

# THE SAN PEDRO SUN VISITOR GUIDE

*The Island Newspaper*  
Ambergris Caye, Belize  
Central America

January 27, 2005

FREE



## Life slows down on Caye Caulker

While exploring all that San Pedro and Ambergris Caye have to offer, you may find yourself on the neighboring island of Caye Caulker. Whether you buzz over by motorboat or plane, or let the Rum Punch gently deliver you by sail, once you arrive, you will immediately sense that you are in a different place. When visiting Caye Caulker, prepare to slow down and relax.



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## Readers of Rodale's Scuba Diving Magazine Awards Belize

Press Release - Belize Tourism Board, January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2005 - The readers of *Rodale's Scuba Diving Magazine* has ranked the Atolls of Belize as the **First Place for Top Underwater Visibility**, **Second Place for Healthiest Marine Environment** and one of the **Top 20 Dive Destinations** in the Caribbean. Ambergris Caye received **Top Five honors** in the category of **Big Animal Encounter** and **Top 15 in Best Overall Dive Destinations in the Caribbean/Atlantic**. The *Reader's Choice* winners were announced in the January/February 2005 issue of *Scuba Diving* where Belize garnered five awards.

*Rodale's Scuba Diving Magazine* periodically conducts highly detailed surveys to discern top choices in various diving-related categories, specifically according to reader opinion. More than 4,500 *Scuba Diving* subscribers and web users rated their experiences at dive destinations in a variety of categories on a scale of one to five.

*Rodale's Scuba Diving Magazine* features in depth scuba equipment, comparative reviews, dive travel destination reports and feature articles on diving environment, aquatic life, diver nutrition and health. The magazine has an audience of 1,171,000 and is published 11 times a year. "Rodale's Readers Choice Awards have consistently ranked Belize as one of the best places to dive in the Caribbean," comments Director of Tourism, Tracy Panton. "Belize's marine attractions continue to rank high among our visitors and its seven UNESCO declared marine world heritage sites are very popular with divers and non-divers," Panton noted.

Belize has maintained a rather favorable record with *Rodale's* readers, as in 2004, the atolls of Belize ranked among the Top Ten Dive Destinations and Top Five Healthiest Marine Environments.

For more information on the developments and events in Belize Tourism Industry, please contact the Marketing department at the Belize Tourism Board at (501)-223-1913, via email: [info@travelbelize.org](mailto:info@travelbelize.org) or visit us at our website [www.travelbelize.org](http://www.travelbelize.org)

## Greetings to my visiting friends

The Mayor, Councilors and people of San Pedro Town take this opportunity to welcome you with open arms to this beautiful jewel of ours.

May your stay here with us be a pleasant one, filled with enjoyment and delightful memories.

May you experience the best of what San Pedro has to offer. We hope that during your stay you'll find San Pedro to be your home away from home. Feel free to explore "La Isla Bonita" and see the genuine beauty and warm hospitality we have to offer.

We are more than happy to have you visiting us, may the memory you will hold of this place be an everlasting and cherishable one. Once again welcome and please enjoy your stay.

Elsa Paz, Mayor, San Pedro Town



Mayor Elsa Paz

## Good Things To Know About San Pedro Town & Belize

### Government

Belize has been an independent nation since 1981. It is a member of the British Commonwealth of Nations.

### Ambergris Caye

Ambergris Caye is twenty-five miles long; its width ranges from a few hundred feet to over four miles. Northern Ambergris Caye is separated from the southernmost tip of Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula by a small channel. After arriving in Belize City, a short fifteen minute airplane ride gets you to San Pedro, or if you would rather take the scenic route, an hour's boat ride will get you there as well.

### Language

English is the official language and is widely spoken, as is Spanish. Other languages include Creole, Garifuna, Mayan and German.

### Climate

Belize weather is characterized by two seasons: a rainy and a dry season. Most of the year's rainfall occurs during the period of June to November, that is, the rainy season. The average temperature varies from 81°F/27°C along the coast to 69°F/21°C in the hills. The coldest month is January while the highest temperatures are experienced during the month of May.

### Cash & Currency

U.S. dollars are accepted as currency countrywide. The common exchange ratio is \$2BZ/\$1 U.S. Licensed moneychangers offer a slightly higher exchange rate, ranging from \$2.05BZ to \$2.12BZ, depending on the current market.

Nearly all hotels, restaurants and shops accept Visa, Master Card and travelers' checks. Street vendors and smaller establishments in remote areas may accept only cash or travelers' checks.

### Sales Taxes

Belize's sales tax is set at 9% and it is applied to all goods and services, except for telecommunications. There is a 7% hotel tax. Some hotels also add a 10-15% "service charge" to the bill; inquire about this when checking hotel prices.

### Transportation

The streets are sand, which is great for walking or bike riding. There are few cars; instead, the vehicles of choice are electric golf carts, which are available for rent. Please remember that all golf cart drivers MUST have a valid drivers license. Drive with caution, there are many speed bumps around the downtown area that are not marked and always be on the lookout for potholes. Taxi service is available everywhere south of Boca del Rio. Around town the average fee is \$7BZ. Some local business, as well as resorts, rent bicycles.

### Telecommunications

All telecommunications services (direct dial phones, fax, telex, cable) are available. There are several "Internet Caffe's" on the island where you can access the Internet through high-speed internet or satellite connections.

### The San Pedro Sun & Visitor Guide

**Publisher** ..... The San Pedro Sun  
**San Ltd.** .....  
**Editor** ..... Ron Sniffin: ron@sanpedrosun.net  
**Editor** ..... Tamara Sniffin: tamara@sanpedrosun.net  
**Staff Writer** ..... Kaitie Manuel: kaitie@sanpedrosun.net  
**Mail** ..... The San Pedro Sun, P.O. Box 35, Ambergris Caye, Belize  
**Telephone** ..... 011-501-226-2070  
**Fax** ..... 011-501-226-2005  
**E-Mail** ..... sanpedrosun@btel.net or spsun@sanpedrosun.net  
**Internet/WEB** ..... www.SanPedroSun.net  
**Main Office** ..... #1 Five Coral Str eet, San Pedro  
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**Casa De David Condominiums** - \$750,000/\$500,000 US - 1/1 layout condos located on San Jorge St. Great rental income potential! One 2/2 unit available for \$140,000.00 US.

