



Park Managers
**JAMAICA
CONSERVATION AND
DEVELOPMENT TRUST**



Jamaica's Blue and John Crow Mountains is recognised for its rich natural heritage and is included on the global list of conservation sites for plant biological diversity. Spreading over 100,000 acres, the national park is home to over 1,300 flowering plants; including orchids. There are more than 200 varieties of native orchids in Jamaica; most of which prefer high mountain conditions. The *Lepanthes pulchella* (pictured above), a native of the Blue and John Crow Mountains, is among the 66 species only found in Jamaica.



CONSERVATION OF NATIVE ORCHIDS AT HOLYWELL – In an effort to restore the population of orchids in the Catherine's Peak area, the National Environment and Planning Agency recently partnered with Orchidologist Ancile Gloudon and the Jamaica Conservation and Development Trust to propagate native mountain orchids. Orchids were installed in the plant nursery at Holywell in August. The plants will be incubated in the protected environment before being introduced back into the wild. Deforestation is a major threat to local orchids. A high percentage of our orchids are epiphytic and rely on the structural support of mature trees. The orchid population is also threatened by illegal harvesting in the national park and forest reserves for sale.



BJCMNP HOSTS WORLD HERITAGE YOUTH CAMP – Eight volunteers from the United Kingdom, Belgium, Guyana and Jamaica participated in a 10-day camp in Jamaica's UNESCO World Heritage Site – the Blue and John Crow Mountains National Park – in September. The camp was the first of its kind in the Caribbean and is part of UNESCO's World Heritage Education Programme to increase awareness, knowledge and skills among young adults about world heritage management. In Jamaica, the volunteers engaged in conservation field work, including invasive species control and tree planting as well as immersion trips with the Windward Maroon Communities. A highlight of the camp was an early morning hike to the Blue Mountain Peak.



PUBLIC EDUCATION AT INDEPENDENCE VILLAGE

Members of the Blue and John Crow Mountains Volunteer Ranger Corps shared information about the national park and environmental conservation at the Independence Village mounted at the National Arena from July 29-August 6. The independence village is part of the annual programme to celebrate Jamaica's independence and the end of slavery in the British West Indies. The fair, which was free to the public, featured exhibitors from a cross-section of local organisations, food vendors and live entertainment.



TAKE THE PEAK CHALLENGE

7 hours, 9.3 kilometres, 3,800 calories – If you're looking for an epic physical challenge, the Blue Mountain Peak has your name on it. The climb to Jamaica's highest point at 2,256 metres is a steep hike through the national park and UNESCO World Heritage Site. The climb is rewarded by a breath-taking panorama from the summit, a selfie on the trig station and a profound sense of accomplishment. Revenue from the use of the trail supports conservation efforts in the protected area - so you get a workout and make a contribution to environmental protection. The trail fee for Jamaican residents is JMD 200 and USD 20 for visitors.

**GET
INVOLVED**



Friends of the Blue Mountains

The Blue and John Crow Mountains National Park is managed by the Jamaica Conservation and Development Trust (JCDT). The JCDT is a registered charity which receives part-funding from the Government of Jamaica. The remaining 70% of the park management budget is financed by grants and donations.

The **Friends of the Blue Mountains** programme is an opportunity for individuals and companies to support conservation efforts in the national park. All contributions are tax deductible. **Friends of the Blue Mountains** support the management of the national park through annual contributions in the following tiers:

INDIVIDUAL	- J\$ 3,000
CORPORATE AGATE	- J\$ 25,000
CORPORATE MALACHITE	- J\$ 50,000
CORPORATE JADE	- J\$ 75,000
CORPORATE EMERALD	- J\$ 100,000

Complimentary JCDT membership is extended to **Individual-Friends of the Blue Mountains**. JCDT members participate in the decision-making activities that guide the work of the Trust.



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