



*Tour:*

## Caribbean Diving

A BELIZE PRIVATE ISLAND EXPERIENCE

*Itinerary:*

9-days / 8-nights, departing Saturdays

*Specialization:*

Scuba, Watersports, Nature & Culture

*Location:*

Long Caye, Glover's Reef Atoll, Belize

BELIZE - CARIBBEAN DIVING						
Day	Morning		Afternoon		Evening	
1	Sat	International flight to Belize City, Belize		Transfer to Dangriga; hotel check-in	Welcome & Safety Meeting	Welcome Dinner & Program Overview
2	Sun	Boat to Long Caye, Glover's Reef Atoll - approx 1.5-hours		Island Orientation & Cabin Assignments	Swim Test & Beach Time	Caribbean Reef Fish Identification Game
3	Mon	Snorkeling Orientation & Glover's Reef Snorkel		BEGINNING DIVERS: Theory Review and Confined Water Dives / CERTIFIED DIVERS: 2-tank Dives		Island Game Night & Drumming & Dance Party
4	Tues	BEGINNING DIVERS: Confined Water Dives CERTIFIED DIVERS: 2-tank Dives		Kayaking Orientation & Open Water Paddle, Kayak & Snorkel Session		Mayan Culture or Poetry Slam
5	Wed	Kayak Surfing Orientation / Surfing		BEGINNING DIVERS: 2-tank Dives CERTIFIED DIVERS: 2-tank Dives		Conservation Town Meeting
6	Thur	BEGINNING DIVERS: 2-tank Dives CERTIFIED DIVERS: 2-tank Dives		Windsurfing Orientation / Windsurfing		Coral Reef Ecology Overview
7	Fri	DIVE TRIP EXCURSION: The Great Blue Hole of Belize / 2-tanks				Crab Race
8	Sat	Surfing Orientation / Surfing		Island Tidepool Investigation	EarthDive Snorkel Project	Farewell Dinner & Camp Awards
9	Sun	Early-morning Boat to Dangriga	Breakfast at Dangriga Hotel	Depart to Belize City Airport; fly home		



As with all sample itineraries, please be aware that this is an "example" of a schedule and that the activities and hotels shown may be variable dependent upon dates, weather, special requests and other factors. Itineraries will be confirmed prior to travel.



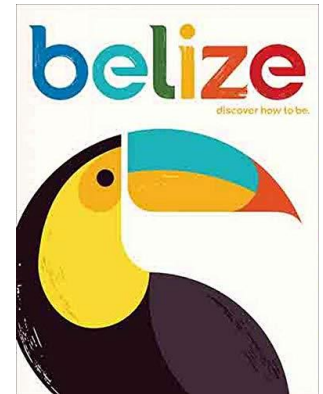
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As with all our tours, if you find you desire a longer experience, we are happy to assist. This experience is designed for **a minimum of 20 students and a maximum of 32 students**, plus teachers. If you have smaller group numbers, please contact us to determine if we might be able to partner you with another small school to meet minimum numbers.

**BELIZE....** Although this small Central American nation spans less than 9,000 square miles, few places on Earth can match Belize's diverse natural beauty. The barrier reef's turquoise and coral hues contrast with the staggering Mayan ruins scattered throughout the country's lush rainforests. Plus, it's not just the landscape, the history, culture and people of Belize are just as splendid. This Central American country beckons visitors with its thatch-roofed jungle lodges, impressive Mayan ruins, secluded snorkeling and scuba diving havens, and laid-back atmosphere. Sandwiched between Mexico and Guatemala, Belize's eastern shoreline flanks the Caribbean Sea, while its mainland extends into a myriad of wild rainforests to the north, west and south. Facing off against the sun-drenched mainland coast are hundreds of tiny islands known as cays and atolls, luring travelers with swaying palm trees and cerulean waters.



Before European colonization, Belize was the heartland of the Mayan Kingdom's vast empire. The region served as a complex trade route between Guatemala and Mexico during the Classic Period (A.D. 250 to 900), and there is also evidence that the country served as a centerpiece for ceremonial practices as well. In present day Belize, there are 1,400 Mayan sites.

By the mid-17th century, the British Empire took possession of the country and introduced other types of cultures into the land. Full independence wasn't gained by the country once known as the "British Honduras" until 1981.

Today, Belize is a mixture of cultures. Home to about 350,000 people, the largest ethnic group is the Mestizo people, who are a mix of Mayan and European descent. Creoles are the second largest ethnic group, making up about 25% of the population. Smaller groups include the indigenous Mayan descendants of the Yucatec, Mopan and Kekchi tribes, as well as the Garifuna people. The rest of the population consists of people of European, East Indian, Spanish and Mexican descent. Most Belizeans speak English, although you're likely to hear a spattering of Spanish, Garifuna and Creole as well. Since the country is such a melting pot, including expats from Canada, Europe and the U.S., the Belizean people are known for being welcoming and hospitable.

