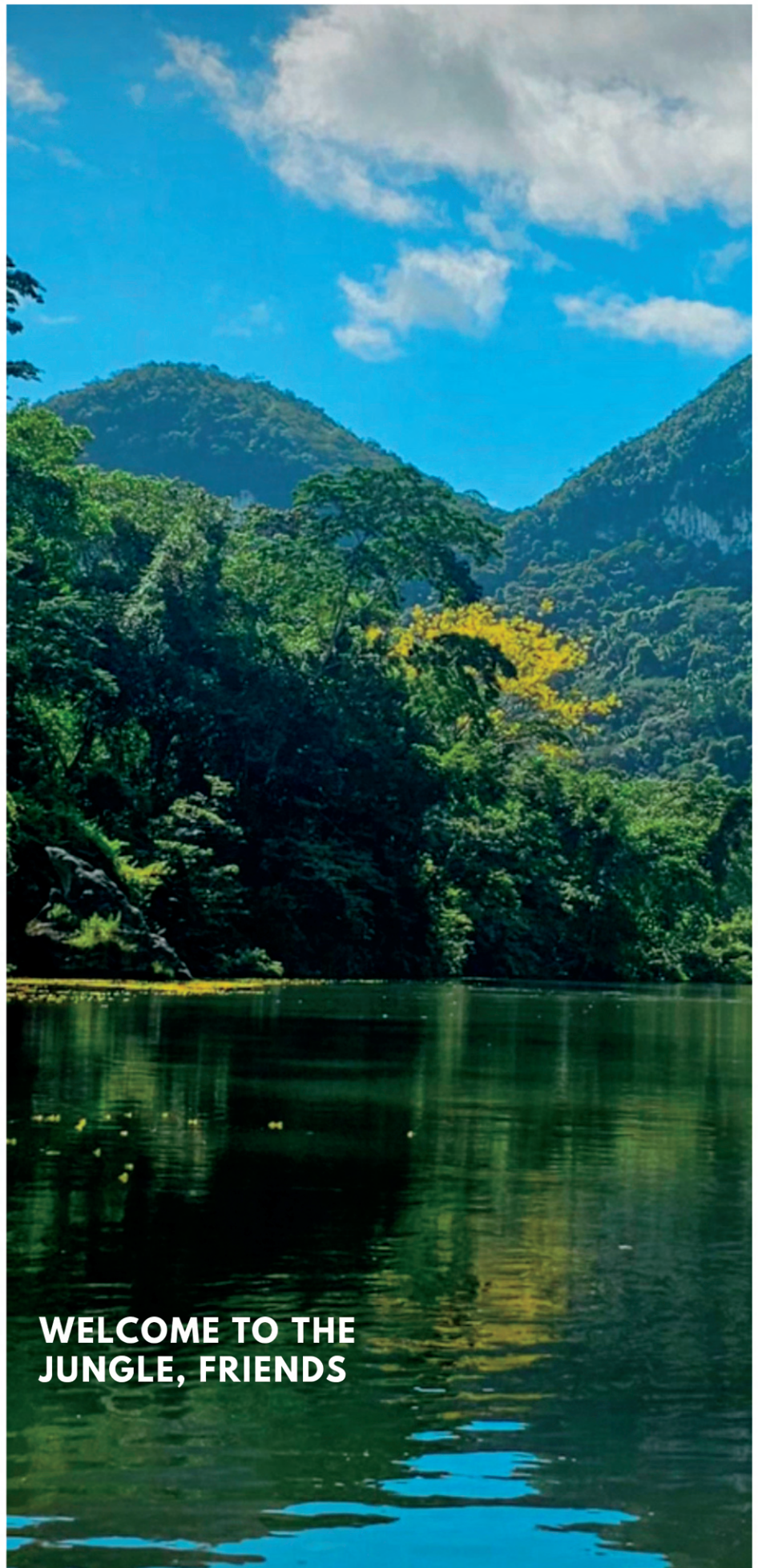




WELCOME

2024



**WELCOME TO THE
JUNGLE, FRIENDS**

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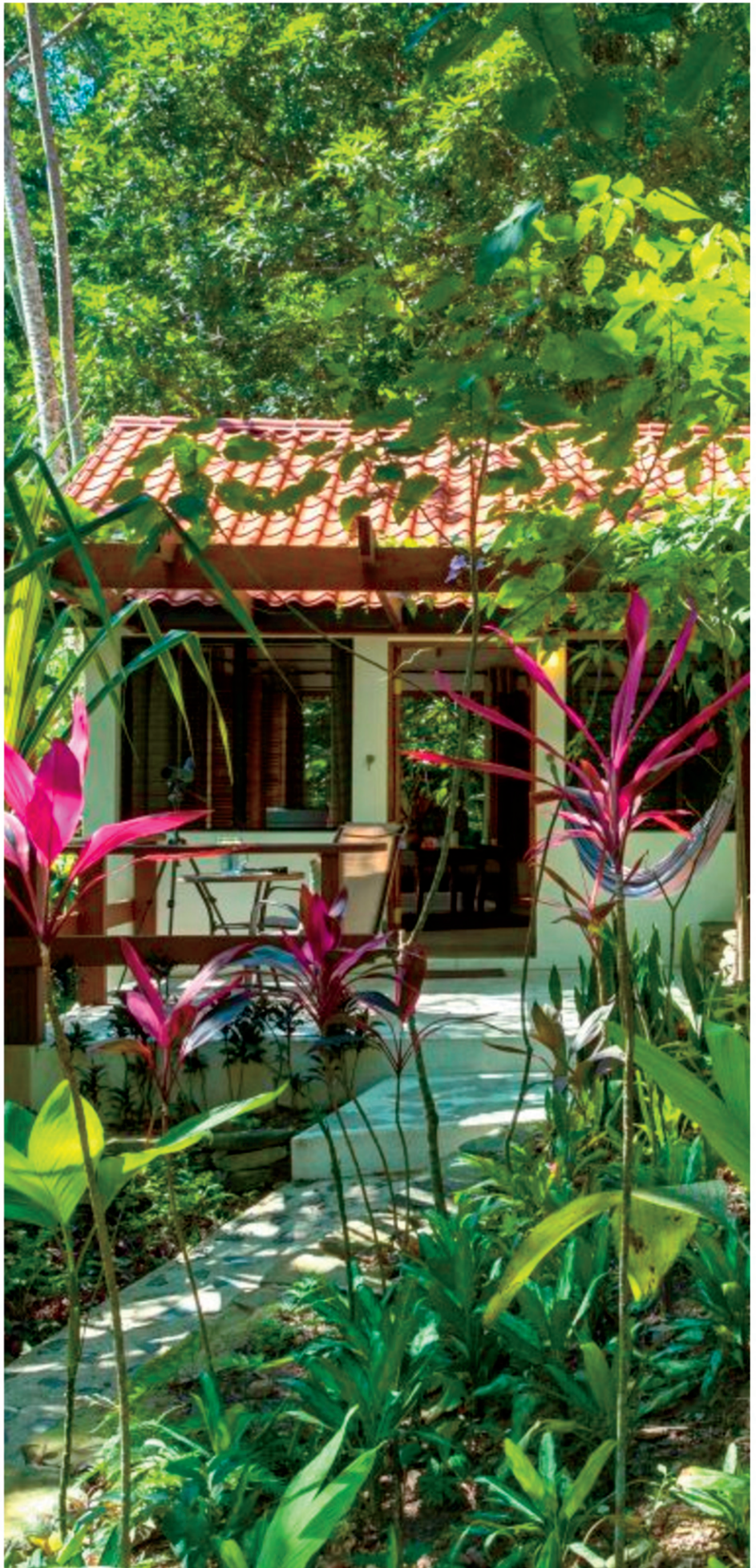
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OVERVIEW



WELCOME

Dear Guests,

A heartfelt welcome from the entire Black Rock Lodge Family! We're excited to share the unique Black Rock experience with you.

Our devoted team is committed to ensuring your stay is truly enjoyable. From memorable adventures to relaxing accommodations and delightful conversations, we're here to make your time unforgettable. Please feel free to reach out for anything that could enhance your stay.

Beyond our personalized service, Black Rock is dedicated to a sustainable experience. Conservation is at the core of our business, because to live on this land, is to love and respect this land. I invite you to immerse yourself in the incredible 240+ acres of Black Rock, adjacent to the Elijio Panti National Park along the Macal River. Whether it's kayaking, hiking, or enjoying one of our signature birding expeditions, please explore the rich rainforest surroundings and discover the wonders of the jungle for yourself.

Outside the boundaries of Black Rock Lodge, the majesty of the region awaits you. Unlock countless adventures with our expert guides and explore breathtaking Mayan sites, stunning caves, and exciting cultural sites and activities. Please visit our Tour Desk so we can assist you in planning your ideal Belize experience.

In between exploring and adventuring, make sure to indulge in the culinary delights at our restaurant. Meals are crafted with fresh, local ingredients - mostly from our own organic garden. Our talented chefs are ready to accommodate your needs. We even have an early dinner option for families with young children.

With our spectacular setting, dedicated staff, caringly prepared meals, and exciting adventures, we trust your stay at Black Rock will be truly memorable.

Thank you for choosing Black Rock Lodge for your Belize experience.

Warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cam". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Cameron Boyd and the Black Rock Lodge Family

KEY INFO

Welcome to Black Rock Lodge! Our team is available from 6:00AM-9:00PM every day.

INTERNET AND PHONE

Wireless internet is complimentary for all guests and available in the restaurant and lower deck area. No password is required. Please note that we're in the jungle and our "jungle internet" is not designed for streaming movies, music, downloading pictures, data, etc. Coverage can sometime be spotty.

You are welcome to use our office phone for urgent calls. If someone needs to reach you, the office phone number is 00-501-639- 6899 and we're happy to get you a message. Local calls are \$1 USD/min and international calls are \$2 USD/min.

RESTAURANT & BAR

Our restaurant is open all day for a cold beer, a fresh-squeezed juice, a tropical drink or a cup of coffee! Please let us know ASAP if you prefer a vegetarian or vegan option for dinner, or if you have any specific food allergies or dietary needs. * Please let us know if you will not be joining us for dinner by 12:00 PM.*

Breakfast (a la carte) 6:00AM-9:00AM

Lunch (a la carte) 12:00PM (Noon) -2:00PM

Dinner (set menu) 6:00PM -8:00PM

Our kitchen also offers packed breakfasts, lunches, and an exclusive romantic dinner setting for special occasions. Please speak to the office or reception desk to arrange. We are also happy to accommodate families with small children for dinner at 5:00PM.



DRINKING WATER

Please use the purified and filtered water-cooler in the restaurant to refill your water bottles or ask for bottled water from the bar.

WILDLIFE

Nature is our host and we feel privileged to be invited as a guest! Please treat all native wildlife with the utmost respect. Should you need our assistance to remove a visitor from your cabin, please stop by the office and we're happy to assist. We highly recommend our night hike to learn more about the wonderful little creatures that are our neighbors!

KEY INFO

ROOM KEY & SAFE

We are happy to hold your room key in our office while you are enjoying activities. Please return your room key to the office during check out. A handling fee of \$20 USD will be charged to the credit card on file for lost or misplaced room keys or safe keys. Room safes are available in each cabin and the key is on your room key ring.

HOUSEKEEPING

In keeping with our conservation efforts, we offer room refresh and cleaning upon request. Please use the red and green door sign to indicate when you would like your room serviced. We encourage you to use your towels more than once, but if you would like your towels changed, please deposit them in the towel basket in your bathroom and we'll happily replace. We also offer a laundry service for our guests. Please inquire at the office. *Swimming towels for the pool and river are available at the tour desk.*

SECURITY

Night watchmen are on duty from 6:00PM to 5:30AM. The two-way radio on the tour desk in the restaurant is available at night. If you have any concerns or problems, please use it and security or one of the managers on duty will respond immediately. To use, simply push the button on the left to talk, relay your cabin number, and briefly describe your requirements.



TIPS

A 10% service charge on meals and beverages will be included on your final bill. This amount will be divided between the restaurant, kitchen, housekeeping, maintenance, and garden and farm staff. Tour guides are not included.

