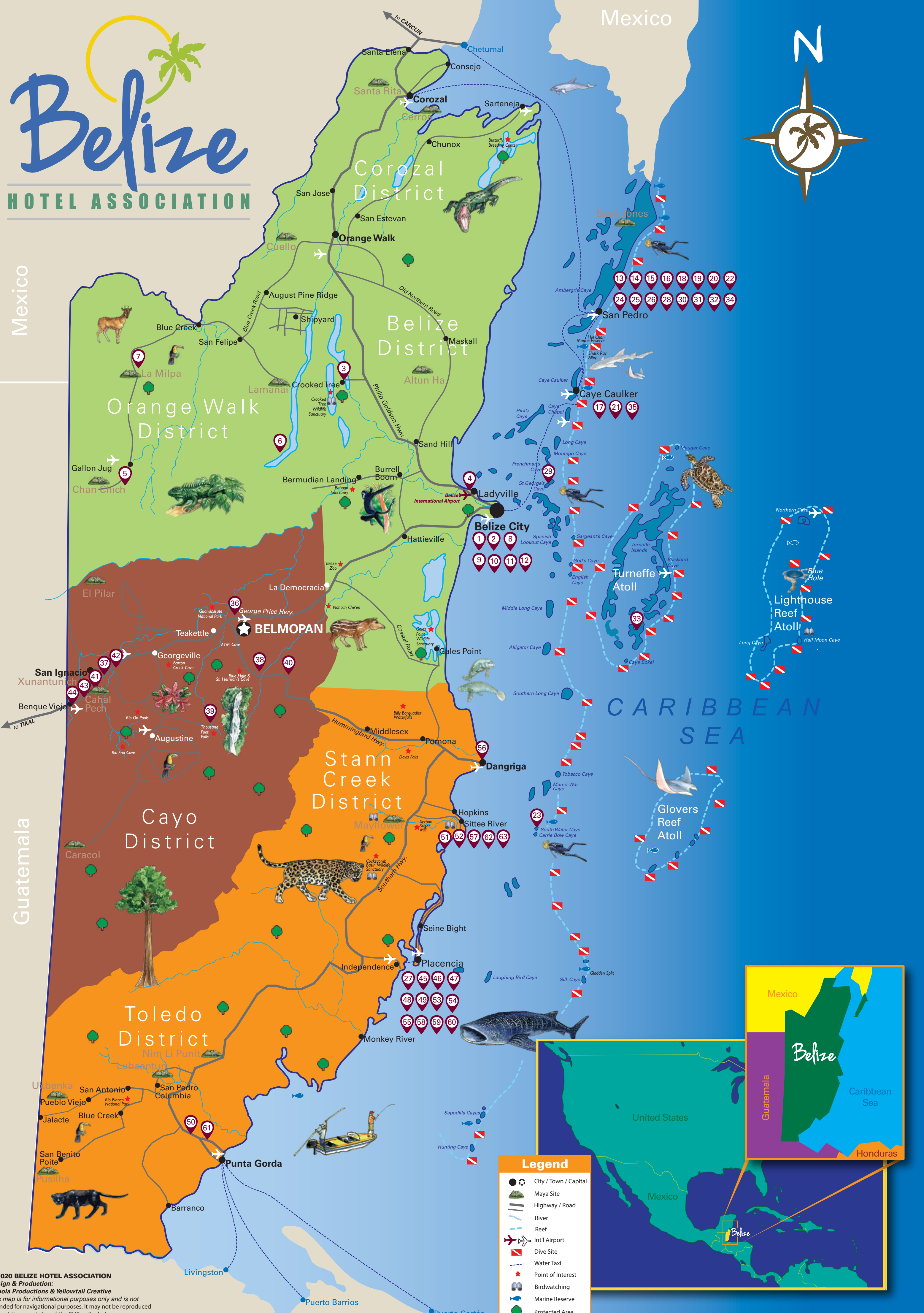


# Belize

HOTEL ASSOCIATION







QUICK FACTS



Country Size: 8,867 square miles, including 266 square miles of offshore cays.
Climate: The climate is subtropical with prevailing winds from the Caribbean Sea.
Government: An independent country since 1981, with a democratically elected parliamentary government.
Population: The population of approximately 370,000 is made up of diverse ethnicities including Creole, Garifuna, Mestizo, Spanish, Maya, English, Mennonite, Lebanese, Chinese and East Indian.
Languages: The official language is English; however, other languages, including Kriol and Spanish are widely spoken.
Time Zone: Belize's time zone is GMT-6 (US Central Standard Time).
Currency: The Belize dollar has a fixed exchange rate to the US dollar (BZ\$2=US\$1).

