

THE SAN PEDRO SUN VISITOR GUIDE

March 16, 2007

FREE

The Island Newspaper
Ambergris Caye, Belize
Central America



From River to Ruins to Jungle Indulgence

Discover Maruba Jungle Resort & Spa





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Greetings to my visiting friends



On behalf of the people of San Pedro Town, I extend a warm welcome to all visitors arriving to our shores. I assure you that your trip to “La Isla Bonita” will be no ordinary vacation. Our island is famous for its rich cultural diversity, where Mestizos, Creole and Garinagu blend to form a unique encounter. While here, I encourage you to explore the Caribbean Sea and find Belize’s abundant treasures. Hol Chan Marine Reserve and Shark-Ray Alley are just two of the many spots where you can enjoy our coral reef for-

mation and abundant and breathtaking sea life. San Pedro is also home to world-class fishing and scuba diving. For the more adventurous, “La Isla Bonita” offers a wide array of water sports and for those looking to get a glimpse of the mystical world of the Maya, these historical ruins are just a short expedition away. You will also be able to discover Belize’s vast cave systems and many natural sanctuaries that are home to our country’s unique flora and fauna. Whether you are spending your honeymoon at an exclusive resort or looking for an adventurous, yet romantic escape, San Pedro is surely the place to be. I invite you to explore our home and see the many wonders it has to offer. We welcome you with open arms. Bienvenidos a San Pedro!

Elsa Paz, Mayor,
San Pedro Town

The San Pedro Sun is mailed everywhere.

Publisher	The San Pedro Sun Ltd.
Editor	Ron Sniffin ron@sanpedrosun.net
Editor	Tamara Sniffin tamara@sanpedrosun.net
Associate Editor	Kainie Manuel kainie@sanpedrosun.net
Staff Writer/	Mary Gonzalez mary@sanpedrosun.net
Graphic Design	
Staff Reporter	Maria Novelo maria@sanpedrosun.net
Office Assistant	Nathalie Manuel nathalie@sanpedrosun.net
Mail	The San Pedro Sun, P.O. Box 35, San Pedro Town Ambergris Caye, Belize
Telephone	011-501-226-2070
US Telephone	(307) 460-4456
Fax	011-501-226-2905
E-Mail	spsun@sanpedrosun.net
Internet/WEB	www.sanpedrosun.net
Main Office	#63 Barrier Reef Drive, San Pedro

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Where did you read your San Pedro Sun?

Where did you take your San Pedro Sun & Visitor Guide? Take a photo of you and the paper and send it to us at: spsun@sanpedrosun.net



Carin Alexander reads The San Pedro Sun while on a break at the (ESPN) Winter X Games in Aspen, Colorado. Although it was very cold, there was no snow during the event, just lots of people - 30,000 people on Saturday (January 27th) to be exact!! Awesome job at the X-Games Carin! We can’t wait for more cool pics from your next event!!



Photos taken in unique and unusual places are preferred. Be sure to identify who is in the photo and where the photo was taken. Don’t forget to include your names and what you were doing.

Language can link us with how foreign the tongue may be. In an effort to share with our audience, The San Pedro Sun proudly pre-sents – Words of the week. This week, we will present a few phrases in English and give you their Creole and Spanish translations. Special thanks to Sylvana Woods for her help with the Creole translations. Enjoy!!!

English	May I visit you again?
Creole	Ah ku kohn bak kohn hayl yu?
Spanish	¿Puedo regresar a saludarte?
English	Come and see us sometime.
Creole	Yu mos kohn hayl mi wan a deez/dehnya dayz.
Spanish	Deves de venir a vernos uno de estos dias.
English	What are you doing tonight?
Creole	Da weh/Weh yu di du tinait?
Spanish	¿Que vas hacer hoy en la noche?

A luxurious jungle adventure!

Exploring Altun Ha

While visiting San Pedro you may want to explore some of the mainland and it is not hard to find a day trip that offers an exciting journey. Be it riding through the jungle on horseback or tubing through dark cavernous caves, Belize has something to satiate every need for adventure. Although there are many day trips to choose from, there is only one that not only offers a voyage deep into the tropical jungles of Belize where you explore Mayan ruins but you also get to linger at the renowned Maruba Jungle resort where you will dine on fine Belizean food and find rejuvenating solace at their tropical spa.

Of course half the adventure is just getting there, and the day begins with a boat departure at 8:00 am. It is a beautiful, clear Caribbean morning when Captain Alexandra and Captain Kenton meet us at the dock. Their boat already has other guests aboard from Captain Morgan's, Ramon's and The Palms and we engage in friendly introductions as we board. Alexandra welcomes us all and before we set sail she



Complete with crocs and dense jungle, the river safari up the Old Northern River sets the stage for ruin exploration and tropical discovery.

explains to the group what the day holds in store for us. The boat trip to the mainland will take a little more than an hour, then we will disembark at a village called Bomba, and travel by air conditioned van to the Mayan ruins, Altun Ha. After exploring the ruins we will again board the van and travel a short distance to Maruba, where we will spend the afternoon enjoying lunch and the many amenities that the resort and spa has to offer. After she outlines the course we will travel and ex-

Continued on Page 4



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Take a short ride under the stars
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at Mata Chica's

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Try our "Decadent" Chocolate Souffle'

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We enjoyed a breakfast of Johnny Cakes and juice while taking in the exotic surroundings.

plains safety protocol we are off, smoothly slicing through crystal clear waters. The weather is perfect and the day is off to a fine start.

