



BLANCANEUX LODGE – 2016 TOUR & ACTIVITY RATES

Rates valid from 19 December 2015 to 5 January 2017

CARACOL

Situated high on the Vaca Plateau deep in the Chiquibul Forest Reserve, Caracol is the most extensive Mayan site in Belize and was only re-discovered as recently as 1936. The site of Caracol covers over 80 square miles with 30,000 structures and at its peak supported a population in excess of 150,000. Situated at 1600 feet above sea level (one of the highest located sites of the southern uplands region) with no natural water body close by it remains a mystery why such a huge population center like Caracol evolved where it is. However, the close proximity to both extremely hard stone and copal, two commodities highly prized by the Maya may help explain this enigma. At the heart of the site lies the massive pyramid of Caana (Sky Palace) which is now almost fully restored and reaches a height of over 135 feet. From the top you can enjoy breath taking panoramic views over the forest clad mountains. The drive to the site in the early morning occasionally allows guests to glimpse tapir, jaguar or ocelot as they break their forest cover to cross the road. The sprawling site contains huge ceiba, mahogany and sapodilla trees and is superb for birding (the rare Keel-billed Motmot is a resident of the site). Wildlife such as howler and spider monkeys, Ocellated Turkey, coatimundi, gibnut and grey fox are often sighted while quietly wandering along the site's causeways or along trails connecting the plaza groups.

Departs: 8.00 am Returns: 3.30 pm

Price: US\$258 (BZ\$516) for 1 – 4 people
US\$55 (BZ\$110) each for 5 or more
Add US\$108 (BZ\$216) for an exclusive private tour
Entrance fees – US\$7.50 pp

CARACOL, RIO FRIO CAVE & RIO ON POOLS

This tour is an ideal combination of the Mountain Pine Ridge Reserve Tour and the tour of Caracol. After picnic lunch at Caracol, we drive back towards the Lodge, stopping at the Rio Frio Cave, and finishing our tour at the Rio On Pools, just as you are ready for a wonderful dip in the cooling pools of the Rio On.

Departs: 7.00 am Returns 4.30 pm

Price: US\$268 (BZ\$536) for 1 – 4 people
US\$60 (BZ\$120) each for 5 or more
Add US\$108 (BZ\$216) for an exclusive private tour
Entrance fees – US\$7.50 pp

XUNANTUNICH

Driving back down the mountain and through the town of San Ignacio, we head to the village of San Jose Succotz, where we take a hand-cranked ferry over the Mopan River to the site of Xunantunich (Maiden of the Rock). Xunantunich flourished during the Classic-period and appears to have survived the Maya 'collapse' to remain an important population centre until around AD 1000. The site has 5 main plazas, although only 3 plazas are evident to visitors today. Dominating the site is El Castillo, rising to over 120 feet. A steep, but short climb to the top is highly recommended. This vantage point provides a breathtaking panoramic view of the surrounding Mopan and Belize River valleys, as well as Guatemala to the west. You will also get a close look at the restored portion of two unique stucco friezes. The visitors centre and small museum are excellent and there are many small restaurants in the area serving authentic local food, or you may choose to bring along a picnic lunch and eat at the site.

Departs: 8:00 am Returns 1:30 pm

Price: US\$293 (BZ\$586) for 1 – 4 people
US\$ 65 (BZ\$130) each for 5 or more
Add US\$108 (BZ\$216) for an exclusive private tour
Entrance fee - US\$5.00 pp

XUNANTUNICH COMBINATION TOURS

Xunantunich is in the heart of Cayo District close to San Ignacio. There are many different sites of interest close by both natural, and archeological. Here are some suggestions:

XUNANTUNICH, CAHAL PECH & GREEN HILLS BUTTERFLY FARM

Located on a hill overlooking San Ignacio, Cahal Pech is a medium sized but major Mayan center. Situated on top of an acropolis on the Macal River, the center of Cahal Pech consists of 34 structures in a small area of only 2 acres. A visitors' Center contains artifacts and a reconstructed model of the site. The Green Hills Butterfly Farm is on the way returning to the Lodge, and features dozens of different species of Belizean butterflies. There are many small restaurants in the area serving excellent local food, or you may choose to bring along a picnic lunch.

