



# BELIZE

CORAL REEF IN BELIZE

## Caves, Corals, and Mayan Wonders

with Michigan Alumni Travel

NOVEMBER 2 - 8, 2022



*From lush rainforests and coral reefs teeming with life to ancient ruins and ceremonial structures,*

Belize is a trove of natural and cultural treasures to discover.

Visit mountains, reserves, caves, and Maya sites inland. Then, head to the coast to explore the mangroves, cayes, and underwater world of the Belize Barrier Reef, the second largest reef system in the world. During your journey, encounter wildlife, learn about efforts to preserve this small but remarkable country, and meet with local residents, including conservationists and musicians.

### PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Observe tapirs, jaguars, and Harpy Eagles at the world-renowned Belize Zoo.
- Delve into the Maya underworld at Actun Tunichil Muknal cave, a Maya ceremonial burial ground and site of the "Crystal Maiden" skeletal remains.
- Swim and snorkel in the South Water Caye Marine Reserve, one of the most biodiverse marine areas in all of Belize.
- Kayak the Sittie River and watch for iguanas, crocodiles, toucans, and other wildlife.
- Climb to the top of El Castillo pyramid, the second tallest man-made structure in Belize, at Xunantunich, the country's most accessible Maya site of significance.



XUNANTUNICH



BAIRD'S TAPIR AT THE BELIZE ZOO  
BJORN CHRISTIAN TORRISSEN



## ITINERARY

B,L,D = BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER

### NOVEMBER 2 - ARRIVAL/BELIZE CITY

Upon arrival at the airport in Belize City, you will be met and transferred to the ocean-front Radisson Fort George Hotel. Please note check-in time is 3 pm. Early evening program orientation with your Belizean group leader, followed by a welcome dinner at the hotel. *Overnight at Radisson Fort George Hotel. (D)*

### NOVEMBER 3 - BELMOPAN

This morning after breakfast, visit the Belize Zoo. Situated upon 29 acres of tropical savanna, the zoo exhibits over 150 animals representing more than 45 species, all native to Belize. The zoo is home to orphaned, rescued, and rehabilitated animals as well as those born at the zoo or sent as donations from other zoological institutions. Upon arrival, receive an introduction to the animals of Belize and visit the exhibits. Highlights include the jaguar rehabilitation program, the harpy eagle exhibit, and the Baird's tapir enclosure. Have lunch at Cheers restaurant and then continue to Sleeping Giant Rainforest Lodge, located along the Sibun River with views of the mountains and rainforest. This evening after dinner, take a walk around the lodge to look for nocturnal wildlife. *Overnight at Sleeping Giant Rainforest Lodge. (BLD)*

### NOVEMBER 4 - BELMOPAN

After breakfast, explore the Maya underworld during a visit to Actun Tunichil Muknal cave. This excursion combines land and river hiking and caving, beginning with a 45-minute hike up the Roaring River Valley and through the rainforest of the Tapir Mountain Nature Reserve to the entrance of the cave. Explore this geologically fascinating cave and also the main attraction, the "Cathedral" chamber, which was a Maya ceremonial and burial ground. Later this afternoon, return to the hotel for dinner and overnight. *Overnight at Sleeping Giant Rainforest Lodge. (BLD)*

### NOVEMBER 5 - HOPKINS

Following breakfast, cross the Mopan River via a hand-winch ferry at the Maya village of San Jose Succotz for a visit to Xunantunich, Belize's most accessible Maya site of significance. The site's dominant structure, El Castillo, rises 130 feet above the jungle floor, offering superb views of western Belize with forest stretching out all around and the rest of the ancient city mapped out beneath you. Have lunch at a local restaurant and then check in at the beachfront Jaguar Reef Lodge. The remainder of the day is at leisure to enjoy the beach and view the sunset before dinner at the lodge. *Overnight at Jaguar Reef Lodge. (BLD)*

### NOVEMBER 6 - HOPKINS

Enjoy breakfast, then board our boat for a 30-minute ride to the South Water Caye Marine Reserve for snorkeling on the pristine coral reef. Explore the mangroves both above and below the surface. Also cruise along Man O' War Caye reserve to see nesting frigatebirds and the brown booby. Enjoy a picnic on one of the remote islands. In the afternoon, travel to the nearby Lebeha Drumming Center in Hopkins Village for an introduction to the culture of the Afro-indigenous Garifuna peoples. A local expert will introduce us to the importance of drums and music, and skilled drummers will treat us to a performance. We will have the opportunity to learn some drumming skills and dance moves ourselves. Dinner on own to sample the local cuisine. *Overnight at Jaguar Reef Lodge. (BL)*

### NOVEMBER 7 - HOPKINS

After breakfast, gather for an excursion to the Sittee River for relaxed kayaking and nature viewing. We hope to see colorful birds, iguana, turtles, and an occasional crocodile. Lunch is on own. Afternoon at leisure. This evening, enjoy a farewell dinner at the lodge. *Overnight at Jaguar Reef Lodge. (BD)*

### NOVEMBER 8 - FAREWELL!

This morning, group transfer to local airport for flight to Belize International Airport and then international flights back to the U.S. Please note check-out is 11 am. Please book international flight after 2 pm. (B)



## LAND PRICING

**\$3,120** per person

Based on 10 participants. Single supplement is \$320.