As we cross the calm waters to the mainland Alexandra, who has a good knowledge of the area, points out areas of interest. She even spots a manatee as we venture across the bay - some of us are fortunate to see it before it eludes us. Pelicans soar above and cormorants skim the waters surface as we grow closer to the entrance of the Old Northern River. The boat slows down as we approach the river mouth and

we enter a narrow channel that is bordered with thick Mangrove growth. As we cruise the river Alexandra offers us traditional Belizean Johnny-cakes filled with chicken and refreshments and the food hits the spot while we enjoy the relaxing boat ride. We are on the look out for crocs in the water and are not disappointed when we spot a few along the way. The river safari unfolds before us as we see birds, bats, blooming orchids and Bromeliads along the way. It is not long before we approach the rustic village of Bomba

Continued on Page 5



Bomba offers authentic gift shopping at its best, so remember to bring extra cash to buy a little souvenir.

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Jungle Luxury

Continued from Page 4

where our boat journey ends.

Bomba is a riverside community that consists of modest wooden homes and does not have electricity. Many of the residents are skilled wood workers and they market their carved and polished works of art at little stands along the road. Their craft is impressive and it is the perfect opportunity to do a little gift shopping. The people are warm and friendly and happy to barter should you buy in quantity! After we browse and shop a bit it is time to board the van and head for Altun Ha. Mario, who has worked for Maruba for 20 years, is our driver and guide to the ruins. Along the way he entertains us with stories of the area as he points out places and points of interest. The time passes quickly and it is not long before we have arrived at Altun Ha.



The tangled jungle surrounds the ruins and this palm tree has succumbed to the strangling embrace of a fig tree.

As we enter the grounds the area opens into a huge expanse of impressive temples and excavated structures. There are several school groups visiting the ruins and it is fun to see chil-



Literally following in the footsteps of their ancestors, these schoolchildren explore the ruins of Altun Ha.

dren playing at the footsteps of their ancestors. Mario explains that the Maya began occupying the Altun Ha area in 1000 BC and the city was expanded in AD 700. At one point the

population reached its peak with an estimated population of 3,000. Although that population is fairly low compared to other Maya cities, the individuals

Continued on Page 6

Azul Resort & Rojo Lounge

The only resort and restaurant on Ambergris Caye awarded the selection of ★Fodor's Choice in the 2007 Fodor's Guide To Belize

Azul Resort

The swankiest place to stay on Ambergris Caye -Men's Journal Magazine Dec '06

One of Belize's most tranquil and exclusive refuges -Outside Magazine Dec '06

Rojo Lounge

This is the hippest restaurant and bar on the Cayes. Rojo Lounge, in a sultry open air palapa on a beautiful beach is definitely red hot. ...lunch offers sophisticated snacks, dinner is romantic and delicious... the bar serves killer frozen mojitos. -Fodor's

Come enjoy beachside dining, tropical lounge cuisine, the best stocked bar on the island and daily drink and dinner specials!!!



North Beach, Ambergris Caye (5 1/2 miles north)
Open Tuesday through Saturday from noon until late.
Reservations for dinner strongly encouraged.

For information, reservations and events, please call 226-4012



Jungle Luxury

Continued from Page 5



who resided in and around Altun Ha appear to have been considerably wealthy and powerful. This is evident from the amount of high status items, including jade that has been recovered at the site and the richly furnished tomb of one of Altun Ha's rulers. Among its contents the largest jadeite sculpture yet found representing 'Kinich Ahau', the Maya sun god was found. The evidence recovered from Altun Ha indicates that this center participated in, and reaped the benefits from, a trade network – probably dominated by Tikal (Guatemala) that connected the Caribbean coast with the core of the central lowlands.

We spend an hour exploring the grounds and climbing the tallest temple, which offers an incredible view of the jungle top. Brilliant dragonfly's circle above us as Mario tells us fascinating stories of war, religion and human sacrifice. The area has a magic of its own and Mayan mystic seems to cast its spell over us as we wander the jungle that was once home to these amazing people. It is a grand adventure and we are a bit tired (and hungry) when we return to the van. We continue our journey to Maruba where we are looking forward to the special treat that lies before us deep inside the jungle.

Continued on Page 7

SuDoku

(Answers in next week's paper!)

		6				2	5	
2		9		6	7	1		
	5		4		3		8	
	6	4		8			7	
8			1		6			5
	2			5		9	6	
	1		3		2		4	
		2	9	4		8		3
	4	5				7		

Answers to Last Week's Su Doku Puzzle

4	1	9	2	8	7	6	3	5
7	5	6	3	1	4	9	8	2
3	2	8	5	6	9	4	1	7
8	6	3	1	7	2	5	9	4
5	9	4	6	3	8	2	7	1
2	7	1	4	9	5	3	6	8
9	3	2	7	5	1	8	4	6
1	8	5	9	4	6	7	2	3
6	4	7	8	2	3	1	5	9

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Jungle Luxury

Continued from Page 6



The Maruba Experience

Decked out in the middle of the jungle are the beautiful and architecturally amazing Mayan ruins. Beyond that you may find glorious and lush jungles teeming with the most colorful fauna in the world. From orchids and bromeliads, to coconut and palm trees, the green extends as far as the eye can see. The sounds of nature are yet another aspect of the Belizean rainforest that attracts many to Central America. Howler monkeys in the tallest tree branches, frogs and toads in their pond homes, and the various calls made by the variety of tropical birds make for an even more exciting adventure. Being tall and high, exploring the altars where human sacrifices were once made while hearing the grunt of the four legged creatures awaiting you on your way down will enthrall you and transport you to yet another era in time - a time where the Maya roamed free and explored the vastness of the jungle. A time where being in touch with nature was the way of life. A time where daily life was enjoying the moonlit sky with that special person in your life.

