

THE FAMILY COPPOLA HIDEAWAYS

Central America

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TURTLE INN – 2021 ACTIVITIES & ADVENTURES

ACTIVITIES

SCUBA DIVING AND SNORKELING

At Turtle Inn we specialize in attentive, professional dive services, dedicated to safety and our guests' individual needs. We offer Scuba Diving, Snorkeling and a wide range of PADI certification courses for both the beginner and the more experienced diver.

Snorkeling and scuba diving tours are conducted at inner reef locations, along the Belize Barrier Reef, the outer reef and atolls, including South Water Caye and Glovers Reef.

INNER REEF: includes Laughing Bird Caye, Pompion, Ranguana Caye.

SILK CAYES

OUTER REEF: includes South Water Caye, Glover Reef.

Snorkel tours will be scheduled subject to a minimum of six guests participating; your first date/time request may not be available.

All divers must be at the dive shop 30 mins before departure. Snorkelers must be at the dive shop 15 mins before departure.

- 2-tank reef dive (inner reef)
Departs: 9.00 am Returns: 2:30 pm
- 2-tank reef dive (Silk Cayes)
Departs: 9.00 am Returns: 3:00 pm
- 2-tank reef dive (outer reef)
Departs: 9.00 am Returns: 4:30 pm
- Eco-Hunting dive
Departs: 9.00am Returns: 3:00pm (depending on site)
- 2-tank Whale Shark dive
All divers must be Advanced Open Water Certified to participate in this dive. The best time for this dive is from late April to May, around the full moon. Please enquire for dates. (June is not recommended due to weather)
Departure times vary. **Please check with concierge for tour availability.**
- Snorkeling (half day – off shore cayes)
Departs: 9:00 am Returns: 12:30 pm

- Snorkeling (inner reef)
Departs: 9:00 am Returns: 2:30 pm
- Snorkeling (Silk Cayes)
Departs: 9:00 am Returns: 3:00 pm
- Snorkeling (outer reef)
Departs: 9:00 am Returns: 4:30 pm
- Whale Shark snorkeling
The best time would be around late April to May, around the full moon. Please enquire for dates. All snorkelers will need to be 12 years or older.
Departure times vary. **Please check with concierge for tour availability.**

PADI COURSES

- **Discover Scuba Diving (Resort Course):** If you've always wanted to try scuba diving, here's your chance to breathe underwater in a fun, convenient session. The course is done in one day and includes all material, equipment, one ocean dive and a PADI Discover Scuba Card.
- **Open Water Diver (Getting Certified):** PADI Open Water Diver is the most popular diver program in the world and your ticket to a lifetime of intense adventures. The course is done in four days and includes all material, equipment, four ocean dives and your temporary certification card upon completion.
- **Adventures in Diving/Advanced Course:** The Adventures in Diving course is designed to make diving more enjoyable for the new and the seasoned diver. This course involves a brief review and discussion about your specific dive interests and five ocean dives.
- **Open Water Diver Referral:** If you have your signed paperwork showing completion of classroom and confined water from your instructor back home, we'll take care of the rest. Four ocean dives over two days and you're certified!
- **Scuba Review/Refresher Course:** Scuba Review is a quick confined water session that helps those of you who have been out of the water for a long period of time or to familiarize yourself with a new equipment purchase.

FISHING

- **Trolling the reef – Half Day or Full Day**
Troll the reef in some of the most productive waters in the Caribbean. Barracuda, king mackerel, snapper and grouper are among the many species that thrive here. Tour includes all fishing gear. Please note this is not 'blue water' fishing for pelagic species.
- **Salt Water Fly Fishing – Full Day Only**
Placencia is a haven for even the most experienced fly fisherman. The productive sand and coral flats off Placencia combine to offer the chance of salt water fly fishing's 'grand slam' of permit, bonefish, tarpon and snook. Our waters provide some of the best fly-fishing in the Caribbean and we offer experienced and professional local guides.

