

# The Cottage at Te Moana Fact Sheet

This sheet is intended to serve as a summary of some of the more mundane considerations that might be important in planning your holiday. The cottage comes fully appointed, with 100% cotton sheets and towels, cutlery, appliances and hot water. We recommend The Lonely Planet Guide to Jamaica as a most informative guidebook.

- Airport -** If possible, arrive in Montego Bay – it is a much easier drive, even with the works on the North Coast Highway. From Europe, British Airways only goes to Kingston; Virgin Atlantic (Tue. & Sat.) fly non-stop to Mobay.
- Getting to Te Moana –** Unless you hire a car at the airport, you can usually haggle a taxi driver into bringing you for US\$80-100, or take a “tourist” bus to “Hermosa, Pineapple Place”. If the driver looks blank, he will know Sandals, Ocho Rios (not Dunn’s River), which is 2 minutes from the Cottage (c. US\$25 pp.).
- Electricity –** Mains electricity that supplies the house is 110V A/C at 50Hz (same as U.S.A.).
- Appliances –** The kitchen is fully equipped, with fridge, 4-burner stove with oven, blender, toaster, pots, pans, crockery, cutlery, Cafetière coffee maker and utensils.
- Drinking Water –** Mains water is potable in most parts of Jamaica, and certainly at Te Moana. Bottled water is available at all supermarkets and grocery stores.
- Money Exchange –** The Jamaican dollar is the official currency, and the best rates are to be found at “cambios” throughout Jamaica, although the ones at the airports are a rip-off. They deal in all major currencies. Ubiquitous ATM’s are another source of J\$ & US\$ cash. Credit cards are widely accepted in major towns and resort areas, as are US\$ cash and travellers cheques; European currencies and Canadian \$ less so.
- Internet Access –** Complimentary wireless high-speed internet access is available in the cottage. If you decide to leave your laptop behind, access is available at a reasonable cost at Cable & Wireless’s outlet in Island Plaza, downtown Ocho Rios. E-mail messages can be sent and received through us at [info@harmonyhall.com](mailto:info@harmonyhall.com).
- Passport/Visa Requirements –** A passport with validity of more than 6 months is required. Since December 31, 2006, all US & Canadian citizens need a valid passport to re-enter the United States. No visas are required for stays of less than 6 months.
- Bugs, Creepy-Crawlies, etc. –** Mosquitoes are not a major problem, but bring insect repellent if you are sensitive. Lizards are ubiquitous, charming and keep many little flying objects at bay. Despite regular spraying and cleaning, the odd cockroach may appear. Snakes, scorpions, 40-leggers and similar nasties are extremely rare.
- Medical Facilities –** There are excellent doctors and well stocked, if expensive, pharmacies in Ocho Rios. There is a good basic hospital in St. Ann’s Bay (20 minutes away), better facilities in Montego Bay, and excellent private hospitals in Kingston and at Half Moon, Montego Bay. An air ambulance can be arranged out of Montego Bay.
- Things to Bring –** The lifestyle is very laid-back. Shorts and t-/polo shirts are the order of the day. If you like to dress for dinner, think no further than long trousers or jeans. Jamaica Inn and some of the “gourmet” restaurants in the hotels may require a jacket. Whatever you feel most comfortable in will be appropriate. There is a boom box in the house, with radio, cassette and CD player. Bring your own CD’s. There is an eclectic collection of books, mostly in English. We are very happy to add to our library if you don’t want to carry your latest potboiler home.
- Air Conditioning –** Air conditioning is unnecessary – the trade winds and ceiling fans provide all the necessary cooling.
- Transport -** Cars can be hired at both international airports or in Ocho Rios. Rates vary, but reckon on about US\$500/week for a small car. We can recommend several charming and reliable local taxi divers.