THE SAN PEDRO SUN

VISITOR GUIDE





August 4, 2005

FREE

The Island Newspaper
Ambergris Caye, Belize
Central America

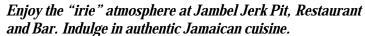


Sailsports owner and instructor, Chris Beaumont, teaches the great art of sailing a Catamaran on the azure Caribbean waters of La Isla Bonita.

*Hobie Cat Sailing with Sailsports Belize *Steam Baths -Mayan style *Jamaican/Belizean Cuisine at Jambel's Jerk Pit

The recently excavated sauna at Pook's Hill, revealing even more interesting facts about the Mayas that inhabited this part of the world.











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More foreign subscribers than any newspaper in Belize!

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WORD OF

WEEK

THE

Language can link us with other cultures, no matter how foreign the tongue may be. In an effort to share this form of communication with our audience,

The San Pedro Sun proudly presents its newest addition to the weekly paper - Words of the Week. This week, we will present a few common phrases in English and give you their Spanish transla-

tions. In the near future we hope to include other languages that may interest our valued readers! Enjoy!!!

ENGLISH Where are you going?

SPANISH ¿Adonde vas?

ENGLISH Let's go to the beach! **SPANISH** ¡Vamos a la playa!

ENGLISH Can I borrow your pen?

SPANISH ¿Puedo prestar tu/su bolígrafo? **ENGLISH**

Do you want to go see a movie together? **SPANISH** ¿Quieres ver una pelicula juntos? **ENGLISH** Do you want something to eat?

SPANISH ¿Quieres algo de comer?

Greetings to my visiting friends

On behalf of the people of San Pedro Town, I extend a warm welcome to all visitors arriving to our shores. I assure you that your trip to "La Isla Bonita" will be no ordinary vacation. Our island is famous for its rich cultural diversity, where Mestizos, Creole and Garinagu blend to form a unique encounter. While here, I encourage you to explore the Caribbean Sea and find Belize's abundant treasures. Hol Chan Marine Reserve and Shark-Ray Alley are just two of the many spots where you can enjoy our coral reef formation and abundant and breathtaking sea life. San Pedro is also home to world-class fishing and scuba diving.

For the more adventurous, "La Isla Bonita" offers a wide array of water sports and for those looking to get a glimpse of the mystical world of the Maya, these historical ruins are just a short expedition away. You will also be able to discover Belize's vast cave systems and many natural sanctuaries that are home to our country's unique flora and fauna.

Whether you are spending your honeymoon at an exclusive resort or looking for an adventurous, yet romantic escape, San Pedro is surely the place to be. I invite you to explore our home and see the many wonders it has to offer.

We welcome you with open arms. Bienvenidos a San Pedro!

> Elsa Paz, Mayor, San Pedro Town



Alexandra Nicholson, Moved here 25 years ago from Rockford, Illinois - USA Now at Maruba Resort.

"I do promotional fun events for tourists."



John Gilmore, Ocala, Florida - USA. Staying with friends up north. "Paying some bills trying to find a way to live here full time. I came here March 14th, 1984 and started buying property."

QUESTION: What are you doing here?



Al & Janet Kruebbe, Sequim (pronounced Squim), Washington, USA Mortgage Brokers, Staying at the Palms "We are checking on the progress of our condo that is being built north of the cut."

WOMAN ON THE BEACH

by Harriette Fisher

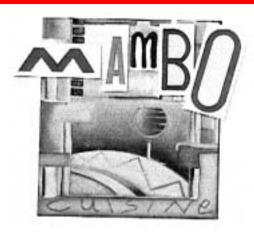
Watch for Harriette walking the beach with her camera. What question will she ask you?



Pamela (Cookie Lady) Cork, Came here eight years ago from Marin County, California – USA Resident, Boca Del Rio Area "I am a humble purveyor of baked goods."



Jurgen Janz, Beach front apartment in San Pedro Town
"What I do best – nothing! Really, I am almost finished building my 3rd house here. I came here seven years ago from the Black Forest in Germany."



Evening Dinner

Our Award-Winning Restaurant invites
you to Enjoy a Masterful Blend of
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RSVP 220-5010

Some of our Specialties: Caramelized Char-Grilled Shrimp, Fish Carpaccio, Bruschetta, Shrimp Paté and Fried Calamari, Jerk-Seared Scallops served in a citrus beurre-blanc Mambo Combo - Snapper Fillet topped with Shrimp and a Papaya Salsa Mesquite Grilled Seafood Plate - Lobster, SnapGrouper, Calamari, Shrimp and Scallops with Fresh Vegetables

Try our "Decadent" Chocolate Soufflé

Take a short ride under the stars

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Spa Treatment & Roundtrip Transportation
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Fido's Dock 10:45 a.m. Returns 3 p.m. or 5 p.m.