If you feel someone has gone out of their way to ensure your happiness, you are welcome to tip them directly (check out the team photos at the end of this guide!) or add something to our general tip box located in the gift shop/office. Gratuity envelopes are provided. You may also add a gratuity to your final bill to charge tips on your credit card.



CHECK OUT INSTRUCTIONS

Check out time is 11:00AM. Please speak to the office if you require a later check out. We accept USD and BZE dollars, VISA, and MasterCard. We do not accept Amex or Discover.

EARLY MORNING DEPARTURES

Departing before 7:00AM? We are happy to settle your bill the evening prior. If you require an earlier breakfast or packed breakfast, please just let us know at dinner the night before. We will also have staff on hand to assist with your luggage.

CHOOSE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE!

ACTIVITIES AND ADVENTURES

Whether you want to explore Maya history, traverse crystalline caves, or witness wildlife and birds, we are ready with a Belize adventure tour that will immerse you in the wonderful and mysterious world that holds Black Rock Lodge. Fully-licensed, english-speaking guides offer every adventure tour available in Belize on a daily basis. Each guide delivers superior guest services, skillful knowledge, and the rare ability to connect for an unforgettable experience.

The next 40+ pages of this guide contain descriptions and photos of the amazing activities and adventures available during your stay. **You can easily book any of our tours and adventures by stopping by the Tour Desk.** We highly recommend discussing the many options with our experts, they'll be happy to design the perfect itinerary for your stay.

ADVENTURE RATINGS

Easy - These are invigorating but not strenuous activities. Good mobility is required but all ages are usually welcome. Many can be modified for limited mobility guests.

Moderate - These excursions offer a balanced level of challenge suitable for most guests seeking an active yet manageable experience. Strong mobility required.

Challenging - For the more adventurous, engage in rigorous activities that provide a thrilling and demanding experience. Excellent physical fitness and mobility is required with no recent injuries or surgeries.

GOODS AND SERVICES TAX (GST) ON ACTIVITIES AND ADVENTURES

Please note that a GST of 12.5% is applicable to all activities and adventures and is not included in the listed price unless expressly stated.

CONTACT THE TOUR DESK

Ready to book? Questions? Stop by or email us at reservations@blackrocklodge.com



VIEW THIS GUIDE ON YOUR MOBILE DEVICE

Keep all this information in your pocket! Just scan the QR code below to access the digital version of this information and read it while you're in your hammock!

BIRDING IN BZE



BIRDING AT BRL

ADVENTURE RATING

All levels
5+ years for morning
8+ for half/full day

DURATION

Morning, half, or full day options
6:30AM departure

PRICE

Walk (2 pax min): \$30 USD (AM)
Visit desk for Half/Full Day prices
and Driving Options



ENJOY THE WILD WONDERS
OF OUR LITTLE PIECE OF
PARADISE

ABOUT

Black Rock Lodge's 242-acre location features over 1100 feet of elevation change from the Macal River to various mountain peaks and canyon ridges, the perfect environment for 377 species of spectacular resident and migratory birds.

The diversity of the lodge's geological and ecological surroundings affords guests—the veteran birders or first timers—the ability to easily see a vast variety of common and extremely rare species. When you combine our privileged forest location and our phenomenal expert guides in these local bird species, a magical birding experience awaits every single person who visits Black Rock Lodge.

For those with less mobility, our guides offer a leisurely birding drive. Travel in an air conditioned car and stop at our favorite sites along the road for bird viewing.

WHAT TO WEAR/BRING

Insect repellent, sunscreen, long sleeves, long pants, comfortable closed-toe shoes, camera, water bottle.

INCLUDED

Expert guide and binoculars for up to 10 participants.

FOOD

No meals included.



BIRDING

AGUACATE LAGOON & RICE FIELDS

ADVENTURE RATING

Moderate
Must be at least 8 years old

DURATION

Full day, 6:30AM departure
90 minute drive each way

PRICE

2 pax (min): \$130 USD
3+ pax: \$100 USD



TAKE IN SOME OF OUR
FAVORITE BIRDING
LOCATIONS

ABOUT

This is a full day of birding at some of our favorite birding spots in the area. We will explore 6 different and distinct habitats and enjoy a 45 minute walk around the Aguacate Lagoon Reserve. You never know what you will see but past tours have included orioles, toucans, raptors, trogons, motmots and a variety of shore birds.

WHAT TO WEAR/BRING

Insect repellent, sunscreen, long sleeves, long pants, comfortable closed-toe shoes, camera, water bottle.

INCLUDED

Transportation, expert English speaking guide and binoculars for up to 10 participants.

FOOD

No meals included, picnic lunch available for \$14.70 or take cash/card to purchase.

BLACK ROCK
LODGE

BIRDING

BIRDING AT MOUNTAIN PINE RIDGE AND HIDDEN VALLEY

ADVENTURE RATING

Easy
Must be at least 5 years old

DURATION

Full day, 6:00AM departure
1 hour drive each way

PRICE

2 pax (min): \$150 USD
3+ pax: \$120 USD



TAKE IN THE DIVERSE
SPECIES OF THE
RESERVE

ABOUT

One of our experienced guides will take you to the best bird lookout points in the Mountain Pine Ridge Reserve, including the Hidden Valley Falls. Gorgeous sights and gorgeous birds abound!

WHAT TO WEAR/BRING

Insect repellent, sunscreen, long sleeves, long pants, comfortable closed-toe shoes, camera, water bottle.

INCLUDED

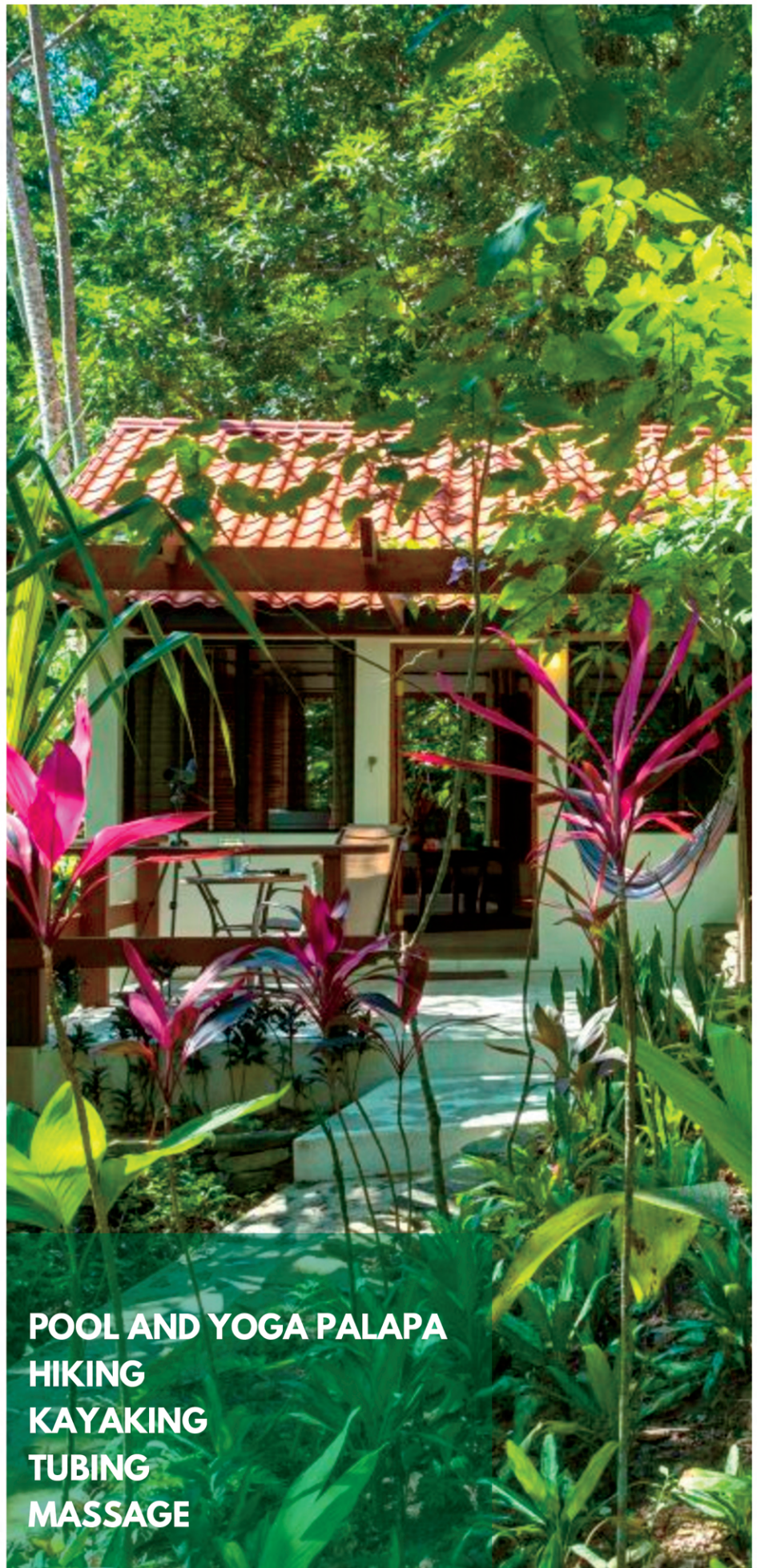
Transportation, expert guide and binoculars for up to 10 participants.

FOOD

No meals included, picnic lunch available for \$14.70.

BLACK ROCK
LODGE

ONSITE ACTIVITIES



POOL AND YOGA PALAPA
HIKING
KAYAKING
TUBING
MASSAGE

BLACK ROCK LODGE

ONSITE ACTIVITIES

ADVENTURE RATING

Easy to Moderate
Recommended age: 5+

DURATION

At your leisure

PRICE

Complementary



SWIM, SPLASH,
RELAX, REPEAT

POOL

Cool off in our spring-fed relaxation pool. With views overlooking Black Rock Canyon and Macal River, you'll find respite while taking a refreshing dip. The pool is suitable for guests of all ages.

RIVER

Guests can also enjoy all the Macal River has to offer with swimming, sandy beach lounging, and a rope swing! Towels are available at the tour desk.

YOGA

Imagine standing in tree pose, feeling powerful and connected, as you overlook the tall, lush trees of the rainforest. At Black Rock, your wellness routine is enhanced by the sacred setting of the Mayan jungle. While BRL does not currently offer regular classes, our yoga palapa is the perfect place to enjoy your personal practice or to flow with your friends. Guests are also welcome to practice meditation on the palapa. Yoga mats are available in the palapa for our guests.

BLACK ROCK
LODGE

HIKING | SELF-GUIDED

ONSITE HIKING

ADVENTURE RATING

Easy to Moderate
Something for all ages

DURATION

At your leisure

PRICE

Complementary



ENJOY MILES OF
ONSITE TRAILS

HIKING

When nature calls, hit the trails! We have miles of hiking trails that start at our lodge and lead to some of the area's most spectacular sites like.

The Mountain Summit hike is a rigorous climb up the mountains above Black Rock. The steep incline and descent back to the lodge require a relatively high level of physical fitness and sound knees. If you aren't already out of breath, we promise the view from the top will take your breath away!

For a more leisurely walk suitable for all ages, head up the river to Vaca Falls. This well maintained trail follows the banks of the Macal river to the tumbling water of the falls. You can even climb and splash in the pools surrounding the falls.

We assure you that seasoned pros to novice hikers will find a trail suited for their level and interest. Our tour desk is always available to provide a map and help you find the perfect walking adventure..

BLACK ROCK
LODGE

HIKING | GUIDED

NATIONAL PARK HIKE THROUGH EP

ADVENTURE RATING

Moderate

Recommended age: 5+

DURATION

Half day, 7:30AM departure

PRICE

2 pax (min): \$75 USD

3+ pax: \$75 USD



WALK THROUGH THE
WILDS OF DON ELIJIO
PANTI NATIONAL PARK

ABOUT

Take a walk on the wild side to the Don Eljio Panti National Park, which lies right across the river from our lodge. The biodiversity of this area is matched only by the unique history of the park itself. Eljio Panti, after whom the park is named, was widely revered as the last Maya master healer of Belize.