One would never expect that deep in the jungle, "in the middle of nowhere but in the middle of somewhere" lies one of the most luxuriant resorts, one that caters to your every whim, desire and pleasure. Forty and a half miles on the Old Northern Highway, hidden away in Maskall Village is the acclaimed and commended Maruba Jungle Spa and Resort. Sisters Franziska (Cici) and Alexandra Nicholson decided well over 20 years ago to build on their 4,000 acre jungle home. What started as a simple project has turned into an eighteen room resort and spa, equipped with a full ser-

Continued on Page 8

SEX SEX SEX SEX SEX SEX SEX SEX SEX
ART
SEX SEX SEX SEX SEX SEX SEX SEX SEX

Isla Bonita Art Gallery & Custom Picture Framing

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Ask for Daily Breakfast Specials...

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Also offering Daily Lunch Specials...

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Jungle Luxury

Continued from Page 7

vice restaurant and bar, a lounge/reception area, two pools, Japanese hot tub and nature trails.

From the moment you enter the Maruba grounds you are welcomed by nature, not an open lot where nature once used to be. Open gardens blend so well with the overgrown mangroves and the kaleidoscope of flowers com-

monly available in the country. The scents and sights are far above superb and one wonders what other natural surprises await you at the other side of

Continued on Page 9

Strolling the pebbled walkway, surrounded by nature at its best, you can't help but feel transported.



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Maruba offers wild game meat for lunch. Today's menu includes Stewed Buffalo!

the pebble trail. Before entering the lounge, the boutique show windows bid you "hello." The tall box display cases, one on either side, are stocked with jungle wear, in the form of sarongs and animal print pants, slippers, candles, and aromatic oils.

The lounge/reception area opens up to the stocked bar and dining room. Animal prints abound and are softened by colorful sheer fabrics hanging from the ceilings and wrapped around beams and

entrance ways. The open dining area allows for plenty of sunshine to filter in, while the overflowing landscape provides the necessary shade. While Melanie checks you in to your tropical rain forest getaway, you can lounge by the bar and have Jerry, who has been at the resort for slightly over ten years, mix you their specialty, the Marubian Rum Punch. Served in half of a coconut shell, the "slushie" mix is topped off with a red hibiscus flower and co-



Dining in jungle elegance adds an exotic spice to any meal.

conut leaves, a true impression of the attention to detail that Maruba has. Each and every room at Maruba Re-

sort is different but each has an eclectic, Moroccan, jungle royalty feel to **Continued on Page 14**



...the party continues South
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Wednesday - Mexican Menu
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Sueño del Mar

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Ambergris Caye's private residential resort community.

We could go on and on about the luxuriously furnished villas, beautifully landscaped grounds, oceanfront setting, Concierge service, and our outstanding staff.

We could also tell you how Membership combines all the amenities and services of a luxurious Caribbean resort, with the best features of two-month fractional ownership, for the perfect vacation home.

But rather than tell you ourselves, we thought it would mean more coming from our owners. Here is what they have to say:



We spent our first two weeks at Sueño del Mar this past November. Besides the "spending time in paradise", the thing you enjoy almost immediately is the "Culture" created by the associates that work for the resort. Debbie and Ray are not "just" the managers, Dwayne isn't just the chef, Omar isn't just the bartender, and Chico isn't just the security guard. These people become true friends. The success of all organizations really depends on one thing, and that is the "culture". The management of the organization has successfully developed a great staff. Even in paradise the people do make the difference.

Rusty Hamilton, Banker -
Butler (St. Louis), Missouri



What Sueño del Mar means to me is an escape from reality where I can spend quality time with my family and forget about the everyday grind. The resort feels like my home but with 5-star services from handling all air reservations, pre-arrival grocery shopping, and airport pick-up to a nice bottle of wine waiting for us when we arrive. Not to be

forgotten is Chef "Mr. Flower's" world class cooking. When I hear the song "no shirts, no shoes, no problem" I think of Sueño del Mar and long for our next visit to a place we call "paradise" and home.

The Hertz Family -
Sueño del Mar #2C & #8C - June/July
Alan Hertz, President, Allied Fire Protection -
San Antonio, Texas



We have been dealing with Land Properties for years in their other projects. Sueño del Mar is by far our very favorite. We have been traveling to Belize and

Ambergris Caye for 10 years now, and we love it up on the north end of the island. We just spent all of October and November living in our vacation villa at the resort, and wish we didn't have to get back to our home in Colorado so soon. The setting is gorgeous, the water is great, and the diving and fishing are world-class. Best of all, the wonderful staff at Sueño del Mar makes the experience extraordinary.