## DID YOU KNOW?



✓ **Belize has the only Jaguar preserve on the planet!** Half a dozen great cats, including jaguars and pumas, are indigenous to Belize and Central America. Belize is the only country in the world with a nature sanctuary dedicated to preserving these magnificent animals.

✓ **Belize is the capital of the Ancient Maya Empire.** Hundreds of years before the arrival of European colonists, the Maya Empire stretched for over a thousand miles in what is now Central America. Today's Belize was located in the center of all of the most important Maya trade routes. Visitors to Belize can explore more than 900 different Maya ruins and sacred sites.



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- ✓ **Belizean money.** Also called the dollar, the Belizean currency is conveniently pegged to the American dollar. At this time, one U.S. dollar always equals two Belize dollars, making it easy to convert prices.



- ✓ **Belize is the home of the Great Blue Hole!** In 1971, famed marine biologist Jacques Cousteau discovered what had long been the sole province of local fishermen – the Great Blue Hole, a unique diving site in the middle of an offshore coral atoll. The Great Blue Hole is regularly voted as one of the Top 10 ‘must do’ diving sites in the world.
- ✓ **Belize’s mother tongue is English.** A British colony for more than 200 years, Belize today is the only nation in Central America where English is the official language. More than 80% of the population speak English as their mother tongue. Other languages spoken in Belize include Mayan, Kriol (Creole), Garifuna, and Spanish.
- ✓ **The Royal Rat.** A few decades ago, when Queen Elizabeth visited Belize, she was served with one of the country’s finest delicacies – gibbon meat. Locally referred to as the “Royal Rat”, this large rodent looks something like a cross between a chipmunk and a tapir and tastes similar to rabbit.
- ✓ **See the amazing Belize Barrier Reef.** As part of the second-largest barrier reef system in the world (only Australia’s Great Barrier Reef is bigger), the Belize Barrier Reef is an incredibly diverse marine ecosystem stretching for more than 180 miles off the coast of Belize. Designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site, the reef is an ideal place for snorkeling, scuba diving, kayaking, and sailing.
- ✓ **You’ll get to hear Black Howler Monkeys.** Known locally as baboons, these tree-dwelling primates are listed as one of the top 10 loudest animals in the world equipped with a piercing shriek that can be heard up to three miles away through the thick rainforest.



## SCUBA DIVING

**PROGRAM OVERVIEW:** In this tour, students will learn how to Scuba dive and explore the brilliant creations under the ocean’s surface. We offer programs available for first time certification, advanced certification and also for certified divers. If you have not dived within 1-year, please understand that you will be required to take a refresher course (extra cost) prior to diving.

**SKILLS REQUIRED:** Water / swimming appreciation & enthusiasm, problem solving, adaptation to unexpected problems, the drive to be successful, and the ability to be positive and have fun!



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# PROGRAM OPTIONS

**OWD / Beginner Package** – Your package will include your Open Water Diver Online Theory (required to be completed and successfully passed prior to travel), 2-sessions of confined water training in the island bay area, **2 days of 2-tank ocean dives** to complete your certification, plus once certified, a 2-tank dive in Belize’s Great Blue Hole.

**AOWD Package** – Your package will include your Advanced Open Water Diver Certification with online theory submissions, **3-days of 2-tank ocean dives**, plus a 2-tank dive in Belize’s Great Blue Hole.

**Certified Diver Package** – If you are a Certified Diver and not earning a certification during your trip, your package will include **4-days of 2-tank ocean dives**, plus a 2-tank dive in Belize’s Great Blue Hole.

If your group is already certified, we can also offer a specialty science week with a focus on Marine Sciences with our resident biologist. We are also able to pair additional PADI certification courses to your itinerary. An example is earning certifications in Peak Performance Buoyancy and Deep Diving. Please ask us about specialty programs; we are happy to customize your tour (marine bio is our passion!).

It’s important to note that there’s a lot of studying involved in earning your dive certification. Participants will need to devote adequate time for this and will need to pass the “theory” training for their certification prior to travel. Plan on 2 – 3 days at home with your computer for online theory training. Once in Belize, part of the certification process is a personal review of all studies. If your instructor doesn’t feel you are prepared, you may be asked to sit out and review the training before re-engaging in activities. You will not be able to progress to the swim/dive portion of your training if you are unable to pass the e-learning examination.

