



## A WEEK IN THE TROPICS BELIZE

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**8 days, 7 nights**

**Hiking, birding, snorkeling, fishing**

“Belize is a jewel of a country. While many Orvis customers know it as a fly fishing destination, only a few explore the fascinating inland forests and mountains. After a trip to Chan Chich with my wife in 2009, I knew it was the ideal lodge to combine with a trip to El Pescador on the coast. She was charmed by the tropical gardens and understated luxury. I enjoyed hiking the extensive trail system looking for exotic birds and wildlife at Chan Chich. It’s a short, scenic flight to El Pescador on Ambergris Cay, Belize’s biggest island, famous for fishing and snorkeling. I recommend this combination to all my friends who want a week in the tropics.”

-- Dave Parker, Managing Director-Orvis Travel.

This itinerary condenses the best of Belize into a week-long adventure starting at **Chan Chich Lodge and Nature Preserve** deep in the remote tropical inland forest and finishes at **El Pescador, an Orvis endorsed lodge** on the coast where you can enjoy a variety of activities including fishing and snorkeling. Efficient charter flights between lodges minimize transfer times and are included, as is nearly everything else in this unique package.

There’s enough time at each location to explore the exquisite tropical nature with expert guides, and you’ll have time to walk through the forest looking for wildlife, snorkel in a marine preserve, and fish. Everything is well organized and the guides are friendly and knowledgeable. Of course you can simply relax and enjoy the tropical surroundings.

**Lodging** is at small resorts that provide friendly service and expert guides for a variety of activities. We use deluxe rooms on this package, an upgrade from the standard rooms. At Chan Chich you will have a thatched roof bungalow with a shaded veranda perfect for relaxing on warm afternoons. At El Pescador you have a Villa room just steps from water’s edge.

**Meals** are a highlight. Chan Chich has its own vegetable farm where many Mayan traditions live on, and raises its own cattle. Expect fresh fruit at every meal and creative cuisine served in a relaxed atmosphere. El Pescador is on the coast and dinners are often outside under the stars with an ocean breeze. All meals are included, as are soft drinks and local beer. Wine and liquor are available to purchase and both lodges have bars for an afternoon cocktail.

A variety of outdoor activities are included. Chan Chich features hikes and birding excursions through the forest, plus a horseback ride and overland excursion to explore the vast nature

preserve. A day of fishing is included at El Pescador – choose between fly fishing or reef fishing with conventional gear – as is a snorkeling excursion in Hol Chan marine reserve. There's a free day at El Pescador when you can choose optional excursions such as more fishing or a dive trip to the Blue Hole. (Optional trips on the free day at El Pescador and offsite tours at Chan Chich are not included in the trip price, but can be arranged on site at your discretion.)

A week isn't much time to discover all Belize has to offer so this package includes fast, efficient charter flights between lodges, avoiding long drives over bumpy roads. You'll enjoy bird's eye views of the Maya Mountains, tropical forest, and the coast that add to your appreciation of this unique landscape. The flight back to Belize City International Airport is on a scheduled local flight with departures throughout the day, so you can catch your flight back to the United States without a layover in Belize City.

We've selected a variety of dates throughout the year for this special experience, but we can arrange this as a private trip for you on other dates if you prefer.

Contact Orvis Travel soon to plan your trip.

## **Itinerary**

### **Day 1** Arrive Belize – Chan Chich Lodge

Transfer to Chan Chich by air from Belize International Airport (We can arrange transfers from other airstrips in Belize as well).

Welcome drink and orientation on arrival.

Lunch, depending on arrival time.

Relax at the pool or schedule an eco-adventure of your own during the afternoon.

Dinner served 6-8 PM

### **Day 2** Chan Chich Lodge

Enjoy a delicious breakfast followed with a horseback ride to explore 133,000 acres of private land including the Gallon Jug estate and farm and Mayan site.

Back to the lodge for an al fresco lunch.

