

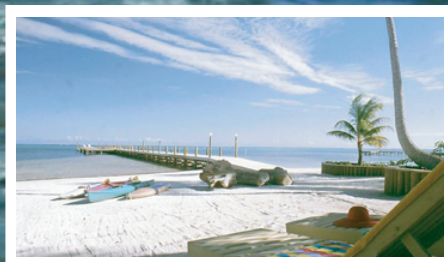
join us for the ultimate  
Ambergris Caye  
**BELIZE**

**FAM TRIP 2010**

**JULY 31ST TO AUGUST 6TH**

**THE TRIP OF A LIFETIME!**

- ★ EXPLORE THE LARGEST BARRIER REEF IN THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE AND SWIM WITH STINGRAYS AND SHARKS
- ★ EXPERIENCE BELIZE'S JUNGLES, RIVERS & CULTURE
- ★ CLIMB ANCIENT MAYA RUINS
- ★ RELAX ON THE WIND SWEEP BEACHES OF BELIZE



**ONLY \$489<sup>CDN</sup>** Its UnBelizeable!

Land Only. Price includes accommodation, meals, taxes, tours and transportation as per itinerary. Double Occupancy. Limited to 14 participants.

Call Cynthia Sum at CITC / Tel: 416-484-4450 / Toll Free 800-589-5776 / [fams@citc.ca](mailto:fams@citc.ca)

Also see: [www.citc.ca/files/BelizeFam.pdf](http://www.citc.ca/files/BelizeFam.pdf)



**seaduced**  
by Belize



*Romantic  
Travel* ASSOCIATION  
OF BELIZE

**VICTORIA HOUSE**  
AMBERGRIS CAYE BELIZE



Captain Morgan's  
VACATION BEACH CLUB



May 13, 2010

Dear Travel Professional,

**The Romantic Travel Association of Belize and CITC present**

**A very Calmmmmmming Fam Trip to Belize, July 31<sup>st</sup> to August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2010**

Not every Fam trip needs to be rushed. In a destination like Belize, "no shirt, no shoes, no problem" is the mantra, so operating on "Belize Time" is a must. You will come to appreciate this attitude as you snorkel and scuba dive in our calm, pristine waters and soak up the vibe as you tour Ambergris Caye by golf cart—which is the local mode of transportation. On the Lamanai Mayan Ruin excursion to the Mainland and jungles of Belize, you'll be able to take in the Mayan culture that is the foundation of all that is Belize. During this FAM trip, the participants will truly experience the flavour of the distinct Belizean and Mayan culture, and the laid back ambiance of this increasingly-popular destination in Central America, also considered to be the Western Caribbean by some.

Play Madonna's song "La Isla Bonita" which was written about Belize's Ambergris Caye (Last night I dreamt of San Pedro...), close your eyes and picture yourself chilling out, decompressing, getting in touch with yourself and learning about this varied, colourful and magnificent culture—and then relating your experience to your clients who are sure to thank you and refer their friends so they too can experience "Mother Nature's Best Kept Secret": unBelizeable, Belize!

There are only 14 places available on this Fam. The Land cost of \$489.00 Canadian based on double occupancy. As soon as you arrive at Goldson International Airport in Belize, we will take care of you. We have tried to include as many activities on Ambergris Caye as we could, in order to give you enough information to bring back to those clients looking for a unique get-away. We have even included a lunch with a wedding coordinator, as we know that Belize is considered the up-and-coming wedding and honeymoon destination.

When you review the itinerary you will see a great blend of education, fun, active participation and discovery.

We hope you are able to join us for this unique education-on-location experience.

Sincerely,

Lara Lennon  
Romantic Travel Association of Belize

Steve Gillick CTM  
President & COO, CITC

## Familiarization Trip to San Pedro, Belize, Central America



July 31, 2010 – August 6, 2010

### Ambergris Caye with a Day Excursion to the Mainland

Ambergris Caye is the largest and most northern of Belize's islands. It is twenty-five miles long and parallels Belize's barrier reef. Ambergris Caye, once claimed by Mexico, is separated from Mexico only by a narrow channel. During the Mayan period, Ambergris Caye was a trading post. Ruins have been excavated throughout the island, including the Marco Gonzales site, the Basil Jones site, and in San Pedro town.

