

# FWSA LITTLE CAYMAN SCUBA DIVE TRIP October 7 – 14, 2023

Bloody Bay Wall
The Caribbean's Most Breathtaking Drop-Off

Basic Cost excluding air travel:

6 Day (17 boat dives) Dive Package \$ 2,306 Non-Dive Package \$ 2,040 Single Supplement \$ 696

Price Includes: Little Cayman Beach Resort

7 nights Pool View Room at Little Cayman Beach Resort – based on 2 per room

All meals daily

21 drink alcohol / non-alcohol package

All non-motorized water sports and activities

Wi-Fi (primarily in public areas)

Little Cayman Airport ground transfers

Resort fees, taxes & staff gratuities (dive gratuities not included)

# Dive Package Includes:

6 days of 2 tank morning & 5 days of 1 tank afternoon boat dives Complimentary use of dive computer

#### Add-On Costs:

Oceanfront Room [7 available] \$ 343 per person (dbl occ)

Payment Schedule:

Initial deposit Immediately \$ 700 per person 2<sup>nd</sup> payment June 1, 2023 \$ 1,000 per person

Final payment July 24, 2023 \$ balance

Cancellation Penalties:

Prior to July 7,2023 \$ 0 per person July 7, 2023 - August 7, 2023 \$ 100 per person

August 8, 2023 – September 6, 2023 \$300 - \$400 per person

September 7, 2023 – departure date no refunds

Travel on this FWSA trip to Little Cayman requires a valid Passport. Your Passport must be valid until April 14, 2024 (six months after your return). It is your responsibility to ensure your required travel documents are in order and with you.

#### **DIVE and TRAVEL INSURANCE**

FWSA highly recommends that you purchase travel insurance. Roatan Charters offers trip insurance on their website at <a href="http://www.fwsa.org/Travel/insurance.html">Trip Insurance – Roatan Charter</a>. Additional travel insurance vendors can be found on FWSA website at <a href="http://www.fwsa.org/Travel/insurance.html">http://www.fwsa.org/Travel/insurance.html</a>. In addition, all scuba divers will be required to have diving accident insurance through Divers Alert Network (DAN), the premier dive insurance. You can get their insurance info at <a href="http://www.diversalertnetwork.org/">http://www.diversalertnetwork.org/</a>

# Location/Geography

The Cayman Islands is conveniently located only 480 miles south of Miami, merely an hour by plane. Cayman is easily accessible via nonstop service from most travel hubs in the U.S.

Little Cayman is located only 80 miles northeast of Grand Cayman, yet it feels worlds away. Nowhere in the Cayman Islands can you find a better dive destination that's also a romantic getaway.

Travel will require a regional flight on Cayman Airways from Grand Cayman the largest and most populated island and home to the Owen Roberts International Airport (GCM) to Little Cayman's Edward Bodden Airfield (LYB). It is a short 35 – 75 minute flight (some flights stop at Cayman Brac first) on a 15 passenger Twin Otter.

Roatan Charter has blocked 12 seats (available on first come first served basis) on the last flight on October 7<sup>th</sup> from Grand Cayman (GCM) to Little Cayman (LYB) departing Grand Cayman on 5:10 PM at an approximate round trip cost of \$186 per person.

When traveling to or from Little Cayman via the Twin Otter (15 passenger) aircraft, the baggage allowance is 55 lbs. per person (combined weight of up to 2 pieces) and only one 15 lb. carry-on. Any excess will be charged US \$.50 per pound for travel between Grand Cayman and Little Cayman

#### Climate

The average temperature in Little Cayman year- round is 82° F with the trade winds providing a gentle breeze. In October the temp ranges from 75° F - 88° F. The rainy season is from May to October and the dry season is from November to April. This doesn't mean it rains constantly or rarely during these respective times. The names of the seasons simply reflect the trends in the region. It's common in summer to have brief showers in the afternoon and occasional rain in the mornings.

# **Water Temperature**

The water temperature is warm ranging from 79° F - 85° F from October – March. The water is usually clear with visibility 80-120 feet.

### Currency

The Cayman Islands dollar is the official currency in the Cayman Islands, but most businesses and taxis will happily accept US dollars at the current exchange rate. The CI dollar has a fixed exchange rate with the US dollar of CI\$1.00 equals US\$1.25. Or the US dollar equals CI\$.80. The US dollar is accepted throughout the islands at a rate of CI\$.80. The resort has limited abilities to make change in US funds. We do not suggest bringing bills over \$20 USD. Incidental charges such as gift shop, tours and restaurant/bar can be charged to your room if a credit card has been provided. The resort accepts Visa and MasterCard. Traveler's cheques are not accepted.

