



VANDERBILT

Alumni
Association



BELIZE

Jewels of Belize: Rainforests, Reefs and Mayan Ruins

January 19 - 26, 2019

accompanied by Professor Edward Wright-Rios

Dear Vanderbilt Alumni and Friends,

We invite you to join us on an expedition through the eco-paradise of Belize! Lush rainforests teeming with fauna, ancient and mysterious Maya ruins, and coral reefs rich with vibrant marine life – the tiny Central American country of Belize has it all.

Our Vanderbilt program is packed with extras including lectures by Vanderbilt Professor, Edward Wright-Rios, and opportunities to meet with local residents, Maya historians, and conservationists.

We'll discover the natural and archaeological highlights of this Central American jewel with visits to mountains, forest reserves, caves, Maya sites, and the Belize Barrier Reef, the second largest reef system in the world.

You won't want to miss this unforgettable learning adventure. We expect our limited space will fill up quickly. Please make your reservation as soon as possible to guarantee your spot!

Sincerely,



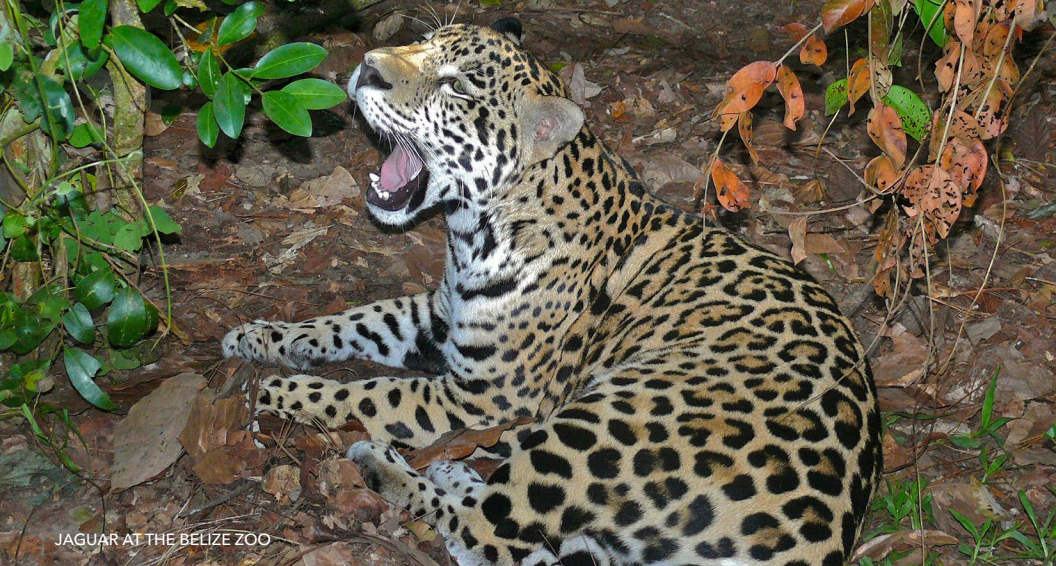
Cary DeWitt Allyn | Director, Vanderbilt Travel Program

THE VANDERBILT TRAVEL PROGRAM

The Vanderbilt Travel Program strives to engage Vanderbilt alumni, parents and friends of all ages, keeping them connected with each other and Vanderbilt. Each carefully designed trip offers unparalleled educational opportunities, many with Vanderbilt professors, for an exclusive "beyond the classroom" experience.

 [Like us at facebook.com/vanderbilttravelprogram](https://www.facebook.com/vanderbilttravelprogram)

The eco-paradise of Belize offers something to arouse the imagination of every curious traveler: incredible biodiversity... the world's second largest Barrier Reef... lush rainforests... and ruin-rich jungles and caves where the heritage of the Maya is ever-present. This 8-day learning adventure introduces you to it all, and makes the discovery even more memorable with some exhilarating outdoor activities. At the end of each rewarding day, you'll enjoy the hospitality and natural surroundings of some of Belize's favorite eco-lodges.



