

# GUATEMALA AND BELIZE 9 days / 8 nights

A perfect combination to get to know from the Sierra in Guatemala to the coast in Belize. Welcome to the Maya Kingdom! You will experience a mixture of indigenous culture and exotic natural environment in this Guatemala and Belize trip. You will have the chance to visit the most renowned Mayan ruins, cruise the "most beautiful lake of the world", Lake Atitlan surrounded by three gorgeous volcanoes, San Pedro, Tolima and Atitlán, and end your journey relaxing at one awesome island in Belize.

To start with, we will visit the vibrant cultural monument of **Antigua**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site with stunning monuments from the colonial architecture in the Americas. Learn about Mayan traditions while visiting Lake Atitlán, and deepen your knowledge of the Mayan World in **Tikal** with its monumental architecture. In **Chichicastenango**, home of the Quiché-Mayan civilization and one of the most traditional places in Guatemala, you will get in contact with a lot of Mayan culture, history and traditions, especially when you visit the market with handycrafts, fruits, vegetables, flowers and many other products. You will fly then to Cayo San Pedro, a town on the southern part of the island of Ambergris Caye in Belize, the second-largest town in the Belize District. The town became very well known because of the the song "La Isla Bonita" from Madona. At the Ramon's Village Resort, you can enjoy the tranquility of the Caribbean and be active with snorkeling, hiking, trekking, horse riding and many other activities.

# DAY 1 DEPARTURE TO GUATEMALA

Arrival at the international airport in Guatemala City. Reception by our partner, and transfer to Antigua. Upon arrival, check-in at the hotel. You will have the rest of the day at leisure for private activities. Overnight at the Camino Real Antigua Hotel or similar.

### DAY 2 ANTIGUA

Breakfast at the hotel. Today we will invite you to a guided city tour. Antigua, a UNESCO World Heritage Site was founded in the early 16th century. Built 1,500 m above sea-level, in an earthquake-prone region, it was largely destroyed by an earthquake in 1773 but its principal monuments are still preserved as ruins. In the space of under three centuries the city, which was built on a grid pattern inspired by the Italian Renaissance, acquired a number of superb monuments. Most of the surviving civil, religious, and civic buildings date from the 17th and 18th centuries and constitute magnificent examples of colonial architecture in the Americas. These buildings reflect a regional stylistic variation known as Barroco antigueño. Among other significant historical buildings, we will visit the Palace of the Captains General, the Casa de la Moneda, the Cathedral, the Universidad de San Carlos, Las Capuchinas, La Merced and Santa Clara. After the tour, you will have free time for private activities, go shopping or just to relax at the hotel. Overnight at the Camino Real Antigua Hotel or similar. (B)

# DAY 3 ANTIGUA - CHICHICASTENANGO - PANAJACHEL

Breakfast at the hotel. Early departure to Chichicastenango, one of the most important towns in Guatemala since it treasures a lot of Mayan culture, history and traditions. It is the home of the Quiché civilization (largest group of Mayan population). Chichicastenango is one of the most traditional places in Guatemala. The town was able to conserve its indigenous authenticity and this will give you the opportunity to experience its religious rituals, practiced almost on a daily basis. Upon arrival, you will visit the market, one of the biggest in Central America. You will find yourself surrounded by every type of handicrafts, fruits and vegetables, flowers and many other goods. Among others, you will also visit Iglesia de Santo Tomas, a 400 year old church with colonial architecture. It is the main place where Mayan prayer leaders practice their rituals. The 18 steps that lead you up to the entrance, stands for each month of the year of the Mayan

## PRICE PER PERSON EN DOUBLE OCCUPANCY

EUR 2.185.-

Surplus single room EUR 897.-

# DEPARTURES EVERY TUESDAY AND FRIDAY

Jan 08 - Dec 15, 2024

PRIVATE SERVICES upon request

#### **INCLUSIONS**

- Transfer from/to the Hotel in all airports
- **4**5 Nights in 4\*\*\*\* Hotels
- 4 breakfasts, 1 lunch.
- All excursions and services as described in the program. Highlights:
  - Guided Tours in Antigua, Chichicastenango, Atitlán.
  - Tikal archaeological site-
- ♣Local english-speaking guide in all services
- All entrance fees to national parks, museums and excursions.
- **4**24 h. support via Whatsapp.

