BELIZE
THE OFFICIAL ACCOMMODATION GUIDE 2021

A LIVING HERITAGE
THE HEARTBEAT OF A YOUNG NATION REMAINS STRONG THROUGH THE EFFORTS OF ITS ARTISANS.

TRAVEL CONSCIOUSLY
IT'S BECOMING EASIER FOR YOUR VACATION TO CONTRIBUTE TO CONSERVATION.

KULCHA KITCHEN
A STORY ON THE TRUE NATURE OF OUR CUISINE AS TOLD BY BELIZE'S TOP CHEF.
The Official Accommodation Guide of Belize has been published by the Belize Hotel Association for over a decade. Used as the main marketing tool to showcase the Belizean product at international travel tradeshows, it has become a staple publication. As the pandemic struck the industry, it was clear that change needed to be met with change. The 2021 Official Belize Accommodation Guide is now solely available digitally. It features full-page listings of hotel members, showcases Destination Management Companies and allied partners, and includes engaging articles. This guide also contains a broader directory of Belize hotels. Meant to be easily accessible and interactive, it represents the future of Belize travel. We hope you have an enjoyable read. Belize Awaits you.

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Welcome to Belize

As the world faces an unprecedented global health crisis, the tourism sector is undergoing a period of prolonged hardship. COVID-19 has fundamentally altered the global travel landscape. In the Caribbean region, where nations are heavily reliant on tourism revenues, the crisis has had a much deeper impact. Belize is one such nation. The stakes are particularly high in Belize, as the tourism sector contributes 46% of our GDP. Nonetheless, we have proven ourselves to be naturally resilient. So then, what is it that sets Belize apart from other destinations and why should you continue to visit? It isn’t just our low population density and top-notch health and safety standards. In an alternate universe that parallels the fast-paced, outside world’s hustle and bustle, Belize is a curious place where time dances to a much more leisurely rhythm. It is a place where happy hour is whenever, and summer never ends. The richness of Caribbean cultures mixed with fiery Mestizo zings to create an exotic fusion that can only be experienced here. This is a place where business and pleasure do mix. A destination where socially distancing is a given, as you are surrounded by varying wild landscapes. The warmth of our friendly people, the language, the laid-back ambiance, majestic ancient sites and activities to enjoy, short distances and the ease of travel, our stellar telecommunication networks, and 21st-century amenities— all combine to make your stay easy, enjoyable and memorable whether you’re looking for action-packed and fun-filled adventures, business leisure, sight-seeing, or pure relaxation. My name is Ted Tejada, President of the Belize Hotel Association. It is my pleasure to welcome you to this wonder-filled place I call home. Belize should always be on your travel list. Your dream vacation awaits.

"A destination where social distancing is a given, as you are surrounded by varying wild landscapes."

"Indulge in the scent of fresh, salt air and laid-back island culture."

It gives us great pleasure that you join us as we reopen our doors to the world. Your safety and that of our people is the number one priority. One thing that the COVID-19 pandemic has proven is that, in all aspects of our lives, we should strive to build long-lasting connections with nature, with people, and with self. The perfect place for building these connections is Belize, where physical distancing is a natural occurrence. In northern Belize, tasty cuisine will satiate your hunger and inspire you to be unrestrained to new experiences. In the south, the sound of Garifuna drums will awaken your dancing soul, and the unique cultures will enthral your mind. To the west, goosebumps will abound as you jump into the shallows and plunge pools of charming waterfalls. In the east, learn about our history at the old capital, Belize City, or dive into the turquoise waters of the Caribbean Sea. Explore the Belize Barrier Reef Reserve System, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, dotted with national parks and marine reserves. The nearby islands of Ambergris Caye and Caye Caulker are enchanting and will captivate you as you stroll down one of their secluded beaches and indulge in the scent of fresh, salt air and laid-back island culture. Do not forget about our magnificent Maya sites, stunning caves, and exotic wildlife that are tucked deep in the rainforests throughout this amazing nation. As Minister of Tourism, Hon. Anthony Mahler, I invite you to take out your brushes of curiosity and start painting your adventure in Belize. We look forward to being a part of your visit to Belize, as you give us this opportunity to remind you why you love to travel and where you want to be.

A Natural Occurrence
The Belize Hotel Association Scholarship Fund

This fund was established in 2011 with the purpose to provide educational funding for children of employees working with BHA member hotels and businesses, who are unable to meet financial obligations for their child’s secondary or tertiary level education. This year the Belize Hotel Association has financed education for five students across the country of Belize. Thanks to the immeasurable generosity of our members and to the local business community who have donated gift certificates, cash, and gift packages for our raffles and auctions, the Belize Hotel Association proudly continues to support students every year. For more information or to make a donation to the fund, email us at info@belizehotels.org or call +501-223-0669.

The Belize Hotel Association believes in the education of young minds - our country's future.
Festivals & Events

January
- 1st - New Year's Day
- Krem New Year's Cycling Classic
- Horse Racing in Burrell Boom

February
- Valentine Cycling Classic
- Orange Walk Rum Festival
- Placencia Sidewalk Arts & Music Festival
- Carnaval de San Pedro

March
- 9th - National Heroes & Benefactors Day
- La Ruta Maya Belize River Challenge
- SanCas Belmopan Cycling Classic

April
- Holy Week in Benque Viejo
- Holy Saturday Regatta
- 2nd - Good Friday
- 3rd - Holy Saturday Cycling Classic
- 4th - Easter Sunday
- 5th - Easter Monday
- Burrell Boom Castleton Derby
- San Ignacio Easter Fair
- San Pedro Lagoon Reef Eco-Challenge
- Hopkins International Paranda Folk Art & Music Festival
- National Agriculture & Trade Show
- San Jose Succotz Fiesta

May
- 1st - Labor Day
- BTB LOVE Belize Sea Challenge
- Caye Caulker Coconut Festival
- Crooked Tree Cashew Festival
- Mother’s Day Cycling Classic
- 24th - Sovereign’s Day (Commonwealth Day)
- Frenchie’s Offshore Open
- San Ignacio Festival
- Chocolate Festival of Belize

June
- San Pedro Lobsterfest
- Caye Caulker Lobsterfest
- Placencia Lobsterfest
- Día de San Pedro Celebration
- Hopkins Mango Festival
- Annual Belize Archaeology Symposium

July
- Grand Caribe Deep-Sea Classic Fishing Tournament
- Benque Viejo Fiesta
- Orange Walk Fiestarama
- Belize International Film Festival
- National Corn Festival

August
- International Costa Maya Festival
- San Joaquin Festival
- Willows Bank Fyah Heat Festival
- Maya Deer Dance Festival
- Tres Pescados Slam Tournament
- Hike & Bike for the Rainforest

September
- Queen of the Bay Pageant
- Sir Barry Bowen Belikin Bash
- Miss Universe Belize
- 10th - St. George’s Caye Day
- Flag Raising Ceremonies & Parade
- Fire Engine Parade
- Carnival King & Queen
- Belize City Carnival
- Orange Walk Carnival
- Belize Defense Force, Police & Fire Fighters Tattoo
- Expo Belize Market Place
- 21st - Belize Independence Day
- Placencia Yamaha Marelco Saltwater Fishing Tournament

October
- Pan American Day
- Annual Belikin Beer Blue Water Classic
- Belize Birding Festival
- Tide Fish Festival

November
- Stann Creek Agriculture Fair
- Battle of the Drums
- 19th - Garifuna Settlement Day
- 27th - San Pedro Township Day
- Orange Walk Tacos Festival

December
- The Love FM Christmas Parade
- San Pedro Boat Lighting Parade
- 21st - Maya Winter Solstice
- 24th - Christmas Eve
- 25th - Christmas Day
- 26th - Boxing Day

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, event dates and festivals are subject to postponement or cancellation. Consult your hotel for updates. For more information, visit us at belizehotels.org or visit The Belize Tourism Board at travelbelize.org

Photos courtesy The Belize Tourism Board and The National Institute of Culture and History (NICH ISCR)
**Plan Ahead**

**THINGS TO KNOW BEFORE YOUR VISIT**

- **CELL PHONE SERVICE PROVIDER:** Be sure to notify your carrier of travel plans; roaming fees can be costly.
- **COUNTRY SIZE:** The country of Belize is 8,867 sq. mi. including 689 sq. mi. of offshore cayes.
- **CLIMATE:** The climate is subtropical with prevailing winds from the Caribbean Sea. The annual temperature averages 27°C / 80°F.
- **CLOTHING:** Light cotton clothing is recommended along with a light jacket or long sleeved shirt for cool evenings. For jungle locations and trekking, pack long sleeved shirts, long pants and hiking boots. Binoculars, insect repellent, sunscreen and hats are essential for tropical travel.*
- **CURRENCY:** The Belize Dollar has a fixed exchange rate to the US Dollar (BZD$2 = USD$1). Currencies such as Pounds and Euros can be exchanged at most banks. ATM machines are available in major towns and cities. Credit cards such Visa and MasterCard are widely accepted. Be sure to notify your bank or credit card provider of travel plans before travel.
- **DEPARTURE FEES:** Airport Departure fees are usually included in the airline ticket. If it is not included in the ticket price, passengers may pay a departure fee of USD$55.50 per person. Belizean residents pay a fee of BZD$35.00. Additionally, a security fee of USD$0.75 is charged for domestic security screening. Fees via the borders with Mexico and Guatemala are USD$20.00.
- **GOVERNMENT:** Since 1981, Belize has been an independent country with a democratically elected parliament. It is a member of the British Commonwealth.
- **HEALTH SERVICES:** There are three major hospitals in Belize City (one public and two private). Several private doctors are also available. The district towns and larger villages also have hospitals and clinics. It is recommended that travelers have international medical insurance.
- **LANGUAGE:** The official language of Belize is English. Because of its diverse mix of cultures, Spanish, Maya (Mopan, Ketchi & Yucatec), Garifuna, Creole, German (Mennonites) and Mandarin are frequently spoken.
- **PASSPORT & VISAS:** All visitors require a valid passport with proof of return ticket. Visitors from the United States, United Kingdom and most Caribbean nations do not require visas for stays less than 30 days. A notarized permission letter from parent(s) not traveling with their child/children is required and will be requested at your departure airport or border, if arriving by land. Contact the Belize Embassy in Washington DC, Belize High Commission in London or the Belize Consulate in Canada for more information.
- **POPULATION:** The population of Belize is approximately 468,100 comprised of diverse ethnicities including Creole, Garifuna, Mestizo, Spanish, Maya, English, Mennonite, Lebanese, Chinese and East Indian.
- **SAFETY:** Basic safety tips should be followed wherever you go in the world. Ask your hotel manager or local guide for specific advice on local areas.
- **TAXES:** Lodging Tax is 9%. The General Sales Tax (GST) is 12.5% on other goods and services.
- **TIME ZONE:** Belize occupies time zone GMT-6 or US Central Standard Time. Daylight Saving Time is not observed.
- **TIPPING:** 10 – 20% is the standard gratuity for most restaurants and tour guides. Establishments may add a service charge.
- **VACCINES:** No vaccinations are required for entry.
- **WATER:** Tap water in Belize is treated and fit to drink, however bottled water is also readily available.

*Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, masks are required to be worn in public. Travellers should consult their hotel and airline carriers for entry restrictions. For more information about health and safety protocols, visit The Belize Tourism Board at travelbelize.org
The best way to see and explore the heart of Belize is by connecting with her people and cultures. Belize is a cultural peculiarity in Spanish-speaking Central America. While tiny, this English speaking country has a colourful origin story that traces back to the Ancient Maya civilization and British pirates. This is further enriched by the arrival of people across the world to Belize’s shores. However, what you’re likely to see on a visit is a colourful mosaic of diverse people, cultures, and traditions. Belize is home to several ethnic groups including the Maya, Garifuna, Creole, Mestizo, East Indian, and Mennonites. While each brings their own unique influences, there are many overlaps that you’re likely to experience a bit of each wherever you travel across Belize.