- **Salt Water Deep Sea Fishing – Full Day Only**

Several different size charter vessels are available for deep sea fishing off the barrier reef of Belize. After cruising through the beautiful Cayes and private islands of the coastal area of the peninsula you will reach the 3,000 foot drop off at the barrier reef. This day can be combined with lunch on a private island or catered on board. **Please enquire with the Concierge for more details.**

YOGA

Sunrise Group Yoga Class every Tuesday and Thursday 5.45am – 6.45am

SUNSET CRUISE

The sunset over the distant Maya Mountains is nothing short of spectacular and there is no better place to see it from than the calm waters of the Placencia lagoon. The cruise is generally an hour to an hour and a half long and includes hors-d'oeuvres and your choice of red or white wine. Stay on the lookout for dolphins and manatees!

Departs: 4.00 – 4.30pm Returns: 6.00 – 6.30pm.

MANATEE WATCH

Enjoy a one and a half hour boat cruise in search of the shy and elusive West Indian manatee. We'll slowly cruise Placencia Lagoon by motor boat looking for neat trails of sea grass, the telltale signs that manatee have been munching their way along the bottom of the lagoon. We'll quietly head to where the Manatee congregate at the mouth of a freshwater creek. If you're lucky you might also spot Morelet's crocodiles or the Bottle-nosed and Atlantic spotted dolphins that frequent the lagoon.

Departs: 2:00 -2:30pm Returns: 4:00 – 4:30pm

LAGOON & SEA KAYAKING

Guided kayaking available for experiences along the barrier reef, through the off-shore cayes and manatee spotting in the Placencia Lagoon

Turtle Inn also provides complimentary kayaks, trimarans and paddleboards right on our beach.

ZIPLINE AT BOCAWINA

Soar with the birds through the pristine canopy on the longest Zip Line course in Belize and Central America: approximately 2.5 miles. They have 12 platforms, 3 zip line courses over 2000 feet with the longest being over 2,300 feet; all set in the pristine jungle in the Mayflower Bocawina National Forest, which is about a 1hr and 15 min drive away.

Departs: anytime between 8am – 1pm, for a half day tour

Attire: Long pants, T-shirt/ Long sleeves, Sunscreen, Insect Repellent, Hiking/Tennis shoes

Age: 3 – 6 (Zips with Guide) and above

Min Weight: 80 lbs Max Waist: 42"

ZIPLINE & WATERFALL RAPELLING AT BOCAWINA: EXTREME ADVENTURE

Combine ziplining with waterfall rappelling to make this an extreme adventure. There are two different rappelling options to meet all ages and skill levels. Climb to the top of 1,000ft Antelope Falls and Big Drop Falls where you can enjoy breathtaking views and a refreshing swim in the azure water. Afterwards you can rappel 500 feet down the side of the waterfall. The minimum weight restriction is 100 lbs. For more family friendly rappelling you can choose to hike to Bocawina Falls where you can rappel just 100 feet down. The

minimum weight restriction is 50 lbs.

Bocawina Zipline & Antelope Waterfall Rappelling

Departs: 7.30 am Returns: 5:00 pm

Bocawina Zipline & Bocawina Waterfall Rappelling

Departs: between 8.00 – 10.00 am Returns: between 3:00 – 5.00 pm

Bocawina Rappelling:

Attire: Bring bug repellent, long pants, t-shirt, bathing suit, sneakers (you will get wet but will dry quickly), extra pair of clothing for zip line.

Minimum weight 50lbs

Antelope Rappelling:

Attire: Bring bug repellent, long pants, t-shirt, bathing suit, sneakers (you do not mind getting wet and need to dry quickly), extra pair of clothing for zip line

Must be fit enough to do a 1½ hour hike to the top of the falls on some steep terrain

Minimum weight 100lbs

ZIPLINE AT BOCAWINA & ST HERMANS CAVE TUBING COMBO

Combine ziplining with a cave tubing experience, a full day of fun! St. Herman's Cave is located within the Blue Hole National Park, approximately a 90 min drive from the Resort. You will be met by your private guide who will offer a unique and most memorable cave tubing experience. A picnic lunch will be served before driving to your second destination for your continued adventure at Mayflower Bocawina National Park which offers ziplining within pristine jungle and is considered to have the longest Zipline course within Belize and Central America.

