

# El Cedral and Cozumel's Eastern Coast

The eastern coast of Cozumel is completely different than the west. It has none of the calm, crystal blue water, nor anywhere near the tourism. After stopping in at Cozumel's original town, El Cedral, we took a short drive up the coast and ended at a rollicking bar named Coconuts.



To most visitors, Cozumel feels small. Its true size is obscured by the fact that almost all the sights and services are concentrated around San Miguel. But once you take the time to venture out of the city, the island reveals itself to be surprisingly large. The vast majority is uninhabited, and much of it is protected from further development by law.

Although ocean-front San Miguel has become the island's biggest town, it's not the only one, nor was it the first. We drove inland to visit El Cedral, where Cozumel's original inhabitants settled down. Save a beautiful old church and a statue of a traditional dance which somehow involves a pig's head on a platter, there's not much there today, but it provides a nice reminder that Cozumel isn't all cruise ships and scuba divers.

Past El Cedral, we came to the island's eastern edge. The waters are rougher here,