On this hike, your guide will take you across the Macal River in a canoe to the start of the trailhead. As you zig-zag through the mountains, you will learn about many of the medicinal plants Dr. Panti once used to heal people and the history of the Itzamna society. Within this beautiful Belizean reserve, you may spot wildlife and a vast number of bird species. The highlight is reaching the grand overlook with spectacular views of the Black Rock valley and mountains from the EP summit.

This is a half-day hike and is highly recommended when visiting Black Rock.

WHAT TO WEAR/BRING

Comfortable clothes, lace-up hiking shoes, bug repellent, sunscreen, camera, water.

INCLUDED

Expert, english-speaking guide.

FOOD

Bring your own water and snacks!

**BLACK ROCK
LODGE**

HIKING | GUIDED

NIGHT HIKE AT BRL

ADVENTURE RATING

Easy, some stairs
Recommended age: 5+

DURATION

1.5 hours
7:30PM departure

PRICE

2 pax (min): \$30 USD



EXPERIENCE THE
MAGIC OF THE
JUNGLE AT NIGHT

ABOUT

If you're a night-owl, strap on your boots and head for the jungle. Our night hike is the perfect adventure for you! An experienced guide will lead you through the rainforest and point out nocturnal creatures. While nothing is guaranteed, the night hike typically includes lots of fun creepy crawlies like tarantulas, snakes, the red-eyed tree frog and more!

This family-friendly hike is a fun and educational way to experience a different side of Belize. Alternatively, guests can opt for a night drive where our guides will point out our nocturnal friends.

This hike usually happens after dinner but we are happy to accommodate families with small children on a shorter, earlier hike so that our tiny guests can also experience the magic of the jungle at night.

Night drive is available for \$40 per person.

WHAT TO WEAR/BRING

Comfortable clothes, closed toe shoes (required), insect repellent.

INCLUDED

Expert, english-speaking guide, and light.

FOOD

No meals included.

**BLACK ROCK
LODGE**

RIVER SPORTS | GUIDED

RIVER KAYAKING

ADVENTURE RATING

Easy

All who can swim are welcome

DURATION

2-6 hours

Departure dependent on river level

PRICE

2 pax (min): \$75 USD

3+ pax: \$75 USD

San Ignacio: \$120/\$95



ENJOY A WONDROUS
RIVER JOURNEY

ABOUT

Meander along miles of the Macal River through moderate rapids and verdant rainforest. Our eagle-eyed naturalist guides will point out different species of wildlife that live in and along the river.

Departure is 9:30am and is offered depending on water on levels.

We offer several destinations or you can even paddle all the way to San Ignacio!

WHAT TO WEAR/BRING

Clothing and shoes that can get wet.

INCLUDED

Kayak, life jacket and transportation back to the lodge. Life jacket must be worn for the duration of the activity.

FOOD

No meals included. Lunch is available to purchase at Sweet Song, or we can return to the lodge for lunch.

BLACK ROCK
LODGE

RIVER SPORTS | UNGUIDED

RIVER TUBING

ADVENTURE RATING

Easy

All who can swim are welcome

DURATION

1 hour

Departure dependent on river level

PRICE

Complimentary for in-house guests

Guide available for \$30 USD/pp



RELAXATION AND
A RUSH OF RIVER
ADVENTURE

ABOUT

Looking for relaxation plus a rush of adrenaline? River tube down the Macal and float past the lush sights and sounds of the rainforest!

You'll walk yourself and your tube about a mile up from the Lodge, then float through cascades and deep pools along the way back toward the main property. You'll tackle a few small rapids on your journey, but the real fun is at the end: the Black Rock Waterfall. If you're feeling adventurous, glide down and over the waterfall. Otherwise there's an easy exit point before you encounter the falls.

And there is a bonus - go over the falls and stay on your tube? You'll enjoy a free rum punch as your prize!

Tubing is complimentary for in-house guests. If you'd like an expert guide to accompany you, a small fee will apply.

WHAT TO WEAR/BRING

Clothing and shoes that can get wet.

INCLUDED

Tube, helmet, and life jacket. Helmet and life jacket must be worn for the duration of the activity.

FOOD

No meals included.

BLACK ROCK
LODGE

MASSAGE SERVICES



RELAX AND ENJOY ONE OF OUR LUXURIOUS SPA SERVICES DURING YOUR STAY AT BLACK ROCK LODGE

MASSAGE AND SPA SERVICES

Aroma Therapy Massages - 60/90 min	US \$85/\$127.50
Swedish Massages - 60/90 min	US \$85/\$127.50
Deep Tissue Massages - 60/90 min	US \$105/\$157.50
Hot Stone Therapy - 60/90 min	US \$105/\$157.50
Children's Massage - 30/60 min	US \$45/\$67.50

WE KINDLY REQUEST THAT THE FOLLOWING BE BOOKED IN COMBINATION

Manicure	US \$57.50
Facial	US \$57.50
Pedicure	US \$57.50

ALL PRICES LISTED BEFORE 12.5% G.S.T

Our masseuses require at least 24 hours notice. Couple massages are available on request. Please visit our front desk to book your services.





OFFSITE ADVENTURES



**MAYAN SITES
CAVING
CULTURE & SIGHTSEEING
ZIPLINING**

MAYAN SITES



MAYAN SITES

TIKAL

ADVENTURE RATING

Moderate
All ages welcome

DURATION

Full day, 7AM departure
2.5 hour drive each way

PRICE

2 pax (min): \$200 USD
3+ pax: \$160 USD



VISIT ONE OF THE
LARGEST MAYAN
SITES IN THE REGION

ABOUT

Our lodge's close proximity to the Western Belize/Guatemala border makes a trip to the epic Tikal a breeze. Tikal is the largest Mayan archeological site in Guatemala and the surrounding region. This majestic citadel had its peak period from 550 AD to 900 AD. What makes Tikal unique is that it's one of the few places to earn both a natural and cultural UNESCO World Heritage distinction for its biodiversity and archaeology. The road to Tikal is paved with wonderful sights along the way.

Your transfer is in a comfortable, air-conditioned vehicle with your English speaking driver/guide providing loads of interesting information and stories along the way. The views of the lakes on either side are beautiful and the driver will stop for restrooms and coffee on the way. During your visit, be sure to check out the tomb of Ah Cacau (Lord Chocolate), one of Tikal's greatest rulers.

Due to the location, only certified Guatemalan guides are authorized to conduct tours of Tikal.

WHAT TO WEAR/BRING

Shorts, t-shirt, hiking shoes, hat, sunglasses, sunscreen, bug repellent, water, cash in USD or BZ for gift shop, **PASSPORT and \$20 cash for the departure tax at the border.**

INCLUDED

Transportation, entry fees, and English speaking guide.

FOOD

Lunch is included in your tour. Please note that no food is allowed to cross the border.

BLACK ROCK
LODGE

MAYAN SITES

TIKAL+

ADVENTURE RATING

Moderate
All ages welcome

DURATION

1.5 Days including overnight
9AM departure
2.5 hour drive each way

PRICE

2 pax (min): \$560 USD



AN **OVERNIGHT**
ADVENTURE TO
GUATEMALA

ABOUT

If you seek a little more adventure we offer an overnight excursion. You will enjoy accommodations at our sister resort, [The Jungle Lodge](#), which sits barely a quarter of a mile from the Tikal site.

Not only will you get to explore the Tikal site in depth, but this unique adventure also includes incredible sunrise and sunset access to the site. We promise you will never forget the magic of watching the sun rise and set over the jungle and this wondrous and Mayan temple.

Due to the location of Tikal, only certified Guatemalan tour guides are authorized to conduct tours.

WHAT TO WEAR/BRING

Shorts, t-shirt, hiking shoes, hat, sunglasses, sunscreen, bug repellent, water, cash in USD or BZ for gift shop, **PASSPORT and \$20 cash for the departure tax at the border.**

INCLUDED

Transportation, entry fees, and English speaking guide. Not included: snacks for purchase, photos, souvenirs

FOOD

Lunch, dinner and breakfast are included in this tour. Please note that no food is allowed to cross the border.

BLACK ROCK
LODGE

MAYAN SITES

XUNANTUNICH

ADVENTURE RATING

Easy
All ages welcome

DURATION

Half day, 8:30AM departure
45 minute drive each way

PRICE

2 pax (min): \$100 USD
3+ pax: \$75 USD



TAKE IN THE BEAUTY
AND GRANDEUR OF
"THE STONE LADY"

ABOUT

Xunantunich was one of the largest cities ever built by the Maya. It was believed to be lost for centuries until a local villager came across it in the 1890's. At the time, he thought he saw the ghost of an ancient Maya maiden descending "El Castillo" — the main pyramid at the complex. Many others have claimed to have spotted the woman over the years, which is how Xunantunich got its name, meaning "stone woman."

From Black Rock Lodge, guests will travel San Jose Succotz, on the banks of the Mopan River. There you will board a small hand-cranked pontoon ferry to get to Xunantunich.

This is an excellent activity for our guests with limited mobility as we can arrange permission to drive up to the site.

WHAT TO WEAR/BRING

Shorts, t-shirt, walking shoes or sandals, camera, sunscreen, hat, insect repellent, US or BZ dollars for petty cash.

INCLUDED

Transportation, entry fees, and English speaking guide.

FOOD

Ask your guide to recommend one of our local restaurants! Or BRL packed lunch is available for purchase for \$14.70 USD per person (inc. tax and service fee)

BLACK ROCK
LODGE

MAYAN SITES

YAXHÁ

ADVENTURE RATING

Moderate
All ages welcome

DURATION

Full day, 8AM departure
1.5 hour drive each way

PRICE

2 pax (min): \$200 USD
3+ pax: \$160 USD



A STUNNING
AND REMOTE
JUNGLE PARADISE

ABOUT

Yaxhá is situated in a nature reserve and is fairly remote, making a great option for those looking for a more intimate and less-crowded experience.

Yaxhá, which translates to blue-green water, happens to sit on the beautiful shores of the Yaxhá lagoon. Being so close to the lagoon means you may encounter wildlife like the Morelett crocodile, as well as spider and howler monkeys. One of the highlights of visiting Yaxhá is the beautiful views of the surrounding lakes and the Rio Azul. Climb to the top of Structure 216, the tallest temple here, to take in the amazing vista.

Unlike Tikal, restoration of this site is still ongoing. As a visitor, you can speak with the archaeologists, get first-hand insight into their work, and gain a greater appreciation of the accomplishments of the ancient Maya.

WHAT TO WEAR/BRING

Shorts, t-shirt, hiking shoes, hat, sunglasses, sunscreen, bug repellent, water (no food is allowed to cross the border), cash in USD or BZ for gift shop, **PASSPORT and \$20 cash for the departure tax at the border.**

INCLUDED

Transportation, entry fees, and English speaking guide.

FOOD

Lunch is included in your tour.

BLACK ROCK
LODGE

MAYAN SITES

CARACOL

ADVENTURE RATING

Moderate

All ages welcome

DURATION

Full day, 7AM departure

2.5 hour drive each way

PRICE

2 pax (min): \$150 USD

3+ pax: \$120 USD



THE TALLEST
MAYAN TEMPLE IN
BELIZE

ABOUT

Nestled in the foothills of the Maya mountains and the surrounding pine forest of the Chiquibul, lies the mother of all Belize Mayan sites: Caracol. This is the largest Maya site in Belize and one of the largest in the Maya world.

The grandeur of the site spans a 75-mile radius! It is larger than Belize City, which makes sense when you consider that almost 200,000 Mayan occupants once lived here! This one-of-a-kind attraction features Mayan hieroglyphs, tombs, altars, and an observatory where you can look out over the "sacbeobs" (causeways) that sprawl out from the epicenter of the sites. The crowning gem of this excursion is Caana or Sky Palace which at 145 feet high, towers above the rainforest. Caracol is famous for conquering the megalopolis Tikal when Tikal was at its peak. After exploring the main area of Caracol, we'll enjoy a picnic lunch then drive to Rio On pools for a refreshing dip. Big Rock Falls is another option with a little more driving.