Afternoon nature walk on one of the extensive trails with a naturalist guide.

**All meals are included at Chan Chich.**

Time to relax on your veranda, swim in a delightful pool, or have a drink in the bar.

Dinner

Optional guided night hikes and overland drives are available, although they are not included in the trip cost.

### **Day 3** Chan Chich Lodge

Awake before dawn to experience a morning walk through the jungle with an outstanding guide looking and listening for over 350 species of birds.

Return to the lodge for breakfast overlooking a garden of tropical plants.

Relax and enjoy free time or ride a mountain bike on the numerous trails that radiate out from the lodge.

Lunch

Enjoy a sightseeing tour on a Gallon Jug vehicle.

Horseback riding

Finish your last evening with an unforgettable private dinner on a Mayan temple.

#### Day 4            Tropical Forest to the Caribbean Coast

After one more tropical breakfast, you have a choice of a morning guided activity.

Lunch at Chan Chich

Depart from Chan Chich to San Pedro where the El Pescador representative will greet you at the airport. It's a short boat ride to the lodge where you'll be greeted with a refreshing welcome drink upon arrival.

Dinner at El Pescador.

#### Day 5            Ambergris Caye - Fishing

Choose between reef fishing with conventional gear and fly fishing the famous saltwater flats for bonefish. Equipment is included and an expert guide takes you out for a fascinating day on the water. Reef anglers will be treated to a beach barbeque from the morning's catch and you can take a fish back to the resort for the chef to serve for your dinner. Fly fishing is done on the shallow waters along the mangrove shores and you'll have a crack at landing a bonefish. It's challenging fishing if you've never done it, but El Pescador has a resident fly fishing coach to give you pointers in advance. (Fly fishing is strictly catch-and-release. A packed lunch is usually eaten in the boat.) Flats fishing and reef fishing take place at different locations, so you'll have to choose in advance.

**All meals are included at El Pescador.**

#### Day 6            Ambergris Caye - Snorkeling

Snorkeling excursion to world famous Hol Chan Marine reserve and Shark Ray Alley.

Want another day of fishing with a guide? It can be added at an additional cost.

#### Day 7            Ambergris Caye - Free Day

Explore the mangrove lagoons surrounding Ambergris Caye on your own by kayak, learn the secrets of fly casting from the fishing host, or simply spend the day relaxing and sunning by the pool! El Pescador can arrange many excursions including diving, visits to inland Mayan sites, and more. (Optional excursions on this day are not included in the trip price.)

#### Day 8            Belize to home

Enjoy breakfast. Transfer from El Pescador back to Belize International for your international flight departure. There are multiple flights from Ambergris Caye to Belize International and it's entirely possible to catch an early afternoon flight back to the USA. There's no need to overnight in Belize City.

## Orvis Week Dates

### 2012

March 11-18

April 29 – May 6

July 1-8

October 21-28

### 2013

January 20-27

February 17-24

~~March 24-31 (week before Easter) – Sold Out~~

April 21-28

Interested in other dates? Contact Orvis Travel at 800 547-4322. We can arrange this package for couples on other dates if space is available.

<b>Land Cost:</b>	January 1 to May 31	June 1 to December 15
<b>Per person double occupancy</b>	<b>\$3875</b>	<b>\$2895</b>
<b>Single Occupancy Rates</b>	<b>tba</b>	<b>tba</b>
Extra day of fishing: <b>(1 or 2 anglers per boat)</b> \$440 per guide, per day		

### *Included:*

- local flights  
Belize International Airport to Chan Chich  
Chan Chich to San Pedro  
San Pedro to Belize International Airport
- deluxe Cabanas at Chan Chich
- villa rooms at El Pescador.
- all meals
- activities as described in the itinerary
- fishing equipment at El Pescador
- local beverages including soft drinks and local beer.
- local sales and hotel taxes

