



2007, September 21

### JTB participates in the first ever Caribbean Week in Canada

The Jamaica Tourist Board (JTB) is all set to participate in the first staging of Caribbean Week in Toronto, Canada from September 26 -30. The JTB will be setting up a booth to promote the island at Dundas Square while the Director of Tourism, Basil Smith and the Deputy Director of Tourism, Marketing David Shields will participate in the media marketplace and travel shows. The Toronto Caribbean Week is designed to celebrate and highlight the unique attributes of the region and provides tourism interests the opportunity to promote special vacation offers. Activities during the week include a Caribbean Media Marketplace, Caribbean Lifestyle Cooking Classes, the Toronto Travel Show and the Governments of the Caribbean Gala and Awards Presentation

[For further visit: [www.caribbeanweek.ca](http://www.caribbeanweek.ca) ]

### Jamaica among eight nations in round-the-world yacht race

Jamaica is among eight countries involved in a nation versus nation, 35,000 mile Clipper Round-the-World Race which started on Sunday, September 16th from Liverpool in England. Amateur crews on ten 68-foot yachts representing eight nations have all placed their fate in just one professional, the skipper, whose role it is to lead his team to victory. National pride is at stake as this is the longest race in the world where cities and nations go head to head. Last year Jamaica welcomed the fleet in Port Antonio for five days, however this is the first time that Jamaica is participating in the race. The island's involvement was initiated by the Jamaica Tourist Board (JTB) and the Jamaica yacht has been branded with the JTB's brand mark **JAMAICA** and the JTB's tagline: *Once You Go, You Know*. Other participants are England, Scotland, Canada, South Africa, the USA, Australia, Singapore and China.

The Clipper Race comprises ten 'legs' and will last for ten months with stopovers in Europe, USA, Africa and Asia. The fleet's estimated time of arrival in Jamaica is May 19, 2008.

For further information visit: [www.clipperroundtheworld.com](http://www.clipperroundtheworld.com) ]

### Temporary WHTI waiver will end on September 30

Effective October 1, 2007 American citizens travelling by air to Jamaica must once again present a passport to re-enter the United States. This after the Department of Homeland Security granted a temporary waiver of the passport requirement rule. The waiver concludes on September 30. The new passport rule was first implemented on January 23 and required Americans travelling by air to Canada, Mexico, the Caribbean and Bermuda to present a passport upon re-entry into the United States. The waiver soon became necessary however following significant backlogs in the processing of passports for applicants. The backlog became particularly acute in the summer when many Americans wanted to travel.

[For more information visit: <http://travel.state.gov/>]

### Farewell Dinner for Air Jamaica

The Jamaican Diaspora UK in association with the Jamaican High Commission will be hosting a Community Appreciation and Farewell Dinner in honour of the island's national carrier, Air Jamaica. The dinner is to show appreciation to the airline for their years of faithful service to their UK clients. As at October 28, 2007, Air Jamaica will cease operating out of London as part of the airline's cost-cutting measures. The route had been sold to Virgin Atlantic in May this year. The farewell dinner is scheduled to take place on Friday 28th September at the Holiday Inn, Kensington Forum Hotel in London.

[For further information telephone: 020 7808 8020 or email: [psimpson@janouk.com](mailto:psimpson@janouk.com)]

### Jamaican Jerk Festival for Florida September 23

The sixth staging of South Florida's Jamaican Jerk Festival will take place on Sunday, September 23, at Markham Park, Sunrise in Florida. The family fun-filled activity is a celebration of authentic Jamaican jerk in its various forms including jerk lobster and jerk ice cream. The event includes a Jerk Cook-Off by renowned chefs, Cultural Displays, Live Entertainment, Domino, Cricket & Netball Competitions and a Children's Fun Zone. Byron Lee and the Dragonaires will be the featured entertainment for this year.

[For further information visit [www.jerkfestival.com](http://www.jerkfestival.com) ]

**Thursday, Sept. 27 is World Tourism Day**

Thursday, September 27 is being recognised globally as World Tourism Day. It will be celebrated under the theme: *Tourism Opens Doors for Women*. World Tourism Day 2007 is seen as an occasion to celebrate women's achievements in the tourism sector and to stimulate continuous action in support of United Nation's 3rd Millennium Development Goal: Promoting Gender Equality and Women Empowerment. Jamaica's newly appointed Minister of Tourism, Edmund Bartlett will make his first televised address to the nation on the day.

[For further information visit: <http://www.unwto.org/wtd/index.php>]

**For details on these and other information of relevance to the JTB and the tourist industry please visit our information portal at [www.itbonline.org](http://www.itbonline.org)**

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