JAGUAR AT THE BELIZE ZOO

WHY BELIZE? Diverse ecosystems, abundant wildlife, relics of the Maya civilization, and the vast barrier reef make Belize a treasured destination for eco-conscious and conservation-minded travelers in search of authentic adventures “off the beaten path.”



VANDERBILT LECTURER

Edward Wright-Rios

Professor of History

Edward Wright-Rios is a cultural historian specializing in Latin America, cultural history, religious change, and ethnohistory; he is also an award-winning author (“Revolutions in Mexican Catholicism: Reform and Revelation in Oaxaca, 1887-1934”). His current project, “Devotion in Motion: Pilgrimage in Modern Mexico” has earned him a 2018 Guggenheim Fellowship.

Over the years Professor Wright-Rios has enjoyed the support of the Fulbright Foundation, the Center for U.S.-Mexican Studies, the University of California Institute for Mexico and the United States, and Vanderbilt’s Center for the Americas and the Division for Sponsored Research. He was also awarded the Charles A. Ryskamp Fellowship administered by the American Council of Learned Societies in 2011.

Professor Wright-Rios teaches undergraduate and graduate courses on colonial and modern Latin America, reform and revolution, popular culture, and religious change.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Enjoy a behind-the-scenes visit with the director of the Belize Zoo, home to orphaned and rehabilitated animals representing over 45 species native to Belize.
- Discover the Maya underworld during a private excursion to Actun Tunichil Muknal (ATM) cave, including the “Cathedral” chamber, a ceremonial and burial ground.
- Stand atop the pyramid at Xunantunich, Belize’s most accessible Maya site of significance.
- Explore the unique geological features and forests of St. Herman’s Blue Hole National Park and float in the clear waters of its sunken cave.
- Swim and snorkel along the coral reef at South Water Caye Marine Reserve, then ride by the wildlife sanctuary at Man O’ War Caye.
- Kayak leisurely along the Sittee River where you may see colorful birds, iguana, turtles, and an on occasion crocodiles.

ACTIVITY LEVEL

ACTIVE: involves long distances and/or extensive movement, walking, hiking, and/or stair-climbing.

ITINERARY

BLD = BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER



JAGUAR REEF LODGE



HARPY EAGLE AT BELIZE ZOO

JANUARY 19 - BELIZE CITY

Upon arrival at the airport in Belize City you will be met and transferred to the oceanfront Radisson Ft. George Hotel. Meet our Belize leader before our welcome dinner and learn what's in store on our Vanderbilt program at a brief orientation. *Overnight at Radisson Ft. George Hotel (D)*

JANUARY 20 - ROARING RIVER

This morning after breakfast, visit the Belize Zoo for a behind-the-scenes visit with the Director of the Zoo. Situated upon 29 acres of tropical savanna and exhibiting over 150 animals, representing over 45 species, all native to Belize. The zoo is home to orphaned, rescued, and rehabilitated animals as well as those born at the zoo or sent as donations from other zoological institutions. Upon arrival, receive an introduction to the animals of Belize and visit the exhibits. Highlights include the jaguar rehabilitation program,

the Harpy Eagle exhibit, and the Baird's tapir enclosure. Have lunch at a local restaurant, then continue to San Ignacio and check in at the Lodge at Chaa Creek, set along the banks of the Macal River and stretching towards the foothills of the Maya Mountains. Settle in and have time to relax before a lecture on the Maya by Antonio Beardall, followed by dinner. *Overnight at The Lodge at Chaa Creek (BLD)*

JANUARY 21 - ROARING RIVER

After breakfast, explore the Maya underworld during a visit to Actun Tunichil Muknal cave. This excursion combines land and river hiking and caving, beginning with a 45-minute hike up the Roaring River Valley and through the rainforest of the Tapir Mountain Nature Reserve to the entrance of the cave. Explore this geologically fascinating cave and also the main attraction, the



