reception for advice on locally approved tour companies like Island Turf Tours or Kenny’s Tours that will tailor trips to suit your individual or group needs.
The Negril Chamber of Commerce (NCC) has been collaborating with Recycling Partners of Jamaica (RPJA) to promote recycling in Negril and surrounding communities in Westmoreland and Hanover. Unfortunately, in late 2017, the Negril Recycling Center was gutted by fire. However, a grant was recently awarded to the Negril Chamber of Commerce from the Digicel Foundation to restore electricity and partial roofing. Continued promotion and awareness of recycling benefits will be highlighted through advertising and a variety of public forums and outreach programs. Current operations are limited to plastic and glass bottles only.

When fully operational, the Center will also accept styrofoam and cardboard, reducing the amount of garbage taken from local resorts, businesses and residential communities to the Retirement landfill in the St James parish.

RPJA is also pursuing the purchase of a truck for the collection of recyclable materials in Negril and surrounding areas.
The place you’ve been searching for isn’t easy to find

B E A C H  •  C L I F F S  •  V I L L A S
NEGRIL

The JAHJAH Foundation (Jamaicans Abroad Helping Jamaicans at Home), is working in partnership with the Negril Chamber of Commerce to establish a free Community Dental Clinic in the grounds of Negril Health Clinic. The Foundation, established in 2007, concentrates its support on Education and Health.

A forty-foot container is being converted and equipped with the necessary supplies and staff required to provide this new and exciting service for the local community. In addition, twenty-five volunteers undertook a three-week intensive course comprising of theory and practice in First Responder training and CPR training in September 2019. They will be able to provide a 24-hour Ambulance Service for Negril.

Four trainers arrived from Israel to teach our volunteers and Negril Chamber of Commerce members provided them with accommodations, evening meals, and transport for their one month stay. The Tourism Product Development Company (TPDCO) also generously provided the trainees with lunch for two weeks. And as though that wasn’t enough, JAHJAH are also converting a unit at the new Boardwalk Shopping Village to serve as a Medic Station.

NEET (Negril Environment and Education Trust) are leading the way in giving young people Educational and Cultural experiences of their dreams. In July 2019, a group of students from NEET supported schools - Grange Hill High and Little London High - travelled to Tottori, Japan to participate in an exchange, thus heralding a new Twin Town arrangement.

While in Japan, the group of students met with their host family and enjoyed a great experience learning how people live, eat and have fun in Japan first hand. Remember the age-old adage that travelling broadens the mind? Well, this will continue for years to come.

NEET is a non-profit organization in Negril that was founded in 2003 to address Jamaica’s need for an enhanced educational programme. They are committed to strengthening the social fabric of Jamaica through programmes that expand educational access for children and adults. Their motto states, “A tablet in every child’s hand and a computer in every classroom” while their mission is “Fighting Crime through Education”. They have recently set up the USD $100 Club, where anyone can donate money to this amazing cause to buy 7-inch tablets for NEET participants.

Visit JAHJAH at jahjahfoundation.org

Visit NEET at www.neetja.com
AN EXCLUSIVE BEACHFRONT RESORT

A unique family owned and operated resort on Negril Beach offering elegant accommodations amid lush tropical gardens. The resort offers villas, rooms, restaurant, bar, spa, wedding and event venues, honeymoon packages, free Wi-Fi & more. Enjoy the incomparable experience that is Rondel Village.

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www.theyellowbird.com

"Your Home Away From Home"
The Western Hospitality Institute (WHI) has emerged due to the woeful shortage of hospitality training in Negril. Dr Cecil Cornwall decided to “Home Grow Our Own” workers for the Hospitality Industry, so he established the campus in Negril in 2016. Part of the WHI is their West End-based campus, Summerset Resort and Hotel Training School, which is not only in full operation, but has the distinction of being the only hotel in Jamaica that is totally managed and operated by undergraduate hospitality students.

The campus was established to fill the labour gap, which ranged from a lack of supervisory and management personnel to the under-preparation of young people from Hanover and Westmoreland to fill vacancies in the tourism industry. Through an excellent relationship with Jamaican all-inclusive hotels, like Hedonism II and Couples Resorts, student managers spend a full day each week understudying senior managers and executive chefs to get an appreciation of “real life” work experience. Book a stay at this top-notch training facility on your next visit to Negril. You will not be disappointed.

