

Belize 2024

January 20 – 29, 2024

Led By: Sue and Don Kissinger



Continuing Education
University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point



CLASSIC
Landmark





Belize

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Welcome to the 2024 Belize Trip! Get ready for an amazing experience “above and below Belize” to explore the ecosystems, culture, and history of this tiny Central American country. This all-inclusive trip will take you on guided tours of three ancient Mayan ruins, provide opportunities to explore limestone caves through cave tubing and a tour of the amazing Actun Tunichil Muknal cave and conclude on the tropical paradise of South Water Caye where we will snorkel on the second largest barrier reef in the world! This trip is perfect for anyone seeking an adventure in the rainforests and coral reefs of Central America. Is Belize a perfect tropical adventure? **YOU BETTER BELIZE IT!**

Trip Leaders: Sue and Don Kissinger



Day 1 - Arrival

- Pick up transfer from the International Airport and drive to **Orange Walk Town**
- After dinner - Night Cruise on the New River to search for creatures of the night
- Overnight at **El Gran Mestizo**

Day 2 - Lamanai

- 20 mile excursion on the New River for a guided tour of the **Lamanai Maya Ruins** with birding along the way!
- Visit Steam Powered Post Classic Sugar Mill
- Overnight at **El Gran Mestizo**

Day 3 - Cave Tubing

- Drive to San Ignacio with a refreshing stop to go Cave Tubing
- Overnight at **Crystal Paradise Resort**



Day 4 - Xunantunich

- Guided tour of **Xunantunich Maya Ruins** with lunch at Benny's
- Explore San Ignacio Town and local gift shops
- Overnight at **Crystal Paradise Resort**

Day 5 - Caracol

- Guided tour of **Caracol Maya Ruins & Big Rock Water Falls**
- Overnight at **Crystal Paradise Resort**

Day 6 - Spelunking

- Caving Adventures
 - **Option 1:** Active Adventure Cave Tour of Actun Tunichil Muknal (ATM Cave)
 - **Option 2:** Barton Creek Cave Canoeing & Rio Hon Pools (less strenuous option)
- Overnight at **Crystal Paradise Resort**

Day 7 - To the Coast

- Travel to the coast with stops along the way to Dangriga
- Chocolate Making Presentation
- Tour of the Marie Sharp Hot Sauce Factory
- Traditional Garifuna Lunch & Garifuna Drummer Presentation
- Boat transfer to South Water Caye
- Overnight at **Pelican Beach Resort**





Day 8 - Island Time

- 1/2 Day Snorkel Tour with a visit to Tobacco Caye & Caribo Island (Research Marine Biology Center)
- Rental of snorkeling equipment on South Water Caye is not included - you may want to bring your own mask/snorkel and/or fins to ensure proper fit
- Free time on the island to relax, snorkel/swim from the beach, play volleyball, kayak and paddleboard (provided free from resort)
- Optional activities (at your own expense)
 - Line fishing trip (lots of fun!)
 - SCUBA Diving - arranged through the Blue Marlin Resort if PADI certified (note - you may need to miss the snorkeling trip, depending on the schedule)
 - Night Snorkeling
- Overnight at **Pelican Beach Resort**



Day 9 - Island Time

- 1/2 Day Snorkel Trip
- Free time on island (see Day 8)
- Overnight at **Pelican Beach Resort**

Day 10 - Departure Day

- Early morning boat transfer from South Water Caye to Dangriga and land transfer from Dangriga to the Belize International Airport!



Our Trip Leaders – Sue and Don Kissinger

Sue and Don have travelled extensively throughout the United States, Canada, Central America, South Africa and Europe. They met 40 years ago as UW-Stevens Point (UWSP) students on an international trip and just celebrated their 38th wedding anniversary. Sue recently retired from UWSP where she worked for 30 years and as a career specialist and academic adviser. She has led 24 UWSP international trips, including 7 to Belize! Don retired from a 29 year career as an urban forestry coordinator for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources in northern and western Wisconsin. Don has co-led programs with Sue to Belize, Costa Rica, Iceland, Poland and Germany. Sue and Don recently relocated to a lake in northwestern Wisconsin and enjoy to hiking, kayaking, fishing and spoiling their grandchildren.

Pricing

Registration Fee

Single occupancy rates: **\$4,398 per person**

Double occupancy rates: **\$3,898 per person**

*Registration closes **October 6, 2023**

Payment Schedule:

\$450 due upon registration (*\$100 of this fee is nonrefundable*)

\$1,724 due by **August 4, 2023**

\$1,724 due by **October 6, 2023**

*Since we make financial commitments in advance, no refunds will be issued for cancellations less than 90 days prior to the trip. Cancellations received more than 90 days before the trip will receive a full refund minus \$499. However, you may send a substitute in your place. Please email us at uwspceweb@uwsp.edu to inform us of a cancellation or substitution.

Price includes:

- All in-country transportation listed on itinerary
- Tour Guide services & park entry fees
- All activities/tours listed on the itinerary
- All in-country meals (Dinner Day 1 - Breakfast Day 10)
- All in-country lodging
- Land transfer from Dangriga to the International Airport on Day 10

Price does not include:

- Flights to and from Belize
- Any tours not mentioned in the itinerary
- \$20 USD border departure fee per person
- Alcoholic Beverages, souvenirs, laundry
- International Calls
- Rental of Snorkeling equipment on South Water Caye
- Optional line fishing, night snorkeling and SCUBA diving on South Water Caye