

# PIONEER EXPEDITIONS





# **ITINERARY**

10 DAYS • 9 NIGHTS

## **Belize • Epic Adventure**

Belize City – Dangriga - Bocawina National Park- Moho river-Toledo- Glover's Reef Atoll – Dangriga

## **HIGHLIGHTS**

- Enjoy jungle camping
- Paddle in this pristine environment
- Experience snorkeling, fishing and sea kayaking
- Visit traditional Mayan villages
- Hike and/rappel in the rainforest

### **EPIC BELIZE ADVENTURE**



## **TOUR ESSENTIALS**

Tour Style Multi-activity

Tour Start Belize City

Tour End Dangriga

Accommodation Hotel, Resort, Camp

Included Meals 9 Breakfasts, 9
Lunches, 9 Dinners

Difficulty Level Medium

The Epic Adventure takes you far from the usual tourist path with a varied itinerary that explores Belize's different cultures, tropical rainforests, wild rivers, remote villages and finishes with a journey 38 miles out to sea to a stunningly beautiful and pristine coral atoll. This trip is a perfect match for those looking for an active, adventurous vacation that encompasses the very best that Belize has to offer.



BEI 02

## BELIZE an overview

Belize may play a small role in Central America in terms of size but this heavenly country is packed with culture, spectacular scenery and adventure. An intriguing blend of Latin America and the Caribbean can be expected with a fascinating, unique merge of various cultures. Sparsely populated Maya Mountains, thick tropical forests, dazzling white sandy beaches and incredible sea life are all waiting to be explored. Boasting the second largest coral reef on Earth, the Belize Barrier Reef is known to be the country's pride and joy, for good reason. Heading into the pristine clear seas, encounter a medley of exotic coral, fish and turtles and investigate underwater caves and walls. The thriving underwater life circles the stretches of exquisite cayes running parallel with the mainland, situated in the pristine Caribbean Sea. The cayes are perfect for some paradise-based activities/adventure s, as well as some relaxation. Furthermore, Belize doesn't disappoint in terms of nature, displaying some outstanding forms of wildlife including toucans, spider monkeys, howler monkeys, peccaries, coatimundis, gibnuts and green iguanas; wild cats can also be found hidden in the depth of its Jungles , including jaguars and ocelots. Belize is a truly understated paradise, wildlife-haven and adventure capital.

## WHY PIONEER EXPEDITIONS?

Pioneer Expeditions are one of the few specialists that really *do* off the beaten track and unique adventures. The team have a real passion for wildlife and adventure travel which we love to share with our clients. We delight in searching the world for new destinations, new experiences and creating the most incredible adventures.

We like to introduce our clients to unique, the different, and the incredible. Whether it is through wildlife tracking, sea kayaking, snorkelling, trekking, rafting, cycling or observing wildlife in its natural environment, we want to give you the real Pioneer experience.

From the moment you choose to travel with Pioneer Expeditions until you return back home, you are supported by our dedicated team. We listen to what you want and can create an itinerary around your specific needs, working with your budget and with a commitment to responsible travel. Alternatively, our small group tours have a maximum of 12 people, making it a much more personal experience.

# ITINERARY





BEL02

#### DAY 1: ARRIVE IN BELIZE CITY & TRANSFER TO BOCAWINA RAINFOREST LODGE

Welcome to Belize. Upon arrival at Belize International Airport you will board a scenic 20-minute flight to the town of Dangriga where you will then travel overland to Bocawina Rainforest Lodge in Bocawina National Park in the foothills of the Maya Mountains. Tonight, we dine at the rainforest at the resort's acclaimed restaurant "The Wild Fig"

Overnight in Bocawina Rainforest Lodge



Overnight: **Lodge** 



Meals:



Distance:



Activity: **Travel** 

#### **DAYS 2: SANTA THERESA**

We wake up to the sounds of the tropical rainforest, enjoy an early breakfast and then continue to the Wild South of Belize. We travel overland through the countryside to the remote Maya village of Santa Theresa. We enjoy a traditional meal prepared at the home of a local family before continuing another 30 minutes to our put-in on the Moho River. Our guides teach you the fundamentals of handling the inflatable kayaks in moving water before stating our journey down one of Belize's most beautiful rainforest rivers to our first river camp.



