

Fact Sheet and Guide to EXUMA'S SWIMMING PIGS

HISTORY:

How did the swimming pigs end up in Exuma? There are tons of legends and stories floating around, from sailors to shipwrecks. The exact story still isn't known, but the most likely story is that **locals raised the pigs on near islands until they decided to move them to Big Major Cay**. The animals thrived when left on their own, multiplying gradually. Word gradually began to spread about an island of pigs causing tourists to come in abundance.



LOCATION:

The pigs are located on **Big Major Cay**, also known as Pig Beach or Pig Island. Big Major Cay is an uninhabited island not far from Staniel Cay.



DIET:

The swimming pigs diet mainly consists of food fed to them by tourists, such as **fruits, vegetables, and plain bread**. Their water supply is limited, so **fresh water** is welcome too. **Do not feed them food with sand on it**. Ingesting sand can be dangerous and deadly for them.



GETTING THERE:

The island can only be reached by **boat**. Visitors can book a tour, rent a boat, or use a personal boat to reach the island.

VISTING HOURS:

Tours run from **9 am-sunset**. They are more active in the mornings. By afternoon the pigs are full and tired from other visitors. They're less likely to eat and swim out to boats.

INTERACTING WITH THEM:

- They're used to human contact
- Be respectful and kind to them
- Do not hit them, ride them, or pull their tails
- They get pushy around food
- Do not put hand in their mouths
- Do not feed them any processed food or alcohol



From June-November, Exuma is in hurricane season. Before big storms, **the pigs are moved to safety** by locals. They aren't returned to the island until it's deemed safe.