



LIFE

is precious.

THE FLORA, FAUNA, & MARINE LIFE OF SECRET BAY.

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Secret Bay Resort sits on a point overlooking what is now known as Prince Rupert's Bay. After Dominica was ceded to the British in the 1700's, plans were drawn to make Portsmouth the island's capital. However, due to the prevalence of yellow fever and malaria at the time, the capital was instead relocated to its current location in Roseau. Had that been the case, how different things would have looked! The green hillsides would likely have been replaced with buildings and the necessary infrastructure, and the bay, a thriving commercial harbour, not the peaceful scene you see before you.

So instead, let's travel into the past, to a time when the Europeans first sighted the island.

The area was known then as Ou-you-hao by the Kalinago. It was the site of a major village, and their main settlement lay safely on the upper banks of the Indian River. A rough and rugged shoreline, the beach continued around the bay interrupted only by the swamps and marshlands. Rich forests with tall old trees abutted the sand and Indian River flowed freely into the sea. The Kalinago would have hunted crabs, birds and iguanas much like their hunter gathering ancestors, but they were also farmers, and expert seafarers. They cleared portions of land to farm maize and cassava, and they fished and traded with islanders as far north as Puerto Rico in canoes carved from the gommier tree.

Dominica was uniquely located in the path of the northeasterly trade winds, and sailing ships carried on the canary current would arrive in the Caribbean through the channel between Dominica and Guadeloupe. After days at sea and in need of replenishment, Ou-you-hao, later known as Prince Rupert's Bay was a popular stopping off point, and trading between the Europeans and Kalinago islanders ensued. Fresh water, food and wood were in high demand. Imagine the scene as it was, massive ships anchored in the forested bay and as the Kalinago islanders would greet the ships in canoes full of supplies. Because of the Kalinago resistance, Dominica remained a raw and wild island in a time when all surrounding lands were being heavily colonized by European nations. During the time of African Slave trade, Africans who were able to escape from a neighboring island or anchored ship, would find refuge in Dominica's forests, setting the foundations for Dominica's thriving Maroon population, or Negre Mawon.

Over the years, the bay saw much change. Demand for wood increased as the other islands exhausted their supplies. The west coast was an ideal place for harvesting trees, and many of the large old trees that grew here quickly disappeared, changing the landscape. As agriculture took hold, the land became exhausted and eroded. Plants and animals were introduced and the west coast you see today is a land in recovery.

Secret Bay Resort has worked hard to preserve and re-establish the wildlife that thrives

here. It is not just about creating a place to stay, but also capturing Dominica in a time when her land and wildlife were valued not just for what they could provide, but as cohabitants in a precious ecosystem. In this booklet, we glimpse into the flora, fauna and marine life that make up our little piece of paradise. Secret Bay offers a number of experiences which allow the explorer in each of us to be set free, as, through our experiences, we can observe, understand and appreciate the natural world around us.

FLORA

THE FLORA, FAUNA, WILDLIFE & MARINE LIFE OF SECRET BAY.

With such a mountainous terrain, Dominica is a treasure trove of biodiversity. Secret Bay sits in the rain shadow of Dominica's highest mountain Morne Diablotins, which means conditions here are drier than in other parts of the island. Known as dry scrub woodland, the naturally occurring vegetation found on this leeward coast has evolved ways to tolerate dry conditions, an abundance of sunshine and saltwater.

Whether endemic or introduced, the flora of Dominica make for an interesting and varied landscape.

Many of the introduced plants were brought over during European colonization, from Africa or the Pacific islands where there exists similar climates.



Cocoloba pubescens

Family name: Polygonaceae

Common name: Grandleaf Sea-grape

Local name: Wézinyé Grand feuille

Range: Native to Caribbean Coasts

Fun Facts: Flourishes in coastal settings due to its high salt and drought tolerance. Large leaves can be used as a makeshift umbrella.



Cocoloba uvifera

Family name: Polygonaceae

Common name: Seagrape

Local name: Wézinyé bòd-lamè

Range: Native to Caribbean Coasts

Fun Facts: A popular landscaping plant, the reddish fruits are edible, used to make jams, jellies, wine and vinegar. It can also be used as a dye and for the tanning of leather.



Pisonia fragrans

Family name: Nyctaginaceae

Local name: Mapou

Range: Native to Tropical Americas

Fun Facts: This evergreen tree common to the coast, produces pale yellow flowers.



Homalium racemosum

Family name: Salicaceae

Local name: Acoma, Hèt, White Cogwood

Range: Native to Caribbean Coasts

Fun Facts: A member of the willow family, its hard, heavy and strong wood is used in construction. The root and leaves are known to contain medicinal properties.



Casearia decandra

Family name: Flacourtiaceae

Common name: Wild Cherry

Range: Native to Caribbean Coasts

Fun Facts: Sometimes referred to as a honey plant due to their use by honeybees to collect nectar and pollen for making honey.



Pimenta racemosa

Family name: Myrtaceae

Local name: Bwa denn, Bay Leaf Tree

Range: Native to the Caribbean region

Fun Facts: The leaves are used in cooking and to make bay oil which is distilled to produce bay rum. Bay rum is used as a cologne, cleaning agent or even mosquito repellent.



Eugenia ligustrina

Family name: Myrtaceae

Local name: Birchberry, Méwiz

Range: Native to the Caribbean region

Fun Facts: Found scattered within woodland forests.



Clusia minor

Family name: Combretaceae

Local name: Kaklen, Lagali, Zabwiko-mawon

Range: Native to Caribbean Region and Central America

Fun Facts: Found in damp areas, it derived its Latin name *Clusia* from French botanist Carolus Clusius who is responsible for the development of the tulip, potato and chestnut.



Terminalia Catappa

Family name: Combretaceae

Local name: Indian Almond, Almond, Zamann

Range: Asia, Africa, India, Australia

Fun Facts: This introduced deciduous tree flourishes in coastal areas. It is uncertain where it originated as it has been so widely spread. The fruit are edible and leaves change color before falling.



Ceiba pentandra (occidentalis)

Family name: Bombaceae

Local name: Fòmajé, Flo Tree, Silk Cotton, Kapok

Range: Native to Caribbean and Central America region

Fun Facts: This commercial tree has many uses. The seed pods produce cotton-like fluff which is used as alternative to down. Its bark and seeds also have some commercial use. Flowers are frequented by honeybees.



Byrsonima coriacea var. spicata

Family name: Malpighiaceae

Local name: Bwa tan, Serret, Bois Marie, Mowisif

Range: Native to Caribbean, South & Central America

Fun Facts: Found in damp coastal areas and lands that have been degraded by farming.



Hippomane mancinella

Family name: Euphorbiaceae

Local name: Manjini, Manchineel

Range: Native to Caribbean & Tropical Americas

Fun Facts: Known as beach apple, be careful around this tree, although endangered it is considered one of the most poisonous trees in the world. All parts of the tree are toxic.



Margaritaria nobilis

Family name: Euphorbiaceae

Local name: Mil-bwanch; Mille Branches

Range: Caribbean and Tropical Americas

Fun Facts: A fast growing ornamental tree that can be used in landscaping and good for reestablishing woodlands, it produces a bright blue fruit.



Andira inermis

Family name: Fabaceae

Local name: Angelin, Anjlen, Cabbage Tree

Range: Native southern Mexico and Central America, introduced to Caribbean, Florida, Africa.

Fun Facts: This nitrogen-fixing tree produces beautiful pink flowers. Its wood can be used for lumbar and its bark is known to have various medical properties.



Hymenaea courbaril

Family name: Fabaceae

Local name: Coubaril, Koubawi, Locust, Kas, Stinktoe

Range: Caribbean and Tropical Americas

Fun Facts: A tropical hardwood used in furniture and flooring, the fruit of Coubaril has a rich edible pulp high in starch and protein, a major food in indigenous populations.



Delonix regia

Family name: Fabaceae

Local name: Flamboyant, Shak-shak tree, Flame tree

Range: Endemic to Madagascar, but introduced to tropical and subtropical regions around the world.

Fun Facts: Notable for its fern-like leaves and vibrant display of flowers, the flamboyant bursts into colour during the summer months, from about May to September.



Haematoxylum campechianum

Family name: Fabaceae

Local name: Campech, Kanpèch, Logwood, Bloodwood

Range: Tropical Americas

Fun Facts: The wood produces a versatile dye, used on textiles and paper, common during the 1600 - 1800's. Also a source of haematoxylin, today it is used in histology for staining.

