

## Guantanamo – prison turns into paradise

The name Guantanamo Bay Prison (or Gitmo) – a majority of people recognize this internationally infamous prison belonging to the U.S.A terrorism and war detainees in no time. This prison is covering 120 sq. km of land and water area which the USA has leased at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. Designated as a naval base and detention camp, the activities are completely related to military strategies, so is not an accessible place for everyone. Amidst the controversy related to the treatment of detainees and sovereignty issues with Cuba, Gitmo was also planned to shut down during President Barack Obama's tenure to cut off the burden on the Pentagon. Although Gitmo's future is still uncertain, there are proposals afloat to utilize this detention camp for some constructive purpose.



A joint study suggests transforming this facility to a marine conservation centre for unique Caribbean coral reefs, seagrass beds, mangrove forests, and other life forms. The region itself is a paradise for the countless biota owing to Cuba's' years of economic and political isolation as well as strong conservation efforts in the last few decades. The study suggests that the strategic location of the camp is perfect for monitoring the marine and terrestrial life forms as well as promoting research. They also suggest a joint operation by the USA and Cuba to ease the strained relationship for a better ecological future of the region.

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