



**Six save Sodom! The headline that never was**

## Destination Jamaica: Landing in heaven at Bluefields Bay villas

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Percy, the van driver at Bluefields (Image: Jacquie Kubin) Photo by:

Wednesday, May 16, 2012 - Travel the World by Jacquie Kubin

Jacquie Kubin



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**PHOTO GALLERY:**

**WESTMORELAND, JAMAICA, May 17, 2012** – Regardless of how far you go, travel can still be stressful. The car and driver fail to show, resulting in a mad 0:30 dark dash to the airport. You leave your wallet on the plane, failing to notice until after you clear customs.

Your luggage is lost, you miss your connection, the TSA screeners burst out laughing when you go through the scanner.

It could all be a recipe for ulcers. Except when you get here. When you get here, you're in Heaven, and all the stresses of your trip are washed away into oblivion.

"Here" is Jamaica. More specifically, it's the Bluefields Bay Villas at

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### FEATURED NEIGHBORHOODS



12 Photos  
Bluefields Bay Villas,  
Jamaica

Westmoreland parish.

Everything here is on Jamaican time. That is, it is when it is. It is all "irie, mon." No problem. Time ebbs and flows to the rhythms of your heart, not to the metronome beat of a watch.

The only constants are the pounding of the surf and the generosity of the people.

The lost luggage, missed connection, and mirthful TSA screeners were, this time, just in the fevered imagination of a frequent traveler. The trip to the airport, sans the car service, was real, but it worked out, just barely.

Bruce at Montego Bay International Airport figuratively held my hand while keeping my spirits up with assurances that all would be well, and my wallet was returned safely and intact with broad smiles and wishes for a good day.

And then there was Percy, the driver from Bluefields Bay Villas waiting patiently for the forty-five minute drive to Westmoreland.

The end of that drive fully justified everything that came before. The drive itself was a pleasure, and we arrived at Bluefields with a thorough education in island horticulture, stopping to look at gardens, orchards, and native plants.

The Bluefields Bay Villas are six unique homes along a private waterfront. Each villa has its own stretch of beach for swimming, snorkeling or cloud watching, and each has its own personality. Largely designed inside and out by owner Debbie Moncure, the homes have open air designs outfitted with island and British influences, including antique Jamaican pieces that make Bluefields Bay the largest repository of such rarities in the in the world, according to A. Houston Moncure, our guide for this visit.

Learning that the inlaid wood table you just plopped your suitcase on is a priceless antique is unsettling, at least it was for me. But the table is there for you to use and enjoy, a useful feast for the eyes and hands.

This vacation spot lets you have as much privacy and solitude as you wish. If you want to sit down by the sea for some nude sunbathing, you are within you own private domain where no one will intrude unless you invite the intrusion. And if as you sit naked on that beach (but do keep a towel handy) you feel a sudden desire for pie, it will be delivered by Marvin, freshly made with natural local ingredients by Chef Rose.

Details take this place a step beyond fabulous. The Bluefields Bay Villas are all about the little things, the extra and unnecessary touches. Here your senses are treated by the antique embroidered napkins and table clothes set in the open air dining room, the hibiscus flowers in the baths and on the beds.

If anything else is wanted, it will be provided by an attentive and friendly staff that is there to ensure you are well fed, comfortable, and having an extraordinary day. On Jamaican Island time, of course.

Having three home-cooked, beautiful and delicious meals served to you every day adds a level of relaxation and family time to your vacation you just won't get in hotels that cater to large numbers, no matter how efficiently they do it. Here food is lovingly cooked, and the variety is wonderful. Rose and Sharon are artists of the stove and skillet. Their masterful hands create meals that are balanced,



## Leading Edge Legal Advice for Everyday Matters

Life Happens and the Law either protects you or foils you. Here you will learn how to stay ahead of the game.

### Workplace drug testing

Employment drug testing laws affect job applicants, those employed, and employers. You should be familiar with drug testing laws to assure your rights are protected and to avoid liability.

### Prom Time is Near: Responsibility for Teen Drinking --The Law and a Higher Calling.

Regrettably, legislators in our nation's capital and the surrounding jurisdictions of Maryland and Virginia, continue to give a free ride to parents who allow their under-age teenage children to drink in their homes.

### Renting Your Home Intelligently

Some landlords can be phenomenal, others, not so much. Here are some thoughts on maintaining harmony, protecting your rights, and enjoying your rented abode.

### Do I Have To Take it Back? Auto Recalls.

Since 1966, almost 300 million cars, trucks, buses, recreational vehicles, motorcycles and mopeds, as well as 43 million tires and 84 million pieces of motor vehicle equipment, including child seats, have been recalled to correct safety defects. YOU have an obligation.

## Politics of Raising Children

A slice of suburban family life from the diverse perspectives of a politically minded mom.

## End of the Day

As the sun sets, the day ends, thoughts crowd our minds...

## Appalachian Chronicles

Enjoy the musings of this irreverent and humorous Appalachian American student of life, using her own unique experience as the springboard.

## Ad Lib

Are there profound differences between the Left and the Right? You betcha.



## PHOTO GALLERIES



**Waldorf Astoria Park City**  
8 Photos



**Images from The Ferrari Club of America, Southwest Region show**  
Images from The Ferrari Club of America,

Southwest Region show  
47 Photos

beautifully plated, and filled with the flavors of the island.