Overnight in Jungle River Camp



Overnight: **Camp** 



*Meals:* **B, L, D** 



Distance: **Approx. 2 hour drive** 



Activity: **Travel and culture** 

#### **DAYS 3: EXPLORE THE MOHO RIVER**



Today we break contact completely with the outside world as we follow the Moho River through canyons and lush rainforest. Each bend reveals the dynamic nature of the river from the calm meandering water that reflects the intense green of the jungle, to stretches of the rapids, pour-overs and spectacular waterfalls. During the trip our Mayan guides assist us with improving our moving water paddle skills, and prove an understanding of the ecology of the rainforest, learning about the habits of the wildlife, and gaining an appreciation for the rick Mayan folklore which adds so much to our experience in the jungle.





Overnight: Camp



Meals: **B, L, D** 



Distance: **N/A** 



Activity: **Kayaking** 

#### **DAY 4: MOHO RIVER - THE LODGE AT BIG FALLS**



As we continue our river journey, we leave the Maya Mountains and enter the coastal plains where the river slows and meanders through the jungle. Our vehicle is waiting to take us overland to The Lodge at Big Falls, our home for the next 2 nights. We settle into beautiful jungle cabanas with time to enjoy a hot shower and take in the grounds before dinner.

Overnight in The Lodge at Big Falls



Overnight: **Lodge** 



Meals: **B, L, D** 



Distance:

Approx. 3+ drive



Activity: Kayaking and Travel

#### DAY 5: EXPLORING THE BANKS OF THE RIO GRANDE REGION

The Lodge at Big Falls is situated on the banks of the Rio Grande river in Belize's southern Toledo Distinct, a region of isolated villages. The lodge property is located on a 'meander' of the Columbia River with almost a mile of river

frontage. From our cabana there are striking views of the jungle covering the Maya Mountains. After a leisurely breakfast we head out for our exploration of the region. Highlights include the ancient Maya ruins of Lubaantun last active in the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> centuries, and then we immerse ourselves in an inspiring, cultural and culinary experience with a visit to a unique spice farm and a tasty 'bean to bar' Mayan chocolate makers experience. We return in time to relax and enjoy the pool on the lodge property.

Overnight in The Lodge at Big Falls



Overnight: **Lodge** 



Meals: **B, L, D** 



Distance: **N/A** 



Activity: **Culture** 

#### DAYS 6-9 GLOVER'S REEF MARINE RESERVE



Today we drive north to the coastal town of Dangriga. Here we board a charter boat to our private Basecamp on Southwest Caye, Glover's Reef Marine Reserve a designated UNESCO World Heritage Site. Upon arrival, we receive an introduction to your new tropical marine environment and then settle into our ocean view tent cabanas. Our guides will then conduct professional instruction to teach you the fundamentals of sea kayaking, snorkeling, and tropical water safety. After the workshop, enjoy a paddle to a nearby patch reef and start exploring some of the 700 snorkel sites Glover's Reef Atoll has to offer.



Over our 4 days here our itinerary is flexible in order to accommodate individual and group preferences. Activities include paddling sea kayaks, snorkeling the inner and outer walls of the reef, stand-up paddle boarding, traditional Belizean handline fishing and learning to sail a kayak. In the mornings and evenings our guides share their knowledge of Belize, its unique marine environments and cultures of the Caribbean with a focus on the Garifuna people of Belize. There are many different activities that you can choose from and always for those looking to add down time into their adventure there is no better place in Belize to kick back in a hammock and relax with a good book! Accommodation: Glover's Reef Basecamp





Overnight in Glover's Reef Basecamp



Overnight: **Lodge** 



Meals: **B. L. D** 



Distance: **Approx. 2 hour drive** 



Activity: **A range of activities** 

#### **DAY 10: END OF TRIP**

Wake early on our final morning, grab your coffee and watch the sunrise over the atoll. Our boat charter departs midmorning to take you back to the mainland, arriving at approximately noon. You will then board an domestic flight back to Belize International Airport where your trip finishes.



