

'Life After JET'

Presentation by:
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Tuesday, February 27, 2007



General

The period leading up to your departure from Japan is usually a period of mixed emotions. There may be feelings of:

- Accomplishment & personal joy at contribution made;
- Fulfilment gained from promoting your country, its people and its culture overseas;
- Enthusiasm about being reunited with loved ones back home.



There may also be feelings of:

- Apprehension about returning and re-adjusting to life in Jamaica
- Concerns about personal, employment and career plans
- Confusion about next step



The Challenge of change

- Change is always a challenge
- It is normal to experience feelings of apprehension regardless of our age and level of maturity
- To return to our own environment after residing in a country, particularly one so vastly different from our own *can* be a real challenge



Preparing for the transition

- *Mental preparation* involves accepting the imminent change.
- This may be facilitated through contact with close relative and friends who may be able to offer assistance, advice and moral support
- Keeping abreast of current affairs by reading the Jamaican daily newspapers such as the *Gleaner* & JIS online, as well as listening to the radio.
For example, Power FM and Love 101 fm are broadcast live and free of cost internationally, and can be heard here in Japan.



Preparing for the transition

- *Physical preparation*, involves putting the necessary mechanisms in place to support mental preparation such as obtaining info. on job or educational opportunities, housing etc.

CLAIR will no doubt advise on how to finalise arrangements such as tax returns in Japan



Possible Areas of interest to Returning JETS

- Returning resident

Under Jamaican law, any Jamaican national over the age of 18 years who has lived overseas for a certain period of time, and who will be returning to reside permanently in Jamaica is considered *a returning resident*.

This entitles the person to concessions on personal, household effects and/or tools of trade. For further information see www.skillsreturn.gov.jm

Eligibility for concession as a returning resident is formally established by the Customs Department. This is determined after arrival in Jamaica and before commencing clearance of your personal effects.



Possible Areas of interest to Returning JETS

- The new machine readable passport

The Passport Office is currently in the process of phasing out the old format passport. A new CARICOM passport will also be implemented when the 'old' stock of machine-readable passport is exhausted. You may wish to consider obtaining either of the two (2) new machine readable passport through the Embassy or on your return to Jamaica.

Please contact the Embassy's website for further information:
www.jamaicaemb.jp



Possible Areas of interest to Returning JETS

- Visa requirement for transit countries

Please ensure that you have a valid visa for the country or countries through which you will be travelling en-route to Jamaica



Current economic, social and political climate of Jamaica

Major developments:

- ICC Cricket World Cup - CARICOM Visa Regime
- Political parties actively campaigning for general elections
- Economy is improving with significant advances in tourism, port development, mining, alumina and construction sectors, with more visible signs of recovery in the agricultural sector
- Construction of Highway 2000 progressing.



Current economic, social and political climate of Jamaica

Major developments:

- Crime & Violence remains a major area of concern. The Government remains resolute in its efforts to bring the matter under control.
- Health services improving particularly ' Drug for the Elderly ' Programme and on the HIV/AIDS situation. Malaria situation now under control
- Restoration of downtown Kingston
- Significant transformation in the educational system which could present attractive opportunities for returning JETs



Prospects for Employment

The major concern of returning JETs is perhaps employment on return to Jamaica

Current developments in the tourism sector, could provide good opportunities especially in larger hotel chains such Sandals & Superclubs, where knowledge of a foreign language and overseas working experience could be distinct Advantages.



Prospects for Employment

Opportunities also exist in the education sector. See list of website addresses for employment information.

Some JETs may be considering returning to Japan to continue teaching English.

A number of websites have been suggested :

www.jobsinjapan

www.daveseslcafe.com

www.interac.co.jp/recruit

It is understood that once hired, the particular company will assist in completing the necessary paper work and in finding suitable accommodation.



Employment: Some areas of interest – The Jamaican Foreign Service

The MFA&FT comprises its Headquarters and Eighteen (18) diplomatic missions and consular posts.

It is committed to inter alia:

- Promoting friendship & cooperation,*
- Peace & int'l security*
- Protecting the interest of J'can nationals overseas & returning residents*
- Projecting a positive image of Jamaica overseas and developing international relations*

Information on the Foreign Service may be obtained from
www.mfaft@cwjamaica.com



Employment: Some areas of interest

- Media – A list of media houses as well as contact information may be obtained from JAMPRO's website www.investjamaica.com

UNESCO – Information may be obtained from Jamaica's National Commission for UNESCO at e-mail: ncjam@unesco.org or tel.926 5480,fax. 929 4022

Information on adult literacy programmes may be obtained from UNESCO or the Ministry of Education, Youth & Culture at www.moeyc.gov.jm



Pursuing further studies

- Some JETs may be considering the possibility of pursuing higher education
- The Cabinet Office, as well as the Manpower & Planning Division of the Ministry of Finance provide information on scholarships.
- In addition, JETs may wish to explore the internet or check the Jamaican newspaper for information on scholarships & bursaries which may be offered from time to time.