**Tecapa Bar and Property** - \$400,000 US - This San Pedro Bar, Home and Property is currently available for sale. Price is negotiable with possible terms.

**Multi Unit Apartment Building** - \$525,000 US - This large apartment building is located in the Escalante Subdivision of San Pedro, very near the medical school. Great income potential and a beautiful 3<sup>rd</sup> floor owner's suite!

**Reef Village Condominiums** - \$39,500/\$149,900 US - Comfortable one and two bedroom condos with both ocean and lagoon access. Just north of town!

**Casa Cayo Estates** - \$140,000 US - 60 acres in Cayo District, water & electricity available. They all or a portion.

**Captain Morgan Villas** - \$150,000 US/Vacac - We currently have four separate one bedroom / one bathroom units available for sale at this prestigious resort. Each unit is 780 square feet in size and has wonderful income potential! \$600,000 US gets you all four!

**Paradise Villas Condominiums** - \$245,000/\$275,000 US - We currently have several units available in this well established condominium complex. 2/2 and 3/2 split level layouts afford many rental opportunities.

**Great Single Story Home in Escalante Subdivision** - \$235,000.00 This 3/2 home built in 1999 is now available for sale. The totally concrete structure has tile floors throughout. The quiet subdivision is a great location to raise your family!

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## FEATURED PROPERTY

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This extremely affordable condominium complex is located just south of San Pedro Town Center. Each unit in Perla Escondida has a 2 bed - 2 bath layout that affords plenty of room for it's owners or renters. Immaculate grounds include a pool, car parking, and manicured beach area. Pricing is from \$149,000.00 to \$210,000.00 US.

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### RECENTLY REDUCED PRICING ON THESE GREAT HOME SITES !!!

**Twins Dolphin Home Sites** - \$289,000 US - 80' beachfront home sites located South of San Pedro Town. Some of the very best estate sites on the island. Seawall, filled with electric.

**Tres Cocas Home Sites** - \$245,000 US - 50' beachfront home sites North of San Pedro. These 4 available lots are some of the finest home sites around.

**Club Caribbean Home Sites** - \$14,950/\$70,000 US - Beachfront and interior home sites located south of San Pedro on Ambergris Caye. Selling fast!

**Club Caribbean Premier Sites** - \$150,000 US - These 50' beachfront sites are developed with bulkhead and backfill. Sites will be ready for your beachfront dream home.

**Santa Matilda Subdivision Home Sites** - \$35,000/\$5,000 US - Affordable interior home sites available North on Ambergris Caye.

**Punta Azul Home Sites** - \$7950/\$15,900 US - 75' x 115' interior home sites with ocean views located North on Ambergris Caye.

**Island Park Estates Home Sites** - \$115,000/\$285,000 US - 80' beachfront home sites with bulkhead, native vegetation, high ground. Interior sites also available.



# SPECIAL Caye Caulker Visitor Section



## Caye Caulker promotes visitors to "go slow"

A thirty-minute boat ride from San Pedro Town takes you to a carefree, relaxed, unique travel destination. Caye Caulker, a four-mile long island located one mile west of the Belize Barrier Reef, re-

mains friendly and easy-going, a place where you can truly take your shoes off and relax...there is no rush...just go slow! This laid back village is primarily a fishing village and the way to get around is by golf carts, bicycles and bare feet. Shoes are a "no-no," and the golf cart mode of transportation is unique and fun.

The island is divided into two parts by the split. The main village is located in the southern portion of the island. Hurricane Hattie in 1961 divided the island at the split, a narrow waterway between the two islands. Mother Nature took over and tidal forces have formed it into a wider, deep, swift moving channel that truly divides Caye Caulker into its two islands. The split remains one of the best spots for swimming and snorkeling, not to mention it is one of the places where people go to meet and socialize.

Like San Pedro, the weather is usually quite pleasant year around. The island offers many choices for water sports whether it is sailing, diving, birding, jungle tours, fishing, and windsurfing in the clear azure waters of the Caribbean. Local tour guides can arrange trips to see manatees, jungle trips up the rivers of the mainland, where orchids, bromeliads, cactus, a variety of birds, monkeys, bats and other wildlife await you. For visitors interested in bird watching, green Aztec parakeets, Ringed Kingfishers and tropical Mocking birds, along with hundreds of other varieties can be freely enjoyed. Once you arrive in the country, getting to Caye Caulker is easy. Just 21



A quick glance at a map of Caye Caulker posted at the end of the Water Taxi dock quickly informs visitors "there is no need to rush."

miles northeast of Belize City, Caye Caulker is easily accessible by regularly scheduled water taxis. The Caye Caulker Water Taxi Association operates regular water taxi service out of Belize City. Water taxis depart seven times daily from Belize City's Marine Terminal on North Front Street, arriving 45 minutes later at the main pier. Currently the airstrip is being reconstructed and will soon be better equipped to handle air traffic. While reconstruction is taking place, the island is accessible only by boat. The airstrip is expected to reopen early next month, and Tropic Air and Maya Island Air will resume their regular flights to and from Caye Caulker. The flight is less than 10 minutes away from the Belize mainland, offering hourly commuter flights from the Phillip Goldson International Airport and the municipal airport in Belize City.



Catching rays on the uncrowded beaches of Caye Caulker is a favorite pastime for visitors here.

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# SPECIAL Caye Caulker Visitor Section



## There is plenty to do on Caye Caulker

Continued from Page 4

There are over 30 hotels scattered through the picturesque community and all of them offer the comforts of home, as well as a taste of the Caribbean.

