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ALTUN HA *"Water of the Rock"*

The archaeological site located 30 miles from Belize City, was a major ceremonial center and the discovery site of Belize's famous Jade Head. Altun Ha functioned as a central trading link between the Caribbean coast and Maya centers in the interior during the Maya Classic Period. Two main plazas thirteen temples and residential structures have been excavated here.



LAMANAI *"Submerged Crocodile"*

Lamanai is located in a two square mile area at the edge of a lush forest reserve. Reaching the archeological site is an excursion itself; the preferred route is to travel by boat up to the New River for about an hour and a half. Blooming orchids and other flowers are abundant along the bank, as well as a variety of birds, animals, and a growing population of Howler monkeys.



XUNANTUNICH *"Maiden of the Rocks"*

Xunantunich was a major ceremonial site, built on a natural limestone ridge during the Classic Period. The site composed of six major plazas with more than twenty-five temples and palaces. " El Castillo" (the Castle), the largest pyramid at 130 feet above the plazas, has such carved friezes on the east and west side. The frieze on the east has been preserved and covered with a fiberglass replica of the central mask representing the Sun God flanked the Moon, Venus, and different days.



CARACOL *"SNAIL"*

Belize's premier Maya site with a rich and exciting history as a rival power to Tikal. Caracol is deep in the heart of the Chiquibul Forest Reserve on the Maya Mountains in the Cayo District. The main temples, Canaa "sky place" offers an incredible view of the surrounding jungle-at 143 feet high it is the tallest man-made structure in the country. The ancient architects created not only a spectacular structure but incorporated excellent acoustics so that the priest and rulers using normal speaking voices could be clearly heard by the masses assembled in the plaza below.

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ACTUN TUNICHIL MUKNAL (ATM)

A cave in Belize, near San Ignacio Cayo, notable as a Maya archaeological site that includes skeletons, ceramics, and stone wear. The most famous human remain is known as "The Crystal Maiden", the skeleton of a teenage girl, probably a sacrifice victim, whose bones have been completely calcified by the natural processes of the cave, leaving them with a sparkling crystallized appearance. There are several areas of skeletal remains in the main chamber.



TIKAL IN GUATEMALA

Tikal is the largest Mayan City, that started to be occupied from 800 BC until 900 AD and is surrounded by a pristine Tropical Forest, the area of the city, itself is 122 km² (52 sq. miles), with only 16 km² mapped, and more than 4000 structures identified to date, the Natural Park is 576 km² (142,080 acres). The founder of the Classic dynasty was, Yax Eb'-Xok, or Step-Shark, who is believed to have the ascension of Siyah K'ahk' (Fire is Born) in 378 AD, Tikal conquered Uaxactún and emerged as the Superpower in the Classic Maya world.



COMMUNITY BABOON SANCTUARY

Founded in 1985, the sanctuary is a community-based initiative where land-owners from seven of the nine villages which make up the Belize River Valley Community, they maintain the habitat and environment to ensure a healthy population of Black Howler Monkeys, locally known as "Baboons". The sanctuary's success has been due in a large part to the efforts of the seven of the surrounding villages under the leadership of the "Women's Conservation Group" (WCG) who have been managing the sanctuary since 1988.



CAVE TUBING

If you are looking for things to do in Belize, Cave Tubing should be on the top of your list. There is no other country or island in all of the Western Caribbeans and perhaps in the entire world that offers anything quite like this. Since it was first introduced to cruise ship passengers in the late 1990s, Cave tubing has become the most popular shore excursion in Belize.



ZIPLINING

Soar above the jungle canopy, safely secured by cable and pulley equipment suspended high above the ground. Ziplining employs a series of cables and platforms suspended over the rainforest treetops, allowing you to slide from one station to the next. Flying through the air, surrounded by nature is the most exhilarating feeling ever!