



Lighthouse Reef 8N

Embark on a seven-night remote Basecamp Adventure to discover the vibrant coral reef and pristine white sand cayes of Lighthouse Reef.

Duration: 8 Nights

Starts: Belize City

Finishes: Belize City

Seasonal Trip: December to April

Habitats: Barrier Reef - Lighthouse Atoll

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

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

Optional: Scuba diving -fees apply

Package includes:

- 1-night Belize City hotel accommodation
- 7-night safari-style "basecamp" accommodations
- Meals (as per itinerary)
- Boat transfers Belize City/Half Moon Caye
- Guided activities and equipment (as per itinerary)
- Park fees and taxes

Accommodations: Lighthouse Reef Basecamp on Half Moon Caye, Belize City Biltmore Plaza

Package does not include: airfare, gratuities, medical/travel insurance, snorkel/scuba gear, additional activities (scuba), costs incurred by flight delays

Trip Highlights: Walk In Snorkeling, the Great Blue Hole, paddling in crystal clear waters, glamping on a private island, fishing for dinner, explore the magnificent frigate bird rookery and red-footed booby colony

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

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.



Travel to Belize's most remote island group at **Lighthouse Reef Atoll** - a marine protected area and UNESCO world heritage site, located fifty-six miles off the shore of the Belize coast. Stay on Half Moon Caye, where you will spend four memorable nights. Managed by the Belize Audubon Society, Half Moon Caye is the perfect base to go out and explore the wonders of the coral reef system. Each day, you'll have a choice of several exceptional guided paddling and snorkeling excursions. Snorkel the rim of Jacques Cousteau's legendary Great Blue Hole, or quietly observe the nesting colony of red-footed boobies and magnificent frigate birds. This trip is perfect for families, groups or traveling companions with 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: Arrive in Belize City International Airport (BZE), and be met with an IE representative, where we will transfer you to the Belize Biltmore Plaza. Check into your first night's accommodation and acclimatize to your new environment. Meals are on your own, and can be purchased at the hotel. You will meet other travellers in the lobby the following morning.

Accommodation: Biltmore Plaza

Meals: N/A

Days 2: Meet an Island Expeditions representative at 8:30 am Biltmore Plaza Hotel lobby, 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 then a session of sea kayak and snorkeling instruction before heading out on the water.

Accommodation: Half Moon Basecamp

Meals: Lunch, Dinner

Days 3-7: Due to its isolated location from the mainland, the waters of Lighthouse Reef are exceptionally clear with the most abundant fish populations and colorful 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, as well as the island's coconut and littoral forest (more common to the interior of the mainland). Half Moon Caye is a beautiful and rich 45-acre nature preserve, hosting a red-footed booby colony as well as a magnificent frigate bird rookery. We tour the viewing platforms built by the Belize Audubon Society to observe the many nesting sites on the island.

All itineraries are subject to change depending on weather and safety considerations.

As our international guest, flexibility is key to an unforgettable and un-BELIZE-able experience.

"Our entire family loved the trip. I have been telling everyone how great it is. I loved the fact we got to spend 5 days in such an incredible place, with a great group of people and so many fun activities. The staff were great at working with both adults and our children."

Eva - BC Canada

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!

We also travel to the world renowned Great Blue Hole. A huge collapsed sinkhole 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 colors.

On this trip, we explore further into the Lighthouse Reef atoll, with extended fishing trips, as well as new patch reefs, or downwind paddle trips on the SUP's. The guides will use the conditions of the day and present several options to keep each guest engaged.

On the final night, we return for a wonderful 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 9: 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 island beaches. After lunch, a motorboat charter picks everyone up for the return trip 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.

Accommodation: None

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Travel Notes: For travelers leaving Belize after this trip, you must spend a night in Belize City International connections out of the country require a departure the next day.

Contact our Trip Planners for hotel reservations in Belize City, Flight & Hotel Packages or to extend your Belize itinerary by combining this trip with another Island Expeditions adventure or extension.

