

History

The island of South Water Caye has a colorful past. Named by local fishermen for the availability of fresh water to be found in shallow wells on the island, prior to the 1970's. South Water Caye was home to a few local fishermen and summer getaways for several families in the Dangriga area.

Pelican Beach Resorts now has its facilities based on the southern end of South Water Caye but generations of Belizean history flavor our atmosphere.

- On the southern end of the island the **Pelican's Pouch** - the main lodge, was originally built as a convent for the Sisters of Mercy in the 1940's and used as a secluded retreat. The property was known as **"Sister's Point"**

The second floor dormitory has been converted to 5 large guest rooms. Connected to the convent via a wooden walkway was a separate building known as the "Bishop's house" and this has been rebuilt and repurposed for staff housing and operations.

- Several of **the cottages** still bear hints of the past as they were either originally constructed as caretaker's residence or transported from Dangriga where they had been the home of the resident colonial doctor in the 1930's and 40's.

- **The Pelican's University** was built in the early 1970's and demolished in 2014. It was located near the center of the island with full facilities for student groups. The University building was originally a farm house built in the 1930's and towed out to the island in sections in the early 70's to build the dorms and dining facilities.

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structure on the island and is rumored to have a friendly ghost the Grey Lady in residence. In 2014 both these buildings were dismantled and the almost century old timber used as the foundation to construct 8 new guest rooms in the

Brown Booby

tucked in the trees on the east side and staff housing – both on property on the south end of the island.

The owners of the Pelican Beach Resorts have enjoyed the simplicity and natural beauty of South Water Caye and nearby Carrie Bow Caye and its surrounding habitat for several generations and are eager to share that experience with you. In keeping with our commitment to preserving this fragile island environment we have adopted several conservation practices in our operation:

Water

Our water supply is provided by rain water collected from the roof and stored in large cisterns energy efficient pumps and a pressure tank providing water to basins and showers. Taking an "Island Shower" is important:

- Turn the water on - Rinse
- Turn the water off - Get Soapy
- Turn the water on - Rinse

Power

We use the sunshine during the day to charge the bank of batteries in our photovoltaic system then use inverters to power lighting, refrigeration and fans. Electrical outlets in the rooms and cottages are for the energy efficient lighting and fans in the rooms. This power supply handles charging for small appliances (cameras, phones, etc.) however PLEASE note that the use of heating appliances such as blow dryers, irons will result in the loss of power to your accommodation! Please let us know if you have medical appliances you need to use and we can ensure that adequate power is available for those!

Population and Logistics

Being 14 miles from Dangriga, our staff live on site. Supplies and staff come from Dangriga on boats that are scheduled several times weekly.

Waste disposal

Toilets are state of the art composting toilets in order to minimize the usage of fresh water and the possible contamination of ground water supply through the use of septic tanks. Our primary toilet systems are state of the art composting systems which flush with salt water and treated with bacterial solutions to aid in decomposition and with no contamination to the precious and uncommon fresh ground water on South "water" Caye. Some cottage units are stand-alone composting units and are quite simple to use requiring only a pint of water. Organic materials are either composted on the island or burnt, while solids are returned to the mainland.