

THE SAN PEDRO SUN VISITOR'S GUIDE



Dining Out...



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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.

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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.

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

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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.

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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.
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Tropical & Garden Flower Identification - a review



Photo Courtesy "Tropical & Garden Flower Identification"

Exquisitely colored flowers of the Bromeliads come in various sizes and shapes, complementing the plants and lasting for months!

Are you one of those "need to know" types of person? Do you wander through life not happy just to admire something new and different but have a curiosity that longs to know just what it is that you are looking at? While traveling are you not satisfied to just admire or wonder about something without knowing just what it is you are looking at? Do you linger over something new or foreign and feel the need for knowledge? If you are like me, I have a library of field guides on everything from critters, birds, reptiles and butterflies to seashell and marine fish identification. If I am not lugging them with me dur-

ing my travels, I am always eager to get back to them upon my return to lookup what ever I knew not what it was. Until my question is answered I often wonder out-loud, driving my travel companions crazy with the usual

Continued on Page 11

myriad of questions, "hmm, it could be this but it is not quite the same as that...or maybe it isn't that at all, dang, just what the heck was that?!" Ya ya ya, they politely entertain my rambling while rolling their eyes and rarely do they join me in my "need to know" passion. Well, obviously there ARE other people out there like me, and thank goodness for a new book authored by Graeme Teague titled *Tropical and Garden Flower Identification, Florida, Bahamas, Caribbean & Central America*. My field guide collection has been sorely missing this reference guide and now my library is complete!

Recently published by 18 Rabbit Press, Inc, this beautiful, photo heavy guide is ready to hit the road with you and accompany you whether you are reading it for pleasure or using it as a tool when exploring deep, exotic jungles. The sturdy paperback comes with a heavy-duty clear plastic cover that allows you to handle the book without fear of damaging the gorgeous pages that lay within. Inside are over 240 full-

color pages with more than 530 incredible photos covering over 270 plant species. The easy to use ID system is based on plant groups, common names and easy to use color coded chapters. It is a comfortable read and it is clear that a lot of thought went into the production and design of this book, which brilliantly combines function with aesthetic beauty, not always an easy task! In an interview with the author and primary photographer, Graeme Teague told *The San Pedro Sun* that he fully credits this accomplishment to his life-long friend David Vaughan. "David did the layout and design. I gave him the basic parameters of what I wanted. I designed the color code common grouping chapters, and I wanted the various common names, ID photos etc. But gave him complete freedom to work within that and the final product is so pleasing to the eye, brilliant man. He also did the editing; caught production mistakes and wrote the intro bio plus contributed some of the real 'art' images to the book."

The *Tropical and Garden Flower Identification, Florida, Bahamas, Car-*

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Buyers Looking for Luxury & Elegance! (T36) Custom, beachfront condo, 2 bdrm, 2 baths, 2nd floor, fully furnished. Nothing compares in class, style or quality. Call for further details.

Kate Subdivision Residential: (L20) Attractive house with pool on large property. Only 7 miles north of town center with own private dock, big bodega, caretaker's house, two big water cisterns, road access, and many other extras. Asking \$1,325,000.00 US REDUCED TO 1,175,000.00 US

Beach front property on the west coast (R40) 1.5 acres with more than 400' of water frontage on the western coast of Ambergris Caye. Two concrete buildings; 2bed/1 bath and a 1bed/1 bath caretaker building. Beautifully filled and with plenty of newly planted palm trees. \$650,000.00 US

Raw land

Ambergris Bay (G41) Nice beach front parcel measuring 50' of beach frontage x 82' of depth. Priced at \$75,000.00 US.

Ambergris Bay (P54) Gorgeous beach front parcel Measuring approx. 124' water frontage x 80' x 109'. \$105,000.00 US.

Palm Bay Club (T38) Lot #61 - Great opportunity- the only second row lot on the market, measuring 100' x 92'. Asking price \$25,000.00 US.