Visit Western Hospitality Institute / Summerset Resort at www.summersethotel.com

The Seaford Town Vocational Training Center (VTC) has expressed interest in partnering with the Negril Chamber of Commerce to provide training for staff of Small Hotels and Villas in Property Maintenance Level 1 and 2.

Research revealed that small property owners are in need of multi-skilled persons who can paint, change a door lock, conduct minor electrical repairs, and handle plumbing. The course will be based on NCTVET standards and curriculum; and will provide the sector with a cadre of skilled and certified workers, who will be trained to national and international standards.

This project is in the preliminary stages of planning and will be hosted at Little London High School. Stay tuned at the NCC website for more details!
ARE YOU HUNGRY?
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90 minute cruise down 7 mile beach or Negril River & ALL you can drink Red Stripes & Rum Punch included. Many other liquors available for additional purchase

COFFEE CRUISE - $45 USD
90 minute cruise down Negril River or 7 mile beach & ALL you can drink Blue Mountain Coffee included. Rum Cream available for additional purchase

MIMOSA CRUISE - $65 USD
90 minute cruise down Negril River or 7 mile beach & ALL you can drink Mimosas

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LOBSTER/CONCH

KNOW THE LAW - It is really important to know the law by following some simple rules.

In a bid to boost the dramatic decline in conch stock (2015-2018) and the spiny lobster stock, the Fisheries Division in the Ministry of Industry, commerce, agriculture and Fisheries enforces closed seasons during the reproductive cycle. Closed seasons are periods within which no fishing, hunting or capture of a specified animal is allowed by law. These periods coincide with the peak breeding seasons of the species and are so instituted as to allow the marine creatures, birds and land animals to mature and revive its population.

In order to make sure that you don’t fall foul of the Law, you should avoid patronizing restaurants that offer lobster or conch in the closed seasons - even if they say it is from the freezer!

Currently there are two main species that have closed seasons:

**Caribbean Spiny Lobster:**

The season is closed every year from April 1st until June 30th.

This means that it is illegal and against the law to CATCH, BUY OR SELL lobsters during the closed season.

It is also against the law to catch berried lobsters (with eggs) or undersized lobsters (under 3.5 inches in carapace length) throughout the year.

**PENALTY** - Six months in prison

**Jamaican Queen Conch**

The season is closed every year from September 1st until April 1st but can be extended where necessary if the breeding has been affected in any way.

In 2019, the Fisheries Division extended the ban for fishing, sale and export of conch from **March 2, 2019 to January 31, 2020**.

**PENALTY** - Six months in prison
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CHEFS AND FAV DISHES

The magicians who work behind the scenes in the local restaurants or hotel kitchens preparing the best food are not normally in the limelight so we would like to introduce them. Let’s meet some of them, learn a little bit about their background / interests and hear what dish they enjoy the most!

Peter “Washie” Walcott

The chef at the all new Miss Lily’s Restaurant, a franchise of the famous New York Restaurant, at the Skylark Beach Hotel is Peter Walcott. (Note: “Washie” is short for Washbelly which means that he was his mother’s last child. This restaurant opened in March 2018 and Peter has been serving our Jamaican favourites with a New York twist.

His previous experience comes from cooking at restaurants, for 12 years, in New Hampshire USA. His signature favourite dish is the mouth-watering, melt in the mouth Barbecue Spare Ribs but also his delicious escoveitch fish appetisers.

Teron “Rodeen” Jones

Introducing the lunchtime chef for Charela Inn over the past 16 years, Ms Teron Jones from Logwood. Although she has had no formal training in cooking, she learnt her trade firstly from her mother who was an awesome cook, then from Norman Thomson at Bar-B-Barn, followed by being under the wing of the late Sylvie Grizzle, noted as “one of the best cooks in Negril” with her French flare and cooking style.

Her favourite lunchtime dish is Burger and French Fries because the beef and all the other fresh produce served at Charela Inn is straight from their own Home Farm.
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Boulevard Super Centre
45 Elma Crescent
Kingston 20
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Treat yourself... You deserve it!
Jermaine “Bagga” Forrester

Originally from Grange Hill, Jermaine learned to cook watching and helping his mother but now after 14 years at the Rockhouse on the Westend, he has developed into a master chef. Guests return time after time to enjoy all his culinary skills but for him working at the Rockhouse is much more than just cooking as he is part of a bigger picture where he gets to be involved in working with the local schools and community through the hotel's Foundation. He says his signature dish is his deliciously flavourful Coconut Shrimp but his favourite time of the week is when he gets to showcase his skills at his Friday cooking class for the Rockhouse guests.