# **Departure Tax**

There is an airport departure tax of US \$25.00/person for international flights. Although most International carriers already is included in your air ticket. For local flights must be paid in the airport after check-in Please note these fees must be paid in cash, either US Dollars or Cayman Dollars.

#### **Documents**

You need a passport that is valid for 6 months after your arrival. You will receive a 90-day tourist Visa when you arrive. You should check to see if there are any special requirements for citizens of your country but currently this is all that is required for the USA.

# **Electricity**

Little Cayman is similar to the USA, 110 volts AC, 60 cycles, using standard U.S. plugs. Hair dryers are standard in all rooms.

# **Entry Requirements**

Currently, vaccinations are not mandatory for visiting the Cayman Islands. Contact your doctor for recommendations specific to your health.

#### **Time Zone**

Eastern Standard Time (EST). Daylight savings time is not observed so they are 2 hours ahead of the US West coast.

# Language

Officially English

### U.S. Consulate

The US Consulate is located in George Town in Grand Cayman.

Phone: (345) 945-8173

The Cayman Islands is a self-governing British Overseas Territory - the largest by population in the western Caribbean Sea. The 102-square-mile territory comprises the three islands of Grand Cayman, Cayman Brac and Little Cayman, which are located to the south of Cuba and northeast of Honduras, between Jamaica and Mexico's Yucatán Peninsula. The capital city is George Town on Grand Cayman, which is the most populous of the three islands.

The Cayman Islands is considered to be part of the geographic Western Caribbean Zone as well as the Greater Antilles. The territory is a major world offshore financial center for international businesses and wealthy individuals, largely as a result of the state not charging taxes on any income earned or stored.

With a GDP per capita of \$91,392, the Cayman Islands has the highest standard of living in the Caribbean. Immigrants from over 130 countries and territories reside in the Cayman Islands.

Little Cayman Beach Resort is located on the island of Little Cayman, a beautiful and tranquil island in the Cayman Islands. Grand Cayman is the most densely populated island in the Cayman Islands and home to the Owen Roberts International Airport (GCM).

The only way to get to the Sister Islands is via Cayman Airways. The airline has numerous flights daily from Grand Cayman to Cayman Brac and Little Cayman (LYB) (Edward Bodden Airfield). You can make reservations at <a href="https://www.caymanairways.com">www.caymanairways.com</a>. Please be sure to check the travel protocols and baggage allowances for visiting Little Cayman.

### LITTLE CAYMAN BEACH RESORT

Reflecting Little Cayman's quaint charm and intimate warmth, Little Cayman Beach Resort is a secluded oceanfront oasis with only 40 rooms. a relaxed island ambiance, a boutique spa, Caribbean inspired cuisine, and gracious personal service that treats guests to the true island experience.

Little Cayman Beach Resort is situated on a white, sandy beach in Blossom Village, the first area of the island resettled in 1833 after Spanish privateers ran off the turtle fishermen who'd settled there.



The two-story resort has 40 air-conditioned guest rooms with:

- Ceiling fans
- Mini refrigerators
- Private bathrooms with hair dryers, soap, shampoo, and hair conditioner
- Towels for use by pool or on beach (towels separately provided on boats for divers)
- Small drip coffeemakers
- Closets with hangers
- Desks
- Televisions (although availability and quality of channels is very limited)
- Wi-Fi
- Irons and ironing boards are available upon request

Little Cayman has been named a top dive site in the Caribbean for its iconic Bloody Bay Wall,



year-round perfect diving conditions, pristine coral reefs, and spectacular marine life. Little Cayman Beach Resort brings this magnificent experience beneath the sea directly onto the sand. Bloody Bay Wall is the main attraction, but there are other sites that are equally as exciting with numerous tunnel systems and crevices, both on the shallow reefs and out over the wall. Offering some of the most beautiful reef structures to be seen in the underwater world, this is where divers in-the-know go.





**Pool View Rooms** have either two doubles or one king bed. **[11 available]** 

The **Oceanfront Rooms** are slightly larger have either two doubles or one king bed and come equipped with a microwave, as well as a small lounge area.

[7 available]

Guests will enjoy their meals served in the newly remodeled **Birds** of **Paradise** dining room with ample seating for large and small groups – and individuals – all at the same time. A new community table makes it easy for individuals or couples traveling alone to meet new friends. For *al fresco* dining, a new screened outdoor pavilion is also available.