Departs: 8.30 am Returns: 5:00 pm

Caves:

Attire: Light shorts, light T-shirt, Insect Repellant, swimwear, water shoes, extra pair of clothing

Height: 48" and above

MAYAN SKY CANOPY ZIPLINE AND RIVERTUBING (or WATERFALLS) ADVENTURE

Located just 35 minutes away from Turtle Inn, this canopy tour is recommended for families with kids 5 years and older. It offers spectacular panoramic views as you zip line 7 different lines. To add more adventure to your day, combine this zip line tour with a fun river tubing through 2 rapids in the Stann Creek River or choose to relax by their breath taking waterfalls nestled in the heart of the Southern mountains. Optional- a picnic lunch. The zipline and river tubing takes about 1.5 hours.

Attire: Light shorts, light T-shirt, Insect Repellant, swimwear, water shoes, extra pair of clothing

Important to note: Max waist of 48", Min age for zipline is 5 year old and 12 year old for waterfall rappelling.

ADVENTURES

NIM LI PUNIT AND/OR LUBAANTUN AND MAYA CULTURAL EXPERIENCE

Located in the beautiful rainforest of the Toledo District in Southern Belize, a one hour and a half scenic drive from Turtle Inn leads you to Nim Li Punit, a late-classic Maya ceremonial site with several unique stelae including one of the longest in the Maya world. After a fascinating guided tour of the ruins and small but informative museum we'll drive to the nearby Indian Creek village for a short demonstration of traditional corn tortilla making. Following a tasty Maya lunch there will be a demonstration of authentic Maya weaving using a back-strap loom.

Departs: 8:00 am Returns: 5:00 pm

Attire: Long or short pants, T-shirt/ Long sleeves, Sunscreen, Insect Repellant, Hiking/Tennis shoes

Age: 3 and above

NIM LI PUNIT AND/OR LUBAANTUN AND BLUE CREEK CAVE

Located in the beautiful rainforest of the Toledo District in Southern Belize, a 90 min scenic drive leads you to the late-classic ceremonial site of Nim Li Punit, with several unique stela and a tomb, then continuing on to the Hokeb Ha Caves of Blue Creek. First, a 30- minute hike brings you to the entrance of the wet caves. As you swim through the cave, you will be surrounded by cascading waters, stalactites and crystal-like formations.

Note: The Blue Creek is not recommended for guests with mobility restrictions.

Departs: 8:00 am Returns: 5:00 pm

Attire: light shorts and t-shirt that can get wet, Swimwear, Hiking/Water shoes with covered toes, Insect repellant and an extra pair of clothing

Age: 8 and above

Important: Must be fit enough to be able to maneuver over rocky terrain and recommended to be able to swim

NIM LI PUNIT AND/OR LUBAANTUN AND RIO BLANCO WATERFALLS

Located in the beautiful rainforest of the Toledo District in Southern Belize, a 90 min scenic drive leads you to the late-classic ceremonial site of Nim Li Punit, with several unique stela and a tomb, then continuing a 40 minute drive where you get to enjoy a picnic lunch and venture to Rio Blanco Waterfalls where water cascades 20 feet from a cliff into a large blue-green pool below, which is perfect for swimming. Note: This waterfall is seasonal.

Departs: 8:00 am Returns: 5:00 pm

Attire: Shorts, T-shirt, Swimwear, Sunscreen, Hiking/Water shoes and Insect Repellant

Age: 3 and above

COCKSCOMB BASIN WILDLIFE SANCTUARY & JAGUAR PRESERVE

The world's only Jaguar preserve is a superb place for birding, hiking and possible wildlife sightings. The 128,000 acre wildlife sanctuary has well marked hiking trails ranging from easy to challenging and is a jaguar hotspot which also provides habitat to Howler Monkeys, Agouti, Brocket Deer and Peccary. Take a picnic lunch, enjoy fun tubing down the river, then cool off under refreshing waterfalls.

Departs: 8:00 am Returns: 4:30 pm

Attire: Long pants, Long sleeve, Sunscreen, Insect Repellant, Extra pair of clothes, Swimwear, Water and Hiking shoes

Age: 6 and above

Important: Must be fit enough to do a 1½ hour hike over hilly terrain

Add on options:

You can also choose to combine the Jaguar Preserve Tour with a Chocolate making experience. Learn on how cacao trees are cultivated as you walk the Che'il Chocolate Cacao Farm. After returning from the farm you'll have the opportunity to make your own chocolate using traditional stone tools followed by a tour to the facility where Che'il Chocolate makes their bars to sell using modern machinery. Please enquire for details and pricing.

