

Jamaica
Home of Reggae Music, Rastafarians, and Blue Mountain Coffee
Dec 4-9, 2022

Itinerary:

Please plan to meet at the Prestige Hotel near the Kingston Airport on the night of December 4. There is no hotel shuttle, but it's only a 30 min taxi ride from the airport. We will plan on meeting for dinner and a brief orientation in the hotel's lobby at 6 PM. Dinner and the hotel tonight are included in the trip cost.

Day 1 (Monday, Dec 5) Hellshire, Hope Botanical Gardens, Blue Mountains

After breakfast we will make our way to Hellshire Hills just west of Kingston where our main targets will be the local Jamaican subspecies of the **Bahama Mockingbird** and **Yellow (Golden) Warbler**, while we may also be lucky with **Stolid Flycatcher** (a Greater Antillean endemic), **Jamaican Oriole**, and **Jamaican Vireo**. Then we'll make our way to Hope Botanical Gardens where we'll search for Jamaica's two endemic parrots (**Yellow-billed Amazon** and **Black-billed Amazon**) as well as **Antillean Palm-Swift**. After lunch we'll work our way up the Blue Mountains, our destination for the next two days. **Night in Blue Mountains.**

Day 2 (Tuesday, Dec 6) Hardware Gap, Coffee Tour, Blue Mountains

After an early breakfast we'll make our way to Hardware Gap in the nearby John Crow and Blue Mountains National Park. Bird species that are more likely in the central mountain range include **Jamaican** and **Greater Antillean Elaenia**, **Jamaican Pewee**, **Blue Mountain Vireo**, and **Red-billed Streamertail**. After lunch we'll stop for a short tour of Blue Mountain Coffee, before we head back to the Blue Mountains to continue our search for Jamaica's endemic species. **Night in Blue Mountains.**

Day 3 (Wednesday, Dec 7) Section, Blue Mountains, San Antonio

After breakfast we continue our search for Blue Mountain specials we still need to see before we start traveling to the coastal town of Port Antonio where we'll spend the next two nights. After we have settled into our hotel, we'll look for **Black-billed Streamertail**, a close relative of the **Red-billed Streamertail**. If there's time, trip participants may choose to spend some time swimming and snorkeling at the nearby San San Beach. **Night in Port Antonio.**

Day 4 (Thursday, Dec 8) Ecclesdown Road, Reach Falls, Hector River

We start the day at Ecclesdown Road, a fantastic location where we will hopefully see most of Jamaica's endemic species we still need. Of particular interest will be **Jamaican Blackbird**, **Crested Quail-Dove**, **Jamaican Tody**, **Jamaican Becard**, and **Arrow-headed Warbler**, which are somewhat harder elsewhere on the island. After enjoying the views at Reach Falls, we'll enjoy a traditional late lunch before heading over to Hector River to look for **White-tailed Tropicbirds**. **Night in Port Antonio.**

Day 5 (Friday, Dec 9) Travel to Kingston, return flights

Today we drive back to Kingston for our return flights that evening, stopping as necessary for any species we may have missed the previous few days. Trip ends after lunch in Kingston.

**Order of days in itinerary may change if logistically necessary*