

**Cayo Guillermo, Cuba**  
**27<sup>th</sup> October – 4<sup>th</sup> November 2009**  
**Chris & Maureen Allen**

Cayo Guillermo is a Cuban island attached to the mainland by a causeway. We landed in Cayp Cococ and you could see Palm Warblers in every tree. Our hotel (the Melia Cayo Guillermo) was situated on the beach and the storm damaged jetty was home to Double Crested Cormorants and Royal Terns.

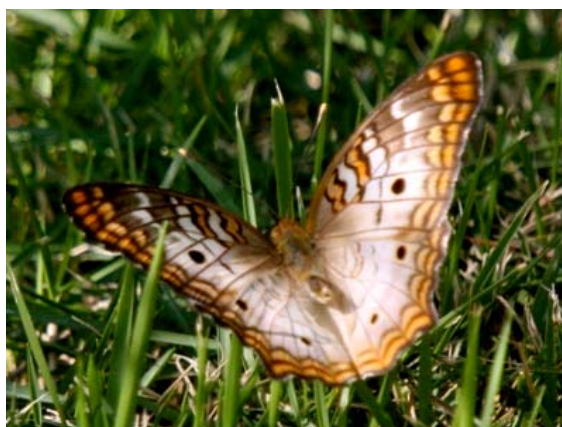


Double-crested Cormorant and Royal Tern



Laughing Gull

Along the beach there were Laughing Gulls, Turnstones and Sanderlings and the odd Brown Pelican flew over. A White Peacock butterfly was seen in the gardens but a lizard ate it thirty seconds later!



White Peacock

Next day a Green Heron was on the pond in the hotel gardens and a Black-throated Blue Warbler hopped around the lilies. Bahama Mockingbirds were encountered and a Peewee of some description was also seen. Every day Greater Antillian Grackles roamed the grounds looking for a meal and even stole chips from the beach bar!



Green Heron and Black-throated Blue Warbler



Bahama Mockingbird



Greater Antillian Grackle and Pewee

A Cuban Black Hawk laded on the towel hut every afternoon and come to a nice big crab held up by one of the gardeners. Turkey Vultures were also encountered overhead.



Cuban Black Hawk and Turkey Vulture

Other North American Warblers on their way south through the hotel grounds included American Redstart, Parula and Cape May while the Mango Swamp just beyond the hotel was home to Caribbean Greater Flamingos and Great Egrets. An American Kestrel showed well most days.



Palm Warbler and American Redstart



Northern Parula and Cape May Warbler



Great Egret and Caribbean Flamingo

Not bad at all as we rarely left the hotel grounds!