Clothing: Light cotton clothing is recommended during the day, with a light jacket or long-sleeved shirt for cool evenings.
Cuisine: Restaurant choices, at hotels as well as in towns and villages, include an eclectic combination of local and international cuisine.
Water: Tap water in Belize is treated and fit to drink; however, bottled water is readily available.
Passport and Visas: All visitors require a valid passport with proof of a return ticket.
Taxes: Hotel Room Tax is 9%. General Sales Tax (GST) is 12.5% on most goods and services.
Tip: 10-20% is the standard gratuity for most restaurants and tour guides.

Mobile Phones: Cellular coverage is widespread and there are two providers. SIM cards may be bought at the International Airport.
Safety: Basic safety tips should be followed wherever you go in the world.
Health Services: There are three hospitals in Belize City; one public and two private.

Departure Fees: Airport departure fees are included in most airline tickets.
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BELIZE CITY & NORTHERN BELIZE



Belize City and Northern Belize offer spectacular treasures to discover. Experience the amazing Maya archaeological sites: Lamanai, set alongside the New River Lagoon, or Cerros perched above the azure waters of Corozal Bay.

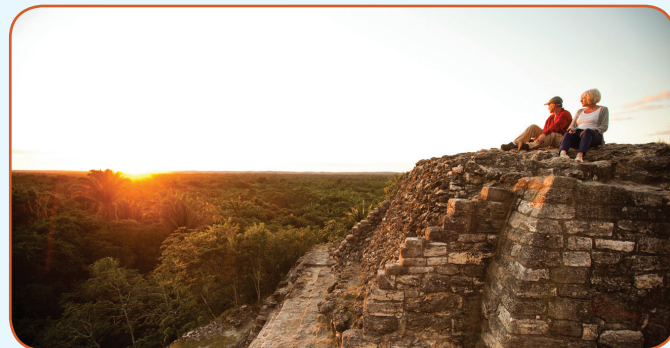
Tour Belize City, the commercial hub, and view stunning historical artifacts at the Belize Museum, visit the old downtown area, the historic St. Johns Anglican Cathedral, and the House of Culture.

WESTERN BELIZE



Ecotourism adventures abound in Cayo, which is also the gateway into Belize from Guatemala. The lively towns of San Ignacio and Santa Elena and the quiet border town of Benque Viejo del Carmen provide a glimpse into the lives of the friendly residents.

VISITING FOR THE DAY?



If you are only staying a few hours take a day tour. Visit Altun Ha Maya site, or explore the ancient Maya city of Lamanai, cruising along the New River and spotting exotic wildlife as you make your way toward the awe-inspiring archaeological site.

Try snorkeling at the famous Shark Ray Alley and Coral Gardens sites; you will swim in pristine waters with nurse sharks and sting rays and be dazzled by coral formations teeming with marine life.

SOUTHERN BELIZE



The picturesque Hummingbird Highway snakes across the Maya Mountains leading visitors from Belmopan, the capital of Belize, to the towns of Dangriga, Hopkins, Placencia and Punta Gorda.

Dangriga is a great choice for experiencing the music, art and rich traditional Garifuna way of life before exploring the islands offshore. The quiet fishing village of Hopkins further down the coast offers sandy beaches and a range of visitor services.

CAYES & ATOLLS



Over 450 exquisite small islands, locally known as cays dot the turquoise waters off the length of Belize's coast. Three atolls sit outside the magnificent Belize Barrier Reef, which is the second largest reef system in the world.

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ALLIED MEMBERS

- List of allied members including Atlantic Bank Ltd., Barfoot Services, Belize Book Direct, Belize Brewing Company Ltd., Belize Foam & Furniture Ltd., Belize Insurance Center, Belize Ship Handlers, Belize Telemedia Limited, BRC Printing, and Caribbean Treasures Ltd.

