5-DAY: DAY ONE

Arrive in Belize and transfer to your host hotel in either the Western District or Belize City.

5-DAY: DAY TWO

Your adventure begins as you explore the ancient Maya world. Take a day tour deep into the Mountain Pine Ridge Forest Reserve and visit one of the largest Maya Cities in Belize. Caracol, Belize’s premier Maya site with a rich and exciting history, rivals the power of Tikal. Caracol was the most important political center of the lowland Maya during the Classic Period within Belize. In 652 CE, the urban area of Caracol had a radius of approximately 10 kilometers around the site’s acropolis. It covered an area much larger than present-day Belize City (today’s largest metropolitan area in the country) and supported more than twice the modern city’s population.

5-DAY: DAY THREE

Leave your host hotel and transfer by road to Placencia. Check into one of the many quaint boutique resorts or choose from a great selection of luxury beachfront resorts. Have a traditional Belizean lunch with some rice and beans.

Then take a tour up the Monkey River to check out the howler monkeys. A visit to Monkey River is one you won’t forget. Your guide will pick you up by boat and travel through the lagoon end in among the red mangrove fringe forest along the coast, which is home to the marvel and many species of birds. Most of this trip is in protected waters and will be relatively smooth. Look for the howler monkeys in the trees, and have your video camera ready to prove to everybody back home you weren’t exaggerating about the monkeys’ calls. Don’t be afraid, they’re nice.

5-DAY: DAY FOUR

Check out and take a taxi to the airstrip for flight to Belize City. Upon arrival into Belize City, you can easily hop on another flight to San Pedro just a few minutes after arriving. The island by air is its own experience, or you can take a water taxi in Belize City for a more cost-efficient option.

Arrive in San Pedro and check into your accommodations. Then head out for dinner at one of San Pedro’s many great places to eat. You’ll find restaurants after restaurant along the beach with beautiful views of the water and really tasty food. Or you can set up on your own and discover a hidden gem tucked away on the path less traveled.

5-DAY: DAY FIVE

One of the most astonishing wonders of Belize is the world-renowned Blue Hole, the result of an underwater cave that collapsed centuries ago. Pack some lunch and drinks for an all-day adventure and head for this amazing site, full of marine life and visible from outer space.

The Blue Hole is nearly a perfectly circular hole 1,200 feet in diameter and 412 feet deep and it has become the most famous dive site in all of Belize—one that even divers put on their “Life List” of places to dive. The water cave has sheer walls with stalactites and stalagmites between 120–150 feet deep. If you don’t want to dive, you can also snorkel. Since coral rings around the Blue Hole, it’s also a great spot for shallow dives.

After this full day, you can head back to San Pedro and enjoy everything the island has to offer—from pubs and clubs, to unique dining experiences.