

DOUBLE ATOLL ADVENTURE



Remote Reef Discovery of Lighthouse and Glover's Atolls Plus the Rainforests of Southern Belize

Duration: 9 nights
Starts: Belize City
Finishes: Belize City
Guides: 2-4 leaders
Price: \$2114 US + \$365 Taxes & Fees
\$2249 Cdn + \$440 Taxes & Fees
Habitats: Broadleaf Rainforest, Glover's & Lighthouse Reef Atolls
Activity level: 2/5 - No experience required
Web Address: www.belizeatolls.travel

2017/18 Departures:
Dec 23
Jan 13, 27
Feb 10,
Mar 24
Apr 7

Activities: Sea Kayaking (paddling and sailing), Snorkeling, Fishing, Beachcombing, Birding, Photography, Natural History Interpretation, Stand Up Paddleboarding. Scuba Diving. Ziplining & Guided Rainforest Activities are optional & not included in trip cost. Yoga available on select departures.

Accommodations: Bocawina Rainforest Resort, Southwest Caye Basecamp (Glover's), Half Moon Caye Basecamp (Lighthouse), Belize Biltmore Hotel.

The Double Atoll Adventure allows you to explore and stay on Glover's and Lighthouse Reef, two remote coral atolls and UN World Heritage Sites within the Belize Barrier Reef. Imagine spending six nights sleeping in comfortable tent-walled cabanas at our Southwest Caye and Half Moon Caye Adventure Basecamps. Visit the Belize Audubon's protected nesting colony of 4000 red footed boobies. Enjoy some of the best paddling and marine exploration in the Caribbean Sea. Snorkeling expeditions to the Aquarium' and Jacques Cousteau's legendary Blue Hole are just a few of the highlights on this action packed adventure. We've even added an overnight jungle stay at a unique off-the-grid eco-resort in Bocawina National Park.

Typical Daily Itinerary:

Day 0: You will arrive at Belize International Airport on a Saturday for this trip and will transfer onto a domestic flight to Dangriga. You'll be met by an Island Expeditions' representative upon arrival at Dangriga airstrip and will be transported to Bocawina Rainforest Resort in the southern Mayan Mountains.

This unique eco-resort is located in the heart of Mayflower Bocawina National Park and offers a wide range of optional guided activities. Depending on your arrival time, you may want to book a guided bird walk or a rainforest canopy zipline adventure. For those of you arriving at the lodge later in the day, we can arrange a nocturnal zipline tour or a guided night hike through the jungle (not included).

Day 0 is the day to meet your fellow travelers, and acclimatize to your new tropical environment. Enjoy the evening at your leisure in this unique eco-resort, surrounded by the sounds of the rainforest.

Accommodation: Rainforest Resort

Meals: Dinner

Day 1: From rainforest to remote tropical reef! After breakfast at Bocawina Rainforest Resort, you will be transferred to a chartered boat. Your boat journey will take you beyond the main Barrier Reef to our private Basecamp on Southwest Caye. Southwest Caye is located within Glover's Reef Marine Reserve, and our guests typically arrive before 10am in ideal weather conditions. The day's schedule begins with an introduction to your new environment and time for you to unpack your belongings in your tent cabana. Once everyone is settled, our guides provide professional instruction - teaching the fundamentals of sea kayaking, snorkeling, and safety on the water in the tropics. You will then paddle out to a nearby patch reef and start to explore some of the 700 snorkel sites that Glover's Atoll has to offer.

Accommodation: Glover's Basecamp

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 2: Start your day with amazing options. Perhaps an early morning swim or a sunrise yoga session, you choose. Our itinerary is flexible to respond to desires and abilities of both groups and individuals. Activities include sea kayaking, Stand Up Paddleboarding, snorkeling and learning to sail a kayak. Explore the inner and outer walls of the reef at your leisure. Twice a day (In the mornings and the evenings) we offer informative sessions on a range of topics. These sessions provide an opportunity for your guides to share their extensive knowledge of Belize, the marine environment and local culture. If you would rather do less and simply unwind, you always have the choice of just kicking back in a hammock and relaxing with a good book and a cold drink. Just in case you change your mind, perhaps a high stakes game of Hermit Crab racing will help you finish a perfect day!

Accommodation: Glover's Basecamp

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 3: For your last morning on Glover's Reef, the choice is yours. Don mask, snorkel, and fins for a last visit to your favorite coral reef. Fishing enthusiasts can "work the reef flats" with their most impressive Bonefish fly prior to a midday return ride to Dangriga. You'll arrive on the mainland approximately 1:30-2:30 pm, and be transferred to Dangriga Airstrip to board a flight to Belize City Municipal Airport. You will take a taxi to the Belize Biltmore Hotel and have the rest of the day at your leisure.

Accommodation: Hotel

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Day 4: After an early breakfast at the hotel, you will be taken to the boat launch for a motor charter to Lighthouse Reef Atoll. Imagine traveling by sea through mangrove ranges and white sand cayes before traversing Belize's main Barrier Reef. This seafaring journey travels through the inner lagoons of Turneffe Atoll and 20 miles of open sea before reaching Lighthouse Reef Atoll. Your final destination is located at the furthest edge of the Belizean Reef System. This is 55 miles offshore, and offers an experience you'll never forget. This motor charter takes approximately two hours, travelling at 55 miles per hour. Upon reaching Half Moon Caye (an island at the southern end of Lighthouse Reef Atoll) your guide team will orient you to your newest island setting. After settling into your accommodations and having lunch in an open-air dining pavilion, you'll head out for an afternoon of kayaking or snorkeling.

Accommodation: Half Moon Basecamp

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 5, 6, 7: Early risers may want to go for a swim, do some yoga - or just grab a cup of coffee and watch the tropical sunrise. After a healthy Belizean breakfast everyone gathers to plan the day's activities. The waters of Lighthouse Reef Atoll are exceptionally clear with a fabulously rich reef system. Throughout your stay, you'll have the opportunity to try a variety of activities as you explore this remote part of the Barrier Reef. Snorkeling at the 'Aquarium' is one of the favorites among guests. The Aquarium is the name of a spectacular snorkeling location with a profusion of tropical fish and towering coral formations. You'll also be taken on a snorkeling excursion to the renowned Blue Hole. The Blue Hole is an underwater cave and sinkhole in the center of the Lighthouse lagoon, made famous by legendary explorer Jacques Cousteau. In the mornings and evenings a favorite guest activity is walking to the red-footed booby colony to watch nesting boobies come in from the sea to feed their chicks.

Accommodation: Half Moon Basecamp

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 8: Choose your favorite activity for this last day at Lighthouse - snorkel your favorite patch reefs, walk the island trails, swing in a hammock or beachcomb along the island beaches. After lunch a motor charter arrives, and you'll begin to prepare for your trip back to the mainland, This return journey takes you back through Turneffe Atoll across the Barrier Reef, and you'll arrive at the Belize Biltmore Hotel by late afternoon. Your final evening is reserved for relaxing at the hotel or exploring the local area.

Accommodation: Hotel

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Day 9: Enjoy time at your leisure prior to your departing flight. Flights out of Belize usually depart in the late morning or early afternoon. You can use the morning to lounge by the pool or check out the hotel's activity desk for optional tours. Please note: Taxi transfer to the airport is not included.

NOTE: Due to the remote location of the Glover's and Lighthouse Basecamps, the activities on this trip are weather dependent. As a result, this itinerary is a 'guide' and must remain flexible. We hope you bring a spirit of adventure with you, and allow us to adjust the sails.

Please visit www.belizeatolls.travel for further trip details and images.