

BELIZE WINTER GETAWAY

January 2026

WELLS GRAY TOURS
a world to experience



Altun Ha

Escape the Canadian winter on a 10-day journey through the natural, historic, and cultural treasures of Belize. This small Central American country offers incredible biodiversity, from lush rainforests to the world's second-longest barrier reef and over 400 offshore cayes. Explore ancient Mayan ruins like Xunantunich, a legacy of the civilization that thrived here for centuries. Belize's unique mix of cultures and languages reflects its rich past — English is the official language, and it remains part of the British Commonwealth. The country is also home to an astonishing range of wildlife, including jaguars, tropical birds, and thousands of plant species. With seven UNESCO World Heritage Sites and landscapes ranging from lowland Caribbean coast to the Maya Mountains, Belize is a nature lover's paradise. Discover why this vibrant, welcoming country is a key part of the Mesoamerican Biological Corridor on a journey you won't forget.



INTERNATIONAL



GROUP SIZE



ACTIVITY LEVEL

► Departure from:

- ❶ **BC Interior:** January 14, 2026 - 12 days
- ❷ **Vancouver Island:** January 14, 2026 - 12 days
- ❸ **Lower Mainland:** January 14, 2026 - 12 days

► Fares per person

- ❶ from **\$8,895** double/twin, **\$10,580** single*
- *Pricing details for all departures provided on page 2.

► Early Booking Bonus

\$250 discount on first 8 seats; **\$125** on next 4.

► Earn 165 Experience Points



Providing Quality Packaged Travel Since 1972

DEPARTURE INFORMATION

Your specific departure point will be confirmed at the time of booking. Passengers travelling from the BC Interior, Vancouver Island & Lower Mainland regions will begin and end the tour as follows:

- I BC Interior:** We depart on Wednesday, January 14 and fly from Kelowna to Calgary. We fly to Belize City the following day. We fly to Calgary from Belize City on Saturday, January 24. We fly to Kelowna from Calgary on Sunday, January 25. Transportation is provided from your pickup point on the day of departure, and back again when we return.
-
- V Vancouver Island:** We depart on Wednesday, January 14 and fly from Victoria, Nanaimo, or Comox to Calgary. We fly to Belize City the following day. We fly to Calgary from Belize City on Saturday, January 24. We fly home from Calgary on Sunday, January 25.
- Departure from Victoria:** For passengers in the Greater Victoria Area, transportation is provided from your pickup point on the day of departure and back when we return. Home pickup may be offered in the Greater Victoria Area depending on the number of people booked and coach size. The decision is made about 2 weeks before departure and you will be contacted about your pickup point and time.
- Departure from Up-Island:** Transportation is not provided to/from Nanaimo or Comox Airport. Please note that while we always prioritize convenient connections for our clients, sometimes it is not possible given the airline schedule and availability. You will be contacted regarding your schedule after final payment. Please request departure from Nanaimo or Comox at the time of booking.
-
- L Lower Mainland:** We depart on Wednesday, January 14 and fly from Vancouver or Abbotsford to Calgary. We fly to Belize City the following day. We fly to Calgary from Belize City on Saturday, January 24. We fly home from Calgary on Sunday, January 25.
- Departure from Vancouver:** Home pickup for clients in the Greater Vancouver Area may be arranged at the time of booking.
- Departure from Abbotsford or Chilliwack:** No transportation is provided to/from Abbotsford Airport. Please refer to the BC Interior tour fares below.

FARES PER PERSON

	Departure Point	Fares per Person	Notes
I	BC Interior	\$8,895 double/twin \$10,580 single	
V	Vancouver Island	\$8,995 double/twin \$10,680 single	• Please add 0.3% GST. • Single seats are limited. Please book early if you prefer to travel single.
L	Lower Mainland	\$8,945 double/twin \$10,630 single	

WHAT'S INCLUDED

► Meals

- **25 total:** 9 breakfasts, 6 lunches, 10 dinners

► Transportation

- Transportation to/from Kelowna, Vancouver, or Victoria Airport from the BC Interior, Greater Vancouver, or Greater Victoria Areas
- Flights to/from Belize City with stopovers in Calgary
- Current air taxes, fees & fuel surcharges
- 1 checked bag per person
- Transfer from Belize Airport to hotel
- Coach transportation in Belize for 7 days
- Hand-cranked ferry crossing of Mopan River
- Ferry from Belize City to/from Ambergris Caye

