

Casa Maria St. Mary - The Ulitmate Seduction

You feel a need to get off the treadmill, escape the hustle and bustle of daily living and head to a place and space where you are cradled by nature and pampered by the hotel staff. You want to see Jamaica, and immerse yourself in its unforgettably unique culture. Casa Maria is calling you.

Casa Maria, in the quaint town of Port Maria, along the St. Mary coast is just a stone's throw away from the major tourist resort town of Ocho Rios, offers the ultimate in seduction. Exotic, far-away, but not too-outlandishly-distant, affordable, serene and far removed from all commercial hassles. Here you come face to face with Mother Nature in all her glory.

You wake up to indescribable sunrises, enjoy sumptuous meals on a balcony outside your room, with a view overlooking beautiful white sand beaches, and at the end of the day, rosy sunsets are yours to enjoy. The Casa Maria Hotel is perfect for the real Jamaican experience, offering secluded simplicity with breathtaking natural beauty.

The Hotel has one of the most outstanding beach front and hillside views in the entire island, and prides itself on having the friendliest, most courteous staff. You can easily spend an entire week at the Hotel, enjoying the pool, beach or just walking into town, literally without being disturbed. Only 16 miles from Ocho Rios, yet a world apart from the hustle and bustle of other crowded tourist attractions, Casa Maria is the only hotel in Jamaica facing East directly into the Tradewinds.

The Hotel's rooms are kept refreshingly cool compliments of Mother Nature, with constant sea breeze blowing directly off the waters. Away from major commercial activities, the loudest sound to be heard is the surf crashing on the nearby reef.

Located on 25 acres with lush, green lawns and coconut, banana, plantain, ackee, grapefruit, pineapple and avocado trees –all available to the guests - Casa Maria is truly a great escape: an escape from the ordinary high rise hotel with jangling phones and blaring T.V., from fast food and bland fare, from the hustle of 'tourist Jamaica', from urban overdrive.

Several interesting historical attractions are within walking distance from the Hotel. Firefly, former home and studio of British-born playwright, songwriter and actor, Sir Noel Coward, is just a stone's throw away. Fort Haldane, a striking example of the early 1800 English Coastal Forts that guarded Jamaica's principal harbors from Spanish raids, can be found at a corner's turn.

Port Maria, the capital city of St. Mary, is a short drive away, with its well-preserved examples of early English architecture, including the St. Mary Parish Church (Anglican), the St. Mary Baptist Church, and the Civic Centre. The Civic Centre provides historical data and showcases the architectural remains of the parish's old Court House, and faces the St. Mary Parish Library, which hosts the national monument to Tacky, a maroon rebel leader.

Port Maria itself is rich in history. It was once a booming town and major shipping point for bananas and coconuts, but is now a sleepy fishing village. In fact Belafonte's famous Banana Boat song is from a chant sung by the workers as they loaded the banana boats in the harbors of Port Maria, Oracabessa and Port Antonio. Noel Coward made his home here (directly above the hotel) as did Ian Fleming and Errol Flynn. The 007 bar at Casa Maria was thus named because Ian Fleming was a regular patron at the bar.

Escape to a place of quiet peace with ample opportunities to meet the average Jamaican in their natural surroundings, to the stimulating taste of genuine Jamaican cuisine, to beautiful beaches and bright, smiling staff. Get a real taste of Jamaican life. Come to Casa Maria Hotel.

For more information, check their website at www.nwas.com/casamaria or call 876-725-0156/7 or 876-831-1107. To book tickets to come to Jamaica, check Trafalgar Travel Limited at www.trafalgaronline.com