

Sunset Beach Resort – Mini Review

We went to Sunset Beach Resort (www.sunsetbeachresort.com) in August 2005. We were on the Conquest and docked in Montego Bay Jamaica. Sunset Beach is great. It is an all-inclusive resort that sells day passes to cruisers. The pass includes food, drink and use of the facilities, and the water park. When we were there they hadn't completed the water park.

When you get off the ship at Montego Bay you have to go through a building to get to the taxi area. Be sure to ask the attendant with the clip board how much it is per person to go to Sunset Beach Resort. I knew from reading the cruise message boards that it should be \$3. each and this was confirmed by the attendant who told us which taxi (van) to get into. Once at the van I asked the driver how much and she told me \$4 each. I told her I was told \$3 by the attendant. She ignored me. I asked her again and she kept loading people (they can really stuff them in). When she didn't answer me I told everyone to get out. She finally relented and said \$3 each was fine – and that's what she got. Now it was only \$6 more (there were 6 of us) and we probably would have given her \$4 each but it was the principle of the thing. I had heard some of the drivers try this – wait until you are there and then give you a higher price.

It is only a short drive. Don't be intimidated as you pull up to the resort. There will be armed guards, as you will see in many places in Montego Bay. Once the taxi lets you out you go to the check in desk and tell them you want to cruiser pass. You have to give up your Sail and Sign card. They put them in an envelope with your name and staple it shut. It will be returned to you when you leave. You pay the fee (not sure what it is now that they have the water park) and you are set. They have a children and adult fee. If you want to use a resort towel then ask for a towel ticket. You take it to the towel hut and get a towel. You can return the towel and get a fresh one throughout your stay, just be sure that when you get ready to leave you get a ticket back as you will need to show you returned the towel or you will have to pay for it.

They have a really nice set up for the price. The drinks are strong but they only serve them in small cups. You can bring your own installed mug and they will fill it. It doesn't hurt to tip the bartenders – they will of course tell you it is unnecessary. They have a couple of pools in the main resort area and then there is the water park. They were just completing it when we were there and we missed the opening by a couple of weeks. It sure looked fun. They have snorkel gear, paddleboats, and other non-motorized things. No jet-skis. They had a basketball court, putt-putt, pool and ping-pong tables, board games, etc... Our favorite spot was the swim up bar. They were music games for the guests and you were welcome to participate if you wanted to. The food was ok. The jerk chicken is HOT (spicy). I like spicy but asked for the sauce on the side.

The beach also has a topless area. We didn't wander over to that area so you'll have to find out about it on your own.

When you're done for the day you return your towel, get the towel ticket, return to the front desk, turn in the towel ticket and let them know you are leaving. They will direct you to the gate where your S&S card will be returned. There are taxis waiting there or you can make arrangements with the taxi that dropped you off on when to return and pick you up.

We hope to return here again and enjoy the water park.