

2023 Belize  
Mayan Adventure Tour

Brief Itinerary - Dates TBA

*There are places I've been that fill me with an overwhelming sense of gratefulness. Belize is one of those. The experiences on this tour are very special to me and we are very excited to share them with you. We spent over 2 weeks exploring the different regions of Belize, and we fell in love with the country and its people. Especially the Cayo District! It's special because there's nowhere quite like it. I hope you return from this tour different, better, a traveler.*  
Wes Barnett,

#### Day 1

##### Departure

Travel from Shreveport to San Ignacio Belize

Welcome Party at Cahal Pech Village Resort

#### Day 2

##### Expedition to the Actun Tunichil Muknal Cave

The ATM Cave is a world-class adventure tour with a rare opportunity to see an ancient Maya sacrificial site with skulls, pots, and ceremonial altars virtually untouched for centuries. The ATM cave is a hiking and adventure experience with the added dimension of being an educational trip for those interested in archaeology. Here you will find Maya artifacts just the way they were left by the Mayas hundreds of years ago. The cave is ranked as one of the Top Ten Caves Of The World by the National Geographic Society.

#### Day 3

##### Xunantunich, San Ignacio Market, Tikal Lodge

The day will begin with breakfast at the famous San Ignacio market. This important merchant center is the means by which many of the locals make their living. You'll have the unique opportunity to sample great food and buy goods, and interact with our great hosts. Next we travel by van to Xunantunich. Xunantunich is the tallest Mayan ruins site in Belize, located on the very western edge of the country, close to Guatemala. This tour starts with crossing the Mopar River on a hand cranked ferry before picking up our guide near the site entrance. After lunch we will drive across the Guatemalan border where we'll spend the night at Tikal.

## Day 4

### Sunrise at Tikal

In the heart of the jungle, surrounded by lush vegetation, lies possibly the most important site of Mayan civilization, inhabited from the 6th century B.C. to the 10th century A.D. The ceremonial center contains superb temples and palaces, and public squares accessed by means of ramps. Remains of dwellings are scattered throughout the surrounding countryside. The sunrise tour of Tikal is exactly that. You enter the park super early, walk through the jungle in the darkness to make it to Temple IV to climb to the top and watch the sunrise over the jungle. It really is magical, to watch the first rays of light hit the tree canopy, hearing the jungle life come alive and 100% worth the journey. Also, being at the archaeological park, long before the masses of the other Tikal tour groups are even out of bed means you'll have most the site to yourself after you've watched the sunrise.

## Day 5

### Explore the Mountain Pine Ridge

One of the most popular areas to visit, the Mountain Pine Ridge Forest Reserve offers a refreshing experience from its hotter lowland neighbors. Established as a natural treasure in 1944, the reserve is found in the Cayo district, in Southern-Central Belize. This nature reserve's expanse is an impressive 300 square miles and is pine-tree dominated, a fact that may surprise many visitors since it is a stark contrast to the rest of the tropical country. From meandering streams and deep valleys to steep ridges and waterfalls, the reserve offers something for every adventure-seeker. As a departure from the strenuous adventures of the first 4 days, this will be much more relaxing. Exploring caves on our on and swimming under waterfalls is the core of the day's activity.

## Day 6

### Spa Day

To celebrate our hard work, we will be moving our home base to one of the area's luxury spa resorts. I will be updating our adventurers as these plans are finalized.

## Day 7

### Return Home