The silver lining though is that there are increasing means to virtually explore and learn about Belize before, during, and after a visit. For example, The Cayetano Gallery, The Art Shack Belize, and Depiction Paintings have virtual spaces to explore Belizean Art. Foodies can glimpse into Belize’s culinary scene and explore traditional dishes with a twist by Chef Sean Kuylen. A photo or souvenir does not fully capture this multicultural splendour.

It is heard in the quirky Creole and Spanish-English expressions as people gather at street corners or catch-up at their favourite food vendors. It is seen in the raw talent and skills of artists and artisans at local art galleries and humble workshops that dot the highways and tucked-away villages. You can feel it at festivities like Carnival, Christmas Bram and Garifuna Settlement Day — where the rhythms, lyrics and dances might not be fully understood, but they are felt by the energy that slowly envelops the body. You can taste it in dishes like Caldo, and Cohune Cabbage that are steeped in tradition, and born from family recipes and ingredients sourced from the backyard garden or at the farmer’s market. It may be some time before visitors and locals are able to share in these experiences as before.

You can shop heritage-inspired fashion with local brands like Emilio Perera, and Twig & Pearl. With more artists and artisans propelled to expand their online presence, Belize (her people and cultures) is even more within reach. For those looking to learn more about a particular celebration, craft, or food, the Belize Living Heritage website provides an educational portal. As Belize adapts to a COVID-19 world, she remains resilient. For over the centuries, it has been the fusion of people and cultures from all over that has become the heartbeat of Belize - one that is strong and dynamic.
Welcome to Belize City and Northern Belize. The city that once was the capital of the country remains an industrial hub. It is also the gateway to your Belize experience with the only international airport countrywide. Northern Belize includes the northernmost district Corozal and its northwestern neighbor, Orange Walk, also known as the home of “Shuga City”.

Birding Nation
By The Belize Audubon Society

Belize is the birding destination. In fact, we’ll go as far as to say that it is perfect for both a novice birder to get their birding beaks wet as it is for avid watchers to see their lifers. With close to 600 species and ecologically rich forests, you are assured exciting sightings all year round. This healing activity is best done in small numbers, ideal for social distancing and reconnecting with nature. All you need is a pair of binoculars, some bug spray and a little patience.

Top 5 Must-See
Highlight sightings worth looking out for

1. Our national bird, the Keel-Billed Toucan, is a thrilling bird to see in the wild. (photo courtesy Glenn Patrick)

2. The brilliant Lovely Cotinga is a rare treat to those who go in search of it in the Mountain Pine Ridge. (photo courtesy Francis Canto Jr.)

3. Red flashes of the Scarlet Macaw, normally difficult to see; but during the months of November to February you can see them in the village of Red Bank, and for the past few years they have been spotted in Cockscomb Basin Wildlife Sanctuary. (photo courtesy Drea Reneau)

4. Boisterous Yucatan Jays can be seen in flocks north and west of the country. (photo courtesy Francis Canto Jr.)

5. And don’t forget the Red-footed Booby bird, with its baby blue beak and bright red-orange feet, which can be seen among the green canopy of the Ziricote forest at Half Moon Caye Natural Monument. (photo courtesy The Belize Audubon Society)

Northern Belize

THINGS TO DO & PLACES TO SEE

+ Airboat Tours
+ Bacalar Chico
+ Bliss Centre for Performing Arts
+ Cave-Tubing at Nohoch Che’en Caves Branch
+ Community Baboon & Black Howler Monkey Sanctuary
+ Corozal Bay
+ Crooked Tree Wildlife Sanctuary
+ Goff’s Caye Marine Reserve
+ Belize City House of Culture
+ Maya Sites: Altun Ha, Cerros, La Milpa, Lamanai, and Santa Rita
+ Museum of Belize
+ Rio Bravo Management Area & Hill Bank
+ Sibun River: Snook and Tarpon Fishing
+ The Belize Zoo
+ Ziplining
BELCOVE HOTEL
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Friendly, Comfortable, and Cozy. This Belize City hotel is family owned and operated, it offers you the very best in personal comfort that makes each of our guests feel like a V.I.P indeed. Just a stone's throw away from the water taxi terminal, walking distance to bus terminal, the Belize Swing Bridge and Commercial Center, Belcove provides warm, comfortable, cozy, clean rooms at reasonable rates. Come and enjoy the panoramic view of the Old Belize River and the beauty the river has to offer from our balcony which overlooks the river. So whether you are passing through the city or planning a vacation don't hesitate and make Belcove Hotel your choice. We offer (4) basic types of accommodation shared bath, private bathrooms, deluxe rooms, and triple deluxe rooms. Rooms and rate that just about fit everyone budgets, love to have you.

BEST WESTERN PLUS
BELIZE BILTMORE PLAZA
belizebiltmore.com

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Bordered on the East by the Caribbean Sea, Belize is the only English Speaking Country in Central America that features sandy beaches with clear blue waters, adventurous mountain climbs, and ancient Maya Ruins nestled in lush rainforests. Best Western PLUS Belize Biltmore Plaza is the premier awardee of hotel accommodations in the Old Capital, Belize City. Located just 10 minutes from both the Municipal and International Airports, your stay with us means you can start making memories right away. Whether your visit is for business or pleasure, you will enjoy quality, comfortable and enjoyable accommodations. Relax with cocktails at our open-air courtyard and savor the finest, authentic Belizean Cuisine at our Bistro Restaurant. De-stress and meet your workout goals at our fitness center or meditate, while sunbathing by our inviting pool. Our attentive service staff will assist you in accessing our amenities. We pride ourselves in providing our guests with an authentic Belizean experience.
**BIRD’S EYE VIEW LODGE**

birdseyeviewbelize.com

Crooked Tree Village
Belize District
T. +501-203-2040
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Bird’s Eye View lodge is a Belizean family owned and operated resort located in the heart of the Crooked Tree Wildlife Sanctuary. The lodge sits directly in front of the picturesque Crooked Tree Lagoon and has been called “a bird-watcher haven” by the Belize Audubon Society. Accommodations consists of a total of 25 air-conditioned rooms and 4 stand-alone cabanas. Our restaurant serves delicious local and international cuisine for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Our guest can also enjoy adventures like Birding by Boat, Guided Bird Walk Tours, Guided Nature Trails, Horseback Riding, Canoeing, Night Safari/ Crocodile Spotting, Exploring Maya Temples and other various private tours easily organized for you by our office. Bird’s Eye View Lodge a Sanctuary of Serenity. For reservations and inquiries, call us at +501-203-2040 or email us at birdseye@btl.net

**BLACK ORCHID RESORT**

blackorchidresort.com

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Located in the heart of Belize on the outskirts of Burrell Boom Village, the Black Orchid Resort is an oasis of modern convenience in an exotic tropical rainforest setting. Just 15 minutes away from the Philip S. W. Goldson International Airport in Belize City, Black Orchid Resort features 16 comfortable rooms, 7 luxury suites, and two well-appointed villas. There is a gourmet restaurant on site that serves up a mouth-watering menu of both local and international dishes, as well as a bar, gift shop, swimming pool, and conference center. Guests can enjoy free use of bicycles, Canoes, Kayaks and high-speed wireless Internet. Every room comes with powerful air-conditioning, a private bathroom, and cable TV. At Black Orchid Resort the health and safety of our guests and employees are our number one concern. To this end, new cleaning and safety protocols have been established and all of our staff have been re-trained considering COVID-19.

Additional Amenities/Services:
Free Wireless Internet Access in All Rooms, Free Parking, Complimentary Coffee & Water in Room.
Chan Chich Lodge has pioneered private conservation since the 1980s. Our 30,000 acres of wilderness, surrounded by half a million acres of conservation lands, provide what many believe to be the best wildlife-viewing opportunity in the Americas. An additional 3,000 acres are agricultural lands that form an extension of Chan Chich Lodge, establishing the farm to table ethos that provides coffee, vegetables, fruits, meats and sauces for our restaurant. At Chan Chich Lodge you will experience what expeditions of past centuries set out to find: architectural wonders of the ancient Maya lost in the jungle. With an unparalleled abundance of wildlife (and the best chance to see the elusive jaguar in its natural habitat) Chan Chich is an extraordinary destination for naturalists, birders and for those seeking an authentic retreat to the jungle. Each guest, by staying at Chan Chich Lodge, is directly contributing to our ongoing efforts to protect both the natural and cultural patrimony of Belize.

Golden Bay Belize Hotel is conveniently situated to give you easy access to local attractions and near to the heart of business in Belize. We offer a superlative standard of accommodation, all with an excellent view of Belize City and the Caribbean Sea. We also boast a delightful dining experience courtesy of the Vino Tinto Restaurant located at the top floor. Whether you’re here to meet clients, friends or family, or just need some time to get away, our hotel can provide you with comfort and access to some of the best that Belize has to offer. Newly built and furnished, our rooms provide a calming and relaxed atmosphere for your stay. Comfortable world-class mattresses, soft linens, hot water, cold AC, and fiber connected WiFi provide the foundation for a productive business trip or relaxing vacation. And if you’re looking for a little more, we offer suites equipped with luxurious whirlpool baths and magnificent ocean views. Let us make your stay a pleasant one!

Additional Amenities/Services:
This Magnificent Colonial Home is conveniently located in the Tourism Zone of Belize City, just across from the Radisson Fort George Hotel, steps away from Sea Front Running/Walking Path, within walking distance to the Water Taxis, Tourism Village, Restaurants, Lighthouse, Museums, Banks, Parks, Shopping, Downtown and within one hour of Belize’s popular tour activities. My staff and I invite you to choose The Great House Inn as your headquarter for your Belize adventure. "Old world charm with all the amenities for the Business and Leisure Traveler". It would be our pleasure to welcome you to this wonderful Colonial Home, which we have meticulously appointed with all the amenities for your comfort and convenience. The look and feel of yesterday with today’s modern conveniences make The Great House Inn Belize’s “outpost” away from home. Our friendly staff will greet you as our guest; you will leave as our friend.

Additional Amenities/Services:
Complimentary Coffee, Tea, Bottled Water, Crackers, Bananas, Continental Breakfast, Private Bath, Mini Refrigerator, Direct Telephone, Coffee Maker, Desk, Alarm Clock.

RADISSON FORT GEORGE HOTEL & MARINA
radisson.com/belizecitybz

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The Radisson Fort George Hotel & Marina offers tropical surroundings and breathtaking views of the Caribbean Sea, from the comfort of your room. Ideally situated 25 minutes from the Airport and 10 minutes from downtown Belize City, our central location makes it easy to spend a day, relaxing at the cayes or climbing to the top of our highest Maya site. Then return, to enjoy the beautiful Caribbean sunset while sipping a tropical cocktail on our deck. The Radisson Fort George offers 102 beautifully updated Garden view or Seaview rooms, three restaurants, gym, spa, café, two bars, concierge service and a full-service marina. With over 6,000 square feet of space in seven air-conditioned meeting rooms, we offer the top conference and event venues in Belize. As a Tourism Gold Standard Hotel and a Radisson Hotels SGS Certified hotel, the Radisson Fort George Hotel has implemented several health & safety measures, with your well-being as our top priority.

Additional Amenities/Services:
Airport Shuttle Service, Cafe, Baby Sitting Services, Free Parking, Complimentary Coffee and Tea in Room, ATM.
On January 14th, 2020, the Government of Belize announced its commitment, by way of legislation, to phase out and eventually ban single-use plastic and Styrofoam products, joining less than twenty countries worldwide who have taken a similar stance against single-use. The initial timeline for the phase-out spanned a twelve (12) - month period with four (4) phases to stop importation, manufacturing, possession, and sale of these products. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Government of Belize made the decision to extend the phase-out period, pushing back the final date to July 2021. The first segment of the phase-out has since been completed with the cessation of importation of prohibited products in April. The next step in the phase-out is now set for January 2021, with the cessation of manufacturing prohibited products.

Even before the phase-out was legislated, Oceana has worked to support businesses who made it their responsibility to integrate greener practices into their everyday operations. We have created a Green Vendor Registry to highlight these businesses in an effort to make it easier for citizens and visitors to recognize and support these establishments, as well as to inspire others to join. As the phase-out continues, we also continue to advocate for the government to outline adequate standards for ‘greener’ alternatives to single-use products, as many of these alternatives aren’t as green as you think.

