

CAYO ROMANO CUBANFISHINGCENTERS.COM











AVALON CUBAN FISHING CENTERS

Fishing in Cuba is a delight and a continual mixture of incomparable sensations. In the exclusive fishing centers of AVALON at Jardines de la Reina (Gardens of the Queen), Isla de la Juventud (Island of Youth), Cayo Largo (Long Key), and at our newest destination on Cayo Romano, you will be tempted with the most combative and acrobatic species, while enjoying the exclusiveness of a vast area of endless flats just for you. This is a unique and incomparable combination that Avalon offers their clients-fishing in their own marine park on the southern coast of Cuba. There is no doubt that this is a once in a lifetime opportunity. Imagine being able to choose the place where you want to fish, and go after the species you want and to do so accompanied by the most experienced and knowledgeable guides. These guides spend almost 250 days every year guiding visitors and ensuring that their guests enjoy all the benefits and opportunities that this amazing environment offers. These they are some of the species that you can fish in Avalon, Cuba: Bonefish or Macabi, Tarpon or Sabalo, Permit or Palometa, and other ones like Snappers, Jacks, Snooks Barracudas, Needlefish or the combative and voracious Lemon sharks.



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GUBA

Highest elevation 1.974 m (6.476 ft)



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Protected areas

CAYO ROMANO

Located on the north shore of the eastern province of Camaguey, the Cayo Romano fishery is an enormous system of flats, lagoons and pristine estuaries. Located in Jardines del Rey, commercial fishing within this designated area is strictly forbidden and rigorously enforced. The sportfish - only area is 366 square kilometers in size, meaning that on the average day, each skiff has over 50 square kilometers to itself. The fishing area is virtually untouched and represents one of the cleanest and most biologically diverse ecosystems we've ever fished. This is one of the other reasons we have chosen this destination. It is still pretty much untouched and has only seen a very limited number of anglers since 2011. Most other destinations in the Caribbean have been heavily overfished for decades.

Also, those concerned by the occasional cold fronts from the north during January to March can be assured that Cayo Romano is privileged in having an extensive string of cays on its northern border which protects it from all but the most violent of weather patterns.



BLUE SANCTUARY AND CAYO ROMANO

Blue Sanctuary has been working with partners in the Jardines del Rey Archipelago for the past 27+ years. This is a massive no take marine preserve in the Caribbean, to focus on research, management and economic issues related to what are considered the most healthy and extensive coral reefs in the Caribbean region. We are working closely with the Cuban Center for Coastal Ecosystems and Marine Research Center of Cuba to better study the natural resources of the region while also assessing their economic and social values.

Project Blue Sanctuary is a comprehensive, aggressive and forward-looking program to research and protect the unique and pristine ecosystems of the Jardines del Rey Archipelago. This research ensures that these protections will endure in perpetuity, serve as a compelling model for marine protected areas worldwide, dramatically advance human understanding of how healthy coral reef ecosystems function, and yield critical insights to inform management decisions for protecting coral reefs globally.

Furthermore, this ecosystem and educational research model is bringing Americans and Cubans closer together. Former fishermen and their families are now employed in diving and fly fishing operations. Through this they are continually creating human connections by educating visiting ecotourists creating a sustainable way of life; which in turn, is fostering future generations of stewards in this marine park





NEW EXCLUSIVE ACCOMMODATIONS

The ROMANO is a stunning new accommodation in Cayo Romano. With a privileged location, at only 100 meters from the fishing marina, this new private mini lodge has a swimming pool, bar, lounge, a variety of signature restaurants, bowling area, and more. This lodge features several activities for anglers and also for non fishing guests. Additionally, the accommodation is only 1 hour away from Cayo Coco airport.







The lodge is built right on the water, overlooking a beautiful channel visited daily by tarpon schools and jacks. Some of the best fishing takes place right off the marina before dark.

All rooms are spacious and well appointed with air conditioning, tile floors and nice showers. The Romano has a private block of rooms specially assigned to the Avalon anglers, in a quiet area.

In the open-air main lodge you will find comfortable lounging chairs and a fully stocked bar with an accommodating bartender. After a long day on the flats it's nice to recount your adventures to fellow anglers while sipping an ice-cold beverage and enjoying the daily selection of snacks prepared fresh every afternoon. After a shower, make your way to the dining room to enjoy the chef's daily specialty.

This accommodation offers a "lodge atmosphere" to anglers who visit it, as it is remote but not disconnected. The main lodge has wireless internet for guest use. Come down and enjoy yourself at Cayo Romano.





