



Press Kit

2009



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FACT SHEET

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GENERAL MANAGERS: Carlos and Isabelle Settle

DESCRIPTION: Tranquility Bay Resort has quickly gained a reputation as one of Ambergris Caye's premiere boutique properties. The serene and relaxing resort, which opened in February 2006, is located on 12 picturesque acres within Bacalar Chico National Park and Marine Reserve. Tranquility Bay offers a full-service restaurant and bar, top-of-the-line water sports equipment and an expert staff to assist with diving, fishing and numerous adventure activities. The 11 charming cabanas are situated on one of the finest beaches in all of Belize and are completely modern with a colorful tropical design and breathtaking views of the Caribbean Sea.

LOCATION: Tranquility Bay Resort is located inside the new Bacalar Chico National Park and Marine Reserve, recently named a UNESCO World Heritage Site, which is north of the town of San Pedro on Ambergris Caye. The resort's location parallels the magnificent Belize Barrier Reef, the longest unbroken living reef in the world and second largest behind the Great Barrier Reef.

RESTAURANT: The Tackle Box Sea Bar is Tranquility Bay's over-the-water restaurant and bar. The menu features the freshest locally caught fish in addition to beef, chicken and vegetarian dishes. The well-stocked bar is half of a wooden speedboat and offers mixed drinks, wine and, of course, ice-cold Belikin beer. Beach cookouts and barbeques are regular events and the full service bar is frequented by local characters.

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ACCOMMODATIONS:

Eleven casually elegant and private, beachfront cabanas grace Tranquility Bay Resort. There are seven two-bedroom, two-bathroom cabanas and four one-bedroom, one-bathroom cabanas, each with a loft, all constructed of concrete, stucco and mixed Belizean hardwoods.

Every cabana was designed to promote relaxation and rejuvenation and features hand-painted Mexican tiles along with plush, Caribbean-inspired furnishings. The resort's cabanas offer ceiling fans, air-conditioning, refrigerators and microwaves and a queen sleeper couch for additional guests or children, queen-sized Simmons Beautyrest beds and Egyptian cotton sheets.

ACTIVITIES:

Tranquility Bay Resort offers guests the opportunity to see everything Belize has to offer. The hotel offers numerous water sports and will arrange excursions for guests looking for adventure, excitement and insight into the history and wildlife of Belize.

The area surrounding Tranquility Bay is home to nearly 400 species of fish and 70 types of hard corals. Divers and snorkelers can explore an undersea paradise of mid-reefs, shallow sea gardens and deep precipitous walls with an abundance of colorful marine life. Anglers are steps away from world-class fishing. Bonefish, tarpon and permit make the area famous for flats fishing and the offshore atolls and barrier reef are Belize's main angling attractions.

WEDDINGS:

With its picturesque beach and full-service restaurant and bar, Tranquility Bay offers an unsurpassed Ambergris wedding location for couples. The resort can accommodate up to 60 people staying overnight and over 100 people for the ceremony and reception.

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ACTIVITIES FACT SHEET

Tranquility Bay Resort is ideally situated within Ambergris Caye's Bacalar Chico National Park and Marine Reserve. The area is home to nearly 400 species of fish and 70 types of hard corals. The 185-mile-long Belize Barrier Reef entices divers and the world-class fishing enchants anglers.

On-site water sports: Tranquility Bay offers Ocean Kayaks, Sunfish and Hobie Cat sailboats. Fishing, diving and snorkeling gear are available, as well as traditional Belizean fishing and diving boats.

Fishing: World-class fishing for dozens of species, including sight fishing for bonefish, tarpon and permit, awaits anglers just outside Tranquility Bay's front door. offshore atolls and Belize Barrier Reef are the main angling attractions and the area is famous for flats fishing, namely due to the year-round tarpon sight fishing. Yellowtail and mutton snapper, grouper, jack crevalle, barracuda, tarpon, permit, bonefish, sailfish, marlin, wahoo and dozens of other species are abundant. The resort has expert guides on-hand to take guests in search of their targeted species.

Diving and Snorkeling: For expert and novice divers alike, the area surrounding Tranquility Bay has countless magnificent dive sites, most notably the Belize Barrier Reef, the second-largest barrier reef in the world, which runs along Ambergris Caye. Divers and snorkelers can explore an under-sea paradise of mid-reefs, shallow sea gardens and deep precipitous walls with an abundance of colorful marine life. Guests regularly encounter friendly dolphins, nurse sharks, trunkfish, turtles, spotted eagle rays, grouper, huge green morays, giant jewfish and even migratory whales at certain times of the year. The resort provides experienced dive masters, and day trips by boat can be coordinated that include diving or snorkeling at Hol Chan National Marine Preserve, Shark-Ray Alley or the Blue Hole.