*Inga laurina***Family name:** Fabaceae**Local name:** Pois doux, Pwa-dou, Sacky-sac, Guama**Range:** Caribbean and Tropical Americas**Fun Facts:** Used as a shade tree on coffee and cocoa plantations, the Pois doux is also nitrogen fixing benefiting any plants closely surrounding it.*Lonchocarpus Pentaphyllus***Family name:** Fabaceae**Local name:** Savonnèt**Range:** Native to South & Central America and the Caribbean.**Fun Facts:** The nectar from the blossoms of this tree used by honeybees makes great honey.*Sabinea carinalis***Family name:** Fabaceae**Local name:** Bwa Kwaib, Carib Logwood**Range:** Endemic to Dominica**Fun Facts:** This is Dominica's national flower, selected around the time of the island's independence (1978). It grows along the dry west coast and flowers during the months of February to April.*Gliricidia sepium***Family name:** Fabaceae**Local name:** Glory Cedar, Quick-stick**Range:** Native to Mexico and Central America.**Fun Facts:** This fast growing tree was used to shade crops such as coffee. But its many uses include slope stabilization, living fences, fodder and firewood.*Leucaena leucocephala***Family name:** Fabaceae**Local name:** Zing-Zing**Range:** Endemic to Mexico, but invasive in areas. It is found in tropical and subtropical regions around the world.**Fun Facts:** Although the young pods are edible by humans, the legume is high in protein and used primarily as fodder for livestock.*Erythrina variegata***Family name:** Fabaceae**Local name:** Immortelle, Tiger's claw, Indian Coral Tree, Sunshine Tree**Range:** Native to Tropical Regions of the Pacific, found throughout the tropics**Fun Facts:** A prized ornamental tree, the Immortelle produces beautiful scarlet or crimson flowers from about January to June.



Ficus citrifolia

Family name: Moraceae

Local name: Figuier, Fijyé, Strangler Fig, Wild banyantree

Range: Native to Caribbean and Tropical Americas

Fun Facts: Beginning as an epiphyte, the ficus attaches to other trees, strangling them as it grows. The fruit are such an important part of the diet of so many species it is considered a Tropical keystone species.



Bursera Simaruba

Family name: Burseraceae

Local name: Copperwood , Naked Indian, Tourist Tree, Gommier wouj, Gommier barrier, Peel-bark Gommier

Range: Native to tropical Americas

Fun Facts: This fast growing deciduous & wind tolerant tree, gets its name because of its peeling, shiny bark.



Samanea saman

Family name: Mimosaceae

Local name: Saman, Raintree

Range: Caribbean and tropical Americas

Fun Facts: A large shade tree, the leaves fold together during the night and in wet weather. Because of this, rain is able to fall through allowing grass to grow right up to the trunk.



Calliandra tergemina

Family name: Mimosoideae

Local name: Powderpuff plant, Bread & Cheese or Bwa Ravine

Range: Native to South & Central America

Fun Facts: A flowering tree in the pea family, it is valued for its attractive foliage and showy year-round flowers.



Tabebuia heterophylla

Family name: Bignoniaceae

Local name: White Cedar, Pòwyé Senk-Fèy

Range: Native to the West Indies

Fun Facts: A very hardy and low maintenance tree, the White cedar can be seen in all over the island, especially in coastal areas. It produces attractive pink flowers.



Spathodea campanulata

Family name: Bignoniaceae

Local name: African Tulip, Pipee Tree, Flame-of-the-Forest

Range: Native to tropical dry forests of Africa. Introduced worldwide

Fun Facts: Considered among the most invasive species in the world, the Spathodea was introduced for its ornamental value, due to its bright, showy flowers.



Cananga odorata

Family name: Annonaceae

Local name: Ylang Ylang

Range: Native to Southeast Asia

Fun Facts: Produces an unimpressive flower, the Ylang Ylang is known for its sweet smell. Essential oils created from the plant are used in aromatherapy. In some cultures such as Indonesia, the flowers are placed on the beds of newlyweds.



Solanum torvum

Family name: Solanaceae

Local name: Wild eggplant

Range: Native to Tropical Americas but also prevalent in tropical regions around the world.

Fun Facts: Spreads rapidly on disturbed lands, the fruit is eaten in various cuisines. It is high in iron and also contains medicinal properties. It is also used Haitian voodoo rituals.



Phoradendron trinervium

Family name: Viscaceae

Local name: Mistletoe, Angled Mistletoe

Range: Native to tropical Americas

Fun Facts: A parasitic plant, the mistletoe obtains minerals and water from its host plant.



Coilostylis ciliaris

Family name: Orchidaceae

Local name: Eye lash Orchid, Fringed Star Orchid

Range: Native to Caribbean

Fun Facts: Pollinated by the moth *Pseudosphinx tetrio* or frangipani hornworm.



Dioscorea alata

Family name: Dioscoreaceae

Local name: White yam

Range: Native to Asia

Fun Facts: Brought over to Dominica during the African slave trade, the White yam appears purple or white and can grow wild. It is also attractive as an ornamental plant.



Odontonema nitidum

Family name: Acanthaceae

Local name: Zye Kwab

Range: Native to West Indies

Fun Facts: A common evergreen found in forests around the island, the bark of the Zye Kwab is used in local medicine to treat fresh cuts.



Anthurium grandifolium

Family name: Araceae

Local name: Elephant's Ears, Wild Anthirium

Range: Native to Lesser Antilles

Fun Facts: Grows in the wild and is found in dry coastal forests as well as rainforests. Unlike the colourful anthirium, the inflorescence of the Grandifolium a lot more subtle.



Stachytarpheta jamaicensis

Family name: Verbenaceae

Local name: Venvenn, Jamaican vervain,

Range: Native to Caribbean

Fun Facts: Used in traditional medicine to treat and control blood pressure & blood sugar levels, Venvenn is also known to induce miscarriages.



Piper amalago

Family name: Piperaceae

Local name: Mal Estomac

Range: Native to Tropical Americas

Fun Facts: Known to have various medical properties, it is used to treat pimples.



Consolea sp.

Family name: Cactaceae

Local name: Cactus

Range: Native to Caribbean and Florida

Fun Facts: Consolea contains 10 recognized species found in the Caribbean. They thrive in arid regions of the island. The spines of the cacti are modified leaves which help to protect against water loss and defending against predators (herbivores).



Agave sp.

Family name: Asparagaceae

Local name: Agave

Range: Native to Tropical and Arid Americas

Fun Facts: Agave are succulents just like most cacti and aloe, although not related to either of them. They grow wild along the cliffs and dry areas of the west coast. The flowers, leaves, stalks and rosettes are edible.



Aloe vera

Family name: Xanthorrhoeaceae

Local name: Aloe

Range: Widely cultivated worldwide

Fun Facts: Used as an ornamental plant, in cosmetics and in alternative medicine. The Aloe is locally used against sunburns and as a juice to aid in digestion.



Genipa americana

Family name: Rubiaceae

Common name: Genip

Local name: Genip, Marmalade Box

Range: Native to South & Central America and the Caribbean.

Fun Facts: The edible fruit is prepared in a variety of ways, but if the juice is left to oxidize, it will permanently stain the skin black.



Morinda Citrifolia

Family name: Rubiaceae

Local name: Cheese Fruit ,Kòwòsòl Zonbi, Pain Killer, Pangkila, Noni

Range: Native to Southeast Asia and Australia

Fun Facts: Belongs to the same family as coffee, the leaves, fruit and roots are supposed to have health benefits. The bark produces a brown-purplish dye.



Vangueria madagascariensis

Family name: Rubiaceae

Common name: Tamarind des Indes, Tamawen dézenn

Local name:

Range: Native to African continent

Fun Facts: Produces a large brown/orange edible fruit with chocolate like flavour.



Coffea arabica

Family name: Rubiaceae

Local name: Arabica Coffee

Range: Native to Yemen and Ethiopia

Fun Facts: Coffee in Dominica used to be solely cultivated by the French during the European colonization of the island.



Theobroma cacao

Family name: Sterciliaceae

Local name: Cocoa tree, Kako

Range: Native to Tropical Americas

Fun Facts: The seed of the cocoa pod can be sucked raw, but to make cocoa or chocolate as we know it, they must first be roasted. Popular use in Dominica is in the form of *Cocoa tea* which is boiled and combined with sugar, milk, coconut cream, spices and/or taloma.



Mangifera indica

Family name: Anacardiaceae

Common name: Mango

Local name: Mango

Range: Native to India and Pakistan

Fun Facts: There are a number of varieties of mango consumed locally. They are usually eaten raw, but can be made into juice and chutney.

*Spondias dulcis***Family name:** Anacardiaceae**Local name:** Golden Apple, Pomme-Cythere; Pom-site**Range:** Native to Polynesia and Melanesia, introduced to tropical areas around the world**Fun Facts:** Can be eaten raw but locally is usually consumed as a juice.*Artocarpus altilis***Family name:** Moraceae**Local name:** Breadfruit**Range:** Native to South Pacific**Fun Facts:** To eat the breadfruit, it can be boiled, roasted or fried.

Locally, it is eaten in salads, stews or with Saltfish.

*Melicoccus bijugatus***Family name:** Sapindaceae**Local name:** Kennip, Chennèt**Range:** Native to Tropical Americas**Fun Facts:** The fruit is opened by biting the skin and sucking on the seed inside. The juice of the fruit stains and was used by Amerindians as a dye.*Tamarindus indica***Family name:** Caesalpinaceae**Local name:** Tamarind, Tamawen**Range:** Native to Tropical Africa**Fun Facts:** Locally, Tamarind is boiled with sugar and made into a juice or a treat known as Tamarind Balls.*Annona muricata***Family name:** Annonaceae**Local name:** Soursop, Kòwòsòl**Range:** Native to Caribbean and Central America**Fun Facts:** The soursop grows well in the dry coastal areas of Dominica. The pulp is consumed fresh or blended to make juice.*Annona reticulata***Family name:** Annonaceae**Local name:** Cachiman, Custard apple, Bullock's Heart**Range:** Native to Caribbean and Central America**Fun Facts:** The fruit is consumed by eating the sweet pulp.

