

## **ECO-TRAVEL TO BELIZE**

# February 8-17, 2020

# Itinerary Draft (Rev. 4/12/19)

## Day 1: February 8

Arrive in paradise! Transfer to the Tropical Education Center (TEC) of the Belize Zoo (also called the Belize Zoo Jungle Lodge).

Before or after dinner: Presentation at the Zoo by Belize Zoo Founding Director Sharon Matola on Belize's wildlife and the Zoo's conservation and education programs, plus meet some of the Zoo's special wildlife ambassadors.

Overnight @ Tropical Education Center

## Day 2: February 9

Breakfast at the TEC.

Director's Tour of the Belize Zoo.

After tour, special buffet lunch at the Zoo.

Free time to shop at Wild Ting (the Belize Zoo Gift Shop) for locally made crafts, books, t-shirts, CDs, etc.

Return to TEC. Time on own to enjoy the pool or relax.

Dinner at the TEC.

After dinner: Presentation about Runaway Creek Nature Reserve and instructions for next day's trek

Overnight at the Tropical Education Center

## Day 3: February 10

Breakfast at the TEC.

Participants will then be divided into two groups.

Group 1 morning: Trip to Runaway Creek Nature Reserve with staff members from the former Birds Without Borders-Aves Sin Fronteras project: learn about the natural history, plants, animals, and caves with signs of the ancient Maya.

Group 2 morning: Time on own to enjoy the trails, birds, observation platform and pool at the TEC.

Lunch at TEC.

Group 2 afternoon: Trip to Runaway Creek Nature Reserve.

Group 1 afternoon: Time on own to enjoy the trails, birds, observation platform and

pool at the TEC.

Dinner at TEC, evening on own.

Overnight at the Tropical Education Center

#### Day 4: February 11

Optional early morning bird walk for interested persons.

Breakfast at the TEC.

Travel to Crystal Paradise Resort in Cayo District.

En route, cave tubing in the Jaguar Paw Cave system.

Dinner & Overnight @ Crystal Paradise Resort

#### Day 5: February 12

Breakfast at Crystal Paradise Resort

Visit Caracol Mayan ruin and Mountain Pine Ridge Forest Preserve.

Dinner & Overnight @ Crystal Paradise Resort

## Day 6: February 13

Breakfast at Crystal Paradise Resort

Tour Achtun Tunichil Muknal (ATM) cave or canoe in the Barton Creek Cave system.

Dinner & Overnight @ Crystal Paradise Resort

## Day 7: February 14

Breakfast at Crystal Paradise Resort

Travel to Dangriga

En route, stop at The Art Box in Belmopan or Orange Gallery to shop for local crafts and handmade wooden objects.

Enjoy the beautiful scenery along the Hummingbird Highway during the drive to Dangriga. Visit Marie Sharp's Factory, where the famous Marie Sharp's hot sauces and jams are made.

Lunch at Pelican Beach Resort

Board boats and travel to South Water Caye, an island paradise. En route, if weather permits, stop at Man O' War Caye to observe nesting Magnificent Frigatebirds and Brown Boobies.

Dinner & Overnight at South Water Caye

## Day 8: February 15

Breakfast, lunch and dinner at South Water Caye

Snorkeling from shore or half day trip to Belizean patch reef, kayaking, hammock relaxing. Extras (not included in trip fee): Rental of snorkel gear if you do not bring your own, line fishing, night snorkeling

Overnight at South Water Caye

## Day 9: February 16

Breakfast, lunch and dinner at South Water Caye

Snorkeling from shore or half day trip to Belizean patch reef, kayaking, hammock relaxing. Extras (not included in trip fee): Rental of snorkel gear if you do not bring your own, line fishing, night snorkeling

Overnight at South Water Caye

## Day 10: February 17

Breakfast at South Water Caye Boat ride to Dangriga, Lunch at Pelican Beach resort

Transport to Philip Goldson International Airport for flight home.