**\*Caye Caulker Condos** are located near "the split" – the island's best swimming and sunbathing area. Located within a short walking distance from dive shops, fishing tours, restaurants and island shopping, Caye Caulker Condos have eight studio condo units with fully equipped kitchens, showers for two, air conditioning and tastefully decorated interiors. Each unit has a large private deck facing the white sand beach of the Caribbean Sea. Thinking of tying the knot? Caye Caulker Condos offers the best wedding package available. Get married while the sun sets and the island glows with its warm rays.

**\*Diane's Beach House** located right on the beach is a Caribbean, brightly colored fully furnished home. It is a two-story, three-bedroom island "home away from home." On the beach, yet central to the village, Diane's Beach House offers visitors panoramic Caribbean views, breathtaking sunrises and easy access to snorkel and dive centers, mini-markets, quaint shops and a selection of out-door restaurants and cafés.

**\*Iguana Reef Inn** is a beautiful resort that blends casual elegance with barefoot informality. Located on the water's edge, in a secluded location in the heart of a charming fishing village, the Inn offers decidedly upscale accommodations and the enchantment of the "Old Caribbean" island lifestyle. Relax on the verandah of one of the Inn's twelve richly textured suites and settle into the unhurried pace of the island's residents. The

Inn's ideal location is just minutes away from the restaurants and night spots on Caye Caulker and a short walk away from the beach.

**\*Tropical Paradise Hotel** lets you enjoy the beautiful white sandy beaches right at their doorstep. Relax and let your worries drift away as the gentle Caribbean breeze tans your skin and Tropical Paradise Hotel's friendly staff pamper you and caters to your every need. Tropical Paradise Hotels 25 rooms are designed with your and your family's needs in mind. All rooms have private baths with hot and cold water. Other amenities include Air-conditioning, and Cable TV.

At night, there are many restaurants, clubs, and local music for your enjoyment. Even though the island is fairly small, it offers grand amenities and wonderful meals. Caye Caulker offers tasty, delicious food, prepared with the same warmth that each visitor receives from the local residents. Many restaurants line the charming community and different smells and aromas entice you while you take a nice stroll down the street. Like the rest of the country, Caye Caulker has its distinct cultural flavor.

**\*Don Corleone** is a Caribbean Trattoria that will make you a meal you simply cannot refuse. Don Corleone features Italian cuisine, open for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Delicious crepes to start your day, scrumptious pizzas, mouth watering soups, salads and Carpaccio make up their delectable menu. This one-of-a-kind restaurant



Wandering the shops and cafes along the quiet streets are a favorite pastime for visitors to Caye Caulker.

has a great wine list featuring sparkling wines, such as Sarto Prosecco Fizzante, white wines, and red wines.

**\*Rasta Pasta Rainforest Café** is located right on the beach and open all day for breakfast, lunch and dinner.

Rasta Pasta offers a Belizean and international menu specializing in seafood, chicken and vegetarian delights (no beef or pork served). All home baked goods and the biggest burritos you have ever seen. Try Rasta Pasta's homemade ginger beer – the Rasta Ripper – and their freshly squeezed juices and smoothies. Rasta Pasta Rainforest Café – Home of Genesis in the Jungle.

**\*Sandbox Beach Bar and Restaurant** specializes in the best in seafood. Try their lobster tails lovingly prepared in a garlic and olive oil marinade, sautéed with mushrooms, or cooked on the grill. Love fish? Well, Sandbox has a delicious almost prepared fish waiting for you. Or, taste their famous pork chops

marinated in their secret sauce. Sandbox offers tasty rum punches and frozen drinks to go with your daily specials.

There are several gift shops around that offer a wide variety of gifts, clothes, souvenirs, and a great selection of t-shirts. Despite the laid-back atmosphere, there is plenty to do that makes visitors feel right at home.

At Caye Caulker, you can walk the island where pirates once roamed because of its availability of freshwater. The treasure that they never discovered is still here, a bounty of beauty, peace and romance. So kick off your shoes and relax in a beach chair or hammock. Why not visit your own back yard? It is a wonderful adventure Belizeans can surely enjoy. Be it a weekend or even a week off work, you can enjoy what others come to Belize to experience. Caye Caulker – only a hop, skip and jump away.

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## The San Pedro Sun's Virtual Taste Trip

# The Hot Rum Toddy

Contributed by the Culinary  
Staff of Azul Resort

In these winter months, while many of our neighbors to the north are digging out of the snow, folks in Ambergris still get to enjoy warm weather and tropical breezes...for the most part. Every once in a while, though the wind will creep in from the north and we'll find our beloved Caye in the midst of a cold spell. And, while we'll never illicit sympathy about the cold from people who live in say, Minnesota, that does not mean one does not have to drag out the long pants, put on a sweatshirt and hide under an extra blanket at night. So, while a frosty cool rum drink is perfect for most of the year here, following is a suggestion for a beverage for those (rare) chillier days...the king of all hot drinks, the Hot Rum Toddy.

\*Mix 1 pound dark brown sugar, ½ pound salted butter, 1 teaspoon ground nutmeg, 1 teaspoon cinnamon, ½ teaspoon ground cloves and 1 teaspoon ground cardamom in a food processor until

creamy (this "batter" will keep covered in a refrigerator for a few months).

\*To make the drink, fill a coffee mug 2/3 with boiling water. Add 2-3 tablespoons of the batter and 2 shots (or 3, 4,

etc., depending on just HOW cold it is) to the mug, stir and enjoy!!! You can use any dark rum, but the "caramel" flavor of One Barrel works particularly well for this recipe. Enjoy!!!

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# THE SAN PEDRO SUN VISITOR'S GUIDE

## Tourist Information

Belize Tourism Board - 225-1910.

Belize Tourism Industry Association (BTIA) - 227-5717.

