



21st CARIBBEAN GEOLOGICAL CONFERENCE

The Jamaica Pegasus Hotel, Kingston, Jamaica

July 20-23, 2020

Hosted by the Geological Society of Jamaica

First Circular (revised) and Call for Abstracts

The **Geological Society of Jamaica** has the pleasure to invite the geological community to participate in the **21st Caribbean Geological Conference** which will be held in Kingston, Jamaica, in July 2020. This is also the 65th anniversary of the founding of the Society and we are proud to be able to host this important event. The conference is committed to sharing research and new information on all aspects of geology and the earth sciences.

The conference will include oral and dedicated poster presentations, workshops and pre- and post-conference field trips. The conference venue will be **The Jamaica Pegasus Hotel** which is situated in New Kingston, Jamaica. Accommodation can be found at the conference venue and 'cheap' accommodation will also be arranged at the Mona Campus of the University of the West Indies (with a shuttle bus service to the conference venue).

A provisional time table for the conference is provided below:

18 th -19 th July	Pre-conference field trips
20 th July	Day 1: conference sessions
20 th July	Evening Ice breaker
21 st July	Day 2: conference sessions
22 nd July	Day 3: conference sessions
23 rd July	Conference workshops and post-conference field trips
24 th July	Post conference field trip(s)

Abstracts for oral and poster presentations are invited on any suitable topic of interest to the geological community as well as to closely aligned subjects. It is expected that the conference will be run as a series of thematic sessions. We welcome additional suggests for sessions and anyone wishing to organize a session should contact the organizing committee. Suggestions for sessions are as follows (but the list should not be regarded as exhaustive):

Alternative energy	Hydrogeology	Palaeoecology
Coastal Zone Management	Hydrology & Hydrological	Petroleum Geology
Engineering Geology	Modeling	Sedimentology
Environmental Geology and	Igneous Petrology	Seismology
Geohazards	Marine Geology	Stratigraphy
Geoarchaeology and Geoheritage	Metallic Ores & Industrial	Tectonics & geology of the
Geochemistry	Minerals	Caribbean
Geology of Jamaica	Metamorphic Petrology	Volcanism
Geophysics	Oceanography	Water Resources
Geoscience Education	Palaeoclimatology	
Geotechnical Studies	Palaeontology	

Field Trips. The conference will organize a series of pre-conference and post-conference field trips. There will be a series of one-day field trips as well as one two-day field trip. A provisional list of field trips is indicated here. Space will be limited, and a place can only be guaranteed once payment has been received.

Field Trip 1 (one day). The Wag Water Belt and the Newcastle Volcanics (Jamaican Type Adakites). This trip will briefly examine the geology of the Wag Water Belt. Field stops will include: red-bed conglomerates of the Wag Water Formation, marine shales of the 'Richmond' facies of the Wag Water Formation, nodular limestones (with oysters and rare specimens of the foraminifer *Ramikoithalia*) and the Newcastle Volcanics. This trip will allow extra time for participants to collect samples of the Newcastle Volcanics which have been set up as a distinctive igneous rock-type now called Jamaican-Type Adakites (JTAs). The field trip will travel from Kingston along the Irish Town road to Catherine's Peak, and there are excellent views over the city of Kingston from here.

Field Trip 2 (one day). Mid Maastrichtian-early Paleocene of the Central Inlier. The Central Inlier exposes the second largest area of Cretaceous rocks in Jamaica with excellent exposures of the mid-Maastrichtian to early Paleocene Kellits Synthem. The Kellits Synthem is a major transgressive – regressive cycle that rests unconformably upon older Cretaceous rocks and is overlain unconformably by rocks of the Eocene Yellow Limestone Group. The field trip will examine exposures along the Rio Minho in the area surrounding the community of Frankfield in northern Clarendon. The succession begins with red bed conglomerates, passes up into estuarine (tidal) mudstones and then into rudist-bearing limestones. The limestones contain excellent examples of many late Cretaceous rudists including small radiolitids, larger radiolitids and the gigantic recumbent *Titanosarcolites*. The synthem is completed by a regressive succession as renewed volcanism supplied andesitic and dacitic detritus that rapidly filled the depositional basin. Active volcanism at this time is indicated by pumice and two thick ignimbrites.

Field Trip 3 (two days). Paleogene limestone blocks and belts of Jamaica. The Paleocene (particularly the Eocene) saw the development of a platform (shallow-water) and trough (deep-water) limestone stratigraphy in Jamaica related to a new stress regime as the Nicaragua Rise underwent extension. This is recorded in the successions seen in the Yellow Limestone and White Limestone groups, with changing patterns of shallow-water and deep-water marlstone and limestone succession accumulating over time. This field trip will explore areas in St Ann that show some of these successions and place them in their geotectonic settings. It will also examine recent sections exposed along the north-south Leg of Highway 2000. There will be opportunities to collect rock samples representing some of the distinctive facies developed in the Yellow Limestone and White Limestone groups of Jamaica.

Field Trip 4 (one day). Coastal geology of St Thomas. The rocks of the Coastal Group of St Thomas were deposited during the uplift of the island over the last 14 million years. This field trip will examine some of the distinctive clastic and carbonate rocks that were deposited and includes coral-rich limestone and deltaic deposits. This trip will also include a stop at the famous Boston Jerk Centre in Portland for a late lunch.

Field Trip 5 (one day). Lower Cretaceous in the Benbow Inlier. This would include rudist bivalves in Hauterivian through Albian limestones and volcanics (Island arc rocks). Also the unconformity between the Eocene and Lower Cretaceous.

Field Trip 6 (one day). Petroleum geology of Jamaica. This field trip will examine the source rock, reservoir and seal potential of rocks in Jamaica and the potential this has for active hydrocarbon systems.

Travel. Jamaica is served by two major international airports: Kingston Norman Manley (in Kingston) and Sangster (in Montego Bay) with flights to many destinations in the Caribbean, North America and Europe. It is more convenient to fly to Kingston Norman Manley for the conference, but connections to Sangster International Airport (about 3 hours) can be made using Knutsford Express (a coach company which can be booked online).

Visas. Many visitors to Jamaica do not need a visa for entry into the island. However, you should check to see if you need a visa early. Should you require a letter of invitation, the conference organizing committee can provide one once you have submitted an abstract. The conference organizing committee cannot arrange visas for travel to Jamaica.

Call for abstracts. The conference organizing committee welcomes the submission of abstracts at this time.

The submission deadline for abstracts is the 29th February 2019.

Abstracts should have a short but informative title (please avoid company names in the title), a list of authors, and the affiliation of the authors.

You should indicate whether you prefer an oral or a poster presentation

The body of the abstract should outline objectives, methods, results and conclusions of the research and should be no more than 500 words in length.

Please save your abstract under: lead authors surname and brief (3 word) title (e.g., ‘Smith Geology of Jamaica’)

Abstracts should be submitted to: GeolSocJamaicaConference@gmail.com

Submission of an abstract implies that at least one author will register for and attend the conference.

Important dates

31 st January	Full details of costs of conference and field trips
29 th February	Deadline for submission of abstracts
13 th March	Confirmation of acceptance of Abstracts
31 st March	Early Registration closes
18 th June	Late Registration closes
18 th -24 th July	Conference and field trips

Contact Information

Geological Society of Jamaica Website: <https://geologicalsocietyofjamaica.org/CaribGeolConference.html>

Email Address: GeolSocJamaicaConference@gmail.com

We look forward to welcoming you to Jamaica!