Also Available:

Sea Salt & Clay Body Mask Massage Energy Work RSVP 220-5011

Hobie Cat Sailing with Sailsports Belize

Want to relax and participate in one of the most visually exciting activities you can do while in San Pedro? When sailing a Hobie Cat on the fabulous crystal waters of the sea you can be sure to enjoy the lush seabed and abundant marine life beneath you while soaking up the sun. San Pedro is fabulous for sailing adven-

Donate to these worthy San Pedro organizations!

San Pedro Roman Catholic School – Brightening the minds of San Pedro's youth. Contact Principal Roxanni Kay – 226-2550, roxanicruz@yahoo.com

Green Reef – A non-profit organization dedicated to the promotion of sustainable use and conservation of Belize's marine and coastal resources. Contact greenreef@btl.net

Lions Club of San Pedro – Relies on income from its Friday and Saturday Night BBQ to support the needy community. Help a great cause. Contact President Nita Marin – 226-2064.

Saga Society – A non-profit "humane society" to address the stray cat and dog population in San Pedro. Contact 226-3266.

Alcanzando a los inalcanzables

– Helping the youth of San Pedro against the battle with drug addiction. Contact Virgina Wallace at 226-3018.

San Pedro High School -

Helping students "Anchor in Success." Contact Principal Angel Nuñez or Chairperson Mrs. Martha Guerrero at 226-2045/ 2010/2043.

SPAIDS Commission -A non-profit organization that helps educate and inform the society in ways to help AIDS victims and their families.

San Pedro Public Library - A public service that helps promote the importance of literacy and education for the betterment of lives and the community. 206-2028.

The Governor General's Music in Schools Program, San Pedro Chapter - c/o San Pedro Town Council, P.O. Box 54, 226-2198, g_gmusicinschoolsspc@yahoo.com An organization created to develop and promote the love of music and the practice of the arts throughout Belize.

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Learning to sail is extremely fun, and the 'practice' on the beach prepares you for an adventure like no other!

tures, and one in particular is sailing a Hobie Cat. But, just what is a Hobie Cat? The Hobie Cat is a small racing catamaran that is mainly used for racing and personal use. In many beach towns, like San Pedro, you will find a wonderful array of catamarans known as "Hobie Cats" on the

beaches. Different models range from 14 feet in length to 21 feet, and beams range from 6.8 feet to 8.2 feet, mast heights range from 20 to 33 feet.

For novice sailors, there are many opportunities to learn how to sail this simple boat. Chris Beaumont, instructor and owner of SailSports

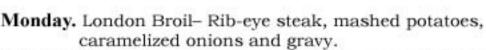
Belize is a very humble individual that takes the time to teach you "the ropes." At first, students are introduced to basic safety and why it is important to know what you are doing while onboard. During the ride, one can get a gorgeous view of the island and a scenic view of the sea beneath you. Chris stated that he has had the catamarans for three years and has served the island with SailSports Belize for the last six years. He explained that the catamarans are very easy to use and caters to anybody, young and old. They can reach high speeds near 15 to 20 miles due to efficiency gained from the wind speed and proper maneuver. After an on land lesson, San Pedro Sun staffers were given a ride around the sailing area while Chris explained who has the "right away" in the sea. While on board, Chris instructed us to sit on the upwind side of the boat (wind on your back) just in front of the tiller, facing the sail. Balance is a big factor and we learned that having our weight further outboard as the boat begins to tip or heel over with the wind in the sails or balance tuck one foot under the hiking strap as it helps for balance and control of the boat.

Steering the catamaran was a thrill too, it required a lot of little things to remember, but after a few tries and gained confidence, it was a piece of cake. Steering the boat gave a first hand feel for control of the boat. To steer the catamaran, one has to push the tiller away from you to turn towards the wind (Tack), or pull the tiller towards you to turn away from the wind (Jab). In keeping the movement of the tiller to a minimum helps to prevent over-steering. This also helps to keep the boat moving in a straight line as you pay attention to other watercraft and sail adjust-

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Wednesday. Chefs choice—A different dish each week, guaranteed to delight.

Thursday. Burrito grande—oversized burrito with choice of chicken or beef.

