

## **Belize**

## **Private Luxury Belize Family Vacation**

Turneffe Island and San Ignacio, Cayo District

**BEST SEASON** 

**PRICE** 

**HOW LONG** 

All year

From US \$6,675 pp

8 Days / 7 Nights



#### ITINERARY OVERVIEW

Unwind in luxury amidst Belize's breathtaking landscapes on this fun and active family adventure. Escape to a world of underwater wonder at Turneffe Island Resort. This idyllic island sanctuary offers unparalleled access to the vibrant coral reefs of Belize's barrier reef. Explore teeming marine life, encounter majestic sharks and rays, and witness the breathtaking beauty of coral formations. Beyond diving and snorkeling, the resort provides opportunities for kayaking, paddleboarding, and fishing adventures. Then trade the pristine beaches of Turneffe Atoll for the rainforest at the award-winning Chaa Creek eco-lodge engulfed in the verdant beauty of the Belizean jungle providing a secluded oasis. Expert guides lead you on captivating journeys – delve into the wonders of Barton Creek Caves, a sacred Mayan underworld with a fascinating network of underground caverns, explore the ancient Mayan city of Xunantunich. Experience the exhilaration of a zipline adventure, gliding through the lush vegetation and encountering exotic wildlife from a bird's-eye view. Beyond these incredible adventures,

immerse yourself in the rich culture and vibrant energy of Belize. Relax on pristine beaches, savor delicious local cuisine, and connect with the warm hospitality of the Belizean people.

## **Quick Summary**

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

Day &	Transportation, Highlights and	Meals
Location	Accommodations	
Day 1	Arrival and land/boat transfer to Turneffe Island	
Turneffe Island	OV: Turneffe Island Resort	D
Day 2	Snorkeling tours	BLD
Turneffe Island	OV: Turneffe Island Resort	
Day 3	Snorkeling Tours	BLD
Turneffe Island	OV: Turneffe Island Resort	
Day 4	Snorkeling at Great Blue Hole and Half-moon Caye and	BLD
Turneffe Island	Long Caye <b>OV: Turneffe Island Resort</b>	
Day 5	Boat Transfer to the Marina, land transfer to San Ignacio,	В
San Ignacio	Cayo District (2 hours) OV: The Lodge at Chaa Creek	
Day 6	Cave Inner Tubing and Xunantunich Mayan Ruins OV: The	BL
San Ignacio	Lodge at Chaa Creek	
Day 7	Tortilla Making with Mayan Family, Barton Creek Caves and	BL
San Ignacio	Canopy Adventure <b>OV: The Lodge at Chaa Creek</b>	
Day 8	Transfer to Belize International Airport for departure (2	В
Departure	hours)	

## 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, kick off your shoes,

unpack, and settle into your beautiful room. Step outside your door to enjoy wonderful ocean views and pristine white sands and induldge in a rereshing 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 | San Ignacio, Cayo District

After your snorkeling exploration of Turneffe Atoll, a comfortable boat transfer will whisk you to the Belize Marina. There, you'll connect with your local driver for a scenic two-hour journey to San Ignacio, the heart of the Cayo District. Upon arrival in San Ignacio, settle into your luxurious accommodations for the next three nights: The Lodge at Chaa Creek. This award-winning eco-resort seamlessly blends comfort with adventure

and cultural immersion, creating the ideal base for discovering Belize's wonders. Unwind in your free time with a variety of onsite offerings. Explore the 400-acre private nature reserve or embark on guided tours of the Natural History Center, Butterfly Farm, or the Maya Medicinal Plant Trail. Hike the Ruta Maya trail system, go birdwatching, canoe the Macal River, or simply relax by the eco-infinity pool. For those who need to stay connected, complimentary high-speed Wi-Fi is available. Overnight at The Lodge at Chaa Creek.