Santa Fe (M64) 5.5 miles north - second row lot accessible by boat and golf cart and within electricity. 70' x 180'. Price- \$85,000.00 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'. \$90,000.00 US.

Ambergris Bay (G38) Beachfront lot Approx. 60' x 80'. \$150,000.00 US

Ambergris Bay (M62) 2nd row lot approx. 65'x160'. \$17,500.00 US.

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

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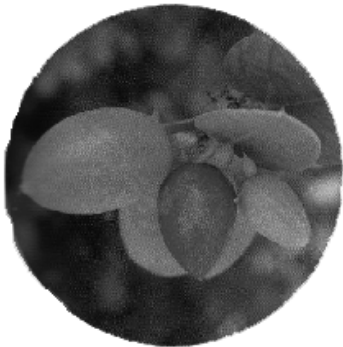
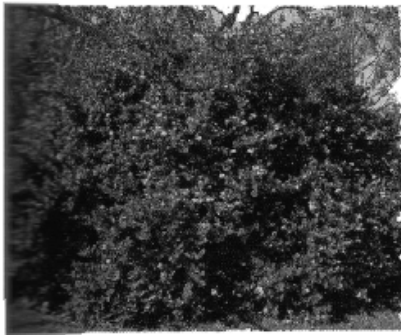
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Flower Identification Continued from Page 10

English: Natal Plum, Boxwood
Spanish: Bujeta, Macrocarpa
Zulu: Umthungulu



Each page features the English name, Spanish name, Zulu name, common name, family, species, genus, color-coded chapters for quick reference, overall image of plant in bloom, large, easy to read text, concise information about each



Photo Courtesy
"Tropical & Garden
Flower Identification"

plant, basic growing info, special hazard: red text points out pertinent dangers, from toxins to handling and close-up of bloom.

ibbean & Central America book took many years in the making and is clearly a labor of love. Thoughtfully assembled, the 6 x 9 paperback begins with a map of geographic areas covered. Acknowledgements, photo credits, author intro by David Vaughn, introduction and how to use the book follow with notes for gardeners, botanical classifications, notes on alternative medicine, book references with top research websites and an illustration of flower parts and anatomy. The chapters are broken down into 12 groups. Big Leaf Shrubs, Cordylines and Crotons, Dry Environment, Gingers, Heliconias, Lilies, Orchids, Ponds and Aquatics, Shrubs, Vines, Trees and

NATAL PLUM
Family: Apocynaceae
Carissa macrocarpa

Native to KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa, this shrub is one of the most popular hedge shrubs in the world. Easily groomed into about any shape you want, Natal Plum has dense foliage for screening, sharp thorns to discourage, flowers with a wonderful jasmine-like scent, and edible fruit!

There are many variations including dwarf and thornless varieties. Macrocarpa will grow to 6-8ft. (1.8-2.4m) and bloom throughout the year. Make good container plants. Very good for oceanside cover, security and ground support.

Plant in full sun to partial shade, average water, drought to erant, salt spray resistant, propagate by cuttings, seed collecting is not recommended for this plant.

Danger: Although the ripe fruit is edible all other parts of the plant are poisonous if ingested. Plant has very sharp spines so use extreme caution when handling.

Ch. 9 - Shrubs

itself, we learn that the "Lignum Vitae" also know as "The Tree of Life" or "Palo Santo" in Spanish, is named "from the Latin lignum vitae for 'wood of life' this extraordinary tree is indigenous to tropical America and the West Indies, was 'discovered' by Columbus, and has been in high demand for centuries. The body, gum/resin, bark, fruit, leaves and flowers are all used in various ways leading to overexploitation throughout the species' range which now results in its endangerment - less

than 2,500 mature individuals exist naturally and is now extinct on several island nations." Other information includes medicinal uses complete with warnings should any part of the plant be poisonous if ingested or handled. It even warns which plants may attract harmful insects, like fire ants, and stresses caution when cutting blooms or transplanting. This is good to know for the novice who might be out there tromping through the jungle or is unfam-

Continued on Page 12

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Tour includes drinks on board, snacks, lunch, boat transfers, guides and park fees. Horseback riding and spa treatments extra.