Local favourites are always a hot topic online as well.

Are you familiar with the Negril Nyammings Facebook Group? Its membership of almost 3,000 people conducted a Poll in three Price categories of $10, $20 and $30 to learn about everyone’s ‘Best Value” favourite foods and below are the results:

Category #1 ($10) - Chicken Lavish and Connie’s Country & Western Bar
Category #2 ($20) - Canoe Bar and Alfred’s Palace
Category #1 ($30) - Catcha Falling Star and Rockhouse

In addition, other popular ‘Best Value” favorites as voted by members of the Negril Nyammings Facebook Group were Best Lobster at Fire’s Lobster Grill and Best Jerk at the Red Dragon.
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Negril’s first website, Negril.com, has been serving our visitors for over twenty-five years. Created by Rob Graves, who moved to Jamaica in 1992, the website was influenced by his experience in Negril during Hurricane Gilbert.

Initial pages were uploaded in 1994 and developed into a fully integrated part of the local community with over half a million visitors a year to the website. Providing information on events, restaurants, bars, accommodations, and links to businesses and organisations, Negril.com has become a trusted source of Negril information on the Internet.

The Negril Message Board (NMB) has been a favourite with both locals and tourists since 1997, where everyone shares stories, asks questions, makes suggestions about how to travel, where to stay, eat, drink and be merry. New visitors to Negril gain valuable knowledge from thousands of helpful members.

The self-named “Boardies”, who are members of Negril.com, have been the backbone of tourists helping tourists with relevant information. In 1999, the first annual “Boardie Bash” was held in Negril to thank website visitors who gathered together in person to share their experiences and stories.

Negril.com’s creation was fully funded by Rob, but in 1998, a partnership was established with the Negril Chamber of Commerce accepting shares in Negril.com. This long lasting collaboration continues to this day as early internet pioneers making important information available online for all.
Hosted by “LUDDY SAMMS” formerly of The Drifters

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LIVE MUSIC – ROOMS – FOOD
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### Sunday
- **Drifters Bar** Free Live Music Jam Session<br>  Soulful Sunday 3-7pm Hosted by Luddy Samms and Friends
- **Boat Bar and Restaurant**<br>  Live Reggae Show 2-6pm. Various artists.
- **Chances Negril**<br>  3-8pm Live Jazz and Blues, Various Bands
- **Westender Inn**<br>  5-10pm<br>  Bar-b-cue and Bonfire Reggae Party Live Band Free shuttle from Beach
- **Rick's Cafe**<br>  Live Reggae with Sea Breeze Band - At Sunset for 2 Hours
- **Travellers Resort**<br>  Jamaica Night Buffet Live Reggae by Front Page Steel Band 7-9pm
- **Alfred’s Ocean Palace**<br>  9pm Late Night Reggae

### Monday
- **Boat Bar and Restaurant**<br>  Live Reggae Show 2-6pm Various artistes
- **Rick's Cafe**<br>  Live Reggae with Sea Breeze Band - At Sunset for 2 Hours
- **Travellers Resort**<br>  Jamaica Night Buffet Live Reggae by Front Page Steel Band 7-9pm
- **Roots Bamboo**<br>  10pm -2am Late Night Reggae

### Tuesday
- **Rick’s Cafe**<br>  Live Reggae with Sea Breeze Band - At Sunset for 2 Hours
- **Travellers Resort**<br>  Reggae Karaoke Night with DJ Johnny Blaze 8-10.30pm
- **3 Dives Jerk Centre**<br>  7-11pm Live Reggae and Jerk Chicken, Conch, Lobster
- **Alfred’s Ocean Palace**<br>  9pm Late Night Reggae

### Wednesday
- **Half Moon Beach**<br>  Terry Gillespie and Band. X Reggae/Blues 12-3pm
- **Drifters Bar Live**<br>  Wonderful Wicked Wednesday 3-7pm Hosted by Luddy Samms (Former member “Drifters”)
- **Boat Bar and Restaurant**<br>  2-6pm Live Reggae Show
- **Margaritaville**<br>  Beach Party Bonfire and Reggae Show 5-9pm
- **Rick’s Cafe**<br>  Live Reggae with Sea Breeze Band - At Sunset for 2 Hours
- **Miss Lily’s at Skylark**<br>  Way Back Wednesday Retro Party 9pm-midnight
- **Roots Bamboo**<br>  10pm Late Night Reggae
ENTERTAINMENT