San Pedro Tourist Guide Association 226-2391.

## Church Services

**San Pedro Roman Catholic Church** Sun. Mass: 9 a.m. English; 11 a.m. Children's; 7:30 p.m. Spanish; Sat.: Confessions 5-7 p.m. Mass or Communion Service every night at 7:30 p.m.

**Living Word Church Service** Sun. 10:45 a.m. Bible study Mon. 7:30 p.m. We do Christian charity work. 226-2950.

**Assembly of God Church** on Angel Coral St. Marriage Counseling/Prayer Line. Call 226-3767/2913 - Services T-W-Sat.-Sun. at 7:30 p.m. Christian Radio FM 101.3.

## IMPORTANT #s

Emergency 911  
Crimestoppers 922  
Police 226-2022  
Fire 226-2372  
Wings of Hope - Medical emergency air ambulance. Phone: 223-3292.  
Lions Health Clinic - 226-4052; emergencies 603-1755 or Hours: Mon.-Fri., 8am to 8pm; Sat., 8am - noon.  
Los Pinos Clinic 602-6383 and 226-2686.

**Hyperbaric Chamber** - 226-2851, Dr. Otto Rodriguez - 600-0287 or 226-2854, Antonia Guerrero - 600-5475 or 206-2152, Eleazar Portillo - 610-4560 or 226-3195.

**San Pedro Health Center** - 226-2536, 8-12 and 2-5, Mon. to Fri. Emergencies 226-2555/2918 or 606-3864.

**US Embassy** - 227-7161

**Canadian Consulate** - 223-1060

**Mexican Embassy** - 223-0193

**Guatemalan Embassy** - 223-3150

**Honduran Embassy** - 224-5889

## Miscellaneous

**The Lions Club of San Pedro** relies on income from its Friday and Saturday BBQ to support the needy community. Help a great cause - have dinner with us!

### Green Reef

A non-profit organization dedicated to the promotion of sustainable use and conservation of Belize's marine and coastal resources. [greenerf@btl.net](http://greenerf@btl.net)

**San Pedro AA** - 226-4464, 2660

### Saga Society

A non-profit "humane society" to address the stray cat and dog population in San Pedro. Phone 226-3266.



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## Water, Sports & Tours

**SEARIOUS ADVENTURES** - Up for some adventure? Mayan ruins, manatee watching and more tours available. Make your reservations today. 226-4127.

**SAILSPORTS BELIZE** - Windsurfing, kite sailing and sailing. The latest equipment and expert instruction makes it easy to learn. 226-4488 [info@sailsportsbelize.com](mailto:info@sailsportsbelize.com).

**SEADUCED** - River cave tubing, snorkel excursions, Mayan ruins and more adventures. 226-2254.

## Realtors...

**SEASIDE REAL ESTATE** - Many listings, from raw land to beautiful beachfront homes. We can help you own a piece of paradise. Call 226-4545 or E-mail [ambergris@btl.net](mailto:ambergris@btl.net)

**SUNRISE REALTY** - Land, homes, businesses, condos and investment properties. Call 226-3737, fax 226-3379 or E-mail: [info@SunriseBelize.com](mailto:info@SunriseBelize.com)

**CASA CAYO REAL ESTATE** - Serving Belize from the mountains to the reef. Phone 226-2791. [www.casacayoreal.com](http://www.casacayoreal.com)

**SOUTHWIND PROPERTIES** - For all your Real Estate needs. Call 226-2005 or 226-2060 for information or E-mail: [southwind@btl.net](mailto:southwind@btl.net) for current listings.

**PELICAN PROPERTIES LTD.** - Fine properties on Ambergris Caye. E-mail: [info@pelicanbelize.com](mailto:info@pelicanbelize.com) or phone 226-3234.

## Transportation...

**ISLAND FERRY SERVICE & WATER TAXI** - Scheduled ferry service & water taxi for Ambergris Caye. Phone 226-3231.

**MONCHO'S GOLF CART RENTALS** - Four & Six seater golf carts available. Open daily 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. We deliver to your room. 226-3262 or 226-4490.

## Services...

**KRYSTAL SHIPPING CO./MASH CO.** - We deliver construction supplies all the way to Robles Point! Phone 226-2089 or E-mail: [mashco@btl.net](mailto:mashco@btl.net)

**CASTILLO'S HARDWARE** - Storm supplies, electronics, household appliances, tools, home repair items and a wide variety of paints, stains and varnishes. Pescador Drive. Phone 226-2302.

**WALLY'S ELECTRICAL SERVICE AND SUPPLY** - Air conditioning, electrical and plumbing, parts and service. Phone 226-2408.

**VARELA CONSTRUCTION SUPPLIES & MATERIALS** - Quality construction materials and supplies. We stock what we sell! 226-2215 or 226-2808.

**THE SAN PEDRO SUN & VISITOR GUIDE** - Specializing in marketing and promotion of San Pedro and Belize businesses. The island's oldest and largest newspaper with the largest circulation. [AmbergrisCaye@spsun.com](mailto:AmbergrisCaye@spsun.com) number one newspaper. 226-2070, [spsun@sanpedrosun.net](mailto:spsun@sanpedrosun.net).

## Party...Party...Party

**THE HOLIDAY BEACH** - Every Wednesday, live music and a fabulous Beach Barbecue 6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Barrier Reef Dr. 226-2014.

**THE HAMMOCK HOUSE** - is the perfect "hangout." Live music, barbecues and more. Just north of the cut. 226-2940

**PIER LOUNGE** - Home of the "World Famous Chicken Drop" every Wednesday and Friday night. Daily drink specials and two-for-one happy hour. Located beachfront in the Spindrift Hotel. Phone 226-2002.



# THE SAN PEDRO SUN VISITOR'S GUIDE



## Dining Out...



**MATA CHICA** - Mambo Cuisine - for food lovers. Homemade pasta, shrimp paté, bruschetta, char-broiled seafood and much more! Call 220-5010/5011.