Oceana has also worked with communities across the country, particularly in San Pedro and Placencia, which are leading the way in adopting plastic-free alternatives.

Here are some useful tips:

1. **Plan Ahead** – try to pack bamboo utensils, reusable water bottles, and reusable bags.

2. **Carry your reusable water bottle or travel cup** – this reduces the single-use cups or bottles you may consume when exploring. Not to mention that a stylish cup will look much better in that #ExploreBelize Instagram post. Many vendors will also happily pour fresh fruit juice into your bottle too, so no fear of missing out.

3. **Say no to plastic straws** – You can travel with your own metal or bamboo straw. Didn’t pack your own straw? Don’t worry, our locally-made bamboo straws help the environment and make a great souvenir. If you are feeling extra independent, just go strawless!

4. **Walk with your reusable tote** – traveling can often be unpredictable, and we get that. So whether you are planning to pick up a bunch of gifts for your friends and family back home or just stash a few snacks, it helps to have a bag (or a few) on hand to avoid using plastic bags.

5. **Ask for soda in glass bottles, not in plastic** – Local bottlers provide both options. In our opinion, soda in glass tastes yummier and colder without those pesky plastic toxins.

You can help ensure Belize’s government adequately implements this important ban by joining Oceana and following these tips. Make your voice heard and lead by example. Find out more about Oceana and their work in Belize here.

Social media influencer and model, Joyjah Estrada, shares her first-hand experience of being tangled in a gillnet for Oceana’s “Are We Drowning Our Future?” campaign.
This dive haven turned retirement mecca has drawn travellers from all over the globe to explore its waters and attractions. On any given day, an intoxicating mix of people from all over the country and the world are deposited via water taxi or plane. This increasing blend provides a snapshot to a changing Ambergris Caye. San Pedro and by extent Ambergris Caye has become the most cosmopolitan area of Belize. The constant inflow of fresh faces and new ideas has birthed a blended local culture which is constantly evolving. The “Ambergrans” are very social, dynamic, and progressive. It is common to see a blend of tourists, immigrants (expats), and locals in the same location, often in the same group.

San Pedro 2.0

“La Isla Bonita” is known far and wide as the buzzing little island by the Belize Barrier Reef.

Consider visiting places like The Truck Stop that offers a twist on the food truck concept and quickly became the premier entertainment experience on the island. The Belize Chocolate Company offers world-class chocolates sustainably made in Belize. The Blue Water Grill hosts the Annual Food and Wine Festival with an array of guests and local chefs offering a unique dining experience to an increasingly dynamic diner. Secret Beach has boomed into the picture-perfect daytime escape with waist-deep turquoise water and refreshing drinks. The opening of Alaia heralds a new era of modern luxury targeting the public with luxe amenities like a rooftop pool lounge and a studio/gallery space for artisans.

This draw has quietly begun to lure a wider range of demographics to live and work. The characteristics of the typical traveller are changing. An influx of younger, more tech-savvy persons are visiting and relocating to the island from both the mainland and abroad. Lured by the island’s energy and the accessibility of the Internet, cafes are filling up with remote workers. Younger foreigners are finding San Pedro to be a great base with its proximity to the US and vivacious energy. Meanwhile young Belizeans are drawn by opportunity presented on the growing island. As the market shifts, the island shifts with it. Rooftops, lounges, sushi nights, juice bars, sustainability, and authenticity highlight these changes as more amenities become available.

THINGS TO DO & PLACES TO SEE

Cayes & Atolls

- Fishing: Punta Ycacos Lagoon
- Gladden Spit: Whale Sharks
- Half Moon Caye National Monument
- Hol Chan Marine Reserve
- Lighthouse, Turneffe and Glover’s Reef
- Birding: Red-Footed Booby Birds of Half Moon Caye
- Secret Beach
- Shark Ray Alley
- South Water Marine Reserve
- Swallow Caye Wildlife Sanctuary
- The Split on Caye Caulker
- The Great Blue Hole

Welcome to Belize’s Cayes and Atolls. Belize is home to the second-largest barrier reef reserve system in the world. Named a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1996, it comprises 7 protected areas including the famous Great Blue Hole Natural Monument, Lighthouse Reef Atoll, Turneffe Atoll and Glover’s Reef are 3 out of the 4 atolls found in the western hemisphere. Approximately 450 cayes dot the length of this magnificent reef system.
ALAIA BELIZE
AN AUTOGRAPH COLLECTION HOTEL BY MARRIOTT
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T. +501-226-3739
E. info@alaiabelize.com

Alaia Belize occupies one of Ambergris Caye’s most enchanting beachside location that is perfect for both business and leisure travelers. This Autograph Collection hotel offers sweeping views of the Caribbean and blends island warmth with contemporary, modern design. A 5-minute drive from the hub of San Pedro Town, Alaia Belize provides guests with the serenity, amenities, and top-notch services to create lasting memories. The 155-unit resort features a variety of sleek accommodations from Studio guest rooms, to 3 bedroom Villas that allow guests to access the beach from their front door or relax in their private plunge pool. Among many luxurious amenities, Alaia will boast Belize’s only rooftop suspended pool with a restaurant & cocktail lounge that offers a panoramic eyeful of the Second Largest Barrier Reef in the world. The resort will also feature a variety of dining and entertainment options, a spa, health club, full-service concierge, kids club, and 5-star PADI dive shop. The resort is set to debut in the spring of 2021.

Additional Amenities/Services:
Complimentary Arrival and Departure Transfers, 24-hours Reception, Diveshop Onsite.

BELIZE DIVE HAVEN RESORT & MARINA
info@belizedivehaven.com
Rope Walk Caye, Turneffe Atoll
Belize Offshore Islands
T. 501-225-7300
E. info@belizedivehaven.com

Belize Dive Haven is just minutes away from some of the world’s best dive sites, making this a premier destination for diving, snorkelling, and fishing, boasting over 90 luxurious rooms that are fully air-conditioned, including a Penthouse Suite. We are a private island resort perched atop the Turneffe Atoll which is only 22 miles away from the Great Blue Hole and a 1-hour boat ride from our private marina in Belize City, just minutes from the Philip Goldson International Airport. Belize Dive Haven Resort & Marina incorporates a PADI-certified dive shop, indoor and open-air dining at two restaurants, outdoor freshwater swimming pool (the largest in Belize), cocktail bar, private beach, rooftop event venue, kayaks, hacienda (for live entertainment and social activities), massage services, gift shop, mini gym, coffee bar and breath taking views of the largest living barrier reef in the world.

Additional Amenities/Services:
Coffee Shop, Swim-up Bar, Huge Lounge Area.
Experience a private paradise at Blue Tang Inn, one of San Pedro’s most charming beachfront inns. 14 studio suites offer comfort and convenience with a fully equipped kitchen, choice of king bed or 2 double beds and futon, air conditioning and WiFi. Relax by the private pool or rejoice on the rooftop deck with inspiring panoramas of the ocean and reef. Start each day with coffee and homemade continental breakfast under the Palapa. Set your daily schedule with amazing activities such as sailing, diving and snorkeling, fishing, kayaking and numerous inland day tours. A guest favorite is a relaxing sail and snorkel experience on the 40 foot Sirena Azul sailboat, owned by Blue Tang Inn. Guests love the friendly and helpful hotel staff, stunning views, convenient location in town and comfortable accommodations. We look forward to having you as our guest.

Additional Amenities/Services:
- Continental Breakfast, Fully Equipped Kitchen.

Cayo Espanto is a private island resort located off the coast of Belize – three miles from San Pedro - that has made itself synonymous with the idea of luxury and extravagance. Overlooking crystal clear waters, guests are able to find their own private paradise. One of the top resorts in the world, and home to only seven exclusive villas total (18 guests maximum), every guest feels as if they are on their own private island. Every villa hosts its own private pool, personal butler and private dock. This barefoot luxe resort offers an incredible, tailored experience for every guest. Each traveler is able to choose from an array of tailored meals (3 chef-customized dining experiences per day), relaxing massage/spa treatments, a fleet of boats on command (the largest living reef is within a short distance), and mainland Maya/Jungle adventurers where the island’s concierge service is there every step of the way to help plan the perfect visit.

Additional Amenities/Services:
- A Personal Houseman, Tailored Meals, Airport Greeting, WiFi, Luxurious Hammocks, Oversized Robes, Egyptian Yves De Lormes Linens, Daily Day Trips by Boat to and from San Pedro.
AMBERGRIS CAYE

Grand Caribe Belize is a luxury beach resort located 2 miles north of San Pedro Town on the island of Ambergris Caye. Our wide selection of rooms includes One, Two, Three, and Four-bedroom condominiums alongside a 5-bedroom mansion. All our condos are beautifully furnished with fully equipped kitchens giving you all the amenities of home, while capturing the breathtaking views of the Caribbean Sea and the Barrier Reef located a short 1/2 mile off shore. The family friendly surroundings feature 800 feet of manicured beach, 6 pools, Hammocks, Kayaks, Snorkeling gear and freshly prepared meals from any of our two on-site restaurants and pool bar. Fun, comfort, and convenience are our specialties. Additional amenities include on-site Spa and Salon, Fitness Centre, Grocery Store, Conference Room, reliable WiFi, helipad and a first-class medical facility. We provide everything needed to make your stay on our beautiful Ambergris Caye unforgettable.

Additional Amenities/Services:
- Golf Cart Rental
- Convenient Store
- Salon
- Swim-up Bar
- Medical Facility

CAYE CAULKER

ISLAND MAGIC BEACH RESORT
islandmagicbelize.com

A five-minute walk from the village center, this cozy beachfront hotel is conveniently close to the shops and restaurants along the main street. The location is just south of where all the action is so guests enjoy being close enough to walk into town but far enough to enjoy a peaceful and quiet stay. With 20 quaint rooms housed in one main building overlooking the ocean, this hotel celebrates the richness of tropical life. There’s a casual restaurant with a terrace overlooking the Caribbean Sea and a rooftop sundeck where Massage services and spectacular views of the entire island await. Adventure and relaxation await your arrival. Enjoy the perfect balance of lazy beach days and exploratory adventures. You will awake to the sounds of the sea. This natural paradise can be explored by bicycle rides into the village, bird watching, scuba diving, strolls by the ocean, fishing, kite surfing, snorkeling, kayaking, and exceptional meals and cocktails. Island Magic awaits!
Mahogany Bay Resort & Beach Club, Curio Collection by Hilton™ is a unique 4-star resort and village on the island of Ambergris Caye, Belize offering an exceptional array of amenities. With 60+ acres of land, the ability to safely socially distance is built into your vacation naturally. With an entire village at your fingertips — dining, shopping, activities, entertainment & excursions — all of the ingredients for a perfect Caribbean vacation are ready and available to you! Besides the legacy behind the Hilton name, we invite you to discover what sets Mahogany Bay Resort & Beach Club apart. We know that you are as excited as we are to welcome back travel, even if it looks a little different these days. We also understand that our guests’ expectations for cleaning and disinfection have changed. That’s why Hilton is proud to present the CleanStay program, building on our already rigorous cleaning standards to provide peace of mind to our guests.