Breakfast consists of a variety of breads and pastries, fruit, cereal, yogurt, hot entrées, and eggs cooked to order. Lunches include a daily soup and salad selection, meats, cheeses, breads, condiments for sandwiches, hot entrées, and light desserts. Complimentary beverages include coffee, tea, and fruit punch, with milk and fruit juices offered at breakfast.

Dinners have a different theme every evening,

featuring new and delicious soups, appetizers, salads, vegetables, starches, and hot entrées. Most nights also feature some type of specialty carving station. And there's always a selection of fabulous desserts to top off a great meal. Coffee, tea, and fruit punch are complimentary.



The new dining room also has an indoor bar for enjoying cocktails before dinner or espressos, lattes, or other specialty coffees after dessert.



Beach Nuts Bar (open for lunch, dinner, and evenings for beverages, sandwiches, appetizers, and small meals)

### **REEF DIVERS**

REEF DIVERS is a full-service scuba diving operator, based at the Little Cayman Beach Resort. The company is the premier diver operator on Little Cayman. Reef Divers has a team of PADI and SSI certified dive professionals and is dedicated to ensuring the safety of divers and protecting the environment, while providing memorable diving adventures and exclusive valet diving services.

Reef Divers takes the work out of your diving—handling the heavy lifting and care of your boat-dive gear, from your first dive with us through your last dive (unless you'd prefer to do it



yourself). They rinse, dry, and store your BCD and regulator daily, so they're set up and ready for your next day's diving. The only finger you'll have to lift is the one to point out your gear as you relax in the boat, ready to go diving.

At the top of the dock, we have separate rinse tanks for photo equipment, wetsuits, and general dive gear, plus a drying room for wetsuits so you don't have to take them to your room.



Cayman Islands diving is mostly currentfree, which is optimal for new divers, divers who wants to move at their own pace, and underwater photographers who may want to spend their entire dive at one location, waiting for the perfect shot.

All of the dive sites are moored, which marks the beginning and ending points of that dive. The dive masters will brief the location, establish dive limits, and draw a map of the tour they'll lead. As long as divers remain in buddy teams and stick with the predetermined limits, it's their option to follow the tour or go off on their own.





For those who follow, the tour lasts 35 to 40 minutes. By the time they're back at the mooring and know that the boat is overhead, most divers feel comfortable enough to continue exploring on their own until their time is up or they run low on air.

Reef Divers emphasizes safety first, followed by comfort. So, rather than you having to perform an unbalanced "tank dance" to get from your seat to the rear of the boat—with a 35-pound scuba tank on your back—we carry your gear for you and help you slip it on while you're seated. Then it's just one step into the Cayman Caribbean, where abundant marine life awaits your arrival.

With sheer underwater cliffs that plummet to unseen depths, generations of ocean divers have made Little Cayman Island Resort a leading Caribbean diving destination. From healthy reefs to the iconic Bloody Bay Wall, enjoy little to no current, unlimited visibility, jaw dropping swim throughs and plentiful marine life. Whether you go deep or stay shallow, diving Little Cayman Island is a bucket list experience.



All of the dive boats were custom built for safety and diver comfort by Newton Boats in Slidell, Louisiana. They're 42' to 46' in length, 16' wide, and conform to the highest standards established by the American Bureau of Shipping. They're powered by Caterpillar, John Deere, or Yanmar engines—all well-known and trusted for their power and dependability. Cruising at 20 mph, you'll quickly and comfortably arrive at dive sites.

Four boats in their fleet of 11 call Little Cayman their home port: Island Sister, Paradise Diver, Reef Fantasea, and Holiday Diver II. Each easily carries up to 20 divers and two crew members. In general, dive briefings begin at 7:45 AM for the morning 2-tank boat dives and at 1:45 PM for the afternoon 1-tank boat dives.

Also included is a morning boat dive to explore Cayman Brac's MV Captain Keith Tibbetts wreck and other great sites – weather permitting. After the dives we go ashore at Cayman Brac Beach Resort for lunch. The boat also stops for the afternoon 1-tank dive off Little Cayman before returning to Little Cayman Beach Resort.

Night boat dives are also available 2 nights per week based on weather conditions and interest at an additional cost.



# **Equipment Rental**

Reef Divers offer a full array of newer well-maintained SCUBAPRO dive and snorkel gear available for rental on a daily basis. Tanks, weights, and weight belts are included in your dive package.

