

HONDURAS

Natural and Maya Wonders

with University High School

JUNE 5 – 15, 2022

A country of sparkling coral reefs, lush forests, gushing waterfalls, and well-preserved remains of the Maya civilization, Honduras is a unique blend of cultures and ecosystems. During this fun and enriching 10-day program with University High School, study rainforest and coral reef habitats, investigate archaeological ruins, and meet modern-day inhabitants for a deeper understanding of the country's heritage and history.

HIGHLIGHTS

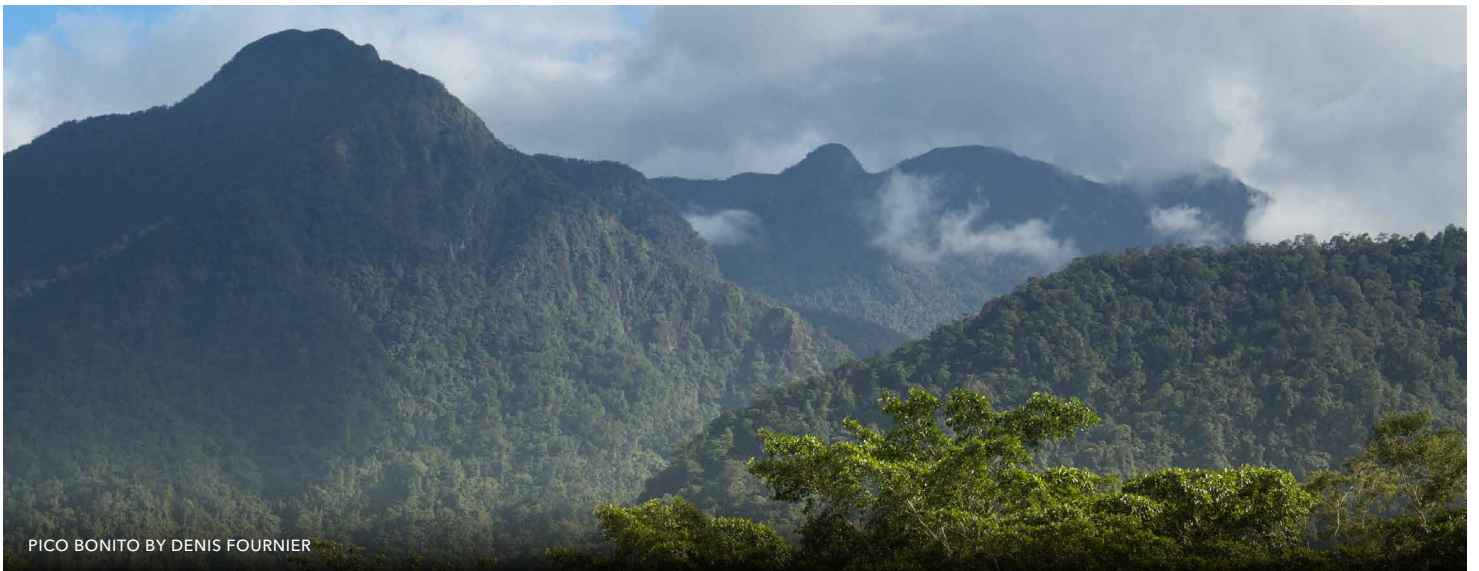
- Explore the world-famous Maya ruins of Copán and learn about the history and culture of the Maya with a lecture by Professor David Sedat.
- Look for wildlife such as monkeys, river otters, and toucans on hikes in Pico Bonito National Park, stopping at several canopy observation towers, swimming holes, and small waterfalls.
- Learn about the different cultures of Honduras and visit a Garifuna village to experience this Afro-Indigenous culture firsthand.
- Embark on a thrilling whitewater rafting trip on the Cangrejal River.
- Study ocean reef ecosystems and marine life, both in the classroom and during snorkeling excursions around the island of Utila.



KEEL-BILLED TOUCAN BY JOHN NORTON



STARFISH BY LORENZO MASSACCI



PICO BONITO BY DENIS FOURNIER

ITINERARY

DAY 1 | SUN | 05 JUN | DEPART

Depart from Orange County airport this evening for an overnight flight.

DAY 2 | MON | 06 JUN | COPÁN

Upon arrival in San Pedro Sula your driver will take you to Copán. Situated in western Honduras in a small valley surrounded by mountains and tropical vegetation, Copán has some of the finest carvings and architecture of the Maya World and is considered the Athens of the Maya civilization for its advancement in art, written language, and astronomy.