Pelican Reef Villas
pelicanreefvillas.com
2.6 Miles South, San Pedro Town
Ambergris Caye
T. +501-226-4352 / USA +1-281-394-3739
E. info@pelicanreefvillas.com

The sun-drenched sands and serene waters of La Isla Bonita await you at Pelican Reef Villas. Our boutique, oceanfront resort offers personalized, award-winning service, a bar and pool area that was renovated in 2019, and a recently expanded beach. Pelican Reef is located approximately 2.5 miles south of San Pedro (the only town on Ambergris Caye) and has both 2BR and 3BR fully furnished, well-appointed suites from which to choose. Guests can enjoy the complimentary breakfast each morning before accessing world-class snorkeling, scuba diving, and fishing from the end of our 300-foot pier or exploring the waters around the resort in one of our complimentary paddle boards or kayaks. If a lazy day is what is needed, guests can either relax in one of our cushioned loungers or swing in one of our hammocks, both located on the beach and at the end of the pier, or they can set up a beach massage with our Guest Services staff. Make Pelican Reef Villas your home on your next Belize vacation!
PLAYA DE SALA BOUTIQUE HOTEL
playadesala.com

4.5 Miles South, Tarpon Bay, San Pedro
Ambergris Caye
T. +501-630-8822
E. playadesala@gmail.com

Located on the island of Ambergris Caye just 4.5 miles south of San Pedro Town, Playa De Sala is the perfect location for a peaceful relaxing stay. This 5 room adult-only luxury boutique hotel is nestled between the mangroves and the tranquil waters of the Caribbean Sea. Relax in the sun on the beach, take a refreshing dip in the pool overlooking the beach, or enjoy custom libations on our full-service rooftop lounge while enjoying unobstructed views of the island. Salas Kitchen located poolside will prepare the freshest local cuisine combined with a gourmet twist. Enjoy a private dinner on the beach, on the rooftop lounge, or right outside your room. Our staff has been hand-picked from the best Belize has to offer and will provide you with the utmost attention to ensure you have the very best vacation while in Belize.

Additional Amenities/Services:
In-room Coffee Makers, Mini Fridges, Hair Straightening Irons.

PORTOFINO BEACH RESORT
portofino.bz

6 Miles North, San Pedro
Ambergris Caye
T. +501-226-5096 / US Phone: 800-813-7880
E. info@portofinobelize.com

Situated on the pristine and unspoiled northern coast of Ambergris Caye, considered by many one of the most beautiful islands in the world. Portofino is a remote and tranquil resort easily accessible by both land and sea. The pace is unhurried...the beaches are white...the water amazingly azure. Portofino is undoubtedly a haven of tranquility, where guests will enjoy the subtle sounds of the nearby waves lapping over the reef, gentle breeze, breathtaking sunrise, star studded night sky and spectacular views of the crystal waters of the Caribbean Sea. The perfect setting for a romantic getaway, intimate wedding, honeymoon, and perfect vacation for family and friends. Relax on the beach, in our ocean hammocks or in our fresh water outdoor swimming pool; or simply indulge in an exotic beach massage under our hand thatched Palapa. Explore the blue waters of the Caribbean Sea by embarking on a kayak adventure to the famous Belize Barrier Reef.

Additional Amenities/Services:
PORTOFINO Restaurant, Green Parrot Beach Bar, Dive Shop, PADI Certification, Reef Diving, Snorkeling/Beach BBQ, and Fishing.
AMBERGRIS CAYE
38
OFFSHORE ISLAND
39
RAMON’S VILLAGE RESORT
ramons.com

Coconut Drive
San Pedro Town, Ambergris Caye
T. +501-226-2071 / USA +1-800-624-4215
E. info@ramons.com

Ramon’s Village Resort is a vacation and scuba diving resort located on the stunning island of Ambergris Caye in the quaint town of San Pedro. Ramon’s Village offers 61 palm thatch cabanas nestled among a jungle of tropical flora and fauna with the best beach in San Pedro. Guests will enjoy our beautiful lagoon-style pool, beach spa, hammocks, and beach chairs with a fabulous view of the Caribbean Sea. Guests and visitors will enjoy dining at our world-class Pineapples On The Beach, tropical frozen concoctions and specialty coffee at Tropic Al’s, and shopping at the Tiki Turtle Trading Company. Ramon’s Village Divers, a PADI 5 Star IDC located on the pier at Ramon’s, is Belize’s oldest and most respected dive operation. Novice and experienced scuba divers and snorkelers can explore the undersea wonders of Belize via one of our 11 dive boats. Fishing trips, Island and Mainland tours are also available from Ramon’s Village Divers – your one-stop-shop for seeing all that Belize has to offer. Downtown San Pedro is just a 3-minute walk down the beach from Ramon’s Village. Enjoy the vacation of a lifetime at the iconic Ramon’s Village Resort!

RAY CAYE
AN ISLAND RESORT
raycaye.com

Offshore Placencia
Stann Creek District
T. +501-523-3337
E. reservations@raycaye.com

Imagine the Caribbean before it got crowded... Experience the Caribbean the way nature intended; just you, a pristine sand beach, and the crystal clear sea. Ray Caye is a Belize private island resort that offers an unspoiled environment for an authentic and unforgettable tropical experience. Escape for a romantic getaway or book the whole island for a destination wedding, a family reunion, or retreat. All 20 rooms are fully air-conditioned with ceiling fans safety deposit boxes, a private bath, king-size beds, and private verandas with a view. The island features 1 restaurant, 1 pool, a watersport center, PADI dive shop, Yoga center, Spa, and Gym. The location close to the famous Silk Cayes and Gladden Spit Marine reserve makes it the ideal spot for your fishing, dive, and snorkel adventures. The boat transfer to the island is about 45 minutes from Placencia Mainland.
Come experience old world charm, a dedicated staff, and an unforgettable stay at the Holiday Hotel, San Pedro, Ambergris Caye, Belize. The flagship of all hotels has celebrated its golden anniversary of distinguished and unequalled service to those travelers who have been fortunate enough to choose her as their home away from home while in Belize. Apart from its excellent service, Holiday Hotel offers one of the premier and oldest bars on the island offering local and international drinks you can enjoy right on the beach. Whereas, Celi’s Deli offers a choice selection of traditional breakfast plates and Belizean treats, 50+ remarkable years under the stewardship of the very extraordinary Celi McCorkle! A visionary and an innovator who started the hotel and tourism industry on La Isla Bonita, Celi still takes an active part in the community teaching the younger generation that hard work does pay.

St. George’s Caye (“Key”) Resort offers an intimate private island experience where you can relax and indulge in rustic elegance and unparalleled service. Our pristine, secluded retreat sparkles with natural beauty and is conveniently located only 7 miles from Belize City, making it easily accessible from the mainland yet worlds away. Whether you seek peace and relaxation or extreme adventure—or the ultimate romantic getaway—our friendly, local staff is here to pamper you in paradise. Come away solo, with your +1, or bring a group and get the island to yourselves! We are experts at making your stay with us the most memorable time possible. With access to tons of experiences and even complementary activities on the island, you can enjoy your bucket list goals and save time for the relaxation and sun-soaking you deserve!
SUNBREEZE HOTEL
sunbreeze.net

#7 Coconut Drive, Beachfront, San Pedro
Ambergris Caye
T. 501-226-2191
E. res@sunbreeze.net

Beauty greets you at every turn at SunBreeze Hotel - from the Spanish Architectural building surrounded by lush tropical gardens to breathtaking views of the Caribbean Sea. This Seafront oasis boasts a serene and relaxing atmosphere while being mere steps from all the culture, crafts, dining and entertainment of San Pedro. Designed with all the commodities to make a vacation memorable, SunBreeze Hotel, offers 43 spacious and comfortable rooms in 3 different categories, including large rooms that are ideals for families. All rooms feature great amenities, outdoor seating and relaxing views. Amenities include: Dive Center, Open-Air Restaurant and Bar, Pool, Sundeck, Courtyard Sofa-Lounge, Massage Studio and Conference Room. Diving, Honeymoon, Island Wedding and Adventure packages are available.

SunBreeze Hotel is an ideal venue for Dive Groups, Retreats, Meetings and Incentive groups. “No shoes, No Shirt...No Problem”.

Additional Amenities/Services:
Free Wifi, 24-Hour Reception, Complimentary Morning Coffee, and In-room Service.

THATCH CAYE
A MUY’ONO RESORT
thatchcayebelize.com

P.O. Box 133, Dangriga
Stann Creek District
T. +501-822-1272
E. info@thatchcayebelize.com

Thatch Caye is an exclusive private island eco-resort located along the Belize Barrier Reef. Perched off the coast of Dangriga, Thatch Caye offers overwater bungalows and oceanfront cabanas. The island resort accommodates up to 30 guests at a time, guaranteeing a unique experience. Voted one of the most romantic resorts in Central America, it’s the perfect place to disconnect and recharge. Thatch Caye is also an adventurer’s dream. Guests are treated to an array of water sports, outdoor yoga and fitness, an overwater bar, dining under the stars, swimming in the natural saltwater pool, fly fishing, SCUBA diving, and more. Guests typically add the all inclusive package, enjoying unlimited delicious tropical drinks and farm-to-table meals. The resort often hosts couples but welcomes families, wellness retreats, weddings, and small groups for full island rentals.

Additional Amenities/Services:
Airport Transportation, Water Bottle, Wedding and Retreat Planners, All-Inclusive Packages, Hobie Cat, Water Toys, Honeymoon Packages, Blue Horizon Fly Fishing Rod Room, Yoga and Fitness Platforms.
Our Property is located on the beach in Caye Caulker. Our staff will be happy to get you checked in. Our rooms are Standard, Cabanas, and Suites so you can be sure to find one that fits your desires. We also offer daily snorkeling tours and kayaks are also available. Our restaurant offers a wide assortment of dishes to meet your taste. You can also dine on the beach at night in a romantic setting. Inland tours can also be arranged for you. You can do it all right here with us. Room service is also available or beach service throughout the day. Our bar is fully stocked so you can enjoy tropical drinks while you relax and experience sunny days and cool nights. We look forward to your visit. Contact us today to start planning your Belize Vacation.

CAYE CAULKER
TROPICAL PARADISE HOTEL
tropicalparadisehotel.com
#1 Luciano Reyes Street
Caye Caulker
T. +501-226-0124
E. tropicalp@btl.net

TURNEFFE ISLAND RESORT
turnefferesort.com
Turneffe Atoll
Offshore Island
T. +1-800-874-0118
E. info@turnefferesort.com

Turneffe Island Resort is a secluded 14-acre private island located 30 miles off the coast of Belize sitting on the Southern tip of the Turneffe Atoll. TIR is an exquisite coral island where travelers are pampered to enjoy a “Hemingway feel” vacation. Renowned by its location, TIR is ecologically and environmentally friendly; utilizes solar power along with a one of a kind water purification system. TIR offers exclusive resort packages that include airport/boat transfers (Saturdays and Wednesdays), high end luxury accommodations, free kayaking and boat-sailing with all-inclusive Caribbean meals and hors d’oeuvres served throughout the day. To elevate the comfort of guests and to ensure quality activities, snorkeling, diving and fishing packages are provided independently at guests requests before or after their arrival. TIR offers more than 70 dive sites, surrounded by lagoons and best access to the world’s famous Blue Hole, and the Elbow. Turneffe Island Resort is a haven for divers, anglers, and visitors who are seeking a spectacular getaway experience.
Victoria House Resort & Spa, one of Ambergris Caye’s most luxurious and awarded resorts is a peaceful retreat located two miles south of San Pedro Town. The ambiance of the resort is one of relaxation, privacy, and barefoot elegance. The resort features 2 main guest pools, dive shop, and a full service spa and fitness center. Victoria House is the perfect locale to scuba-dive, snorkel or just “unplug” from the rest of the world! Rejuvenate yourself... begin your day with yoga at the Spa then pamper yourself from head to toe or just relax by the pool. Victoria House offers diverse room options such as charming thatch-roof casitas, plantation-style rooms and suites as well as luxury beachfront villas. Two villas have private pools and all are set in an idyllic setting of white sand beaches, azure waters, swaying palms and beautiful gardens. Palmilla Restaurant and Admiral Nelsons Bar at Victoria House are both known for their outstanding cuisine and an extensive wine list.

