

Belize

Private Belize Hidden Luxuries: Turneffe Atoll and Punta Gorda in Southern Belize

Turneffe Island - Punta Gorda

BEST SEASON

All year

PRICE

From US \$6,275 pp including local flights

HOW LONG

9 Days / 8 Nights



ITINERARY OVERVIEW

Venture into uncharted territory and experience the captivating natural history, rich cultural heritage, and an array of thrilling adventures in southern Belize. Discover pristine white sand beaches on Turneffe Atoll, granting immediate access to the Belize Barrier Reef and the renowned Great Blue Hole. Indulge in beach relaxation and daily snorkeling excursions to witness the mesmerizing marine life. Copal Tree Lodge, your luxurious haven nestled amidst the lush jungles, serves as your base for exploring the wonders of southern Belize. Indulge in farm-to-table cuisine crafted with the freshest ingredients, ensuring a delicious and sustainable dining experience. Uncover the ancient secrets of Mayan ruins with knowledgeable local guides and explore the awe-inspiring cave systems and cascading waterfalls hidden within the lush jungle. Witness a symphony of remarkable bird species, or learn about sustainable practices like organic cacao farming, rum distilling, and the art of coffee.

tasting. There's also time to unwind with rejuvenating yoga and pampering spa treatments at Copal Tree Lodge. This Belizean adventure caters to daring souls seeking an untouched paradise and the wonders of a premier barrier reef.

Quick Summary

B: Breakfast L: Lunch D: Dinner OV: Overnight

Day & Location	Transportation, Highlights and Accommodations	Meals
Day 1 Turneffe Island	Arrival and land/boat transfer to Turneffe Island OV: Turneffe Island Resort	D
Day 2 Turneffe Island	Snorkeling tours OV: Turneffe Island Resort	BLD
Day 3 Turneffe Island	Snorkeling Tours OV: Turneffe Island Resort	BLD
Day 4 Turneffe Island	Snorkeling at Great Blue Hole and Half-moon Caye and Long Caye OV: Turneffe Island Resort	BLD
Day 5 San Ignacio	Boat Transfer to the Marina, land transfer to the Belize Municipal Airport, flight to Punta Gorda flight included), transfer to hotel OV: Copal Tree Lodge	BD
Day 6 San Ignacio	Optional Activities Complimentary Kayaking, paddle boards, biking and Hiking OV: Copal Tree Lodge	BLD
Day 7 San Ignacio	Optional Activities Complimentary Kayaking, paddle boards, biking and Hiking OV: Copal Tree Lodge	BLD
Day 8 San Ignacio	Optional Activities Complimentary Kayaking, paddle boards, biking and Hiking OV: Copal Tree Lodge	BLD
Day 9 Departure	Transfer to the airstrip, flight to Belize International Airport for departure (flight included)	B

ITINERARY IN DETAIL



Day 1 | Arrive in Belize

Welcome to Belize! Upon arrival, our representative will greet you and escort you to the boat dock at the Belize Tourism Village. From there, embark on an exhilarating 90-minute water taxi journey to the captivating Turneffe Atoll. Traverse turquoise waters adorned with mangroves and coconut-covered islands, passing the iconic Belize Barrier Reef, until reaching the western side of the Turneffe Atoll. Check-in to your room and indulge in a refreshing swim in the tranquil Caribbean waters. The beachfront cabanas offer breathtaking views, direct access to world-

class snorkeling and SCUBA diving, and feature private porches with seating, hammocks, comfortable beds, and en-suite bathrooms with hot water showers. Meals are a delightful family-style affair, showcasing a diverse range of fresh fish, meats, salads, fruits, vegetables, desserts, and local specialties. Overnight at Turneffe Island Resort.

Note: You must arrive on a Saturday by 2 pm to Belize City on your arrival day to make the transfer to the island on time.



Day 2 and 3 | Belize Barrier Reef

Immerse yourself in world-class snorkeling on the renowned barrier reefs. Snorkel straight from your cabana's beach or join two guided excursions daily. Explore diverse sites teeming with colorful fish, vibrant coral, rays, barracuda, nurse sharks, and more. Accompanied by skilled guides armed with lethal spears, each snorkeling excursion presents an opportunity to spot and hunt lionfish. Witness their population control firsthand, and perhaps even enjoy them as a delicious meal! On land, engage in activities like kayaking, paddle boarding, hobie cats, and bird watching walks. For fishing enthusiasts, hire a guide and test your skills in fly fishing for bones, snook or permit. Embrace the freedom to stay active or unwind in a hammock on pristine white sand beaches. All meals and overnights at Turneffe Island Resort.

Note: Snorkeling gear (fins, mask, snorkel) are included in your trip price already.