Friday. Fish and chips, English style. A Friday treat.



Nightly specials

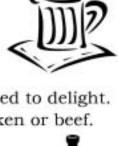
Monday is Martini night, 2 for 1 on all martinis.

Tuesday is margarita night, 2 for 1 margaritas.

Wednesday is Wine night, free glass with every entrée.

Come treat yourself, you know you deserve it.









Mayan Sauna discovered at Pook's Hill

Reprinted by permission of Channel 7 and Dr. Jaime Awe, Archaeologist, NICH

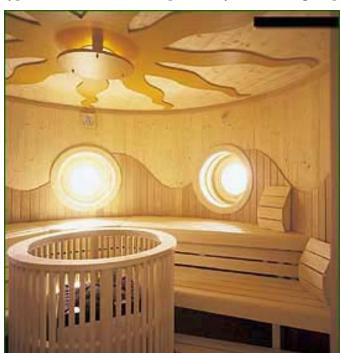
Tourists and locals alike visit health spas across Ambergris Caye to find rest and relaxation. Throughout the world, one common treatment these facilities offer is a visit to the sauna to get cleansed. Is the sauna something new or has it been available for thousands of years? In Belize, evidence proves that saunas have been enjoyed for centuries.

Sitting about half an hour away from Teakettle, on a rough road that cuts right through the rainforest, one may find Pook's Hill a bustling hive of archaeological activity. 15 international archaeology students are currently excavating the site: breaking stone, making several maps of the area, and clearing away one thousand years of overgrowth brick by brick.

This project is part of the Belize Valley Archeological Reconnaissance **Project - a homegrown project directed** by Dr. Jaime Awe. Leading the dig is **University of London student Christophe** Helmke. Along with Dr. John Morris and NICH President Yasser Musa, Awe explained that Pook's Hill, though a very small site, is very important to understanding how the Maya lived.

According to Dr. Jaime Awe, "Pook's Hill is a relatively small site. I mean this does not compare in anyway to Cahal Pech and Caracol; this would be a very small plaza at Caracol.

But despite its size, this site is incredibly important because it provides us with some new information on certain types of activities that have previously



Common saunas used in modern day spas worldwide aren't a new thing. The Mayas were using them way before our time!

never been recorded for Belize."

Most important among those is the sweat bath. It is comparable to what we know today as a sauna. This structure has been mapped and detailed by students and although it may not look like much from outside (not much more than a very low doorway), it is no less a revelation.

Speaking to Jules Vasquez of Channel 7 News, Dr. Jaime Awe explained that, "Right up to 1996 no sweat bath

> had ever been recorded for the country of Belize, or indeed for the eastern Maya lowlands. This sweat bath at Pook's Hill represents the first of its kind in this part of the Mayan World." However, what sets this sweat bath apart from any other ever discovered in the Maya world is the architec-

Dr. Jaime Awe continues, "There is a very small entrance into this small chamber and the chamber is accessed by a series of steps that goes

up to what we call a bench and then above that, the roof of the structure is domed. The room is also circular. Many sweat baths that have been found before do not have this shape. Many of them are rectangular or even squared and some of them are circular. But, this one is domed and it is domed in

such a way that the Maya were using the technique for vaulting that we find at major sites."

According to Dr. Awe, domed structures, or domed arches are incredibly unusual for the Maya. "In fact, we know the Maya never used the true arch, they used the corbel vault and that forced them to have very long narrow rooms. The domed arch is even rarer because not only do we not find the true arches in the Maya region, but this domed arch meant that they had to work it in such a way that it was vaulted on all sides. It was a very precarious type of architecture and yet they managed to do it here at Pook's Hill. And, like I said, this is the only example of a domed arch that I know of."

And, so what happened under this domed arch? Dr. Jaime Awe stated, "The technology that they use is that they have these very small rooms. We are standing out here and we're sweating so imagine if you go into this little chamber which has a doorway that's not even three feet high and about a one foot and a half wide and these benches and are high so there's not much space in there. But, they build the benches high enough that you are nearly touching the roof. Then, they build a fire where they have stones and those stones start to heat up and you throw water and there's steam. What happens to heat is it rises. You're sitting up on those high benches and man you'll be hot and sweating in no time giving the

Continued on page 11





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Casa De David Condominiums - \$76,000/\$86,000 US - 1/1 layout condos located on Sea Grape St. Great rental income potential! One 2/2 unit available for \$150,000.00 US.