**Organized by:** Romantic Travel Association of Belize in conjunction with the CITC

**Attendees:** Travel Professionals

**Please read:** "Don't Stop the Carnival"

**Please bring:** Sun block, bug spray, bathing suit, one pair of flip flops (no other shoes needed) and a smile

### July 31, 2010 - Saturday

Flight to SP 10:40 am  
 Flight to SP 11:40 am  
 Flight to SP 3:40 pm



Arrivals to Goldson International, BZE, Begin  
 Transfer to San Pedro via **Tropic Air**  
 Ground Transport to **Victoria House**

5:30 pm Hotel Cocktail Reception and Welcome

6:45 pm Welcome Dinner, Introductions, Review of weeks events, overview of Belize

### August 1, 2010 - Sunday

8:45 am – 10:45 am Breakfast and Tour **Tara Del Sol**, a private condo property available for rent for those who don't prefer a traditional hotel or resort.

10:45 am – 1:00 pm



Ride to town, Tour **Black Orchid Spa**, Tour San Pedro Town Central Park, street vendors, artisans, water sports, and shopping. The main town on Ambergris Caye is San Pedro Town. It is a mile or so long and encompasses only a few street blocks. Most of the houses are wooden with zinc-roofed houses. San Pedro town is the heart of Ambergris Caye and offers a wide range of restaurants, bars, souvenir shops, and banks. Since the airstrip is also located in town, most resorts and hotels are only a hop, skip & a jump away.

1:00 pm Lunch with Local Wedding Coordinator - **I Do Belize Weddings**

## Familiarization Trip to San Pedro, Belize, Central America

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2:30 pm – 5:00 pm **Crazy Canucks Beach Bar/BBQ & Jam** - (need a little fun on a Sunday!)

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5:00 pm – 8:00 pm



Sunset Cruise aboard a Catamaran supplied by **SeaDuced by Belize**. Light dinner provided on board.

### August 2, 2010 - Monday

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8:00 am Breakfast at Victoria House – bags transferred to **Captain Morgan's Retreat**

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9:30 am – 5:00 pm Catamaran Sailing Trip – 2 Spot Snorkel, Caye Caulker (Lunch provided by **Island Magic Beach Resort**, Caye Caulker), Return to Captain Morgan's



Stop 1: **Hol Chan Marine Reserve** - Due to the protected status of the area, the fish populations have exploded. In waters as shallow as 5 feet, large schools of jacks, groupers, snappers and barracuda abound. Along each side of the cut grow healthy stands of corals and sea grass in shallow water, perfect for the beginner snorkeler. The more experienced swimmer can swim from one side of the cut to the other, experiencing shallow reef, drop offs over the steep sides of the "cut", and sea grass and sand beds in the middle of the channel.



Stop 2: **Shark Ray Alley** - The sharks and rays hear the dive boats approaching and begin to school in anticipation of bait being thrown into the water. When you arrive, you will see the surface often boiling with rolling sharks and stingray wings as they vie for the scraps.



Stop 3: **Caye Caulker** – Neighboring island to Ambergris Caye and the town of San Pedro. Despite the growth of tourism, Caye Caulker remains a small village with a distinct cultural flavor not necessarily found in large-scale tourist development. Almost all the businesses are locally owned, vehicles larger than golf carts almost never roam the streets, and lodging is small scale and relatively inexpensive compared to many other tourist destinations.

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5:00 pm - 7:30 pm Check in to Captain Morgan's Retreat Dinner at participant's expense.