*Psidium guajava***Family name:** Myrtaceae**Local name:** Guava, Gwiyav**Range:** Tropical and Subtropical regions**Fun Facts:** Found all over the island, the guava is used in many ways. In traditional medicine, all parts of the plant aid in various ailments. The fruit are eaten either ripe or unripe and are used to make jams, juice and other treats.*Syzygium malaccense***Family name:** Myrtaceae**Local name:** Pommerak**Range:** Native to Malaysia**Fun Facts:** Produces a vibrant pink/purple flower and the dark red fruit is consumed raw or made into jams. Popular with fruit bats and birds.*Syzygium Jambos***Family name:** Myrtaceae**Local name:** Pomme Rose, Rose Apple, Plum Rose**Range:** Native to Southeast Asia**Fun Facts:** Used similarly to the Pommerak, the rose apple is not as vibrant and the fruit is tarter.*Averrhoa Carambola***Family name:** Oxalidaceae**Local name:** Carambola, Five Fingers, Star Fruit**Range:** Native to Southeast Asia**Fun Facts:** The fruit is consumed fresh, or made into a juice and jams. It is also used in salads.*Cocos nucifera***Family name:** Palmae**Local name:** Coconut**Range:** Native to Tropical Regions**Fun Facts:** Coconut water, a refreshing drink obtained from a young drupe, is also used as a chaser to rum or whiskey. Coconut milk is obtained from the meat of an older drupe. It is used in curries, treats such as *coconut cheese* and *tablet*.*Persea americana***Family name:** Lauraceae**Local name:** Avocado, Zaboka**Range:** Native to Mexico and Central America**Fun Facts:** Consumed in salads, drinks or as a spread, during Independence, the Zaboka is combined with Farine to make *Farine Balls*.



Passiflora laurifolia & edulis

Family name: Passifloraceae

Local name: Pomme de liane

Range: Native to Tropical Americas

Fun Facts: Produces edible fruit from the passionfruit family. Eaten fresh or made into juice and jams.



Hibiscus

Family name: Malvaceae

Local name: Hibiscus

Range: Native to Tropical and Sub-tropical Regions around the world

Fun Facts: Although used in landscaping for its showy flowers, the hibiscus is known to have various medicinal properties. Locally the leaves of the hibiscus can be ground up and used as a shampoo.



Heliconia caribaea

Family name: Heliconiaceae

Local name: Heliconia

Range: Native to Tropical Americas

Fun Facts: Hummingbirds and some bats feed on the nectar and help to pollinate the plant.



Bougainvillea

Family name: Nyctaginaceae

Local name: Bougainvillea

Range: Native to South America

Fun Facts: The bougainvillea, known for its bright colours can grow as a vine, shrub or tree. The flower itself is small and usually white, but the assortment of colours associated with the plant are in fact bracts, which is a specialized leaf.



Ixora coccinea

Family name: Rubiaceae

Local name: Ixora, star flower, Flame of the woods

Range: Native to Pacific

Fun Facts: One of the most popularly used plants in landscaping. Flowers year round



Caesalpinia pulcherrima

Family name: Fabaceae

Local name: Pride of Barbados, Red Bird of Paradise

Range: Native to Tropical America

Fun Facts: An ornamental plant used in landscaping.



Allamanda cathartica

Family name: Apocynaceae

Local name: Allamanda

Range: Native to Tropical Americas

Fun Facts: An ornamental plant commonly used in landscaping. The flowers are either yellow or pink and can grow as a shrub or vine.



Nerium oleander

Family name: Apocynaceae

Local name: Oleander

Range: Widely cultivated

Fun Facts: A popular shrub to use in landscaping due to its colourful flowers year round. However it is a very toxic plant to humans and other animals.



Plumeria

Family name: Apocynaceae

Local name: Frangipani

Range: Native to Tropical Americas

Fun Facts: Related to the Oleander,



Tradescantia spathacea

Family name: Commelinaceae

Local name: Boatlily, Cradle of Moses

Range: Native to Central America

Fun Facts: An attractive foliage plant popular in landscaping.



Codiaeum variegatum

Family name: Euphorbiaceae

Local name: Croton

Range: Native to South Pacific

Fun Facts: An ornamental plant commonly used in landscaping, comes in yellow and pink.



Bambusa vulgaris

Family name: Poaceae

Local name: Bamboo

Range: Native to China and Madagascar

Fun Facts:



Dypsis lutescens

Family name: Arecaceae

Local name: Golden Palm, Bamboo Palm

Range: Native to Madagascar

Fun Facts:



Cymbopogon

Family name: Poaceae

Local name: Lemon grass

Range: Native to Pacific

Fun Facts: A grass cultivated for its culinary and medical uses. It contains the species citronella grass used to make citronella oil. Introduced to Dominica and is currently invasive.



Vetiveria zizanioides

Family name: Poaceae

Local name: Vetiver

Range: Native to Asia

Fun Facts: Has a number of uses, including erosion control and slope stabilization, and as thatch. The Kalinago use vetiver to make mats and baskets.

FAUNA

THE FLORA, FAUNA & MARINE LIFE OF SECRET BAY.

An Island rich in natural beauty and with an abundant of undisturbed land, there are diverse groups of animals that happily thrive here.

There are about 188 species of avifauna who call Dominica home. Feeding on fruits, nectar, insects, crustaceans and fish, look for them on the sea shore, in the trees, soaring through the sky or even bouncing off the balcony of your room. The birds found in and around Secret Bay nest here because the environment suits them and there is a rich food supply. The carolers of daytime, they will sing to you from sunrise to sundown, giving way to the night.



Pelecanus occidentalis

Family name: Pelecanidae

Local name: Brown Pelican

Status: Common

Fun Facts: The *Pelecanus occidentalis* is the state bird of Louisiana and the national bird of the Turks and Caicos (*Pelecanus occidentalis*).



Sterna maxima

Family name: Sternidae

Local name: Royal Tern

Status: Common

Fun Fact: The *Sterna maxima* defecates on the rim of its nest in a shallow depression near the sea coast so that it will harden to prevent flooding (*Royal Tern*).



Sterna antillarum

Family name: Sternidae

Local name: Least Tern

Status: Common/Migrant

Fun Facts: The *Sterna antillarum* nests on sandy beaches making it a resident throughout many of the Caribbean islands (*Least Tern*).



Fregata magnificens

Family name: Fregatidae

Local name: Magnificent Frigate Bird

Status: Very common

Fun Facts: Charles Darwin named the *Fregata magnificens* “the condor of the ocean” due to its incredible wingspan. (*Magnificent Frigatebird*).



Egretta caerulea

Family name: Ardeidae

Local name: Little Blue Heron

Status: Common

Fun Facts: This is the only species in its family that has two distinct color morphs for mature and immature birds. The mature bird is blue and the immature bird is white. (*Egretta Caerulea*).

*Butorides virescens***Family name:** Ardeidae**Local name:** Green Heron**Status:** Very Common

Fun Facts: The *Butorides virescens* obtained its more common known name, Green Heron, for its green cap and back (*Green Heron (Butorides Virescens)*).

*Nyctanassa violacea***Family name:** Ardeidae**Local name:** Yellow Crowned Night Heron**Status:** Common

Fun Facts: During breeding season the *Nyctanassa violacea* grows long white feathers from the crown of its head (*Yellow-crowned Night-heron (Nyctanassa Violacea)*).

*Bubulcus ibis***Family name:** Ardeidae**Local name:** Cattle Egret**Status:** Very Common

Fun Facts: The *Bubulcus ibis* gets its common name, Cattle Egret, from habituating alongside herds of cattle (*Cattle Egret (Bubulcus Ibis)*).

*Calidris minutilla***Family name:** Scolopacidae**Local name:** Least Sandpiper**Status:** Common

Fun Facts: The *Calidris minutilla* have a high-pitched songlike call made by the males on breeding grounds (*Least Sandpiper*).

*Tyrannus dominicensis***Family name:** Tyrannidae**Local name:** Grey Kingbird**Status:** Very Common

Fun Facts: The *Tyrannus dominicensis* is a fearless bird, demonstrating aggressive and territorial behavior during breeding season. (*Johnson*).

*Quiscalus lugubris***Family name:** Icteridae**Local name:** Carib Grackle**Status:** Very Common

Fun Fact: The Carib Grackle enjoys human company and for this reason is often found at touristic hotels. (*Quiscalus Lugubris*).



Elaenia martinica

Family name: Tyrannidae

Local name: Caribbean Elaenia

Status: Very Common

Fun Facts: When these birds get excited, they pull down their crown feathers to the side, revealing a white-yellow stripe in the middle. (*Caribbean Elaenia*).