Day 4 | Great Blue Hole, Half Moon Caye and Long Caye

Embark on a full-day boat excursion to Belize's premier dive spots and barrier reef environments. Begin with a visit to the awe-inspiring Great Blue Hole, a massive sinkhole in Lighthouse Reef atoll. Experienced divers explore ancient caves adorned with giant stalactites and stalagmites formed 15,000 years ago. The outer rim and coral heads teem with vibrant marine life, offering exceptional snorkeling among angelfish, butterfly fish, groupers, and colorful corals. Enjoy a Belizean-style BBQ on Half Moon Caye's sandy shores and witness red-footed boobies, frigate birds, and land iguanas at the bird sanctuary. On the return journey, experience the thrilling spectacle of frenzied yellow snapper feeding and encounter impressive barrel sponges at another captivating snorkeling or dive location. Overnight at Turneffe Island Resort.



Day 5 | Punta Gorda

Transfer from the Turneffe Atoll to the Belize Municipal Airport and board your short flight to Punta Gorda, Belize's southernmost town located on the Caribbean Coast. In Punta Gorda, receive a warm welcome and introduction to one of the centers of Maya culture, the undiscovered Toledo District. Drive 30 minutes inland to your home for the next 4 nights: Copal Tree Lodge.

Nestled within a pristine 16,000-acre private rainforest reserve bordering the Maya Mountains, Copal Tree Lodge offers a luxurious escape for discerning travelers seeking adventure, cultural immersion, and deep connection with nature. Indulge in spacious, beautifully decorated suites adorned with warm furnishings and boasting stunning views of the surrounding jungle. You'll arrive in time for a refreshing swim in the pool, enjoy a drink, and a brief orientation of the lodge before dinner is served in the softly lit restaurant. Overnight at Copal Tree Lodge.



Day 6, 7 and 8 | At Punta Gorda

Copal Tree Lodge isn't just about luxurious suites and delectable cuisine. Unleash your inner explorer with a curated selection of optional adventures. Become a mixologist, explore rum-making, or learn chocolate artistry. Adventure seekers can delve into the rich legacy of the Mayan civilization with guided tours to archaeological ruins. For the thrill-seeker, soar through the lush jungle canopy on a zip line

adventure ending with river tubing, or embark on a spelunking expedition into lesser-known caves, often culminating in refreshing dips beneath cascading waterfalls. Want more marine activities? There is always fishing and more snorkeling Cayes to discover. The lodge's luxurious spa awaits pure indulgence, offering a haven of pampering treatments. Culturally curious? Mingle with the friendly locals in Punta Gorda. These optional excursions provide a taste of everything Belize offers, from hidden wonders to ancient history. Complimentary activities include Kayaking and paddle boarding on the Rio Grande, exploring nature trails, and cycling through nearby villages. Overnight at Copal Tree Lodge.



Day 9 | Depart

Linger over breakfast, before your flight transfer from Punta Gorda back to the Belize International Airport. Board your international flight home with wonderful memories of relaxing beach time, invigorating adventures, and fascinating cultural experiences.

Pricing

Low Season May 1 to December 17, 2024	Peak Season December 18, 2024 – January 3, 2025	High Season January 4, 2025 – April 30, 2025
\$6,275 per person sharing double occupancy	\$6,425 per person sharing double occupancy	\$6,995 per person sharing double occupancy

Low Season May 1 – December 17, 2025	Peak Season December 18 – January 3, 2026	High Season January 4, 2026 – April 30, 2026
\$6,675 per person sharing double occupancy	\$7,895 per person sharing double occupancy	\$7,895 per person sharing double occupancy

This is a preliminary costing; hotels may vary according to availability at time of booking.

Included

- Airport-hotel transfers, land, and sea transportation
- Internal Flights (Belize Municipal airport – Punta Gorda – Belize Intl airport)
- Shared snorkeling guided tours with small groups of 10 or less
- Kayaking, canoeing, and biking at Copal Tree Lodge.
- Meals as indicated [B-Breakfast, L-Lunch, D-Dinner]
- Local alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages at Copal Tree Lodge
- 8 nights of hotel accommodation as indicated
- Gear at both lodges for the tours included and complimentary activities at Copal Lodge
- Green Planet Expeditions travel consultation and pre-departure services

Not included

- International airfare
- Tips and gratuities
- Airport departure taxes when applied
- Optional activities at Copal Tree Lodge
- Drinks, alcoholic beverages, and meals other than listed above
- Travel insurance for trip cancellation, medical services, or evacuation
- Personal expenses for extra services, optional activities, or changes in your itinerary for reasons beyond our control
- **Mandatory Travel Insurance:** To ensure a smooth travel experience, all participants are required to have a comprehensive travel insurance policy. This policy should include trip cancellation, medical services, and coverage for active adventures or evacuations. “Cancel For Any Reason” (CFAR) coverage is highly recommended to protect your investment in case of unforeseen circumstances.
- Any other items not mentioned above

ACCOMMODATIONS



Turneffe Island Resort, Turneffe Atoll

Perched atop the Turneffe Atoll off the coast of Belize, the luxurious Turneffe Island Resort offers its guests the ultimate luxury vacation. Retaining ancient history with archaeological evidence of Mayan presence and fishing operations in the colonial period, the cultural and ecological beauty of the resort is a sight to behold. The owners have preserved the “Hemmingway feel” in each of the 20 guestrooms while providing modern amenities such as water purification and solar power.