# NOT INCLUDED

- International and domestic flights
- Meals and drinks and other services not mentioned in the program.
- Tips for tour guides, drivers and porters.
- Personal expenses







calendar. After the visit, we will continue to Panajachel at the shores of Lake Atitlán with a panoramic visit. Later, check in and free time for private activities. Overnight. (B)

## DAY 4 ATITLAN - CIUDAD GUATEMALA

Breakfast at the hotel. Today we will take a boat to cross the Lake Atitlán, renowned as one of the most beautiful lakes in the world, and is one of Guatemala's most important tourist attractions. Our target is San Juan La Laguna on the southwest shore of Lago de Atitlán. The population is approximately 95% Tz'utujil. At a given time, you will return to Panajachel and further to Ciudad de Guatemala. Accommodation at the Radisson & Suites Guatemala Hotel or similar. (B)

#### DAY 5 GUATEMALA - TIKAL - GUATEMALA

Very early in the morning, around 04:00 am, we will take you to the airport for the flight to Flores (not included on the package, however we can be helpful to get your tickets). Arrival at the International Airport Tikal and transfer to the Tikal archaeological site for a visit. Tikal is the ruin of an ancient city and one of the largest archeological sites and urban centers of the pre-Columbian Maya civilization. It is located in the archeological region of the Petén Basin in what is now northern Guatemala. It was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1979. Tikal was the capital of a conquest state that became one of the most powerful kingdoms of the ancient Maya. Though monumental architecture at the site dates back as far as the 4th century BC, Tikal reached its apogee during the Classic Period, c. 200 to 900. During this time, the city dominated much of the Maya region politically, economically, and militarily, while interacting with areas throughout Mesoamerica such as the great metropolis of Teotihuacan in the distant Valley of Mexico. After the visit, lunch and transfer to your hotel in Flores. Accommodation at the Casona del Lago Hotel or similar. (L)

# DAY 6 GUATEMALA - BELIZE - CAYO SAN PEDRO

Breakfast at the hotel. Departure towards Melchor de Mencos, the Border with Belize. After clearing migration and customs procedures, transfer to the city of Belice and to the airport for your domestic flight to Cayo San Pedro; a town on the southern part of the island of Ambergris Caye in Belize. It is the second-largest town in the Belize District. The town is said to be the inspiration for the song "La Isla Bonita" (which begins with the line "last night I dreamt of San Pedro"), written by Madonna, Patrick Leonard and Bruce Gaitsch. This song has helped to attract tourists to land. Upon arrival, transfer to your hotel and free time for private activities. Overnight at the Ramon's Village Resort. (B)

## DAY 7 CAYO SAN PEDRO

Ramon's Village Resort is the host hotel for government dignitaries, entertainment personalities, entrepreneurs, authors, songwriters, artists, dive professionals, amateur dive enthusiasts, photographers, fishermen, beauty queens, fashion models, vacationers and the person who just wants to get away for a few days. It combines the lush vegetation, Mayan influence, Tahitian elements, delicious food, wonderful people, excellent service, great amenities, comfortable accommodations, superb location and the wide variety of entertainment options, and it's no wonder Ramon's Village Resort in San Pedro on the island of Ambergris Caye has been the first choice of travelers to Belize since 1987. Styled after the Tahitian cottages on the Polynesian island of Bora Bora, the cabanas are built from native materials by craftsmen utilizing the same skill and techniques the islanders used in the days of the great sailing ships. Ramon's Village is a sanctuary nestled in a tropical garden of Royal Palms, bougainvillea, lilies, hibiscus and dozens of other types of tropical flora. Surrounded by the plant life are Mayan sculptures that provide a glimpse of the civilization that preceded us in this Caribbean paradise. Once inside our enchanted village, you'll be in a world of your own choosing. Therefore, enjoy your stay at this beautiful spot in Belize. (B)

## **CAYO SAN PEDRO**

Breakfast at the hotel. You have the day at leisure to enjoy the tranquility of the island, to make a hike or to join some of the activities the resort has to offer, like snorkeling, yatching, fishing and many others. You can of course just enjoy the wonderful waters of the Caribbean or swim in the pool. (B)

## DAY 7 CAYO SAN PEDRO - - RETURN HOME

After breakfast, free time to enjoy the last moments at the island or just to relax at the hotel. Ontime transfer to the Aerodrome for your flight to the Belize Intl. Airport and your connecting flight home or extension of your stay in Belize or Central America. End of our services. (B)