► Accommodation

- 11 nights accommodation & hotel taxes
- Luggage handling at hotels

► Key Highlights

- Baboon Sanctuary
- Butterfly Farm tour
- Xunantunich archeological site
- Green Iguana Conservation Project
- Ajaw Chocolate Cooperative tour & workshop
- Garifuna cultural dance & music show
- Snorkelling excursion to Hol Chan
- Sightseeing flight over the Great Blue Hole
- Altun Ha Mayan Ceremonial Centre
- Belize Museum & House of Culture
- Locally-guided tour of Belize City highlights

Attractions are subject to change. Please see Tour Policies for more information.

► Guides & Gratuities

- Expert local guides & naturalists
- Gratuities to local guides, drivers & naturalists

► Knowledgeable Wells Gray tour director



Activity Level 2

Moderate Activity: As a traveller you like a variety of activities and walking up to 2 km with breaks such as a guided walking tour is very doable for you without assistance.

You can stand for prolonged periods, negotiate a variety of terrain from cobblestone streets to moderate hills comfortably, and can climb two flights of stairs without assistance. This tour has lots of walking due to the historic nature of some cities, archeological sites, and other attractions, and when you are looking for birds and animals. Climbing a Mayan pyramid is optional. At airports, you must handle your own luggage and often walk long distances. You may need to handle your own luggage at hotels if luggage service is not available.

Walking poles are recommended. Walkers are not appropriate for this tour. The coaches cannot carry a scooter or motorized wheelchair. The tour director and driver have many responsibilities, so please do not expect them, or your fellow travellers, to provide ongoing assistance. If you are not capable of keeping up with the group or require frequent assistance, the tour director may stop you from participating in some activities or some days of the tour. In extreme situations, you may be required to leave the tour and travel home at your own expense; travel insurance will probably not cover you.



Tour Size 25

This tour is limited to 25 participants, making it a more intimate travel experience.





Great Blue Hole

ITINERARY

Wednesday, January 14

We fly to Calgary and stay overnight at the Delta Hotel which is conveniently located in the terminal.

Meals included: Dinner

Accommodation: Delta Hotel YYC

Thursday, January 15

Our flight continues to Belize City, arriving in the afternoon. Belize is two hours ahead of Pacific Standard Time. **Welcome to Belize!** Our driver and naturalist guide meet us and we drive to our hotel. A get-acquainted dinner is arranged.

Meals included: Dinner

Accommodation: Best Western Biltmore Plaza

Friday, January 16

We leave Belize City, headed for **San Ignacio**, about a two-hour drive west. On the way, we stop at the **Baboon Sanctuary** which protects some 2,000 monkeys on privately owned land. Called "baboon" in the local Creole dialect, the black howler monkey thrives throughout the sanctuary, as do nearly 200 bird species, including colourful parrots, hummingbirds, limpkins, manakins, and even toucans. We stay four nights at the **San Ignacio Resort**, an intimate hotel of only 26 rooms with a 10-minute walk to the bustling public market. It is nestled on a tropical hillside overlooking the Macal River. This family-owned hotel even hosted Queen Elizabeth in 1994.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: San Ignacio Resort

Saturday, January 17

At the **Belize Butterfly Farm**, watch flocks of colourful butterflies flutter and feed in a beautifully landscaped, tropical environment and learn about the amazing lifecycle. Next, we explore incredible **Xunantunich** (Maiden of the Rock). We ride across the crystalline waters of the Mopan River on a hand-cranked ferry to reach this stunning archeological site. It consists of six plazas surrounded by 26 temples. El Castillo rises 40 metres above the main plaza floor and features intricate, handcrafted friezes and stelae. Xunantunich may have been settled by Mayans as early as 1000 BC and was abandoned by 750 AD. Hidden by the jungle, it was rediscovered by a British explorer in the 1890s. Excavations are continuing and a burial chamber was discovered in 2016.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: San Ignacio Resort

Sunday, January 18

We visit the **Green Iguana Conservation Project**, spearheaded by our hotel which has been at the forefront of conservation for the threatened Green Iguana. An interpretive and educational exhibit has been designed to create a closer look at this amazing reptile, and to learn how vital they are to the ecological balance of the river habitat. Next, we go to the **Ajaw Chocolate Cooperative**. The scent of chocolate fills the air while you learn about the chocolate-making process, then

