



Rainforest to Reefs 2025/6

Day 1 (Dec 27th) –

This amazing adventure starts in the remote jungle region of Toledo, Belize. Our leaders Katy and Tammi will collect you from the airport and head South down the Hummingbird highway to the Southernmost district of Toledo and the town of Punta Gorda.

After three hours on the road and a lunch break, we switch gears and leave the paved road and our first stop, the aptly names 'Creekside Oasis' lodge. Our first taste of authentic Belizian food and quick dip in the creek is a great way to start the trip. This comfortable lodge is made up of a series of private cabanas and surrounded by a series of hiking trails for you to explore the surrounding area which boasts some of the most diverse birdlife in Belize, 106 species including Macaws, Toucans and several species of hummingbird.

Day 2 (Dec 28) –

Today is chocolate day! Now that we've acclimatized its time to start exploring. We visit the local Ixcocoa Cacao farm and discover where this amazing product starts its life. Local farmer Juan and his amazing wife Abelina, AKA the chocolate queen, show us around their farm and introduce us to the art of chocolate making (and tasting). We'll have lunch here which includes Abelina's famous chocolate chicken. In the afternoon you can choose to relax and explore the lodge, or our leaders can drive you the 20mins to Punta Gorda town where you can explore the town or chill by the ocean.

Day 3 (Dec 29) –

Welcome to the jungle! Today we take the vans North to Cockscomb Jaguar Preserve. It was established in 1986 for its exceptional diversity and as a sanctuary for the endangered Jaguar, and is now regarded the premier site for jaguar preservation in the world. We'll have lunch along the way and arrive early afternoon. You'll get a true feel for the jungle in basic but comfortable accommodations.

We'll take a short hike into the jungle to cool off with some tubing through the rainforest, followed by a dinner cooked by our leaders in the camp kitchen. End the day with an optional night hike for those who want the full jungle experience. Who knows, you might be lucky enough to see an elusive Jaguar!

Day 4 (Dec 30) –

Wake up to the Sound of howler monkeys, a truly unique experience! Our guides will offer the option of a pre-dawn hike to see an elusive jaguar, followed by a camp breakfast. After breakfast we head out to hike the park and swim in its plethora of waterfalls. Our destination is Bens Bluff, an amazing lookout position where you can see over the entire jungle with views of the amazing Victoria peak in the distance. The hike is fairly strenuous around 3miles (there and back), though we can offer a shorter hike if this isn't for you.

Back at the preserve we pack up and head out for lunch with a stop along the way at the Mayan women's cooperative to do a bit of shopping before driving the 2hrs to the small oceanside community of Placencia. Relax in your beachfront villa or explore the town, time to get some rest, tomorrow is New Years Eve!



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Day 5 (Dec 31)-

After a slow start to the day we head out by boat to Laughing Bird Caye National Park for a snorkeling adventure at probably the best coral reef you'll see in Belize. This amazing island is completely untouched by development and fishing providing, truly spectacular! Local guides take us around the best spots and we'll eat lunch prepared by our guides on the beach, now you truly are in paradise! Relax, swim in the pristine waters and enjoy your time here before we head back to Placencia and a New Years eve dinner to remember!

Day 6 (Jan 1) –

Happy New Year! Start the New year with a relaxing morning at the beach or exploring the town. After an early lunch its time to leave the Ocean and head inland to San Ignacio. Our last two days will be spent at Black Rock Lodge. An amazing place with a fantastic view of the surrounding jungle. Relax in the hot tub or take a canoe down the river, the afternoon is your own.

Day 7 (Jan 2) -

Caves are on the menu today. The famous Actun Tunichil Muknal (ATM) cave is rated as 'must see' attraction while in Belize. you'll take a bus ride through farmlands before we start our hike through the jungle, crossing waist deep rivers before arriving at the hidden cave entrance. Our guides will issue you with helmets and headlights before we swim a short distance into the cave and start exploring the fascinating story of this cave. It's a two-hour tour of the cave with a mixture of swimming and low level climbing to see some of the most spectacular archeological remains of the Mayan era.

We'll have lunch once we emerge from the cave, and stop off at San Ignacio on the way back to the lodge for coffee and an opportunity to shop for souvenirs and gifts. Back at the Blackrock Lodge, relax in the hot tub, swim, tube or canoe in the river, explore the surrounding hiking trails or simply enjoy a cocktail looking out over the spectacular Mayan Mountains.

Day 8 (Jan 3)-

Our final day of adventure takes us to another Country, Guatemala! Our guides collect us early in the morning and we cross the border into Guatemala and head to Tikal. A world Heritage site and one of the largest and best-preserved Mayan sites in the World. We'll explore the network of pyramids and ruins that have a truly mythical feel. The pace is relaxed, and you can choose to explore on your own or join our local guide who can give a fascinating background to the park and what it has to offer. We'll have a late lunch before heading back for dinner at the lodge. Magical views and fascinating tales finish our trip with a bang!

Day 9 (Jan 4)-

Reflect on your week, listen to the jungle and relax before we take the three-hour drive back to Belize City to catch your flight. It's been a busy week but one you'll never forget!!



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Requirements

- All participants must have a good level of fitness. The mileage we plan to hike isn't high, but the temperature and rough terrain can be uncomfortable. You should be comfortable hiking with a day pack and be a competent swimmer due to the snorkeling and swimming components.
- Please be sure to disclose any medical conditions you have to your trip leader, if you have any concerns prior to the trip, you can contact Tammi directly (contact details below)
- You must provide proof of international health insurance. We recommend World Nomads. An excellent provider with different levels of insurance available including trip protection and lost luggage.

What's Included?

- All meals except one lunch (Placencia New Years Day)
- Accommodation
- Ground transportation in Belize
- All guides and tours.

What's not included?

- Flight to Belize
- Travel insurance
- Alcoholic drinks
- Tips

**Please contact me directly with any questions: Tammi Hill tammi.hill01@gmail.com
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