Captain Morgan's Condominiums - \$150,000/\$389,000 US - We currently have four separate one bedroom / one bathroom units available for sale at this prestigious resort. Terms available on 1/1 units. One 3/2 unit is now also available!

Two Canal Homes -- \$99,500 US / each- These 3/1 homes are both located south of San Pedro Town. Each have canal access and have very nice upgrades. Fenced yard and come furnished and ready occupy! Casa Cayo Estates - \$240,000 US - 60 acres in Cayo District, water & electricity available. Buy all or a portion.

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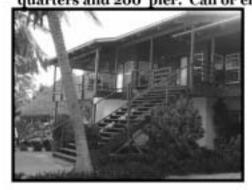
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Coconut Beach - \$120,000 US- Home sites available north on Ambergris Caye. These 100'x200' sites are on some of the prettiest beach on the island. Sites available are 2A, 3A, and 8A. Call or stop by for a map. Price is per site. Club Caribbean Home Sites - \$14,950/\$85,000 US- Beachfront and interior

home sites located south of San Pedro on Ambergris Caye. These sites are some of the most affordable on the island of Ambergris Caye! NEW-Backfilled sites with seawall coming soon \$130,000 US each. Reserve Yours Today! Selling fast! Santa Matilda Subdivision Home Sites - \$35,000/\$65,000 US - Affordable interior home sites available North on Ambergris Cave.

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Island Park Estates Home Sites - \$115,000/\$285,000 US - 80' beachfront home sites with bulkhead, native vegetation, high ground. Interior sites also available.

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Jambel's Jerk Pit- An Irie Dining Experience

San Pedro Town boasts a wide variety of services for its visitors. Today, tourists and locals alike can choose from many tours, bars, hotels and restaurants. Restaurants in particular have come a long way. Today, the options are endless, and one can select from local, American, Chinese, Cantonese, Italian and even Thai cuisine. In our community, a restaurant that has come a long way and has been able to keep its restaurant standards as one of the best on the island, is Jambel's Jerk Pit, owned by Fitzgerald Brown. Without a doubt, cuisine plays a vital role for people visiting a different country. In order to satisfy so many individual palates, selection is important, and this week The San Pedro Sun is pleased to feature Jambel's Jerk Pit, which continues to serve exquisite Jamaican cuisine to locals and visitors alike.

Jambel's is certainly a unique place, as it is the only restaurant that brings Jamaican style cooking to its table. Owner, Fitzgerald Brown was born on October 31st, 1964 in the land where reggae music is like a heartbeat to its residents - Montego Bay, Jamaica. The Sun had the privilege to go one on one with Fitzgerald and get to know a little about his restaurant and the style he uses to satisfy his customers. "My dishes are all based on the Jamaican and Belizean dishes, that's where it got its name, Jam-Bel Jerk Pit". Almost immediate success was achieved utilizing the perfect recipe - his grandmother's homemade cooking techniques com-



The Jamaica Mi Crazy Shrimp is a platter served with three kinds of meats: Lobster, Shrimp and Chicken. It's a combination unlike any other!

bined with the Belizean cuisine he has grown to love so much. The restaurant's décor and theme depict the legacy of Jamaican reggae idol Bob Marley and needless to say, the jovial reggae beats plays, as you enjoy your meal. One wall is a dedicated mosaic of Jamaica geography and history; a work of art by itself. Although the restaurant has been rec-

ognized in Belize magazines, one of there greatest reviews comes from the *Washington Post*, where they are praised for being one of the top restaurants in the island.

His customers are always pleased after they have had a chance to devour one of his dishes. On this occasion, we tried the ever popular "Jamaica Mi Crazy Shrimp" which was

a mouthwatering treat. The plate came with three different types of meat, chicken, lobster and shrimp; a combination unlike any other. The lobster was done on the grill with spicy garlic jerk butter sauce and the chicken was wonderfully marinated in jerk spice from Jamaica and cooked tender, "off the bone".

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The Paca

The Paca, (Agouti paca), is pronounced "PAH kuh or PAK uh" and belongs to the family Agoutidae. The scientific names for the two most common species are Agouti paca and A. taczanowski. The paca is a large rodent that has a number of special adaptations that suit them to their lifestyle, therefore they have flourished in a large geographic area and are found in tropical and sub-tropical Americas, from East-Central Mexico to Paraguay. It is called paca in most of its range, but in Mexico it is called tepezcuintle. In Panama they are called conejo pintada (painted rabbit), and are endangered in some localities because of over-hunting. In Belize the paca is known as a gibnut. Highly prized as a food item by many Belizeans, the gibnut is more apt to be seen by a visitor on an occasional restaurant menu than in the wild. It is also known as "The Royal Ratí" as it was served to Queen Elizabeth on her most recent visit to Belize.