#### Price includes:

- 6 nights' accommodation
- 15 meals (6 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 5 dinners)
- Non-alcoholic beverages with meals
- Sightseeing and activities as described, including entrance fees
- Snorkel gear
- Private vehicle transportation
- Full-time guide for duration of the program
- All tips and gratuities
- Luggage handling, one bag per person
- Departure tax
- Carbon offset

Price does not include: international airfare, trip cancellation insurance, gratuities for hotel housekeeping staff, drinks purchased on own, items of a personal nature.

Final payment due no later than: **July 30, 2022**

## ACTIVITY LEVEL

**EASY-MODERATE:** Participants should be able to walk at least 2-3 hours over some uneven and potential slippery surfaces without difficulty and should be able to ascend or descend 50 stairs consecutively. Physical activities typically last for at least 2-3 hours at a time.

For questions, please contact the Alumni Association at [alumnitravel@umich.edu](mailto:alumnitravel@umich.edu) or 855-764-0064 or contact Holbrook Travel at [travel@holbrooktravel.com](mailto:travel@holbrooktravel.com) or 800-451-7111.



## MICHIGAN ALUMNI TRAVEL | RESERVATION FORM

Treasures of Belize | Caves, Corals, and Mayan Wonders | November 2 - 8, 2022

### RESERVE RISK-FREE!

Your deposit is fully refundable up to 95 days before departure when you book by 12/31/21.

Enclosed is my/our deposit for \$\_\_\_\_\_ (\$500 per person) for \_\_\_\_\_ person/people on the tour noted above. Payment may be made by American Express, Discover, MasterCard, or VISA or by personal check. Please make check payable to Holbrook Travel, Inc. and mail deposit check to: Holbrook Travel, 3540 NW 13th Street, Gainesville FL, 32609. For questions, please contact the Alumni Association at [alumnitravel@umich.edu](mailto:alumnitravel@umich.edu) or 855-764-0064 or contact Holbrook Travel at [travel@holbrooktravel.com](mailto:travel@holbrooktravel.com) or 800-451-7111.

Full Passport Name \_\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_\_ Gender \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Full Passport Name \_\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_\_ Gender \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Badge Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ Home Ph. (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Ph. (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Please book my/our air from \_\_\_\_\_ I/we request an air upgrade to \_\_\_\_\_.

I will share a room with \_\_\_\_\_  I request a single room at extra cost (limited availability).

Note: The undersigned has read the schedule of activities for the above-referenced tour, and agrees that their signature(s) below represent(s) their acceptance of the General Terms and Conditions.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Method of Payment  Check  American Express  Discover  MasterCard  VISA

Account # \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Cardholder \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Final invoicing will be sent by our tour operator, Holbrook Travel, Inc. The balance of the program price must be paid to Holbrook Travel. Final payment is due 95 days prior to departure (check or credit card).

## GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

*Please read this information carefully, as payment of a deposit represents your acceptance of the following Terms and Conditions.*

**Not Included in Your Tour Price** International airfare from your departure city; costs of passports; personal expenses such as beverages, laundry, room service, and meals not specified; communications charges; and trip cancellation insurance. Additional baggage fees levied directly by the airline(s) may apply and are subject to change at any time. You should confirm directly with your airline(s) prior to departure.

**International Air Transportation** Estimated airfare: **\$689 from Detroit to Belize City**. Holbrook Travel offers group airfare and ticketing. Group transfers between the airport and hotel are included in your program cost. A note about online airfare: Occasionally, you may be able to find airfares online that are listed at a lower cost. In general, individual fares lack the flexibility of group airfare and often require immediate purchase. You will receive your preliminary air schedule approximately 2½ months prior to departure. Please note that seat assignments on your international flight are usually done at airport check-in. Holbrook Travel is unable to guarantee any seat assignments. Due to the nature of tour operator tickets, other restrictions apply, including but not limited to, frequent flyer mileage accrual, stopovers, alternate travel dates, upgrades, and airline taxes and departure fees. If you prefer to make your own travel arrangements, booking the tour "Land Only" is available. We recommend that if you choose to make your own airline reservations, you do not purchase non-refundable tickets or those with high penalties for changes. If you choose to make your own air arrangements, Michigan Alumni Travel and Holbrook Travel, Inc. shall not have any liability for any loss resulting from cancellation of this tour or changes in this tour.