Before completing the PADI Open Water Diver course in resort, your instructor will have students demonstrate basic water skills to be sure they are comfortable in the water, including swimming for 200 meters/yards or 300 meters/yards in mask, fins and snorkel, without stopping.

## THE MESOAMERICAN REEF

The Mesoamerican Reef region lies within the Caribbean Sea and touches the coasts of Mexico, Belize, Guatemala and Honduras. It contains the largest barrier reef in the Western Hemisphere, stretching nearly 700 miles from the northern tip of the Yucatan Peninsula down through the Honduran Bay Islands. Dazzling arrays of different types of coral form this underwater wilderness and provide homes and food to hundreds of fish species and marine turtles. Along the shores, mangroves provide habitat for fish and shorebirds as well as protect coastal areas from the damage associated with hurricanes and strong storms.



For more information about the Mesoamerican Reef, please visit: [www.worldwildlife.org/places/mesoamerican-reef](http://www.worldwildlife.org/places/mesoamerican-reef)



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# IMPORTANT DIVE NOTES

## Required documents for diving:

- ✓ Student Record or Certified Diver Registration
- ✓ Liability Release
- ✓ Medical questionnaire - Please note that if **any box is ticked positive**, a physician's consent is required prior to participation in diving activities. This should be obtained prior to travel, however if needed, there are physicians available on the island. Please understand this may disrupt your group learning and any extra fees required for screening or transportation will be assumed by the participant. [PADI MEDICAL RELEASE](#)

**Additional Dives / Certifications** – Divers that are certified as Open Water Divers may feel free to upgrade to add additional dives, night dives or other special certifications. Night dives are only available with advanced scheduling and may not be possible so please consult us for scheduling. These upgrades are at extra cost and should be booked in advance of travel. No diving is permitted 18-hours prior to your return flight time.

**Equipment** – If divers opt to bring their own equipment, please understand that because all elements of the tour are bundled, there will be no reduction in the 'package plan' and refunds will not be available. Please know you will also be responsible for any excess luggage fees charged by the airlines. It is mandatory that you bring your personal mask, fins and snorkel.

**Dive Insurance** - If you carry DAN dive insurance, don't forget to bring your card.

**Instructor / Boat Crew Gratuities - Tips are not included for dive instructors, boat captains, deckhands and equipment crew; at your personal discretion.** Tips for good service are generally estimated at \$5-10 USD per tank (generally x2 as 2 tanks per session/day) and are split among your instructor/guide and your boat captain and deckhand. Additionally, tips for your Instructor if earning your OWD or AOWD certification may range from an additional \$50 - \$75 dependent upon the service you received from your instructor.

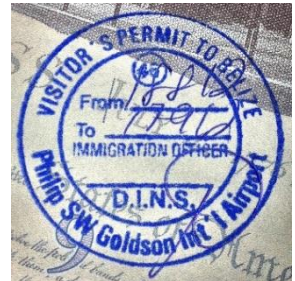
**Sunscreen / Sun Cream** – As a protected environment, please ask your group to bring **bio-degradable** sunscreen if available.

## Day 1

*Dinner included*

Welcome to Belize! Groups will have started their flights in the morning hours, arriving into Belize in the early afternoon in most cases. Since there may not be a lot of time between connecting flights, please plan on purchasing appropriate snacks once you have passed through airport security as lunch is seldom served while in flight. Upon arrival, you'll clear Customs & Immigrations and our team will meet you just outside.

**Travel to Belize – Important Information:** School groups should be able to provide a notarized letter for every student, signed by both parents, allowing the specified teachers to serve in the capacity as legal guardians on their trip to Belize. The document should cover the dates of travel and the location where the student will be (Slickrock Resort, Long Caye, Glover's Reef Atoll, Belize), the name of the school, the school contact information, the student's full legal name, gender, date of birth and passport number. This is also a good place to have the parents grant consent for any needed medical treatment in case of need. Each signature (**both** mother and father)



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*MUST be notarized. In the case of a divorce, signatures may be signed and authenticated by different notaries on the same document. If a parent is deceased, a death certificate may be requested by Belize officials prior to entry so please ensure you have this available for inspection if asked. If you would like us to provide a sample document, please ask.*