THE PALMS OCEANFRONT SUITES
belizepalms.com

Coconut Drive, San Pedro Town
Ambergris Caye
T. +501-226-3322
E. thepalms@belizepalms.com

A hidden jewel in the heart of San Pedro Town, on the island of Ambergris Caye, Belize. Friendly, intimate, and tranquil yet close to all amenities and local restaurants. Set amid lush tropical gardens with pool and fountain, The Palms consists of 12 Oceanfront Suites and 1 poolside casita. Each unit is uniquely decorated including modern kitchens and spacious living areas. All Oceanfront Suites have private balconies or decks with fabulous views overlooking the sparkling Caribbean Sea. Stay with us and have the vacation of a lifetime.
Manatee Love
9 RULES OF INTERACTION
By Jamal Galves

The Antillean manatee (Trichechus manatus manatus) is the only aquatic herbivorous mammal in Belize’s waterways. Fewer than 2,500 adult Antillean manatees are thought to remain in the wild with numbers believed to be declining due to threats such as boat collision, habitat degradation, entanglement in fishing gear, and poaching. Belize is home to the largest population of this endangered species with an estimated population of 800-1000 individuals. Some well-known manatee hotspots in Belize include the Belize River Mouth, Swallow Caye Wildlife Sanctuary, Gales Point Manatee Wildlife Sanctuary, Placencia Lagoon, Port of Honduras Marine Reserve, and Corozal Bay Wildlife Sanctuary. Being able to experience these charismatic creatures and their behaviours within their natural habitat is one of the most breathtaking experiences one can have on any marine tour. The best takeaway is knowing you did it with minimal impact to the species, as we must be mindful that these aquatic mammals are endangered.

Some ways you can have a low impact on the species during your tour are:

1. Ensure and remind your captain to boat slowly within manatee areas and respect slow-speed zones.

2. Look, but don’t touch manatees. Also, don’t feed manatees or give them water. If manatees become accustomed to being around people, they can alter their behaviour in the wild, perhaps causing them to lose their natural fear of boats and humans, which may make them more susceptible to harm.

3. Do not pursue or chase a manatee if you see one while you are swimming, snorkeling, diving, paddling, or operating a boat.

4. Give manatees space to move. Avoid isolating or singling out an individual manatee from its group and do not separate a cow and her calf.

5. Avoid excessive noise and splashing if a manatee appears nearby. The manatee may be resting and may surface without being aware of your presence. Noise and activity may startle the animal awake, which may put it in harm’s way if it is frightened and leaves the area.

6. If in-water activities near manatees are allowed, use snorkel gear and float at the surface of the water to passively observe them.

7. Stash your trash!

8. Report illegal or non-compliance of boat captains and tour operators.

9. Take tons of photos and memories and remember to share the importance of preserving this beautiful endangered species.

Photo courtesy Belizemytravels

Jamal Galves
Conservation Biologist
and Nat Geo Photo Ark EDGE Fellow

EXPLORERS AT WORK
Manatee conservation in Belize. Robin Moore National Geographic.
Long commutes, traffic and full days in the office don’t sound as unappealing as logging into your server atop a treehouse in the middle of a tropical rainforest. Imagine answering emails from the comfort of a lounge chair with a panoramic view of the Caribbean Sea. Your video conference calls won’t need background filters, and coffee breaks easily turn into a cocktail recess. The pandemic forced a drastic shift to remote work worldwide. Safety measures and health restrictions kept most of us inside for long periods, turning living rooms into conference halls and dinner tables into workspaces.

Though working from home can have its comforts, taking advantage of the option to travel again makes for a luxurious and exotic opportunity to work from paradise. Belize has a small, English-speaking population scattered among 8,000+ square miles of pristine rainforest, white-sand beaches, and beautiful islands dotting the world’s second largest barrier reef. It offers a ‘best of both worlds’ destination for those who can work remotely and are looking to escape densely populated cities to find their own space in paradise. Many hotels and vacation rentals in Belize have transitioned to welcoming long-term stays, offering discounted rates, and travel options for extended ‘vacations’. These range from monthly rates on suites to all-inclusive packages that provide meals, tours, and co-working spaces with services such as laundry and daycare. Broadband Internet speeds in Belize average about 30MB, suitable for browsing, emails, and zoom calls. Add to that mobile Internet access that averages up to 20MB and you’ll have the freedom to work from just about anywhere in the country, allowing you to explore your new home away from home while staying connected and getting work done. For something more permanent, the post-COVID market is an opportunity to invest in a vacation home where social distancing occurs naturally. Those looking to relocate and step away from the crowds can find attractive properties for sale or fully-furnished, long term rentals. Vista Real Estate has partnered with a number of providers such as The Belize Collection and The Lodge at Big Falls to offer customized solutions for remote work accommodations and temporary relocation services countrywide. Remote work was a growing trend long before COVID-19, but the events of 2020 have accelerated it to a point where travel executives believe it will remain an integral part of the landscape moving forward. It allows you to work from where you are, no matter the location, and that location can be tucked away in the rainforest of the Maya Mountains or sunbathing on the beaches of Belize. So pack your suitcase, grab your camera and your laptop, and make your move. Contact Vista Real Estate to find your remote workspace in Belize and don’t forget your sunscreen!
Welcome to Western Belize, location of the ancient Maya cities of Caracol, Xunantunich, El Pilar, and Cahal Pech. This region is known for its cave systems, protected areas, and national parks that include the Actun Tunichil Muknal, Mountain Pine Ridge Forest Reserve and Chiquibul National Park. The Cayo district is home to the Mennonite farming community of Spanish Lookout and the country’s capital, Belmopan.

**Western Belize**

- Actun Tunichil Muknal Cave (ATM Cave)
- Barton Creek Cave
- Big Falls
- Bird Watching
- Botanical Gardens
- Butterfly Falls
- Maya Sites: Cahal Pech, Caracol, and Xunantunich
- Capital City of Belmopan
- Che Chem Ha Cave
- Chiquibul National Park
- Crystal Cave Tubing
- Green Hills Butterfly Ranch
- Green Iguana Conservation Project
- Jungle Canopy Zip Lining
- Jungle Horseback Riding
- Kayaking & Canoeing
- Mountain Pine Ridge Forest Reserve
- Rio Frio Cave & Rio On Pools
- Saint Herman’s Blue Hole National Park
- San Ignacio Marketplace
- Thousand Foot Falls
- Twin Towns of San Ignacio & Santa Elena

**CHAA CREEK RESORT**

chaacreek.com

Chaa Creek Road, San Ignacio
Cayo District
T. +1-877-709-8708
E. reservations@chaacreek.com

Chaa Creek continues to provide unique adventure travel experiences for thousands of visitors looking for an in-depth yet civilized Belizean vacation, with a focus on Belize’s ecology, natural history, and vibrant multicultural society. Our wide range of accommodations allow guests to select lodgings that range from the enchanting allure of the cottage collection to the unparalleled luxury of the new Ix Chel Luxury Rainforest Villas, whose stunning views, private Jacuzzis, plunge pools, and amenities such as the attention of a personal butler have set new standards for excellence in a pristine natural environment. For anyone looking for physically and intellectually stimulating expeditions, as well as affordable all-inclusive vacations, cultural tours, or for visitors just wishing to relax in comfort while experiencing one of the world’s most vibrant rainforest environments, The Lodge at Chaa Creek, as Belize’s “Destination Within a Destination”, remains the perfect choice to discover all those things that make Belize truly special.

**Additional Amenities/Services:**

Offsite Tours via our Chaa Creek Inland Expedition Tour Company.
HIDDEN VALLEY INN AND RESERVE
hiddenvalleyinn.com

Mile 4 Cooma Cairn Road, Mountain Pine Ridge
Cayo District
T. +501-822-3320
E. reservations@hiddenvalleyinn.com

Hidden Valley Inn, a luxury hotel with only 12 elegant rooms, is set on a 7,200-acre private reserve in the Mountain Pine Ridge area of Belize. This remote lodge offers guests both pine forest and tropical jungle where flora and fauna are like few places on earth. With an altitude of over 2,000 feet, the climate of the Maya mountains is comfortable all year round with an average annual temperature of 73°F. Established in 1944, the Mountain Pine Ridge Forest Reserve is the largest and oldest of Belize’s parklands. The red earth and sandy terrain, Caribbean pines, granite outcroppings, tumbling waterfalls, huge limestone caves, and rolling open savannah grasslands, bordered by lush tropical rainforest, make the reserve unique to Central America. Activities are abundant both on and off the property. With 90+ miles of hiking and biking trails, private waterfalls, as well as many other spectacular attractions in Western Belize, guests have an endless choice to fill their vacation with memorable experiences.

Additional Amenities/Services:
- Ceiling Fan, In-room Telephone, Scenic Yoga Platforms, Private Swimming Holes, Sun Deck, 90+ Miles of Nature Trails.

JAGUAR CREEK BELIZE
jaguarcreek.org

Mile 42 Hummingbird Highway, Belmopan
Cayo District
T. +501-610-2034
E. office@jaguarcreek.org

Located in the heart of the rainforests of Belize, Jaguar Creek gives you a jungle adventure experience like none other. Stay in a private jungle cabana that offers peace and comfort. Its screened-in windows allow for an indoor-outdoor experience viewing thousands of trees towering above. Our 1700 acre grounds offer views of lush rainforest, a self-guided cacao plantation tour, jungle walk, caves, and tropical birds. Our dining room provides homemade buffet meals each morning, afternoon, and evening. Jaguar Creek not only supports local entrepreneurs, limits our environmental impact, and develops local talent but also donates a percentage of our profits to PathLight International, an innovative non-profit organization that is changing the lives of children, teachers, and local communities. Newlyweds or couples looking for a romantic getaway, our honeymoon suite offers privacy and romantic touches. With eight private cabanas, multiple private family cabanas, and a ranch house make us the unique vacation adventure experience you have been looking for.

Additional Amenities/Services:
- Hiking Trails, Swimming and Tubing in the Creek, and Camping.
KA’ANA RESORT
kaanabelize.com

Mile 69 1/4, San Ignacio
Cayo District
T. +1-305-735-2553
E. anoushka@kaanabelize.com

Adventure by Day, Luxury by Night...Nestled perfectly amidst the jungles of Western Belize and surrounded by the rich history of the Maya Civilization, discover the small and intimate, luxurious Ka’ana Resort. Deep in the heart of Belize’s jungle, Ka’ana marries bespoke excursions with boutique accommodations. Listed on Forbes Travel Guide and lauded as Mexico & Central America’s Leading Boutique Resort for six consecutive years 2015 - 2020, we proudly represent the truest intersection of style, culture and adventure to those who appreciate world class bespoke luxuries, yet yearn to experience new frontiers. An upscale outpost for exploring, our guests are indulged in personalized services, plush appointments and modern amenities. Every adventure is a curated experience that is authentically Belize, while uniquely and intimately Ka’ana. We look forward to bringing your journey to life and ensuring that your stay in Belize is truly unlike any other.

Additional Amenities/Services:
Wine Cellar, Organic Garden, Outdoor Maya Cooking, Kitchen Private Tours.

SAN IGNACIO RESORT HOTEL
sanignaciobelize.com

18 Buena Vista Street, San Ignacio
Cayo District
T. +501-824-2034
E. hotel@sanignaciobelize.com

Established in 1976, San Ignacio Resort Hotel is a Belizean and family-owned boutique Hotel located in Western Belize. The Resort is centrally situated on a 17-acre private estate and 5-minutes away of the popular San Ignacio Town—an area that features a variety of cultural, adventurous, and culinary experiences for immersive travelers. This characteristic has dubbed the Resort as “the only jungle in town”. The 27-room Resort is renowned for its hospitality services and features the award-winning Running W Restaurant (which showcases meats from the family’s ranch), an on-site tour company, in-room wellness treatments, an outdoor swimming pool and tennis court area, the largest event facilities in the District, and the #1 Activity in San Ignacio for 11 years in a row, the Green Iguana Conservation Project. San Ignacio Resort Hotel has been the recipient of numerous awards including Hotel of the Year, Restaurant of the Year, and Hospitality Award from the Belize Tourism Board.

Additional Amenities/Services:
Hiking Trails, Green Iguana Conservation Project, Butler Service, Bathrobes, Refrigerator, Tennis Court.
SWEET SONGS JUNGLE LODGE
A MUY’ONO RESORT
sweetsongslopodge.com

Chial Road, San Ignacio Town
Cayo District
T. +501-822-1272
E. reservations@sweetsongslopodge.com

Sweet Songs Jungle Lodge is a nature lover’s paradise nestled along the banks of the Macal River in San Ignacio, Belize. The eco-lodge offers beautiful treehouses surrounded by lush tropical forest, spacious casitas, and multi-bedroom guest houses. The newly added Treehouses offer an outdoor bed, outdoor tub, and screened-in porch. Known for the incredible bird watching and local wildlife, the lodge has countless activities both on-property and close by. Many guests choose to add the all-inclusive package to enjoy all the farm-to-table dining at the Treehouse Bar. At the base of the lodge is a private beach with complimentary tubes for floating the river, kayaks for exploring, and evening bonfires. Guests can ride horses to the ancient Maya site Xunantunich right from the lodge. Nearby is also one of the most popular tours in all of Belize, the ATM cave, offering a glimpse into the Maya underworld. Don’t want to travel far? Next door is the Belize Botanic Garden, home to a variety of beautiful plants and local wildlife.