Nitrox: \$10 per tank / \$170 for 17 boat dives All prices exclude tax.

Equipment Rental	USD
BCD & Regulator Only (per day)	\$ 35
Shorty Wetsuit (per day)	\$ 10
Wetsuit (per day)	\$ 15
Mask / Fins / Snorkel (per day)	\$ 15
Dive Computer (REQUIRED)	Complimentary

**PLEASE NOTE** that if your last dive was longer than 6 months ago and less than 2 years, we highly recommend you do a pool check or refresher course at your local dive shop before you arrive.

<u>Depending on your experience and date of your last dive, you might be required to do either a Shallow dive first or do an assessment at the start of the dive.</u>

# **Scuba Dive Safety**

Every diver should carry an audible signal device such as a whistle or Dive Alert horn, along with devices capable of being seen from far away in the day or night, such as a flashing strobe, mirror or dive light, and an inflatable signal tube ("safety sausage").

Every diver is also <u>required</u> to have and use a dive computer on each and every dive. Each diver is responsible for his/her own dive profile, bottom times, nitrogen loading and No Decompression Times. In addition, Nitrox divers are responsible for their own PO2 times.

Divers Alert Network: 001-919-684-9111

# **GRAND CAYMAN**

(Additional information for those who may be interested in going early or staying late on your own)

Nestled in the Caribbean Sea, Cosmopolitan Grand Cayman is the largest and westernmost of the three Cayman Islands. It offers a wealth of activities, accommodations and attractions. It is approximately 76 square miles, 22 miles long and home to over 50,000 residents.

Whether you are looking for complete relaxation, exquisite dining, exciting nightlife, or the awesome underwater sights of our oh-so-accessible reefs, they have something for everyone, the water the beach discover the nature that makes it beautiful.

On the west side of Grand Cayman, you will find the famous Seven Mile Beach, the crescent-shaped natural wonder with boundless capacity for relaxation. With sand stretching as far as the eye can see, Grand Cayman's Seven Mile Beach is often rated as one of the most beautiful beaches in all the Caribbean - and the least populated.

Take a trip into the North Sound and visit Stingray City and the Sandbar where you and your family have the rare opportunity to play with friendly Southern Stingrays.



When you're looking to get off the beach,

get lost in the luxury of George Town, where colorful traditional Caribbean-style buildings meet high finance corporations and finish the day off with a sunset cocktail. Enjoy duty-free shopping on signature brands such as Versace, Tiffany, Gucci, and more. Still want more? They have it. There are many local vendors and craftsmen throughout the districts who work from their homes and are always happy to spend some time helping you find that perfect gift. An amazing combination of luxury and local treasures await you on your Cayman Islands shopping trip.

The Eastern district of Grand Cayman features natural beauty and grace beyond our azure waters and white sand beaches. Tour through the Queen Elizabeth II Botanical Park and learn about their rare Blue Iguanas, visit the Wreck of the Ten Sail, eat freshly caught fish in the nearby restaurants when you're out this way. After all, the flavors are second only to the tales told here.

With over 50,000 residents, Grand Cayman is approximately 76 square miles. It is on Grand Cayman that you will find some of the most popular Caribbean activities, attractions, and festivals, including the popular Pirates Week and the colorful and exciting Batabano. Other popular attractions include the Cayman Islands National Museum, Rum Point, Pedro St. James, Bodden Town, the first capital of the Cayman Islands, Cayman Turtle Farm, and the National's Trusts Mastic Trail, a 2-mile traditional footpath through unspoiled woodlands.

### LITTLE CAYMAN

You know that remote island wonderland you always see in films and read about in books? It's here. At only ten miles long and one mile wide, there may be more peace and quiet per-square-inch on Little Cayman than anywhere else. Bask on empty beaches with soft sand and only the sound of the breeze rustling the palm trees. Then, take a bike or a scooter up and down the shore.

Venture to South Hole Sound Lagoon for a private swim in water that is every shade of blue. Or row out to the unofficial fourth island in Cayman. Just a kayak away off the coast of Little Cayman, Owen Island offers seascapes in their purest form, making you feel as if you were the last person on the planet.

On land, peaceful Little Cayman offers a calm, serene landscape where the bustle of the birds at the Booby Pond Nature Reserve may be the loudest commotion on land. Perhaps Little Cayman is so calm because all the activity is set aside for the fish in the surrounding reefs. Bloody Bay Wall Marine Park is one of the most popular dives in existence.

