



Lighthouse Reef Adventure 6N

Crooked Tree Wetlands, then a remote Basecamp Adventure exploring the rich coral reefs and white sand cayes of Lighthouse Atoll

Duration: 6 Nights

Starts: Belize City

Finishes: Belize City

Seasonal Trip: December to April

Habitats: Wetlands, Barrier Reef - Lighthouse Atoll

Activity level: ●●○○○ [2] No experience required

Activities: Sea kayaking (paddling and sailing), snorkeling, handline fishing, birding, stand-up paddleboarding

Optional: Scuba diving (fees apply)

Package includes:

- 1-night accommodation Crooked Tree Village
- 1-night standard accommodation in Belize City
- 4-night safari style "basecamp" accommodations
- Meals (as per itinerary)
- Land and boat transfers between locations
- Guided activities and equipment (as per itinerary)
- Park fees and taxes

Accommodations: Lodge at Crooked Tree, Lighthouse Reef Basecamp on Half Moon Caye, Belize City Hotel

Package does not include: International airfare, gratuities, medical/travel insurance, snorkel/fishing/scuba gear, meals in Belize city, taxi to international airport, additional activities, costs incurred by flight delays

Trip Highlights: The Great Blue Hole, paddling in crystal clear waters, snorkeling at the Aquarium, glamping on a private island, fishing for dinner Belizean-style, red-footed booby colony living on the caye

Recommended for: solo travellers, couples, families with young or older children, off-grid adventurers

Pairs well with: Cayo Caves & Temples Extension, Maya World Extension, Sacred Temples & Caves Extension

Pricing based on Double Occupancy. Single supplement subject to availability. Contact our Trip Planners for details.



Lighthouse Reef is Belize's oldest Marine Protected area and UNESCO World Heritage site, located 56 miles offshore from the mainland. It's abundant marine life offers unparalleled snorkeling and paddling. Spend six night on Belize's most remote island in safari-style tent cabanas. Our all inclusive Adventure Basecamp on Half Moon Caye, which is a national park managed by the Belize Audubon Society. This unique island setting is home to an abundant Red-Footed Boobie colony and Magificent Frigate rookery, as well has being situated just 6 miles from the Great Blue Hole. This itinerary is ideal for familys or travelling companions of mixed abilities and interests.

"**Basecamping**" involves sleeping in wall-tented cabanas. These spacious safari-style tents have ample headroom to walk around, are on raised wooden floors, and have real wood-framed beds (6-inch foam mattresses). Tents can be configured with either double or single beds. All bed linen is provided.

Typical Daily Itinerary:

Day 1: Upon arrival at the Belize International Airport, you will be welcomed by an Island Expeditions representative and whisked away to the Bird's Eye View Lodge in the Crooked Tree Wildlife Sanctuary. This area is renowned for its extensive wetlands, and four main lagoons which are home to hundreds of species of birds and other fuana.

After checking into your accommodations, meet your fellow travellers for dinner and discuss the days ahead.

Accommodation: Bird's Eye View Lodge Meals: Dinner

Day 2: We rise early, and with a coffee in hand, take a motor boat tour of the Crooked Tree Lagoon looking for rare birds. After breakfast, we travel back to Belize City, make a quick stop at a local shop and head to our waiting motor boat charter. We travel by boat 56 miles out to sea, passing through mangrove ranges, white sand cayes, arriving at Belize's furthest island group, on Lighthouse Reef Atoll. Upon arriving at Half Moon Caye, your guide team will orient you to the island and camp to settle you into your accommodations. You will then enjoy a late lunch and and then a session of sea kayak and snorkeling instruction before heading out on the water.

Accommodation: Half Moon Basecamp Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 3: Due to its isolated location from the mainland, the waters of Lighthouse Reef are exceptionally clear with the most abundant fish populations and colourful coral reefs in Belize. This rich ecosystem offers access to some of the best sea kayaking and snorkeling (as well as scuba diving) in the Caribbean.

You will have ample opportunities to learn from our guides about the marine reef ecology, the local flora and fauna, we well as the island's coconut forest and littoral forest, more common to the interior of the mainland. Half Moon Caye is a rich 45 acre nature preserve, hosting a 4000 red footed boobie colony as well as a Magificent Frigate bird rookery. We tour the viewing platforms build by the Belize Audubon Society to observe the many nesting sites on the island.

Overall it was a fantastic experience! It was such a pleasure to spend time with like-minded travelers. It was equally fun to get to know your excellent staff. They work very hard, make a genuine effort to make everyone happy, and do it in a natural and relaxed way.

*Christine - ON Canada
Lighthouse Reef*

Itinerary Cont.

Over the next few days, you will have many options to explore, including a quickly disappearing shipwreck just north of the caye. The guides will present activities each day based on the weather conditions, and the group's desires. And, of course, we always give you the option of hanging out in a hammock with a good book and a cold beverage!

Accommodation: Half Moon Basecamp Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 4: The "Aquarium" is today's big adventure. We will pack a hearty lunch and snorkel gear and plan to be away for most of the day. We paddle our kayaks (with motor boat support) to the neighboring island, called Long Caye. After a good paddle, we snorkel a local patch reef and return to the island dock for lunch in the field. Next we jump into the water and drift snorkel the "Aquarium", an undersea cliff known for the profusion of fish and towering coral formations. We raise the sails and sail our kayaks or paddle back to camp.

Accommodation: Half Moon Basecamp Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 5: Today, we travel to the world renowned Great Blue Hole. A huge collapsed sink hole formation, that was discovered and made famous by ocean explorer, Jacques Cousteau. We motor boat or paddle the 6 mile journey, to this perfectly circular formation bejeweled with soft and hard corals of many different colours. After a full day of exploring, you'll return just in time for a wonderful seafood dinner prepared especially for you by our cooks. After dinner, we have a cultural presentation of drumming and dancing to celebrate the last night at Half Moon Caye

Accommodation: Half Moon Basecamp Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 6: The choice is yours for your last morning at Lighthouse Reef Atoll. Snorkel your favourite patch reefs, walk the island trails, and swing in a hammock or beach comb along the immaculate 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 through Turneffe Atoll across the Great Barrier Reef, and you'll arrive at the Belize City Biltmore Hotel, usually by late afternoon. You can enjoy a fresh shower and swim in the hotel's pool. Your final evening is reserved for relaxing at the hotel or exploring the local area.

Accommodation: Biltmore Hotel Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner Not included

Day 7: This last day is yours to enjoy at your leisure before you fly home or continue on your travels. Relax by the pool or investigate the optional tours offered by the hotel activity desk.

Accommodation: None Meals: Not included

Travel Notes: Meals in Belize City (dinner on day 7 and breakfast on day 8) are not included. Transportation to airport on day 8 is not included.

Due to the remote location of the Lighthouse Reef Basecamp, the activities on the reef portion of this trip are weather-dependent and are subject to change.

Contact our Trip Planners for Flight & Hotel Packages or to extend your Belize itinerary by combining this trip with another Island Expeditions adventure or extensions.