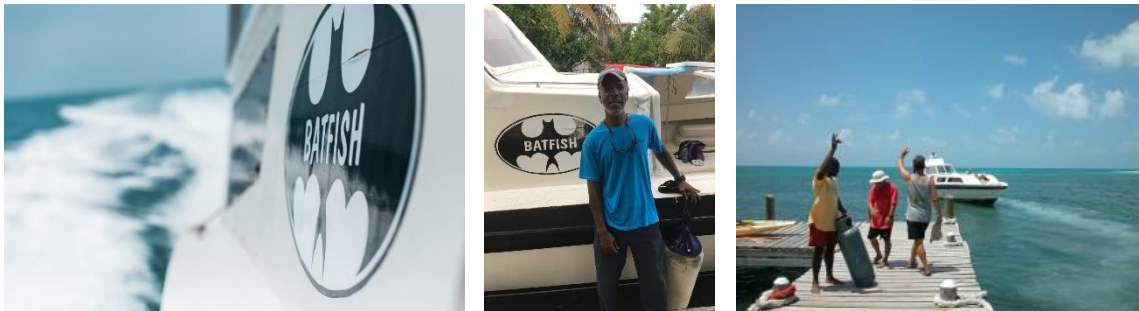
Once you arrive, we'll arrange for ground transportation to get you to our base hotel located Dangriga, about 1.5-hours. Upon arrival, we'll get checked in and refreshed, and have our **Welcome, Safety & Orientation** meeting. Please budget for lunch while traveling today.

This evening we will have dinner in our hotel, followed by a review of our program to get up to speed. If we have free time, we can enjoy the refreshing hotel pool or walk the beach, but we'll want to get a good night's sleep because we are off bright and early tomorrow morning! Please note that the hotel does not provide lifeguards at the pool so if this is a requirement for your school, please ensure one of your staff is certified for pool safety.

## Day 2

*Breakfast, lunch & dinner included*

Rise and shine! After breakfast at our hotel, we'll transfer to the boat with our luggage, ready to board the Batfish!



**The Batfish**, Slickrock's 41' power boat, runs the 130-mile round trip to and from the island to serve guests on scheduled days. Powered by three 200 hp engines, and fully covered for protection when crossing the open sea section of the run, the Batfish makes the shuttle comfortable in all weather conditions. You arrive in Belize City and are on the island less than 24 hours later! The Slickrock captains are among the best in Belize. A bathroom is available on board.

## WHERE IS THE ISLAND?

**Long Caye, Glover's Reef Atoll** – Belize has the second largest barrier reef on the planet, running parallel to the Belize coast for 190 miles. The region is part of a much larger system called the Mesoamerican Barrier Reef System running from Mexico to Honduras.

One of the three atolls offshore of Belize, Glover's Reef was named after the English pirate John Glover who used this remote offshore ring of islands and coral reefs as a base from which to raid Spanish merchant ships. The shallow waters offshore of Belize with innumerable coral reefs, mangroves and small islands were ideal for pirates and buccaneers to hide their raiding ships after plundering Spanish galleons laden with riches, destined for the Old World.



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Today, the attractions found within the atoll (20 miles long by 7 miles wide) are the clarity of the water and the remarkable abundance of marine life. Glover's Reef contains some of the richest diversity of marine life in the Caribbean, and the reefs are considered by WWF (World Wildlife Fund) to be of highest priority as important habitats for Nassau Grouper, Queen Conch and Spiny Lobster. In 1993, the atoll was declared a marine park and designated as a World Heritage Site in 1996. The reefs of Belize have long been known as the richest in the Caribbean and Glover's Reef is by far the best in Belize.

Long Caye is located 35 miles offshore Belize City, approximately 2-hours by boat from Dangriga. All groups are transported to and from the island on The Batfish in most instances.

Upon arrival on the island, guests will be assigned cabins, have a chance to unload, set up your new home and have lunch.

## THE ISLAND ACCOMMODATION

As an eco-resort, Slickrock maintains a delicate balance between comfort and responsible stewardship, limiting our impact on the island's ecosystem. As a result, the resort is purposely rustic with thatched-roofed cabanas, solar and wind-power for electricity, freshwater harvesting tanks and composting toilets. Slickrock is an off-the-grid, true eco-resort powered by renewable energy.



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Cabins generally sleep 2 - 4 campers, based on gender, and are dependent upon the cabin size. All cabins are on the water, perched right above the surf, and each has a porch with a hammock and lounge chairs. The cabins are located on the windy side of the island; on the lee side lies one of the best beaches in Belize. Air-conditioning is not necessary since the ever-present breeze keeps the temperatures well below what they are on the mainland. Cabins come complete with mattresses, linens, blankets, and pillows, and are lit with solar-powered lights. Campers are responsible to make their beds with linens provided on arrival, cleaning up upon completion of their week. Restrooms and showers are centrally located.

The island is **totally private** (only accessible by boat). Farther down the island there is one other company which has 4 cabins and is specifically for scuba divers. Other than that, the island is yours! **The minimum number of students is 20, the maximum number is 30, traveling with teachers.** If you have other configurations that fall outside of these guidelines, please contact us for assistance. We are happy to set up two smaller schools to participate together to meet minimum numbers. If you have a larger group, contact us and we can creatively help you to reach your goal.

