# The Cayos to us. The keys to a magical trip, to you.

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### Cayo Santa Maria, Cayo Ensenachos & Cayo Las Brujas



It's the perfect place for sun-seekers looking for that elusive solitude. Not to mention numerous idyllic places for nature lovers, divers and snorkelers. They'll be sure to find seclusion and tranquility in a tropical paradise, complete with extraordinary resorts. For the active, there are the requisite watersports: jet-skiing, parasailing and of course, great fishing.

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Each key here is different of course, ranging from the seven-square-km Cayo Las Brujas (where a marina, a dive center and an airport that caters to small planes, are located) to the even more compact Cayo Ensenachos. Then there's Cayo Santa Maria, the largest of the trio at 16 km and where most of the hotels are. Collectively, they're connected by a 48 km causeway to the Cuba mainland province of Villa Clara.

Tourist villages La Estrella and Las Dunas offer great shopping opportunities and access to arcades, nightclubs and great restaurants. And if you're feeling energetic, you can always hop on the causeway via bus or taxi and head to the mainland.

The most interesting towns include: Remedios, founded in 1513, Cuba's eighth-oldest city and famous for a street festival called "Las Parrandas de Remedios", held annually from December 16th to the 26th; Caibarien, where you can visit the Museum of Sugar cane and the adjacent steam engine museum and Santa Clara, capital of the province which is home to the Che Guevara Mausoleum.

#### Tours and excursions:

- Tour of Santa Clara City
- Remedios City tour
- Adventure tours into Escambray Mountains and Hanabanilla Lake
- Elguea Spa (With its mineral thermal bath and medicinal mud bath).
- Trips to other parts of the islands such as: Havana, Cienfuegos and Trinidad.

These were islands that were a hideout from hurricanes for buccaneers during the Colonial period and, during and after the World War II, it was a favourite haunt of Ernest Hemingway, who immortalized them in his novel, Islands in the Stream.

They are connected to the mainland by a 17km-long causeway built in 1988. The first hotels went up in the early '90s, and the construction and development of a modern hotel infrastructure has not ceased since then.

# Extending some 20 km north of the Jardines Del Rey, the coral reef is something to behold, with depths ranging from two to 40 meters. Scuba diving tours are popular, with four diving centres and 20 diving sites, as well as all kind of fishing tours.

For those who prefer their adventures on land much of Cayo Coco can be explored by moped, car or jeep. The 769-hectare Parque Natural el Bagá (Bagá Park) was built on the site of the island's former airport and boasts 130 species of birds, as well as turtles, crocodiles and alligators. Other daytime attractions include the Rocarena Climbing Centre and bird-watching tours. Night owls may want to take in the partyin-a cave at La Cueva Del Jabali and recover at the Acuavida Spa Talaso the next day.

### Tours & Excursions:

- Seadoo adventures
- Catamaran cruises
- Deep sea fishing tours
- Bird watching
- Jeep safaris

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- Scooter adventure
- Tour of La Redonda Lake
- Morón & Ciego de Avila cities tour



Those who want to feel like they're on their own private island, will find Cayo Largo is the place to be. While there are public beaches, it's easy to find a stretch of beach all to yourself, thanks to the island's relatively remote location.

There are a number of interesting islands in the area, including Iguana Key (a sanctuary for iguanas which will take food from visitors); and Cayo Los Pajaros is home to different types of seabirds.



### Cayo Coco & Cayo Guillermo



A visit to the turtle farm is a must. It's part of the conservation and a protection program. Each year hundreds of turtle eggs are collected from the most vulnerable beaches and brought to the breeding farm for incubation.

Treasure Island is a day-long excursion that includes a tour of Nueva Gerona, capital city of the nearby Isle of Youth and a visit to the former Model Prison, where Fidel Castro was once imprisoned.

Also fishing and scuba diving tours are available.

## How can I get in touch or find out more?

Website:	www.gocuba.ca or
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Call:	416 362-0700

Please note, all information is subject to change.

### Cayo largo

Cayo Largo is a majestic mix of white sand beaches and palm trees with pelicans, seagulls and colonies of turtles.

This island lies 70 kilometers off the southern coast of Cuba and is an ideal destination for a romantic getaway as well as water sports enthusiasts who love to sail, kayak, snorkel and dive.

Cayo Largo boasts some of the best beaches in Cuba, not to mention the world. Not a big island, but part of a long chain of small islands and islets, and of one of the best-preserved seabed and marine environments in the world.