



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Director of Tourism Congratulates New JHTA President

**KINGSTON, JAMAICA, November 9, 2022** – Director of Tourism, Jamaica, Donovan White, has extended congratulations and best wishes for success to the new President of the Jamaican Hotel and Tourist Association (JHTA), Robin Russell. Russell takes the helm from Clifton Reader, Vice President, Palace Resorts, Jamaica and Turks and Caicos Islands, who held the position for two years.

“I would like to join our Minister of Tourism, the Hon. Edmund Bartlett, in offering sincerest congratulations to Robin Russell for earning his new position as President of the JHTA,” said Donovan White, Director of Tourism, Jamaica Tourist Board (JTB). Mr. Russell has proven himself to be a leader in the Jamaican hospitality community, having made exemplary strides during the pandemic towards bringing tourism back to Jamaica. I look forward to what he may accomplish in this new role with full confidence that he will continue to create a positive impact on the tourism and hospitality industries.”

Mr. Russell is a proprietor of Deja Resort, a family run all-inclusive resort in Montego Bay. He is also a director of the Montego Bay Chamber of Commerce and Industry and has recently served as chairman of the Montego Bay Chapter of the JHTA. A long-standing entrepreneur, Mr. Russell has an excellent track record of success in the tourism industry.

Other elected members of the JHTA include 1st Vice President, Chris Jarrett, of Altamont Court; 2nd Vice President, Vana Taylor, who continues to represent Ocho Rios; 3rd Vice President, Karen Lanigan, of Couples Resorts; and 4th Vice President, Shernett Crichton, of Half Moon.

For more information about Jamaica, please go to [www.visitjamaica.com](http://www.visitjamaica.com).

#### **ABOUT THE 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 London. Representative offices are located in Berlin, Barcelona, Rome, Amsterdam, Mumbai, Tokyo and Paris.

In 2021, the JTB was declared ‘World’s Leading Cruise Destination,’ ‘World’s Leading Family Destination’ and ‘World’s Leading Wedding Destination’ for the second consecutive year by the World Travel Awards, which also named it the ‘Caribbean’s Leading Tourist Board’ for the 14th consecutive year; and the ‘Caribbean’s Leading Destination’ for the 16th consecutive year; as well as the ‘Caribbean’s Best Nature Destination’ and the ‘Caribbean’s Best Adventure Tourism Destination.’ In addition, Jamaica was awarded four gold 2021 Travvy Awards, including ‘Best Destination, Caribbean/Bahamas,’ ‘Best Culinary Destination –Caribbean,’ ‘Best Travel Agent Academy Program,’; as well as a *TravelAge West* WAVE award for ‘International Tourism Board Providing the Best Travel Advisor Support’ for a record-setting 10<sup>th</sup> time. In 2020, the Pacific Area Travel Writers Association (PATWA) named Jamaica the 2020 ‘Destination of the

Year for Sustainable Tourism'. In 2019, TripAdvisor® ranked Jamaica as the #1 Caribbean Destination and #14 Best Destination in the World. 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](http://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 [www.islandbuzzjamaica.com](http://www.islandbuzzjamaica.com).