The elegant woodwork in each of the rooms and the air conditioning gives a comforting atmosphere to enhance your luxury Belize vacation. Meals are served family-style with a menu of an afternoon on the sandy beach of Half Moon Caye and a visit to the Red Footed Booby Sanctuary are favorite Belize adventures for the guests of Turneffe Island Resort



Copal Tree Lodge, Punta Gorda

Copal Tree Lodge is built on lands that date back to the Classic Maya period – around 600 AD – when the Maya people used the Rio Grande as an important transportation route to the sea. The land has continuously been used as a farm since the mid-1800s, and to this day it is a vibrant farm growing cacao, coffee, cane sugar, and vanilla. In recent years, it has grown from pioneering ideas of sustainable food production to an award-winning, world-class destination welcoming discerning travelers from around the globe. Each comfortable room includes

a private veranda for lounging, a ceiling fan and air conditioning, and an in-room safe. Complementary laundry service is available

Booking your Green Planet Expedition

How to reserve a trip

To secure your spot on a trip, you can conveniently book online using our [Reserve a Trip form](#) or by calling **1-800-430-9498**. Your reservation is confirmed upon receipt of the reservation form and the initial 50% trip deposit.

Please note that we are unable to hold space until the deposit is received. If the requested space is unavailable, we will promptly provide alternative options for your consideration (if an upgrade is necessary, higher rates may apply).

Pre departure service

Upon receipt of your deposit and completed reservation form, we will email you a comprehensive Predeparture Dossier. This contains important information to help you prepare including immunizations, visas, trip insurance, packing checklist, reading list, maps, cross-cultural information, optional trip extensions, and more. You will receive a final trip email

including Final Reminders and local contact information in your destination 2-3 weeks before departure.

Terms and Conditions

Green Planet Expeditions has arranged your trip utilizing the travel services of local in-country ground operators who are independent contractors. These local outfitters, lodges, hotels, and other suppliers of your travel services will make every effort to conduct this trip as described in the itinerary; however, it is possible that due to transportation schedule changes, weather, delays, and unforeseeable acts of God, humans or nature, this itinerary may vary from what is described. Participants must assume all risks whether identified in advance or unforeseen. All optional activities are at your own risk. Extra costs due to unexpected changes in your itinerary for reasons beyond our control are not included.

Caring for our planet is integral to our ethos. In alignment with our commitment to sustainability, a carbon emissions mitigation fee is incorporated into all our trips. This fee contributes to environmental initiatives that offset the carbon footprint associated with our journeys, ensuring a positive impact on the destinations we explore. Your safety and peace of mind during the journey is our top priorities. **The purchase of traveler's insurance is mandatory for all participants, and it must cover trip delays, trip cancellations, baggage, accident, or sickness. In some specific cases like Antarctica, it must cover evacuation.**

All information and services provided are subject to our [Terms and Conditions](#).

At Green Planet Expeditions, we craft strategically curated journeys that immerse travelers in the finest of nature, culture, and local traditions, always seeking out opportunities for exceptional dining experiences. Our expertise lies in tailor-made trips to destinations where we maintain close relationships with local partners, ensuring flawless execution with the assistance of passionate guides deeply connected to their heritage and committed to its preservation.

We believe that tourism, when harnessed thoughtfully, becomes a powerful catalyst for conservation and community upliftment in the destinations we visit.

As with any good recipe, our trips are infused with the following flavors:

- Positive impact on the areas you choose to visit, directly or indirectly.
- Amazing private local guides.
- Lovely small boutique hotels according to your budget.
- Good food, no matter how remote the destination is, we strive to offer good cuisine.
- Our trips frequently include surprises, which often turn out to be the highlight of the journey.
- When open to it, visits to less-known destinations, reserved for the daring few, and engages in intimate and meaningful encounters with locals—a cherished treasure highly valued by discerning travelers, as we have discovered through our years of experience in the industry.

Still haven't found what you're looking for?

We offer a wide range of amazing trips that may not all be listed on our website. Plus, we can custom-build pretty much whatever your heart desires, so let us know what we can do for you. If you have any questions about our expedition cruises, private trips, or just want to talk travel, give us a call at + 1 800- 430 9498 or contact us via email at travel@greenplanetexpeditions.com