**ROJO LOUNGE** - Enjoy tropical lounge cuisine in one of the most beautiful beachfront settings in all of Belize - Azul Resort. 226-4012.

**CELI'S RESTAURANT ON THE BEACH** - At the San Pedro Holiday Hotel, open 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Beach BBQ every Wednesday night.

**LILY'S TREASURE CHEST RESTAURANT** - On the beach behind Lily's Hotel. Join us for a cool breeze and the best seafood or USDA beef on our veranda by the sea. 226-2650.

**JADE GARDEN RESTAURANT** - Delicious Cantonese cuisine, steaks, seafood and vegetarian dishes. 226-2306. Coconut Drive. Take-out available. Closed Tuesday.

**SWEET BASIL GOURMET CAFÉ** - Fabulous salads & sandwiches, imported wines & cheeses, fresh baked breads. Just across the river cut. Phone 226-3870.

**RAMON'S VILLAGE** - Enjoy breakfast, lunch and dinner in a Mayan atmosphere or on the veranda overlooking the Caribbean Sea. Coconut Drive. Phone 226-2071.

**LUNA** at Journey's End Resort - Experience fine dining on the beach north of San Pedro. Visit our tropical bar featuring karaoke, dance and fun music. Phone 226-2173.

**STAINED GLASS PUB** - Only British-American Pub in Belize! Home-cooked and gourmet specials. Serving lunch and dinner Mon. - Sat. starting at 11 a.m. Closed on Sundays. Phone 226-4147.

**RICO'S SURFSIDE RESTAURANT** - A truly unique dining experience on the beach at Banyan Bay. Serving breakfast, lunch and dinner daily. Phone 226-3739 ext. 135.

**PAPI'S DINER** - The place for fine food at diner prices. Taste the Caribbean. Call 226-2047.

**MICKEY'S PLACE** - Open daily 6:30 a.m. - 10 a.m. for breakfast, 11:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. for lunch and 6 - 10 p.m. for dinner. Burritos on Wednesdays. Pescador Drive. Call 226-2223.

**BLUE WATER GRILL** - Island cuisine with a twist! Wood-fired Oven Pizzas, Sushi and more! Open daily. Happy Hour 4 to 6 p.m. 226-3347.

**EL DIVINO RESTAURANT** at BANANA BEACH - Serving breakfast, lunch and dinner from 6 a.m. - 10 p.m. Book your party or banquet today! Phone 226-2444.

**CASA PICASSO** - Tapa Bar - Classic Pastas - After Dinner Desserts. Open at 5:30 p.m. Martini Lounge is open until 11 p.m. Call 226-4507.

**PORTOFINO'S** own "LE BISTRO" - One of the newest & most talked about restaurants on the island. Meet our host at 6:30 p.m. at Fido's Dock for a complimentary ride to one of the best culinary experiences you will have while in paradise. For reservations, call 220-5096.

**OVA DI WATA RESTAURANT** - At Caribe Island Resort. Fine dining on the sea. The best Seafood & USDA Beef. 3 miles south of San Pedro.

FREE transportation for 6 or more. Phone 226-3635.

**CARAMBA RESTAURANT** - Local Mexican & Caribbean dishes. Located on Pescador Dr. Phone 226-4321. Closed Wednesday.

**CAPRICORN RESTAURANT & BAR** - Enjoy our magical menu by sun or starlight. Brunch & lunch 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. dinner 6-9 p.m. Reservations suggested. 226-2809. Closed Wednesdays.

**GEORGE'S KITCHEN** - Breakfast Served Anytime! Scrumptious Steaks & Seafood. Open 7 a.m. - 3 p.m. & 6 p.m. - 10 p.m. Coconut Drive. Call 226-2974.

**RENDEZVOUS RESTAURANT AND BAR** - Thai and French fusion cuisine on the beach. Try our Rendezvous Estate house wine and extraordinary homemade bread. Phone 226-3426.

**CAPTAIN MORGAN'S RETREAT** - Savor a taste of *Temptation Island*. Underneath a starry night enjoy the exquisite meals prepared by our expert chefs. A small boat ride takes you to one of San Pedro's gully pleasures.

**PAULY'S PIZZA** - The best pizzas in town. Also great subs, calzones, chicken wings, cinnamon and garlic sticks. Seven days a week. 226-2651.

**ELVI'S KITCHEN** - Whether you're craving crab claws, lobster, calamari, scallops, mussels, fresh water lobster, shrimp, conch, or fish, Elvi's is "Di Place" for seafood. Call us at 226-2176.

**VICTORIA HOUSE** - International and Island-Style cuisine by Executive Chef Amy Knox. Open for breakfast, lunch & dinner. Reservations recommended. call 226-2067.

## Unique Offerings...

**ISLAND MINI GOLF & ICE CREAM** - Sea Grape Drive (1 block W of Barefoot Iguala). Open Mon. - Thurs. 12 - 9 p.m.; Fri. - Sun. 12 - 10 p.m.

**CAYE COFFEE** - Take a taste of our locally roasted fresh coffee back home. A wonderful cup of coffee makes such a great difference in your day. Try it and ask for more. 226-3568.

**DALLA'S STORE** - Fresh meats, and vegetables, groceries, liquors, and hardware items. Boca del Rio Area. Phone: 226-3286 Fax: 226-4074

**WINE de VINE** - Fine imported wines and cheeses. Olive oils, vinegars and specialty items. Located in the Vilma Linda Plaza on Tarpon St. Phone 226-3430.

**OSCAR'S GYM** - Free-weights, Pilates, basic Yoga, Balance Ball, Tae Bo and more. Affordable daily, weekly and monthly fees. Located in Boca del Rio 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily 226-2239.

**BIG TREE PRODUCE** - Fresh Local & Imported Fruits & Vegetables. Seafood, meats, juices & milk shakes. Pescador Dr. 226-2322.