**Cancellations, Changes and Refunds** If you must cancel your tour, the effective date of cancellation will be upon our receipt of your notification. All cancellations need to be submitted in writing to Michigan Alumni Travel. Refunds for cancellations are subject to the following per person charges: **Cancel 95 days or more before departure: \$100 charge; Cancel 94-0 days before departure: no refund.** Please note that we will not refund the cost of any unused portion of your tour package. We will not charge a fee for any changes made to your reservation outside of 95 days before departure. From 94 to 30 days before departure, if you make any changes to your reservation, a \$100 per person administrative fee will apply, in addition to any fees or penalties imposed by airlines, hotels, or other third parties. Changes are subject to availability and cannot be guaranteed. If your reservation changes from double occupancy to single occupancy for any reason, you will be charged the single supplement. No changes to your reservation can be made within 30 days of departure. If due to unforeseen circumstances Holbrook Travel cancels your tour, you will receive a complete refund of all payments you have made to us.

**Health and Medical Issues** We welcome all travelers, but request that you be in good health to participate on a Holbrook Travel tour. All of our tours involve a reasonable amount of walking (typically two to three miles per day). You must be able to get on and off motorcoaches on your own. We regret that we cannot provide individual assistance; in such cases you must be accompanied by a companion who will assist you. Please note that our itineraries cannot accommodate wheelchairs. We reserve the right to remove anyone whose physical condition or behavior, in our opinion, compromises the operation of the tour or detracts from the enjoyment or safety of the other tour members. In that event, Michigan Alumni Travel and Holbrook Travel assume no financial responsibility for any unused portion of the tour. For the convenience of the majority of our travelers, Holbrook Travel has a no smoking policy on all tour buses. We will arrange sufficient rest stops so those who wish to smoke may do so.

**Required Information** Upon reservation, you must provide your full name as it appears on your passport, date of birth, and gender (for details, please visit tsa.gov). In the event an airline ticket is issued with incorrect information you have provided, or if you use a different passport than originally cited, you will be responsible for charges associated with the ticket's reissue. **A passport valid for at least six months after the completion of your tour is required for U.S. citizens on this tour.**

**Responsibility** The liability of Alumni Association of the University of Michigan (AAUM) as sponsor, and Holbrook Travel Inc., as tour operator, is strictly limited. AAUM and Holbrook Travel, Inc. purchase transportation, hotel accommodations, restaurant and other services from independent suppliers not under our control. We serve only as agents for these suppliers in securing tour arrangements, and therefore will not accept responsibility for wrongful, negligent, or arbitrary acts or omissions of these independent contractors, their employees, agents, servants or representatives. AAUM and Holbrook Travel, Inc. are not liable for injury, damage, loss, accident, or delay that may be caused by events not within our control, including without limitation, acts of terrorism, war, strikes, the defect of any vehicle, or the negligence or default of any third party. All coupons, receipts, and tickets issued are subject to the terms and conditions specified by the air carriers, cruise line, and other independent suppliers. We will make every effort to operate our tours as planned, but we reserve the right to make itinerary changes as necessary. If unforeseen circumstances require us to change a hotel, we will select alternative accommodations of the same or better quality and may change due to factors such as government regulations, water levels, or weather conditions. The services of any IATA and ATC carrier may be used in connection with these tours. The participant understands that if he/she books special low cost airfares with penalties, and cancels the reservation, he/she is responsible for any penalties incurred from the airline.

## ASSOCIATION'S DISCLAIMER

The Association is not the Tour Operator. The Association is not responsible for changes of flight times, fare changes, dishonor of airline, hotel or car-rental reservations, delays, losses, injuries, inconveniences, cessation of operations, airline or tour operator bankruptcies, acts of God, or any other event beyond our control. The Association acts only as an independent contractor and not as a principal, agent or joint venture for the airline, hotel, car-rental company, cruise line and/or tour operator named in brochure. As a result, the Association is not responsible for their acts or omissions. The Association acts only as agent for the participants with respect to travel services, and it shall not be responsible for changes of flight times, fare changes, dishonor of airline, hotel or other reservations, injury, damage, loss of baggage, accidents or for the acts or defaults of any person or entity engaged in conveying participants or in carrying out other arrangements of the tour. Further, the Association shall not be responsible for losses or additional expenses of the participant due to sickness, weather, strike, civil unrest, acts of terrorism, quarantine, acts of God, or other causes beyond its control. The Association shall not be responsible for alteration in the itinerary as deemed necessary for carrying out the tour and the right is reserved to substitute hotels of similar quality. The right is further reserved to cancel and tour prior to departure, in which case the entire payment may be refunded without further obligation on its part. The right is also reserved to decline to accept or to retain any person as a member of the tour should such person's health, actions or general deportment impede the operation of the tour or the rights or welfare of the other participants. No refund will be made for the unused portion of any tour.

Applicants for participation on this tour accept in full all of the conditions set forth above.

*Holbrook Travel can assist with making your flight arrangements upon request. Trip cancellation insurance is strongly recommended (offered through the Alumni Association of University of Michigan).*