

Mormoops blainvillii

(Antillean ghost faced bat)

Distribution: This species is endemic to the Greater Antilles, and there are no known subspecies. It is widely distributed across Cuba and can be found on Romano Keys which is part of the Sabana-Camagüey archipelago.

Physical description: This is a medium sized bat weighing in at 6-11 g. The forearm length is 43-50 mm and wingspan is 300-335 mm. This species has unique facial features because of which cannot be mistaken for any other Cuban species. The fur colour and shape of the ears are quite unique. The lip is quite ornate with many complicated folds and pleats. The ears extend to the anterior portion of the rostrum and enclose their tiny eyes. The fur is thick, smooth, silky, and with an orange tint to it.

Roost: This species roosts solely in caves, commonly occurring in closed-off cave chambers of high humidity. It can sometimes be found in more open caves, though in those situations the colony size is smaller.

Diet: They feed on insects and with a preference for moths.



Foto: Daniel Hargreaves.