Mike & Tammi Coleman,
Contractor - Westcliffe, Colorado

From a pure enjoyment standpoint, the best investment I've ever made was our membership in Sueño del Mar. The villas, landscaping, and facilities are unmatched with respect to quality and luxury.

From a service perspective, my family is pampered from the moment of arrival ... even before our feet hit the dock! The staff and team and Sueño are fantastic ... they have literally become our extended family."

- Dr. Ed Paul, Honorary Consul of Belize -
Wilmington, North Carolina



"My husband and I were not sure we could find enough to do to keep ourselves busy and fully enjoy two months in our villa at Sueño del Mar last winter. To make a long story short, we found that two months just wasn't enough time for us. We made lots of new friends and thoroughly enjoyed our stay at Sueño for all of January and February. When the time came, it was hard to leave to go back to Colorado. We can't wait to get back home to Sueño in January 2007."

Nancy & Gaines Berry -
South Fork, Colorado
Sueño del Mar #3A - Jan/Feb



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"After looking at beachfront property all over mainland Belize and on Ambergris Caye, it did not take us long after visiting your beautiful resort to make up our minds to purchase. We made our selection of Oct/Nov based on the times of the year we thought we could best travel and get away from work.

Buying a membership into this beautiful paradise was our choice based on the fact that there is nothing for us to concern ourselves with — the good people at Sueño del Mar take care of everything...all we have to do is pack a bag each Thanksgiving, and we know we have a wonderful group of people waiting to take care of all of our needs. It just felt like "home" from the first moment we stepped on to the dock. We look forward to many fun and happy times at our vacation home at the resort."

Wanda & Jack Scruggs, Chattanooga, TN
Sueño del Mar #2C - Oct/Nov



The word investment takes on many meanings and offers many benefits when you connect it with Sueño del Mar. The unique approach to membership, the truly complete commitment to member satisfaction, and the level of service and support encompass any resident with the secure feeling of "a very good deal". Jane and I chose to own August/Sept to fit our particular business "seasons" with my involvement in the Las Vegas travel industry. Sueño del Mar is the vacation home of our dreams, and we can't wait for next summer to come.

Paul Davis & Jane Unger - Las Vegas, Nevada
Sueño del Mar #2A - Aug/Sept

Tourist Information

Belize Tourism Board - 223-1910.

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

San Pedro Tourist Guide Association 226-2391.

IMPORTANT #s

Emergency 911

Medical Emergency: Contact the Island Ferry at 226-3231

Crimestoppers 800 922-TIPS

Police 226-2022

Fire 226-2372

Wings of Hope - Medical emergency air ambulance. Phone: 223-3292.

Lions Health Clinic - 226-4052; emergencies 600-9071 or Hours: Mon.-Fri., 8am to 8pm; Sat., 8am - noon.

Los Pinos Clinic 602-6383 and 226-2686.

Dr. Lerida Rodriguez: 226-2197 or cell 620-1974.

San Pedro Chiropractic Clinic 226-4695

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 Polyclinic II - 226-2536. 8-12 and 2-5, Mon. to Fri. Emergencies 226-2555/2918 or 606-3864.

Ambergris Hopes Clinic - 226-2660, Emergencies: 606-2316

US Embassy - 822-4011

Canadian Consulate - 223-1060

Mexican Embassy - 223-0193

Guatemalan Embassy - 223-3150

Honduran Embassy - 224-5889

San Carlos Medical (MD & Dentist Services) - 7:30am - 9:00pm, 226-2918

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. T-W-St.-Sn. at 7:30 p.m.

Lighthouse Christian Radio - 101.3 FM. 226-4673, Cor. Buccaneer & Pescador Drive.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints - Sunday Service: 9:30 am, Wednesday Scripture Study 7:00 pm. 17 Lagoon St. (between the bakery and the bridge).

San Pedro Community Church - meets Sundays at 10a.m. at the Medical University of the Americas building. Sunday school available for children. All Are Welcome.

Miscellaneous

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

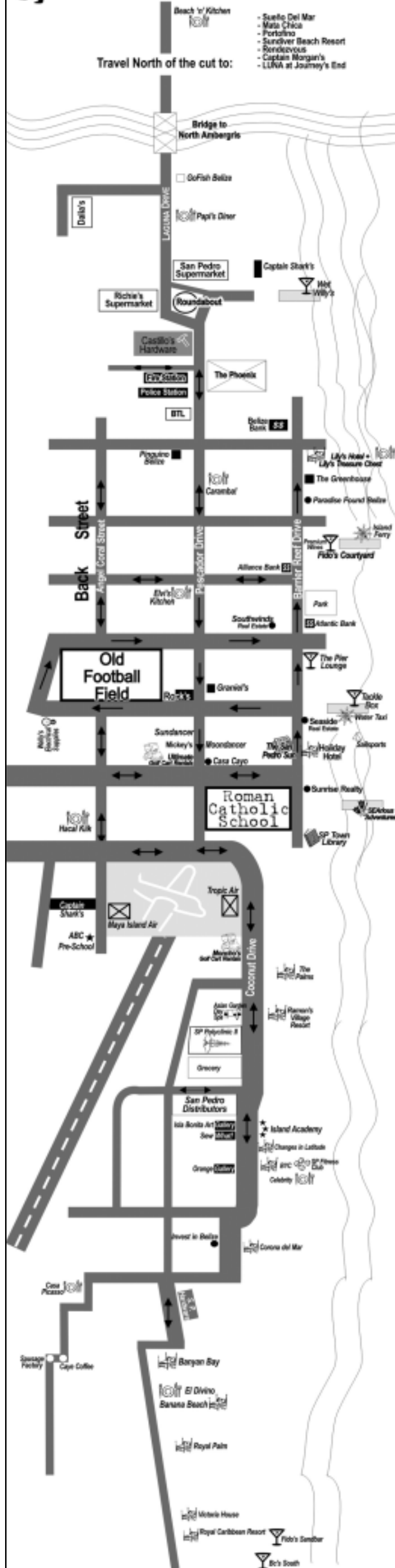
Green Reef A non-profit organization dedicated to the promotion of sustainable use and conservation of Belize's marine and coastal resources. greenreef@btl.net