ACTUN TUNICHIL MUKNAL

“Cathedral” chamber, which was a Maya ceremonial and burial ground. The lodge is the nearest one to the cave, providing the opportunity to get into the cave early before other visitors arrive. Later this afternoon, return to the lodge. Before dinner, meet a special guest, a Mayan descendant who will share stories of her family and traditions. *Overnight at The Lodge at Chaa Creek (BLD)*



XUNANTUNICH

JANUARY 22 – ROARING RIVER

This morning, have breakfast and then hike along the trails of the 400-acre reserve and also visit the on-site butterfly farm. After lunch at the lodge, cross the Mopan River via a hand-winch ferry at the Maya village of San Jose Succotz for a visit to Xunantunich, Belize’s most accessible Maya site of significance. Xunantunich’s dominant structure, El Castillo, rises 130 feet above the jungle floor, offering superb views of western

Belize with forest stretching out all around and the rest of the ancient city mapped out beneath you. Return to the lodge for dinner. *Overnight at The Lodge at Chaa Creek (BLD)*

JANUARY 23 – HOPKINS

Following breakfast, we will visit the very popular St. Herman’s Blue Hole National Park which is within the Sibun Watershed. Explore its forests and unique geological features and then also visit, a sunken underground cave that is approximately 300 feet wide and 100 feet deep by tube. There is an onsite changing room so bring your swimsuit! Have lunch at local restaurant then later this afternoon check-in at the beachfront Jaguar Reef Lodge. The remainder of the day is at leisure to enjoy beach activities. This evening we have a lecture on the Belize’s amazing coral reef. *Overnight at Jaguar Reef Lodge (BLD)*



CHRISTMAS TREE WORM

JANUARY 24 – HOPKINS

Enjoy breakfast, then board our boat for a 30-minute ride to the South Water Caye Marine Reserve for snorkeling on the pristine coral reef. Explore the mangroves both above and below the surface. Also cruise along Man O’ War Caye reserve to see nesting frigatebirds and the brown booby. Enjoy a picnic on one of the remote islands, then return in time for optional activities at our beach resort or walk into Hopkins. This evening dine on your own at one of the nearby restaurants. *Overnight at Jaguar Reef Lodge (BL)*

JANUARY 25 – HOPKINS

After breakfast, we gather for our excursion to the Sittee River for relaxed



ANHINGA

kayaking and nature viewing. We hope to see colorful birds, iguana, turtles, and an occasional crocodile. We have lunch at a local restaurant. This evening enjoy a farewell dinner with our ocean view from the lodge. *Overnight at Jaguar Reef Lodge (BLD)*

JANUARY 26 – DEPART

This morning transfer to the airstrip in Dangriga for domestic flight to Belize International Airport and then international flights back to the U.S. or begin your extension to Tikal. (B)

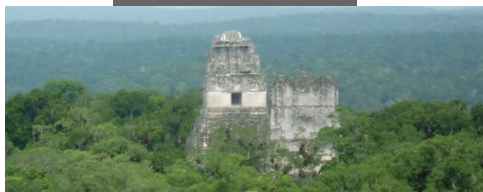
SAMPLE ACCOMMODATION



JAGUAR REEF LODGE

Set along white sandy beach with panoramic views of the ocean, Jaguar Reef Lodge offers guests a paradise getaway and a central location to the wonders of Belize. Lush rainforest, vibrant reefs, and Maya ruins are all easily accessed from the lodge for your daily excursions. During your time at the lodge, you can relax and enjoy comfortable accommodations, quality service and dining, and access to beachfront and water activities like snorkeling and kayaking.

OPTIONAL EXTENSION



TIKAL

January 26-29, 2019

4 days/3 nights for \$1,115

Single supplement: \$275

Discover the wonder of one of the greatest archaeological sites in the world, the sprawling temple-city of Tikal. A short flight from the turquoise beaches of Belize, Tikal covers over 200 square miles, with nearly 3,000 buildings. Tikal's elaborate temples, monuments and shrines were built during the height of Maya rule over 1000 years ago.