Tranquility Bay Resort arranges excursions so guests have the opportunity to see everything Belize has to offer. Visitors looking for adventure, excitement and insight into the history and wildlife can explore other cayes and the mainland by boat or small plane, or visit the countless historical and ecological sites of Belize. Some guests might even want to get in a round of golf.

Mainland Boat Tours: Numerous tours are accessible on the mainland by boat, including: Cave Tubing and Belize Zoo; Cave Tubing and Zip Lining; Altun Ha Jungle River Adventure; Manatee Watching and Snorkeling Adventure; and Lamanai Jungle River Adventure.

Mainland Plane Tours: Belize is a small country and a quick flight can take visitors to other adventure destinations, including: Maya River Adventure; La Milapa Reserve Trek; Baboon Sanctuary; Altun Ha; Belize Zoo; Cave Tubing and Zip Lining; Xanantunich and Zip Lining; and Mountain Pine Ridge.

Golf: For those who can't leave the clubs behind, the resort can even arrange golf. Caye Chapel's 18-hole championship golf course, an hour away by speedboat, is considered the best course in Belize and one of the top courses in all of Central America.

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AMBERGRIS CAYE FACT SHEET

- WEBSITES:** www.ambergriscaye.com or www.goambergriscaye.com
- LOCATION:** Ambergris Caye, the largest island in Belize, is located in the clear shallow waters of the Caribbean Sea, just off the tip of Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula.
- Ambergris Caye is 15 minutes by air or between 45 minutes and two hours by water taxi from mainland Belize. Maya Island Air and Tropic Air provide hourly flights that service both the Philip Goldson International Airport and Belize City Municipal Airstrip. Water taxi service is provided from the Maritime Museum in Belize City.
- CLIMATE:** Temperatures range from 75 to 95 degrees during the day, year round. A mild rainy season, from August to November, brings most showers in the late afternoon and evening. The water temperature is almost always around 82 degrees.
- LANGUAGE:** The official language of Belize is English; however most locals also speak Spanish, Creole and Maya.
- TIME:** Belize operates on Central Standard Time all year.
- CURRENCY:** The currency exchange in Belize is \$2.00 Belize to \$1.00 U.S. dollar. All businesses accept U.S. currency.
- TAXES:** Ambergris Caye has a 9% room tax for hotels and 9% sales tax on most goods and services. Belize has a US \$35.00 departure tax that is payable in US cash when leaving the International Airport.
- GEOGRAPHY:** Ambergris is a 30-mile long, flat, coral sand island, protected on the east by a living reef that extends 185 miles down the coast of Belize.
- FLORA & FAUNA:** Wildlife and plants are similar to that found in northern Belize and southern Mexico. Plant life for the most part consists of mangroves, littoral forest plants and several small shrubs. Fauna includes peccaries, raccoons, white-tailed deer and over 200 species of birds.

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REEL IN THE DAY AT THE TACKLE BOX BAR & RESTAURANT

After water adventures at Tranquility Bay in Belize, head to the Tackle Box

AMBERGRIS CAYE, Belize – Guests can enjoy incredibly fresh fish, seasonal lobster and conch at Tranquility Bay’s over-the-water Tackle Box Sea Bar. Local fishermen catch the seafood each morning for the restaurant while local chefs stir up native specialties. Beef or chicken and vegetarian selections are also available.

High-quality seafood and meals are a long-standing tradition with Tranquility Bay that began with Allan Foreman, a founder of the tourist industry in Belize. Mr. Foreman was the original builder and proprietor of the famous "Tackle Box Sea Bar" in San Pedro. Foreman brought a superior level of hospitality and service to the ocean-side restaurant years ago, and the genuine, knowledgeable and helpful staff keep that legacy alive.

In 1998, Hurricane Mitch destroyed the original Tackle Box structure, and the new Tackle Box was built under the guidance of Foreman, using the same style, colors and decor of the original. Over a decade later, the Tackle Box Bar is a feature of Tranquility Bay and is still serving up Belizean dishes while guests watch the sun set along the Caribbean Sea setting.

The Tackle Box regularly hosts beach cookouts and barbeques for hotel guests and friends. A colorful cast of characters can be found sitting next to the old wooden speedboat that serves as a full service bar. Guests might even see “Miss World,” a former visitor to the tropical oasis, while sipping on their famous Belikin beer.