## Familiarization Trip to San Pedro, Belize, Central America


### August 3, 2010 - Tuesday

8:30 am	Breakfast in Captain Morgan's
9:45 am – 1:30 pm	 Meeting with <b>Belize Tourism Board</b> and Lunch
1:30 pm – 5:00 pm	Golf Cart Tour of Island
5:00 pm – 6:30 pm	Transfer back to Captain Morgan's, freshen up
6:30 pm – 8:00 pm	Belizean Night Buffet at Captain Morgan's

### August 4, 2010 - Wednesday

6:30 am – 5:30 pm	 <b>Breakfast and Lunch Lamanai Mayan Ruins Tour</b> Enjoy the lovely turquoise Caribbean Sea as you make your way by boat to the Mainland of Belize, then up the Northern River. You will pass through small Belizean Villages, and meander through the jungle via bus to the Mayan Ruins of Lamanai. Lamanai is the Spanish historic name for Lama' an/ayin, which means, "submerged crocodile." The Royal Ontario Museum directed a archaeological research project at Lamanai between 1974 and 1986 during which over 940 structures were mapped. A long, unbroken sequence of Maya occupation at Lamanai occurred through Preclassic & Classic times, beginning by roughly 1500 BC.
5:30 pm – 6:30 pm	Freshen Up
6:30 pm – 8:00 pm	Dinner at <b>Rendezvous Restaurant</b>

### August 5, 2010 - Thursday

8:30 am	Breakfast at Captain Morgan's
10:45 am – 12:30 pm	Boat Transfer to town, lunch, meet remaining vendors including Musicians, Photographer, Press, Hair & Makeup and <b>Lemon Crush Belize</b>
12:30 pm	Transfer to <b>Tranquility Bay Resort</b> , check in, Dinner and overnight
7:00 pm	 <b>Music and Fire Dancing Show</b> Set to music, the evening will be lit up by the glow of the timeless tradition of fire dancing.

## **Familiarization Trip to San Pedro, Belize, Central America**

### **August 6, 2010 - Friday**

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9:30 am Breakfast at Tranquility Bay Resort

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10:45 am – 4:00 pm Check out and begin transfer to SPR for return to BZE

## What you need to know

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- Travel Agents only (one per agency) No spouses or companions
- Priority acceptance will be given to Certified Travel Professionals (CTC, CTM), however, the Fam is open to all members of the industry
- Applicants should have a minimum 2 years experience in the industry, and a vested interest in selling Belize as a destination
- Applications must be filled in completely, printed and legible.
- The cost to agents is \$489 CAD, and does not include the Belize Departure fee of \$38.50 US per person. Meals not included on the itinerary are at the participants own expense
- Participants are responsible for their own travel arrangements to meet the Fam in Belize City on July 31, 2010.

### Payment:

- Once applicants are notified of their acceptance in the Ambergris Caye, Belize Fam, they must submit a company cheque payable to Freedom Tours for the total non-refundable amount of \$489 CAD.
- Participants are reminded to purchase their own cancellation insurance.

### Program Includes:

- All domestic air, sea and ground travel
- Accommodation, based on double occupancy
- All excursions as per the itinerary with local guides
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary
- All entrance tickets and fees as listed on the itinerary

### Program Does Not Include:

- International Flights**
- Meals or other items not included in the itinerary
- Alcoholic beverages except as included in excursions
- Expenses of a personal nature
- Tips and gratuities
- International departure tax from Belize International Airport of \$38.50 USD.

### Travel Documentation

A valid Canadian or US passport is required for Canadians and Americans traveling to Belize. The passport must be valid for at least 6 months beyond the date of your expected departure from the country. Tourist visas are not required for stays up to 30 days. Visitors should carry some photo identification at all times.

### Travel Insurance

It is strongly recommended that participants in the Ambergris Caye, Belize Fam obtain full insurance coverage, including travel, cancellation, medical, evacuation and other emergency coverage, prior to departure.

### **Time**

GMT – 6. We do not observe daylight savings time

In the spring/summer, when it is 7 am in Toronto, it is 5 am in Belize

In the fall/ winter, when it is 7 am in Toronto, it is 6 am in Belize

### **Climate**

Belize has a sub tropical climate. The island of Ambergris Caye is pure tropics, with warm, moderately humid weather with a constant trade wind. The Fam is scheduled very early in the traditional Caribbean “Hurricane Season” which is from June through October.