Myiarchus oberi

Family name: Tyrannidae

Local name: Lesser Antillean Flycatcher

Status: Common

Fun Facts: The *Myiarchus oberi* are commonly known as the Lesser Antillean Flycatcher for catching their prey while flying. (*La Force, 2011*).



Cincloertheria ruficauda

Family name: Mimidae

Local name: Brown Trembler

Status: Very Common

Fun Facts: The *Cincloertheria ruficauda* obtained its commonly known name, Brown Trembler, from its color and by the drooping of its wings, followed by a strong trembling. (*Bouglovan*).



Margarops fuscatus

Family name: Mimidae

Local name: Pearly-Eyed Thrasher

Status: Fairly Common

Fun Facts: Found on many of the Caribbean islands, the Pearly-eyed Thrasher is known to nest in bushes, trees and coffee plantations. An aggressive omnivore, it's diet ranges from berries to small crabs and other birds nestlings.



Allenia fusca

Family name: Mimidae

Local name: Scaly-Breasted Thrasher

Status: Fairly Common

Fun Facts: Native to the lesser antilles, the *Allenia fusca* is the one only member in the *Allenia* genus (*Bouglovan*).



Turdus plumbeus

Family name: Turdidae

Local name: Red-Legged Thrush

Status: Fairly Common

Fun Fact: The Red-Legged Thrush, can be considered as the Caribbean's equivalent to the American Robin, as they share many similar habits.



Vireo altiloquus

Family name: Vireonidae

Local name: Black-Whiskered Vireo

Status: Common

Fun Facts: Found in the Tropical Americas, this is the Caribbean version of the American songbird, the Red-eyed Vireo. (*Kaufman*).



Saltator albicollis

Family name: Thraupidae

Local name: Lesser Antillean Saltator

Status: Common

Fun Facts: There are two different subspecies of the Lesser Antillean Saltator, the Guadelupensis found in Guadeloupe and Dominica, and the Albicollis in Martinique and St. Lucia (Lesser Antillean Saltator).



Coereba flaveola

Family name: Thraupidae

Local name: Bananaquit

Status: Very Common

Fun Facts: Found throughout the Caribbean, the Bananaquit feeds on nectar as well as the juices of sweet fruits. It is part of the group of birds *Tiaris* (grassquits) which are otherwise known as Darwin's finches. (*Bananaquit*)



Tiaris bicolor

Family name: Thraupidae

Local name: Black-faced Grassquit

Status: Very Common

Fun Facts: The Black Faced Grassquit is a close relative of Darwin's finches (Black-faced Grassquit). At a glance they can be mistaken for a female Lesser Antillean Bullfinch.



Loxigilla noctis

Family name: Thraupidae

Local name: Lesser Antillean Bullfinch

Status: Very common

Fun Facts: A common bird throughout the Lesser Antilles, male plumage is black with a reddish throat and lores, whereas the female is warm grey with reddish brown wings. (*Lesser Antillean Bullfinch*).



Setophaga petechia

Family name: Parulidae

Local name: Yellow Warbler

Status: Very Common

Fun Facts: A small bird, the Yellow Warbler's range extends from North America to northern South America.



Eulampis holosericeus

Family name: Trochilidae

Local name: Green-Throated Carib

Status: Common

Fun Facts: A visually striking bird, the Green-Throated Carib is the largest hummingbirds in the Lesser Antillies. (*Eulampis holosericeus*).



Eulampis jugularis

Family name: Trochilidae

Local name: Purple-Throated Carib

Status: Fairly Common

Fun Facts: Endemic to the Lesser Antilles, the Purple-Throated Carib is named for the distinctive purple patch on its throat and chest. (*Johnson*).



Orthorhyncus cristatus

Family name: Trochilidae

Local name: Antillean Crested Hummingbird

Status: Common

Fun Facts: Found throughout the Lesser Antilles, the Antillean Crested Hummingbird is one of the few hummingbirds to have a crest - which are used for display purposes. (*Orthorhyncus cristatus*).



Zenaida aurita

Family name: Columbidae

Local name: Zenaida Dove

Status: Common

Fun Facts: Similar to the Mourning Dove of North & Central America, the Zenaida Dove prevalent in the lesser antilles, is commonly but incorrectly referred to as a Turtle Dove. It is Anguilla's national bird (*Hunter, 2013*).



Patagioenas squamosa

Family name: Columbidae

Local name: Scaly-Naped Pigeon

Status: Common

Fun Facts: Found throughout the Caribbean, the Scaly-Naped Pigeon is named for its maroon coloured scaly-like plumage around its neck. (*The Scaly-naped Pigeon*).



Columbina passerina

Family name: Columbidae

Local name: Common Ground Dove

Status: Common

Fun Facts: Widespread throughout the tropical Americas, the Common Ground Dove consumes over 2,500 seeds a day in order to meet its body's energy demands (*Common Ground-Dove*).



Coccyzus minor

Family name: Cuculidae

Local name: Mangrove Cuckoo

Status: Common

Fun Facts: The Mangrove Cuckoo has four toes, two forward and two backwards, as opposed to the more standard three forward and one backward toe arrangement. (*Mangrove Cuckoo*).



Coccyzus americanus

Family name: Cuculidae

Local name: Yellow-billed Cuckoo

Status: Common winter migrant

Fun Facts: If their nests are threatened by a predator, the yellow-billed cuckoo will create a distraction whereby one bird will lure the predator away, while the other bird remains to ensure the nest's safety. (*Yellow-billed Cuckoo*).



Chaetura martinica

Family name: Apodidae

Local name: Lesser Antillean Swift

Status: Common

Fun Facts: A highly aerial bird, the Lesser Antillean Swift is native to the Lesser Antillean Islands of Dominica, Guadeloupe, Martinique, Saint Lucia, and Saint Vincent. (*Lesser Antillean Swift*).



Crotophaga ani

Family name: Cuculidae

Local name: Smooth-Billed Ani

Status: Common

Fun Facts: A ground feeder native to the tropical Americas, one member of a group of Smooth-Billed Ani will serve as a lookout for predators, while the other members of this species forage for food. (*Smooth-billed Ani*).



Tyto alba

Family name: Tytonidae

Local name: Barn Owl

Status: Fairly Common

Fun Facts: Barn Owls eat their prey whole and then cough up pellets instead of passing the remains through their excretory system. (*Barn Owl*).



Buteo platypterus

Family name: Accipitridae

Local name: Broad-Winged Hawk, Mal-fini

Status: Common

Fun Facts: The Broad-Winged Hawk migrates in large flocks, known as a "kettle". Their local name "mal-fini" translates to "bad finish". (*Broad-winged Hawk*).

Dominica is home to wide variety of insects including 11 species of stick insects and 55 species of butterfly, two of which are endemic to the island. Insects may be at times a nuisance and unsettling to those unaccustomed, but each plays a role in its environment. Whether the predator or prey, the pollinator or scavenger, they add to the biodiversity of Secret Bay and where birds are the musicians of daytime, insects make up orchestra of the night.



Junonia coenia

Family name: Nymphalidae

Local name: Caribbean Buckeye

Habitat: Open areas with low vegetation and bare ground

Fun Facts: Eyespots serve to startle or distract predators, especially young birds. (*Caribbean Buckeye*)



Battus polydamas

Family name: Nymphalidae

Local name: Polydamas Swallowtail

Habitat: Open areas with low vegetation and bare ground

Fun Facts: In the tropics, this butterfly flies throughout the year in several generations. (*Swallowtail*)



Phoebis sennae

Family name: Nymphalidae

Local name: Cloudless Sulphur

Habitat: Open spaces with low vegetation and bare ground

Fun Facts: Lives in a wide range, from Canada to South America. (*Cloudless Sulphur*)



Dryas iulia

Family name: Nymphalidae

Local name: Flambeau

Habitat: Open spaces, clearings and paths

Fun Facts: The caterpillar feeds on the passionfruit vines. As a butterfly it is active throughout the day and long lived, making it a popular choice for butterfly houses. (*Flambeau*)



Ascia monuste

Family name: Nymphalidae

Local name: Great Southern White

Habitat: Open spaces with low vegetation and bare ground

Fun Facts: This is migrating species travels during it's lifetime in one direction and never returns. (*Great Southern White*)



Anartia jatrophae

Family name: Nymphalidae

Local name: White Peacock

Habitat: Open areas with low vegetation and bare ground

Fun Facts: The males are territorial. They are aggressive towards other insects and White Peacock males in an area typically 15 meters in diameter that contains larval host plants. (*White Peacock*)



Agraulis vanillae

Family name: Nymphalidae

Local name: Gulf Fritillary

Habitat: Open areas with low vegetation and bare ground

Fun Facts: This butterfly is known to migrate over the Gulf of Mexico which is how it got its common name. (*Gulf Fritillary*)



Memphis dominicana

Family name: Nymphalidae

Local name: Godman's Leaf

Habitat: Open areas with low vegetation and bare ground

Fun Facts: Endemic to the lesser Antilles. (*Godman's Leaf*)



Danaus plexippus

Family name: Nymphalidae

Local name: Monarch Butterfly

Habitat: Open areas with low vegetation and bare ground

Fun Facts: A migratory butterfly, Monarchs were transported to the International Space Station and bred there. (*Monarch*)



Tettigoniidae

Common name: bush crickets, long-horned Grasshopper

Habitat: Open areas with low vegetation and bare ground

Fun Facts: These nocturnal plant eaters are sometimes mistaken for true grasshoppers which have much shorter antennae. Resembling leaves to avoid predation, the katydid generate continuous songs known as trills. (*Katydid*s).



