

# Montego Bay Jamaica VTriP

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### Geosci 10

#### My Jamaican Vacation

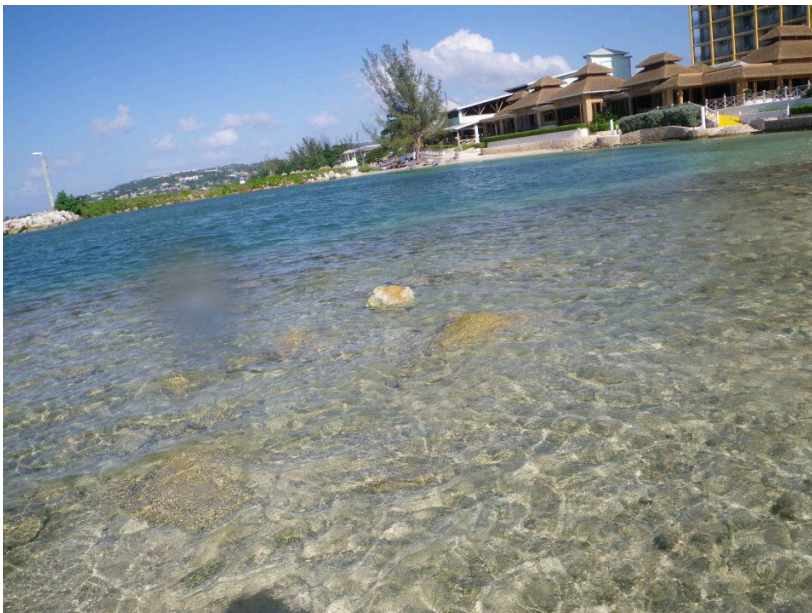
I have traveled to many different Caribbean destinations over the past several years. Of all of the places that I have traveled, I found Jamaica to be the most interesting geographically. My family and I traveled to Montego Bay Jamaica in November 2011. On this trip we stayed at a beach front resort. The beach in this area was very different than anywhere else I had been.



As you can see from this photo, the beach in this area is very small and skinny. Being on an island, I originally thought that the beaches would be spacious and very long however, this was not the case. We learned throughout our trip that the beaches here were mostly man made. Every few years the resort owners pay for the beaches to be restored because they suffer from erosion.



In this photo you can see that there is a man-made barrier of rocks that was built to try to keep the beaches nice and avoid erosion for as long as possible. This barrier is used to prevent erosion of the sand along the shore and keep the beach nice. On our vacation, a local tour guide told us that they have been having this problem for many years and it will continue to get worse.



As you can see in this picture, the beaches are also very rocky. This also surprised me because most of the other vacation spots that I have been to were not like this. When walking or swimming in the ocean here, we had to be careful as some of the rocks and coral were very sharp. Although this was not ideal for swimming or wading, it was great for snorkeling.





The incredibly clear water and the rocky and coral filled lagoon type area made for great “fish watching.” While snorkeling, we also saw many of the underwater rock formations, which I found very interesting. These rock formations were shaped by years of constant erosion from waves, tides and currents.



In this photograph you can see the most interesting feature that I observed on my vacation. I found the way the mountains come down right to meet the ocean very interesting. Every beach I had been to in the United States was very flat and had no mountains around it. In Jamaica, mountains surrounded all of the beaches. I found

this very interesting and pretty, as I had never seen this type of thing before. This is part of the reason that the beaches are so thin and short. The mountains reach right into the ocean, which I later realized is the reason the beaches here are short and skinny.



This photo shows how skinny the beaches are. Another thing I found interesting was that the grassy areas on the resort led right up to the beaches. This was one reason that made me become suspicious that the beaches were mostly man made.

Although the beaches and geographic features in Jamaica were much different than what I was use to, I found the area very beautiful and would like to travel back to this area someday. The geographic knowledge that I unknowing obtained from this trip until I did this project interests me very much, and I plan to continue researching it and find out more information about these thought-provoking landforms. My trip to Montego Bay Jamaica proved to be an interesting VTrip for me to do!