



Belize

Focus: Biology Length: 8 Days

Dates: May 23-30, 2022 **Cost:** \$1,990* Ratio 10:1

*Program price stands as an estimate until ticketing is finalized.





Program Information

Tucked between the Caribbean Sea and the rainforest on the eastern coast of Central America, Belize is the home of a small and diverse nation. The Belize Barrier Reef is the largest barrier reef in the Western Hemisphere and the second longest barrier reef in the world. Only Australia's Great Barrier Reef is longer. It is home to hundreds of species of tropical fish, thousands of species of marine invertebrates and located only half a mile from the tranquil beaches in the small fishing village of Hopkins. Miles of staghorn and elkhorn coral tower above the sea floor while nurse sharks and southern stingrays swim below the turquoise water. Barrel sponges, lobsters, nurse sharks, upside-down jellyfish, resident loggerhead turtles, stingrays and manatee sightings are almost a guarantee. Belize is home to one of the healthiest reef systems in the entire Caribbean. Healthy marine ecosystems are critical to the safety and welfare of the majority of the human population.

During this 8 day program students will learn about the country's rich history and the ancient Maya civilization with a visit to Xunantunich archaeological site as well as a traditional chocolate making experience. Before heading out to Caye Caulker island, the group will visit the Belize zoo to learn about their efforts in conservation of native species. Once on the island, the group will explore above and underwater with a full day snorkeling excursion to Hol Chan Marine Reserve and Sea Kayaking.

San Ignacio:

Bird Rescue Centre

Address: Rock Farm, Roaring Creek

Phone: +501 610-0400

Caye Caulker:

Enjoy Hotel

Address: Pasero Street, Caye Caulker, Belize

Phone: +501 226-0305





Why Study Abroad Association?

Since 2009, Study Abroad Association has been committed to customizing the most in-depth and affordable short-term, faculty-led study abroad and service learning experiences. We have been working with colleges and universities across the United States to assist in achieving their international education goals.

All programs revolve around our core values of Education, Authenticity, Affordability, Sustainability, and Safety.



Authenticity & Affordability

By collaborating with local partners we enable our travelers to have unique experiences while supporting local economies. This allows us to provide authentic and locally designed experiences and keep our costs low.



Education

All SAA programs are built on the foundation of education. We offer unique programs in over 12 areas of study, striving to offer programs to underserved academic fields such as STEM, Business, Allied Health, Humanities.



Customer Service

A dedicated Account Manager will assist during the entire process. We fully understand the challenges that go into organizing the perfect faculty-led programs. We will assign you an account manager fully dedicated and available to assist you at every point of your process.



US Based

We are a fully insured and accredited US organization with the advantages of having direct operations in more than 25 countries. We also have strong partnerships with local universities to ensure credits and educational methods are fully respected.



Safety

Safety is our number one priority. To ensure our travelers are completely protected throughout the program, we provide an all-inclusive travelers insurance policy. We also provide comprehensive risk management procedures and training before the program starts.



Sustainability

We promote sustainability with all our programs, visiting local communities and projects in need, as well as establishing long-lasting relationships and positive impacts with everyone we collaborate with.



Program Itinerary



Day 1 - Belize Bird Rescue - Monday, May 23

Depart for Belize City, Belize

Arrive Belize City, Belize

Transfer to Belize Bird Rescue - The BBR is a centre for the rescue, rehabilitation and release of avian species in Belize. Registered NGO and non-profit working with the Belize Forest Department.

Orientation Walking Tour

Welcome Dinner - The group will be taken for an authentic dinner with a variety of menu options to cater all diets.

Day 2 - Belize Bird Rescue - Tuesday, May 24

Breakfast & Day Briefing

Bird Feeding

Xunantunich Ancient Maya Archaeological Site - The name of this ancient Mayan ruin is a tongue twister, but to indigenous peoples who made this sacred site their home for millennia, Xunantunich was a safe, secure hilltop area with plenty of vantage points, just in case a neighboring army of usurpers or explorers from abroad sought to claim this stronghold.

Lunch Break

Visit San Ignacio Town

Traditional Chocolate Making Experience - It all started with the Classic Period Maya (250 – 900 C.E.)- the first people to discover the cacao plant. Chocolate played an important Religious role in their lives. The Mayans drank chocolate on special occasions and during religious events.