Dynastes hercules

Family name: Scarabaeidae

Local name: Hercules Beetle

Habitat: Open areas with low vegetation and bare ground

Fun Facts: Native to the rainforest's of the Tropical Americas, this is the largest of its species. The larval stage lasts for about 1 - 2 years tunneling through rotting wood. (*Hercules Beetle*)

Decapods crustaceans can be found in the sea, freshwater and on land. These creatures have 10 limbs (claws included), and usually walk sideways. Preferring to hunt and scavenge at night or in the shade, crabs avoid the sun to prevent from drying out. During the island's independence, when hunting season for crabs is open, crab backs and crab callaloo is a popular dish eat.



Coenobita clypeatus

Family name: Coenobitidae

Local name: Solda, Caribbean Hermit Crab

Range: Tropical islands

Habitat: Coastal areas

Fun Facts: The Hermit Crab wears a variety of shells, the most common being the shell of the West Indian Top Snail. (*Solda*)



Gecarcinus ruricola

Family name: Gecarcinidae

Local name: Kwab, Black Land Crab, Zombie Crab

Range: Caribbean

Habitat: From coastal areas to high altitudes.

Fun Facts: These omnivorous scavengers can live far from the sea and at high altitudes. After mating, a mass migration of females returns to the sea to release their fertilized eggs. (*Kwab*)



Cardisoma guanhumi

Family name: Gecarcinidae

Local name: Blue Land Crab, Kobo

Range: Americas

Habitat: Burrows in coastal areas and estuaries

Fun Facts: Able to reach sizes of 35cm/14in, these slow-growing crabs require more than 60 molts which are about 3 times more than other species of crab. (*Kobo*)



Ocypode quadrata

Family name: Ocypodidae

Local name: Atlantic Ghost Crab, Touloulou Blan

Range: Americas

Habitat: Beaches

Fun Facts: These crabs burrow in the sand of beaches just above the high water mark. Compound eyes allow for 360° vision. (*Touloulou Blan*)

Dominica has the privilege of being one of the few Caribbean islands to retain its original amphibian and reptilian fauna over the last couple centuries. There are 17 species of reptiles known to exist and 4 of amphibians, none of which are poisonous. Reptiles differ from amphibians because they lack an aquatic larval stage, and amphibians tend to be found near a source of water.



Liophis juliae

Family name: Colubridae

Local name: Julia's ground snake

Range: Endemic to Dominica & Guadeloupe

Habitat: Lives in burrows or natural shelters and is found all over the island, except highest elevations.

Fun Facts: *L.j.juliae* is endemic to Dominica, and if provoked releases a foul smelling.



Boa constrictor, B. c. nebulosa

Family name: Boidae

Local name: Boa, Dominican Clouded Boa

Range: Caribbean and Tropical Americas

Habitat: Lives in burrows, prefers to live in the rainforests.

Fun Facts: Can reach lengths of 3 - 13 ft, females are the larger of the two sexes. Nocturnal creatures they feed on small mammals and birds.



Alsophis antillensis

Family name: Colubridae

Local name: Racer Snake, kouwes zega

Range: Endemic sub-species to Lesser Antilles

Habitat: Found all over the island, except highest elevations.

Fun Facts: Can reach a meter in length, and feeds on lizards and small rodents, the Dominican population is considered an endemic subspecies and very rare. (*Kouwes*)



Iguana delicatissima

Family name: Iguanidae

Local name: Lesser Antillean Iguana, Leza

Range: Endemic to Lesser Antilles
Habitat: Scrub woodland, rainforests and swamps. Look for them on branches, rocks and cliffs.

Fun Facts: An endangered species, *Delicatissima* is found on the IUCN Red List and legally protected from hunting. (*Iguana*)



Ameiva fuscata

Family name: Teiidae

Local name: Ground lizard, Abòlo

Range: Endemic to Dominica
Habitat: Scrub woodland and rainforests. Look for them on the ground.

Fun Facts: These omnivorous foragers are usually seen during the hottest part of the day. Traditionally used by the indigenous Kalinago people in a stew to remedy certain illnesses. (*Abolo*)



Hemidactylus mabouia

Family name: Gekkonidae

Local name: House Gecko, Mabouya

Range: Caribbean and Americas

Fun Facts: Nocturnal lizards, the Mabouya are usually found urban environments, often seen near light fixtures where they can catch the variety of insects attracted to the light. (*Mabouya*)



Anolis oculatus

Family name: Dactyloidae

Local name: Dominican Anole, Zandoli or Tree lizard

Range: Endemic to Dominica

Fun Facts: Found in most environments around the island, a Zandoli present in the home was considered by the Kalinago as a good sign. The throat fan of a male is bright yellow or orange and is used for sexual or territorial purposes. (*Zandoli*)



Mabuya mabouya

Family name: Scincidae

Local name: Skink

Range: Endemic to Lesser Antilles

Fun Facts: Although found on other islands, it is most widespread on Dominica in coastal regions and cultivated areas in higher elevations. (*Skink*)



Eleutherodactylus martinicensis

Family name: Eleutherodactylidae

Local name: Tink Frog, Gounouj

Range: Endemic to Lesser Antilles

Fun Facts: As with all *Eleutherodactylus*, there is no tadpole stage. Instead eggs develop directly into small froglets. (*Tink Frog*)



Eleutherodactylus johnstonei

Family name: Eleutherodactylidae

Local name: Antilles coqui, Whistling Frog

Range: Endemic to the Lesser Antilles

Fun Facts: Widespread and like the Tink Frog, lives in most forest ranges across the island. (*Whistling Frog*)

There are very few native mammals found on the island, but there are 10 species of bats. Bats use echolocation which allows them to navigate and forage in the dark, living on a diet of fruit, nectar, insects and fish. In some villages on the island, bats, agouti and even manicou are eaten.



Dasyprocta leporina

Common name: Dasyproctidae

Local name: Agouti, Red-rumped Agouti

Range: South America, Caribbean

Fun Facts: A known seed disperser, the Agouti is very shy and lives in burrows among tree roots and in the ground. (*Agouti*)



Didelphis marsupialis

Family name: Didelphidae

Local name: Manicou, Common opossum

Range: Central & South America, Lesser Antilles

Fun Facts: Nocturnal creatures, the Manicou eats a wide variety of foods and live for about 2 - 3 years. (*Manicou*)



Brachyphylla cavernarum

Family name: Phyllostomidae

Local name: Antillean fruit-eating bat, Antillean cave bat

Range: Native to Caribbean

Fun Facts: The Antillean cave bat, will as a group, leave it's roost one hour after sunset and return just before dawn. (*Antillean cave bat*)



Sturnira lilium

Family name: Phyllostomidae

Local name: Little yellow-shouldered bat

Range: Native to Tropical Americas

Fun Facts: This bat is a frugivore, which means it's preferred food source is fruit. As with all frugivores, they are important fruit dispersers. (*Little yellow-shouldered bat*)



Tadarida brasiliensis

Family name: Molossidae

Local name: Mexican free-tailed bat, Brazilian free-tailed bat

Range: Native to Americas

Fun Facts: These insectivore bats roost in large groups found primarily in caves, but will also inhabit buildings and hollow trees. (*Mexican free-tailed bat*)



Noctilio leporinus

Family name: Noctilionidae

Local name: Mexican Bulldog, Greater bulldog bat, Fisherman Bat

Range: Native to Tropical Americas

Fun Facts: This fish eating bat is able to catch its prey by detecting water ripples they make using echolocation.



Molossus molossus

Family name: Molossidae

Local name: Velvety free-tailed bat, Pallas's mastiff bat

Range: Native to Tropical Americas

Fun Facts: This long tailed bat can be seen at dusk, flying through the air as it feeds on moths, beetles and flying ants



Monophyllus plethodon

Family name: Phyllostomidae

Local name: Lesser Antillean Long-Tongued Bat, Insular single leaf bat

Range: Native to Lesser Antillies

Fun Facts: The long-Tongued Bat is part of a family of bats known as New World Leaf-nosed bats - found throughout the Tropical Americas.



Pteronotus davyi

Family name: Mormoopidae

Local name: Davy's naked-backed bat

Range: Native to Tropical Americas

Fun Facts: A small cave dwelling and insect eating bat



Artibeus jamaicensis

Family name: Phyllostomidae

Local name: Jamaican Fruit-Eating Bat

Range: Native to Tropical Americas

Fun Facts: Common within the bat cave at Secret Bay



Ardops nichollsi

Family name: Phyllostomidae

Local name: Lesser Antillean Tree Bat

Range: Native to Lesser Antillies

Fun Facts: Resides amongst the branches of trees, the Tree bat is the only member of the genus *Ardops*.