San Pedro AA - 226-4464, 600-9061

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

CARE BELIZE - Children's Specialist, San Pedro. 622-8200

Guide to Isla Bonita



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JUNGLE DAY SPA ADVENTURE TOUR - See river, ruins, horseback riding, and medicinal jungle hike, Signature Mood Mud Massage, African honeybee Scrub, Aromas, Facials...full body Spa, full restaurant & bar. Bring along camera & swimwear. Call & BOOK NOW and we will arrange boat transfer. "Get Junglized" @ Maruba Resort Jungle Spa Phone: 225-5555, E-mail: maruba@btl.net.

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

PARADISE FOUND BELIZE LTD. REALTY - Land, Homes, Business, Investment. List your property with us. Office at CocoNet Internet. 607-9667 or 226-2835. sdemaio@snet.net

SIRENA DEL MAR REAL ESTATE - Front Street across from Happy Lobster in Caye Caulker. Phone: (Office) 226-0404 or (cell) 620-4660.

Transportation...

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

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CRYSTAL AUTO RENTAL - Largest fleet in Belize. Offices at International Airport and Belize City. 223-1600, 0-800-777-7777.

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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.

Party...Party...Party

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

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

THE TACKLE BOX - come rock da box out over the water! Every Tuesday, Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday (starting @ 9:00PM) we have amazing live bands ranging from Reggae to Punta to old school Rock-n-Roll. We'll have prizes, specials and always that breath-taking Tackle Box ocean view! Located off the San Pedro Water Taxi Pier at the end of Black Coral St. 226-4313.

FIDO'S RESTAURANT & BAR - Dine under the largest Palapa in San Pedro! Enjoy a full lunch & dinner menu with live beachfront entertainment all night.

FIDO'S SANDBAR - The party continues south! Come enjoy great BBQ and Pibil on Sundays courtesy of Chef Adam. The best place for your weekend family outing! At Royal Caribbean Resort, on the beach at the palapa!

THE SAN PEDRO SUN VISITOR'S GUIDE



Dining Out...



MATA CHICA - Mambo Cuisine - for food lovers. Homemade pasta, shrimp paté, bruschetta, charbroiled 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.

ELVI'S KITCHEN - serving the finest food since 1977. Daily Lunch and Dinner Specials. Caribbean Night on Thursday. Mayan Fiesta every Friday - come try our Maya Buffet. Open Monday - Saturday. Lunch: 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Dinner: 5:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. Call us for group reservations. Ph 226-2404/2176 "Where something good is always cooking!"

CELI'S RESTAURANT ON THE BEACH at the San Pedro Holiday Hotel, serves Great Fajitas, salads and local dishes for LUNCH. **DELECTABLE SEAFOOD SPECIALTIES** for dinner. **OUTDOOR & INDOOR DINING** 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. 5:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Beach barbeque every Wednesday night with live music.

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.

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.

PAPI'S DINER - The place for fine food at diner prices. Taste the Caribbean. Call 604-9491.

MICKY'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 & 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.

RENDEZVOUS RESTAURANT AND BAR - The most romantic spot in town featuring award winning chefs. Thai and French cuisine blended to make paradise taste like heaven, or so our customers say. Free Rendezvous Wine tasting from 11:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Fermented, blended and bottled here on the property. Open for lunch and dinner. Call 226 3426 for reservations and transport options.

CASA PICASSO TAPAS + MARTINIS - Small plates, big pastas and fantastic desserts! "Hippest martini spot" - *Frommer's*. Nightly 5:30pm, closed Sundays. Reservations 226-4507.

HACAL KIIK - Delectable home baked breads, pastries and desserts. Offering breakfast and lunch specials and take-out meals. Catering available. Open Mon. through Sat. 8am to 7pm. 226-3115.

BEACH 'N' KITCHEN - Yummy breakfasts, beach 'n' lunches! Daily Lunch Specials and treats! Near the Palapa Bar, one mile north of the bridge. Call 226-4456.

WET WILLY'S - World Famous Ladies' Night every Wednesday night! Plus, great lunch and dinner specials! Great drinks over the water! Come visit us or call 226-4136.

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 guilty pleasures.

CAPRICORN RESTAURANT & BAR - Enjoy our magical menu by sun or starlight. Indulge in fresh seafood and USDA steaks at a quaint, tropically luxurious restaurant on the beach. Reservations recommended. 226-2809.

PORTOFINO RESTAURANT AND GREEN PARROT BEACH BAR - Meet our boat 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.