THURSDAY

Rick’s Cafe
Live Reggae with Sea Breeze Band -
At Sunset for 2 Hours

Canoe Bar
7-11pm Steel Band

Sun Beach
7-10pm Live Reggae Show

Charela Inn
7.30-9.30pm Dinner Show
Live Jazz/Blues/Vintage Reggae

Woodstock Tiki Bar
8pm Live Reggae Show

The Jungle
10pm till late Reggae
Ladies (Free Entry) Night

FRIDAY

Boat Bar and Restaurant
Live Reggae Show
2-6pm

Drifters Bar Live
Free Fabulous Fun Friday
3-7pm Live Jam Session
Soul, Blues and Reggae
Hosted by Luddy Samms

Rick’s Cafe
Live Reggae with Sea Breeze Band -
At Sunset for 2 Hours

Travellers Resort
8-11pm Karaoke Fun

Alfreds Ocean Palace
9pm Late Night Reggae

SATURDAY

Calico Jack’s
Pirate Island
12-3pm Terry Gillespie and Band. X Acoustic
Jam, Reggae and Blues

Woodstock Tiki Bar
Afternoon
Live Reggae Show 2pm

Rick’s Cafe
Live Reggae with Sea Breeze Band -
At Sunset for 2 Hours

Seastar Inn
7-11pm Buffet Dinner
Special Reggae Show /
African Drumming
Shuttle Bus from Beach

Charela Inn
7.30-9.30 Dinner Special
and Live Show
Pure Jazz and Blues

Miss Lily’s at Skylark
Road Block Saturdays
Dance Party
9pm-midnight

The Jungle
10pm till Late-
Reggae Show
The resort area of Negril boasts Jamaica’s largest Coral Tree Nursery supporting the growth of 3600 coral pieces of Acropora plumata (Elkhorn) and Acropora cervicornis (Staghorn).

This 60-Tree Coral Nursery is in the Orange Bay Special Fishery Conservation Area and is designed to increase reef resilience to climate change impacts, coral diversity, coral restoration, fisheries improvement as well as improving diving and snorkelling experiences.

The nursery will support long term restoration activities on a yearly basis with a target of out planting a minimum of 3000 pieces per year at designated restoration sites. The Coral Nursery is part of a project designed and implemented by the Negril area Environmental Protection Trust (NEPT) with funding support from the Environmental Foundation Of Jamaica (Special Climate Change Adaptation Funds). The Special Climate Change Adaptation Grant is a part of the Government of Jamaica's Pilot Programme for Climate Resilience (PPCR) funded through the Climate Investment Funds, Inter-American development Bank and the World Bank. The Tourism Enhancement Fund, the Tourism Product Development Company and the Negril Chamber of Commerce as well as local fishermen and women support the project.

To all our nature lovers, dive enthusiasts and conservationists, Negril is your next best stop for coral restoration dive experiences. Email NEPT at negrilepa@gmail.com for updates and let us know how you can participate or contribute. This is Negril's first ever largest effort at coral reef conservation. #growafragmenttodayrestoreareeftomorrow
Visit the stunningly romantic Rockhouse Restaurant for our premiere fine dining experience overlooking the pristine waters of Negril’s cliffs or join us for the vibrant flavors of authentic Jamaican cooking at Pushcart Jerk Centre & Rum Bar featuring nightly DJ’s and live entertainment.

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ENTERTAINMENT

As you walk around Negril and visit the Bars, Restaurants, Shops and Music Venues - you just might meet one of these interesting and accomplished musicians, all of whom were born in Jamaica, but who have made a worldwide contribution to music. It is our pleasure to introduce these men:

LUDDY SAMMS

Born in Kingston in 1947; grew up in Houston, Texas; Joined the Air Force in 1964 (shot in Vietnam; travelled to Germany for surgery). Found swinging 60’s London and joined the music scene as a young vocalist. He has performed on every continent but his greatest achievements were with internationally acclaimed “The Drifters” and he toured with the line-up including Bill Fredericks and Johnny Moore for over 20 years. Other claims to fame were performances with the “Blues Brothers” and “The Commitments”, owning several Clubs in London and his own record company, EJI. As a solo artiste for over five decades, he has performed alongside superstars Mick Jagger, James Brown, Otis Redding, Eddie Floyd and rocked the London Club Scene with band members Eric Clapton and Mitch Mitchell from the “Jimi Hendrix Experience”- earning his international fame.