MARINE LIFE

THE FLORA, FAUNA & MARINE LIFE OF SECRET BAY.

Rich and diverse, the marine life in the waters around Secret Bay flourishes. With so many species of fish, sea creatures and coral, there is no telling what treats awaits the underwater explorer.

Fish play such an important role in their ecosystem, and by getting to know them allow us to understand their relation to their biological communities.



Scarus Taeniopterus

Family name: Scaridae

Local Name: Princess Parrotfish (Intermediate)

Habitat: Grazing on reef structure

Fun Facts: Common with parrotfish, the initial phases are nowhere near as beautiful as those developed into adult phase.



Scarus Taeniopterus

Family name: Scaridae

Local Name: Princess Parrotfish (Adult)

Size: 12 in

Habitat: Grazing on reef structure

Fun Facts: Princess Parrotfish are named for their very strong beak like mouth, which is used to grind up coral.



Sparisoma Viride

Family name: Scaridae

Local Name: Stoplight Parrotfish Initial Phase

Size: 10 in

Habitat: Grazing on reef structure

Fun Facts: Young Stoplight Parrotfish have a completely different colouration from those in the Adult phase.



Sparisoma Viride

Family name: Scaridae

Local Name: Stoplight Parrotfish (Adult)

Size: 2 ft

Habitat: Grazing on reef structure

Fun Facts: Named for the bright yellow spot on mature males.



Sparisoma Aurofrenatum

Family name: Scaridae

Local Name: Redband Parrotfish

Size: 10 in

Habitat: Grazing on reef

Fun Facts: Scraps chunks out of the coral and processes it into sand! Parrotfish create much of the worlds beaches.



Clepticus parrae

Family Name: Labridae

Local Name: Creole Wrasse

Size: 8 in

Habitat: Mid Water

Fun Facts: The wrasse changes colour during it's lifetime. In this photo the Creole Wrasse is being cleaned by a Juvenile Spanish Hogfish.



Thalassoma bifasciatum

Family Name: Labridae

Local Name: Bluehead Wrasse Male

Size: 4 in

Habitat: Close to the reef

Fun Facts: Seen here is the male bluehead wrasse surrounded by lots of females. They are eating damelfish eggs.



Halichoeres garnoti

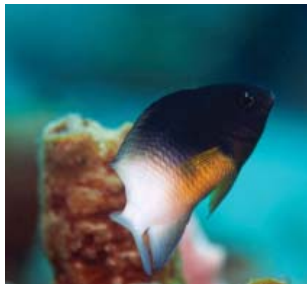
Family Name: Labridae

Local Name: Yellow Head Wrasse

Size: 6 in

Habitat: Reef top

Fun Facts: Fast swimmers that seldom stay still.



Stegastes Partitus

Family Name: Pomacentridae

Local Name: Bi colour damselfish

Size: 3 in

Habitat: On the reefs

Fun Facts: Very territorial and will nip divers and swimmers who come too close.



Microspathodon Chrysurus

Family Name: Pomacentridae

Local Name: Yellowtail Damsel Intermediate

Habitat: Hiding on the reef

Fun Facts: Juveniles have beautiful cobalt blue spots on a dark blue background.



Microspathodon Chrysurus

Family Name: Pomacentridae

Local Name: Yellowtail Damsel Adult

Fun Facts: The characteristic yellow tail on the adult sets it apart from other Damsels.



Apogon Maculatus

Family Name: Apogonidae

Local Name: Flame Fish

Size: 2 in

Habitat: Dark recesses of the reef

Fun Facts: Forage at night.



Priacanthus Cruentatus

Family Name: Priacanthidae

Local Name: Glass Eye Snapper

Size: 10 in

Habitat: Hide in dark recesses

Fun Facts: Will retreat and hide when it sees snorkelers.



Ocyurus Chrysurus

Family Name: Lutjanidae

Local Name: Yellowtail Snapper

Size: 2 ft

Habitat: Pelagic swimmer

Fun Facts: Swims either along or in loose schools.



Chromis multilineata

Family Name: Pomacentridae

Local Name: Brown Chromis

Size: 3 in

Habitat: Mid water

Fun Facts: The most common filter feeder in Dominica and it is the preferred prey of Lionfish.



Pseudupeneus maculatus

Family Name: Mullidae

Local Name: Yellow Goatfish

Size: 8 in

Habitat: Grazing over sandy bottom

Fun Facts: Uses two barbels to search for small prey in the sand or rubble.



Pempheris schomburgki

Family Name: Pempheridae

Local Name: Glassy Sweepers

Size: 4 in

Habitat: Dark caves

Fun Facts: This is a rarely seen fish but quite common in the Secret Bay area. Look under the arch and by the bat cave.



Atherinidae

Family Name: Atherinidae

Local Name: Silversides

Size: 1 in

Habitat: Very dense schools under the ledges

Fun Facts: Quite prevalent around Secret Bay, seen swimming between the reefs.



Haemulon

Family Name: Haemulidae

Local Name: Grunt Juvenile

Size: 1 in

Habitat: Close to reefs

Fun Facts: Very common in the Secret Bay area, over many seen around the outer rocks.



Haemulon Flavolineatum

Family Name: Haemulidae

Local Name: French Grunt

Size: 8 in

Habitat: In schools usually in shade of reefs

Fun Facts: Very shy and difficult to approach. Here seen with a parasitic isopod attached.



Haemulon Chryargyreum

Family Name: Haemulidae

Local Name: Small Mouth Grunt

Size: 8 in

Habitat: Schools usually in shade of reefs.

Fun Facts: Very shy and difficult to approach.



Gramma Loreto

Family Name: Grammatidae

Local Name: Fairy Basslet

Size: 2 in

Habitat: Under dark ledges

Fun Facts: They wait quietly and then pop out from the dark areas.



Bodianus Rufus

Family Name: Labridae

Local Name: Spanish Hogfish

Size: 12 in

Habitat: Close to the reef

Fun Facts: Juveniles act as cleaner fish and can often be seen cleaning other fish.



Equetus lanceolatus

Family Name: Sciaenidae

Local Name: Jack-knife fish

Juvenile

Size: 4 in

Habitat: overhangs and under coral

Fun Facts: Can often be seen in the sand under ledges along the reefs edge.



Equetus punctatus

Family Name: Sciaenidae

Local Name: Spotted Drum

Juvenile

Size: 2 in

Habitat: Reef

Fun Facts: Beautiful flowing dorsal fin and tail.



Equetus punctatus

Family Name: Sciaenidae

Local Name: Spotted Drum

Size: 8 in

Habitat: Reef

Fun Facts: Hide in secluded areas but comes out to feed at night.



Myripristis jacobus

Family Name: Holocentridae

Local Name: BlackBar Soldierfish

Size: 5 in

Habitat: Dark recesses of reef

Fun Fact: A nocturnal fish that leaves the safety of the reef only at night.



Epinephelus guttatus

Family Name: Serranidae

Local Name: Red Hind

Size: 12in

Habitat: Rest on reef on pectoral fins

Fun Fact: Very shy and swims to the nearest hiding hole when approached.



Amblycirrhitus pinos

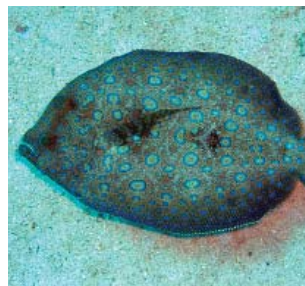
Family Name: Cirrhitidae

Local Name: Red Spotted Hawkfish

Size: 2 in

Habitat: Perch on the reef

Fun Facts: Will move to new area if threatened, but usually not very far away.

*Serranus tigrinus***Family Name:** Serranidae**Local Name:** Harlequin bass**Size:** 3 in**Habitat:** Close to reef**Fun Facts:** The smallest member of the bass family.*Scorpaena plumieri***Family Name:** Scorpaenidae**Local Name:** Spotted Scorpion fish**Size:** 12 in**Habitat:** Rests on bottom using camouflage to snap up prey.**Fun Facts:** Produces a highly painful venom if stepped on. Treat with hot water immediately.*Bothus lunatus***Family Name:** Bothidae**Local Name:** Peacock Flounder, Plate fish**Size:** 12 in**Habitat:** Sandy bottom, blends in.**Fun Fact:** Born with eyes on either side of its head, as it ages one eye migrates over so they have two eyes on the same side.*Synodus intermedius***Family Name:** Synodontidae**Local Name:** Sand Diver**Size:** 12 in**Habitat:** Seabed**Fun Facts:** These are active predators waiting on the sand in ambush.*Diodon holocanthus***Family Name:** Diodontidae**Local Name:** Balloonfish, porcupinefish**Size:** 12 in**Habitat:** Hide in dark recesses or on grassy bottoms**Fun Facts:** When under extreme stress, the Balloonfish will inflate itself which is often fatal for them.*Lactophrys triqueter***Family Name:** Ostraciidae**Local Name:** Smooth Trunkfish**Size:** 8 in**Habitat:** reef top**Fun Facts:** Can be seen using their elongated mouth to blow water into crevices to flush out prey.



