

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEW NON-STOP SOUTHWEST SERVICE FROM KANSAS CITY TOUCHES DOWN IN JAMAICA

Flights to Improve Ease of Travel to Jamaica from the U.S. Midwest



Pictured: Christoper Wright, Business Development Officer, Jamaica Tourist Board at the gate for the Southwest inaugural flight from Kansas City International Airport to Montego Bay.

MONTEGO BAY, JAMAICA, October 26, 2023 – Jamaica is pleased to have welcomed new non-stop air service from Kansas City International Airport (MCI) in Missouri to Montego Bay's Sangster International Airport (MBJ) by Southwest Airlines on Saturday, October 7. This service is a continuation of the country's efforts to build out new gateways and provide more convenient access to the island for U.S. travellers coming from the Midwest. The new flight is scheduled to operate weekly on Saturdays.

"The midwestern United States is a growing and vital market for Jamaica and we are excited to see carriers such as Southwest Airlines expand their service to our island paradise," said the Hon. Edmund Bartlett, Minister of Tourism, Jamaica. "We want to continue to make getting to Jamaica as seamless as possible. Southwest Airlines is an outstanding partner in helping us achieve this goal, as evidenced by its continued gateway growth."

The new flight is the only non-stop service to Jamaica from the Kansas City market, opening this important area to the destination. With the addition of this new flight, Southwest now has seven

gateways into Jamaica flying from Baltimore, Chicago, Fort Lauderdale, Houston, Kansas City, Orlando and St. Louis.



Pictured: Airline, Tourism and Airport Representatives on the tarmac at Kansas City International Airport for the inaugural flight take-off.

"Jamaica has a unique vibe and culture that not only distinguishes the destination from all others, but makes visitors want to visit over and over again," said Donovan White, Director of Tourism, Jamaica Tourist Board. "Thanks in large part to the partnership we are grateful to enjoy with Southwest Airlines, we are able to bring more people to experience our island home from more midwestern U.S. gateways."

For additional information on the new Southwest service or to book a flight, visit www.southwest.com.

For more information on Jamaica, please go to www.visitjamaica.com.

ABOUT JAMAICA TOURIST BOARD

The Jamaica Tourist Board (JTB), founded in 1955, is Jamaica's national tourism agency based in the capital city of Kingston. JTB offices are also located in Montego Bay, Miami, Toronto and Germany and London. Representative offices are located in Berlin, Spain, Italy, Mumbai and Tokyo.

In 2022, the JTB was declared 'World's Leading Cruise Destination,' 'World's Leading Family Destination' and 'World's Leading Wedding Destination' by the World Travel Awards, which also named it the 'Caribbean's Leading Tourist Board' for the 15th consecutive year; and the 'Caribbean's Leading Destination' for the 17th consecutive year; as well as the 'Caribbean's Leading Nature Destination' and the 'Caribbean's Best Adventure Tourism Destination.' In addition, Jamaica earned seven awards in the prestigious gold and silver categories at the 2022 Travvy Awards, including "Best Wedding Destination – Overall', 'Best Destination – Caribbean,' 'Best Culinary Destination – Caribbean,' 'Best Tourism Board – Caribbean,' 'Best Travel Agent Academy Program,' 'Best Cruise Destination - Caribbean' and 'Best Wedding Destination –

Caribbean.' Jamaica is home to some of the world's best accommodations, attractions and service providers that continue to receive prominent global recognition.

For details on upcoming special events, attractions and accommodations in Jamaica, go to the JTB's website at www.visitjamaica.com or call the Jamaica Tourist Board at 1-800-JAMAICA (1-800-526-2422). Follow the JTB on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Pinterest and YouTube. View the JTB blog at wisitjamaica.com/blog.

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