### *Not included:*

- international flights to Belize City
- marine park fees (optional)
- wine, imported liquors
- guide tips and hotel staff tips
- fishing licenses
- excursions not described in the itinerary

## About the lodges:

### **Chan Chich**

12 thatched-roof cabanas surround two central buildings that contain the reception desk, restaurant, bar, gift shop and reading room. Each cabana, beautifully finished with local exotic hardwoods, is fully screened with ceiling fans, private bath, hot & cold water, 24 hour electricity

and a wrap-around verandah with hammocks. The deluxe cabanas used on this itinerary have one king bed or two queen beds with a spacious bathroom, walk-in closet and mini-bar.

Meals can be taken indoors or on the verandah of the dining room overlooking a tropical garden where birds bathe in a fountain just a few feet away.

There's a freshwater pool just a short walk from any of the bungalows.

### **El Pescador Lodge**

El Pescador is at water's edge on Ambergris Cay. Rooms on this itinerary are in the Villas which are two story, 3-bedroom, 3-bath buildings designed so each bedroom can be completely private. There's a large great room with cathedral ceilings and a deck on the top floor. There are two bedrooms with outside entrances on the main floor and one bedroom on the top floor. All rooms have private bathrooms.

Hearty American breakfasts are served in the dining room scheduled to accommodate your daily activity. Dinners are taken family style on a deck outside and include the choice of two entrees or a buffet. The food is American with a slight Mexican/Caribbean influence. Most lunches are taken in the field as a packed lunch. There's a casual bar adjacent to one of the swimming pools.

There's a small, clean, white sand beach in front of the resort and a long pier where excursions are launched. There's a vast area of mangrove lagoons behind the resort and canoes to use on your own.

There are complimentary canoes, kayaks, and bikes for excursions, plus an exercise room. The resort has wi-fi, although it can be spotty in this remote location.

### **Getting There**

Belize International Airport is the gateway and there are numerous flights from the United States. It's a 2 hour flight from Miami, 2 hour 30 minute from Houston, and 3 hours from Atlanta. We recommend you arrive around noon on Day 1 to enjoy the afternoon at Chan Chich, but it's ok to arrive up to approximately 4:00pm. The transfer flight to Chan Chich is a private charter that takes 30 – 40 minutes.

On departure day you fly from San Pedro Airport on Ambergris Cay about 30 minutes to Belize International. This is a scheduled frequent flight throughout the day so you can make most international departures from Belize International to the United States.

Airfare to and from Belize City is not included in the trip cost. Internal flights as described in the itinerary are included.



## Reserving your space is easy.

Call Orvis Travel and place your deposit by credit card. **800 547-4322**

The deposit is 25% of the trip cost unless otherwise stated in the itinerary.

- ✓ **Sign up online** at [www.orvis.com/resform](http://www.orvis.com/resform).

If we are unable to confirm space, your card will not be charged.

**15% discount on Orvis merchandise when you arrange your trip through Orvis Travel.** You will receive a “VIP customer card” for booking a trip through Orvis Travel and it entitles you to a 15% discount on Orvis merchandise from the time you book until long after your trip is over.

Orvis has been outfitting travelers since 1856 and you can find all the specialty clothing, luggage and gear you need in our catalogs, stores and website. When you book through Orvis Travel you will never pay a booking fee and will save on every purchase. We also supply you with a detailed packing list so you know exactly what to take.

## TERMS AND CONDITIONS

### **Reservations, Deposits & Payments**

The deposit is 25% of the trip price unless stated differently in the itinerary. Deposits may be made by check or credit card: Visa, MasterCard, American Express or Discover Card.

The balance of the trip cost is due 90 days before departure, except where specified differently on individual itineraries.

A signed reservation form and release are required prior to departure.

All prices must be paid in U.S. dollars.

Deposits are not transferable from one trip to another.

Prices quoted are based on foreign exchange values and tariffs currently in effect and prices are subject to change.