#### Day 6 | Cave Tubing and Xunantunich

Get prepared for an unforgettable day inner tubing though the expansive limestone caves at Caves Branch. Pass through citrus orchards to the river's edge where a short float trip carries you into a massive cavern with underground waterfalls, limestone formations, and an incredible crystal cathedral chamber. No experience is needed since the trip does not involve technical caving. After lunch head off to the Mayan ruins of Xunantunich or "Maiden of the Rock". The dominant structure of this

ruin rises 130 feet, providing an amazing view of the surrounding forest and ancient city below. Explore the ruins and picture ancient Mayan life while your guide gives a detailed description of the historical events surrounding this fascinating area. Return to the lodge for another savory dinner while listening to the sounds of the rain forest. Stay overnight at The Lodge at Chaa Creek.



## Day 7 | Tortilla making with Mayan Family, Barton Creek Caves and Canopy Adventure

This morning you'll visit a local Mayan home to learn to make authentic corn tortillas. Corn tortillas form the base of the Mayan diet and children not only love to make them, but they also love to eat them! Your Maya experience continues as you delve into Xibalba (she-balba), the Mayan underworld. The Maya believed that caves served as a connection between the living world and underworld. Your guide takes you into the Barton Creek cave system, one of Belize's most extensive, with

over four miles of underground tunnels. The cave was formed by the Barton Creek and so you explore by canoe equipped with high powered lights amongst giant stalactites, stalagmites, and impressive calcite crystal formations. Learn about the rituals that archaeologists believe were performed here and the cave's importance to the ancient Maya people. Hop out of your

canoes and head up to the zip-line course set into the side of the Mayan Mountains. Choose from a variety of courses ranging from four platforms and 1,000 ft. to 15 platforms and 2,700 ft. of pure zipping enjoyment. Stay overnight at The Lodge at Chaa Creek.



## Day 8 | Departure

Depending on your departure time, settle into the van for a scenic drive back to the Belize International airport. Laugh about your good times on the way home and start planning your next family adventure!

Actual routes and activities may vary. Local trip coordinators reserve the right to change accommodations to similar quality alternatives.

#### **Pricing**

2025 Adult sharing double occupancy	2025 Child sharing a room with 2 adults	
\$6,675 per person sharing double	\$2,975 per person sharing double	
occupancy	occupancy	

Only one child is accepted per room at Turneffe Island Resort in a Villa.

#### Included

- Airport-hotel transfers, land, and sea transportation
- Internal Flights (Belize Municipal airport Punta Gorda Belize Intl airport)
- Snorkeling guides
- Kayaking, canoeing, and biking.
- 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.



#### The Lodge at Chaa Creek, San Ignacio Cayo District

Las Lagunas Boutique Hotel is an enchanting retreat located in the heart of the Guatemalan jungle, just one hour from the magnificent archaeological sites of Tikal, Uaxactun, and Yaxha. This unique boutique hotel seamlessly blends the vastness of 200 acres of pristine natural beauty with the intimacy and comfort of luxury accommodations. Nestled beside the serene Quexil Lagoon, Las Lagunas features 19 elegantly designed suites, each offering stunning

views of the tranquil waters and lush jungle surroundings. The suites are thoughtfully equipped with modern amenities to ensure a relaxing stay, including spacious cascade showers, private decks with Jacuzzis, satellite TV, telephones, mini bar, air conditioning, free wi-fi, and in-room safes. The hotel's commitment to sustainability and environmental preservation is evident throughout the property, with careful attention to maintaining the lush landscape and local ecosystems. In addition to its breathtaking surroundings, Las Lagunas provides an exquisite dining experience, featuring a menu that highlights Chaa Creek is a beautiful, 5-star lodge set among a private 330-acre rain forest reserve on the shores of the Macal River in Belize's Cayo District. Flower lined paths bring you to stucco cottages with tall peaked palapa roofs and

wooden shutters made from local materials. The spacious cottages have sun-drenched verandahs, private baths, tiled floors, and local and international art. Meals at the full-service restaurant and bar are fresh and well-prepared, often featuring vegetables from the organic onsite garden. Other amenities include a full menu of activities, a natural history center and butterfly farm, a full-service spa, conference center and small gift shop featuring local crafts.

## **Booking your Green Planet Expedition**

## How to reserve a trip

To secure your spot on a trip, you can conveniently book online using our <u>Reserve a Trip form</u> 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 +1800-4309498 or contact us via email at <a href="mailto:travel@greenplanetexpeditions.com">travel@greenplanetexpeditions.com</a>