Additional Amenities/Services:
Airport Transportation, Water Bottle, Meal Plans, Vacation Packages.

SLEEPING GIANT RAINFOREST LODGE
sleepinggiantbelize.com

Mile 36 Hummingbird Highway, Belmopan
Cayo District
T. +501-822-3851
E. info@thebelizecollection.com

This award winning Belize Jungle Resort, features 31 exceptional rooms, designed for your comfort and relaxation: A perfect way to unwind after a day’s adventure. The “Organic Design” of the air conditioned rooms mixes the vibrant, earthy colors and textures of the jungle with contemporary sophistication. They are spacious and consist of hard wood furnishings, all handcrafted and designed in Belize. Hike to the Gazebo, kayak, bird watch, ride bicycles through the property or pamper yourselves with a nice relaxing massage. Sleeping Giant Rainforest Lodge is guaranteed to appease all ages. It is a sanctuary for nature lovers, looking to embark on an invigorating and rewarding retreat in a tranquil and undisturbed atmosphere.
Belize does not have international fast-food chains and as a Belizean Chef, I personally discourage the influence of foreign ingredients on our menu offerings. It is a rather bold stance to shun outside influences in our food. The stance begs the next logical question, what is Belizean Cuisine? For me, this question needs to be more specific to which region & particular culture we are describing. Although geographically a small country, the people, landscape, languages, terroir, and food of Belize change from region to region. One cannot generalize a menu item showcasing Maya Cuisine without defining which territory the food is from. For example, although corn and beans are the staples, the Maya Yucatec of Northern Belize will enjoy black recado, relleno negro, mechado, chimol, chechac, escabeche, tamales, pipian, cochinita pibil, pebthre, pirixpak, and atole which is very different from the food of the Maya Ketchi and Maya Mopan of Southern Belize whose staples include the cacao (not grown in Northern Belize), jipji jappa, fish wrapped in oja santa, cowfoot or obel leaf in a dish called lancha, and their favorite caldo of annato, smoked pork, yard fowl, culantro and the cock’s head for a rich broth! Their sweet corn dessert called cho’qua, tzul, and shutt would be foreign to their Yucatec sisters up North, but this difference is what I embrace as the proud identity and culinary representation of my country. Equally, the Creole of the River Valley of Belize, the East Indian of Southern Belize and the Garifuna, whose simple diet of yellow ginger (turmeric), game meats, cohune cabbage (heart of palm), cassava, plantains, coconut and seafood preparation seamlessly and proudly fits among the ranking category of the world’s most celebrated restaurants and chefs. Marketing terminology such as organic, farm to table, sustainably sourced, wild caught & seasonal cuisine naturally describes our food. As an example, if conch, guava and mango are not in season, it can naturally never be on the plate! We cook from the land and the sea. As a chef, I make it my mission to cook only produce from this country with limited foreign influence. Our cuisine is unique, its exotic and tribal. It naturally promotes wellness using hyperlocal produce sourced from a short distance from my kitchen’s door. A simple yet complex broth of freshly squeezed coconut milk, lemongrass, hog snapper, cohune cabbage, turmeric root, basil, habanero, and grated green papaya with toasted cashew nut can be enjoyed from a calabash bowl (gourd). Enjoy it near the smoke of the fogon and clay floor in the village of Mafredi, Toledo District or on a white tablecloth setting in one of the country’s top luxury resorts. The cuisine of Belize is much more than rice and beans —it is humble yet worldly. It is locally sourced, naturally healthy, and it comes to you without added preservatives, no stickers, no labels, un-fooled around with, and with no suggested expiration dates nor barcodes. This truly defines the Cuisine of Belize, not a pretentious marketing adjective or strategically placed hashtag. Belizean Cuisine represents an authentic and natural way of life - the way nature prescribed. That is exactly how it will remain... traditionally authentic from my Kulcha Kitchen to yours!

Cuisine is the fingerprint of a country. It can expand the borders of its birth, becoming international cuisine with the fusing of several techniques and identities along its global journey. However, a country’s cuisine describes the palate of traditions and the story of its people — food is “kulcha”. Of late, there has been a refocus on local and regional cuisine where chefs are now celebrated for cooking sustainably sourced ingredients from within a reasonable radius. These chefs are awarded high accolades and even Michelin stars —to this, I chuckle because Belizean Cuisine has always been exactly that, way before it became a trend!
Welcome to Southern Belize. The southernmost districts of Stann Creek and Toledo house the only Jaguar Preserve in the world at Cockscomb Basin Wildlife Sanctuary as well as the highest peaks in the country, namely Victoria Peak (3,681 ft) and Doyle’s Delight (3,687 ft). The south is known for its richness in culture as it is home to much of the country’s traditional Maya and Garifuna communities.

**THINGS TO DO & PLACES TO SEE**

**Southern Belize**

- Belize Chocolate Tours
- Bocawina National Park
- Cockscomb Basin Wildlife Sanctuary & Jaguar Preserve
- Drums of My Father Monument
- Farm Experience of the Banana Tour
- Gladden Spit: Whale Sharks
- Hokeb Ha and Tiger Caves
- Laughing Bird Caye National Park
- Maya Sites: Lubaantun and Nim Li Punit
- Monkey River Tours
- Payne’s Creek National Park
- Placencia Sidewalk Arts & Music Festival
- Port Honduras Marine Reserve
- Rio Blanco Falls
- Scarlet Macaws of Red Bank
- Serpon Sugar Mill Archaeological Site
- South Water Caye Marine Reserve
- The Fishing Village of Hopkins
- Thomas Vincent Ramos Monument
- “Garifuna Culture Capital” of Dangriga
- “World’s Narrowest Street” in Placencia

**A BELIZEAN NIRVANA**

*belizeanirvana.com*

Beach Westby Way, Placencia Village
Stann Creek District
T. +501-523-3331
E. belizeanirvana@gmail.com

A Belizean Nirvana is a boutique suite hotel on the beach in the heart of the village. Nirvana appeals to the traveler looking for simpler elegance, where they can kick off their shoes, lie back and relax. You can enjoy the sunrise and the sunset from our rooftop terrace that offers a breathtaking view of the Caribbean Sea and a 360 view of the village. The balmy evenings can be enjoyed with a slow swing in the hammock, while sipping your favorite drink waiting for your BBQ on the grill. We are a 10 min walk to the center of the village where you can experience the culture of the quaint village, the pulse of the open bars, a variety of local and international restaurants and entertainment. After enjoying your day snorkeling, fishing, and experiencing other adventures, you can come back to Nirvana where we are away from the bustle and the sound of the waves awaits you.

Additional Amenities/Services:
- Complimentary Continental Breakfast
- Pick-up and Drop-off at Placencia Airstrip
- Free Parking
- In-room Massage
Nestled in the heart of vibrant Placencia Village just steps away from the Caribbean Sea, Brisa Oceano is a newly constructed condominium-style resort. Thoughtfully designed to meet the highest standards of luxury and comfort, guests enjoy modern furnishings and private balconies. The resort features beautifully-designed beachfront studios or 1, 2, or 3-bedroom accommodations with open-air hallways. Surrounded by a spacious white sand beach, Brisa Oceano offers complimentary beach toys, kayaks, and paddle boards. Guests love the location, right on the Placencia sidewalk, the center of tourism in the area.

Serving as a haven for travelers seeking access to the bustle of attractions and the sleepiness of the sea, the resort is perfectly simple. Guests can take advantage of the daily complimentary shuttle to our sister resort, The Placencia, to indulge in the largest pool in Placencia and additional resort amenities.

**Additional Amenities/Services:**
- Airport Transportation
- Water Bottles
- Meal Plans
- Vacation Packages

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Maya for “Beautiful Sea”, Chabil Mar is a Caribbean-Front Resort nestled in the Village of Placencia. Distinctly Belize Inspired Architecture, Luxury Accommodations, Local Art and Décor provide exquisite local ambiance and Five Star service. Chabil Mar is The only Guest Exclusive Resort on the Placencia Peninsula. Upon arrival, guests are greeted with refreshing tropical fruit punch (rum optional) and cooling towel, treated to a personal tour of Chabil Mar, and escorted to their Villa, where a vase of fresh tropical flowers, robes, and local Belizean chocolate await them. Each of the 20 Villas (950 - 2000 Sq. Ft. of Living Space) & Honeymoon Suite, is designed, furnished, and appointed with original Belizean artwork and include a personal sea-facing veranda with hammock, while two infinity beach-side swimming pools grace the lush tropical landscape.

Dining options at Chabil Mar includes breakfast, lunch, and dinner delivered via roaming butler service to each Villa’s personal veranda, the private pier, beach, or poolside.

**Additional Amenities/Services:**
- Full Kitchens
- Washer and Dryer in Every Villa
- Zoned A/C, Ceiling Fans
- Complimentary Local Rum Samples
- On-site Complimentary Concierge Services
Copal Tree Lodge is a luxury eco-lodge and the first organic farm in Belize. The perfect destination for food lovers, adventure seekers, and fly fishermen. The lodge offers 16 private suites and one three-bedroom villa. Surrounded by 22,000 acres of rainforest preserve, the lodge is located in Punta Gorda, in the southernmost part of Belize. Guests enjoy the lodge’s two pools, farm-to-table restaurant, rum bar, all-inclusive packages, spa, yoga palapa, riverfront fitness center, kayaking, biking, hiking, and culinary immersion. Here you can participate in hands-on learning about the production of coffee, chocolate, and indigenous produce at the onsite Farm Center. The Lodge recently debuted a farm-to-flask initiative with Copal Tree Distillery, located on the lodge’s lush grounds.

Hamansasi (Garifuna for Almond Tree) combines the amenities of a top-class dive resort with an array of inland tours and activities. All of Hamansasi’s rooms and suites face the sea, except for the popular wood-floored tree houses, which hide within the littoral forest behind the beach. Hamansasi believes in responsible, natural and cultural based eco-tourism. We understand the importance of preserving our environment and indigenous communities. Hamansasi is a special place from which you can explore the best of Belize on and offshore. A secluded, intimate boutique resort located on the beach south of Hopkins, Hamansasi sits on hundreds of feet of Caribbean Sea beachfront surrounded by tropical flora on the finest stretch of beach in Belize. With a short flight from Atlanta, Charlotte, Dallas, Houston, Miami, New York, Panama City or San Salvador you may let the warm tropical breezes melt away your hectic life for the laid back pace of Belize!
Hopkins Bay Resort is ideally situated on the coast of Southern Belize with a beautiful beach and views of the Caribbean Sea. The resort offers a “home away from home” experience with spacious one, two, and three bedroom beach houses. Located in the cozy Garifuna village of Hopkins, guests enjoy a more authentic Belize experience with all the best amenities. The resort offers two swimming pools, a beach bar, Rhum Shack restaurant with farm-to-table meals, a spacious private beach, outdoor massage palapa, dock, and adventure center. Guests can enjoy complimentary bicycles, kayaks, and paddle boards or spend the day at the pools trying a World’s Best Pina Colada. The adventure center offers excursions around Belize, including: private island day trips, SCUBA diving and snorkeling, fly fishing, ancient Maya site exploration, cave tubing, and so much more. Welcome to the real Belize.