WHAT TO WEAR/BRING

Shorts, t-shirt, hiking shoes, hat, sunglasses, sunscreen, bug repellent, water (no food), cash in USD or BZ for gift shop.

INCLUDED

Transportation, entry fees, and English speaking guide.

FOOD

Lunch is not included but a packed lunch can be purchased at our restaurant to bring along. \$14.75/per person (inc. tax and service fee).

**BLACK ROCK
LODGE**

MAYAN SITES

CAHAL PECH

ADVENTURE RATING

Easy to Moderate
All ages welcome

DURATION

Half day, 8:30AM departure
40 minute drive each way

PRICE

2 pax (min): \$100 USD
3+ pax: \$75 USD



EXPLORE THE OLDEST
SITE AROUND

ABOUT

The architecturally diverse site of Cahal Pech (ka-hall pet-ch) sits just on the outskirts of San Ignacio. Here you will have the opportunity to climb through the site, see examples of the “corbelled” arch (the Maya’s version of the Roman arch), and view 2,000-year-old red plaster still intact on the walls. Dating to 1000 B.C. Cahal Pech is one of the oldest sites in the area.

This site is generally less crowded and offers more shade than many other sites, making it a preferred option for families. It also it a great destination to combine with a visit to the San Ignacio market!

WHAT TO WEAR/BRING

Shorts, t-shirt, walking shoes or sandals, camera, sunscreen, hat, repellent, US or BZ dollars for petty cash.

INCLUDED

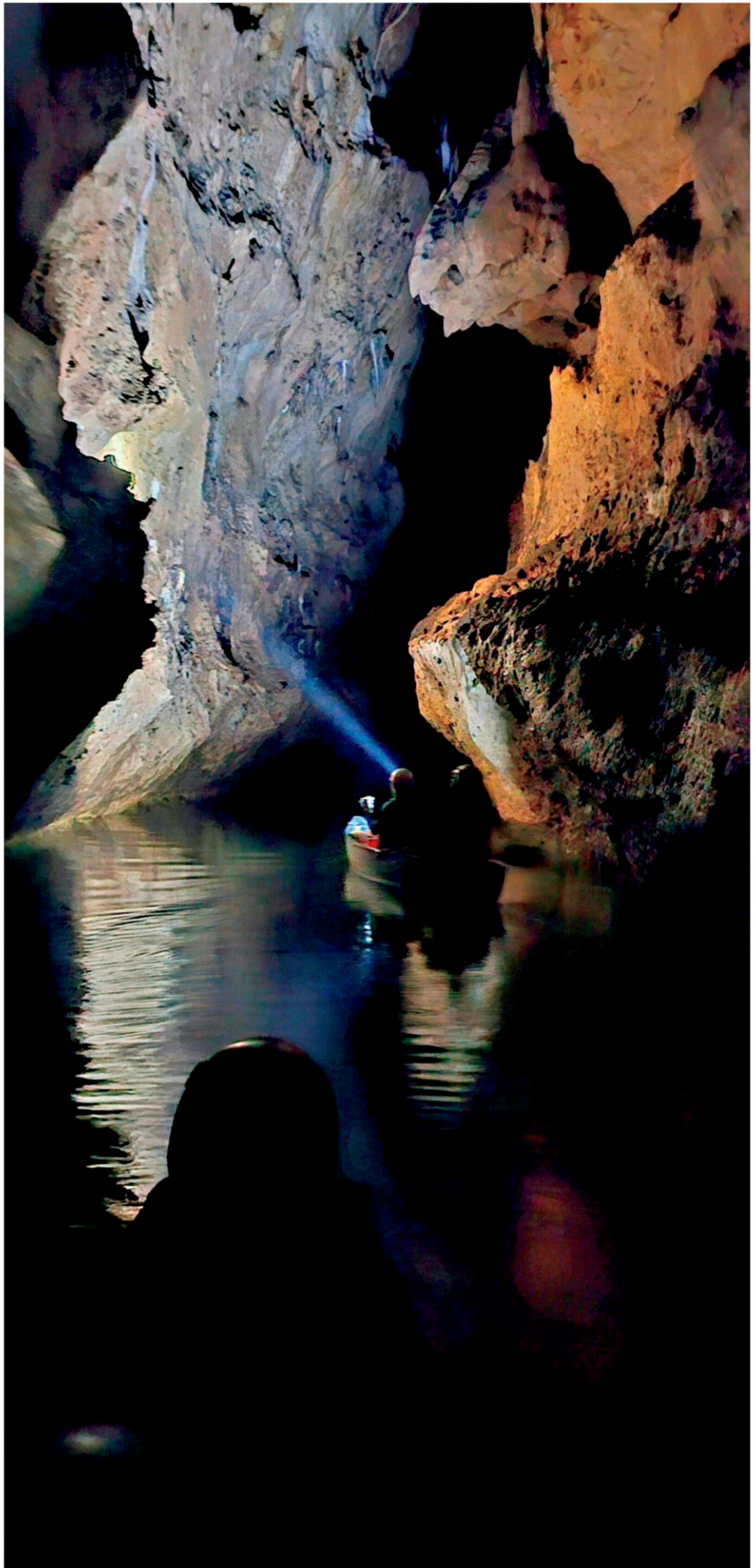
Transportation, entry fees, and English speaking guide.

FOOD

No meals included.

BLACK ROCK
LODGE

CAVING



CAVING

ACTUN TUNICHIL MUKNAL (ATM CAVE)

ADVENTURE RATING

Moderate to Challenging
Must be 8 years old/40 inches tall

DURATION

Full day, 7:00AM departure
1.5 hour drive each way

PRICE*

2 pax (min): \$160 USD



IMMERSE IN THE
MYSTICAL ANCIENT
CIVILIZATION OF BELIZE

ABOUT

Visiting the “Cave of the Stone Sepulchre” deep in the Earth, is a *must* for anyone who desires a truly unforgettable experience in Belize. Passage into the cave can only be offered by experienced guides who have been vetted and given permission from the Belize Department of Archaeology. Inside this cathedral-like cave, you'll witness ceremonial ceramics, human sacrificial remains, and artifacts from the Mayan era, as well as natural stalactite and stalagmite formations.

A 45-minute jungle hike into the Tapir Mountain Nature Reserve in the Cayo district leads you to the cave. National Geographic rated ATM as number one in their Top Ten Sacred Caves

The Mayans believed that the Belize ATM cave was the entrance to the underworld, where the gods of agriculture and rain dwelled. Inside the highest chamber of ATM lies the “Crystal Maiden,” a Mayan princess, sacrificed to appease the gods, who’s calcified remains present a crystalline appearance. Because of the significance and history of the grounds, conservation is key. Visitors are asked to remove their shoes when reaching the upper dry chamber to help minimize foot traffic impact, and the use of cameras is prohibited inside. Private Tours are also available for this experience at \$200 per person.

Please book an ATM tour in advance, or as soon as possible upon your arrival to Black Rock Lodge.

WHAT TO WEAR/BRING

Shorts, t-shirt, hiking shoes or water shoes, socks, one pair of dry clothes, small backpack, and US or BZ dollars for petty cash.

INCLUDED

Transportation, entry fees, English speaking guide.

FOOD

Lunch is included on this tour.

BLACK ROCK
LODGE

CAVING

ST HERMAN'S CAVE & BLUE HOLE NATIONAL PARK

ADVENTURE RATING

Moderate

Must be at least 5 years old

DURATION

Half day, 7:30AM departure

2 hour drive each way

PRICE

2 pax (min): \$130 USD

3+ pax: \$100 USD



EXPLORE ONE OF
BELIZE'S BELOVED
NATIONAL PARKS

ABOUT

St. Herman's Blue Hole National Park is located twelve miles southeast of Belmopan just off the beautiful Hummingbird Highway.

This adventure includes a hike to the cave, which contains beautiful speleothems and Maya artifacts including pottery vessels used to collect Zuh uy Ha, or "virgin water" that drips from the speleothems.

After exploring the cave, we will drive to the sapphire blue sinkhole or "cenote" hidden in the jungle. The Inland Blue Hole is an artesian well with azure crystalline water flowing to the surface. The two sites are linked by a walking trail and require a short hike to get from the cave to the sinkhole. The St Herman's Cave & Blue Hole is recommended as a stop en route to the south for guests heading to or from Hopkins or Placencia as it is located on the Hummingbird Highway which links Western Belize to the south of the country. It's a great stop for a quick refreshing swim and a great spot for birders.

WHAT TO WEAR/BRING

Swim clothes, shorts, t-shirt, water shoes, insect repellent and a set of dry clothing.

INCLUDED

Entry fees, equipment rental, transportation and english speaking guide.

FOOD

No meals included.

BLACK ROCK
LODGE

CAVING

CHE CHEM HA CAVE

“CAVE OF THE POISONWOOD TREE”

ADVENTURE RATING

Moderate to Challenging
Must be at least 8 years old

DURATION

Half day, 8AM departure
1 hour drive each way

PRICE

2 pax (min): \$150 USD
3+ pax: \$100 USD



A TREASURE TROVE OF
ANCIENT MAYAN
ARTIFACTS

ABOUT

Located in the jungle of the Vaca Plateau, the cave holds a treasure trove of ancient artifacts and artwork. The mouth of the cave is adorned with motifs and the interior chambers are lined with antiquities, notably an assortment of jars called “Ollas.” The last chamber is a breathtaking cavern where Mayan ceremonies once took place.

Che Chem Ha was discovered accidentally by a local farmer from the Morales family, who was chasing his dog when he came upon the site. Today, the family still lives nearby and facilitates entrance into the cave. To reach the cave, guests must first tackle the beautiful but active 40-minute climb that starts at the Morales farm.

The activity level for this excursion is more advanced and requires climbing ladders and holding onto ropes to view the artifacts.

Please book this cave tour in advance, or as soon as possible upon your arrival to BRL

WHAT TO WEAR/BRING

Shorts or lightweight pants, t-shirt, hiking shoes, a small backpack, US or BZ dollars for petty cash. Cameras are allowed, but the use of sunscreen and bug repellent in the cave are strongly discouraged by the government.

INCLUDED

Transportation, entry fees, and English speaking guide.

FOOD

No meals included.

BLACK ROCK
LODGE

CAVING

CRYSTAL CAVE

ADVENTURE RATING

Challenging
Must be at least 12 years old

DURATION

Full day, 6AM departure
2.75 hour drive each way

PRICE*

2 pax (min): \$180 USD
3+ pax: \$130 USD



A JOURNEY INTO
THE MAYAN
UNDERWORLD

ABOUT

The cave gets its moniker from the stalactite, stalagmite, and flowstone formations that give the cave a crystalline appearance, but it is known locally as the Mountain Cow. This tour will challenge your physical stamina and ignite your sense of adventure.

The trip starts with a scenic drive to the Blue Hole National Park. A 50-minute hike through the lush rainforest provides plenty of excitement as you head towards the cave entrance. Once we reach the site, you'll descend down a 15-foot drop by rope into the mouth of the Crystal Cave. Here you will enter what the Mayans believed to be the realm of the underworld- Xibalba! The thrill continues as you navigate narrow passageways, mudslides, and traverse across rock faces.

At the end of the cave lies a chamber of crystal formations called the Wonder Land where things really shine. Like many of the cave in Belize, visitors will also spot ancient Mayan ceremonial fire pits, artifacts, and the skeletal remains of sacrificial victims. The Crystal Cave provides excitement, challenge, and adventure for those ready for the thrill of their lives!

WHAT TO WEAR/BRING

Long pants, t-shirt, hiking shoes, sunscreen, hat, repellent, US or BZ dollars for petty cash. NO SHORTS OR SUNGLASSES PERMITTED ON THIS TOUR. PRESCRIPTION SUNGLASSES ARE OK.

INCLUDED

Transportation, entry fees, and English speaking guide.

FOOD

Lunch is included in your tour.