**JUBILANT GIFTS & PARTY SHOP** - Party Favors, Invitations, Pilates, Holiday Decorations & More! Barrier Reef Drive - Phone 226-3400.

**SAN PEDRO CHIROPRACTIC CENTER** - Dr. Manners, Educated, Degreed and Licensed in the US. Specialize in pain relief, sports medicine, physical therapy, and massage. Vacationers special - 15% off massage. Call for appointment: 226-4695.

**THE GREENHOUSE** - Offering quality Belizean & imported fresh produce. A/C locale on Barrier Reef Drive. Phone 226-2084.

**THE SAUSAGE FACTORY** - Largest selection of smoked meats and sausage on the island. One mile south of town. 226-2655.

**CAYE INTERNATIONAL BANK** - Offering Demand Deposit Accounts, Loans, Savings Accounts, etc. [cihl@btl.net](mailto:cihl@btl.net) or phone 226-2388.

**ISLAND INTERNET CAFE** - Write home, browse the web, or simply call your friends and relatives. Visit us. 226-3777.

**TROPICAL TOUCH DAY MASSAGE** - Relax and let the vacation begin. For appointments call us at 226-4666.

**PROVIDENT BANK & TRUST** - Offering a full range of International Banking Services. phone 223-5698 [services@providentbank.bz](mailto:services@providentbank.bz)

## The San Pedro Sun Visitor Guide

EVERY WEEK we print a new edition covering the "good news" about San Pedro and Belize!

Contact the San Pedro Sun for more information.  
[spsun@sanpedrosun.net](mailto:spsun@sanpedrosun.net)  
 (501) 226-2070  
[www.sanpedrosun.net](http://www.sanpedrosun.net)



## Reef Brief

by Green Reef Peace Corp  
Volunteer, Kristen Steljes



### American Saltwater Crocodile

The American Saltwater Crocodile is the largest crocodile species in the world. They have an average length of 12 feet, but grow to be up to 23 feet long! They can weigh between 500 to 1,000 pounds.

These crocodiles live mostly in saltwater lagoons, swamps, and marshes because they prefer saltwater. However, they can be found in freshwater.



Mature crocodiles feed on small mammals, birds, crabs, and fish. Smaller crocodiles eat insects, frogs, snails, crabs, and small fish. They have also been known to feed on carcasses, baby crocodiles. If provoked, they may attack humans and have been known to eat dogs and cats.

Crocodiles build their nests in the sand along shorelines. They lay from 20 to 60 eggs, which take about 90 days to hatch. The mothers protect their nests from intruders by rising up out of the water and attacking with a loud roar. When the babies hatch, they make a loud squeaky call. The mother then pulls apart the nest, gathers up her babies in her mouth, and carries them into the water. The babies stay with their mother for up to 20 weeks for protection from would-be predators like raccoons, coati-mundis, herons, and male crocodiles.

Crocodiles are an important part of our ecosystem and they are listed as Vulnerable to Extinction by the IUCN (the World Conservation Union). We all know to be careful in an area that is inhabited by crocodiles. Even dangerous animals have a place, so let's treat the American Saltwater Crocodile with respect.

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HOPE TO SEE YOU SOON!

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Restaurant of the Quench Hotel

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Party! Sunday Feb. 6  
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Explore the beautiful north end of the island & visit the prettiest and tastiest restaurant on Ambergris Caye!  
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We at Southwind Properties specialize in the listing & sale of fine island properties - Homes, Condos, Hotels, Commercial, Income-Producing Properties & Land for homes or large parcels for development. Be sure to meet with Marianne, Lori or Claudio to discuss your particular needs. Southwind Properties prides itself in being there full-time for full service and full disclosure for all your real estate needs. Call 226-2005/2060 or E-mail southwind@bt.net for more information.

#### Condos/Homes & Commercial Property

**Caribe Island Resort (L16)** Unit 13 - 1 bdrm Condo on the beach. Fully furnished \$139,900 US.

**Caribe Island Resort (H28)** 1 bdrm, 1 bath right on the beach! Fully furnished.

\$170,000 US - terms possible.

**Royal Palm (R44) Unit 6B** - 1 bdrm condo on the upper level. Ocean & pool view. Fully Furnished. \$175,000 US.

**Beachfront Home (A10)** 1<sup>st</sup> level - 6apts. 1 bdrm/1bath each; 2<sup>nd</sup> level - 3 bdrm/1-1/2 bath; 3<sup>rd</sup> level - 2 bdrm/1 bath penthouse apt. Enjoy your view of the reef & the ocean breezes from your palapa or snorkel & sun off your 100' dock. \$825,000 US.

**Apartment Building (C26)** Apartment building with 10 units on 2 levels. Solid concrete construction ready for a third level for additional apartments or an owner's quarters. Priced to sell at \$550,000 US - terms also available.

#### Raw Land

**Palmero Point (M50)** Lot #40 - 125' x 135' - Big and lush lot several rows off the beach. \$16,000 US. Motivated Seller! Make an offer!

**Palmero Point (W19)** Lot #50, 95' x 120' - \$20,000 US. Terms Available.

**Robles** - Beachfront lots starting at \$39,900 US.

**Boca Del Rio (P42)** 3 connecting lots located on the waterway just before you cross the river cut. \$210,000 US.

**5 lots in San Pedro Area (R39)** Each approximately 416 Sq. yds. A small wooden house and an unfinished concrete structure also convey Everything for only \$175,000 US! Very motivated seller. Make an offer!!!

**San Pablo** - Canal lots starting at \$23,000 US.

**Escalante Subdivision** - Lots 50' x 75' starting at \$30,000 US.

**Caye Cankler (J25)** 4 acres with 240' of beach front, beautiful cleared and filled land. \$425,000 US.



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- Chimichurri snapper salad with jicama and daikon, drizzled with a sesame orange vinaigrette

Showcasing one of the most extensive bars on Ambergris and a wine selection featuring numerous California wines available in Belize exclusively at Rojo Lounge. Also serving home made tropical ice creams for dessert!!! Rojo Lounge is located 5 1/2 miles north of San Pedro Town. Transportation available via water taxi. For dining reservations please call 226 4012.