Departs: 8.00 am Returns 4:00 pm

Price: US\$303 (BZ\$606) for 1 – 4 people
US\$ 73 (BZ\$146) each for 5 or more
Add US\$108 (BZ\$216) for an exclusive private tour
Entrance fees- US\$5.00 (Xunan) US\$5.00 (Cahal Pech), US\$12.50 (Butterfly farm)

CAYO DISTRICT SHOPPING TOUR

Here's a good chance to visit some of the local craft shops in the area. Among the stops is a visit to the Magana's Zactunich Maya Art Gallery & Gift Shop, famous for traditional slate carvings. We will then visit the bustling town of San Ignacio and visit the village shops, enjoying lunch in town. An

open-air market takes place each Saturday morning where Mennonites and farmers sell their produce; a good opportunity to purchase local honey, jams and habanero sauces. Leaving San Ignacio we will drive through Central Farm to the Orange Gift shop (formerly Caesar's Place).

Departs: 9:00 am Returns: 2:00pm

Price: US\$282 (BZ\$564) for 1-4 persons
US\$ 60 (BZ\$120) each for 5 or more
Add US\$108 (BZ \$216) for a private tour.

This tour can also be combined with a **choice** of a visit to **Xunantunich, Cahal Pech or Green Hills Butterfly Farm**

Departs 9 am Returns 4:00 pm

Price: US\$303 (BZ\$606) for 1 – 4 persons.
 US\$73 (BZ\$146) each for 5 or more
 Add US\$108 (BZ\$216) for an exclusive private tour
 Entrance fees - depends which site is visited

ACTUN TUNICHIL MUKNAL (ATM) CAVE

Ranked as one of the Top 10 Caves in the world By the National Geographic Magazine, the cave trips starts with an hour and a half drive from Blancaneaux Lodge followed by a 40 minute trek through the Tapir Mountain Nature Reserve to the Cave Entrance. ATM Cave is only recommended for those of an adventurous spirit who have a good level of fitness. 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). About 3 hours is spent in the cave and it is necessary to squeeze through some tight spaces and climb over rocks to reach to 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.

Departs: 7:30am Returns: 5:30 pm Duration: 8-9 hours

Price: US\$503 (Bz\$1006) for 1-4 persons
 US\$503 x 2 for 5 -8 persons
 Entrance fees – US\$15.00 pp

TIKAL, GUATEMALA

Perhaps the most visually stunning of all Maya sites, Tikal's five monolithic temples pierce the jungle canopy (Temple IV reaching a height of almost 230 feet) and ancient plazas, stelae and ball courts tell of a rich and powerful history when Tikal's population reached almost 100,000. By the beginning of the Classic Period (AD 250) Tikal was competing for regional domination with Uaxactun and Calakmul and later Tikal was briefly dominated by a powerful alliance of Caracol and Calakmul from AD 562 until AD 682. From AD 682 onwards Tikal flourished again under Lord Ah Cacao and continued to dominate the region into the 9th Century. Today the site is justifiably recognized as one of the archeological wonders of the Americas. Its unspoiled jungle setting within the Tikal National Park makes it a paradise for birders, nature lovers and amateur archaeologists. This tour takes an entire day, leaving the Lodge after a quick Continental breakfast and returning around 5 – 6 pm in the evening. On the return trip, you have the chance to do some shopping in the Guatemalan town of Melchor.

Departs: 6 am Returns 6:00 pm

Price: US\$499 (BZ\$998) for 1–2 persons
 US\$221 (BZ\$442) each for 3 or more
 Add US\$158 (Bz\$316) for an exclusive private tour
 Includes: Park entrance fees, Tikal guide, snacks and lunch

Note: There are border fees charged as you depart Belize Border fee: US\$20 pp

BARTON CREEK CAVE

An exciting canoe trip traveling almost two miles into a remote cave once used by the ancient Mayans as a burial site and for ceremonial purposes. The cave is adorned with stalactites and stalagmites. Mayan pottery shards and bones can be observed by the guide's spotlights. En-route to the Cave you will drive through traditional Mennonite village of Upper Barton Creek.