ITINERARY continued

Sunday, January 18 continued

roast and grind cacao beans to create your own chocolate drinks and candies. This workshop emphasizes traditional chocolate-making using minimal ingredients – pure cacao, honey, sugar, spices, but no milk to preserve the chocolate's true flavour. After lunch, we enjoy the Garifuna Experience which includes a short show of their **cultural dance and music**.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: San Ignacio Resort

Monday, January 19

This is a day at leisure to do as you wish. You may want to browse through the local market nearby.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: San Ignacio Resort

Tuesday, January 20

Leaving San Ignacio, we return to Belize City and take the ferry for the 1½ hours crossing to **Ambergris Caye**. In Belize, islands are called Cayes (pronounced "keys"). The most famous of these is Ambergris Caye and its small, vibrant town of **San Pedro** — an island situated 57 km from the mainland. The Caye is 40 km long and 1½ km wide and is known for its white sand beaches. We stay three nights at Sunbreeze Hotel. It is located oceanfront right in the town and has a pool, gardens and restaurant.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: Sunbreeze Hotel

Wednesday, January 21

We take a snorkelling excursion to **Hol Chan Marine Reserve** off the south end of Ambergris Caye. It was established in 1987 and protects 18 km² of coral reefs, seagrass beds, and mangrove forests. Over 160 species of fish have been recorded in the reserve, along with 40 types of coral, 5 species of sponge, 2 sea grasses, 3 species of sea turtle, and marine mammals such as dolphins and West Indian manatees. Spotted eagle rays and southern stingrays are common at the bottom of the channel. Lobsters, moray eels and sea anemones live among the rocky outcrops, and some of the many corals include brain coral, elkhorn coral, and finger coral. The mangrove forests act as nurseries for many fish species, and the seagrass beds have parrotfish, hogfish, and occasional turtles.

Meals included: Breakfast, Dinner

Accommodation: Sunbreeze Hotel

Thursday, January 22

The morning is free time in San Pedro. This afternoon, we take a thrilling flight over the **Great Blue Hole**, a giant submarine sinkhole off the coast of Ambergris Caye in Lighthouse Reef. The hole is circular in shape, over 300 metres across, and 108 metres deep. The site gained fame when Jacques Cousteau maneuvered his ship, Calypso, through the narrow coral channels in 1971.

Meals included: Breakfast, Dinner

Accommodation: Sunbreeze Hotel

Friday, January 23

We take the ferry back to Belize City. At the Mayan ceremonial centre of **Altun Ha**, we visit the Temple of the Masonry Altars which yielded the famous jade head buried with a ruler around 600 AD. Stroll through the ruin's two main plazas and 13 structures. A farewell dinner is planned.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: Best Western Biltmore Plaza

Saturday, January 24

We visit the **Belize Museum and House of Culture**. Discover Belize through exhibits that include jade artifacts from local Mayan temples, Belizean stamps and coins, and history of early mahogany trade including tools and equipment



Belize City

ITINERARY continued

Saturday, January 24 continued

used. Then our local guide takes us on a tour around **Belize City**, pointing out the impressive colonial architecture. The highlights include Baron Bliss Lighthouse, Memorial Park, former Belize City Prison, the 1812 St. John's Cathedral, the waterfront promenade, and National Handicraft Centre. Our flight leaves for Calgary in late afternoon.

Meals included: Breakfast

Accommodation: Delta Hotel YYC

Sunday, January 25

We fly home from Calgary with fond memories of our adventures in Belize.

TOUR NOTES

Documentation: A passport is required, valid for six months after return date. A visa is not required.

Currency & Expenses: The currency in Belize is the Belize dollar which is officially tied to the US dollar at a rate of 1 US\$ = 2 BZD. As of May 2025, the exchange rate is about \$1 Canadian equals \$1.45 BZD. However, US dollars are widely accepted, and you probably don't need to buy or bring any BZD. You cannot use Canadian dollars. Gratuities have been included for all group meals and for local guides, naturalists, and drivers. As this tour has been planned and priced eight months before departure, it is possible that exchange fluctuations could affect the fare, in which case you will be notified of the increase or decrease. Most meals are included in Belize.