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space and  
all on 400

# BIRDS BELIZE

[www.ambergris caye.com/birdsbelize](http://www.ambergris caye.com/birdsbelize)

by Elbert Greer

In the order of Coraciiformes, there is a family of Kingfishers called Alcedinidae and in this family, is the bird of the week known as Megascops alcyon or the North American Belted Kingfisher - a fish-eating bird that dives from a perched position or hovers over water for sardines and other small fish. The Kingfishers dive headfirst when collecting their prey. With its short thick neck, large head and wacky, swept-back hairdo, this bird looks remarkably like fight promoter Don King!

Bubba and I first discovered the kingfisher years ago on the veranda of the Green Parrot Bar, when its proprietor Stuart Corns presented me with a telescope aimed at a blue and black bird with a blue V shaped band on his white chest, poised atop the outriggers of a boat at his dock. I love long close looks like this when behavior can be observed, instead of just a quick I.D. It seemed frozen and focused on the water below it. We noticed two yellow spots on its head that for a while I thought were his eyes. I suspect these spots help its vision in the bright sun over the reflective surface of the water.

We witnessed this Kingfisher finally dive for a sardine after a long studious pondering, and noticed on him landing on a less precarious perch atop the palapa. The sardine was not speared on his bill - but captured between his mandibles. Then to my surprise, he literally beat the sardine to death on the post while still holding it in his bill. Finally, after a short pause and nudge to see if it would still wiggle, he flipped it to a head-down position and swallowed the whole four-inch sardine in one gulp.

Bubba says that during courtship, the male Kingfisher conducts aerial pursuits of the female. The pursuit is followed by "courtship feeding" in which the female sits upright with her beak in the air, wings drooped and quivering while giving a begging call. After the male presents her with a fish, the two mate.

Belted Kingfishers teach their young to fish by dropping little fish into the water for retrieval. Training sessions can be dangerous. It's not unusual for the young to drown. The training period only lasts about three weeks before the parents force the fledgling to leave the natal area.

Ambergris must have a large population of Kingfishers. I see them almost everywhere I go, even when I am cruising the mangrove channels in the back of the island. I read that they nest in tunnels that are dug into banks along streams. I wonder what adaptations Ambergris Kingfishers have had to make with our sandy soil and mangrove lagoons.

In my research of the Kingfishers, I ran across something new to me, a "subfamily" called Daceloninae, that are

Kingfishers of the forest, not the coast. They fish in fresh water streams and ponds in the jungles of Belize.

I'm excited about my upcoming trip to Chan Chich and hope my jungle birder

## The Kingfisher

friends there can point out some Daceloninae Kingfishers so I can compare fishing and courting techniques with this subfamily of very unique fishing birds - Truly the King of the Fishers.



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# ORANGE

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resort \* restaurant \* bar

**tranquilo** best describes this cozy, intimate resort nestled in its own private,  
 beautiful cove just 3 miles north from the charming town of San Pedro.



### \* restaurant \*

Guests will find a variety of selections, including such features as local giant stone  
 crab claws, fresh fish from local fisherman, filet mignon with red wine and  
 portabella mushroom sauce, and *The Stuffed Grouper*, homemade baked breads, and  
 desserts such as key lime pie. So come, relax, and enjoy yourselves as the table,  
 under that stars, is yours for the entire evening.

### \* cabanas \*

While the focus at Capricorn is its fine food and good spirits Capricorn also features  
 only 3 cozy private, airconditioned cabanas right on the beach. Each cabana is  
 complete with high ceilings, large private bath, shower made for 2, and a porch with  
 its own hammock for relaxing! Any and all tours can be arranged!

Breakfast is included. Beach bar is open all day everyday!

### \* gift shop \*

Capricorn has expanded to include a uniquely distinctive gift shop, featuring original  
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 local artists' jewelry and unique gifts.

Lunch served daily 11-2pm \* Dinner 6-9pm

'Anytime' bar snacks served all day everyday \* Closed Wednesday Nights Only

Reservations suggested 226-2809



### Tuesday Nights...

- Beach Bar-B-Que From 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm
- Pool-Side Dining with Chops, Pork-Chops, lobsters and fish
- Music by Wil and Dale

### Friday Nights...

- Burner's Caribbean Fiesta From 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm
- Seafood Kabob
- Live Music

### Sunday Mornings...

- Breakfast Buffet on The Veranda From 7:00 am to 10:00 am
- Music by Barbara Johnson Brown
- Incredible View of The Beach From Your Table

**LIVE MUSIC**  
 From 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm  
 Tuesday & Friday nights

**RAMONS VILLAGE**

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Language can link us with other cultures, no matter how foreign the tongue may be. In an effort to share this form of communication with our audience, The San Pedro Sun proudly presents its newest addition to the weekly paper - Words of the Week. In Words of the Week, we



will present a few words in English and give you their Spanish and Garinagu translations. In the near future we hope to include other languages that may interest our valued readers! Enjoy!!!

**ENGLISH****SPANISH****CREOLE**

Happy Birthday

Feliz Cumpleaños

Hapi Birtday

Happy Anniversary

Feliz Anniversario

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Where is the party? En donde esta la fiesta? Weh di paati deh?

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 and Featuring  
**SUNDAY BRUNCH**

**Huevos Motuleños**  
**Eggs Benedict**  
**Omelettes**  
**Eggs Sardou**

**Banana Pancakes**  
**French Toast**  
**Ham Steak with Eggs**

*All dishes above served with a pastry and a mimosas.*

**PHONE 226-3635 3 MILES SOUTH OF TOWN**

**Dinner Reservations Recommended**

# LUNA

## PALM TREE CUISINE

Ambergris Caye's latest trendy restaurant, is now open..  
 Serving Palm Tree Cuisine, a fusion of Central American and Caribbean delicacies, offers a selection of fresh local seafood, tender meats and exotic vegetables prepared by our renowned chef.