Your tour price includes:

- 2 nights' accommodations at Camino Real Tikal
- 1 night accommodation at Guatemala City Hyatt Centric
- internal flights
- 8 meals: 3 breakfasts, 3 lunches, 2 dinners
- Full-day guided visit to Tikal
- Non-alcoholic beverages with meals
- Departure tax and transfers to/from airport

PRICING

\$4,950 per person

Price is based on double occupancy. Single occupancy offered at additional cost of \$600.

Your price includes:

- Accommodations, meals, entrance fees, and activities listed in itinerary
- Private vehicle transportation unless otherwise noted in itinerary
- Non-alcoholic beverages with meals
- Internal flight (Dangriga to Belize Airport)
- All tips/gratuities
- Bottled water on the bus
- Carbon offset
- Post-departure emergency medical insurance
- Departure tax

Price does not include: international airfare, trip cancellation insurance, gratuities for maids and drinks purchased on own, or items of a personal nature.

Holbrook Travel can assist with making your flight arrangements upon request. Trip cancellation insurance is strongly recommended.



SAILING EXCURSION

VANDERBILT TRAVEL PROGRAM RESERVATION FORM

Jewels of Belize: Rainforests, Reefs and Mayan Ruins

Enclosed is my/our deposit for \$ _____ (\$500 per person) for _____ person/people on the tour listed below. Payment may be made by American Express, Discover, MasterCard, or VISA or by personal check. Please make check payable to Holbrook Travel, Inc. and mail deposit check to: Vanderbilt Travel Program, Office of Alumni Relations, PMB 407735, 2301 Vanderbilt Place, Nashville TN, 37240-7735. For questions please call 615.322.3673 or email alumni.travel@vanderbilt.edu. I/we understand the final payment is due by October 16, 2018.

Full Passport Name _____ DOB _____ Gender _____

E-mail _____ Class Year _____

Full Passport Name _____ DOB _____ Gender _____

E-mail _____ Class Year _____

Badge Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Home Ph. (_____) _____ Cell Ph. (_____) _____

Please book my/our air from _____ I/we request an air upgrade to _____.

I will share a room with _____.

I request a single room (limited availability).

Pre- or Post-Tour Extension (as described on tour page): Y N

Note: The undersigned has read the schedule of activities for the above-referenced tour, and agrees that their signature(s) below represent(s) their acceptance of the General Terms and Conditions.

Signature _____ Date _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Method of Payment Check American Express Discover MasterCard VISA

Account # _____ Security Code _____ Exp. Date _____

Name of Cardholder _____

Signature _____

Final invoicing will be sent by our tour operator, Holbrook Travel, Inc. The balance of the program price must be paid to Holbrook Travel. Final payment is due by October 16, 2018 (check or credit card).

GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Please read this information carefully, as payment of a deposit represents your acceptance of the following Terms and Conditions.

Not Included in Your Tour Price International airfare from your departure city; costs of passports and visas; personal expenses such as beverages, laundry, room service, and meals not specified; communications charges; gratuities to your Holbrook Travel Tour Guide which are at your discretion (suggested gratuities \$10-\$15 per guest, per day); and trip cancellation insurance. Additional baggage fees levied directly by the airline(s) may apply and are subject to change at any time. You should confirm directly with your airline(s) prior to departure.

International Air Transportation Estimated airfare: **\$670 from Nashville to Belize.** Holbrook Travel offers group airfare and ticketing. Group transfers between the airport and hotel are included in your program cost. A note about online airfare: Occasionally, you may be able to find airfares online that are listed at a lower cost. In general, individual fares lack the flexibility of group airfare and often require immediate purchase. You will receive your preliminary air schedule approximately 2½ months prior to departure. Please note that seat assignments on your international flight are usually done at airport check-in. Holbrook Travel is unable to guarantee any seat assignments. Due to the nature of tour operator tickets, other restrictions apply, including but not limited to, frequent flyer mileage accrual, stopovers, alternate travel dates, upgrades, and airline taxes and departure fees. If you prefer to make your own travel arrangements, booking the tour "Land Only" is available. We recommend that if you choose to make your own airline reservations, you do not purchase non-refundable tickets or those with high penalties for changes. If you choose to make your own air arrangements, Vanderbilt Alumni Association and Holbrook Travel, Inc. shall not have any liability for any loss resulting from cancellation of this tour or changes in this tour.