OTIS GAYLE

Born in 1946 in Kingston; went to Canada in 1967; Has own recording company. Gayle, Singer, Songwriter & veteran “Studio One” artiste, who began his musical career as a vocalist with Byron Lee and the “Dragonaires”. He performed with them on the international circuit before settling in Canada. With more than 40 years as a vocalist, he has recorded a number of solo hits, notably “I’ll be Around” by the Detroit Spinners and released a series of solo hits like “Heaven Must Have Sent You”. In 1985, he was awarded a Juno and was one of the first black artistes to be recognised by this most prestigious panel when they accredited his song as the “Best Reggae Song” in the Best Reggae/Calypso Recording Category. His legendary status as one of Reggae Music’s pioneers has been assured with his songs, “Follow Your Dreams”, “Give a Little More Love” and “He is my Friend”.
CocoLaPalm Resort is Minnesota family owned and operated, and proud to be the finest EP beachfront resort in Negril. Our extraordinary cuisine, amazing beach, beautifully appointed guestrooms and suites teamed with Coco’s superlative service makes this your ideal vacation spot.

Our Restaurants are open daily to the public: Marley’s by the Sea Restaurant opens for breakfast from 7:30am-11am and dinner from 6pm-10pm and Marley’s Beach Bar & Grill opens from 11am-6pm. The Main Bar opens at 5pm and closes at 11pm daily. Happy Hour is 5pm-7pm daily except Mondays.
JOE ISAACS

Born circa 1954 in St. Catherine to Belizean / Jamaican parents; Joined “Studio One” straight out of school; Emigrated to Canada in late 60’s. He made his name as the Session Drummer at “Studio One”, where he worked with greats such as keyboardist / arranger Jackie Mittoo, guitarist Lynn Taitt, bass player Brian Atkinson, percussionist Denzil Laing and several accomplished horn players including saxophonist Tommy McCook of “The Skatalites”.

Some of the songs he played on are “Dancing Mood” by Delroy Wilson; “Hold Me Tight” (Johnny Nash), “The Loser” (Derrick Harriott), “Israelites” (Desmond Dekker), “Bend Down Low” (The Wailers), “Fattie, Fattie” (The Heptones), “Rougher Yet” (Slim Smith) and The Cables’ “Baby Why”. This unheralded drummer, was awarded a “Tribute to the Greats” for his contribution to Jamaican Music and just think - he began only with a set of Congos and a frying pan as his Snare Drum.
Visit Jamaican landmarks, then stay in one
WOMEN IN BUSINESS

The Negril Chamber of Commerce recognises the importance of the economic empowerment of women as partners in the growth and development in Negril. There are many extremely successful business women in Negril who not only run highly successful organisations, but who take time to give back to the local community where they live and do business.

Introducing Gail Biggs Jackson Brooks, Jackie Lewis and Jane Issa

Gail has been the Managing Director of the Negril Treehouse Resort for the past 36 years. Her motto from high school, “Enter to Learn, Go Forth to Serve” is the guiding principle in her every day life. She believes you have to “Walk the Walk” and she has received “Community Person of the Year” Awards from both Negril Rotary Club and Negril Chamber of Commerce, in which she was founding members. Her community achievements include adopting the Road from the Salt Creek Bridge to Orange Bay, raising $20,000USD from a benefit concert and supporting numerous school projects for more than 20 years.

Jackie is not only the owner of “Jackie’s on the Reef” in the West End - she is the woman behind the vision to help guests “de-stress with nature and restore their inner strength”. Established in 1996, she built a resort on the cliffs where she specialises in Holistic Health and Hospitality. Jackie was a former model and actress in Paris as well as a successful entrepreneur in Manhattan’s SoHo District. Perseverance personified describes how she rebuilt and restored her resort after Hurricane Ivan years ago. As a founding member of Negril’s Rotary Club, her motto is “Don’t Let Fear Stop You”.

Jane has a Fine Arts Degree and has contributed much to Negril - not only as an art lover and aficionado but as a passionate environmentalist and philanthropist. As a former director of the Negril Chamber of Commerce, she spearheaded the campaign against breakwaters and introduced recycling to reduce contamination. Jane is best known for her 30 years of interior and exterior design skills in all of the Couples Resorts on the Island, where she created a real Jamaican experience beyond sun, sea and sand. She has also been very entrepreneurial in developing her own beach front hotel, Idle Awhile and setting up her Craft Shop – “Jamaica Jane”.