Menu selections include: Jerk Seared Sea Scallop Crouton, Smoked Oyster Bruschetta, Spinach Pesto Goat Cheese Salad, Rib-Eye Steak Argentino, Almond Nut Crusted Grouper, White Chocolate Pudding laced with a cardamom anglaise sauce, Strawberry & Mango Ice Parfait.

boasts an atmosphere of relaxed elegance and style, with inventive cuisine in an enchanting setting.

Serving breakfast, lunch and dinner...

**At Journey's End Resort**  
**Reservations: 226-2173**

## SAME Picture

## Wolfe's Woofers by Dennis Wolfe

### The Worst Day

"Ehbe! What happened to you? Are you all right?"

Ebbe Wolfe was limping along down the road a mile south of Mosquito Coast when I came by in my golf cart. He was covered in mud from head to toe and had a good-sized gash on his forehead.

"Oh, man," he said, as he got into my cart. "This has to be the worst day of my life."

"Mine wasn't that hot either," I said. "Dulce sent me down south to pick up some driftwood and I've been sweating out in that hot sun for nearly four hours."

"Your day doesn't begin to touch mine," he said. "I got in my new four-wheeler and drove down to the south end of the island. I turned the four-wheeler around and that's when the trouble started."

"What happened?"

"When I went to turn around, I ran over a guy wire that was holding up a power pole. The power pole started falling and the wire wrapped around the bumper on my vehicle. It lifted it up and threw me out. That's where I got the cut on my head. I was lucky not to get electrocuted with all the sparks flying all over the place."

"Ow!" I said. "Did it mess up your four-wheeler?"

"Not a scratch on it," Ebbe said. "But, it did come down on a mangrove stump that wedged itself behind the axle. Even four-wheel drive won't get you out of that kind of situation. I struggled with it for over two hours in the mud before I gave up. This is definitely the worst day of my life."

"Do you want to go back and try to get it out?"

"Not right now," he said. "All I want is an ice cold beer. Pull in here at Coconut so I can get one."

When we got to the bar, Ebbe said, "Margie, the only thing I want in this life right now is an ice cold beer. Please get me a Belikin."

"I'm so sorry," Margie said. "All the beer is hot."

"Hot!?" Ebbe yelled. "I'm dying for a cold beer and you're telling me all the beer is hot? Why is it hot?"

"We haven't had electricity for four hours. BTL says some idiot knocked down a power pole on the south end of the island."

Open 7 a.m. - 9 p.m. DAILY

**Lily's Treasure Chest**

Fresh Seafood Daily  
A True Island Dining Experience

## Trivia Tidbits

\*Pink elephants? In regions of India where the soil is red, elephants take on a permanent pink tinge because they regularly spray dust over their bodies to protect themselves against insects.

\*Kangaroos usually give birth to one young annually. The young kangaroo, or joey, is born alive at a very immature stage, when it is only about two centimeters long and weighs less than a gram.

\*Antarctica has been used as a testing laboratory for the joint United States-Soviet Union mission to Mars because it has much in common with the red planet.

\*Earth is putting on weight day by day as meteors and microscopic space dust falls from space.

\*The color of the blood of an octopus is bluish-green.

\*Scientists say that a great earthquake of magnitude nine struck the Pacific Northwest in 1700, and created a tsunami that caused flooding and damage on the Pacific coast of Japan.

\*When the ocean is deep, tsunamis can travel unnoticed on the surface at speeds up to 500 miles per hour (800 kilometers per hour), crossing the entire ocean in a day or less.

\*Scientists are able to calculate arrival times of tsunamis in different parts of the world based on their knowledge of when the event that generated them occurred, water depths, and distances.

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- Imperial \$595,000.
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- ◆ The Villa Turquesa at Mata Grande designer 3 bedroom beach home with pier and optional adjoining beach lot \$975,000.
- ◆ Caye Villas - Beach villas with pool.
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- 2 beds, 2 baths, fully furnished \$394,000.
- 2 beds, 3 baths, fully furnished \$395,000.
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- ◆ Casa Flores Income producing triplex on double lot. \$395,000.

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- ◆ IN TOWN BEACH LOT/Commercial or residential, \$490,000.
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- ◆ Mata Chica area 2 acres on the beach, 132 ft front age \$396,000.
- ◆ Mata Grande 100ft x 200ft beachfront, \$225,000 - under contract.
- ◆ Boca Ciega beach lot, 75ft x 130 ft, \$150,000.
- ◆ Punta Arenas 200ft beachfront, 3 acres, \$425,000 - under contract.
- ◆ Mata Chica area 132ft x 100ft beachfront, \$396,000.
- ◆ Playa Blanca beach lot, 60ft x 100ft, \$140,000.
- ◆ Rocky Point 2 x 1250ft, 15-acre, beachfront parcels.
- ◆ Boca Ciega 4.5 acres 170ft beachfront, \$350,000.
- ◆ Buena Vista Point ocean view, 75ft x 150ft, \$94,000.
- ◆ Palm Bay Club beach lot, 50ft x 100ft, \$35,000 terms.
- ◆ Laguna Estates Oceanfront, 60ft x 100ft, terms.
- ◆ Laguna Estates Ocean view lots from \$20,000.
- ◆ Caribbean Coves 300ft Oceanfront \$50,000.
- ◆ 2 adjoining Alta Mar 100ft x 100ft lots \$65,000 each.

All prices are in US dollars and subject to change without notice. For further details on these properties and much more call your AMBERGRIS CAYE SPECIALISTS

# JUNGLE

As seen on Temptation Island

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FROM SAN PEDRO  
BY BOAT



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