Departs: 8.00 am or 1.00 pm Duration: 4 hours

Price: US\$203 (BZ\$406) for 1 – 4 people
 US\$203 x 2 for 5—8 people
 Add US\$85 (BZ\$170) for an exclusive private tour
 Entrance Fees: US\$5.00 pp

For those who wish to continue the day's adventure there's the option of Zip Lining on the drive back to Blancaneaux Lodge.

- **Intermedio Zipline**

The Intermedio Zip line which is a 45 minute to an hour tour that offers 2,573 feet of line separated in 7 runs and 12 platforms. This tour includes a short 10 minute hike through the forest that includes crossing a hammock bridge and a hydraulic lift to the lines making your way back to where you started

Price: Add US\$90 (BZ\$180) pp to the Barton Creek Cave tour
 NO entry fee for Calico

GUIDED MOUNTAIN BIKING

There's no better way to explore the diverse eco-systems of the Mountain Pine Ridge Reserve than a bike tour. Guided bike trips will take you on scenic routes and trails around the Reserve. Check with the Concierge to discuss departures times, difficulty or terrain, length of trip. The Concierge will help you match the trip to your ability.

Departs: 8:00 am for half day (1-3 hours) or full day (1-6 hours)

Prices range from US\$56 (BZ\$112) per person to US\$108 (BZ\$216) per person depending on the guided trip.

HORSEBACK RIDING

Explore the surrounding area on horseback. Our horseback riding tours are ideal for all riders, and even non-riders. We take care to match the rider with the most suitable horse to ensure comfort and safety. We recommend wearing long pants and sturdy shoes for comfort. Riding helmets are available.

Choose from two hour to full-day tours, all suitable for beginners and experienced riders.

- **Big Rock Falls**

A gentle meandering ride through the forest to hidden falls. Take a break from the saddle and swim under a cascading waterfall. Ideal for beginners or those who just want a short time in the saddle.

Departs: Various times upon request Duration: Approx. 2 – 2½ hours

Price: US\$70 (BZ\$140) per person

- **Sunrise in the Rainforest**

Take your mount as the sun rises over the forest. We ride about 30 minutes to an area of rainforest. First light is an ideal time to observe a kaleidoscope of colorful birds, under a rainforest canopy of vines, palms and exotic bromeliads. You may also catch sight of a whitetail deer, coatimundi or grey fox. Brilliant butterflies and a chorus of birdsong make this the ideal start to the day.

Departs: Sunrise around 5:30am

Duration: Approx. 2½ - 3 hours

Price: US\$80 (BZ\$160) pp

Note: This tour can also be done later in the day upon request

- **Sunset Horseback Ride**

As the sun starts to dip towards the horizon we ride east into the Noj Kaax Meen Eljio Panti National Park. We'll ride to a vantage point in the moist tropical broadleaf forest, home to jaguar, tapir and ocelot. We'll enjoy the evening chorus of birdsong and as the sun sets over the Maya Mountains we'll ride back to the lodge.

Departs: 3:00pm Duration: 2.5 hours

Price: US\$80 (BZ\$160) pp

- **Full Day Horseback Ride**

Following local trails, the terrain transforms from pine to rainforest. Once we reach the Noj Kaax Meen Eljio Panti National Park we ride under the shady canopy of the rainforest. Your guide will point out the amazing flora and fauna of the forest as we ride to Sapodilla Falls. We'll enjoy a picnic lunch and refreshing swim before riding back to the lodge. Blancaneaux Lodge also offers hiking trails and jungle treks, bird watching tours, complimentary bikes, tours of the Organic Garden and swimming in the pool or in the pristine waters of Privassion Creek. For relaxation the "Hot Pool" eases away any aches and pains from the day's activities

Departs: 9 am Duration: Approx. 5– 6 hours

Price: US\$122 (BZ\$244) per person

NATURAL HISTORY ADVENTURES

- **Custom Nature Treks**

If you have a specific natural history interest, our team of expert guides would be happy to make suggestions for a custom nature trek. Whether it's a quest for a long anticipated entry in your lifelong birding list, or the desire to see Belize's national flower, the Black Orchid in the wild, we can help.