Purchasing property

- There are many real estate agencies, banks and building societies which currently offer useful housing and financial advice.
- Some building societies also offer joint NHT loans & attractive interest rates for first time home owners.
- Prospective buyers are encouraged to consult with a reputable real estate agent in your search for suitable property



Shipment of personal effects

- Returning JETs would no doubt be interested in utilising the services of a reliable and cost-effective shipping service from Japan
- While the Embassy would not wish to recommend any particular service, it may be noted that Yamagin (e-mail: sato@yamagin.co.jp) and Yamatane (www.yamatane.co.jp or e-mail yhida@yamatane.co.jp) have shipped personal items for members of staff of the Embassy in the past.
- For additional information on shipping services from Japan see the Japanese yellow pages at www.yellowpages-jp.com
- A list of Custom brokers in Jamaica may be found either on the Custom Brokers Association website www.cbaj.org or in the Cable & Wireless directory at www.yellowpagesjamaica.com



Customs & Arrival procedures

- On arrival in Jamaica, it is important to declare all items purchased overseas and the price paid for them. Allowances and exemptions will be applied to articles which are properly declared. Certain items are prohibited entry into Jamaica
- Additional information on procedure may be obtained from the Jamaica Customs Department.



Investment options

- There are many available ways to invest savings. It is advised that contact be made with experienced investment bankers in order to evaluate the options available to you.
- In addition to the regular banks, there are institutions which specialise in investment. Some of these are:



Investment options

- Some of these are;
 - Dehring, Bunting and Golding – www.mydbg.com
 - Capital & Credit - www.capital-credit.com
 - First Global – www.firstglobal-bank.com
 - NCB Investments – www.jncb.com
 - Scotia Investments – www.scotiabank.com.jm



Maintaining Cultural links

- Jamaica & Japan established diplomatic relations in March 1964 and share excellent bilateral relations
- Jamaica's main import from Japan: motor vehicle, refrigerators, sewing machines, iron and steel, printers and photocopiers
- Jamaica's main export to Japan – Coffee, cocoa, pimento and rum



Maintaining Cultural links

The importance of maintaining cultural links with Japan is mutually beneficial.

- Returning JETs are encouraged to seek membership with the JET ALumni (jet-aa@clair.or.jp)
- Contact with institution and cultural centres in the respective prefectures
- Jamaican Embassy, Tokyo
- Embassy of Japan, Kingston



Useful websites:

- Jamaicans Overseas & Consular Affairs Department – www.skillsreturn.gov.jm
- General information on returning home – www.jamaicahomecoming.com
- Inland Revenue Department – www.jrs.gov
- Jamaica Information Service – www.jis.gov.jm
- Ministry of Education, Youth & Culture – www.moeyc.gov.hm
- Ministry of Foreign affairs & Foreign Trade – www.mfaft.gov.jm
- Trade Board – www.mct.gov.jm
- Jamaica Tourist Board – www.visitjamaica.com
- UWI, Mona – www.uwimona.edu.jm
- UTECH – www.utech.edu.jm



Useful websites:

- For vacancies in the public sector – www.lmis-ele.org.jm
- For vacancies in the private sector – www.jobbank-ja.com
- Custom Department – www.jacustoms.gov.jm
- Planning Institute of Jamaica – www.pioj.gov.jm
- Jamaica Promotion Ltd. (JAMPRO) – www.investjamaica.com
- National Housing Trust – www.nhtinc.org
- Victoria Mutual Building Society- www.vmbs.com
- Jamaica National Building Society – www.jnbs.com



Useful e-mail addresses

- Offices of the Services Commission – communication@osc.gov.jm
- Jamaica Customs – tricia@netscape.net
- Trade Board – tboard@colis.com
- Association of Jamaicans in Japan – Japan_Jaycan@yahoo.com
- JET Alumni – jet-aa@clair.or.jp



Finally...

- Please free to contact the Embassy for further assistance and advise.
- Thank you for your attention!!

The logo features the word "JAMAICA" in large, bold, light blue capital letters. Below it, the phrase "One Love" is written in a smaller, white, cursive script. The entire logo is centered within a semi-transparent light blue rectangular box.

JAMAICA
One Love