Acanthurus bahianus

Family Name: Acanthuridae
Local Name: Ocean surgeonfish
Size: 12 in
Habitat: schooling algae grazer on reef
Fun Facts: Named for the scalpel like fins visible on the tail which they use in self defense.



Acanthurus chirurgus

Family Name: Acanthuridae
Local Name: Doctor Fish
Size: 10 in
Habitat: Reef and sandy bottom
Fun Facts: Swim in schools that all stop together to graze a section of reef.



Chaetodon capistratus

Family Name: Chaetodontidae
Local Name: Foureye Butterflyfish
Size: 6 in
Habitat: reef top
Fun Facts: They eat individual coral polyps with their long snout.



Chaetodon aculeatus

Family Name: Chaetodontidae
Local Name: Longsnout Butterflyfish
Size: 3 in
Habitat: Reef
Fun Fact: Solitary and secretive fish but are fairly common.



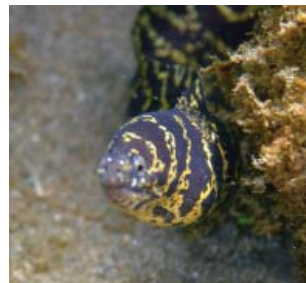
Abudefduf saxatilis

Family Name: Pomacentridae
Local Name: Sergeant Major
Size: 5 in
Habitat: Mid water
Fun Fact: A very common mid water feeder. Often seen protecting purple mats of their eggs.



Holacanthus ciliaris

Family Name: Pomacanthidae
Local Name: Queen Angel
Size: 1 ft
Habitat: Reef top
Fun Fact: Named for the blue royal crown on the forehead. Very shy fish.

*Gobiosoma evelynae***Family Name:** Gobiidae**Local Name:** Sharknose Goby**Size:** 1 in**Habitat:** Rests on reef**Fun Facts:** These are cleaner fish and one of the few gobies you will see in the area. Often seen in large cleaning stations.*Aulostomus maculatus***Family Name:** Carangidae**Local Name:** Trumpetfish**Size:** 2 ft**Habitat:** All over the reef looking for prey**Fun Facts:** Will drift head down to look over coral, also will hide behind parrotfish to make sneak attacks on prey.*Selar crumenophthalmus***Family Name:** Carangidae**Local Name:** Scad**Size:** 10 in**Habitat:** fast moving schools seen in the valleys around the reef**Fun Facts:** Quite common in the areas between reefs on the outside ledge at Secret Bay.*Gymnothorax miliaris***Family Name:** Muraenidae**Local Name:** Goldentail Moray**Size:** 2 ft**Habitat:** Under ledges and in crevices**Fun Facts:** During daytime you will only see their head in crevices. Opens and close mouth to breath.*Gymnothorax funebris***Family Name:** Muraenidae**Local Name:** Spotted Moray**Size:** 3 ft**Habitat:** Under ledges and in crevices**Fun Fact:** Often seen pumping water over their gills by opening and closing their mouth. Not aggressive unless provoked.*Echidna catenata***Family Name:** Muraenidae**Local Name:** Chain Moray**Size:** 18 in**Habitat:** Under ledges and in crevices**Fun Fact:** The most beautiful of the moray eels. Found in crevices and often in shallow rocks.



Myrichthys breviceps

Family Name: Ophichthidae

Local Name: Sharptail SnakeEel

Size: 2 ft

Habitat: Out on the reef

Fun Facts: Although it looks more like a snake, it is the eel family. It has gills and breaths underwater. There are no sea snakes in the Caribbean.

Among the reef, rocks and coral, or within the depths of water, creatures of the bay visit, live and feed. The depths of the Secret Bay allow for an assortment of creatures, some bizarre and others intriguing, some shy and others unfazed.



Delphinus sp.

Family Name: Delphinidae

Local Name: Dolphins

Size: Ranges

Habitat: Anywhere in the open ocean

Fun Facts: Sometimes seen out in the channel, there are a variety of dolphins such as the short-beaked common dolphin and who live in the Caribbean waters.



Physeter macrocephalus

Family Name: Physeteridae

Local Name: Sperm Whale

Size: Can reach up to 67ft

Habitat: Anywhere in the open ocean

Fun Facts: Sperm whales have been spotted in the waters just off the Secret Bay property.



Eretmochelys imbricata

Family Name: Cheloniidae

Local Name: Hawksbill Turtle

Size: 3 ft

Habitat: Sitting on the reef, swimming mid water or breathing on the surface

Fun Facts: Turtles must surface to breath air, you will see them as they keep an eye out for predators while on the surface.



Sepioteuthis sepioidea

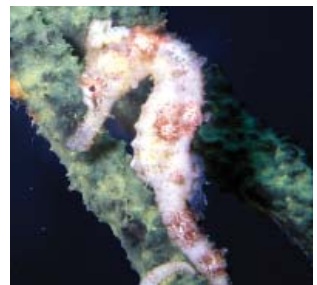
Family Name: Loliginidae

Local Name: Reef Squid

Size: 12 in

Habitat: Shallows around reef

Fun Facts: Look for them in mid water. They will point at you so they can squirt away at high speed.



Hippocampus erectus

Family Name: Syngnathidae

Local Name: Lined Seahorse

Size: 4 in

Habitat: Wrapped around vertical corals

Fun Facts: Rarely seen by snorkelers, keep an eye on sea whips, sea rods or rope spnges where they are found with their tails wrapped for security.

*Panulirus argus***Family Name:** Palinuridae**Local Name:** Spiny lobster**Size:** 2 ft**Habitat:** Found around coral reefs**Fun Facts:** In the day they will hide in reef crevices and holes. They come out at night to hunt.*Mithrax cinctimanus***Family Name:** Cheloniidae**Local Name:** Banded Clinging Crab**Size:** 2 in**Habitat:** Found in and around reefs**Fun Facts:** Often live in association with giant anemones.*Mithrax spinosissimus***Family Name:** Cheloniidae**Local Name:** Channel Clinging Crab**Size:** 1 in**Habitat:** Found in and around reefs**Fun Facts:** The largest of the Caribbean reef crab species*Stenorhynchus seticornis***Family Name:** Inachidae**Local Name:** Arrow crab**Size:** 3 in**Habitat:** Found in and around reefs**Fun Facts:** Named after their pointed head, they are scavengers of the reef.*Ancylomenes pedersoni***Family Name:** Palaemonidae**Local Name:** Pederson's shrimp**Size:** 1 in**Habitat:** Lives within a host**Fun Facts:** anemone, usually the corkscrew.*Percnon gibbesi***Family Name:** Plagusidae**Local Name:** Nimble Spray Crab**Size:** 1 in**Habitat:** Found in and around reefs**Fun Facts:** Often found hiding under the protective spines of sea urchins.

*Stenopus hispidus***Family Name:** Stenopodidae**Local Name:** Banded cleaner shrimp, Banded coral shrimp**Size:** 1 in**Fun Facts:** Lives within a host anemone, usually the corkscrew. If you slowly extend your fingers they will give you a manicure!*Ophiothrix suensonii***Family Name:** Ophiothricidae**Local Name:** Sponge Brittle Star (day only)**Size:** 4 in**Fun Facts:** This sea star has long spindly arms covered in brittle looking spines. They spend the day on gorgonians, firecoral or sponges, emerging fully at night to feed.*Linckia guildingi***Family Name:** Ophiothricidae**Local Name:** Common Comet Star**Size:** 8 in**Fun Facts:** This sea star is often seen with missing arms and not only will it make a new arm but the broken off arm will make a new sea star.*Luidia alternata***Family Name:** Ophiuridae**Local Name:** Banded Sea Star**Size:** 12 in**Fun Facts:** During the day this sea star burrows into the sand, it is most likely to be seen at night when it comes out.*Astrophyton muricatum***Family Name:** Gorgonocephalidae**Local Name:** Giant Basket Star (Closed during the day)**Size:** 2 ft when it opens its arms**Fun Facts:** This sea star spends the day balled up, and only opens at night to a lace like pattern of filter feeding arms.*Astrophyton muricatum***Family Name:** Gorgonocephalidae**Local Name:** Giant Basket Star**Size:** 2 ft when it opens its arms**Fun Facts:** This sea star spends the day balled up, and only opens at night to a lace like pattern of filter feeding arms.



Echinometra viridis

Family Name: Echinometridae

Local Name: Reef Urchin

Size: 2 in

Fun Facts: A nightfeeder, this sea star feeds on algae.



Diadema antillarum

Family Name: Diadematidae

Local Name: Black Urchin

Size: 8 in

Fun Facts: Can pierce the skin and cause painful wounds. Treat for surface infection but let any deeply imbedded spines dissolve.



Tripneustes ventricosus

Family Name: Toxopneustidae

Local Name: West Indian Sea Egg

Size: 5 in

Fun Facts: Often found on flat areas of sea grass, this sea egg will partially bury themselves in the sand.



Condylactis gigantea

Family Name: Actiniidae

Local Name: Giant anemone

Size: 12 in

Fun Facts: The anemone has classic long tentacles usually housing 1 or 2 species of shrimp.



