

theReef

Kid-cations

S *cuba Diving Magazine* states, “As family-friendly destinations go, Grand Cayman is hard to beat.” Families will find plenty to do, and maybe, just maybe, the kids will unplug from the myriad of electronic gadgets that appear to be another appendage these days, and instead, take advantage of the surf and sun at this beautiful island.

The Reef’s Resort East End location is a welcome reprieve from the “tourism-developed” 7-mile beach, as this unspoiled wonderland is just seconds away from protected dive sites, incredible snorkeling, and quiet walks on the beach. Calm waters, crystal-clear seas, and zero crowds allow parents to relax and unwind under a coconut palm tree whilst children build sand castles nearby.

The Resort

The Reef Resort is the only resort on Grand Cayman to offer a true beachfront setting with private balconies or patio overlooks. Guests will never have to worry about overcrowding, because the property sits on one of the largest beaches – 1,600 feet – and the resort itself sprawls along the coastline, providing a feeling of spaciousness. Families will enjoy homely amenities: kitchens or kitchenettes, as well as utensils, microwave ovens, coffee makers, TV’s and more, including:

- 110 all-suite accommodations – studio, one-, or two-bedroom suites
- 3 swimming pools / Water aerobics (a great exercise for children of all ages)
- Bike riding
- Complimentary dive orientation by the pool every Sunday
- Concierge services – a must for families
- Daily fish feedings 12 p.m. on the dock
- Scuba Diving with onsite professionals *Ocean Frontiers*
- Snorkeling
- T-shirt painting
- The Reef’s boat charter to Stingray City every Tuesday at 2 p.m.
- Water volleyball

Island Family Entertainment

- Stingray City – swim with the stingrays
- Black Pearl Skate and Surf Park – 52,000 sq. ft. of concrete bowls; 1/2 and 1/4 pipes; it is said to be one of the largest skate parks in the world
- Queen Elizabeth II Botanic Park (QEBII) – 65 acres of Caymanian flora, including a Heritage Garden, Floral Colour Garden Nature Trail and Blue Iguana habitat and more.
- Blue Iguana habitat – a new offering at QEBII Botanic Park – kids can see firsthand the life cycle of the endangered Blue Iguana, from birth to adulthood, or tour the island using the Blue Iguana island statues that appear across the island trail map (see The Reef Resort’s new *Adopt a Blue Dragon* press release)
- Butterfly Farm – learn about butterfly metamorphosis, lifespan, and the daily habits of over 100 different species
- Cayman Island National Museum – what were once government offices and a jail are now gift shops that offer historical, cultural, and handmade souvenirs
- Boatswain’s Beach and Cayman Island Turtle farm – over 15,000 turtles, from newborns to adults, will delight all, plus a newly opened eco-theme park including a 1.4 million gallon snorkeling lagoon
- Glass bottom boats, a semi-submersible submarines, or dive more than 100 feet inside the Atlantis, submarine
- Horseback riding
- Pedro St. James – families will learn Caymanian history while touring the country’s oldest stone structure
- Hell – a town on the island where kids can send a friend a postcard from Hell
- Sail the Jolly Roger, a replica of a 17th - century Spanish galleon; afternoon and dinner excursions; walk the plank, fire a cannon, and engage in real sword play
- Helicopter tours
- SASY (supplied air snorkeling for youth and SNUBA (supplied air snorkeling for adults) – children ages 5 to 8 can join their parents on a scuba adventure when they dive with a SASY unit, which are available island-wide for sale or for rent

#####