## FOOD & BEVERAGE – BELIZE ISLAND CUISINE

Our Belize island menu is designed to take advantage of the fresh seafood of Belize and fresh fruits and vegetables available in the local markets. All of our meals are served buffet-style in the dining hall. A typical dinner includes an appetizer, one entrée (fish, chicken or pork), two side dishes including fresh vegetables and carbohydrates, and dessert. Fresh homemade breads and salads are often served as part of the meal. Vegetarians, vegans, and persons who follow a gluten-free diet will find that our menu easily accommodates these preferences. There's always plenty to choose from during any meal and we guarantee you will not go hungry!



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Please know that guests may not have access to the kitchen facilities to cook their own food. The kitchen is used by staff only for health and safety reasons.

- Everything is made from scratch!
- All coconut dishes use coconut picked on the island that day
- Pure water, fresh-squeezed orange juice, soda, coffee, and tea are available at all times
- Yogurt and homemade granola are served with every breakfast

It is important that students with dietary issues are able to self-govern what they can and cannot consume. ***If you have a student that is allergic to any type of food, please ensure they can identify it and make proper choices concerning consumption.*** We will review all dietary needs with the chefs, but your student should also be able to identify possible causes of personal injury/illness.

**Swim Test** - After having lunch and getting set-up, we'll start with a swim test in the lagoon. To participate in water sports, we urge all group members to be good swimmers. The Swim Test demonstrates the student's comfort level in the water. If a student appears uncomfortable at all, instructors pay special attention to that student while in the water. All staff members are experienced in instructing students in the water and hold Lifeguard certifications. Additionally, to earn a diving certification, a minimum swim time is required.



This evening, we'll have dinner, an activity and fall asleep to the sounds of the gentle waves hitting the island.

### Days 3 - 8

*Breakfast, lunch & dinner included*

Good morning Belize! This week is all about learning and play. Delve into the underwater world and also learn about other incredible watersports! Diving, kayaking, snorkeling, windsurfing, surfing and kayak-surfing are all part of your week! There's so much to do, we guarantee you'll walk away with a love for Belize island life, experiencing plenty of nature and participating in plenty of sport along the way. Please know, we will have an **orientation for every sporting activity**. If you do not participate in the orientation for the specific activity, you will not be able to participate in the activity while on the island.

First up, we'll engage in a **Snorkel Orientation**. The Snorkel Orientation reviews all equipment, and teaches us how to successfully participate in the sport. After going through the snorkeling orientation, we will test our skill levels using our equipment just offshore. This allows for participants to get their bearings and test their equipment. All swimming and snorkeling are done under constant watch of guides.



**IMPORTANT – Each guest MUST bring their own snorkel equipment.** If you do not have equipment, you will not be able to participate in the activities. Your snorkel equipment should include a mask, snorkel and fins. These can be purchased from any sporting goods store, dive shop or online; you can buy them individually, or as part of a set. For beginners, we suggest you purchase a set from an outfitter like Dick's Sporting Goods, Academy Sports, Bass Pro or Cabela's. If you are an advanced water sports enthusiast, you may want to purchase upgraded equipment from a local dive shop. If you have forgotten to bring this equipment, please alert your Guide immediately upon arrival into Belize. In this instance, we



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will try to set up transportation (taxi) for a student/teacher to travel to buy needed equipment prior to going to the island. Additionally, some guests also like to bring a light wetsuit or rash guard to keep warm in the water and protect from coral brushes. This is not mandated and is dependent upon the student's preferences. Finally, dependent on the type of fins you purchase, you may also want to purchase booties if the fins you purchase are not 'full-foot' fins with an enclosed heel.

**Snorkeling in Belize** - Most famous for its extensive Barrier Reef ecosystem and pristine coral, Belize is the perfect place for snorkeling. The clear warm waters of the Caribbean are saltier than in temperate regions and creates extra buoyancy for swimmers which allows anyone to feel comfortable while exploring the reefs. We are proud to say that our island at Glover's Reef is **the premier snorkeling destination in the country**. We access nearby snorkeling spots right off the beach as well as by kayak. It is stunning!



Next up – we start on our week of incredible diving on the Belize Reefs!

## DIVING IN BELIZE

Discover the stunning coral-covered face of the continental shelf at Glover's Reef Atoll, one of the top diving areas in the world. With 56 miles of wall diving and regularly over 100 feet of visibility, this remote atoll boasts some of the best diving experiences in Belize. Dive boat rides are just 10 minutes from the dock! Experience some of the best diving sites, rivaling any location in the Caribbean, the Red Sea, or the South Pacific, right on the reef at Glover's Reef Atoll. Sample dive sites include:

**Long Caye Wall** - A 5-minute boat ride takes you to a world-famous dive site with a vertical wall boasting magnificent coral formations, vibrant fish, and fascinating marine life.

