

LIST

What To Do When You're Not on the Beach in Grand Cayman

Eat, drink, relax and make merry! You're in Grand Cayman.

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JAMIE OLIVER'S KILLER MAC AND CHEESE



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There's no doubt about it: Going to Grand Cayman and *not* spending the day on the beach is like visiting Paris on a diet. This island, the biggest of three that constitute the Cayman Islands, is located just 300 kilometres northwest of Jamaica. The weather and land are, in a word, glorious, with soft sand, white as snow, and warm crystal-blue water. But although you might swear to yourself that you could spend every waking minute (and many more asleep) doing nothing but lolling in the sun, the time will come when you'll want to venture out. Herewith, a handful of recommendations for when that urge strikes.

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The Ritz was also the setting for unquestionably the best meal I had in Grand Cayman, which was at [Blue by Eric Ripert](#) (of the three-Michelin-starred Le Bernardin in New York). I recommend the inventive Blue tasting menu with wine pairings. No matter what, don't miss the tuna foie gras; layers of thinly pounded yellowfin tuna yield a surprisingly complex dish. In fact, the couple next to me were so dazzled, they booked another reservation for the following night.

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and a glass of champagne. For a meal near Seven Mile Beach, try the so-fresh sushi at [Bamboo](#). I had melt-in-your-mouth salmon and tempura shrimp that relieved an intense craving for fried food. If you're up for a party later, head to the [Royal Palms](#), where you can dance outdoors with locals and tourists alike. (Photo: Courtesy of Blue by Eric Ripert)



As restorative as ocean water is, it's not going to make your skin any softer just because you're floating in it. For that, you can book yourself a seaweed-wrap treatment at [Hibiscus Spa](#) at the [Westin Hotel and Resort](#). If it's pure luxury you're after, the place to go is [Silver Rain](#) at [the Ritz](#), a favourite among the well heeled. This La Prairie Spa has an impressive array of treatments, a welcoming and gracious staff and an interior that caters to every sense, from the pristine and luxurious all-white locker room to the fresh scent of La Prairie's own perfume. (Photo: Courtesy of Camana Bay)



For daytime entertainment, look no further than [Boatswain's Beach turtle farm](#). In the past 30 years, this sustainable farm has released more than 30,000 green sea turtles into the wild. (The farm does sell some of its turtles for cooking; turtle stew is, after all, the national dish.)



Another must-do outing is to [Camana Bay](#), a live-work-play destination on 550 acres of land. A perfect place to take the family, Camana Bay has wonderfully designed public grounds, beautiful fountains, shops and restaurants, an ongoing calendar of free events (including the annual jazz festival) and even a movie theatre. There's big buzz about [Michael's Genuine Food & Drink](#), which opened this summer, but even if you choose to bring your own food and dine on the grass, you're guaranteed a great seat. And don't forget to visit the observation tower, where one of the largest undersea mosaics in the world depicts Cayman's marine life. Go at sunset, and let the warm Caribbean wind kiss your shoulders as you admire the 360-degree view from the top – the panorama of beauty and wonder and the marvel that is Grand Cayman.

(Photo: Courtesy of Camana Bay)



Stay the day to snorkel in the lagoon, watch the sharks and check out the aviary, where you'll see some of the rarest tropical birds in the world.



Getting There

Air Canada offers year round non-stop service to Grand Cayman from Toronto. [Book now!](#) Check out our deals on [hotel rooms](#) and [car rentals](#).