

Caño Island Biological Reserve

This small 300 hectares on land and 5,800 hectares of sea, protected island near Drake Bay is covered with thick vegetation and surrounded by clear waters that hold coral formations and abundant marine life. Wildlife is scarce here, mainly what will be seen are paws, opossums, pigs and cattle egrets (the predominant bird species).

This island is a site of great archaeological interest. It was important for ancient indigenous cultures; the island was once used as a pre-Columbian cemetery by cultures with clear South American influence. Many pre-Columbian artifacts have been discovered there, like the perfectly shaped spheres made by former natives of this land.

The island is surrounded by five platforms of low coral reefs. Composes mainly of small white sandy beaches, that sometimes disappear with the high tide, it rises 110 meters above sea level. While the snorkeling is excellent just off the island's main beach, certified divers usually head to the more distant dive spots of Bajo del Diablo and Paraíso, two, submerge reefs that attract great schools of jacks and other fish, several species of sharks and manta rays.

Skin Diver magazine has rated Caño Island as among the best in the world and one of the newest hot spots for adventure diving. Camping areas have been established, near the ranger station, where you can also find potable water.