

# Bethel's Global Reach Mission Trip Belize

GOING | DOING



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- **Trip date: March 13-19, 2017**
- Purpose of missions: Infrastructure and Evangelism Trip – Building Home for a family in the region of Gayles Point, visiting Hospitals, Schools, & Churches, Citywide revival, and VBS!!
- Partner: Bethel's Global Reach (Lead Team) Lifetime Mission (Second Team).
- **Cost: \$1,850.00** (EVERYONE SHOULD BE PAID IN FULL)

- 1st payment due: 550.00 November 15, 2016
- 2nd payment due: 475.00 December 14, 2016
- 3rd payment due: 475.00 January 15, 2017
- 4<sup>th</sup> payment due: 350.00 February 1, 2017

**Payment Includes the Following:**

- Airfare
- Ground Transportation
- Food – Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner
- Hotel – Double Occupancy
- Translators / Security

**NOT INCLUDED IN COST**

- Additional foods
- Souvenirs
- New Missionary Applications Process
  - Go to [www.bethelsglobalreach.org](http://www.bethelsglobalreach.org) Go applications Fill out ALL **REQUIRED FIELDS**. click submit
- Logistics: Building a complete Home for a family in Gayles Point (Similar to picture shown)



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- Vacation Bible School at Galilee Gospel Chapel (150-200) children
- Nightly Revival (Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday)
- Community Evangelism

### **Additional information regarding the trip**

For those of you who are interested, here is some additional information regarding the trip. We will cover pretty much everything that you need to know

### **A Must:**

- Valid Passport
- Love for God
- Love for People
- Compassionate Heart
- Servant Leader
- Giving Heart
- Follow Leadership
- Friendly & Kind Spirit
- Transparent & Humorous

### **What to Bring**

- 1 carry-on, 1 backpack, 1 Carry on. (one suitcase per person.)
- Head lamp
- Toiletry Bag (your personal belongings, remember Liquids regulation for carry-on)
- Jeans, Sneakers, Hats, Comfortable Close Toe Shoes
- Tropical Clothing, no long sleeves necessary
- Sunscreen and bug repellent.
- Bring some snacks if you have preferences, Power bars are great.
- If you wish to bring any cash it is recommended that you bring small bills no larger than \$20.00, you may want to bring an additional \$100.00 to \$300.00 for gifts, depending on your spending habits and lifestyle.

### **In Belize:**

- We will be picked up at the airport via bus to our destination:
  1. Belmopan
  2. Our Road Trip is approximately 1½ hrs. Be prepared to be totally blown away with the beauty of the landscape, the people spirit of self-reliance, and it will bring back many memories of days past here in the United States of America.
- No individual tipping, your contribution for the trip will cover all tips to the local volunteers, drivers and the hotel staff if you want to give any additional tip please discuss with the team leaders first.

### **Back Ground on Belize:**

Belize is a unique country that incorporates the Caribbean Sea, the longest Barrier Reef in the Western Hemisphere, wonders and exotic wild life, and much, much more...Another unique feature of Belize is the population diversity. In the population of Belize, there are six major distinct people groups: Carib Indian-African Garifunas, African-European Creoles, North Americans, Mennonite, and East Indian immigrants. The official language is English, but you will hear many other tongues.

Belize is strategically located in Central America, and serves as a springboard to endless mission trips to Guatemala and Mexico.

### **Location:**

Caribbean, western one-third of the island of Hispaniola, between the Caribbean Sea and the North Atlantic Ocean, west of the Dominican Republic

We have villages around Belmopan where the team will be ministering.

You will be involved in evangelism. Ministering in the Mennonite (Amish) communities and also in the inner city community in Belize City. The team will possibly be staying Belize City or Belmopan depending on the skills talents and gifting, finally a day before departure is your free day and you have the option of going to the tourist island of Caye Caulker to relax and enjoy the beauty of the land

**Languages:**

English

**Currency:**

Belize currency exchange is extremely easy for American visitors. The Belize dollar is locked at \$2 BZD to the USD. You can see how much something is costing in USD when you go shopping. Most accommodations and tours as well as restaurants, shops, etc. are listed in BZ\$. Nearly everywhere readily accepts USD currency. Most also accept USD as long as you write your passport number or driver's license number on the back. Large bills (anything above \$20) are not accepted in cash. Shopkeepers generally ask you to spend a minimum amount.

ATMs are also available across the country, particularly in most tourist destinations- including Placencia, Dangriga, Belize City, San Pedro Ambergris Caye, Caye Caulker, Orange Walk, San Ignacio and Corozal.

**Geography:**

Belize is located in Central America and it is bordered to the north by Mexico, to the south and west by the Caribbean Sea. We are a diverse country with various cultures and languages. We also have the lowest population density in Central America with 35 people per square mile or 14 people per square kilometer.