**Bev's Garden** - This site provides views of Lettuce Leaf and Staghorn corals and drifts over coral canyons with Schoolmaster Snappers, Hawksbill Turtles, and Spotted Eagle Rays.

**The Crack** - This advanced site and vertical cave offer abundant sea life, perfect for underwater photographers, including Loggerhead Turtles and Sharks.

**Middle Caye Wall** - A descent to the wall's top features bluehead wrasse, horse-eyed jacks, and Mordecai, a five-foot Green Moray Eel, alongside Nurse Sharks and Loggerhead Turtles.

**The Abyss** - This captivating wall features Black Tip sharks, camouflaged Southern Stingrays, Caribbean Spiny Lobsters in coral ledges, and fluttering Juvenile Spotted Drums. A coral-rich reef, accessible by kayak, swim, or paddleboard.

**The Wild Side** - Perfect for beginners, this site showcases a sandy bottom, coral formations, Barrel Sponges, and a deep drop-off with diverse marine life.



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**Sand Dollar Flatts** - This popular night dive site offers sightings of Caribbean Reef Squid, Common Octopus, Basket Stars, Caribbean Spiny Lobsters, Parrotfish, Squirrelfish, and Spotted Toadfish.

**The Aquarium** - Often requested for a repeat dive, this deep site offers abundant schooling fishing, including Trumpetfish, Queen Angelfish, Spotted Filefish, and more.

**Durgeon Reef** - Home to a Hawksbill Turtle, this shallow dive also features Spotted Eagle Rays, Nurse Sharks, and schools of Black Durgions and Blue Tangs.

**Gorgonian Reef** - A reef home to soft corals and Black Tip sharks, spur and groove coral canyons with swim-along ledges hiding critters and a dramatically sharp drop-off along the wall.

**The Whole Lotta Wrasse** - Along the Creole Wrasse highway, a swim below the wall's surface features Juvenile Spotted Drums, Queen Triggerfish, Chain Moray Eels, and Red-Banded Shrimp.

Below are a few of the additional activities and learning options that our groups may participate in:

**Animal Identification & Habitats** - Have you ever thought about what kind of animals inhabit an island? In this session, we will review animals native to our island, as well as animals native to Belize. Learn about their habitats, threats, and reproduction. Find those that are cute and cuddly and those that we prefer to reside away from our homes! From hermit crabs to jaguars, learn all about the native species of Belize.



**Sea Kayaking & Open Water Paddle** – The shallow waters inside the Belize Barrier Reef are usually quiet and contain no strong tidal currents, and the swells of the open sea are stopped by the long reef offshore. All Belizean waters are clear and warm (80 degrees), just like the rest of the surrounding Caribbean Sea. A calm kayak overlooking the crystal-clear water is an amazing rest for your soul!



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**Coral Reef Ecology** - Coral reefs are some of the most diverse ecosystems in the world. Coral polyps, the animals primarily responsible for building reefs, can take many forms: large reef building colonies, graceful flowing fans, and even small, solitary organisms. Thousands of species of corals have been discovered; some live in warm, shallow, tropical seas and others in the cold, dark depths of the ocean. This session is devoted to learning about the corals and sponges we experience off our island.

**Caribbean Reef Fish Identification** - Caribbean Reef Fish Identification is a fun and interactive game that highlights many of the numerous fish we will see while diving and snorkeling. After a brief presentation from our guides, we will use our new knowledge to identify fish species up close during our dive sessions.

Fish	Creatures	Coral	Sponges
French Angel Fish	Spotted Eagle Ray	Elkhorn	Giant Barrel
Queen Angel Fish	Southern Stingray	Staghorn	Yellow Tube
Blue Tang	Spotted Yellow Ray	Grooved Brain	Row Pore Rope
Stoplight Parrotfish	Bottlenose Porpoise	Symmetrical Brain	Red-Orange Branching
Queen Parrotfish	Atlantic-Spotted Porpoise	Knobby Brain	Orange Encrusting
Lizard Fish	Loggerhead Turtle	Golf Ball	Loggerhead
Tiger Grouper	Hawksbill Turtle	Lettuce Leaf	Stove-Pipe
French Grunt	Flamingo Tongue Snails	Blade Fire	Iridescent Purple Vase
Queen Triggerfish	Caribbean Octopus	Purple Sea Fan	Fire
Trumpetfish	Common Octopus	Corky Sea Finger	Branching Tube
Barracuda	Caribbean Reef Squid	Red Sea Whip	Antler
Midnight Parrotfish	Spiny Lobster	Black	Brown Bowl
Creole Wrasse	Spanish Lobster	Star	Green Finger
Whitespotted Filefish	Green Moray Eel	Pillar	Red Boring
Whiteline Toadfish	Chain Moray Eel	Encrusting Fire	Brown Mound