BLACK ROCK
LODGE

CAVING

CAVE TUBING AT NOHOC CHE'EN

ADVENTURE RATING

Easy

Must be at least 6 years old or 42 inches tall

DURATION

Half day, 8:30AM departure

1.5 hour drive each way

PRICE

2 pax (min): \$110 USD

3+ pax: \$85 USD



A FREE-FLOWING RIVER
RIDE AND CAVE
EXPLORATION

ABOUT

After a 45 minute hike upstream, guests will sit back, relax, and go with the (river) flow through a prehistoric cave system. Inner-tubing through the Nohoch Che'en is the ultimate way to enjoy the Caves Branch River and experience the wonders of the jungle. As you float down the archaeological reserve, using only your headlamp to light the way, you'll glide past statues of Mayan fertility gods, pottery, stalactite formations, and may even spot a few bat colonies. The river continues to meander in and out of the cave systems and past an underground waterfall that leads to the "Crystal Cathedral." Here you'll learn how the indigenous inhabitants use the cave for ceremonial purposes.

This family-friendly adventure is a great way to learn about the geology and history of the area, while also enjoying a relaxing time. In addition to tubing, some underground hiking and jungle trekking is required!

WHAT TO WEAR/BRING

Swim clothes, shorts, t-shirt, water shoes, and a set of dry clothing.

INCLUDED

Entry fees, equipment rental, transportation and English speaking guide.

FOOD

No meals included.

BLACK ROCK
LODGE

CAVING

BARTON CREEK CAVE CANOEING

ADVENTURE RATING

Easy

Must be at least 6 years old

DURATION

Half day, 8:30AM departure

1.5 hour drive each way

PRICE

2 pax (min): \$130 USD

3+ pax: \$100 USD



CANOE THROUGH AN
UNDERGROUND
CATHEDRAL

ABOUT

Called Xibalba in the Mayan language, which means “underworld,” the water that flows through the cave makes it one of Belize’s most unusual and mystical natural wonders. Entrance to the cave can only be accessed via canoe and it’s cathedral-like chambers soar to over 200 feet.

While canoeing through the cave, you’ll see artifacts and skeletal remains, as this location was of incredible spiritual importance to the Maya and the mysticism is palpable inside. Twenty-eight human remains have been discovered in the cave and all show evidence of involvement in human sacrifice.

In addition, the cave contains remarkable and diverse geographical formations including sparkling stalactites dotted with quartz, and gravity-defying stalagmites that stretch towards the vaulted ceilings of the cave.

The water here springs up from an underground river, make for a cool and refreshing dip after exploring the wonders of the underworld.

Since this cave exploration is done entirely aboard a canoe, this is an excellent option for our guests who require a less physical cave adventure.

WHAT TO WEAR/BRING

Swim clothes, shorts, t-shirt, water shoes, and a set of dry clothing.

INCLUDED

Entry fees, equipment rental, towels, transportation and English speaking guide.

FOOD

No meals included.

BLACK ROCK
LODGE

CAVING

FLOUR CAMP CAVE

ADVENTURE RATING

Moderate to Challenging
Recommended age: 8+

DURATION

4 hours
7:30AM departure

PRICE

2 pax (min): \$70 USD



AN INCREDIBLE
HIKE RIGHT IN THE
BRL BACKYARD

ABOUT

Combine a hiking adventure with some cave spelunking! Flour Camp Cave is full of Mayan artifacts, and geological formations that will delight explorers.

WHAT TO WEAR/BRING

Insect repellent, sunscreen, hiking shoes, long pants, t-shirt.

INCLUDED

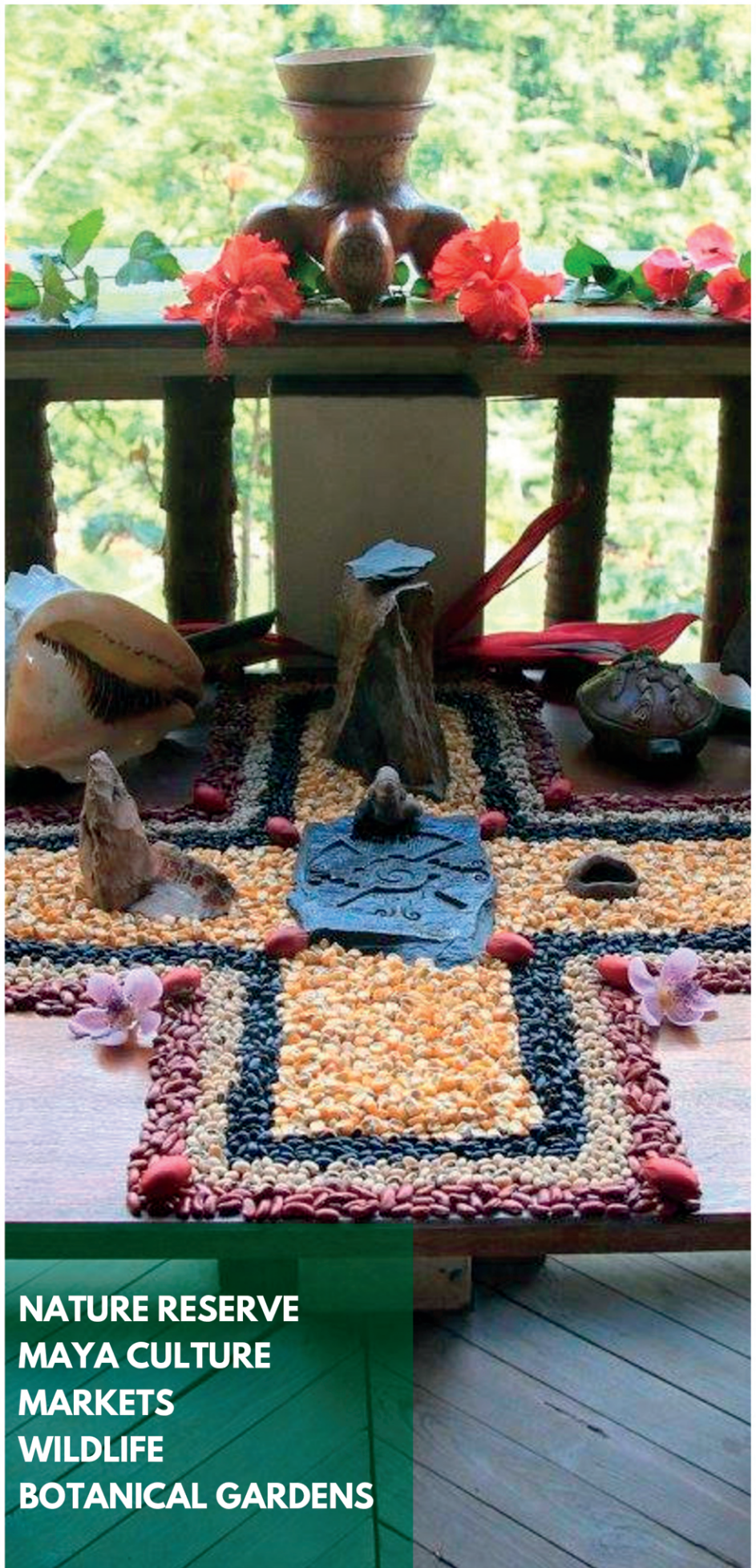
Expert, english-speaking guide and equipment.

FOOD

No meals included. We recommend you bring your water bottle and some snack on this adventure.

BLACK ROCK
LODGE

CULTURE & SIGHTSEEING



**NATURE RESERVE
MAYA CULTURE
MARKETS
WILDLIFE
BOTANICAL GARDENS**

CULTURE AND SIGHTSEEING

EXPLORE MOUNTAIN PINE RIDGE

ADVENTURE RATING

Easy
Must be at least 6 years old

DURATION

Full day, 8AM departure, 2.5
hour drive each way

PRICE

2 pax (min): \$150 USD
3+ pax: \$120 USD



EXPLORE THE NATURAL
BEAUTY OF THIS BELOVED
NATURE RESERVE

ABOUT

Within the reserve lies the crown gem of the forest, the Hidden Valley Falls. Also known as Thousand-Foot Falls, at a soaring 1600-foot high, this is the tallest waterfall in Central America! It's a magnificent sight to see up close or from afar. Please note that road conditions may impact access to Hidden Valley Falls.

Also part of the reserve is the Rio Frio cave and the Rio On Pools. After a trip to the falls, we'll drive to the Rio Frio (cold river) and hike through the cavernous tunnel that runs alongside the river. Once we emerge from the cave, there will be a short hike through the jungle back to our transportation. After all that excitement, we'll take you to the Rio On pools and Big Rock Falls where you can swim and rejuvenate. The natural pools and jacuzzi are fed by the surrounding waterfalls, which creates a serene setting after a perfect day of adv where

WHAT TO WEAR/BRING

Shorts, t-shirt, hiking shoes or good sandals for walking, hat, swimsuit, beach towel, sunglasses, sunscreen, bug repellent, US or BZ dollars for petty cash.

INCLUDED

Transportation, entry fees, and English speaking guide.

FOOD

Picnic lunch available for \$14.70 (inc. tax and service fee).

BLACK ROCK
LODGE

CULTURE AND SIGHTSEEING

AJAW CHOCOLATE TOUR

ADVENTURE RATING

Easy

Must be at least 8 years old

DURATION

1 hour, 8AM departure

40 minute drive each way

PRICE

2 pax (min): \$100 USD

3+ pax: \$75 USD



THE SWEETEST
ADVENTURE IN
BELIZE!

ABOUT

Calling all chocolate lovers! This tour is for you. According to archaeologists, the Maya were making chocolate from before 2500 BC. It is hard to believe a bitter, hard-shelled, tropical fruit can become such a luscious treat. But the Mayans believed it was the Food of the Gods and they were right!

Chocolate was a currency and exchanged by the ancient Maya in Belize for valuable entities that are not indigenous to Belize, like jade. Now you can visit a Maya family in the nearby town of San Ignacio and learn about the culture, the tradition, and the process. Duration is about 2 hours. Please note that children are not permitted and this tour is only available Monday through Saturday.

WHAT TO WEAR/BRING

Comfortable clothing for indoors, US or BZ dollars for petty cash.

INCLUDED

Transportation, entry fees, and English speaking guide.

FOOD

No meals included.

BLACK ROCK
LODGE

CULTURE AND SIGHTSEEING

SAN ANTONIO WOMEN'S CULTURAL GROUP

ADVENTURE RATING

Easy

Must be at least 8 years old

DURATION

Half Day, 8:00AM departure

1 hour drive each way

PRICE

2 pax (min): \$150 USD

3+ pax: \$120 USD



FOR OUR GUESTS
WHO ARE ARTISTS
AND MAKERS

ABOUT

The San Antonio Women's Group still makes ceramics by hand. It is a time-consuming process requiring great concentration and precision. They will demonstrate how this is done using the "coil method" and guests will be able to try their hands at creating something of their own.

Following this, help to prepare your lunch by learning to make corn tortillas on a traditional fire hearth. Hear about the process of grinding the fresh corn and transforming it into the "masa" or dough that you will be forming into the tortillas. While the women finish preparing lunch, walk the rest of the property and learn about the sustainable processes used to fire the ceramic kilns and sustain an organic garden.

WHAT TO WEAR/BRING

Comfortable clothes for indoor activity that you don't mind getting messy

INCLUDED

Transportation, entry fee and english speaking guide.

FOOD

Lunch is included.

BLACK ROCK
LODGE

CULTURE AND SIGHTSEEING

UPE NAI

ADVENTURE RATING

Easy
All ages welcome

DURATION

Half day or full day
8:00AM departure
40 minute drive each way

PRICE

2 pax (min): \$130 USD
3+ pax: \$75 USD



EXPERIENCE MAYA FOOD,
CULTURE AND CRAFTS IN A
BEAUTIFUL GARDEN SETTING

ABOUT

Upe Nai offers a unique and wonder-filled day immersed in a living Maya experience. Between the culinary adventure and the lush garden and birding opportunities - there is something for the whole family at Upe Nai. This is an excellent activity for our youngest guests, and those with limited mobility.

Set on top of a picturesque hill, amidst a thriving organic farm, the women of Upe Nai run a traditional Maya kitchen. You'll spend the morning preparing a traditional Maya meal, making tortillas, and working on a traditional Maya stove alongside your Upe Nai host. After your culinary adventures, guest can take a leisurely walk through the birding trail, or practice their crafting skills weaving jewelry and baskets from plantain fibers.

