

# TRAVEL+ LEISURE

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## 12 Places to Swim With Animals

Your travel bucket list just got 12 items longer.



Fre/Getty Images

by Melanie Lieberman

Having a close encounter with wild animals is a common feature on a traveler's bucket list. And there's really nothing more extraordinary (or exotic) than swimming with giant green sea turtles, rare marine iguanas, and even sharks.

Swimming with animals doesn't have to mean entering a tiny tank or man-made enclosure. In Egypt, divers can swim with wild Red Sea dolphins and in the Bahamas, wild pigs come out to splash in the surf. You can ride a horse through the shallow Caribbean waters around Jamaica, or dive with hundreds of thousands of tiny, golden jellyfish in Palau. You don't have to be a fearless (or reckless) adventurer to get up close and personal. All you really need is an excellent pair of flippers and an underwater camera. Read on for our top 12 ways to swim with animals.



Grand Isle Resort and Spa

### Swim with Pigs in Bahamas

These are not your standard barnyard pigs, and this, full disclosure, this is not an organized wildlife encounter program. On the island of Grand Exuma, in the Bahamas, feral pigs will go out of their way to surf and swim with you. Just head to the appropriately named Pig Beach and wait for some handsome piglets to come play.