DINNER

HOTEL LA POSADA

DAY 3 | TUE | 07 JUN | COPÁN

Today explore the well preserved archaeological site of Copán and its museum to learn about the history of the Maya with your guide. Within Copán's 74,000 acre archaeological park, observe some of best preserved stelae, altars, and ceremonial areas in Honduras. This is the place where the great ancient Maya civilization flourished and is held in high regard among archaeologists for the vast amount of carved text and hieroglyphs found throughout the site. Here numerous archaeologists are working to enhance the restoration of the ruins and learn more about the Maya through the many inscriptions they left behind. Recently excavated underground tunnels revealed another two levels of Maya structures below ground level. You will have time to explore the carved heads of deities, the pyramid temples where kings ruled, the ball court where ancient games were played, the hieroglyphic stairway with its 63 carved steps, and the stone columns and sculptures in the central court. In the evening enjoy a lecture by Prof. David Sedat on the Maya of Copán. Prof. Sedat has been recognized for his work in the underground tombs at the site, and has a lifetime of knowledge of the Maya.

BREAKFAST-LUNCH-DINNER

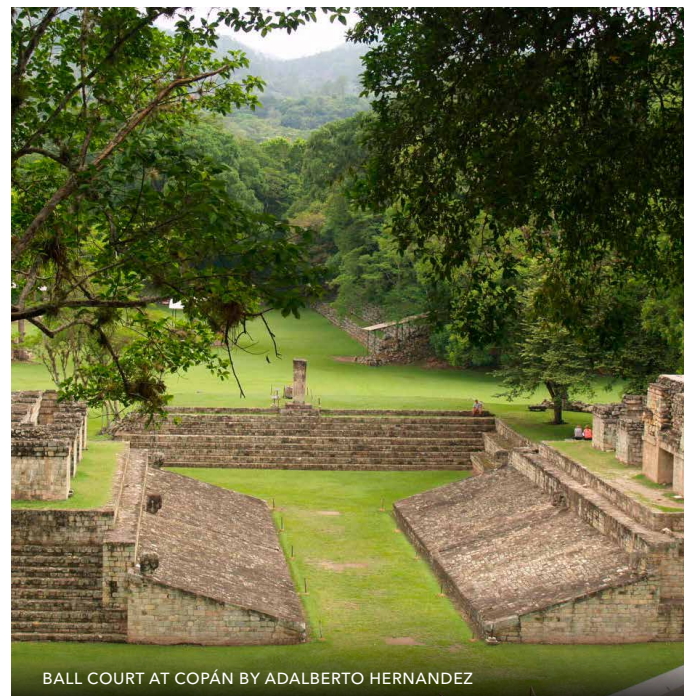
HOTEL LA POSADA

DAY 4 | WED | 08 JUN | TELA

In the morning depart to the sleepy coastal town of Tela and the seaside Hotel Villas Telamar (approximately four hours). The land where the Villas Telamar is located was built in the first decades of the last century by the Tela Railroad Company, producers of the internationally known brand Chiquita. Here you can experience the story of the Banana Republic firsthand. The houses were designed to lodge the families of the executives that worked in the railroad company. Its design on top of wooden columns is a typical structure used on houses on the Caribbean coast. After dinner receive an orientation on the different cultures of Honduras.

BREAKFAST-LUNCH-DINNER

VILLAS TELAMAR



BALL COURT AT COPÁN BY ADALBERTO HERNANDEZ

DAY 5 | THU | 09 JUN | LA CEIBA

This morning you will visit an authentic Garifuna village. Most Garifuna housing consists of small huts with walls made of royal palm, sugar cane, and cement blocks, with ceilings made of hay. In 2001, UNESCO proclaimed the language, dance and music of the Garifuna as a Masterpiece of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity. During your visit you will experience Garifuna culture firsthand. Following your village experience you will visit a school to learn about everyday classroom life. Later in the afternoon transfer to La Ceiba. Check in at the Lodge at Pico Bonito, situated at the edge of the Pico Bonito National Park. Have dinner at the lodge. After dinner is an orientation to the lodge and Pico Bonito National Park, the second largest national park in the country. Covering an area of 415 square miles, its vast size makes it one of the most biodiverse national parks in Honduras.

BREAKFAST-LUNCH-DINNER

THE LODGE AT PICO BONITO



GARIFUNA MUSICIANS AND DANCERS BY WOODY HIBBARD

DAY 6 | FRI | 10 JUN | LA CEIBA

Early morning birding around lodge. After breakfast, take an exciting whitewater rafting trip on the Cangrejal River. Flowing from deep within the rainforest of Pico Bonito National Park down to the Caribbean Sea, the 20-mile river has rapids ranging in difficulty from Class II to Class IV. In the afternoon take a guided hike into Pico Bonito National Park with a naturalist guide. The main loop trail passes three different canopy observation towers, optimally located for spectacular views and wildlife observation opportunities. The trail meanders along a ridge that divides the Corinto and Coloradito River watersheds and accesses several swimming holes and small waterfalls. Pico Bonito features more than seven different ecosystems across varied altitudes and is home to jaguars, armadillos, wild pigs, tepezcuintles, squirrels, monkeys, toucans, white-tailed deer, mountain lions, river otters, motmots, and many more species.