If you've dreamt immersing yourself in Maya culture, then Upe Nai is the place for you - It translates to "dream come true!"

WHAT TO WEAR/BRING

Comfortable clothes, shoes for walking, bug spray, Us or BZ dollars and card

INCLUDED

Transportation, entry fee and English speaking guide.

FOOD

Lunch included

BLACK ROCK
LODGE

CULTURE AND SIGHTSEEING MARKET DAY IN SAN IGNACIO

ADVENTURE RATING

Easy

Must be at least 8 years old

DURATION

3 hours, 8:30AM departure

40 minute drive each way

PRICE

2 pax (min): \$80 USD

3+ pax: \$60 USD



SHOP FOR SOUVENIRS, TASTE
LOCAL DELICACIES, AND
EXPERIENCE THE LOCAL
CULTURE OF BELIZE

ABOUT

*Saturdays only! Start your Saturday morning at the San Ignacio Market. Rural farmers and townfolk descend on the market square every Saturday, making it a great chance to experience the local culture up close. From Mennonites selling local cheese, to medicine men selling herbal cures – you will see it all! You may even spy our cook doing her shopping for the freshest local vegetables and fruits. Sample local snacks – tacos, pupusas, or have some refreshing coconut water while you wander around the market taking in the sights and smells.

NOTE: Black Rock Lodge can also drop off guests to explore on their own and pre-arrange pickup. Paying for only transfers.

WHAT TO WEAR/BRING

Comfortable clothing for indoors, US or BZ dollars for petty cash, card

INCLUDED

Transportation, and English speaking guide.

FOOD

No meals included.

BLACK ROCK
LODGE

CULTURE AND SIGHTSEEING

GREEN IGUANA CONSERVATION PROJECT

ADVENTURE RATING

Easy
All ages welcome

DURATION

1.5 hours, 8AM departure
40 minute drive each way

PRICE

2 pax (min): \$60 USD
3+ pax: \$50 USD



LEARN THE HISTORY
AND IMPORTANCE OF
BELIZE'S GREEN IGUANA

ABOUT

The Green Iguana Conservation Project is a highly interactive exhibit that aims to conserve and educate visitors about the indigenous Green Iguana and its role within the river habitat in Belize. You will have a chance to get up close and personal with these fascinating reptiles and learn more about them. Wonderful trip for youngsters!!

WHAT TO WEAR/BRING

Shorts, t-shirt, hiking shoes or good sandals for walking, US or BZ dollars for petty cash.

INCLUDED

Transportation, equipment, entry fees, and English speaking guide.

FOOD

No meals included.

BLACK ROCK
LODGE

CULTURE AND SIGHTSEEING

GREEN HILLS BUTTERFLY FARM

ADVENTURE RATING

Easy
All ages welcome

DURATION

2 hours, 8:30AM departure
1 hour drive each way

PRICE

2 pax (min): \$100 USD
3+ pax: \$85 USD



FOR THE
BUTTERFLY
ENTHUSIASTS

ABOUT

Located on 100 acres in the Green hills of the Mountain Pine Ridge, this is the largest and the best of Belize's butterfly farms open to the public, Green Hills has about 30 native species in a huge flight area on display at any given time. There are also many flowers, including passion flowers, bromeliads, heliconias, and orchids. The extensive hummingbird garden is an added bonus for birders. A great combo with zip-lining or Barton Creek.

WHAT TO WEAR/BRING

Comfortable clothing for indoors, US or BZ dollars for petty cash.

INCLUDED

Transportation, entry fees, and English speaking guide.

FOOD

No meals included.

BLACK ROCK
LODGE

CULTURE AND SIGHTSEEING

THE BELIZE ZOO

ADVENTURE RATING

Easy
All ages welcome

DURATION

Half day, 8:00AM departure
90 minute drive each way

PRICE

2 pax (min): \$150 USD
3+ pax: \$100 USD



A SANCTUARY FOR
THE ANIMALS OF
BELIZE

ABOUT

The Belize Zoo is one of the most ecologically sound zoos in the world and has a large cross section of fauna and wildlife. Here you'll encounter crocodiles, jaguars, scarlet macaws, and other exotic creatures like the kinkajous and stinky peccaries. The best part of seeing these adorable animals is that a majority of them were rescued from unfavorable situations making it more of a sanctuary than a zoo.

Sharon Matola who started the zoo has managed to re-create each animal's natural environment as much as possible. The VIP tour provides a special Belize Zoo journey. Sharon will take you for personal encounters with our charismatic animal ambassadors.

All proceeds from the Zoo Gift Shop go toward conservation of Wildlife in Belize. The Zoo is perfectly located on the main highway from or to Belize City and is highly recommended as a stop en route if time allows. Please enquire with our reservations team to book your VIP tour for you.

WHAT TO WEAR/BRING

Comfortable clothes, shoes for walking, bug spray, US or BZ dollars and card

INCLUDED

Transportation, entry fee and English speaking guide.

FOOD

No meals included.

BLACK ROCK
LODGE

CULTURE AND SIGHTSEEING

BOTANICAL GARDENS

ADVENTURE RATING

Easy
All ages welcome

DURATION

2 hours, 8AM departure
30 minute drive each way
River kayaking also available

PRICE

2 pax (min): \$85 USD
3+ pax: \$65 USD
\$105/\$80 for kayaking



MARVEL AT THE
DIVERSE FLORA OF
BELIZE

ABOUT

The Botanical Gardens offer many ways to interact with the exotic plant world of Belize. Enjoy two miles of trails to experience a variety of native and exotic fruits, palms, hardwoods, ornamentals, and more. You can go at your own pace with a self-guiding booklet, that shares information on many of the plants you will encounter.

We also offer guided river kayaking from BRL to the Botanical Gardens! You will meander along six miles of the Macal River through moderate rapids and verdant rainforest. Our eagle-eyed naturalist guides will point out different species of wildlife that live in and along the river. Let our guides do the paddling, while you sit back and soak in the scenery. River departure is 9:30am and is offered depending on water level. Must be at least 6 years old for river travel.

WHAT TO WEAR/BRING

Shorts, t-shirt, hiking shoes or good sandals for walking, dry clothes (if traveling by river) hat, swimsuit, insect repellent, US or BZ dollars for petty cash.

INCLUDED

Transportation, equipment (if traveling by river), entry fees, and English speaking guide.

FOOD

No meals included.

BLACK ROCK
LODGE

ZIPLINING

CALICO JACK'S OR CAVE BRANCH OUTPOST

ADVENTURE RATING

Moderate to Challenging (course dependent)

Must be at least 5 years old

DURATION

Half day, Morning or Afternoon departures available

1.5 hour drive each way

PRICE

Fees depend on course - please visit the tour desk.



TAKE A WILD RIDE
THROUGH THE BELIZE
JUNGLE CANOPY

ABOUT

Calico Jack's

Several different levels of ziplining tours are offered. The aerial tour begins above the forest floor. Secured by a body harness and protected with helmet and gloves, you will be attached to a steel cable and travel zip-lines between separate tree platforms. An exhilarating experience with spectacular views and perspective of the rainforest you won't get anywhere else!

Cave Branch Outpost at Nohoch Ch'en

With 6 lines of cable, thrill seekers and zip-line lovers will have a blast at this course. You will soar over the river and pass through the jungle canopy. A variety of levels are available and this is an amazing addition to the cave tubing at Nohoch Ch'en.

WHAT TO WEAR/BRING

T-shirt, long pants, comfortable shoes, binoculars and camera.

INCLUDED

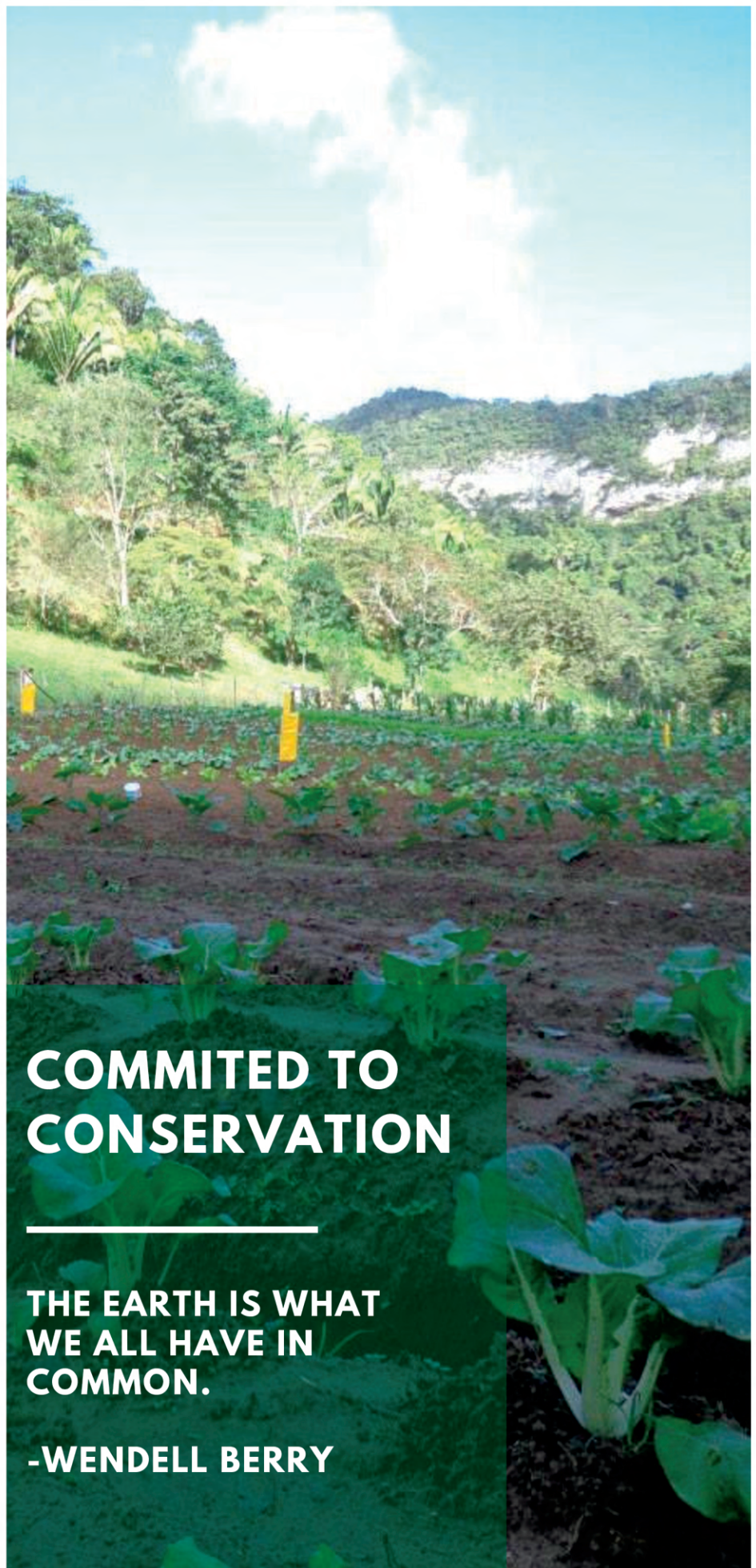
Transportation - this is a great activity to add on to another tour. Please visit the tour desk for details.

FOOD

No meals included, picnic lunch available for \$14.70 (inc. tax and service fee).

