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8 incredible aquatic encounters in the Bahamas

By Amy Hopkins on 08 February 2017

If you could be anywhere right now, where would you be?

Are you daydreaming of swimming nose-to-nose with wild dolphins, or soaring into the sky in a seaplane like 007? If you get your kicks from being in and around crystal-clear waters, you'll find infinite happy places in the Bahamas.

The sea there is a balmy 27°C all year round and the Caribbean islands* boast some of the world's most Instagramable hotel pools. There are endless ways to enjoy the Bahamas' waters, but here are eight of our favourites:

Swim with pigs

Unsurprisingly, the Bahamas' clear seas are ideal for snorkelling, scuba and any number of kid-friendly water sports. But for a truly unique experience that you won't find anywhere else, seek out the shores of Big Major Cay.

Big Major Cay is in fact, tiny. This little island off Great Exuma is uninhabited by humans, but home to a family of wild pigs. No one knows how these hogs ended up on the island – local legends suggests they were left there by a sailor who planned to return and cook them, but never did, or that they are survivors of a pirate shipwreck.

However they got there, the colony of 20 or so pigs and piglets now live freely on the island, where they spend their days rooting on the beach, enjoying water from the island's fresh water springs and swimming in the sea. In the last ten years word has spread about the mysterious swimming beasts and savvy locals are cashing in. There are numerous tour operators only too happy to sail visitors out to Big Major Cay to splash about with the porky celebs.

How to swim with pigs:

[Exuma Water Sports](#) offers a brilliant half-day powerboat excursion. As well as feeding and swimming with the famous pigs, you'll walk on water at a sandbar in the middle of the ocean, see reef shark and stingrays, meet iguana on Nicolas Cage's island and snorkel at a colourful living reef. The half-day tour costs approximately £122 per person and snorkel gear (and pig food!) is provided.

Where to stay:

[Grand Isle Resort](#), a luxury, but relaxed and family-friendly resort on Emerald Bay, Great Exuma