ACTUN TUNICHIL MUKNAL

Referred to as the ATM Cave (The Cave of the Crystal Sepulchre), this adventure has been listed as one of the Number 1 Top Sacred Caves by National Geographic. Located just 2.5 hours away, you will drive through spectacular views of the Maya Mountains. The ATM Cave is only recommended for those of an adventurous spirit who have a good level of fitness. The tour starts with a 40 minute trek through the Tapir Mountain Nature Reserve before you get to the Cave Entrance. The underground stream flows out of the cave entrance and it's necessary to take a short swim into the cave (water depth is about 12 feet). Once you are within the cave, you will be spending approximately 3 hours seeing different formations of stalactites, stalagmites and pillars. It is necessary to squeeze through some tight spaces and climb over rocks to reach the different levels. The rewards are worth it. Two small carved stelae are located above the stream, one carved in the shape of an obsidian blade and the other a stingray spine. On the next level lies the cave's most famous occupant, The Crystal Maiden, an ancient victim of ritual sacrifice probably from the Late Classic Period.

Please inquire at front desk on availability.

Departs: 5:00 am Returns: 3.30pm

Attire: Tennis shoe or water shoes, pair of socks, Swim shorts, T-shirt, and a dry change of clothing for the drive back. Swimsuits only are not allowed as it is a sacred cave. Cameras are not allowed in the cave.

XUNANTUNICH & CAHAL PECH TOUR

Located approximately 120 miles away from Placencia is one of the most amazing Archaeological Sites in Belize. Driving for approximately 3 hours through a few villages offering scenic views of pristine mountains and miles of citrus valleys in the highlands will take you to Xunantunich. Once there, you will be crossing the Mopan River via a hand cranked ferry. This Classic Periodic Site, known as "Maiden of the Rock" or "Stone Lady" has one of the 2nd tallest Mayan Structures in Belize. Climbing up approximately 120 feet to "El Castillo" will offer spectacular views of the jungle surroundings and neighbouring community of Guatemala.

Combine this tour with Cahal Pech, another panoramic Archaeological Site. Located just 20 minutes away from Xunantunich, this site known as "Place of Ticks" provides vast information on the earliest Mayan Settlers of Western Belize. Cahal Pech has large platforms that were used for Ceremonial purposes and highlights large structures, a ball court and multiple monuments with carvings and symbols on their pottery.

A local lunch is included with tour.

Departs at 7:30 am Returns: 5:00 pm

Please inquire with front desk about the possibility of charter flights.

SUNSET HIKE IN THE COCKSCOMB BASIN WILDLIFE SANCTUARY

Hike to enjoy a magnificent sunset over the majestic Tiger Fern Mountain while enjoying some snacks and wine at the peak. Experience once in a lifetime a night swim in the waterfalls followed by a night hike in the sanctuary with an increase chance of seeing the nocturnal cats including jaguars

Departs: 2.30pm Returns: 9.00pm

Attire: Long pants, Long sleeve, Sunscreen, Insect Repellant, Extra pair of clothes, Swimwear, Water and Hiking shoes

Age: 6 and above

Important: Must be fit enough to do a 1½ hour hike over hilly terrain

MONKEY RIVER WILDLIFE ADVENTURE

Explore Monkey River by boat observing howler monkeys, coastal and wetland birds, iguanas, crocodiles and many other species of wildlife. With your experienced nature guide at the helm you will slowly weave through the maze of mangrove islands that hug the shoreline. If we're lucky we may see the endangered Manatee as we head south to Monkey River. As the boat moves slowly upriver we'll bird watch and spot turtles, crocodiles and iguanas. Soon it's time to stop and hike through huge stands of bamboo and along jungle trails to view noisy troops of howler monkeys. This is a remarkable and exciting wildlife trip. On our way downriver the boatman will stop in the tiny village of Monkey River for a lunch and an opportunity to purchase souvenirs. (Tour not recommended between months of November to May due to the rainy season)

Departs: 8:00 am Returns: 2:00 pm

Attire: Long pants, Long sleeve, Sunscreen, Insect Repellant, Water and Hiking shoes

Age: 3 and above

HELICOPTER TOURS

Astrum Helicopter can take you from Belize International Airport to Blancaneaux and from Blancaneaux to Turtle Inn; hovering over the Maya Mountains and Waterfalls in the background or for a day trip to the Blue Hole; offering spectacular views of the wealth of the region- from ridge to Reef or for an in-style arrival.