Rumored to be named for bloody pirate battles that took place in the area, Bloody Bay Wall is the Caribbean's most breathtaking drop-off and world-renowned wall dive. Beginning at a shallow depth of 20 feet running parallel to the shoreline before plunging dramatically into a clear blue abyss over 5,000 feet and an average visibility of 200 feet, Bloody Bay gives divers the opportunity to glimpse Cayman's underwater life in a dramatic backdrop. Amazing sea life including sponges in various colors of citrine, emerald, ruby and sapphire; large fan corals, Nassau groupers, green turtles, triggerfish, sharks and stingrays and turtles are viewed against the stunning backdrop of Bloody Bay Wall. Many dive operations claim the late Philippe Cousteau declared Bloody Bay Wall to be one of the three best dives in the world.

Little Cayman is the least populous island of the three, with a permanent population of about 160 (2021) including seasonal residents/homeowners. The majority of the population are expatriate workers from Jamaica, the Philippines, and Honduras and from other Latin American countries as well as Canada, the USA, India, Australia, Scotland, England, and South Africa. There are a handful of local Caymanians estimated as fewer than 20.

There are no large or predatory or poisonous animals or creatures if you decide to go exploring. There are some non-fatal poisonous plants for which contact can result in an itchy rash.

Despite its small size, the island hosts a heritage festival and parade as part of Pirates Week, (November) and the annual LC Agriculture Show (May) which also occurs on all three Islands, but at different dates in that same month.

Little Cayman has one grocery-and-hardware store, one online grocery delivery store, one liquor store, one bank (CNB opens on Mondays and Thursdays) a 24hr ATM with CI\$ and US\$ cash, three full-service restaurants, and one local food delivery service, two churches, and two-car rental operations and also an 11-seat mini-bus with transport/taxi service which offers pick up and drop off to beaches, bars, restaurants, and the airport as well as land tours and food delivery.

There are four small souvenir/resort wear shops. It is served by the Edward Bodden Airfield, a two-man police force, a five-man fire crew with one truck and rescue boat, a full-time postmaster, a power station operated by Cayman Brac Power and Light, a clinic staffed by two nurses, and a one-room school whose enrollment is usually in single digits. Cellular phone service offered by LIME and Digicel has almost completely eliminated reliance on landlines, which many residents maintain primarily to

allow them to connect to the Internet, which can only be accessed by ADSL. There are certain areas on the North East side that get no reception. The water is safe to drink as all resorts have reverse osmosis desalination for drinking, bathing, and cooking. Cistern or spring water is used for other dwellings and buildings. There is no shortage of potable drinking water. There is a weekly food supply by sea or air, electricity (110V), gasoline, diesel, and propane gas.

### **CLOTHING**

Clothing in the Caribbean is very casual. During the winter months, we suggest you bring light sweater with you. Comfortable, flat-heeled walking shoes, such as sneakers, are recommended all year round so that you can safely explore the archeological zones and islands

# **CUISINE**

Sitting down at the tables of the Cayman Islands, it's easy to understand why it is the culinary capital of the Caribbean. Add the authentic dishes of our islands to the mix, include seafood shacks and five-star restaurants, and you have everything you need for a foodie's dream vacation or holiday.

Sample the best of what the Caribbean capital of cuisine has to offer on your trip to the Cayman Islands. Grand Cayman restaurants specialize in everything from fine dining cuisine to delicious seafood caught just offshore.

# **CULTURE**

Although the island has close historical and political connections to the United Kingdom, the culture and lifestyle of the Cayman Islands is strongly Americanized. There is a daily newspaper, a government-owned radio station, and a monthly news magazine.

The Cayman Islands National Museum in George Town traces the islands' seafaring history. The Cayman National Cultural Foundation, which depends on a combination of private and government funding, sponsors programs in the arts and maintains the F.J. Harquail Cultural Centre on Grand Cayman, the main venue for local and visiting companies.

The National Gallery of the Cayman Islands is primarily an education organization that promotes the visual arts of the islands and sponsors local and international exhibitions of Caymanian art.

Theatrical performances and art exhibits are also held by community organizations, and many residents engage in craft work, especially the making of jewelry from black coral. Outdoor recreation centers around the islands' extensive beaches and clear coastal waters.

The music of the Cayman Islands, a Caribbean Island chain, encompasses a diverse range of international pop and folk influences. The Cayman National Cultural Foundation, founded in 1984, aids in preserving and promoting Cayman folk music through events such as the Cayman Islands International Storytelling Festival, Cayman JazzFest, Seafarers Festival, and Cayfest.

