



**SPRING 2011**

**In This Issue**

ECOTOURISM TCI

[www.ecotourismtci.com](http://www.ecotourismtci.com)  
office : Conch Bar, Middle Caicos  
tel : 231-4884

WELCOME to [www.ecotourismtci.com](http://www.ecotourismtci.com)

COME & STAY ON NORTH & MIDDLE CAICOS

It's all here for you to Explore

### WELCOME to [www.ecotourismtci.com](http://www.ecotourismtci.com)

It is becoming ever clearer that ecotourism is greatly assisting the development of a sustainable economy for North and Middle Caicos. The pristine open spaces, miles of serene walking and cycling trails, dozens of deserted beaches, spectacular catch and release bone fishing, excellent bird- watching, historical ruins, and living cultural attractions are everything an ecotourist looks for in a destination. So welcome to [www.ecotourismtci.com](http://www.ecotourismtci.com) !

The most pressing need for these islands to develop a robust ecotourism economy is promotion. Access to accurate and up to date information, quickly and easily, is the goal of [www.ecotourismtci.com](http://www.ecotourismtci.com) . Focused on North and Middle Caicos, this website links accommodation, tour operators, activities, and support services to make it convenient for the internet explorer to find what they need for a great ecotour vacation. Introductions to all the islands are on the website, but developing the efforts underway on North and Middle Caicos is the current target.

The new website is the brainchild of the founders of the **Middle Caicos Co-op**, the **Middle Caicos Sailboat Association** and **Daniels' Cafe**. Sara Kaufman and Daniel O. Forbes are readily recognized leaders in both ecotourism and ecoheritage tourism, and they continue to open new doors that will bring more tourists to North and Middle Caicos. The **Valentine's Day Cup Model Sailboat Races**, another of their special events, attracted over 500 people to Bambarra Beach this year for the day and many will return to visit! Check out [www.middlecaicos.biz](http://www.middlecaicos.biz) for details of this traditional annual festival on the beach.

The attractions and accommodations on North & Middle Caicos islands are impressive. Over 400 beds are for rent in villas, hotels, apartments and B&B, with a centralized accommodation directory underway for all accommodation on North and Middle Caicos. Most of the parks, historic sites, scenic outlooks, beaches and reserves are signposted and open for visitors, with many of the walking trails accessible. The studio at the **Middle Caicos Co-op** brings alive handcraft traditions and the traditional model sailboats are on display. Cars, kayaks, and bicycles are readily available for rent so everyone can explore these islands in their own way with or without guides. The *WhereWhenHow* map of North & Middle Caicos (in its 3rd printing!) has made finding your way about the islands fun. On both islands these last few years new ventures continue - the most recent include the Ready Money Gardens visitor center, Mary's Bed & Breakfast in Conch Bar and guided Crossing Place Trail hikes. You can stay as busy as you like :

- Snorkel the delightful coral heads just offshore, and the rock outcrops at Three Mary's Cays or Mudjin Harbour where fish abound.
- Kayak through the mangroves along any coastline and head out to the East Bay islands reserve for a picnic.
- Bird-watch in the pine forests, grasslands and mangroves to discover tropic birds, fish eagles, flamingoes, pelicans, ospreys, and more
- Sailing inside the barrier reef or in the Caicos flats in traditional sloops can be arranged
- Traditional model sailboat racing is fun for the whole family
- Catch 'n release bone fishing is a serious fishing challenge
- Bicycle on Middle Caicos or North Caicos along both bush trails and paved roads
- Hike on Crossing Place trail, and admire the cliffs and expansive white sand beaches
- Cave exploration at Conch Bar Caves National Park for the adventurous
- Learn the traditional handcraft skills with local artisans
- Whale watching from January to March is incredible from the shore!
- Explore historic ruins of the colonial settlers and/or Taino Indians
- Visit with basket weavers, farmers and fishermen to hear their stories
- Sunday worship at a local church - over 15 churches active.

### COME & STAY ON NORTH & MIDDLE CAICOS

**North and Middle Caicos** offer a sweet and simple getaway, a time for you to relax, smell the sea, wake to the quiet and indulge in TCI nature and culture. The choice of accommodation is superb on both islands - from luxury villas to cheerful apartments, seaside homes, small hotels, cottages and guesthouses. The majority of the beds are in villa rentals, which can sleep from 2 to 10 people! Check out the [www.ecotourismtci.com](http://www.ecotourismtci.com) website for recommendations and the upcoming directory. Long weekend specials for 4 days/3 nights are being offered at [Belle Roche](#) - a charming stone compound on Bottle Creek that has a main cottage, pull out sofa and separate guest cottage to sleep 6 people, and at [Bambarra Sands](#) on the beach in Middle Caicos - a 2 bed/bath beachfront cottage with screened porch comfortable for 4 people. Many homeowners on both North and Middle Caicos list their rentals on VRBO or FlipKey websites, and the local TCI Reservations website is very helpful too.

Eateries proliferate across North & Middle Caicos! Come and enjoy good food at your choice of **Hi-GG's**, **Big Josh**, **Silver Palm**, **Barracuda Bar**, **Pelican Beach Hotel**, **Miss B's**, **Titters**, **NC Airport Cafe**, **Princess Fish Fry**, **My Dees Restaurant**, **Pearlene's Snacks**, **Bottle Creek Chicken Shack** - all along the roadside in North Caicos. Special events too, with Ribs 'n Chicken BBQ at MyDee's restaurant every Friday night and at Gardiners 7-11 on Saturday nights. Even regular live local music at the Barracuda Bar every other Friday night. For Middle Caicos, the hotspot is **Daniel's Cafe** - now the third most recommended restaurant in TCI on the Trip Advisor website!! Also on Middle Caicos, the **Little Oasis** on main street Conch Bar has snacks and icecream, while **Dillons** at the old airport has local meals. Grocery stores too are everywhere, with a great variety of goods, excellent meats, fresh produce weekly plus local produce when available - five now on North Caicos!! NO need to bring along much from Provo but your swimsuit and sneakers.....come soon!

**For more information contact [www.EcotourismTCI.com](http://www.EcotourismTCI.com)** or call direct to any of the fine businesses in North and Middle Caicos. All are waiting to help you have a good time on these truly "beautiful by nature " islands.

### It's all here for you to Explore

#### PICTURES TELL THE STORIES :



Hike the Crossing Place Trail



Catch 'n Release Bonefishing



Learn Traditional Handcrafts



Relax at a Glorious Beach



Traditional Model Sailboat Racing



and Mudjin Harbour.....