GUIDES





Cayo Romano has been in operation since 2011 and has not seen many clients. This leads to a completely unpressured fishing area where the guides have free range to explore and share the bounty of this flats oasis. Many of Avalon's guides have worked in this area previously as commercial fishermen and have grown up among these flats, lagoons, and mangroves. Because of this deep history and wealth of knowledge, along with Avalon's professional and progressive training measures, this area features some of the best and most competent guides in all of Cuba and the Caribbean. Our guides speak good English and are eager to share stories about their Cuban heritage and unique fishing experiences. These guides will go the extra mile for each and every one of our clients while exhibiting a passionate drive towards success while pursuing the fish of a lifetime.

GENERAL PROGRAM





The skiffs depart from Cayo Romano each morning and depending on the guide rotation that day, you may be heading to any number of areas to spend the day. From Cayo Paredon Grande in the north to Cayo Guanaja in the south, there are countless islands, lagoons and bays that will keep anglers happy and into fish. Much of the fishing takes place back towards the mainland, in and around the massive island of Cayo Romano. The average boat run to the fishing areas is about 20 minutes in length and in some areas, you can be into fish within 5 minutes of leaving the boat docks. It just depends on where your guide wants to take you that day and what you are interested in targeting. With 50 square kilometers per boat, the options are just about limitless. There are so many great aspects to this fishery that it can truly be a sensory overload at times.







FLY FISHING

The first thing that guests need to know about when considering this location, aside from the exceptional flats fishing that is found here is that this new fishery is still very much in its infancy.

The flats are an inviting combination of hard packed white sand and a semi-firm mottled bottom that still provides good wading. And what a place this is for those who like to wade! It's very similar to Los Roques in terms of the amount of area that's wadable and there are places here where you can wade for 4 straight hours without heading back to the boat.











Cayo Romano demonstrates all the characteristics of a recently discovered, virgin fishing territory — large numbers of fish, good sizes and their evident lack of exposure to flies and leaders. Add to this the natural beauty of the cays and of the water and you have a truly memorable place to fish.

The average sized bonefish is a healthy 4 pounds and during the course of the week it is not unheard of for guests to land a fish or two in the 10 pound range. Tailing bonefish are common and guests can expect to see bonefish in singles and doubles, all the way up to schools of several hundred fish. What really sets this location apart from so many other fisheries is that guests can expect to encounter and get shots at good numbers of permit each day. There are very few places on earth where guests can fish for

big bonefish each day and also get shots at tailing permit. This combination may take place in other locations but not with the consistency that is virtually guaranteed at Cayo Romano. It is a rare day when you don't encounter and get shots at permit. The permit will range in size between about 8 and 30 pounds.

The flats at Cayo Romano are a little deeper than those found in other areas of Cuba, which means that the bonefish and permit are still found in excellent numbers throughout the year.

There are two locations within the Cayo Romano that offer very good tarpon fishing. Guides tend to save these areas for when an angler has already boated a permit and is looking for a Grand Slam. These fish will range from 30 to 90 pounds. Besides the fishing for permit, bonefish and tarpon, you will also cast for other challenging species as mutton snapper, snook, cubera, snapper, jack crevalle, barracuda, etc.



SEASONS

The period January to March brings with it the risk of cold fronts from north-east. However, as explained above, Cayo Romano is well protected by the string of cays that shelter most of the fishing spots. The fishing at this time is good; particularly for good-sized bonefish, small and medium tarpon (20-30lbs), and from mid-January the permit begin to appear.

The period from April to June is perhaps the best time both for weather and for appearance of large quantities of huge tarpon, in addition to the bonefish and permit.

In July and August the fishing is much the same as the spring and early summer with increased numbers of Permit on the flats and many opportunities to target them with many shots per day.

September to December is a great time for all species with many bonefish and permit on the flats and the occasional opportunity for tarpon among the multitude of other species available.

GETTING THERE

Guest can fly into Havana city (mostly for European citizens) or to Cayo Coco (to Canadian and South American anglers in some cases), in both arrival points, you will be met by an Avalon representative as soon as you clear customs.

Programs at Avalon Cayo Romano are weekly. Starting on Saturdays and ending the following Saturday, fishing is from Sunday to Friday (6 fishing days). In Low Season months (November / March & July / August) we can offer shorter programs, between 3 and 5 fishing days.

Guests are encouraged to fly into Cayo Coco whenever possible as this airport is only 1 hour from the fishing destination. Guests may fly here from Toronto or Montreal. Additionally, Camaguey is within 2.5 hours of Cayo Romano and is serviced by daily flights from Mexico. Additionally, those wanting to arriving in Havana may fly to Cayo Coco via domestic flight after overnighting in the city. At each of these arrival points guests are met by an Avalon representative that then transfers them to the destination.





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