BLACK ROCK
LODGE

SUSTAINABILITY

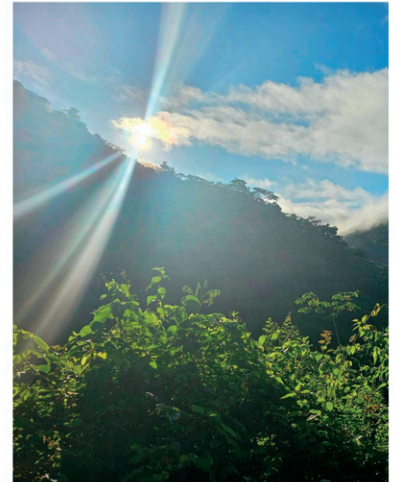
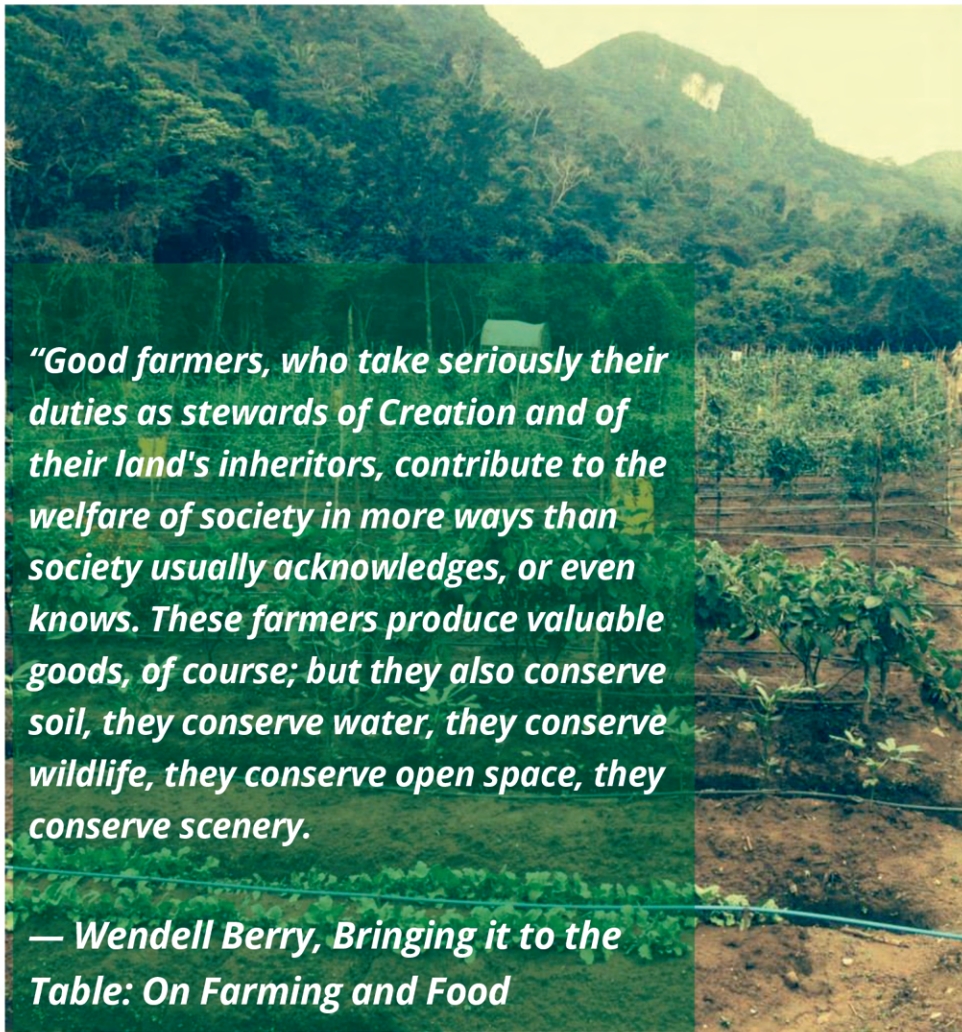


**COMMITTED TO
CONSERVATION**

**THE EARTH IS WHAT
WE ALL HAVE IN
COMMON.**

-WENDELL BERRY

SUSTAINABILITY AND CONSERVATION AT BRL



At Black Rock Lodge, we consider ourselves caretakers of this land. To love this place is to care for it and we take that job very seriously. Black Rock is proudly an off-grid eco resort. The following pages contain insight into the infrastructure, technology and commitment it takes for our beloved lodge to thrive and be the welcoming home it is for people, flora and fauna.

If you would like to learn more, please visit our tour desk and inquire about taking our complementary **sustainability tour**.

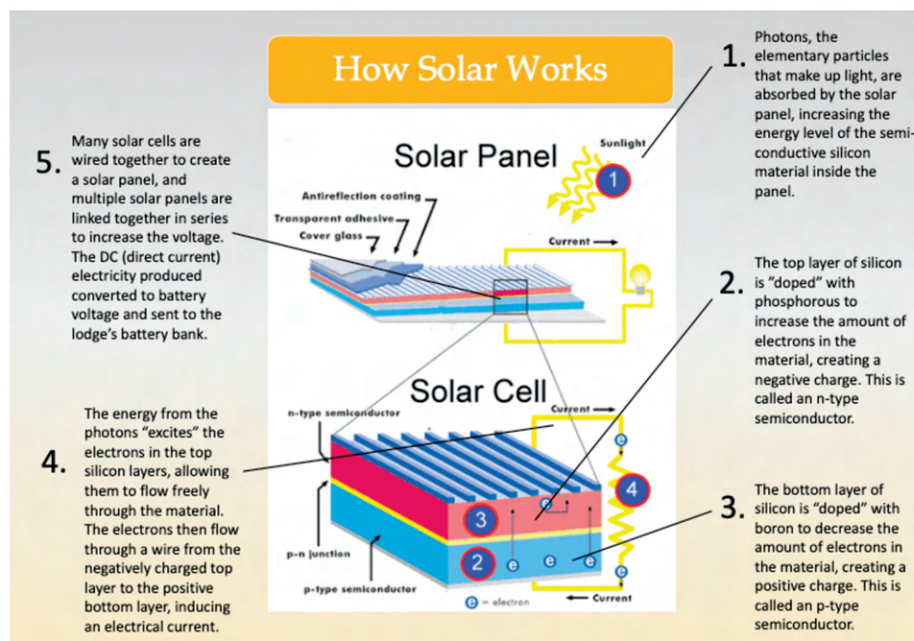
SOLAR POWER

Black Rock Lodge is off-the-grid, meaning we do not purchase electricity from the local electrical utility. Since 1989, Black Rock has been producing electricity with clean energy, either with solar panels or a combination of solar panels and a micro-hydro system.

It is a pleasure and a privilege to be able to operate all of Black Rock Lodge with electricity generated by non-polluting, renewable resources. For the first decade of Black Rock's operation, electricity was exclusively generated by an array of solar panels. The system was small, and electricity use at the lodge was very limited.



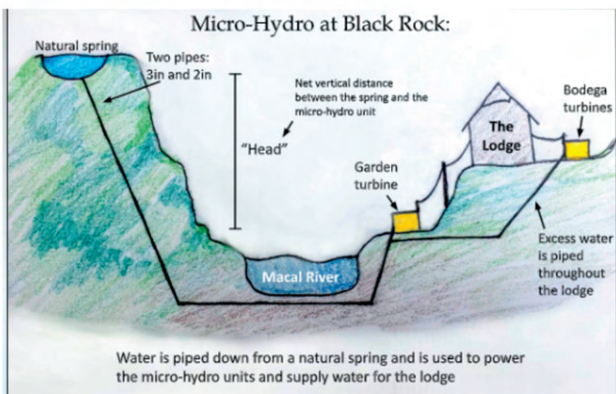
In 2018, Black Rock built the solar installation that currently sits in the parking lot. This new structure and the over 100 solar panels in the area provide much more than the power necessary for the Lodge consumption during the daylight hours. When the Lodge installed the Tesla Powerwall battery and power system, we were much better able to harness the power for use during the evening and nighttime and dramatically reduce the necessity to utilize the generators for power needs.



HYDROELECTRIC POWER

In April of 1999, a hydropower system was completed to compliment the electricity generated by solar power. This hydroelectricity works by capturing water from a natural spring located approximately 600 feet above the lodge. Some of the spring water is piped down the mountain, gathering pressure due to gravitational forces, and then the water spins a small turbine which converts this water pressure into electricity.

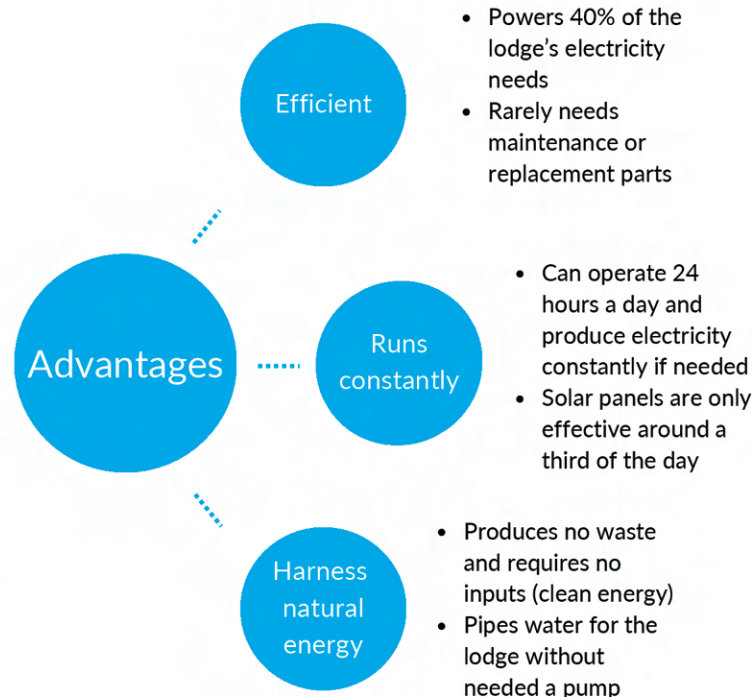
Electricity from both the solar and hydro sources is stored in a large battery bank at 24 volts, and that power is inverted to 120 volts AC and sent to our cabins and buildings. The power created by our alternative energy system is the same as that used in any American home. Although this system is extremely effective, we still must conserve power as it is in limited supply.



Pelton Wheel



Battery Room



Please help us conserve energy by not using power hungry appliances such as hairdryers or electric shavers and by remembering to turn off your fans and lights before leaving your cabin. Thank you.