**Kayak Surfing** – A primary wave-sport activity is surf kayaking with the fleet of high-tech sit-on-top surf kayaks with planing hulls, fins, ankle leashes, seat backs, and leg straps. The ocean kayak surfing here is great for beginner through advanced learners. Even those with no experience are soon riding the waves after a short orientation. Surf kayaks allow anyone to easily catch a wave since you are using a paddle rather than your arms to propel your craft, and it is easy to adjust your position to start a ride in exactly the right spot. With a few fast strokes you are on the wave, and the thrill of accelerating down its face is like no other.



**Conservation Town Meeting** - What would happen to Long Caye if the foundation that works to preserve it was threatened? Our group will find out when half of our students become developers lobbying for change, while



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the other half act as conservationists hoping to preserve the island. A group of youth acting as the Board of Directors gets to make the ultimate decision after both sides present their ideas and strategies for Long Caye's future.



**Windsurfing** – The island of Long Caye sits astride the ring reef of Glover's Reef, allowing easy access to both the waves and swells of the open sea and a launch from the beach into the sheltered waters just off the shore. The average wind speed is 10-20 mph nearly every day, so although some days will be spent on light-wind gear skimming across the flats of the lagoon, others will find you on a 4.5 sail, blasting on the swells or trying your luck in the surf. The warm air and water temps make for the perfect adventure! We'll have our normal **full orientation** on Windsurfing and then try our hand playing in the lagoon!

**Belize History & Culture** - Allow our team to personally introduce you to the Belize we know and love. From its location and history, to culture, food, families and games, we will explore the traditions, the people, and the background of beautiful Belize.

**Island Olympics** – Break into teams and enjoy the fun! Games will include things like Tug-a-War, Egg Toss, 3-Legged Races, Discus Throwing (Frisbee), Swim Race, Standing Long Jump and a Surprise Cabin Inspection. If you have any specific games you wish to include, let us know!

**Surfing** - Belize surfing is indeed a reality! Long Caye enjoys the only surf break in the country that is both accessible and safe (not breaking over live coral). Because the Belize Barrier Reef blocks ocean swells, only shoals outside the reef or bordering a break in the reef will form a wave. It turns out there are only three spots like that in the entire country, and ours is the only one of the three with a surf center right here. Hang 10, dude!



**Tidepool Investigation** - Let's search the sea for treasure! Explore the shallows to find geology and sea life. The "intertidal zone" is divided into four sub-sections. Sea cucumbers and sponges live in the low tide zone but can only be seen during extreme low tides. The mid-tide zone offers the most exciting finds including hermit crabs, sea stars and anemones. Look for hard shelled creatures like barnacles in the high-tide zone. And at the high-water mark, or splash zone, one might find dead seaweed, driftwood and marine debris washed ashore.

**Marine Research Station Visit** - Claim your kayak and paddle to the [Glover's Reef Marine Research Station](#) located on Middle Caye, our atoll neighbor. The Glover's Reef Research Station is owned by the Wildlife Conservation Society and provides a platform for scientists to conduct cutting-edge research at one of the Caribbean's most complex and important coral reef systems. The goal of the station is to promote the long-term conservation and management of the Belize Barrier Reef through in situ research, cooperative management, training and education. Additionally, the station provides a home for the Belize Fisheries Department's GRMR headquarters. While there, we'll learn about ongoing projects, concerns, and if time permits, participate in a research objective.

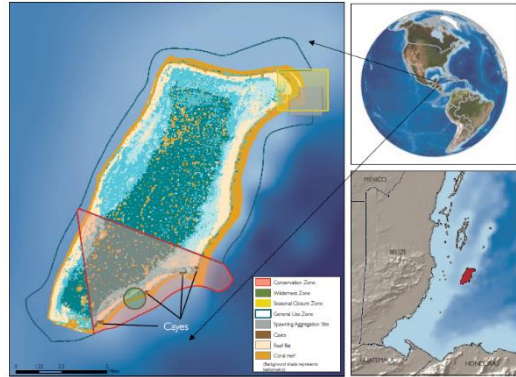
**WATCH THIS VIDEO!**



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**Mayan Culture** - The Maya Empire reached the peak of its power and influence around the sixth century A.D. The Maya excelled at agriculture, pottery, hieroglyph writing, calendar-making and mathematics, and left behind an astonishing amount of impressive architecture and symbolic artwork. Most of the great stone cities of the Maya were abandoned by A.D. 900, and since then, scholars have actively debated what might have caused this dramatic decline. Many of our Belize guides are from Mayan descent. We'll learn about their culture, how they count, how they raise their families and their traditions in an informative class.