Duration of tours and prices will depend on your interest. Check with your concierge to customize tours.

- **Full Day Jungle Hike**

Follow serpentine trails across the pine savannah and through islands of broadleaf forest until the terrain gradually transforms into the steep jungle clad hills of the Eljio Panti National Park.

With an expert guide you'll follow fresh jaguar tracks, marvel at delicate orchids and observe charismatic bird species such as the Keel-billed Toucan. Discover medicinal plants used by the ancient Maya thousands of years ago and learn their secrets with the help of your guide. After a very active half day, you take lunch beside a cooling waterfall and be refreshed by its relaxing waters. We finish off easy, meandering along old logging trails in the tropical pine forest while the sun begins to set and the hours are cooler.

Departs: 9:00am Duration: 5-6 hours.

Price: US\$102 (BZ\$204) per person

- **Sunrise Birding**

As the sun rises at Blancaneaux, the morning is greeted by the call of Chachalacas as squadrons of Aztec Parakeets fly overhead and across the river. For a few short hours the forest is alive with the sound of exotic birdlife. Take a short walk around the property's gardens and trails, and let your guide point out the well camouflaged birds hiding in the nearby forest. Learn about our migrant species and the many secrets of our feathered friends. With almost 600 species documented in Belize, this walk is an excellent introduction to the birds of the region. The colorful Green Jay, the jester-like Acorn Woodpecker and the Melodious Blackbird are just some of the many species to be seen on property.

Departs: 5.30am or 6:00am Duration: 1 hour

(Concierge can arrange for half day or full day birding)

Price: US\$22 (BZ\$44) per person

- **Night Hike**

As darkness covers the rain forest, the predators start to roam their kingdom in search of prey. As most of Belize's large mammals are nocturnal this is your best chance to actually see them in their natural habitat. After a short drive from the lodge we start our night walk along the edge of the pine forest and into the jungle. At a slow and quiet pace, we stealthily search the forest for gibnuts, armadillos, peccaries and other wildlife. Although seldom seen, the elusive jaguar leaves enough tracks behind for us to understand that this is his realm. Keep an open eye for our national animal the Tapir, who forages on trail-side vegetation. After a couple hours silently exploring the jungle, we have a snack by the creek under the forest canopy. On our way back, we keep vigilant for signs of a white tailed deer or the arboreal Mexican porcupine. Just before reaching our pick up point for the short drive back to the lodge, there is time to marvel at the magnificent clarity of the night sky.

Departs: Dependent on moon cycle. Usually 1 hour after moonset, or before moonrise.

Duration: 2-3 hours

Price: US\$100 (BZ\$200) per person. 2 person minimum.

CAVES BRANCH NOHOCH CHE'EN CAVE TUBING

Belize's most popular on-shore activity for cruise ships while visiting the country. In order to miss the crowds for this amazing experience, Blancaneaux Lodge offers an early morning option for all guests who wishes to do this tour as a full day activity. After 2 hours' drive you stop at the Nohoch Che'en Reserve for an hour's float along the Caves Branch River and a gentle 45 minutes jungle walk to reach the starting point for cave tubing. Each participant has a special 'tube' for the float, a headlamp, life vest and 'water shoes.' The float goes through a series of huge inter-connection caves separated by open sections where the river is flanked by high jungle.

NOTE: This tour is also available on transfers to/ from Blancaneaux to Turtle Inn or to Belize City. We run an 8am transfer from Blancaneaux Lodge to Turtle Inn daily that incorporates the Caves Branch tubing float tour. There is a supplemental charge (paid at the lodge) to cover entrance fees, equipment costs, tax (tube & life jacket). Availability depends on weather conditions and the operation of this option is subject to change without notice

Departs: 8:00am Returns: 3:30pm

Price: US\$390 (BZ\$780) for 1-4 persons
US\$98 (BZ\$196) each for 5 or more
Add US\$108 (216) for exclusively private tour
*Entrance Fees: US\$5.00

Blx-TI transfer: US\$590 (Bz\$ 1180) for 1-4 persons, US\$148 (BZ\$296) each for 5 or more.
Add US\$108 for exclusively private tour

Blx- Bze transfer: US\$490 (BZ\$980) for 1-4 persons, US\$123 (BZ\$246) each for 5 or more.
Add US\$108 for exclusively private tour

ACTIVITIES & RELAXING

Blancaneaux Lodge also offers hiking trails, bird watching tours, complimentary mountain bikes and swimming in the pristine waters of the Privassion Creek. Enjoy a relaxing dip in the "Hot Pool" which is ideal to ease away any aches and pains from the day's activities or even after a relaxing massage.