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This elegantly appointed restaurant features both outdoor seating and indoor air-conditioned split level dining with high ceilings, local artwork and more. Our wonderfully decorated lounge invites you to enjoy the island's largest selection of drinks, cool tropical cocktails and martinis.

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Restaurant Open till 10 Bar Open till Midnight

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House Specialty: Brazilian Style Rotisserie (Churrasco)

Daily Drink Specials:

Martini Monday, Tequila Tuesday, Wine & Dine Wednesday

Flower Identification Continued from Page 11



Photo Courtesy "Tropical & Garden Flower Identification"

Although beautiful to look at, all parts of the Peace Lily are poisonous if ingested.

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miliar with tropical flora. For those who live and garden in tropical areas this book is a wealth of information. Contrary to popular belief tropical gardening is not as easy as it may seem and as a frustrated "tropical gardener," who sprouted a green thumb back in the USA, this book offers planting tips that include light and soil requirements, the size the plant will grow to, when you can expect it to flower and how to propagate the plant through cuttings or seed collection. The book ends with a scientific name index, common name index, cultivars and varieties, a glossary and terms, official website listing for geographic areas and a quick reference index. There are also a few blank pages for notes, photos and sketches.

Understandably a huge undertaking, the book attempts to cover all floras in the area but falls short in some cat-

egories. The orchid section displays nice photos by Gregory Basco from the Costa Rican rainforests, but the photos are not identified and there is simply a reference to a couple websites. The fruit tree section has overlooked the Cashew tree, which is native to Brazil and grows throughout the Caribbean. However, these oversights do not diminish the value of this informative and very readable book.

For the past 30 odd years Graeme has lived, dived, worked and photographed all over the Caribbean, Bahamas, Central America and American SE. Graeme told us that he has been to Belize several times and has friends and many contacts here as well. He first came here in the 1980's with Paul Humann and his live-a-board, Cayman Diver, for special dive expeditions and cave exploration

Continued on Page 13

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The exotic looking Golden Lotus Flower actually belongs to the Banana family.

and then later as a photo-pro with the Aggressor Fleet on the original Belize Aggressor. When asked what his most memorable Belizean experience is, Graeme is quick to answer, "That's easy, first discovering Lighthouse Reef which back in the 1980's was remote, tranquil, movie island perfect and peaceful as one could possible experience on planet earth. The beauty was breath taking." Graeme's first visits to Belize were all about underwater photography and he reminisces, "It was all about shooting underwater in those days but the images of perfect white sand beaches, perfect turquoise waters and perfect palm trees stands out to this day. In fact, every time I see that Corona beer commercial at Christmas with the palm trees and one lights up with Christmas lights – it always says Belize to me." Now residing in Adel, Georgia, USA, Graeme runs several companies including GTPhoto, which is a world wide marine stock agency where he markets the work of some 25 photographers. He has also built a Georgia stock agency and just finished shooting and sup-



The author, Graeme Teague's bio reads "Born in the great white north, raised by Aborigines in Australia and Zulus in Africa, Graeme escaped, from a penal colony ship, to the West Indies, via the Arctic! In his former life, he was a storyteller, earning his pints and victuals while sitting atop stone fences and around Celtic hearths. Now safe in the New World, operating from home base in south Georgia he, "travels, dives, observes, writes, ponders, muses and publishes the word and light according to Graeme Teague".

plying images for high school textbooks and he has the publishing company, 18 Rabbit Press, Inc. which is named after the 13th Maya Lord of Copan, Honduras; 18 Rabbit. Graeme is also a Maya guide who leads eco-tours to the rainforest and ruins and exclaims, "I have even raced cars! I'm always involved in photography, art, philosophy, take an interest in just about everything, and always read and learn. Knowledge is cool!"

