

Passenger Opportunity To United Kingdom

**Troopship "EMPIRE WINDRUSH" sailing
about 23rd MAY**

Fares — Cabin Class £48

Troopdeck £28

Royal Mail Lines, Limited—8 Port Royal St.

This advertisement appeared in *The Daily Gleaner*,
a Jamaican newspaper, on 13 April 1948.

The *Empire Windrush* was not part of any recruitment plan by the British government. Transport was offered simply because the ship was travelling to Britain with a half-full load and the enterprising captain wanted to fill those empty spaces. He knew there were young Jamaicans who were keen to travel to Britain to find work. When the *SS Empire Windrush* left Jamaica on 24 May 1948, it had 300 passengers below decks and 192 above. They mostly came from the British colonies of Jamaica and Trinidad.

● SOURCE 3

I came to England first in 1944 in the air force. I went back to Jamaica in 1946, but after spending two years there, it was too small for me. As a matter of fact, I had a reasonably good job in Jamaica and things were looking up. It was just a matter of the island being too small. You don't realise how small until after you've travelled. The Windrush came in 1948 and I returned to England and to more freedom.

Arthur Curling explains why he decided to
come to Britain on *SS Empire Windrush*.

● SOURCE 4

I first came to England during the war, in the RAF. I was in the war for three years. When I went back home there was no work so I decided to come back. There was a boat coming back, by the name of Windrush, and it was only £28 so I paid my fare and came back. The opportunity for jobs in England was better than back home in Jamaica.

Clinton Edwards explains why he
returned to England after the war.

● SOURCE 5

I came here in 1948 because my husband sent for me. He and his brother came over a year before. I reached here on 22 June. It was a lovely day, beautiful, and they were at the dock waiting for me. I think it was Tilbury. I was very excited. I was coming to meet my husband. I was very anxious to come and meet him because when he left we were just married. We got married and he left the following day. Jamaica in 1948 was all right to me. If my husband had not sent for me I would not have come at that point. Maybe later.

Lucile Harris explains why she was a
passenger on the *Windrush*.

● SOURCE 6

I was born in Jamaica in 1926. The 'mother country' was at war with Nazi Germany and I did believe in the British Empire and as a young man I volunteered to contribute and fight Nazi Germany. A lot of people don't realise that Britain stood alone for nearly two years against tyranny. We as part of the former British Empire volunteered and contributed and I am glad we did that. I have been here during the war fighting Nazi Germany and I came back to help build Britain.

Sam King explains why he wanted to
go to Britain on the *Windrush*.

● SOURCE 2

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Sam King explains why he wanted to go to Britain on the *Windrush*.