Belize is also known for its extreme biodiversity and distinctive ecosystems. On the coast, there is a swampy area with mangrove swamps. In the south and interior there are hills and low mountains. Most of our land is undeveloped and is a part of the Mesoamerican biodiversity hotspot and it has many jungles, wildlife reserves, a large variety of plants and fauna and the largest cave system in Central America. Some species of Belize's flora and fauna include the mahoe tree, the toucan and tapirs.

**Population:**

**9,893,934** (July 2013 est.) **country comparison to the world: [88](#)**

**Age structure:**

- **0-14 years:** 34.6% (male 1,716,917/female 1,708,978)
- **15-24 years:** 21.5% (male 1,064,069/female 1,066,614)
- **25-54 years:** 34.8% (male 1,713,478/female 1,729,432)
- **55-64 years:** 5% (male 235,278/female 258,330)
- **65 years and over:** 4.1% (male 178,842/female 221,996) (2013 est.)

Population pyramid:

**Median age:**

Total: **21.6 years male: 21.4 years female: 21.9 years**

## HISTORY ON BELIZE

The first people to develop Belize were the Maya around 1500 B.C.E. As shown in archeological records, they established a number of settlements here. These include Caracol, Lamanai and Lubaantun. The first European contact with Belize occurred in 1502 when Christopher Columbus reached the area's coast. In 1638, the first European settlement was established by England and for 150 years, many more English settlements were set up.

In 1840, Belize became a "Colony of British Honduras" and in 1862, it became a crown colony. For one hundred years after that, Belize was a representative government of England but in January 1964, full self-government with a ministerial system was granted. In 1973, the region's name was changed from British Honduras to Belize and on September 21, 1981, full independence was achieved.

**Language:**

Come to Belize and you'll hear familiar words of the English language. In fact, we are the only English language-speaking country in Central America. **While English is the official language of Belize, Kriol is the language that we all speak.**

When you hear us, you know you're in a country unlike any other. Even our most up-tight citizens sound relaxed. We have a Caribbean lilt and our words seem a bit shorter. But don't worry, you'll understand everything and we may teach you a few phrases you don't know.

Here, even our language is a diverse adventure. Spanish, African-based Garifuna, Maya-Kekchi, Maya Mopan, Mandarin, German are just a few of the languages that form the unique dialects we speak throughout the country.

Here are a few different ways you'll hear "good morning"

- "Gud Mawnin" – Kriol
- "Buiti Binafi" – Garifuna

- “Buenos dias” – Spanish

### People:

From the moment you arrive in Belize – whether you are an adventure traveler, part of a family trip or in the country for a relaxing beach vacation – Belize people and culture make you feel as welcome and comfortable, like nowhere you’ve ever visited.

In Belize, our traditions and customs are varied and represent more than eight diverse cultures. For generations, the people of Belize have demonstrated a cultural commitment to preserve the country’s unique charms. This enduring promise to the land, the waters and you, our visitor, inspires all to achieve a genuine and intimate connection to a variety of extraordinary experiences.

We are truly a melting pot of colorful personalities, making our 321,115 residents the country’s greatest resource for tourism. **The Belizean people are made up of Maya, Mestizo, Kriol, Garifuna, East Indian, Mennonite, Arab and Chinese.**

There also are a number of expatriates in Belize from Canada, Europe and the United States – and many of them retire here. A blending of cultures has resulted in one of the happiest and most peaceful countries in the region and a widespread reputation as one of the world’s friendliest tourist destination.

In Belize (formerly British Honduras), English remains the official language, but the most diverse language in Belize is Kriol (Belizean Creole). Other languages spoken include Garifuna, Mandarin, Spanish and Maya.

### Weather:

One of the nicest things about visiting Belize is the weather. With an average yearly temperature of 84° F (29°C), it’s always warm, yet comfortable. Coastal sea breezes as well as our jungle and rainforests keep you cool even in the hottest summer months while winters can be cool but never very cold. In short, the climate is pretty much near perfect. Even in winter (November-March) the temperature in Belize rarely falls below 60°F (16°C), while the summer (May-September) is around 86°F (30°C). Humidity is also fairly consistent at around 85 percent.

Belize’s dry season is between February and May and has significantly lower rainfall than the rest of the year. When it does rain, it is usually in mild, short bursts.

June through December is our wet season, when parts of the country receive up to 150 inches of rain and the heavy, sometimes wild storms associated with the Caribbean occur, usually in the late afternoons. The most frequent rainfall usually happens in June or early July and is punctuated by a break in late July or August known as the "little dry."

We also have a hurricane season, and while statistically Belize does not attract many major direct hits, it does get its share of severe tropical weather with high winds and rain. However, we have cooperative early warning network that we share with our neighbors. Our safety, evacuation and other procedures have proven to be effective, so no worries.

