



Friends for Conservation
and Development

Monitoring the endangered Scarlet Macaw and the wildlife of the Chiquibul National Park

Blancaneaux Lodge and Friends for Conservation and Development (FCD), the co-managers of the 264,000 acre Chiquibul National Park have joined forces to offer a unique and exclusive ecotourism expedition that allows guests to accompany National Park rangers on their monitoring of the Chalillo reservoir, upper Macal and Raspaculo Rivers. Each of the participants, through their trip cost, will be financially contributing to the conservation and protection of the Chiquibul National Park. Participation will also help to protect Belize's Scarlet Macaw population as well as rare and endangered species such as Baird's tapir, Morelet's crocodile, jaguar and Red-eyed Tree Frog.



Monitoring the Upper Macal River with National Park rangers will provide you with exclusive access to one of Central America's most pristine wilderness areas. Wildlife is plentiful and the birding exceptional. A wide range of raptors, waders, riverine and broadleaf forest species will be spotted. The rare and endangered Morelet's crocodile can be seen basking on the riverbanks, tapir's are often seen cooling off in the river or noisily making their escape by crashing through the thick undergrowth. The Upper Macal River and Raspaculo River are strongholds of the few remaining Scarlet Macaws left in Belize. You will help rangers document their numbers and behavior. The Macaws are most easily seen between February and June, although it is possible to spot them year-round.

We'll depart Blancaneaux Lodge early in the morning at 6am and drive for about 90 minutes to reach our motorized six-person (two rangers and four guests) skiff. A 30-minute boat ride takes us along the reservoir and up

the Macal River to the confluence of the Raspaculo River. Once there we'll spend approximately three hours on foot covering about seven kilometers bird watching and spotting wildlife. Lunch will be served on the banks of the river surrounded by the towering rainforest. In the early afternoon we'll return to the vehicle and slowly drive back to Blancaneaux Lodge.



Trip Information:

Maximum Four (4) Trip Participants

Trip only operates on Saturdays throughout the year (weather permitting)

Trip Difficulty:

Moderate. Participants must be reasonably fit and will need to walk under the jungle canopy in hot and humid conditions.

Pricing:

\$150 US per person + 10% sales tax based on 4 persons

\$185 US per person + 10% sales tax based on 3 persons

\$250 US per person + 10% sales tax based on 2 persons

Due to the popularity of this expedition, we reserve places on a first come first served basis only. Guests are advised to reserve a place well in advance of travel. Tipping the National Park Rangers is optional as are any additional donations to Friends for Conservation and Development (FCD). You can learn more about FCD through our web site or by visiting www.fcdbelize.org

Blancaneaux Lodge reservations:

info@coppolaresorts.com, telephone: 501-824-4912 or 1-800-746-3743

Web site: www.coppolaresorts.com