

Cayman Island Fun Facts

In the know

- There are 3 islands in the Cayman (Kay-MAHN) Island; Grand Cayman, Cayman Brac and Little Cayman
- Grand Cayman is the largest island has an estimated population of 50,000 with most of the tourism/population located in and around the capital of George Town; leaving large areas to the East of Grand Cayman much less developed and a tranquil escape for visitors to "Go East"
- The other 2 islands are a short flight away by prop-plane: Cayman Brac has an estimated population of 1,000 while Little Cayman has only 100 permanent residents.
- Christopher Columbus discovered Little Cayman in 1503 in 2003 Cayman Islands celebrated their Quincentennial.
- The Cayman Islands are a British overseas territory and still have a colonial Governor appointed by Britain
- Geographically, the Cayman Islands are part of the Cayman Ridge which extends westward from Cuba
- The Cayman Islands legendary pirate occupation in the 18th Century tells the tales of treasure caches left behind by Edward Blackbeard, Neal Walker, and Henry Morgan; The Pirates Week Festival, the island's largest festival, held each fall
- The Cayman Islands have long been known as the "island that time forgot."
- The Cayman Island Turtle Farm is home to 16,000 green sea turtles at any given time. Visit the interactive Turtle Farm to learn more about this endangered species at www.turtle.ky
- April's Cayfest, the Cayman Islands art festival, features local artists on all three islands
- The Batabano Carnival held each spring offers a Caribbean flavor with costumed bands taking to the streets to the sound of steelpan music: www.caymancarnival.com
- A June parade celebrates the Queen's birthday – an event underlining Cayman's ties with the British Crown.
- The Cayman Islands is home to a town called Hell, complete with its own velour-clad devil.
- The Hollywood blockbuster, *The Firm*, was filmed on Grand Cayman.
- Grand Cayman visitors can choose from more than 159 dive sites.
- The Cayman Islands have no direct taxation, and are popular for off-shore financial services. They are also home to the Cayman Stock Exchange www.csx.com.ky
- In 1996, the Cayman Island government declared the: Wild Banana Orchid as the national flower, the Silver Thatch Palm as the national tree, and the Cayman Parrot as the national bird; A Sea Turtle is the Department of Tourism's official logo.
- Pedro St. James, built in 1780, has transformed from a home to a public building to a commercial enterprise. It is now an historic site surrounded by 7.65 acres of landscaped park and woodland, set atop the 30-ft. Great Pedro Bluff visit www.pedrostjames.ky
- Area – comparative: 1.5 times the size of Washington, DC: The Capital is George Town, home to:
 - Seaman's Monument and Fort George provide surreal photo opportunities. Fort George was constructed in 1790 to defend against French and Spanish marauders. Its original cannons remain.
 - The National Museum houses artifacts and is an artifact unto itself, as it is the oldest building in town.
 - Built in 1937, the original steam-powered clock tower in George Town is a monument to King George V, for whom the town is named.