Negril Guide 2020 | 49
Imagine cooling off in majestic waterfalls and pools, picnicking in natural gardens and ziplining over a lush paradise. Nestled in the hills of St. Elizabeth, visitors can enjoy a tractor-drawn jitney ride through a working farm and sign up for a chukka zipline ride. Get an intimate look at the stunning natural beauty of Jamaica with YS Falls.
Below is a summary of the laws relating to the possession and smoking of Marijuana - or better known as Ganja - in Jamaica and the use of Tobacco Products.

Possession of Ganja

Possession of 2 ounces or less of ganja is no longer an offence for which one can be arrested, charged and have to go to court, and it will not result in a criminal record.

However, the police may issue a $500JM ticket, to be paid within 30 days at any Tax Office.

It remains a criminal offence, however, to be in possession of over 2 ounces of ganja, and offenders can be arrested, charged, tried in court and, if found guilty, sentenced to a fine or to imprisonment or both. The conviction will also be recorded on that person’s criminal record.

Visitors who are users of medical marijuana.

Persons who do not ordinarily reside in Jamaica (for example, tourists or visiting Jamaicans who live overseas) may apply for a permit to allow them to lawfully purchase and possess up to 2 ounces of ganja at a time, for medical or therapeutic purposes.

To obtain this permit, visitors will need to produce evidence that their use of ganja has been recommended or prescribed by a licensed medical practitioner in the country where they live. The permit is issued by Jamaica’s Ministry of Health, and a fee is payable.

Smoke Free Places:

There is a comprehensive ban on tobacco and cigarette smoking in indoor public places, indoor workplaces, and public transport. The law also prohibits smoking in several outdoor places and within five meters of entrances, exits, windows, and ventilation intakes of a public place, workplace, or public transport.

A person who smokes in public cannot be arrested or detained.

Smoking at privately occupied residencies that are not used for commercial purposes is not an offence, but is governed by rules on possession of ganja referred to above.

Failure to pay a ticket

It is an offence to fail to pay a ticket that has been issued for smoking in public or for possession of 2 ounces or less of ganja. The offender will be required to attend the Petty Sessions Court, and may be ordered to do community service, or in the rare case where community service cannot be arranged, pay a fine of $2000JM. A conviction for failing to pay a ticket will also be recorded on the offender’s criminal record.

-Courtesy of The Jamaican Ministry of Justice-
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Craft production in Jamaica is greatly influenced by our history and rich cultural landscape. There are two outdoor Craft Markets that can fill the day with shopping as entertainment.

The Negril Craft Market with its charming stands lining the Negril River, near the roundabout, has been in existence since 1985 with 24 shops and is managed by the Negril - Green Island Local Planning Authority (NGILPA). To the north of Negril, near the aerodrome; you’ll find the open-air Rutland Point Craft Market, established by the Urban Development Corporation (UDC) in the early 80’s.

All the vendors call out “Come give me a look, Mon”. From inside the packed stalls burst treasures galore, all anxious to go home with visitors. They have a wide choice of local carvings, hand made jewellery, art, pottery, colourful sarongs, tee shirts, beach towels and other souvenirs. Other choices include vibrant local art, clothing, straw items and a selection of little gems that you won’t find anywhere else.

On Norman Manley Boulevard is “Time Square Mall”, offering duty-free shopping ready with electronics, crystal, china, leather and exotic jewellery as well as the new Boardwalk Shopping Village, with a variety of stores, restaurants and services.

A range of other gift shops can be found at White Swan Plaza, Whitehall Plaza and Riverside Plaza which are situated downtown and at Sunshine Plaza at the start of the West End Road.

There are numerous small grocery shops located all over Negril, many of which are owned by the local Chinese community which offer competitive prices. Larger supermarkets, are located mainly downtown with Value Master at Value Master Plaza, Quality Traders or Icon Supermarket and Hi Lo at Sunshine Plaza - both at the beginning of the West End Road.

