

DAWN'S Travel HAPPENINGS

By Merle Bossiere

Blackbird Tours

Missed Carnival in Brazil, Trinidad or New Orleans' Mardi Gras this year? Well, don't fret! Carnivals and festivals abound throughout the year for the festive traveler seeking pleasure and excitement in the sun. So, pack your bags and pick one (or more) of the following events. Then, hit the road and head for the sun!

APRIL 18-27 JAMAICA CARNIVAL

Street dancing, concerts and a lively parade of costumed marchers held in the capital city, Kingston.

APRIL 24-25 GRAND CAYMAN ISLAND BATABANO FESTIVAL AND PARADE

Prizes are awarded at this Caribbean festival for the best costumes with live entertainment.

APRIL 19-MAY 2



The scenic island of St. Thomas holds its carnival in the summer.

ST. THOMAS, V.I. CARNIVAL

A popular festival with all the Carnival trimmings—King and Queen reigning over costumed street parades, music competition, food fair and J'Ouvert morning with its steel-band jump-ups and "bamboushay!"

MAY 19-23 NEGRIL CARNIVAL

Reggae music in the streets and concert halls of Negril, Jamaica with its 7 miles of white sand beaches and jerk chicken carts.

JUNE 8-15 ACAPULCO WORLD MUSIC FESTIVAL

The producers of last year's Cancun Jazz Fest, music, music, music and more music on the Pacific Coast of Mexico.

JUNE 1-4 PUERTO RICO BOMBA Y PLENA

An Afro-Caribbean heritage festival of music, dance and food.

JUNE 1-AUG. 31 BAHAMAS GOOMBAY SUMMER FESTIVAL

A summer-long street festival

of music, dance and food.

JUNE 25-JULY 5 ST. VINCENT CARNIVAL

Parades in the street with costumed dancers and bands.

JULY 1-2

ST. LUCIA CARNIVAL

More jump-ups and revelry in the streets.

JULY 18-AUG. 8 BARBADOS CROPOVER

Costumed parades with jump-up bands and dancers in the streets celebrating the harvesting of the sugar cane crops with prizes for calypso music and reigning Sugar Cane Queen and

King.

JULY 1-31 MARTINIQUE FESTIVAL OF FORT de FRANCE

Music, dance and art, French-Caribbean style!

AUG. 3-9 REGGAE SUNSPASH

The largest reggae festival in the world held annually over the last 14 years in the Bob Marley Center in Montego Bay. A must for all reggae music lovers with six-nights of all-night concerts.

AUG. 1-8

HAPPENINGS

AROUND THE ISLANDS

ANTIGUA CARNIVAL

More jump-ups and revelry in the style of Trinidad's Carnival.

AUG. 8-15 GRENADA CARNIVAL

More of the above on the "Spice Island."

AUG. 11 GUADELOUPE FETE DES CUISINIERS

Celebration of women chefs—great food.

Don't wait until the last minute to make your plans and reservations. Call Merle right away for more information and get-away packages to the Carnival/Festival of your choice. Call (202) 232-3996 or contact the tourist board of the island you want to visit. Most have 800 numbers listed in the directory.