This is Jamaican home-cooking with style. Marvelous Marvin (well, / think he's marvelous), the house headman is there to prepare a daiquiri, a snack, or bring you a bit of ice cream

The lunch that met us on our arrival was delightful and foretold of culinary delights to come. We were served a sesame chicken with a bit of island allspice and a shredded potato crepe. The crepe was crisp, yet still managed to sop up the juices from the chicken, which had been stewed with onions and green peppers

Take a walk along the ocean after your meal. There you'll find Nicholas and yet another Rose, ready to massage the stresses of the journey from shoulders made tense by carting luggage, a body made sore by hours on a plane that squeezes passengers and luggage into every cubic inch of space, seating passengers at uncomfortable angles with not an inch of personal space.

All of this, the stress and even its memory, is erased from muscle and soul to the sounds of cooing doves and crashing waves. The gentle strength of Nicholas' hands wipes away all that was wrong with the day.

An afternoon thunderstorm creates a perfect excuse for a nap on the romantically netted four-poster bed. The room's large double doors are open to the sea, letting in the gentle roar of the waves and the crash of thunder.

And so we begin our weeklong experience to learn more about Bluefields and Westmoreland, a once-thriving fishing village fighting its way back to self sufficiency as farmers and fisherman learn to live, once again, from the land and the sea. We will meet Patrick, a Peace Corp volunteer who has spent the last two years helping the area farmers and fisherman learn to grow, fish and sell foods and products in ways that are sustainable, while repairing the damage that was done in the past.

We will learn how one family, the Moncures of the Bluefields Villas and Washington, DC, works to provide not only an unparalleled vacation experience, but also to be a force for good within their Jamaican community.

Through their support of growth programs for local businesses, the local elementary school, and programs that encourage environmental awareness and sustainable fishing and agricultural methods, the Moncures seek to create livelihoods for families, development in their community, and to improve life for all.

It was tough getting here, but once we slid out of Percy's van, all that had happened became secondary to what we know will be coming.

Part Two: Food and family Jamaican Style - Cooking Jerk Chicken with James

[BLUEFIELDS BAY VILLAS](#) - JAMAICAN SEASIDE VILLAS 1-877-955-8993  
| [vacations@bluefieldsvillas.com](mailto:vacations@bluefieldsvillas.com)

BlueField Bay Villas are about 45 minutes, by car, from Montego Bay International Airport.

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Citizens of Sanford, Florida standing for  
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An exclusive look inside the Space Shuttle  
Endeavour's dismantling and decommissioning process.

12 Photos



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Slideshow**

Disney's Princess Half Marathon Weekend  
from Feb. 24-26 was a fairy tale tour around Walt Disney  
World in Florida. Follow along with photos from the half-  
marathon, kids' races and 5K. (Photos: Courtesy of  
runDisney)

36 Photos



**Gaylord Resort National Harbor:  
Love is in the air during Valentine's  
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**Mike Lapointe**

Great article Jacquie! Sounds like you are having a wonderful time!

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Like Reply



**Home Office Furniture**

Destination Jamaica: Landing in heaven at Bluefields Bay villas. No matter how seasoned a traveler is, it takes a mighty fine place to sometimes make it all worth

1 week ago

Like Reply



**Kristi o. Johnson**

Enjoy your trip and eat some Jerk Chicken for me! Kristi O. J.

1 week ago

Like Reply



**JWPicht**

I'm salivating. And now I'm going to go shop for Island cookbooks.

1 week ago

Like Reply



**Donna Rae**

We honeymooned in Jamaica 24 years ago this week and Jacquie has it just right. Go if you can.

1 week ago

Like Reply



**Anwaarabdalla**

Wow I wish I was there

1 week ago

Like Reply



**Julia G**

Amazing. On so many levels.

1 week ago

Like Reply



**Prem**

Loved the travel piece a ..lazy hazy days in Jamaica..in a dream villa  
Especially the caring, openhearted people.I remember the hit by Bobby Bloom in 1970  
Montego Bayconjuring up the perfect getawayGlad you followed your bliss

1 week ago

Like Reply



**VaskoK**

Great to see you are having a such a good time!

1 week ago

Like Reply



**Mary**

To know that a vacation has actually helped the local population must have created a sense of connection.  
That is the feeling conveyed here. We should all hope that wherever we travel we respect the local population  
and connect on a personal basis that affirms our humanity and belief that we are all connected, that we are  
what we do.

1 week ago

Like Reply



**Lori**

Wow! I wish I were there right now. Glad you are experiencing it. . . Sounds heavenly. :)

1 week ago

Like Reply



**SpeakLibertyNow**

I am jealous!

1 week ago

Like Reply



**catpoe**

I think you found your own slice of paradise. And well deserved too.

1 week ago

Like Reply



**Gayle Falkenthal**, Broadcaster turned PR pro with lots of opinions about how we communicat...

Reading this delicious review reminds me that I need a vacation, and exactly why we go on vacation in the  
first place. You did this heavenly place justice, Jacquie!

1 week ago

Like Reply



**Martha**

Sounds super, Jacquie, and the beach and its lack of attire reminds me wistfully of one on St.Maarten which I  
enjoyed totally!!! Talk about freedom.....and it was only topless. Shhhhh.

1 week ago

Like Reply



**Claire**

Wow! That DOES sound like Heaven! It's just what you've needed for a long time. It's now on Claire's Official  
Bucket List. Enjoy!! :D

1 week ago

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