Cancellations, Changes and Refunds If you must cancel your tour, the effective date of cancellation will be upon our receipt of your notification. All cancellations need to be submitted in writing to the Vanderbilt Travel Program. Refunds for cancellations are subject to the following per person charges: **Cancel October 16, 2018 or earlier: \$200 charge; Cancel later than October 16, 2018: no refund.** Please note that we will not refund the cost of any unused portion of your tour package. We will not charge a fee for any changes made to your reservation before October 16, 2018. After October 16, 2018, until 30 days before departure, if you make any changes to your reservation, a \$100 per person administrative fee will apply, in addition to any fees or penalties imposed by airlines, hotels, or other third parties. Changes are subject to availability and cannot be guaranteed. If your reservation changes from double occupancy to single occupancy for any reason, you will be charged the single supplement. No changes to your reservation can be made within 30 days of departure. Trip cancellation insurance is available from the Vanderbilt Travel Program and information will be sent after you reserve. If due to unforeseen circumstances Holbrook Travel cancels your tour, you will receive a complete refund of all payments you have made to us.

Health and Medical Issues We welcome all travelers, but request that you be in good health to participate on a Holbrook Travel tour. All of our tours involve a reasonable amount of walking (typically two to three miles per day). You must be able to get on and off motorcoaches on your own. We regret that we cannot provide individual assistance; in such cases you must be accompanied by a companion who will assist you. Please note that our itineraries cannot accommodate wheelchairs. We reserve the right to remove anyone whose physical condition or behavior, in our opinion, compromises the operation of the tour or detracts from the enjoyment or safety of the other tour members. In that event, Vanderbilt Alumni Association and Holbrook Travel assume no financial responsibility for any unused portion of the tour. For the convenience of the majority of our travelers, Holbrook Travel has a **No Smoking policy** on all tour buses. We will arrange sufficient rest stops so those who wish to smoke may do so.

Required Information Upon reservation, you must provide your full name as it appears on your passport, date of birth, and gender (for details, please visit tsa.gov). In the event an airline ticket is issued with incorrect information you have provided, or if you use a different passport than originally cited, you will be responsible for charges associated with the ticket's reissue. A passport valid for at least six months after the completion of your tour is required for U.S. citizens on this tour.

Responsibility The liability of Vanderbilt Alumni Association (VAA), as sponsor, and Holbrook Travel Inc., as tour operator, is strictly limited. VAA and Holbrook Travel, Inc. purchase transportation, hotel accommodations, restaurant and other services from independent suppliers not under our control. We serve only as agents for these suppliers in securing tour arrangements, and therefore will not accept responsibility for wrongful, negligent, or arbitrary acts or omissions of these independent contractors, their employees, agents, servants or representatives. VAA and Holbrook Travel, Inc. are not liable for injury, damage, loss, accident, or delay that may be caused by events not within our control, including without limitation, acts of terrorism, war, strikes, the defect of any vehicle, or the negligence or default of any third party. All coupons, receipts, and tickets issued are subject to the terms and conditions specified by the air carriers, cruise line, and other independent suppliers. We will make every effort to operate our tours as planned, but we reserve the right to make itinerary changes as necessary. If unforeseen circumstances require us to change a hotel, we will select alternative accommodations of the same or better quality and may change due to factors such as government regulations, water levels, or weather conditions. The services of any IATA and ATC carrier may be used in connection with these tours. The participant understands that if he/she books special low cost airfares with penalties, and cancels the reservation, he/she is responsible for any penalties incurred from the airline.