PLAN THE PERFECT VACATION WITH US

- List of hotels and resorts including Belove Hotel, Best Western Plus Belize Biltmore Plaza, Bird's Eye View Lodge, Cataleya's Guest House, Chan Chich Lodge, Hill Bank Field Station, La Milpa Lodge & Research Center, North Park Hotel, Radisson Fort George Hotel & Marina, Ramada Belize City Princess Hotel, The Alexander Belize, and The Great House Inn.

- List of resorts and hotels including Banana Beach Resort, Banyan Bay Suites, Bella Vista Resort, Brahma Blue, Caye Caulker Plaza Hotel, Cayo Espanto, Diamond Lodge, Grand Caribe Belize Resort, Island Magic Beach Resort, Mahogany Bay Resort and Beach Club, Pelican Beach (South Water Caye), Pelican Reef Villas, Portofino Beach Resort, Ramon's Village Resort, Ray Caye Resort, San Pedro Holiday Hotel, St. George's Caye Resort, Sunbreeze Hotel, Sunbreeze Suites, The Palms Oceanfront Suites, Turneffe Island Resort, Victoria House Resort & Spa, We'Yu Boutique Hotel, and Weyu Hotel.

- List of resorts and hotels including Amanani Adventure & Dive Resort, Hopkins Bay Resort, Los Porticos Villas, Mariposa Beach Suites, Miramar Apartments, Pelican Beach Resort (Dangriga), Sieri del Mar, Sirenia Bay Resort & Villas, The Placencia Resort, The Ellysian Boutique Hotel, Thatch Caye Resort, and Villa Verano.

- List of services and companies including Development Finance Corporation, eData Ltd., Glitz Office Supplies, Green Belize, Grupo Lumiere Ltd., Heritage Bank Ltd., Idea Lab Studios, James Brodie & Company, Karl H. Menzies & Co. Ltd., Love Entertainment/Love FM, Lutron Electronics Co., Madisco, Mirab & Co, Pro Solar Engineering Ltd., Recinos Imports Limited, and Smart Travel Belize.

- List of hotels and resorts including Banana Bank Lodge, Cassia Hill Resort, Caves Branch Adventure Co. & Jungle Lodge, Hidden Valley Inn, Jaguar Creek Belize, Ka'ana Resort and Spa, San Ignacio Resort Hotel, Sweet Songs Jungle Lodge, and The Lodge at Chaa Creek.

- List of hotels and resorts including A Belizean Nirvana, Belize Ocean Club, Caribbean Beach Cabanas, Casa Palma, Chabil Mar Villas, Copal Tree Lodge, Hamanasi Adventure & Dive Resort, Hopkins Bay Resort, Los Porticos Villas, Mariposa Beach Suites, Miramar Apartments, Pelican Beach Resort (Dangriga), Sieri del Mar, Sirenia Bay Resort & Villas, The Placencia Resort, The Ellysian Boutique Hotel, Thatch Caye Resort, and Villa Verano.

DMCs & TOUR OPERATORS

- List of tour operators including Ayinha Adventures Ltd., Belize R US Tours and Resort, Chukka Belize, Darah Travel, Let's Go Belizeing, Mury'Ono Adventures, S&L Travel and Tours Ltd., Splash Dive Center, and UnBelizeable Travel.

- List of insurance and travel services including RFG Insurance Company Ltd., Silver Oaks Hospitality Solutions, The Angulus Press Ltd., The Added Touch Belize, T-Shirt Factory, and Tropia Air.



DIVING
The azure waters offer a remarkable experience for the first time snorkeler or avid scuba diver. The Belize Barrier Reef stretches for 185 miles (298km) along the length of the country.

ECOTOURISM
Whether seeking extreme adventures or a yoga retreat, travelling as a couple, with family or even solo, the level of adventure and degree of comfort can be customized.

MAYA
Belize has hundreds of Maya sites, ranging from small mounds to internationally acclaimed pyramids, from city complexes to sacrificial cave systems.

ROMANCE
Belize combines the perfect elements to create a romantic getaway, wedding or honeymoon of your dreams.

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ABOUT THE BELIZE HOTEL ASSOCIATION
The Belize Hotel Association (BHA) is Belize's oldest private sector tourism organization and is a non-profit, non-governmental association. The BHA works diligently to support the sustainable growth of its members and the tourism industry in Belize.