The main Cambio is located in the Town Centre Square with another one in the West End, known as Banmark Cambio, located after Pushcart and before Summerset Village.
The shopping experience in Negril has been enhanced with the opening of The Boardwalk Shopping Village located on Norman Manley Boulevard. Ample parking, 24/7 security and a variety of shops / kiosks are available:

- National Commercial Bank with ATM
- Boulevard Home Depot
- Janet’s Wedding Store
- Jet D’Eau Beauty Clinic
- Negril Service Centre
- Natural Smiles Dentist
- Matthew’s Restaurant & Sports Bar
- Peppa’s Restaurant
- Riverside Pharmacy

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The Integrating Water, Land and Ecosystems Management in Caribbean Small Island Developing States (IWEco Project) is a five-year, regional project that builds upon the work of previous initiatives to address water, land and biodiversity resource management as well as climate change.

IWEco’s objective is to preserve Caribbean ecosystems that are of global significance and to the sustainability of livelihoods. The project will improve the management of fresh and coastal water resources, land resources and forests.

IWEco, funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), is the lead implementing agency, with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) directing some of the activities.

Jamaica’s US$3,553,098 national sub-project under IWEco focuses on the Negril Great Morass, which is the second largest wetland in Jamaica and one of the largest natural coastal wetland ecosystems in the Caribbean. It supports internationally significant species, many of which are found nowhere else.

Its major habitats include open water, marsh, mud flats, mangroves, terrestrial forest and swamp forest which is dominated by the Royal Palm Reserve and Bull Thatch.

NCC Board of Directors, Damian Salmon and Sophie Grizzle-Roumel, are members of the IWEco Project Steering Committee, which will provide direction and guidance for the execution of the IWEco project and meet at least four times each year.

Issues

#1 - Biodiversity of the morass threatened by human-induced drainage of its wetlands, coastal development, unsustainable agricultural practices, invasive alien species, and increase of informal settlements.

#2 - Drop in water levels and depletion of flora and fauna of the morass causing frequent brush fires, peat subsidence, sedimentation, aquatic nutrient enrichment and invasive alien species.

Specific Objectives

- Restore the historical functionality of the morass;
- Re-establishment of vegetation to provide a sustainable habitat for wetland fauna
- Eliminate issues that degrade ecosystem functions; and
- Implement institutional arrangements to ensure the long term sustainability of the wetland biological resources.
IWEco Key Activities

- Undertake land use surveys to determine historical wetland boundaries and the property boundaries on Norman Manley Boulevard the extent to which the Great Morass has been illegally dumped and utilized for various uses.

- Implementation of the Green Business initiatives within Tourism related entities.

- Develop a marketing and management plan for the Negril Royal Palm Reserve including resource mobilization component to support sustainability of research activities.

- Establish an interactive, interpretive research and knowledge sharing centre within the Negril Royal Palm Reserve.

- Assessment of the spatial distribution of seagrass in Long Bay and identification of hotspots to guide restoration initiatives.

- Work with private land owners to reduce wetland impacts by employing best environmental practices for wetland conservation and protection.

- Train farmers in sustainable farming practices and alternative livelihood programs, using best environmental practices (BEP) resulting in improved water quality, reduced brush fires and improved peat reserves. (Grants Programme)

- Develop and implement an effective ecosystem restoration programme and integrated pollution control / management programme.
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The University of West Indies Mona School of Business & Management’s MBA/MSC Final Paper is designed to provide an opportunity for students to put into practice the principles and theories studied by pairing them with organizations in the private, public or non-governmental sectors. The Negril Chamber of Commerce (NCC) was eager to participate and two groups of MBA students were assigned to worked toward devising solutions for the local Negril community:

- Negril and Self-Governance
- Viability of the Negril Craft Market

The projects were managed jointly by Dr. Indianna Minto-Coy and Dr Clive Scott, with Nola Stair, MBA, SFHEA as the NCC liaison. This three person team was responsible for supervising the teams as the students developed their presentations and final reports. James Moss Solomon, (UWI Executive-in-Residence, former Grace Kennedy director and former President of the Jamaica Chamber of Commerce), also provided his business acumen and support as well.

Over the course of six months, the MBA teams conducted feasibility studies to further define the problems, established clear objectives and implemented their research methodology (e.g. interviews, focus groups, and online surveys). Both groups prepared and presented informative and well thought out arguments to NCC members suggesting the possible paths for moving forward on both Issues. They provided substantive research to support their ideas and a range of solutions concerning the Craft Market and Self-governance.