**Marine Debris Clean-Up** - One of the most important issues in the coming years for our oceans, Marine Debris examines the overwhelming presence of unnatural items or trash in our oceans. It was recently stated there is now more trash in our oceans than fish. This issue is something Long Caye sees first-hand as different items wash up on our shore. Students are taught about the different types of marine debris, common causes and most importantly, what they can do to help. Afterwards, students are asked to perform an island stewardship by collecting trash.

**Earth-Dive Snorkel Project** - Citizen Science is a growing form of data collection by members of the general public in collaboration with professional scientists. Students become a part of this Citizen Science when they participate in the EarthDive Research Project, which helps create a database of indicator species in the Caribbean. Students snorkel in teams with a dive slate and record certain species of marine creatures they observe and in what quantity. When you arrive back home, your students can then enter in the information collected to reflect your school's participation. [Caribbean Snorkel Briefing Pack](#)



Other activities we may participate in include:

- Glover's Reef Snorkeling**
- Beach Yoga & Stretching**
- Caribbean Drumming & Dance**
- Beach Volleyball**
- Island Poetry Slam**
- Talent Show**
- Crab Race**
- Marine Life Master Class**
- Lobster Rocks Snorkel**



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## Day 9

*Breakfast included*

In the very early morning, we will board the Batfish for our trek back to the mainland. Upon arriving back in Dangriga, we'll disembark and gather our belongings, have breakfast and then board our transportation to the airport for our return flight home.



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# BELIZE: PACKING GUIDE

## PERSONAL GEAR

Snorkeling Gear - fins, mask & snorkel  
Sunscreen, ideally 30+, "reef safe"  
Mosquito repellent  
Wide-brimmed hat / baseball-type cap  
Towel (necessary for camp showers)  
Toiletries - shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, lotion, etc. (liquid soap is provided)  
Camera / Small binoculars  
Headlamp / Flashlight / extra batteries  
Sunglasses with strap / reading glasses  
Battery-operated travel clock  
Personal first aid kit - allergy tablets, pain reliever, swimmer's ear, tummy tablets,  
Lip balm, anti-itch for bug bites, sea sickness tablets, etc.  
Water bottle  
Beach bag / dry bag  
Books / Journals  
Cash for Gratuities (suggested gratuities are \$150 pp), snacks & beverages  
Passport & Notarized Entry Letter from Parents

## CLOTHING & FOOTWEAR

2 Bathing suits  
2-3 Pairs shorts  
3-4 Shirts (consider quick dry material)  
Lightweight long-sleeved shirt  
1 Sweatshirt  
Lightweight long pants / joggers  
Fast drying underclothes  
Lightweight "dive skin" / rash guard / wetsuit  
Lightweight rain jacket  
Neoprene reef shoes or sturdy river shoes  
Athletic shoes / Hiking boots / socks  
Sandals / Flipflops

**MOST IMPORTANT: A GREAT ATTITUDE!**



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# BELIZE CARIBBEAN DIVING

**Booking Numbers:**

Minimum 20 students, maximum 32 students  
Contact us for different number variations

**What's Included:**

Round-trip international flights to Belize  
Airport transfers in Belize  
8-nights' total accommodation including 7-nights on Long Caye Island and 1-night on the mainland  
Boat transportation to/from the island  
Breakfasts, lunches & dinners daily starting with dinner on arrival and ending with breakfast on your day of departure  
Diving package per pupil based on certification level  
Activities as shown in the above itinerary

**Activities & Sports:**

Snorkeling	Island Hike
Beach Yoga / Stretching	Kayaking
Kayak Surfing	Surfing
Crab Race	Windsurfing
Paddleboarding	Beach Volleyball
Island Olympics	

**What's Not Included:**

Fully comprehensive insurance (mandatory)  
Luggage fees if not included with airline ticketing  
\$75 refresher course, if required  
Use of snorkel equipment / everyone must bring their own  
Wetsuits or rash guards  
Transfers to/from home airport  
Cost of visas, full or collective passports  
Cost of inoculations or medication required for travel  
Sightseeing / Entertainment Options not shown in Itinerary  
Hotel incidental deposits & bills, mini-bar items, purchases  
Any gratuities – shuttle drivers, local guides, tour ambassador

As always, our staff are always available to you to answer any questions you may have regarding programming. If we may serve you in any way, please do not hesitate to contact us.