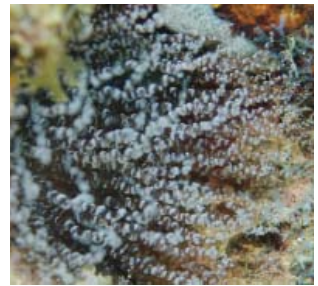
Lebrunia danae

Family Name: Aliciidae

Local Name: Branching Anemone

Fun Facts: Looks like brown

matted tentacles with white piping. They retract by day but the tentacles extend at night to filter from passing currents.



Bartholomea annulata

Family Name: Aiptasiidae

Local Name: Corkscrew Anemone

Size: 6 in

Fun Facts: The corkscrew anemone is always a good place to find Snapping shrimp and Perdersons shrimp.

*Bispira brunnea***Family Name:** Sabellidae**Local Name:** Social Feather Duster Worm**Size:** 1 in**Fun Facts:** Colonies of these small but pretty worms vary in colour from yellow to pink to violet.*Spirobranchus giganteus***Family Name:** Serpulidae**Local Name:** Christmas Tree Worm**Size:** 1 in**Fun Facts:** If a swimmer passes too close to the Christmas tree worm, they will retract in the blink of an eye. They will emerge a few minutes later.*Notaulax occidentalis***Family Name:** Sabellidae**Local Name:** Feather Duster Worm**Size:** 1 in**Fun Facts:** Will retract when approached by swimmers. It will then reemerge after a short while.*Notaulax occidentalis***Family Name:** Sabellidae**Local Name:** Yellow Fan wWorm**Size:** 1 in**Fun Facts:** Obvious yellow colour, using its gills to extract both nutrients and oxygen from the water.*Notaulax occidentalis***Family Name:** Sabellidae**Local Name:** Feather Duster Worm**Size:** 1 in**Fun Facts:** Will retract when approached by swimmers. It will then reemerge after a short while.*Polychaetes***Family Name:** Polychaetes**Local Name:** Bristleworm**Size:** 1 in - 6 in**Fun Fact:** A wide variety of species the Bristleworm are excellent scavengers.



Hermodice carunculata

Family Name: Amphinomidae

Local Name: Bearded Fireworm

Size: 6 in

Fun Facts: When threatened, the fine hairs along their bodies can break off in your skin causing a burning sensation. **Do Not Touch!**



Niphates erecta

Family Name: Niphatidae

Local Name: Purple Rope Sponge

Size: 4 ft

Fun Facts: Prefers to inhabit walls and sloping reefs, but it can be seen on the side of rocks around Secret Bay.



Aplysina insularis

Family Name: Aplysinidae

Local Name: Yellow Tube Sponge

Size: 4 ft

Fun Facts: Inhabits reefs at all depths. Look inside the tubes for small gobies and shrimp.



Elysia crispata

Family Name: Plakobranchidae

Local Name: Lettuce Sea Slug

Size: 2 in

Fun Facts: Very common at all depths including very shallow water. Look for the bright blue ones!



Pinna carnea

Family Name: Pinnidae

Local Name: Amber Pen Shell

Size: 6 in

Fun Facts: These can grow up to 30cm long, but most of it is hidden beneath the sand.



Discosoma sanctithomae

Family Name: Discosomidae

Local Name: Warty Corallimorph

Size: 4 in

Fun Fact: Often looks like weird mats on the seafloor, but is actually a cross between anemone and coral.

It is sometimes easy to think that coral is inorganic, but these marine invertebrates live in colonies of polyps and take years to become the coral reefs you see today. They can live in a range of depths from a few feet to thousands of feet. The reefs provide a place for marine life to flourish and are crucial to preserve. Observe but don't touch.



Diploria strigosa

Family Name: Mussidae

Local Name: Brain coral

Size: Can reach up to 6ft in diameter

Fun Fact: Resembling a human brain, these long living corals can be found all around the reef.



Montastraea cavernosa

Family Name: Montastraeidae

Local Name: Giant Star Coral

Size: Can reach up to 5ft in diameter

Fun Facts: Polyps are retracted in the day but extend at night causing the Giant Star coral to appear differently.



Porites porites

Family Name: Poritidae

Local Name: Finger Coral

Size: Lobes can be about 1in wide

Fun Facts: Look like fingers sticking up to the surface.



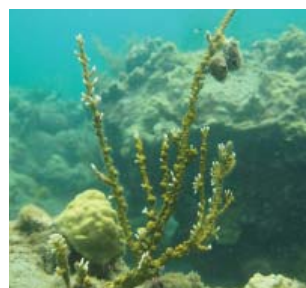
Millepora alcicornis

Family Name: Milleporidae

Local Name: Blade Fire Coral

Size: Can reach up to 20in tall

Fun Fact: There can be branching, encrusting or blade fire coral. **Do not touch!** It will leave a burning painful rash.



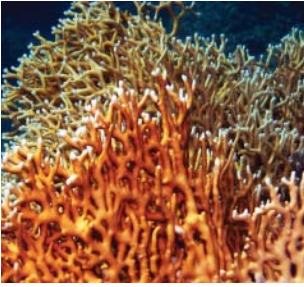
Millepora alcicornis

Family Name: Milleporidae

Local Name: Branching Fire Coral

Size: Can reach up to 20in tall

Fun Fact: Feeds on plankton. **Do not touch!** It will leave a burning painful rash.



Millepora alcicornis

Family Name: Milleporidae

Local Name: Encrusting Fire Coral

Size: Can reach up to 20in tall

Fun Fact: Do not touch!, It will leave a burning painful rash.



Gorgonia flabellum

Family Name: Gorgoniidae

Local Name: Venus Seafan, West Indian sea fan

Size: Can reach up to 5ft

Fun Fact: They like to live in areas where there is lots of water movement to help with filter feeding.



Gorgonia ventalina

Family Name: Anthothelidae

Local Name: Purple sea fan

Size: Can reach up to 5ft

Fun Fact: They like to live in shallow areas where there is lots of water movement to help with filter feeding.



Erythropodium caribaeorum

Family Name: Anthothelidae

Local Name: Encrusting gorgonian

Size: Ranges

Fun Fact: Likes shallow reefs where the polyps can feed but can grow at depths up to 25 meters.



Plexaura homomalla

Family Name: Plexauridae

Local Name: Black Sea Rod, Caribbean sea whip

Size: Can reach up to 14in high

Fun Fact: Looks like branching trees but are actually colonial filter-feeding animals.



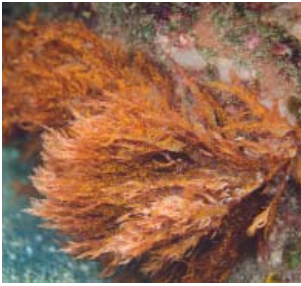
Antillogorgia bipinnata

Family Name: Gorgoniidae

Local Name: Seaplume

Size: Can reach up to 22in

Fun Fact: Rapid growing corals, they can be purple, grey or yellow.

*Rhodophyta*

Family Name: Poritidae

Local Name: Red Lettuce Algae

Size: Varies

Fun Facts: A very pretty red algae often seen on near the bottom of reefs.

*Valonia ventricosa*

Family Name: Valoniaceae

Local Name: Sea Pearls

Size: Can grow up to 1.6in in diameter

Fun Facts: Actually an algae, they are the largest single cell organism in the marine or terrestrial world.

APPENDICES

THE FLORA, FAUNA & MARINE LIFE OF SECRET BAY.

BIRDS:

Andea herodias
Anous minutus
Arenaia interpres
Ceryle torquata
Ceryle alcyon
Charadrius semipalmatus
Chordeiles gundlachi
Contopus latirostris
Cypseloides niger
Dendroica plumbea
Dendroica stuata
Egretta garzetta
Egretta tricolor
Euphonia musica
Falco peregrinus
Falco sparverius
Gallinula choropus
Geotrygon montana
Hiundo rustica
Larus atricilla
Mniotilta varia
Pandion haliaetus
Progne dominicensis
Riparia riparia
Seiurus noveboracensis
Sterna dougallii

Sterna hirundo
Sterna sandvicensis
Sula leucogaster
Tringa flavipes
Tringa melanoleuca
Troglodytes aedon
Turdus nudigenis

CRABS:

Fresh water crab, *Guidonia dentata*
 Red-Foot Crab, *Grapsus grapsus*

MAMMALS:

Opossum, *Didelphis marsupialis*

LIZARDS:

House Gecko, *Hemidactylus mabouia*
 Tree Gecko, *Thecadactylus rapicauda*

AMPHIBIANS:

Skink, *Mabuya bistrata*

SNAKES:

Boa Constrictor, *Constrictor nebulosus*
 Grove Snake, *Liophis juliae*
 Worm Snake or Blind Snake, *Typhlops dominicana*



Egretta tricolor, Tricolored Heron



Pandion haliaetus, Osprey, Fish Hawk



Grapsus grapsus, Red-Foot Crab



Guidonia dentata, Fresh water crab



Thecadactylus rapicauda, Tree Gecko

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