Orvis Travel reserves the right to adjust prices accordingly until the time of departure.

### **Planning information**

When your reservation is confirmed, you will receive planning information to guide you through trip preparations. Details about arrival and departure, clothing and equipment, trip cancellation insurance, pre- and post- trip extensions, visas and documents and activities are included in the planning information.

### **Cancellation and Refund Policy**

If you must cancel your reservation, the following fees apply:

<u>days prior to trip</u>	<u>fee</u>
+ 90 days	\$300 per person
60-90 days	80% of land cost
59 days or less	100% of land cost

Cancellation fees cannot be waived for any reason, including health, business or personal emergencies, or weather.

### **We strongly urge you to purchase trip cancellation insurance.**

No refunds will be made for unused portions of a trip, including late arrival or early departure. Guide fees and hotel costs are not refundable if unused as outlined in the itinerary. Orvis reserves the right to modify an itinerary due to circumstances beyond our control. In the unlikely event that Orvis must cancel a tour, all payments received to date will be refunded, which constitutes a full settlement.

Orvis is not responsible for expenses incurred in preparation of any canceled trip, including airline tickets and visas fees.

### **Cancellation Insurance**

Your planning information includes an application for travel insurance covering cancellation for medical reasons, trip delay, medical expenses, lost baggage and medical evacuation. We urge you to obtain this coverage.

### **Share policies**

Trip prices are based on double occupancy. Single rooms & cabins are limited. If you request a single room, a single supplement will apply as noted in the itinerary. We will confirm the single room as early as possible, but in some cases it may not be earlier than 30 days prior to the trip. If you request a roommate, we can usually pair you with another guest of the same gender, and no single supplement will apply.

If you request a roommate, and one is not available, we will only charge you the single supplement if required by the lodge or facility used in the trip.

Children under 18 must share a room with a parent or other family member. In some cases this may be waived.

### **Passports and documents**

International trips require a passport. Check your passport early and make sure it has six months validity at the time of travel. A visa is needed in some countries and we will send you complete details and instructions.

### **Arrival and Departure**

Group transfers from a central location such as an airport are described in the itinerary, and are included in the land cost.. Transfers are not included in the land cost if you arrive early or leave after the scheduled departure day.

### **Equipment & clothing**

You will receive a detailed list of appropriate gear with your trip planning information.

### **Airline reservations**

The land cost of your trip does not include airfare.

### **Limitation of liability**

This section defines Orvis Travel's responsibility with regard to all travel arrangements made by Orvis Travel, including individual travel and pre- and post- trip extensions. Please read it carefully.

Upon sending your deposit to Orvis Travel, you acknowledge that you have read and understand all the terms and conditions outlined here, and agree to be bound by them.

All trips that involve outdoor sporting activities such as shooting or fishing, or travel through remote places by vehicle, boat, small plane or on foot, put you at risk for accidents and serious injuries in the normal course of the activity. That is the nature of travel to such destinations and you acknowledge that you accept these hazards as a condition of participation.

Orvis Travel, its Owners, Employees, Associates and Agents give notice that they act only as the agent for the owners, contractors and suppliers providing means of transportation and/or other services and assume no responsibility howsoever caused for injury, loss or damage to person or property in connection with any service resulting directly from: acts of God, detention, annoyance, delays, expenses arising from quarantine, strikes, thefts, pilferage, force majeure, failure of any means of conveyance to arrive or depart as scheduled, civil disturbances, terrorism, government restrictions or regulations, and discrepancies or changes in transit or hotel services over which it has no control. Reasonable changes in the itinerary may be made where deemed advisable for the comfort and well-being of the passengers.

Baggage and personal effects, including items purchased, guns, fishing equipment or sporting goods are the sole responsibility of the owners at all times and no employee/agent of Orvis Travel, its subsidiaries, affiliated or associated companies is authorized to accept these for storage, safekeeping, or transportation.