Group Dinner - included

Day 3 - Belize Bird Rescue - Wednesday, May 25

Breakfast & Day Briefing

Waterfalls Excursion

Blue Hole National Park - Located in Belize's western Cayo District near the capital of Belmopan, St. Herman's Blue Hole National Park is a site of natural beauty.

Group Dinner - included

Day 4 - Caye Caulker - Thursday, May 26

Breakfast & Day Briefing

Transfer to Belize City

Belize Zoo - The Belize Zoo is an institution that cares for over 150 native wildlife, and promotes Conservation, Education, Recreation, and Research.

Ferry to Caye Caulker (approx. 45 mins)

Check-In - Relax & Refresh

Island Orientation Tour

Day 5 - Caye Caulker - Friday, May 27

Breakfast & Day Briefing

Full Day Snorkeling Excursion Hol Chan Marine

Reserve - The Hol Chan Marine Reserve was established as a marine protected area in 1987 under the Laws of Belize. It incorporates the southernmost marine and coastal areas of Ambergris Caye including the barrier reef, seagrass beds and the mangrove islands of Boca Chica and Cangrejo Shoals. A zoning scheme was developed in order to ensure sustainable use and guarantee its conservation. Hol Chan is divided into four zones which include no-take areas and zones that regulate and promote sustainable fishing practices. Lunch included.



Program Itinerary



Day 6 - Caye Caulker - Saturday, May 28
Breakfast & Day Briefing
Beach and Mangrove Cleanup
Sea Kayaking and Explore North Island

Day 7 - Caye Caulker - Sunday, May 29
Breakfast & Day Briefing
Free Day in Caye Caulker
Farewell Dinner & Program Closing - The group will be taken for an authentic dinner with a variety of menu options to cater all diets.

Day 8 - Return - Monday, May 30
Breakfast & Day Briefing
Ferry Transfer to Belize City (First Ferry)
Airport Transfer
Depart Belize City for Home



Program Highlights

- Bird Feeding
- Belize Zoo
- Beach and Mangrove Cleanup
- Xunantunich Maya Archaeological Site
- Traditional Chocolate Making Experience
- Blue Hole National Park
- · Snorkel Hol Chan Marine Reserve
- Sea Kayaking and Explore North Island

Program Includes

- Roundtrip Airfare
- 7 Nights of Accommodation
- Daily Continental Breakfast
- All Ground Transportation
- 1 Group Lunch
- 4 Group Dinners
- Full Time Guidance & Assistance

All of our programs are 100% customizable.

Is there an experience you'd like to provide the students that's not included in the itinerary. **Let's add it!**

Are there sites that better fit your subject than the ones provided? **Let's swap them!**

Tell us your dream itinerary and we'll work with you to make it a reality.



Click here to see all of our affiliated Institutions & Consortiums



#wearestudyabroad

Study Abroad Association has launched a **Private Facebook Group** made of educators, professors, directors, industry expert and like-minded people that would like to contribute, share and learn more about anything related with study abroad, faculty-led and service learning programs.

Click **here**, or search on Facebook "#wearestudyabroad" and request your free access today.

Top Quality - Read all our <u>5 Star Reviews</u>

Go and have fun reading all our public reviews of both students and educators on our Facebook page. In conjunction with those feel free to reach out to any reference we have. Due diligence is essential when choosing the right program for your students.

Testimonials



Cring Rosby
☐ recommends Study Abroad Association.

This was my first trip as a professor taking students abroad. Christian and his team were magnificent. Everything was taken care of, accommodations were excellent, the guides were friendly. My students had an opportunity to earn college credit while abroad and Christian personalized our trip to meet those needs. I fully recommend the Study Abroad Association, and I can't wait to attend next year.



Outstanding tours at the lowest prices in the industry. Our institution has worked with the Study Abroad Association on five study tours to locations as diverse as China, Central Europe, and Costa Rica.

SAA worked with us to build an itinerary that was both educational and a ton of fun. The local guides far exceeded our expectations.



Christian and his guides arranged an amazing and affordable adventure for our students.

The guides' expertise was unmatched. I have studied abroad before and have never had such knowledgeable, friendly, and fun guides. I definitely will be using SAA for all our future trips.



References

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