

# Gladden Spit & Silk Cayes Marine Reserve



## SOUTHERN ENVIRONMENTAL ASSOCIATION

Co-managers of Gladden Spit & Silk  
Cayes Marine Reserve (GSSECMR)  
and Laughing Bird Caye National  
Park (LBCNP)

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# Gladden Spit & Silk Cayes

## Marine Reserve

Amidst the stunning beauty of the Belize Barrier Reef, Gladden Spit and Silk Cayes Marine Reserve is a world-renowned protected area located approximately 28 miles east of Placencia. Encompassing a vast expanse of 25,980 acres of sea, this extraordinary reserve is a haven for marine life, with a rich diversity of fish species and a range of captivating marine inhabitants. It is a place of pristine coral reefs, thriving seagrass beds, and lush mangrove ecosystems, making it an ecological paradise for snorkelers, divers, and nature enthusiasts alike.

### MEET THE WORLD'S BIGGEST FISH

One of the most captivating features of this marine reserve is the seasonal visitation of the magnificent whale sharks. These gentle giants, the largest fish in the world, are known to frequent the area during their feeding and breeding activities. Encountering these graceful creatures is an unforgettable and humbling experience that draws visitors from around the world to Gladden Spit and Silk Cayes. Witnessing the whale sharks up close, often accompanied by schools of fish, is a rare and mesmerizing sight that leaves an indelible mark on all who have the privilege to see them.