THE WATERFALL SPA offers a variety of treatments including body wraps and authentic Thai massage.

- **Body Treatments**
 - **Papaya Body Polish**

The naturally occurring fruit acid within the papaya gently removes the dead skin cells from the body leaving it feeling refreshed. The body is covered in the warm fruit and enveloped with fluffy towels. The body's heat encourages the exfoliating benefit of the treatment.

30 mins US\$65 BZ\$130

- **Oriental Prelude Treatment**

A special combination of bananas and a blend of honey sprinkled with salt crystals is directly applied onto the wrap and the body. The warm mixture encourages the body's absorption of the fruit acid and the exfoliation process begins on the entire body, while the honey and banana extract nourishes. Salt crystals help in the removal of dead skin cells, leaving your body extra soft and cleansed.

30 mins US\$65 BZ\$130

- **Oriental Body Glow**

A unique body scrub. A combination of herbs combined with honey is scrubbed over your entire damp body, exfoliating dead skin cells, increasing circulation making you glow, while the honey nourishes, to leave you feeling extra smooth. Also ideal before a relaxing massage.

30 mins US\$65 BZ\$130

- **Oriental Salt Glow**

A body scrub treatment. Salt crystals calm the body, relax muscles and ease aches and pains. Leaves skin smooth with a natural healthy glow. Your entire body receives a rejuvenating sense of well-being. Ideal after a day hiking the trails or climbing Mayan ruins.

30 mins US\$65 BZ\$130

- **Stress Recovery Wrap, Scrub and Massage**

A mix of herbal tea and honey is applied over the body which is then wrapped in a thermal blanket, followed by a scrub. Good for detoxifying and exfoliating dead skin cells. Your skin will be extra soft and cleansed. The tea and honey nutrients are absorbed into the skin to re-energize it. Followed by an essential oil massage which will make you feel totally relaxed.

90 mins US\$140 BZ\$280

- **Massages**

- **The Oriental Massage**

A traditional Thai massage. Wearing Siamese style pajamas, the entire body from scalp to toes benefits from the pressure point massage and stretching movements.

60 mins US\$108 BZ\$216

90 mins US\$140 BZ\$280

- **Essential Oil Massage**

Blends of essential oils extracted from plants release their soothing properties into the skin during this face, scalp and body massage. Eases muscle tension and releases energy with acupressure movements. Perfect for easing stress.

60 mins US\$108 BZ\$216

90 mins US\$140 BZ\$280

- **Oriental Foot Massage**

All the energy meridians of the body are identified in the pressure points of the foot. Massaging the feet provides relaxation, soothes pain and releases blocked energy. The ideal treatment after sightseeing.

30 mins US\$56 BZ\$112

- **Back and Shoulder Massage**

A massage to treat the upper part of the body with aromatic oil and pressure point technique.

30 mins US\$56 BZ\$112

- **Facials**

The richness of minerals and amino acids in the mud detoxify and their anti-bacterial effect increases oxygen absorption for a refining and smoothing effect. After purification, your skin regains its natural softness and radiance.

30 mins US\$47 BZ\$94

60 mins US\$80 BZ\$160.00

***Note** – All above prices for tours and spa treatments at Blancaneaux Lodge do not include the 12.5% Government Sales Tax. A 10% service charge must be added to all spa rates listed. Lunches are included in tour rates for full day tours only. Entrance Fees are additional.

***Note** – The pricing for 1-4 is the total cost for 1 to 4 people and not a per person rate.

***Note** – tours, activities, tax rates and entrance fees (Belize and Guatemala) are subject to change without notice.

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