**Hopkins Bay Resort**
A Muy’Ono Resort
hopkinsbaybelize.com

North End Hopkins
Stann Creek District
T. 501-822-1272
E. reservations@hopkinsbaybelize.com

Wayward whimsy and an adventurous spirit are welcome. Itz’ana is the perfect base camp to everything wild and wonderful in Belize. Whether you’re better suited seeking jaguars in the wild or sunshine aboard a sailboat, the adventures await. Itz’ana is situated where reef meets rainforest, and life meets luxury. Our amenities are intended to satisfy your every whim. From sparkling pools and inspiring adventures, Itz’ana invites you to relax, explore, and repeat. Comfort is where the water is. All our guest accommodations are thoughtfully designed and luxuriously appointed. Whether you’re planning a romantic getaway in a private, poolside suite or a family reunion in a chic, multi-bedroom villa, you are guaranteed to feel at home at Itz’ana. Taste the Caribbean. Itz’ana invites you eat, drink, and be Belizean with culinary experiences. From fine, seasonal dining to masterfully crafted cocktails, our chef-driven food-and-beverage program is designed to satiate and inspire every palate.

**Itz’Ana Resort & Residences**
itzanabelize.com

Mile 20, Placencia Road
Stann Creek District
T. +501-523-3250
E. info@itzanabelize.com

Additional Amenities/Services:
Airport Transportation, Complimentary Water Bottle, Meal Plans, Vacation Packages.
Los Porticos Villas Private Residences in Placencia. 'We Are Better Than a Resort'. See what it is like to live in Belize in a luxury home in a lush tropical setting. We are unique - There is nothing else like us in Belize! Perfect for family vacations; imagine having all your family together for a great adventure where each family can have their own villa. We are ideal because of how large each villa is with spacious outdoor verandas for lounging or enjoy the large beach for relaxation or activities. Our location is the perfect distance to town; close to all the fun in the village but far enough for peace and tranquility. We have the most beautiful sandy beach right on the crystal clear Caribbean Sea with loungers available on site. Come and experience a little taste of living in Belize with all the comforts of home and then some. Dream it! Live it! Love it! Belize it!

Additional Amenities/Services:
Full Kitchens with Dishwashers, Washer/Dryer in Every Villa, Beach Towels Provided, Local Cooks Available for Hire, New: Inquire about our Long Term Work From Home in Belize Program.

Mariposa Beach Resort
mariposabelizebeach.com
Placencia Village
Stann Creek District
T. +501-523-4474
E. info@mariposabelizebeach.com
If your style of vacationing is to see everything Belize has to offer with their amazing water/land excursions or do nothing but kick back, relax and enjoy the sounds of the ocean and breathtaking sunrises while on your exotic getaway then Mariposa is the place to stay. Unique upscale tree houses set among the enchanted forest or seafront facing units that capture the essence of the day. Each unit has high speed Internet, air conditioning, fridge, coffee pot with fresh ground coffee, top line linens and hypoallergenic quilts and pillows. The Villa units face the sea and the tree houses have a garden view. Free kayaks, snorkel gear and bikes are available. While staying at Mariposa Beach Suites you will want to try our award winning Breezeway Pool Bar and Restaurant. Full menu available for breakfast, lunch and dinner prepared by Chef Aron.

Additional Amenities/Services:
TVs are in the Caribbean Facing units only (tree houses do not have TVs).
Seiri del Mar is a sophisticated, peaceful vacation destination located in Hopkins Village on the Eastern coast of Belize. Every villa is located just seconds from the pool and the beach. All bedrooms have their own en-suite bathroom and our executive two-bedroom condos even have their own private outdoor shower! On-site, we have a pool with chairs and loungers, a hot-tub and a toddler pool. As a courtesy to our guests, we have canoes, bicycles and kayaks available. We recently added an amazing 200ft, dock that stretches right out over the ocean. We have the popular Rhum Shack bar & restaurant too - we recommend the Pina Colada's! For your peace of mind and safety, we have security staff on-site around the clock. Our talented landscapers tend to our beautiful gardens and beach daily. Additionally, Seiri del Mar offers a Concierge Service from knowledgeable and experienced staff members. Seiri del Mar has it all!

Additional Amenities/Services:
Concierge Service, Local Cellphone, Golf Cart Rentals, and Kids Pool.

Sirenian Bay is an all-inclusive intimate boutique, luxury resort nestled on the golden sands of the Placencia Peninsula in stunning southern Belize. Every element of the resort showcases our commitment to comfort, adventure, and relaxation. Enjoy our miniature golf course, relax in the resort pool, have dinner and a tropical drink at Inky’s 19th Hole, unwind in The Siren’s Spa, or head out on an unforgettable adventure. We specialize in curating memorable and unique vacation experiences. Sirenian Bay features three villas with full kitchens and private pools, twelve all-inclusive bungalows, and one apartment. Choose oceanfront, beach view, or poolside accommodations. All-inclusive stays offer meals (breakfast, lunch, happy hour snack buffet, room service, dinner at Inky’s) plus unlimited drinks (non-alcoholic, beer, house wine, cocktails). Enhance your stay with personal chef service, private butlers, a private dinner on the beach, or wine tasting. Complimentary ground transportation and other amenities ensure that from beginning to end, your vacation will be hassle-free.

Additional Amenities/Services:
Bungalow stays are all-inclusive (food and beverage). Specialty services such as private chef and dinner on the beach are available.
THE LODGE AT BIG FALLS
thelodgeatbigfalls.com

Big Falls Village
Toledo District
T. +501-732-4444 / +501-610-0126
E. info@thelodgeatbigfalls.com

The Lodge at Big Falls, close to Punta Gorda, in the heart of Toledo, is the district’s premier inland resort offering guests convenient access to our natural wonders, archaeological treasures and a host of adventures. The Lodge offers a wide range of tours and activities that include a mix of natural history (birds, howler monkeys, crocodiles, butterflies and orchids), adventure (kayaking, snorkeling, caving and hiking) and authentic encounters with the culture, crafts and cuisine of the local Kek’chi Maya and drumming lessons, spiritual traditions and food of the Garifuna people. The Lodge at Big Falls is situated on the banks of the Rio Grande on a meander of the river with almost a mile of river frontage. River tubing around the property with a stop to bathe in a warm spring is a favorite on-site activity. The Lodge offers elegant accommodation, fine food and drink and relaxation in a peaceful tropical garden setting.

THE PLACENCIA RESORT
A MUY’ONO RESORT
theplacencia.com

Mile 15 Placencia Road, Maya Beach
Stann Creek District
T. +501-822-1272
E. reservations@theplacencia.com

Ideally situated along the Maya Beach coastline, The Placencia Resort is just a short journey away from the quaint village of Placencia. Providing an all-encompassing vacation experience, the 90-room resort offers guests private beach and pool access, multiple restaurants with farm-to-table meals, an overwater bar, tennis courts, marina, spa, and adventure center. Guests can choose between various one, two, and three-bedroom guest rooms. Each room is a calming sanctuary complete with private patios, marble bathrooms, WiFi, A/C, and expansive areas to relax and unwind. The Placencia Resort offers complimentary use of kayaks, paddle boards, bicycles, and other non-motorized water toys. There’s no shortage of activities at the resort, including the largest pool in southern Belize, but guests also have easy access to the best adventures around Belize. The resort provides private island day trips, SCUBA diving and snorkeling, fly fishing, ancient Maya site exploration, cave tubing, and more.

Additional Amenities/Services:
Airport Transportation, Complimentary Water Bottle, Meal Plans, Vacation Packages.
VILLA VERANO
villaveranobelize.com

Hopkins Village
Stann Creek District
T. +501-523-7016 / Toll Free +1-877-646-2317
E. info@villaveranobelize.com

Villa Verano offers a 5 star beachfront destination worthy of its stunning Belizean surroundings. Accommodating 1-38 guests in a spacious 10 bedroom hotel, it is perfect for romantic holidays, family reunions, fishing adventures, destination weddings, yoga groups, corporate retreats or unique conferences – all of which our property manager can help you plan and coordinate. You have the choice of booking a room, a floor or the entire villa! With WiFi throughout the home and poolside, Villa Verano’s outstanding amenities are for the exclusive use of our guests, including but not limited to full concierge services to make arrangements such as tours, meals, spa treatments and any other needs; a 70 foot beachfront pool; bikes, double kayaks, paddle boards and a catamaran; a fully equipped air-conditioned gym and a rooftop game room; BBQ, hot tub, rooftop sitting area and galley kitchen capable of hosting your special event!

Belize’s natural environment has always been at the heart of its tourism industry. Whether you are coming to snorkel our barrier reef, or tour our Maya archaeological sites, you will be immersed in nature. Belizeans hold immense pride about our natural heritage, and rightfully so. Our barrier reef has been declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and is the largest living reef in the northern hemisphere. On land, Belize still boasts close to 60% forest cover, with approximately 40% placed under the National Protected Areas System, making it one of the countries with the highest proportion of territories under conservation action (FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment, 2010). This is why our tourism industry has jumped aboard the global movement of “ecotourism” and “sustainable travel”. Preserving invaluable ecosystems that are a treasure trove of green and blue carbon is one of the smartest and most responsible actions a country can take to tackle climate change, our generation’s most pressing global issue. Global tourism accounts for almost 5% of the world’s carbon emissions, and this is before factoring emissions from accommodations, food and other activities that most tourists engage in while traveling. Here in Belize, many tourism operations are leading the way in regenerative tourism, going beyond sustainability, which minimizes environmental impacts, to actively engage in regenerative actions, allowing tourists to contribute directly to restoring and enhancing Belize’s natural environment.
The Belize Zoo and Tropical Education Center (TBZTEC) is a favourite destination for wildlife and nature enthusiasts, where you can be sure your visit will contribute to the preservation of Belize’s natural environment. The main attraction is The Belize Zoo, which allows visitors to engage in an unforgettable experience, encountering over 45 species of native Belizean wildlife in their natural habitats. Guests can also take advantage of the range of accommodation options at the Tropical Education Center, nestled in the gorgeous lowland tropical savanna of Belize’s Maya Forest Corridor. On-site facilities include a dining hall, pool, natural history library, and numerous interpretive tropical savanna trails, making this the perfect destination for travelers who enjoy a balance of relaxation and enrichment. The TEC is the site for many community conservation engagement programs including the annual conservation camp for Belizean teens, and professional development workshops for teachers and tour guides.

"On land, Belize still boasts close to 60% forest cover, with approximately 40% placed under the National Protected Areas System, making it one of the countries with the highest proportion of territories under conservation action."

The TBZTEC is a member of the Maya Forest Corridor coalition, which aims to safeguard important habitats in a vital biological corridor connecting the submontane, broadleaf forests of the Maya Mountains to the lowland broadleaf forests extending from the Yucatan Peninsula to Belize. The efforts of the coalition help to ensure the preservation of central Belize’s natural heritage for Belizean communities and iconic wildlife species including the jaguar, tapir and a host of resident and migratory birds. For travelers coming here to soak up sand and sun, Hamanasi Resort in southern coastal Belize offers luxury by the Caribbean Sea as a part of their responsible, natural and culture based mission. Hamanasi resort is located in one of the most culturally rich and picturesque coastal villages. Guests can expect total relaxation where on-site accommodations feature sustainable design and energy resources. Hamanasi has its own sustainability program, which includes initiatives that directly impact environmental conservation efforts and habitat protection. The resort ensures habitat protection by the conservation of the littoral forest on their property, which is one of the most threatened types of forests in the world. They have set aside 26 acres of nature preserve, enhancing habitat from ridge to swamp for a host of aquatic and terrestrial species. They are partners with local NGOs such as The Nature Conservancy and the Belize Humane Society to raise awareness and garner funds to promote their efforts. Hamanasi has a long-standing educational program for guests, staff and the local community, which promotes Belizean conservation efforts and sustainability practices. Hundreds of locals have been reached through this social program, which aims to ensure conservation by fostering environmental stewardship in local communities. Initiatives such as “Pack for a Purpose”, urge guests to use a small amount of space in their luggage for donated supplies to Belizean community projects. (continued on next page)