### **Currency and Banks**

The Belize Dollar is tied directly to the US Dollar at a rate of 2 to 1. One US Dollar = Two Belize Dollars, and never fluctuates. All merchants, vendors, artisans, stores etc will gladly accept your US Dollars. You will receive your change in Belize Dollars at the rate of 2:1, so you will often receive mixed currency, some US and some Belizean notes. US Coins are not accepted. US Travellers checks are accepted at most establishments and banks.

There are several large banks on Ambergris Caye, including one Scotia Bank. The Scotia Bank is not however, electronically tied to the Canadian branches. All machines on the island accept most international bank machine cards.

### **Electricity**

Voltage is the same as the US and Canada. No converters are necessary

### **Food and Restaurants**

“Street Meat” is considered by some locals to be the best food on the island, and even tourists enjoy it as its safe to eat (but not necessarily the healthiest choice) “Street Meat” is the local term for food cooked by vendors on the street in the center of San Pedro Town

Aside from that all the restaurants are good, and range from gourmet to “street meat”. Belizean cuisine consists of Mexican, Mayan, Spanish and American foods. The seafood is caught daily, and the Fam is scheduled during Lobster Season. Our lobsters are the warm water spiny variety. Rice and beans is the Belizean basic meal and is served with chicken or pork.

### **Health**

Basic medical care is available on the island, with 24 hour “doctor on call”. Emergency medical care is available at one of the three main hospitals in Belize City. Please see your medical practitioner for recommendations on vaccinations.

### **Language**

The primary language of Belize is English. Most Belizeans however, also speak Spanish and Kriole.

### **Tipping**

Tipping is expected in restaurants and bars. Also, tour guides and charter boat captains should also be tipped. Tip as you normally would in Canada or the US.

## THE AMBERGIS CAYE/BELIZE FAM TRIP REGISTRATION FORM

Name : \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First Middle

Job Title/Designation: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: (M) \_\_\_\_\_ (F) \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Travel Agency: \_\_\_\_\_ Manager's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Agency IATA/TIDS # : \_\_\_\_\_

Address : \_\_\_\_\_ City : \_\_\_\_\_

Province : \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code : \_\_\_\_\_

Tel: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you visited Belize in the last 5 years? Yes ( ) No ( )

If yes, was the trip an organized fam tour?  Or own arrangements?

How many years have you worked as a Travel Agent? \_\_\_\_\_ Specialization : \_\_\_\_\_

In the course of your work as a Travel Agent, have you sold any travel or travel packages to Central America or Belize?

Yes ( ) No ( ) If yes, how many? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you tried or intended to market Belize to your clients?

Yes ( ) No ( ) If you answered Yes, please explain how you marketed Belize to your clients. If you answered No, please explain how, after the Fam, you will market Belize to your clients (eg direct mail, brochures, flyers, evening presentation, radio/TV, other):

\_\_\_\_\_

Please provide copy of passport showing particulars (all travel documents must be valid through a minimum period of six months from the departure date. Non-Canadian passport holders should check with the Consulate nearest you).

**I certify that I am of legal age, of good health and have medical insurance coverage, free from any criminal charges, and will follow the full itinerary as arranged by the Fam trip organizers.**

**\* Responsibility Clause:**

**“ The responsibility of the Romantic Travel Association of Belize (RTAB) and the Canadian Institute of Travel Counsellors(CITC), if any , is limited to that of common organizer and arises in connection with this educational tour only. The RTAB and CITC may act as agent for owners or contractors who provide other transportation or services relating to this tour. All tickets and tour itineraries are issued subject to the terms, conditions and responsibilities under which such other transportation and or services are offered or provided. RTAB and CITC shall not be liable for any loss, damages, injuries or death relating thereto.”**

I have read, understood and accept the items conditions and responsibilities set forth herein.

\_\_\_\_\_ Date : \_\_\_\_\_  
Participant's Full Signature

Special Requirements, if any, e.g. food allergies, etc... \_\_\_\_\_

- Responsibility clause must be signed before space can be confirmed.

**Please Fax or email this completed application to CITC before May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2010**

**Fax: 416-484-4140 Email: Fams@citc.ca**