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COOL COCO-CABANA

Tranquility Bay accommodations in Belize are tropically charming

AMBERGRIS CAYE, Belize – Tranquility Bay Resort is home to eleven cozy beachfront cabanas. The tropical and intimate setting makes the resort a peaceful getaway for all to enjoy. Tranquility Bay offers seven two-bedroom, two-bathroom cabanas and four one-bedroom, one-bathroom cabanas, each with a loft. Every cabana was designed to promote relaxation and rejuvenation.

The cabanas are constructed of concrete, stucco and mixed Belizean hardwoods with hand-painted Mexican tiles used for the kitchen and vanity countertops. Handsome, mixed Belizean hardwoods grace the ceilings and the living rooms; bedrooms and lofts have ceiling fans, which help keep guests cool during tropical nights. The design and island décor create an elegantly rustic beachfront atmosphere.

Beautiful Caribbean-inspired furniture includes a queen sleeper couch for additional guests or children. Each well-appointed cabana is comfortably furnished and delightfully free of telephones and televisions. The resort strives to create a relaxing vacation atmosphere throughout the trip.

The wide, white sandy beach runs the entire width of Tranquility Bay and there are million-dollar views from every cabana. Each well-appointed cabana is comfortably furnished and has a kitchenette with a microwave. The air-conditioned bedrooms offer queen-sized beds. Guests can rest their heads on Simmons Beautyrest mattresses covered in Egyptian cotton linens.

Tranquility Bay is “Where Dreams and Reality Become One.”

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SCUBA - SCUBA EVERYWHERE, YOU'RE GONNA GET WET

Tranquility Bay in Belize offers some of the best SCUBA diving in the world

AMBERGRIS CAYE, Belize – For expert and novice divers alike, the area surrounding Tranquility Bay has countless magnificent dive sites, most notably the Belize Barrier Reef, the second-largest barrier reef in the world, which runs along Ambergris Caye.

Divers and snorkelers can explore an under-sea paradise of mid-reefs, shallow sea gardens and deep precipitous walls with abundance of colorful marine life. Guests regularly encounter friendly dolphins, nurse sharks, trunkfish, turtles, spotted eagle rays, grouper, huge green morays, giant jewfish and even migratory whales at certain times of the year. The resort offers experienced dive masters, and day trips by boat can be coordinated for diving or snorkeling.

Tranquility Bay guests can enjoy a one- or two-tank dive and explore the Blue Hole (rated one of the world's Top 10 dive sites), Half Moon Caye, Lighthouse Reef and the Turneffe Islands. A visit to the Mayan sites of Altun Ha or Lamanai, by boat, is a great adventure as well. A popular trip is diving or snorkeling at the Hol Chan National Marine Preserve and Shark-Ray Alley, followed by lunch on the picturesque Island of Caye Caulker.

Tour operators are carefully selected and have demonstrated high levels of professionalism and diving skills. Interested divers can become certified through courses arranged at the resort with professional instructors. Courses include open water certification, advanced open water and even a refresher course. Once divers feel comfortable in the water, discovery in the underwater world and SCUBA diving can begin.

The colorful and tropical waters around Ambergris Caye stay at a warm 82 degrees year round, which is ideal for diving.

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NOW CASTING

Belize's Tranquility Bay offers world-class fishing for dozens of species

AMBERGRIS CAYE, Belize – Each year, anglers from all over the world travel to Belize to experience a diverse range of fishing opportunities. The offshore atolls and Belize Barrier Reef are the main angling attractions and the area is well known for flats fishing. Tranquility Bay Resort has opened its doors to anglers, offering top-notch angling for dozens of species in the surrounding area.

The waters of the Belizean Barrier Reef offer shelter to bonefish, permit, tarpon, grouper, cobia, barracuda, bonefish, rainbow runners, and triggerfish. Just beyond the reef, offshore atolls plummet thousands of feet, making them an oasis for sailfish, marlin, wahoo, mackerel, bonito, pompano, blue fin, black fin and albacore tuna.

World famous flats fishing is offered from the lodge and Belize is home to large numbers of the “Big Three” – bonefish, tarpon and permit. Ambergris Caye is one of the few destinations on earth where anglers have the chance at a “Grand Slam,” catching all three species on a single trip. Bonefish are by far the most numerous game fish in the area. One of the most highly-prized game fish in the world, the elusive permit, can also be found locally. However, a main attraction for flats fishermen is the sight fishing for tarpon that is available year-round.

Tranquility Bay Resort has expert guides on hand to take anglers who want to spin-cast, fly-fish or troll in search of their targeted species, on the flats or offshore.

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