Unique Offerings...

SAN PEDRO FITNESS CLUB - A/C Gym at Belize Yacht Club, Fully-equipped. Open to the public. Tennis Courts, Lap and Family pools, Aqua Fitness and Toning Classes. Open 7am Daily, 8am Sundays. 226-2683.

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.

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

THE GREENHOUSE - Fresh Produce & Seafood. Belizean and imported speciality. Fresh herbs, cold cuts, chilled goods plus an exciting selection of groceries. A/C local on Barrier Reef Dr. 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. cibl@btl.net or phone 226-2388.

PROVIDENT BANK & TRUST - Offering a full range of International Banking Services. phone 223-5698 services@providentbank.bz

GRANIEL'S DREAMLAND - Locally made furniture & accessories from all Belizean exotic hardwoods & Mahogany. On Pescador Drive, opposite Rock's, Call 226-2632, ext. 18 or 226-2938. Open

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SUNDANCER + MOONDANCER - Unique boutiques featuring beautiful, quality clothing, jewelry and gorgeous gift items for both men (Sundancer) and women (Moondancer). Phone: 226-3126.

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Contact the San Pedro Sun for more information.
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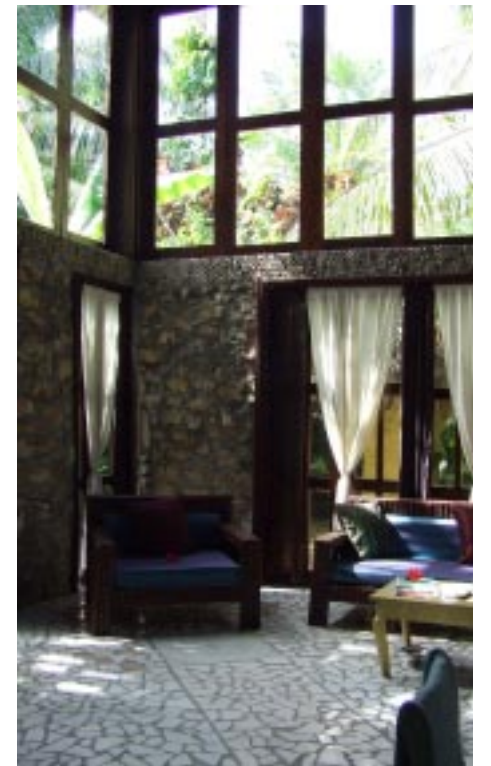
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Starting from 9 p.m. - 2 a.m.
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every week for ALL!!

Happy Hours EVERYDAY
from 4pm to 8pm
with:
\$4 bottled beer
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(free mini
appetizers
with every bucket).

Fridays Join us for the Blues
on Blue Fridays
with the **Elevation Quartet**
Free comfort food and Happy Hours drink specials!
Music starts at 5PM

Jungle Luxury

Continued from Page 9



Maruba has found breathtaking ways to bring nature to your room.

them. From their Junior Suites to their newly finished Opium Villa Suite, each room has not only been designed with your best comfort in mind, but you can be certain that down to every last tile has been seriously thought through. Cici's artistic touch is felt throughout every corner. With her gentle brush strokes to her fabric selection and her way of including the every day amenities, her vision makes Maruba unique. There certainly is no other place on the planet quite like Maruba, its colors, sounds, smells and feels are original and special.

What is one of a kind to Maruba is its use of the environment. Instead of clashing with nature, the duo has found the best way to use it to their advantage and complement Cici's styling. The walls are inlaid with smooth river rocks and translucent glass while the furniture uses the same wood found in Maruba's backyard. Bottles found in the New River adorn the walls forming beautiful mosaics that let sunlight through. Simple daily items that seem ordinary to you and me have been repurposed and with a stroke, turned to art. The Jacuzzis found in some rooms were all hand made, speaking volumes of the creativity and workmanship that these two ladies possess.

But the rooms are just the beginning of the whole Maruba experience. Acclaimed for their spa, Maruba offers attentiveness, friendliness and the best hands at work on every knot in your body. Mostly known for their Mud Bath, Maruba offers so much more. Restore your mind and body in the most

Continued on Page 15

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11:30am - 2:30pm
6:00pm - 10:00pm

Boca Del Rio



Filtered light, tinted with the agelss colors of tempered glass bathes the massage studio and sets the mood for relaxation. Of the treatments offered, the most popular is the Mood Mud Therapy. Massages are offered in vary-ing colors; with the belief that each color revitalizes your body in a new way.

natural of forms. Most popular is the Mood Mud Therapy. The spa offers aromatic or unscented massages in varying colors; each color revitalizes your body in a new way. Daji (Red) arouses strength, health, protection, sex, passion and courage while Benin (Yellow) encourages confidence, wisdom, attraction, divination and mental powers. The Cellulite Mud, when used along with the proper diet and exercise regimen, firms, tones and increases circulation in problems areas, thereby decreasing cellulite. Go for the Black treatment to destroy negativity or Orange for puri-fication. Why not Pink to encourage self improvement and intel-ligence or try a combination of the various colors? Although, Mood Mud Therapy is the favorite and Maruba’s signature, the spa does offer other treatments such as African Honey Bee Body Scrub, Seaweed Wrap, Jungle Herbal Wrap, Arthritis Mud Pack and other treatments such as manicures, pedicures, facials and

Continued on Page 16



San Pedro Fitness Club

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Jungle Luxury

Continued from Page 15

hair treatments.