Flight seating: We are unable to take requests for window or aisle seating on the planes. The airline will not accept them, as group seating is assigned as a block. If this is important to you, we suggest you take the "No Flight" option with a fare reduction of \$1,100 and book your own flight which allows seat selection.

Flight upgrades: Please enquire about current prices for upgrades on the flights from Calgary to Belize City and return. Premium economy and business class may be available.

Flight delays or cancellations: In the event flights are delayed or cancelled by airlines due to weather or other reasons, there may be additional costs to you. Wells Gray Tours will not pay for hotel rooms and meals during the delay. Most travel insurance policies cover expenses incurred for weather delays.

Health Clinic: Visit a travel health clinic two months before departure to discuss possible inoculations for this tour. Bring this itinerary. There are currently no required inoculations, but you may want to discuss Hepatitis A/B and tetanus.

Food Allergies: You must notify us no later than at final payment if you have a food allergy. This tour goes to some remote places where restaurants probably cannot satisfy all food allergies. An allergy causes medical distress, a preference does not. For some allergies, please consider bringing your own snacks or food items so you are not dependent on what restaurants are able to serve.

Triples are not available on this tour.

Single Travellers: Only 5 single seats are available. Please book early if you prefer to travel single, or ask us about our Partner List!

TOUR POLICIES

Payments: A deposit of \$700 per person is requested at the time of booking and balance is due October 14, 2025. By paying the deposit, you agree to the [Terms & Conditions](#), Activity Level and Cancellation Policy outlined. Payments can be made by online banking or cheque (1.5% discount on tour fare), or by Visa or Mastercard (\$5,000 limit per person on credit cards).

Early Booking Bonus: Receive a \$250 discount on the first 8 seats and \$125 on the next 4 seats for booking early with deposit. The discount is not offered after October 14, 2025.

Cancellation Policy: Up to September 12, 2025, the cancellation charge is \$100 per person. From September 13 to October 14, the cancellation charge is \$300 per person. From October 15 to November 7, the cancellation charge is 40% of the tour fare. From November 8 to December 8, the cancellation charge is 80% of the tour fare. After December 8, there is no refund.

Itinerary and Fare Changes: Our many suppliers may notify us about changes to the itinerary prior to departure and sometimes during the tour. We do our best to substitute a similar service if something cancels, but occasionally the only alternative is to provide a refund for the missed activity. Please note that if we are forced to cancel a tour component due to an issue beyond our control, the current penalties still apply if you choose to cancel the entire tour. Fuel surcharges

and changes to taxes, currency exchange rates, or other tour costs can occur at any time, therefore Wells Gray Tours reserves the right to increase fares due to such changes up to departure.

Travel Insurance: A Comprehensive Insurance policy is available through Wells Gray Tours and coverage is provided by Travel Guard. Policies purchased at deposit include a waiver of the pre-existing condition clause for medical and cancellation claims, otherwise policies can be purchased no later than at final payment. Medical questionnaire is not needed. Please contact us for details. If you have your own travel insurance, please read the policy carefully to be sure that you are adequately covered for medical, cancellation, interruption, and luggage. Please do not travel to Belize without medical insurance as a minimum.

Photo Credits: Wikimedia (Altun Ha) and Adobe Stock (all others).

Experience Points or E-points: This tour earns 165 e-points. Each time you travel on a Wells Gray tour, you earn e-points that are added to your account after the tour returns. One e-point equals \$1. Redeem your earned points on select tours or accumulate enough points to earn a free tour! Redemptions offered until October 14, 2025.

Consumer Protection BC Licences: Kamloops 178, Vernon 655, Kelowna 588, Penticton 924, Victoria 65842

WE PLAN.
YOU PACK.
NO WORRIES!

www.wellsgraytours.com
1-800-667-9552



Offices are open weekdays from 9 am to 4 pm. Book an appointment or walk-in and visit us. _____

KAMLOOPS
Head Office
250 Lansdowne St.
Kamloops, BC
V2C 1X7
250-374-0831

KELOWNA
2575 Richter St.
Kelowna, BC
V1Y 2R1
250-762-3435

VERNON
3206 35th St.
Vernon, BC
V1T 6B7
250-545-9197

PENTICTON
159 Wade Ave East
Penticton, BC
V2A 8B6
250-493-1255

VICTORIA
102-736 Broughton St.
Victoria, BC
V8W 1E1
250-590-7889