Whether you are plant aficionado or just enjoy beautiful photographs of some of the most gorgeous flowers on earth, there is no denying the appeal of this book. In San Pedro the book is available at Barefoot Books and in Belize City it can be purchased at Angelus Press, The Book Center and at various hotel gift shops. It can also be ordered online at www.flowerid.com or through Amazon.com.

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Cashew Fest!

Continued from Page 6



Part of the fun of Cashew Fest was the activities available for the children. Here some happy boys enjoy bouncing around on the trampoline.

they are trying to accomplish.

One way to make their products and nuts available to the general public is through their annual Cashew Fest. It started 15 years ago and today the May festivities are still going strong.

The festival allows the locals the opportunity to present their various cashew or other products to various parts of the country and the world. However, the Fest is much more than that as it incorporates the life led by the villagers. Booths

line up the show grounds and hosts are more than willing to share with you a taste of their home. Food at the Fest is fresh and delicious; all cooked on open fire hearths allow for the smoky taste to infuse in the fresh meats.

Mechanical rides are available throughout the day and allow the children visiting the Fest to have a grandiose time. Horses are also on hand for the public's enjoyment, along with dune buggies and mini-ATVs. All in all it is a wonderful

weekend to enjoy with the entire family.

Along with the tasty treats, fabulous meals and various rides, Cashew Fest 2007 had the music of Mr. Peter's and his Boom and Chime, a legend of the

Belizean musical industry. He certainly had the crowd moving and shaking and enjoying the hot weather found at Crooked Tree Village.

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Wolfe's Woofers by Dennis Wolfe

Break Time

"Where are you going?"

"I'm going downtown to pay the electricity and the water bills and then I have a meeting with a couple who are getting married Friday," Dulce said. "Why?"

"I need some stuff from the hardware store," I said, "but you're going to be gone too long. I'll just go down and get it myself."

An hour later, as I was changing the light fixture in the bathroom, the phone rang.

"Dulce Wolfe is calling collect," the operator said. "Will you accept the charges?"

"Why are you calling collect?" I asked, when Dulce was put through to me on the phone.

"My cell phone doesn't have any credit and I'm stuck here at the restaurant where I was supposed to meet that couple. They haven't showed up yet. I need you to make a call for me to find out where they are and then call me right back."

"O.K. What's the name and where are they staying?"

"They're staying at one of Chris's condos. The groom's name is John Seksaur and the bride is Sylvia Cooper."

"How am I supposed to get in touch with them? Do you have the phone number at the condo?"

"No, and Chris is in Houston this week. Just call the bar at Coco Loco's. Linda will know how to get in touch with them."

"Coco Loco's; this is Linda speaking."

"Linda, this is Dennis. Dulce wanted me to call and find out if you have a Seksaur there."

"Honey, are you kidding?" she asked. "We're lucky to even get a thirty-minute lunch break."

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Trivia Tidbits

*A rainbow can be seen only in the morning or late afternoon. It is a phenomenon that can occur only when the sun is 40 degrees or less above the horizon.

*In size, materials, and human labor, the Great Wall of China is the largest construction project ever undertaken by man. Enough stone was used in the 1,700-year project to build an 8-foot wall girdling the globe at the equator. The Great Wall snakes its way over more than one-twentieth of the earth's circumference.

*According to the National Safety Council, coffee is not successful at sobering up a drunk person, and in many cases it may actually increase the adverse effects of alcohol.

*The average-size hot tub or spa — about 4 by 5 feet — holds about 475 gallons of water.

*Albert Einstein's younger son was schizophrenic.

*A whip makes a cracking sound because its tip moves faster than the speed of sound.



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- ❖ **Buena Vista Point** ocean view 75ft x 150ft \$89,000.
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