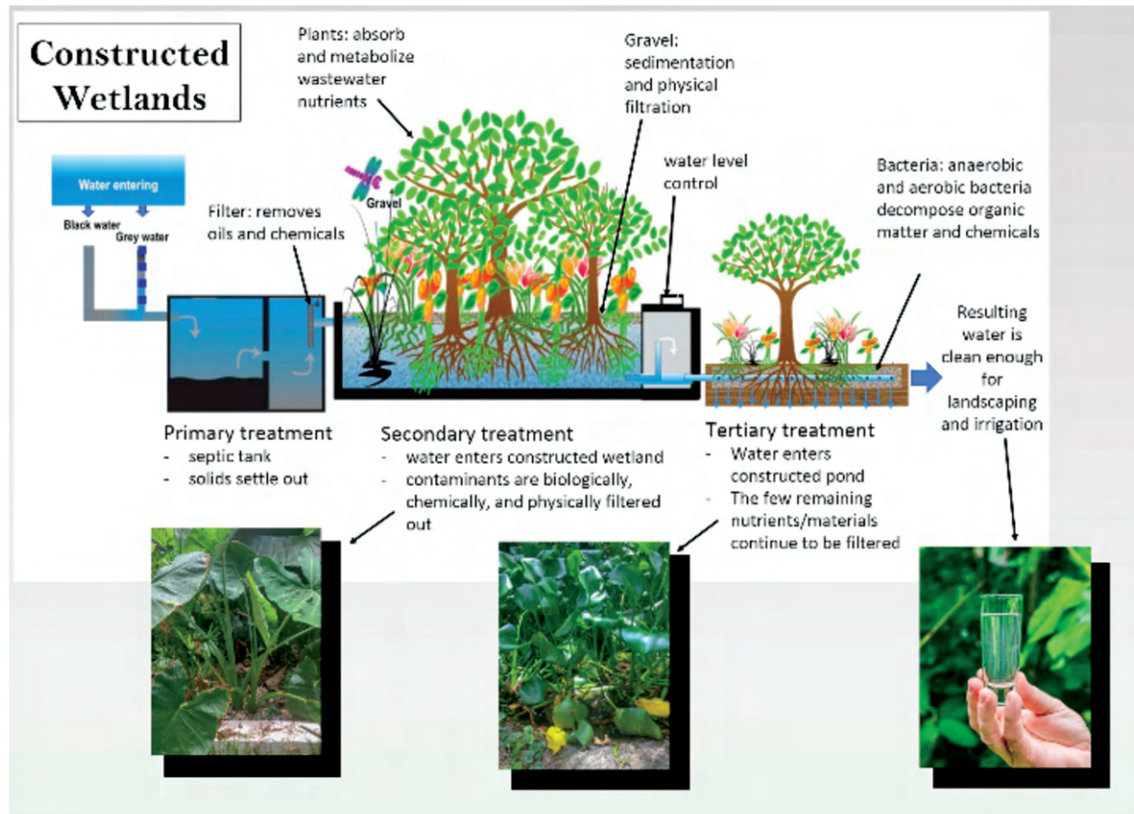
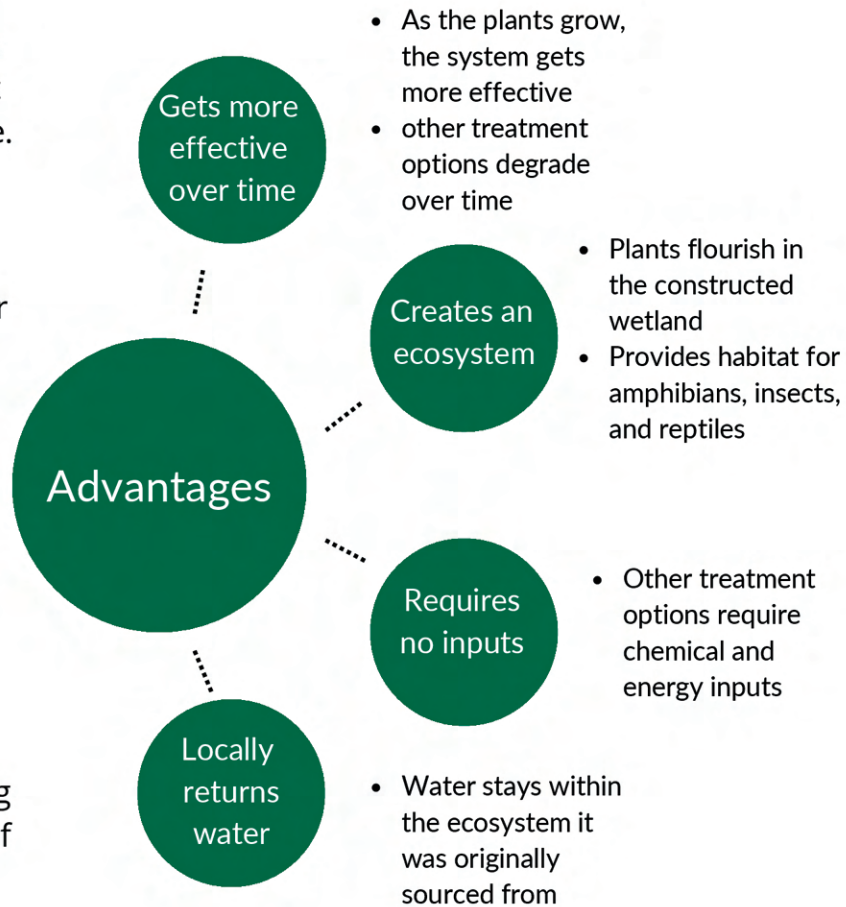
Black Rock Lodge uses a turbine design called a Pelton Wheel. Our Pelton is surprisingly small, only a 7 inch diameter. A high pressure jet of water sprays the Pelton Wheel and accelerates it to an extremely high velocity. The wheel turns a generator which produces electricity. The resulting power requires complicated controls and conversions, but ultimately is converted to 48v DC and sent to charge the lodge's battery packs.

WATER

The mountain spring water that flows from the mountains is the natural gift that makes Black Rock Lodge Possible. Our spring water is safe to drink, brush teeth and shower with. It is also the main source of electricity at the lodge courtesy of our hydropower system.

Because our water is such a precious commodity, Black Rock Lodge operates a state of the art water treatment system utilizing constructed wetlands.

Our wetlands are now a fully integrated part of our gardens and landscaping. They're even used during staff-guided night hikes, as a variety of creatures now call this area home.



ORGANIC FARMING AND COMPOSTING

PRODUCE

The Black Rock Lodge organic farm started in 2000. We tend to a variety of produce including lettuce, peppers, eggplant onions and many other native tropical fruits and veggies.

In addition to the garden area, hundreds of fruit trees and many exotic tropical hardwood trees thrive throughout our treasured acreage. Integrating the throughout the lodge instead of planting them all in a cleared section of land helps maintain a more natural ecosystem. We have over 100 banana and plantain trees, several varieties of mango trees, an orchard of orange and lime trees, a grove of coco- nut palms, as well as tamarind, jackfruit , passion fruit , avocado, and papaya trees - and manmy more! In addition, we also cultivate a small coffee plantation, and harvest from our gooseberry bushes and pineapple plants.

We also have mature cacao trees that produce seasonally.



POULTRY, EGGS AND FISH

Black Rock Lodge is immensely proud of our humanely farmed poultry and eggs. Early in 2024 we reached full sustainability with our chicken population ensuring that all of the eggs and poultry served in the Black Rock Restaurant comes from our own fertile farms.

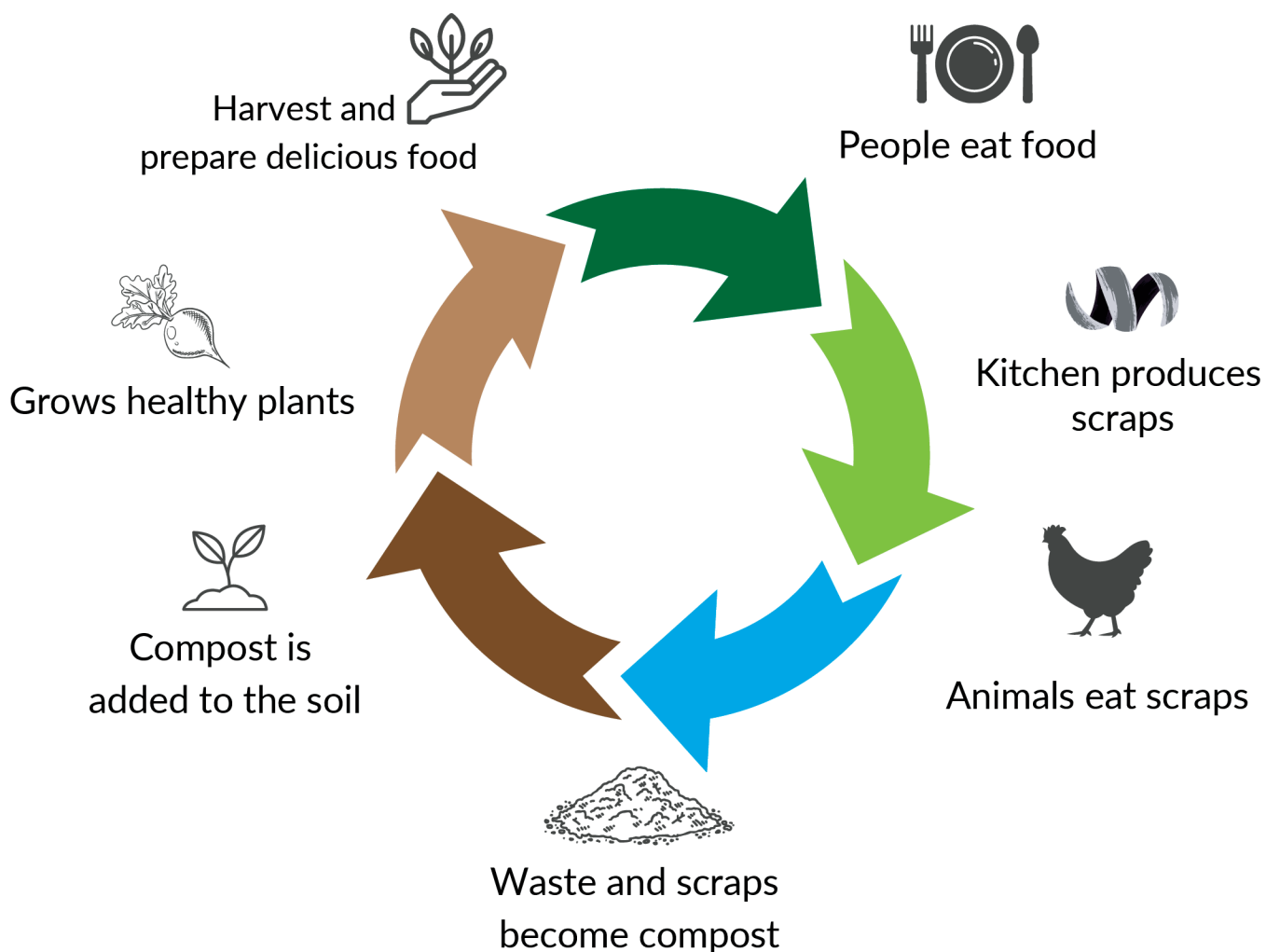
We also sustainably farm our own tilapia here at the lodge and the tilapia on our menu is usually offered when we have stock ready to harvest.

ORGANIC FARMING AND COMPOSTING

PEST MANAGEMENT AND MAINTAINING HEALTHY SOIL

Managing pests and maintaining soil integrity in organic farming is challenging, especially in the tropics. Some methods that Black Rock employs include:

- Greenhouse: Our current greenhouse was constructed in in 2018 and protects some of our most sensitive plants from insects while allowing for ventilation
- Natural Habitat: The trees and brush that surround the farm provide habitat for pest predators (lizards, frogs, birds) which helps naturally reduce pests
- Natural pesticide: Made from decomposing habanero peppers, garlic and onions mixed with water and sprayed on plants
- Onsite Composting: We make alternating layers of leaves (raked from around the lodge), vegetable waste (from the kitchen), manure from our animals, and rice husks. Approximately every two weeks, we turn the com- post heap. After about 6 to 8 weeks, when everything has broken down into a semi-uniform black soil, it is used to fertilize our plants and trees
- Crop Rotation: Different crops require different nutrient levels and rotating crops natrually balances soil nutrients



COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Black Rock Lodge is proud to be involved with and support the following organizations as part of our community outreach program:

Belize Audubon Society – The BAS is dedicated to achieving and maintaining a balance between people and the environment working to fulfill their mission through environmental education, advocacy, community development, research, and biodiversity conservation. We are avid supporters of the organization's efforts.

CET (College for Education and Training) - Black Rock provides internships to Belizean high school students interested in tourism related careers.

Cornerstone Foundation - Cornerstone Foundation focuses heavily on solving key issues that greatly impact our local community of San Ignacio and Santa Elena. Their goal is to improve the lives and support the rights of children and adults through empowerment and support. We support them by providing basic foodstuffs on a monthly regular basis and donate all items from the lodge which become unnecessary or obsolete over time.

Police Stations and Tourism Police of San Ignacio and Benque Viejo – We are pleased to host the police on a regular basis during their patrol drills in the area. We provide meals, accommodations, sponsorships, financial assistance and fuel and any items they may require such as flashlights, radios etc.

Cayo Tour Guide Association – Black Rock supports our local tour guides with funds for special projects and donations to the Association's yearly raffle.

Remar International - An organization providing assistance to homeless persons or those with drug addictions, Black Rock is a proud sponsor of the organization's efforts to aid and assist Belizeans in need of help.

World Pediatrics Project - The WPP's mission is to improve the quality of healthcare for all children regardless of their social, ethnic, or religious background or status. Each child is placed in a US host hospital with donated doctors' services.

Macal River and Neighborhood Clean Up - Together with the other lodges in the area, Black Rock provides manpower to help clean up the debris and trash that accumulates in the river and along the riverbanks and we also partake in roadside clean-ups every year.

Other project, NGO's and organizations supported by our lodge - Peregrine Foundation ; Belize Bird Rescue ; Belize Raptor Research ; BEE ; Cayo Animal Welfare Society (CAWS), Cubola School Book Project Belize Cancer Society ; Belize Wildlife Clinic, Pact for a Purpose

