

SMORBA

Rules



WELCOME TO THE JAMAICA FAT TYRE FESTIVAL - '12

A Few Tips and Pointers That You Won't Get In the Normal Guides..

Welcome to the 14th Annual Jamaica Fat Tyre Festival. This is the sixth one to be organized by the St Mary Off-Road Bicycle Association (SMORBA).

We strive to keep things interesting and this we've been lucky enough to add a second day at our "ultra-secret" location in the Blue Mountains. We also have one or two goodies in store...

As happened the last couple years, the event is more of an all-inclusive affair with SMORBA taking necessary control over accommodations during the event.

We have some great riders attending and some wonderful sponsors including Jamaica Tourist Board, John Crow's Tavern, Oracabessa Foundation, James Bond Beach, Irie FM, Island Oupstost and last, but by no mean least, Shades Night Club.

Big up to the Coleraine Sports Club for their invaluable assistance and all the volunteers without whom we could not function.

Below are a few points that don't always get mentioned in the regular guides. Thanks for coming and have an "irie" time!





SPANDEX
 Spandex is not endorsed by SMORBA. So unless you are a female - JUST SAY NO!

WHITE HATS
 However, white terry-cloth hats with pink writing are totally SMORBA endorsed! Wear with pride!



Getting Along with Jamaicans Is Easy - If You're Not Stupid

Jamaicans are generally friendly, funny and interesting. They also tend to be quite straight to the point, so don't be offended when someone calls you, "whitey, mr chin, coolie, blacka, browning, fatta, shorty, one eye" etc, depending on your appearance. For the females there might be quite a few others. If you hear 'gal or 'bwoy' after these, well that is a bit more disrespectful. If you hear 'bumboclaat', pussyclaat or rassclaat before, then you can safely assume that you are being totally 'dissed'.

"Gimme di bicycle!!"

You will be asked for your bicycle by little kids, big men and little old ladies as you ride pass. It can be fun sometimes to respond but after hearing 'gimme di bicikle' twenty times before you've gotten on your bike it gets a bit annoying. We've found that a good way to avoid the above comment is to make a pre-emptive strike by saying 'good morning' or generally greeting people in a friendly manner.

2012 SCHEDULE	FEB. 19	FEB. 20	FEB. 21-22	FEB. 23-25	FEB. 26
	Jamaica Bicycle Bash	Murphy O'Hamilton Gets Conscious	The John Crow Has Landed... Roots, Rocks, Reggae, Rum	TOP SECRET	Red Light (maybe) SMORBA Night Ride

GANJA/Marijuana:

Ganja is widely available and used in Jamaica but please remember it is illegal to possess even small quantities. Police officers do stop and search vehicles and occupants randomly. It can also be difficult to assess when it is acceptable to light it up. If in doubt DON'T! Generally do not smoke openly in bars, clubs, hotels etc. In the more rural areas that we will visit, things are much more relaxed and you may be able to puff away. You can ask Jonathan or myself if not sure. The Jamaican Customs and police apprehend literally hundreds of people each year trying to smuggle ganja out, don't consider taking even a roach out!

Prison:

Imagine 'Midnight Express' with a reggae soundtrack. Trust me, you don't want to go there.....see note above about Ganja!

Beggars/Mad People:

You might encounter various combinations of these, SMORBA highly recommends that you avoid, as they can be a tad unpredictable and generally not a lot of fun. If you want one to follow you around for the duration of your trip, feel free to give them some money at the first encounter.

Drivers:

Generally buy their license; we try to avoid the road as much as possible. You will have probably realized why on the ride from the airport. Also remember we drive on the left.

GOOD VIBES



The HQ -
Big Up to John
Crow's Tavern !



Groomed Trails:

Don't exist. Neither do chairlifts. Stuff grows fast, so trails become bushy; hurricanes and rain rip things up and can make it muddy and slippery. Its hot and you will be sharing the trails with cows, donkeys, people and maybe the odd tick and mosquito. But BITCHING ABOUT IT is absolutely not allowed. Hey think positive, there are not many hikers and no mountain lions.