After pampering yourself and indulging in a delightful massage, grab a bite to eat at Maruba's restaurant. The two hardest decisions to make for the day include one – where to sit, whether to enjoy the first floor of the open palapa amidst the glorious landscaping, its second floor where the tops of trees are right at your fingertips and swooping birds peep in to say “hello” or the poolside deck where the sound of the pool's waterfall invites you to take a dip. Once you have decided, it is time to choose a menu item to have for lunch. Ebony, one of Maruba's friendly wait staff, explains that every day a wild game dish is served, as well as their daily specials and a la carte items. Today we try the stewed buffalo, not exactly like they say, “tastes like chicken” but this game meat is soft and tender, melts in your mouth, and tastes like beef; certainly not something that any ordinary restaurant would carry. Other wild meats include gibbon, peccary and deer. Maruba has a garden where the chefs pick their vegetables and fruits from. Yes, they make daily, home made goods especially their vinaigrettes, made from fresh pineapple, mango, lime and orange.

Continued on Page 17



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Jungle Luxury

Continued from Page 16



(Above) Allison and Kevin, who are staying in San Pedro, enjoy their second visit to Maruba - where they plan to come and stay the next time they visit Belize.

(Left) Who can resist the Belizean Belikin or one of the best Rum Punches in Belize.



Maruba is all about getting you in touch and up close and personal with nature. They have various guided tours that take you to your exploration. Go by horseback or on foot, enjoy medicinal trails, bird watching, or delve into the jungle and roam Mayan sacred grounds. Get in touch with marine life as well; organize dive trips and full or half day fishing trips.

Maruba is the perfect romantic getaway whether you are on your honeymoon or just looking at spending time with your loved one. But for the ultimate wedding, Maruba's chapel and wedding services will blow you away. All your wedding dreams come true and are made a reality by their professional and creative staff.

Maruba will cater to your dream jungle adventure ... with their various

specials, finding what you need is just a click away. Visit their website at www.maruba-spa.com, or call them at (225)5555 for further information.

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Commercial/Condos/Homes

Downtown Commercial Property (R47) Best commercial location on the market right now. 3 businesses & 2 private residences, but has the perfect location for ocean view hotel, office building or condos. Seller may accept Belize Dollars. Price \$994,500.00 US

Beachfront home at Flying Fisherman: (W28) 2 story concrete house with 1 apart. on each floor. 1st floor 2 bdrms/1 bath. 2nd floor owner's 1 bdrm apartment with large master bdrm. \$549,000.00 US

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Boca Del Rio (H31) Town lot on the main street connecting San Pedro Town with the northern part of Ambergris Caye. Great location for either commercial or residential. \$120,000.00 BZ

Eiley's Subdivision (F14) 4 adjacent lots, each being 60' x 80'. Land has been filled, easily accessible & ready for development. Great price at only \$65,000.00 US for all 4!

Habaneros Beachfront & Back Lot (Z02) Beautiful beach front lot with high elevation & lush vegetation, together with large back property. Lot 11, beachfront property- 90' x 400' & Lot 27, back lot - 90' x 300'. Only \$235,000.00 US.

Ambergris Bay (Z03) Large beachfront parcel 140' x 184' of depth. \$175,000.00 US.

Ambergris Bay (H35) Beach front lot approx 60' x 80'. \$105,000.00 US.

Ambergris Bay (G38) Beachfront lot Approx. 60' x 80'. \$90,000.00 US

Ambergris Bay (M62) 2nd row lot approx. 65' x 160'. \$17,500.00 US.

Palmero Point (W19) Lot 50, 95' x 120' - \$20,000.00 US Terms Available

Palmero Point (J31) lot#25: - 105' x 105' x 120' x 50' - \$58,000.00 US Cash only

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Wine Q and A



For years, wine has made its home at dinner tables around the world. Whether enjoyed as part of a meal or alone, just like wondering which fork to use, choosing the right stemware can be intimidating. Read on to learn about glassware and other pressing wine issues.

Which glasses are best for what type of wine?

You can drink wine from any glass,

even a paper cup if that's all you have.

It's like anything else, though – as your interest and experience levels increase, you tend to seek out some of the fun toys that improve on the experience.

But some glasses really do offer advantages. Glasses with bigger, tulip-shaped bowls improve red wines by capturing and showing off the aromas. Whites are served cooler, which can tamp down aromas, and are fine in the

smaller, narrower glasses with less of a tapered rim. Some people drink reds and whites out of the same big tulip-shaped glasses.

How much should you pour?

Five ounces is considered a serving for both white and red wine. But people tend to fudge, particularly when they're pouring into enormous glasses; pouring six ounces into big glasses should be just fine.

What about those bistro glasses?

Those work fine, particularly with pizza or something rustic and fun. But it is interesting to notice the way that a wine's aromas are captured in tulip-shaped glasses. You can try it yourself as an experiment: drink the same wine out of a bistro glass and then a tulip-shaped glass. You'll see how much more aroma, and therefore flavor, there is with wine served in the traditional tulip-shaped glasses.