BREAKFAST-LUNCH-DINNER

THE LODGE AT PICO BONITO

DAY 7 | SAT | 11 JUN | UTILA

This morning, hike through the rainforest to a waterfall for a refreshing swim in the clear pools. After lunch at the lodge, transfer to the dock in La Ceiba and take the later afternoon ferry to Utila, one of Honduras' Bay Islands. Dinner at the hotel.

BREAKFAST-LUNCH-DINNER

HOTEL MANGO INN



WHALE SHARK BY CHRISTIAN JENSEN

DAY 8 | SUN | 12 JUN | UTILA

After breakfast this morning, receive a snorkeling orientation, including safety instructions. Then, go snorkeling from the shore along the nearby coral reef. The clear waters surrounding Utila are part of the Mesoamerican Barrier Reef System, the second largest in the world. Look for brightly colored tropical fish, rays, corals, and other marine life. After lunch, explore the island.

BREAKFAST-LUNCH-DINNER

HOTEL MANGO INN

DAY 9 | MON | 13 JUN | UTILA

Attend a whale shark lecture this morning before an afternoon snorkeling excursion. The option for diving is also available for those who are certified (at additional cost).

BREAKFAST-LUNCH-DINNER

HOTEL MANGO INN

DAY 10 | TUE | 14 JUN | UTILA

This morning after breakfast board a catamaran for a cruise to a nearby coral reef snorkeling site. Return to the hotel for lunch and have some time at leisure.

BREAKFAST-LUNCH-DINNER

HOTEL MANGO INN

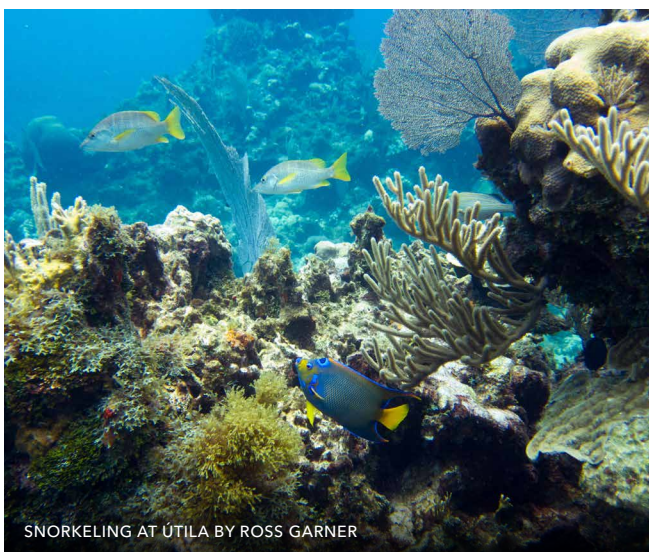
DAY 11 | WED | 15 JUN | SAN PEDRO SULA

This morning ferry back to mainland and transfer to the San Pedro Sula airport in time for your international flight home.

BREAKFAST



BEACH IN TELA BY SALVATORE FRENI JR.



PRICING DETAILS

\$2,925

Price includes:

- Airfare from Orange County (estimated at \$850)
- Sightseeing and activities as described, including entrance fees
- Meals as mentioned in itinerary
- Private vehicle transportation and driver
- Ferry service relevant to itinerary
- Full-time guide for duration of the program
- Snorkel gear
- Post-departure travel insurance

Price does not include: Trip cancellation insurance, gratuities, or items of a personal nature.

THE FINE PRINT

Cost is based on a minimum of 14 participants in double occupancy. A \$200 per person deposit and enrollment form is due to hold your space on this trip. This deposit is refundable until January 25, excluding a \$100 cancellation fee. Cancellations after this date will result in loss of full deposit.

Please note: Your participation as a traveler indicates acceptance of Holbrook Travel's Covid-19 protocols in place at time of travel. (Visit holbrooktravel.com/covid19 for more information.) Holbrook Travel strongly recommends the purchase of travel insurance for medical emergencies while traveling and to protect your investment. Please note the purchase of Cancel for Any Reason Coverage or to exclude pre-existing conditions with Trip Cancellation coverage may require policy purchase within 10-14 days of your initial deposit, depending upon the provider.

Single room supplement: \$450

Final payment due date: March 2, 2022



FOR MORE INFORMATION, OR TO ENROLL:

MR. KNIGHT | DavidKnight@iusd.org | holbrook.travel/universityhs-hn22