A Pirate's Week Festival is also held. The Cayman JazzFest, which began in 2004, is a well-known jazz festival that celebrates the islands' "strong connection" to jazz. "God Save the Queen" is the official national anthem of the Cayman Islands. The official national song is "Beloved Isle Cayman," written and performed by organist Leila Ross-Shier.

### **GEOGRAPHY**

The islands are in the western Caribbean Sea and are the peaks of an undersea mountain range called the Cayman Ridge (or Cayman Rise). This ridge flanks the Cayman Trough, 20,000 ft deep which lies 3.7 miles to the south. The islands lie in the northwest of the Caribbean Sea, east of Quintana Roo, Mexico and Yucatán State, Mexico, northeast of Costa Rica, north of Panama, south of Cuba and west of Jamaica. They are situated about 430 miles south of Miami, 470 miles east of Mexico, 227 miles south of Cuba, and about 310 miles northwest of Jamaica.

Grand Cayman is by far the largest, with an area of 76 square miles. Grand Cayman's two "sister islands", Cayman Brac and Little Cayman, are about 75 miles east north-east of Grand Cayman and have areas of 14.7 and 11.0 square miles respectively.

The nearest land mass from Grand Cayman is the Canarreos Archipelago (150 miles away), whereas the nearest from the easternmost island Cayman Brac is the Jardines de la Reina archipelago (100 miles away) – both of which are part of Cuba.



All three islands were formed by large coral heads covering submerged ice-age peaks of western extensions of the Cuban Sierra Maestra range and are mostly flat. One notable exception to this is The Bluff on Cayman Brac's eastern part, which rises to 141 feet above sea level, the highest point on the islands.

The terrain is mostly a low-lying limestone base surrounded by coral reefs. The portions of prehistoric coral reef that line the coastline and protrude from the water are referred to as *ironshore*.

# **HISTORY**

On May 10, 1503 Christopher Columbus sailed along his fourth and final voyage to the New World when a chance wind blew his ship off course. Intending to sail to Hispaniola (present day Haiti and the Dominican Republic), he was thrust westward toward "two very small and low islands, full of tortoises (turtles), as was all the sea all about, insomuch that they looked like little rocks." He called these islands "Las Tortugas" after the thousands of turtles on shore. The two islands sighted were Cayman Brac and Little Cayman. In 1523, a map was drawn showing all three Islands under the name "Lagartos," meaning alligators or large lizards. By 1530, the islands were called the "Caimanas"— derived from the Carib Indian word for the marine crocodile that formerly inhabited the islands. "Caimanas" evolved to the Cayman Islands, and we've been calling it that ever since.



An early English visitor was Sir Francis Drake, who on his voyage in 1585-86 reported seeing "great serpents called Caimanas, like large lizards, which are edible." It was the Islands' ample supply of turtle, however, that made them a popular calling place for ships sailing the Caribbean in need of meat for their crews. This began a trend that eventually drastically depleted our local waters of the turtle, compelling Caymanian fishermen to go further afield to Cuba and the Miskito Cays in search of their catch. The Cayman Islands remained largely uninhabited until the 17th century. The first known settlers arrived in Little Cayman and Cayman Brac around

1658; it is likely these were deserters from Oliver Cromwell's army in the British colony in Jamaica. Many of the early inhabitants were also Britons from Jamaica. Some early residents were believed to be pirates that settled down looking for a more peaceful life.

The first two settlers were Mr. Bodden or Bowden and Mr. Watler or Walter. Over the course of the next couple of years some other settlers came to join Mr. Bodden and Mr. Watler, and many of these settled on Cayman Brac. Some of the early settlers were fishermen who caught turtle to sell to Jamaican merchants. Isaac Bodden, the first recorded permanent inhabitant of the Cayman Islands, was born on Grand Cayman around 1700. He was the grandson of the original settler named Bodden who was likely one of Oliver Cromwell's soldiers at the taking of Jamaica in 1655. A variety of people settled on the islands: pirates, refugees from the Spanish Inquisition, shipwrecked sailors and slaves. The majority of Caymanians are of African and British descent, with considerable interracial mixing.

Soon turtle fishermen, slaves, shipwrecked sailors, and refugees from the Spanish Inquisition joined the blend. The melting pot of cultures and backgrounds mixed together to create what we know as Caymankind today.