

Port Antonio is a “Wonderland” in May

MIAMI, May 4, 2005 – Portland invites residents and visitors to participate in the “Mad Month of May” with a variety of scheduled events themed after the classic children’s tale “Alice in Wonderland.” From an afternoon tea party, to an evening showcasing Portland’s talented artists, to a beach extravaganza at Frenchman’s Cove, there is something for everyone to enjoy. Proceeds from the beach part are to benefit the Port Antonio Destination Marketing Programme.

Much like Alice and her friends, Port Antonio will hold a **“Mad Hatter’s Tea Party”** for people to enjoy Sunday, May 15 at 4:30 p.m. at the Ken Wright Pier. Hotel Mockingbird Hill satisfies those with a taste for fine art with a **“Through the Looking Glass”** event. “Through the Looking Glass” will feature an exhibition of Portland artists’ collections at Gallery Carriacou Saturday, May 21 at 4:30 p.m. Lastly, a **“Mock Turtle’s Beach Bashment”** will be held at Frenchman’s Cove for the whole family to enjoy. The Beach party is set for Sunday, May 22nd from 10.30 – 8.00 pm and will feature Portland’s own Love Stone disco and some fun events for the kids with a gate prize provided by Caribic Vacations. Refreshments will be available.

Residents should also make note of the annual upcoming events this summer in Portland. Quao Day Celebrations honoring the Maroon history and culture are scheduled for June 23-25 in Charlestown, and the highly anticipated Portland Jerk Festival showcasing Jamaica’s best foods will be held July 3, 2005.

Once referred to as “heaven on earth” by Hollywood legend Errol Flynn, Port Antonio’s beauty today remains unscathed. A shining example of sustainable tourism, Port Antonio has launched a campaign to earn Green Globe certification for the destination and recently achieved the first critical step in the process. Port Antonio and its parish of Portland were officially benchmarked according to 14 stringent environmental/social standards. Green Globe certification represents important

international recognition for Port Antonio's environmental and socially sustainable tourism product. There is also support from the local community. A grass roots effort seeks to preserve the natural beauty and cultural integrity of the destination and to share both the philosophy and the process with visitors. For additional information, please call the Port Antonio News Bureau at (305) 445-4944 or visit online at <http://www.portantoniotravel.com>.

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