To do so they must complete an extension of stay form and submit same along with the acceptance letter from the educational institution addressed to the Chief Executive Officer of PICA. Student status is granted for the duration of the programme of study or to the expiry date of the passport, whichever comes first. This process attracts a non-refundable processing fee of \$10,000.00.

Please note that the re-entry visa and registration requirements mentioned above also apply to students.

For further information visit our website at: www.pica.gov.jm

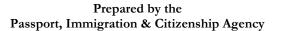


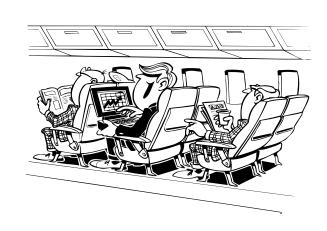
Ackee Jamaica's National Fruit



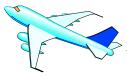
Information for travel to Jamaica







Landing requirements for travel to Jamaica



The landing requirements for persons seeking to enter Jamaica may vary according to the purpose of travel. Nevertheless, there are cer-

tain basic requirements that every passenger must fulfil in order to obtain "leave to land" or to be admitted into the island. These include:

- O Passport (validity of which must extend beyond the passenger's intended length of stay in the island)
- O Visa (where applicable)
- O Sufficient funds for duration of stay in Jamaica
- O Return ticket for persons on short visit (either for onward journey to a country where the passenger has legal status or for return to passenger's homeland)
- O Any other supporting documents which may assist in the interview process; for example: an invitation from an organization to attend a meeting in Jamaica.

Other factors such as health and security risks may also be taken into account.

Nationals from non-Commonwealth countries would need to obtain a visa for travel to Jamaica. No visa is required for nationals of Commonwealth countries, save for a few exceptions: Pakistan; Sri Lanka; Nigeria; British Virgin Islands and Cayman Islands. Visa should be obtained at a Jamaican consulate or embassy prior to the individual's arrival in the island.

Immigration requirements for someone taking up an employment offer in Jamaica

Any foreign national (Commonwealth and non-Commonwealth) who is coming to Jamaica to work must be in possession of a work permit letter issued by the Ministry of Labour and Social Security as stipulated by the Foreign Nationals and Commonwealth Citizens (Employment) Act.

It is important to note that the prospective employee must obtain the work permit letter before coming to Jamaica. The letter usually gives a time period within which the individual is required to have his/her passport endorsed by the Passport, Immigration and Citizenship Agency (PICA). If that date expires before this is done then the work permit letter must be re-issued (revalidated) by the Ministry of Labour and Social Security.

Extension of Stay

Having obtained a work permit letter and satisfying the landing requirements as highlighted earlier, one would now need to initiate the process of regularising his or her stay on the island. That is, the traveller would need to apply for permission to have his/her immigration status adjusted to permit him/her to work.

To regularise one's stay the traveller would need to visit the Passport, Immigration and Citizenship Agency at:

25c Constant Spring Road, Kingston 10

Or Overton Plaza, 49 Union Street, Montego Bay;

This must be done within the time given by the Immigration Officer at the port of entry.

Upon visiting the office, the following forms must be completed:

- O Application for Extension of Stay
- O Alien Registration Card (where applicable)

Re-entry Visa

Note that a re-entry visa is issued to nationals of non-Commonwealth countries as well as citizens of Commonwealth countries on whom a visa requirement has been imposed and who are residing in Jamaica. The visa facilitates their reentry into the island once they have departed with the intention of returning. The current fee for a re-entry visa varies from \$500.00 to \$2,000.00 and is also dependent on the nationality.

Registration

Nationals of non-Commonwealth countries over the age of sixteen and who will be residing in Jamaica for more than six months are required to be registered. The process includes completing an alien registration card and submitting same along with 2 passport-sized photographs or 3 photographs if residing outside of Kingston and St. Andrew. A registration fee of \$2,000.00 is applicable.

The processing time for extension of stay is three (3) business days for applications submitted in Kingston and seven (7) days for those submitted at the Montego Bay office. A non-refundable processing fee of \$10,000.00 is applicable.

Information for students



Anyone wishing to pursue his or her studies in Jamaica must ensure that they have an original letter of acceptance from a locally accredited academic institution granting admission.

The student will be landed initially as a visitor to the island and is required thereafter to visit our offices either in Kingston or Montego Bay and apply for his/her status to be changed to that of "student".