



# Ramsar Sites Information Service

## Annotated List of Wetlands of International Importance

# Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

5 Ramsar Site(s) covering 265,668 ha

### Laguna de la Restinga

Site number: 857 | Country: Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) | Administrative region: Nueva Esparta

Area: 5,248 ha | Coordinates: 11°01'59"N 64°09'W | Designation dates: 04-09-1996

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Laguna de la Restinga. 04/09/96; Nueva Esparta; 5,248 ha; 11°02'N 064°09'W. National Park. A shallow lagoon separated from the sea by a barrier beach and an associated system of marine and coastal wetlands. The flora includes four species of mangroves, xerophytic and halophilic communities. Fauna includes many species of migratory birds which rest and feed at the site. Numerous endemic plants and animals, some threatened, are present. Human activities include fishing (traditional and commercial), sand extraction, and tourism. Ramsar site no. 857. Most recent RIS information: 1996.

### Laguna de Tacarigua

Site number: 858 | Country: Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) | Administrative region: Miranda

Area: 9,200 ha | Coordinates: 10°12'N 65°56'W | Designation dates: 04-09-1996

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Laguna de Tacarigua. 04/09/96; Miranda; 9,200 ha; 10°12'N 065°56'W. This site is a coastal lagoon, separated from the Caribbean sea by the coastal barrier created by the lagoon. It harbors mangroves, forming dense vegetation islands, and open water spaces. There are a number of species and sub-species of rare, threatened, or vulnerable plants and animals such as sea turtles. It is also a breeding ground for fish. Traditionally fishing is the main activity in the area, but some subsistence farming does take place. The site is also a tourist destination. Ramsar site no. 858. Most recent RIS information: 1996.

### Parque Nacional Archipiélago Los Roques

Site number: 856 | Country: Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) | Administrative region: Distrito Federal

Area: 213,220 ha | Coordinates: 11°50'N 66°45'W | Designation dates: 04-09-1996

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Archipiélago Los Roques. 04/09/96; Federal District; 213,220 ha; 11°50'N 066°45'W. National Park. An archipelago of 45 islands and keys scattered around a shallow water lagoon. The site includes sand banks, coral reefs, and two large coral barriers. Three tropical marine ecosystems interact: coral reefs, beds of marine phanerogams, and mangroves. The site supports migratory birds and numerous species of nesting birds. Marine turtles threatened with extinction lay their eggs on the beaches. Human activities include tourism and small-scale fishing. A marine biology station is located on one of the keys, and there is a conservation education programme. Ramsar site no. 856. Most recent RIS information: 1996.

## Refugio de Fauna Silvestre de Cuare

Site number: 414 | Country: Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) | Administrative region: Falcón

Area: 12,000 ha | Coordinates: 10°54'59"N 68°19'59"W | Designation dates: 23-11-1988

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Cuare. 23/11/88; Falcón; 9,968 ha; 10°55'N 068°20'W. Wildlife Refuge. Added to the Montreux Record, 16 June 1993; removed from the Record, 7 August 1996. The site includes marine and inland habitats. The former are coral reefs, sandy beaches, mangrove stands, and scattered low forest. The latter, penetrated by a small gulf and a network of channels, includes mangrove and deciduous forests. The highly productive marshes support staging and wintering waterbirds, a rich flora and fauna, including commercially important fish, two species of marine turtles, and the endangered *Crocodylus acutus*. The site is of considerable archaeological interest. Subject of a Ramsar Advisory Mission in 1991. Ramsar site no. 414. Most recent RIS information: 1991.

## Refugio de Fauna Silvestre y Reserva de Pesca Ciénaga de Los Olivitos

Site number: 859 | Country: Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) | Administrative region: Zulia

Area: 26,000 ha | Coordinates: 10°54'59"N 71°26'W | Designation dates: 04-09-1996

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Ciénaga de Los Olivitos. 04/09/96; Zulia; 26,000 ha; 10°55'N 071°26'W. Wildlife and Fisheries Reserves. A coastal wetland subject to tidal influence and consisting of mangrove, lagoon, saltmarsh, and beach habitats. The site supports numerous species of migratory and resident birds, and aquatic shorebirds use the site for reproduction, feeding and resting. Species such as *Crocodylus acutus*, the manatee (*Trichechus manatus*), and sea turtles, all threatened with extinction, are supported. Human activities include salt extraction, commercial fishing, and shrimp farming. Ramsar site no. 859. Most recent RIS information: 1996.