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Wolfe's Woofers by Dennis Wolfe

Plane Tickets

"Dennisito, get the suitcases and take them down to the golf cart," Dulce said.

"Where are the plane tickets?" I asked. "We don't want to forget them."

"They're on the kitchen table," Dulce said. "Make sure you put them in your pocket. Now we have to get going. If we miss that plane we've just lost a lot of money."

"What do you mean?" I asked. "Can't we just catch the next one?"

"There is no next one," she said. "I got these tickets to Mexico City on a special deal. They're good only for this flight and they are not refundable if we miss it."

"Why would you want to get tickets that are non-refundable?"

"Because we save almost \$200 U.S. like this."

"Oh. O.K."

At the International Airport we sat in the lobby until they called us for our flight.

"I can't believe we didn't bring a camera," Dulce said.

"Don't worry about it," I said. "We'll get a cheap one in Mexico."

"I can't believe we didn't bring any jackets," Dennisito said. "The last time we went to Mexico City it was cold."

"Don't worry," I told him. "We'll pick up some warm clothes when we get there."

"Flight 147 to Mexico City is now boarding at Gate 3," the loudspeaker blared. "Passengers please have your tickets ready."

"I can't believe we didn't bring the kitchen table," I said.

Dulce and Dennisito looked at me strangely.

"Why would we want to bring the kitchen table?" Dulce asked.

"Because that's where I left the plane tickets."

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Trivia Tidbits How Much do you know?

- *A 1,200-pound horse eats about seven times its own weight each year.
- *A bird requires more food in proportion to its size than a baby or a cat.
- *Ancient Chinese artists would never paint pictures of women's feet.
- *One of the holiest Christian holidays is named after a pagan goddess. The name "Easter" derives from the Anglo-Saxon goddess Eostre, who governed the vernal equinox.
- *A cluster of bananas is called a hand and consists of 10 to 20 bananas, which are known as fingers.
- *A recent study indicates when men crave food, they tend to crave fat and salt. When women crave food, they tend to desire chocolate.
- *Cocaine works in a totally different way from narcotics such as morphine or heroin. Heroin works on receptor sites in the brain which are stimulated by the drug to produce pain-relieving and mood-enhancing chemicals. Cocaine on the other hand works by stimulating the central nervous system, and like alcohol, is processed through the liver.



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- ❖ **Caye Casa - unique beachfront condos** in convenient north town beach location. Under construction starting at \$ 425,000.
- ❖ **Oasis Del Caribe** Fully furnished 2nd floor ocean front 2 bedroom \$335,000
- ❖ **Miramar new completed 3rd floor beachfront** 2 bedroom condo. Furnished \$425,000 bring offers!
- ❖ **Miramar new completed 3rd floor beachfront** 2 bedroom condo with 4th floor penthouse suite unfurnished \$ 495,000 offers
- ❖ **Miramar new completed 2nd floor beachfront** 2 bedroom furnished condos from \$389,000.
- ❖ **Banana Beach Resort:** 1-3 bedroom ocean front condos with 2 Pools, beach, restaurant and bar from \$115 to \$165,000 with guaranteed rental incomes.
- ❖ **Vista Del Mar - Attractive and well maintained Holiday Lands home.** 2 bedroom 2 bathroom spacious owners quarters with 4 immaculate one bed, one bath rental apartments. 100% occupied. \$ 575,000.
- ❖ **Large 3 bedroom 2 bath** all concrete furnished private home 150 ft from ocean with direct beach access. Lions Park area. \$ 425,000.
- ❖ **Agape House - Lovely Tres Cocos beach home** with total of 4 beds/baths, workshop/garage, boat ramp, sea wall, pier. \$ 1,500,000.
- ❖ **Tres Cocos 2 bed/2 bath garden home with swimming pool** \$ 495,000
- ❖ **FIXER UPPER beach villa** - Caye Villas Mata Grande 2 Bed 3 bath fully furnished \$429,900 offers!
- ❖ **Caribbean Coves Estates** - Cayo Espanto area - turnkey luxurious new bay front homes 4 bedrooms. Inquire.
- ❖ **Spacious rental beach home south of town.** Sleeps 10 plus guest cottage. Pool, mature landscaping, large pier. Inquire.
- ❖ **La Floridita** ocean view home Tres Cocos area
- ❖ **St Georges Caye** private island large beach home \$1,150,000

COMMERCIAL - Oceanside beach bar and restaurant Caye Caulker \$650,000

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- ❖ **West Bay** private sandy cove 260 ft frontage only \$ 325,000. Offers
- ❖ **Mata Grande** 100 x 200 ft prime beach lot with pier permit \$ 445,000
- ❖ **Beach lots - acreage near Mexico Border** from \$ 65,000
- ❖ **Acreage available on Lagoon side** Inquire.
- ❖ **Commercial sized Islands in the lagoon** Inquire.
- ❖ **Robles beachfront 100 ft beach** \$200,000.
- ❖ **Robles beachfront 200 ft beach** \$400,000.
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- ❖ **Buena Vista Point** ocean view 75ft x 150ft \$79,000.
- ❖ **Buena Vista Point** ocean view 75ft x 150ft \$89,000.
- ❖ **Laguna Estates** ocean view lots from \$60,000.
- ❖ **West Bay Caribbean Coves** 100 ft x 500 ft ocean front west side \$85,000.

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Luna

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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.

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