The NCC Board will consider the options presented by deciding the best way forward and which agencies to contact to make these ideas a reality. The University and the NCC were so impressed with the outcome that an additional four Negril projects have been approved for the next cohort of MBA students! This is a great partnership indeed.
The mission of the Negril Chamber of Commerce is to facilitate the sustainable, commercial, social and environmental development of Negril. In the interest of its members and the wider community it will strive to develop projects, protect and improve the tourism product and promote Negril as a tourist and investment location. This will be achieved by voluntary effort, sensitizing and educating, lobbying and encouraging members to action.

DIRECTORS

Richard A.M. Wallace, President
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Damian Salmon, 2nd Vice President
Winthrope Wellington, 3rd Vice President
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Nola Stair, Secretary
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Emeritus:
Daniel Grizzle
Nehru Caolsing
Ray Arthurs

Honorary:
Ras Iyah V

OFFICE MANAGER

Violet Dell (Oct 2018 - March 2019), Don Marc Smith (March 2019 - present)

ANNUAL REPORT

The Negril Chamber of Commerce (NCC) made remarkable progress towards key objectives last year. Specific advancements were made in the following areas:

Negril Health Clinic Fund

The Negril Health Clinic is in desperate need of help. As a Type 3 health facility, it serves up to 20,000 residents in Negril and the surrounding area. However, it is difficult to attract and retain doctors / nurses and much needed services (e.g., dental, pharmacy, laboratory collection) are not available. The NCC established a Negril Health Centre Fund to assist in the upgrading of the Negril Health Centre. The Fund’s objective is to raise $150 Million Jamaican dollars before the start of the building process. These funds will improve the quality of health services provided to the local community as well as tourists.
The NCC’s annual International Food and Wine Fundraiser continues to draw large crowds with proceeds going toward the Negril Health Center Fund.

Security

After years of advocating, we were extremely pleased with the arrival of All-Terrain Vehicles (ATV) to protect our valuable tourism product - Negril’s Seven Mile Beach. NCC members have purchased gasoline for the vehicles so that the vehicles can continuously safeguard the beach during the day and night.

The NCC have also worked tirelessly with the Police and Government Agencies to provide an initial CCTV Monitoring System that will ensure the safety of the public on the Boulevard. This will eventually link into the national CCTV surveillance programme, Jamaica Eye, geared to improving public safety and disaster response.

Ministry of Tourism and Destination Management Plan for Negril

Again the NCC, recognising that Negril was in need of major upgrading and redevelopment, took the initiative and produced a draft strategic plan - “Vision for Negril 2030, A Call for Action”. We are working alongside the Ministry of Tourism, their designated officers and a wide range of other stakeholders to produce a Destination Management Plan for Negril to be presented to the government cabinet in early 2020. Issues being addressed cover a wide range of areas including infrastructure, education, environment, community and governance.

New Members and Volunteers

Every organisation in order to be successful and achieve its aims and objectives requires the ongoing support of the local community and so we are making a plea for new members and persons willing to volunteer their time, energy and expertise to advance the work of the Negril Chamber of Commerce. “Many hands make light work”. Please contact the Chamber Office if you have some free time to help out with our many and varied Projects. Thank you!
2019-2020 MEMBERSHIP

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gary.williams@sri.sandals.com
www.beaches.com

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Neville and Dorett Stewart
Diana Walsh
International Coastal Cleanup (ICC) Day 2019 was a great success for Negril again, which takes place annually on the **third Saturday in September**. As one of the 190 site organizers in Jamaica and as part of a “Community in Action,” we cleared loads of garbage off our famous coastline. Our fabulous team of over 120 volunteers / contributors included:

- Charela Inn
- Discovery Water
- Hammond’s Bakery
- Hedonism II
- Kiwanis Club of Negril Point
- Lions Club of Savannah La Mar
- National Solid Waste
- National Youth Service - Heart Trust/NTA
- Little Bay Country Club
- NCDC / WCA
- Negril All-Age School
- Negril Chamber of Commerce (directors, staff and members)
- Negril Community Residents
- Negril Craft Market Vendors
- Negril Green Island Local Planning Authority (NGILPA)
- Negril Travel Guide
- Negril Tree House Resort
- NEPA (Negril)
- Orange Bay Country Club
- Procall Solutions USA
- Rockhouse Hotel
- Rotary Club of Negril
- Samuels’ Hardware
- Sheffield Primary
- Skylark Negril Beach Resort
- The Cliffs
- Whitehall Association
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