Overnight: **N/A** 



Meals:



Distance:

Approx. 2 hour drive
to airport



Activity: **Travel** 



# <u>IMPORTANT INFORMATION</u>

#### **INCLUDED**

- Comprehensive Pre-Trip
- Information Package
- All meals, transfers, and accommodations as described in the Itinerary
- Unlimited use of our equipment, including activities and instruction
- Waterproof dry bags
- Professional guiding services
- Marine Park Fees
- 9% Belize Hotel Tax
- 12.5% Belize Sales Tax
- Transfer back to Belize City

#### **NOT INCLUDED**

- Gratuities
- International Flights
- Airport Departure Tax
- Extra costs due to late arrivals, lost baggage and circumstances beyond our control
- Optional costs for scuba diving

# **ACCOMMODATION** at a glance

Night 1 Nights 2 and 3 Nights 4 and 5 Nights 6, 7, 8, 9



Location

Bocawina San Ignacio Big Falls Glover's reef



Accommodation

Lodge Camp Lodge Camp



**Example** 

Bocawina Rainforest Lodge Jungle River Camp The Lodge at Big Falls Glover's Reef Basecamp





# **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

ACTIVITY DURATION 3-5 hours of activities per day. You will need an average level of fitness.

SEASON Jan-Apr

BEST TIME TO GO Jan-Apr

GROUP SIZE 6-12

SINGLE TRAVEL POLICY

Many of our guests travel on their own. This style of trip is ideal for single travelers, combining the benefits of group camaraderie and group security with lots of individual flexibility for what you want to do each day. Single supplement options vary by trip style. Standard trip pricing is based on double occupancy. Solo guests can request either to share twin accommodations with another traveler, or request single accommodations for an additional fee. If you are willing to share and we are able to match you up - no problem and no extra cost.

If we cannot match you up then we have a £75 supplement fee. This fee will be applied at the time of booking, but will be reimbursed just before your departure if we are able to match you up.

Should you prefer private accommodations, we can provide you with your own room and the following charges apply: Paradise Islands - £250

**Note**: The number of single rooms available on most departures is limited and may not be available at each location. If we are not able to provide you with your own room throughout the trip, we will pro-rate the supplement fee.

**DIFFICULTY LEVEL** 

Our grades have been designated based on our perception of the degree of physical activity you are likely to require to enjoy the adventure. These are only a guideline. This itinerary has a medium level (2-5 hours per day). This means that you will need to be of average level of fitness.



## THE PIONEER BOOKING PROCESS

Where do you go from here? Well, you can feel free to email us at <a href="mailto:info@pioneerexpeditions.com">info@pioneerexpeditions.com</a> if you're interested in this trip, or any of our other expeditions from around the world. Visit our website <a href="mailto:www.pioneerexpeditions.com">www.pioneerexpeditions.com</a> to unearth all of our other equally amazing trips and destinations.

#### 1. Contact us -

We will be happy to answer any questions or enquiries you may have. From here we will begin to plan and put together your dream adventure holiday! Alternatively, on our website you will find our booking and enquiry forms; once filled in, we will be notified of your enquiry and will get back to you ASAP.

#### 2. Leave everything to us -

Everything will be arranged and booked by us, but we will make sure to keep you updated every step of the way. In addition, we can arrange your international flights if needed, as we have access to competitive airfares. We can also arrange any additional tours or additional night's accommodation.

#### 3. Wait for your adventure to begin -

Sit back and count down the days until your trip of a lifetime with Pioneer Expeditions. We'll handle all of the last minute preparations and provide you with everything you need. All practical information will be sent out to you, prior to your trip.

If you feel like altering this itinerary to suit your personal preferences, we can arrange all of that and more – just get in contact with us and let us know you requirements and wishes. From here, we can simply tailor-make your dream holiday.