Back in the lush, tropical rainforests of Belize, Chaa Creek Resort was founded by a love of nature and guided by the principles of responsible travel. This award-winning eco-resort seamlessly blends affordable luxury with the exquisite natural beauty of the jungle. Guests can enjoy a range of experiences from glamping in the treetops, to elegant cabins with private jacuzzis and butler service. Rest-assured that your stay will go beyond the sustainability of best management and environmental practices at the resort. Chaa Creek is committed to continuous support of local communities and the environment through initiatives like the “Belize Foundation to Conservation”, a legally registered NGO, which was established to promote environmental education, cultural awareness and sustainable practices. The Chaa Creek Natural History Center located on the 400-acre Chaa Creek Nature Reserve has hosted numerous important cultural and ecological exhibitions as one of Belize’s premier environmental education facilities. Chaa Creek has partnered with international agencies to promote research projects that directly impact local and global conservations. These include Howler Monkey Reintroduction with the University of Belize Environmental Research Institute, Vascular Plant Cataloging and Agroforestry Research with the New York Botanical Gardens, and continued archaeological research with the assistance of Dr. Samuel Connell of the University of California. Eco-lodges like Black Rock Lodge have achieved unparalleled levels of regenerative and sustainable tourism. This off-the-grid experience offers a guilt-free oasis where guests are able to wake up to the symphony of birdsongs and choose from a variety of rainforest tours and experiences. Committed to a focus on nature, wildlife and environmental stewardship, this eco-lodge established a MoSI (Monitoreo de Sobrevivencia Invernals) Station on-site, which is part of an international network of research stations across the northern Neotropics aimed at monitoring migratory bird populations at wintering and breeding sites. The MoSI Station at Black Rock Lodge was first coordinated by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology with assistance from certified bird banders at the University of North Carolina. For the past four years, the station has been operated through a partnership of the University of Belize Environmental Research Institute. During the banding season, guests are able to visit the banding stations where they interact first-hand with researchers and experience bird banding demonstrations and bird photo ops like no other. Black Rock tour guides are among the best, with some even trained as bird banding assistants who contribute to the collection of vital data for the monitoring of global bird populations. This entire eco-lodge operates with an active mission toward sustainability. Black Rock is on its way to Carbon-Negative Certification as its renewable energy system of over 100 solar panels and micro-hydro power plants have produced more sustainable energy than what has been used by the lodge. (continued on next page)
The model of regenerative travel in Belize is quickly becoming a positive trend among tourism enterprises, and there are many more examples of tourism leaders making a contribution to conservation. With the world at our fingertips, your next vacation can be planned with intention, to reduce your travel impact and support Belizean tourism ventures who protect and rebuild a resilient natural environment. Now, as a tourist you do not have to choose between comfort and sustainability, and that is the future of travel we should all support.

"As a tourist in Belize, you are able to immerse yourself in all the positive rewards of travel such as experiencing new cultures, broadening your horizons and making lifelong memories while still making active contributions to conservation through supporting enterprises that go beyond sustainable practices."

Photograph by Belizing.com
ALLIED MEMBERS

The hospitality industry is grateful for the dedication of its service providers. These companies provide quality products and services and are somewhat “behind the scenes”; however, always front-and-center when it comes to offering what is needed to make your vacation perfect. We call them our Allied Members - our essential partners for a thriving hospitality.
ALLIED MEMBERS

Atlantic Bank

Bank on Your Success
with a trusted financial partner

Providing Local & International Financial Services

- Saving & Checking Accounts
- Online & Mobile Banking
- Credit Facilities
- Cash Management Services
- AtlaXpress
- Chip and Contactless Cards

Car: Cogany Street/Freeman Road,
P.O. Box R51, Belize City, Belize
Tel: 501-279-4123 - Fax: 501-279-4144
Email: atlantis@atlabank.com

www.atlabank.com

Scuba Training & Tour Center

PHONE: (+501)-226-3082 / (+501)-610-0015
CONTACT@BELIZEDIVINGADVENTURES.NET
BELIZEDIVINGADVENTURES.NET

BEC

Belize Estate Company Limited (BEC), is one of Belize’s premier, well recognized, and long-standing organizations that have been in existence for over 145 years. BEC operates under the mantra, “Keeping Belize on the Move,” and is never shy of doing so. Since its inception, BEC has positioned itself in the industrial, transportation and logistics sector, building the economy of Belize with its dedicated Associates and world-renowned brands.

BEC is the official dealer of the automotive brands, Ford, KIA, Renault, International, Cummins and Hyster in Belize. BEC also operates a vehicle rental division as the Belizean franchise of Enterprise Holdings International (EHI). As the world’s largest car rental company, EHI brands include Alamo Rent-A-Car, National Car Rental, and Enterprise. As one of the premier Shipping Agents in Belize, BEC Shipping has been in operation for over 145 years. BEC Shipping provides both ocean and air freight services.

Contact us via telephone at 223-0641. Email: info@becbz.com or visit our website at www.becbz.com to learn more about our products and or services.

FAMILY OWNED • ESTABLISHED 1969

BELIKIN

The Beer of Belize

© BELIZE BREWING COMPANY. ENJOY RESPONSIBLY
At the Belize Insurance Centre (Insurance Agents) Limited, we are committed to provide our clients with the highest quality of professional service in General and Life Insurance. Our reasonable premiums are accompanied by a high level of service in the timely settlements of claims. At all times we will maintain a professional, efficient, and courteous attitude.

With a highly trained and dedicated staff, we are constantly striving for excellence.
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## Belize City & Northern Belize

### Hotels in Belize City

- **The North Park Hotel**
  - Website: northparkbelize.com

- **Bentley's Home**

- **Sir Angel's Guest House**

- **Hotel /Marina**
  - Website: radisson.com/belizecitybz

- **Radisson Fort George**

- **NCS Guest House**

- **Maison de Mer**

- **Easy Inn**
  - Website: EASYINNBZ.com

- **DB Towers**

- **D’ Nest Inn**
  - Website: dnestinn.com

- **Buy Belize Mgmt. Ltd. House #11**

- **Buy Belize Mgmt. Ltd. House #7**
  - Website: buy-belize.com

- **Bella Sombra Guest House**
  - Website: bellasombra.net

- **Belize Pickwick Club Hotel**

- **Belcove Hotel**
  - Website: belcove.com

- **Tropical Education Center**
  - Website: belizezoo.org/zoo/tec.html

- **Tillett’s Village Lodge**
  - Website: tillettvillage.com

- **Scotland Halfmoon House Rental**

- **Nature Resort**
  - Website: natureresortbelize.com

- **Manatee Lodge**
  - Website: manateelodge.com

- **Howler House Vacation Rental**
  - Website: howlerhouse.com

- **Highway Trails Resort/Country Club**
  - Website: highwaytrail.bz

- **El Chiclero Inn**

- **Belize River Lodge**
  - Website: belizeriverlodge.com

- **Belize Boutique Resort and Spa**
  - Website: belizeresortandspa.com

### Hotels in Orange Walk District

- **Blu Zen**
  - Website: bluzenbelize.com

- **Bella’s Guesthouse**
  - Website: bellasbackpackers.com

- **Bay Towers Hotel**
  - Website: baytowerscayecaulker.com

- **Axios Vacation Properties**
  - Website: axioscoffee.com

- **Alta Vista Accommodations**

- **3 Little Birds Guest House**
  - Website: vacasa.com

- **Aldy’s Guest House**

- **Sunshine View Hotel and Restaurant**

- **Sunset Bay Guesthouse**

- **Orchid Bay Seafront Condos**
  - Website: orchidbay.bz

- **Miracle Hotel**

- **Mayra’s Guest House**

- **Hotel Maya**
  - Website: hotelmaya.net

- **Cerros Beach Inn**
  - Website: cerrosbeachresort.com

### Hotels in Caye Caulker

- **Chila’s Beach Front Studio**
  - Website: chilasaccomodationsbelize.com

- **Caye Caulker Island Cabanas**

- **Caye Caulker Condos**
  - Website: cayecaulkercondos.com

### Hotels in Ambergris Caye

- **El Pescador**
  - Website: elpescador.com

- **El Castillo De Arena**
  - Website: elcastillodearena.com

- **Drift Inn**

- **Corona Del Mar**
  - Website: coronadelmarhotel.com

- **Cocotal Inn & Cabanas**
  - Website: cocotalbelize.com

- **Chez Caribe**

- **Cayo Espanto Island Resort**
  - Website: aprivateisland.com

- **Casita Playa Del Parque**

- **Casas De La Caye Villas**

- **Casa Playa**
  - Website: cayemanagement.com

- **Casa Miradores**
  - Website: casamiradores.com

- **Casa Layla**
  - Website: vrbo.com/571368

- **Casa de Mango**
  - Website: belizeitvacationrentals.com

### Hotels in Placencia

- **Blue Water Beach Villas LTD.**

- **Blue Dolphin**
  - Website: bluedolphinbelize.com

- **Bermuda Beach**
  - Website: landingstrescocos.com

- **Belize Dive Haven**

- **Banyan Bay Suites**
  - Website: banyanbay.com

- **Bakkatown Belize**
  - Email: bencas83@gmail.com

- **Aqua Vista Beachfront Suites**
  - Website: aquavistabelize.com

- **Anchor Away Vacation Home**

- **Ambergris Sunset Hotel**
  - Website: ambergrissunsethotel.com

### Hotels in San Pedro

- **Viva Residence**

- **Villa Ragazza**
  - Website: ragazzabelize.com

- **Villa Incomunicada 2**
  - Website: vacationthecaribbean.com

- **Villa De Plata**
  - Website: cayemanagement.com

- **Villa De Placencia**

- **Villa De Placencia**

- **Tropical Escape**
  - Website: belizeitvacationrentals.com

- **Tradewinds Paradise Villas**
  - Website: belizeparadisevillas.com

### Hotels in Turneffe

- **The Sunshine House**
  - Website: sunshinehousebelize.com

- **The Schneiders Palapa House**
  - Website: thepalapahouse.com

- **The Phoenix Resort**
  - Website: thephoenixbelize.com

- **Sundiver Beach Resort**
  - Website: sundiverbeachresort.com

- **Solaria Villas**
  - Website: solariavillasbelize.com

- **Playa del Sol Inn**

- **Playa De Sala**
  - Website: playadesala.com

- **Pedro’s Inn & Hotel**
  - Website: pedroshotel.com

- **Ocean Tide Beach Resort**
  - Website: oceantidebeach.com

- **Mayflower Casita DBA**

- **Mara Laguna**
  - Website: vacasa.com

- **Lina Point**
  - Website: linapoint.com

- **La Gran Casa Azul**

- **La Beliza Resort**
  - Website: labelizaresort.com

- **Hotel Central Park**

### Contact Information

For more information or reservations, please visit the website of each hotel or contact them directly.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>HOTEL'S LOCATION</th>
<th>HOTEL NAME</th>
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<tr>
<td>Western Belize</td>
<td>Mariposa Jungle Lodge LTD</td>
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<td>Lucky Dreamer Ltd luckydreamerlodge.com</td>
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<td>Lower Dover Field Station lowerdoverbelize.com</td>
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<td>Kenmar's Bed and Breakfast</td>
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<td>Ka'ana Resort kaanabelize.com</td>
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<td>Heaven's Heart heavenvalleybelize.com</td>
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<td>Falcon Hill Lodge falconhillbz.com</td>
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<td>Cohune Palms River Cabanas cohunepalms.com</td>
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<td>Captain's House &amp; Crow's Nest monkeyislandltd.com</td>
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<td>Agua Villa mayabeachhotel.com</td>
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<td>Wish Willy River Cabanas wishwillycabanas.com</td>
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<td>Villa Maya vacasa.com</td>
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<td>Tree Tops betterinbelize.com</td>
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<td>Table Rock Jungle Lodge tablerockbelize.com</td>
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<td>T.R.E.E.S Research Center treesociety.org</td>
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<td>Rosa Rodriguez Hotel rosashotelbelize.com</td>
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<td>River Wildlife Sanctuary airbnb.com</td>
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<td>Rainforest Haven Inn rainforesthavens.com</td>
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<td>Parrot Nest Lodge parrot-nest.com</td>
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<td>Cabanas Ltd. martzfarm.com</td>
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<td>Little Harvest Caye visionpropertiesbelize.com</td>
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<td>The White House in Placencia whitehouseplacencia.com</td>
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<td>White Orchid River Villa</td>
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<td>Sample Guest House</td>
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The Belize Hotel Association
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