Please enquire for details and pricing.

CAVE TUBING AT IAN ANDERSON CAVES BRANCH

After a 90 min drive from the resort, take a short 15 mins jungle bus ride to the Cave Branch river system where you will tube along for 100 feet to the entrance of the cave system. Your underground expedition takes you off the beaten path to explore ancient Mayan ceremonial centers, pottery, artifacts, altars, obsidian bloodletting blades, jade and the actual footprints of the Shaman and priests that date back to 400 A.D. Imagine the experience as you float through an underground cathedral, turning your lights off and floating away into time as your professional guide shares with you the history of the caves and the Mayan world. A picnic Lunch will be served by your guide within the cave system to the sounds of the underground caves, chatting with your fellow adventurers an experience you will not forget.

Departs: 6:30 am Returns: 5:00 pm

Attire: Light Shorts and t-shirt that can get wet and allow movement, Hiking/Water shoes with covered toes, Insect repellent and an extra pair of clothing

Age: 7 and above

Important: Extensive underground hiking and climbing throughout the cave is necessary in addition to cave tubing

HORSEBACK RIDING

Outback Trails located at the Kendal Bridge just about an hour drive from Turtle Inn feature great riding experiences through citrus orchards, along the jungle trails leading up a river where one can swim and your horse can drink fresh mountain water. Bring along a tasty picnic and a bottle of Coppola wine to complete the day.

Departs: 7:30 am Returns: 1:00 pm

OR

Departs: 1:00 pm Returns: 6:00 pm

Attire: Long pant, t-shirt, bug spray, sunscreen, tennis/hiking shoes and swim wear

Age: 5 and above

For all tours we suggest bringing hiking shoes, a camera, binoculars, a swimsuit, a change of clothes, sunscreen and bug repellent. For tours which include a hike, long pants are advisable.

RIDGE TO REEF BIRDING EXPERIENCES

The birding from Turtle Inn is superb due to the wide range of habitats within easy reach of the resort. We offer a daily morning bird walk plus four distinct birding tours. Each tour can be customized based on the preferences and target species of the birders. Please enquire for details and pricing.

- **Morning Bird Walk**

A walk through the property from beachfront to lagoon with one of our expert guides.

Time: 6:00am to 7:00am

Wednesday and Saturday (Complimentary)

- **Cockscomb Basin Wildlife Sanctuary & Jaguar Preserve**

The tropical moist forests of the 128,000-acre wildlife sanctuary offer fantastic and varied birding with 290 species recorded within the protected area.

- **Placencia Lagoon**

The long, shallow lagoon backed by coastal savanna provides a bird-rich environment.

Numerous small creeks flow through dense mangrove stands into the lagoon attracting a wide range of raptors and waders.

- **Coastal islands and Monkey River**

The maze of mangrove islands along the coast provide fantastic birding habitat for waders and raptors. The dense riparian forests of Monkey River compliment the coastal ecosystem offering two distinct habitats in the same tour. The tour includes a jungle walk to spot Howler Monkeys.

- **Red Bank Scarlet Macaws**

Annually between December and March Scarlet Macaws migrate over the Maya Mountain Divide from the Chiquibul National Park to the small village of Red Bank. It is believed that they migrate for this short period due to the early ripening of the seed pods of the Wild Anatto and Polewood trees.

Seasonal: December to Early February

Departs: 5.45am Returns: 12:00pm

FAMILY FUN: PAINT & BRUSHES!

Sign up for a 1.5 hour painting session with one of our distinctive local artists from town. With their great talent and special painting skills, they will guide you as you create your own piece of art. A fun activity for all ages. Make a little space in your luggage to take a Belizean souvenir which you will create!

Minimum of 4 persons required for this activity. Please inquire at desk on available days.