

USEFUL INFORMATION – JAMAICA FEAST SITE

JAMAICA CURRENCY

Currently, one US dollar = 134.97 Jamaican dollars. Virtually all vendors will accept US dollars, but you will likely receive change in Jamaican dollars. For reference, if you see something priced at \$2,000 Jamaican, that is about \$14.82 USD. \$100 USD will get you \$13,497.00 Jamaican dollars.

CREDIT CARD FOREIGN TRANSACTION FEES

Many U.S. credit card companies/banks charge a foreign transaction fee (usually 3% of transaction amount) for purchases made in currency other than U.S. dollars. Check with your credit card company or bank.

JAMAICA—A SUNNY TROPICAL ISLAND

Jamaica is a beautiful tropical island with lush vegetation, swaying palms, beautiful flowers, and wide beaches. Enjoy it to the fullest degree! We don't want anything to detract from your enjoyment, so remember your **sunscreen** and **bug repellent** to keep away those less than desirable things that go along with a tropical environment. You can purchase these items at the hotel but they are much more expensive.

Daytime temperatures should be in the upper 80's/low 90's with quite a bit of humidity. Hotel rooms, meeting hall and two restaurants are air-conditioned; the other restaurants, bars, lobby area are not.

TAXI SERVICE

If you plan to use a taxi service while on the island, **please plan to pay with cash**. Most taxi drivers cannot accept credit cards. Negotiating a rate **before** you get in the Taxi is best and saves time, money, and feelings.

HILTON RESORT INFORMATION

Electrical Outlets in Hotel Rooms

Hotel rooms are outfitted with U.S.-type 110 electrical outlets.

Dining and Amenities

The Hilton all-inclusive resort offers 24-hours a day all-inclusive service, including seven distinct restaurants, several bars and an array of leisure and entertainment options. (Room Service is extra) Please note some restaurants require a reservation 24 hours in advance. For more information on what Hilton offers, visit their website at <https://www.rosehallresort.com/resort/dining>.

UCG GROUP ACTIVITIES AND INFORMATION

We will be using PowerPoint to display the hymns; however, if you require a hymnal, you will need to bring your own personal copy.

Dress for Services

Dress for services is Sabbath-wear as is the custom in the US and Canada. For men who are speaking or song-leading, a suit or sports coat is appropriate; otherwise, slacks with a dress shirt and tie are fine.

Location for Services

All services, the Bible Study, and the Seminars will be held in the air conditioned ballroom below the lobby in the Hilton Rose Hall. The ballroom is on the ground floor in the West wing of the Hilton.

Sabbath Services Before the Feast

There will be Sabbath services at the Hilton in the ballroom on October 12 at 2:30 PM. Sabbath services will be also be held in the Kingston and Ocho Rios congregations. For times and locations, go to <http://caribbean.ucg.org/content/jamaica-congregations>.

Opening Night Service

The opening service will take place Sunday, October 13, at 7:30 PM.

Holy Day Offerings

Holy Day offerings will be collected on the first and last days of the Feast. Checks must be made out to “**UCGIA - Jamaica Limited**.” Your offering will help finance congregational expenses for our three Jamaica congregations for the rest of the year. We humbly ask you to invest in God’s work in Jamaica.

If U.S. members traveling abroad want their Holy Day offerings to be included in their end-of-year donation receipt for tax purposes, they are encouraged to mail their offerings directly to the home office in Cincinnati, before or after the Feast. In this way, your contributions will be appropriately receipted and reported to the IRS, allowing you to take a tax deduction at year-end.

Family/Youth Days – Tuesday, October 15 and Thursday, October 17

Tuesday, October 15 and Thursday, October 17 are designated as Family/Youth Days. During these days, “Day Passes” to the Hilton will be provided to all the Jamaican brethren, so they can join us for meals, activities, and fellowship, -- they will have access to all Hilton facilities for the day (except for guest rooms). There are no off-site activities planned for these days so that we can maximize the fellowship and really get to know the Jamaican brethren.

Bible Study – Wednesday, October 16, 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM

This will be an interactive study. Mr. Anthony Coore will be conducting the Bible Study.

Bible Study – Friday, October 18, 6:30 PM – 7:30 PM

This will be an interactive study. Dr. Brian Hoselton will be conducting the Bible Study.

Seminar – Saturday, October 19, 6:00 PM – 6:00 PM

There will be a seminar held in the Hilton Ballroom on Saturday night. Mr. Robert Fahey will be conducting the seminar.

Families Helping Families

Each year, many overseas brethren ask how they can assist the local brethren in Jamaica. Families Helping Families was designed to provide an outlet for those who do want to assist. This year, donations to this program will go toward the cost of proclaiming the gospel throughout the year as well as the day passes for local brethren. Donations can be made through the business office. For more information please email sierra.stewart@outlook.com .

Use Wisdom and Stay Safe

Like every country, Jamaica has its fair share of crime. Overall, we will be located in a safe area, but please follow the same safety precautions you would follow in any other country. Some safety tips:

- Never leave the resort property alone.
- If approached with dubious offers, utter a polite but firm “no-thank you:” without stopping or slowing down. Ignore catcalls; keep walking briskly and with purpose.
- Stick to public areas, out in the open where you can be seen by many people.
- Never go off with any unfamiliar person outside of our group—especially alone.