The paca measures 24½ to 32½



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outside deck & great ocean view out over the water ice cold beer fresh-fruit tropical drinks

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[7 days a week, 10am to 6pm]
50 cents off all local bottled beer
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* * *

Over the water in the heart of san pedro off of the san pedro water taxi pier at the end of black coral street...

!!! the Tackle Box is alive !!!

ESTABLISHED 1977...REBORN 2005



The Royal Rati was served to Queen Elizabeth on her most recent visit to Belize

inches (62 to 83 centimeters) long, and most weigh 14 to 22 pounds (6.3 to 10 kilograms). They have a small, thick head; stout body; short, slender legs; and short tail. They look rather piglike in the season of abundant fruit supply because they store up body fat and then live off this fat. There are five long toes on each back foot and four on each front foot. Pacas are covered with coarse fur that is brownish or black. There is no underfur and the belly is white. On the Pacific side of Guatemala they are a redish brown, and a more tawny orange color on the Belize Caribbean slope. Four rows of white spots line each side of their body, and they have unusually large cheek pouches. The pouches form roomy chambers that help the animal make sounds.

Pacas do not climb and therefore live on the forest floor where they are dependent on arboreal mammals to knock fruit from trees. Their habitats are usually near water, and they seem to prefer small swift streams to larger rivers. Pacas are good swimmers and will usually try to escape danger via water. They generally live in pairs but forage alone and den in separate burrows. Their burrows are simple tubes and are usually about two meters below the surface. Burrows usually have several entrances, some of which are camouflaged with leaves. They also have very deep voices that they use in social gatherings, where they may make grunting noises or stunningly loud barks. Very complex cavities in the cheekbones of their skulls are thought to act as resonating structures for these vocalizations.

Pacas are nocturnal, leaving the burrow at night along pathways to water and feeding grounds. Pacas are herbivorous; their diet includes leaves, stems, roots, seeds and fruit. Apparently avocados and mangos are favored by pacas, and when eating, the paca sits on its haunches. They also browse on leaves and seedlings, depending on these less digestible foods in time of fruit shortage. They have a specialized

digestive tract with an elongated large intestine that is adapted for leaf digestion through bacterial fermentation. They produce special feces that they eat and re-digest to derive greatest benefit from the nutrients (much as rabbits do).

Pacas are considered agricultural pests, sometimes causing damage to yam, cassava, sugar cane, corn and other crops. They are often hunted in areas where these crops grow and are often killed for their meat, which has an excellent flavor and commands the highest prices of all meats—domestic or wild—at market. Wild dogs and ocelots also prey on pacas.

The females usually produce two litters a year of one or two young. Young pacas are most likely to die in the season of fruit shortage from November to March, perhaps because they are more easily taken by predators when long hours are spent foraging for food and may be in poorer condition during this season. In the wild, pacas live on an average of three and a half years, but can live more than seven years in captivity.





THE SAN PEDRO SUN VISITOR'S GUIDE

Tourist Information

Belize Tourism Board - 223-1910.

Belize Tourism Industry Association (BTIA) - 227-5717.

San Pedro Tourist Guide Association 226-2391.

Church Services

San Pedro Roman Catholic Church Sun. Mass: 9 a.m. English; 11 a.m. Children's; 7:30 p.m. Spanish; Sat.: Confessions 5-7 p.m; Mass or Communion Service every night at 7:30 p.m.

Living Word Church Service Sun. 10:45 a.m. Bible study Mon. 7:30 p.m. We do Christian charity work. 226-2950.

Assembly of God Church on Angel Coral St. T-W-Sat.-Sun. at 7:30 p.m. Christian Radio FM 101.3.

IMPORTANT #s

Emergency 911 Crimestoppers 800 922-TIPS Police 226-2022

Police 226-2022 Fire 226-2372

Wings of Hope - Medical emergency air ambulance. Phone: 223-3292.

Lions Health Clinic - 226-4052; emergencies 600-9071 or Hours: Mon.-Fri., 8am to 8pm; Sat., 8am - noon.
Los Pinos Clinic 602-6383 and 226-2686.

San Pedro Chiropractic Clinic 226-4695

Hyperbaric Chamber - 226-2851, Dr. Otto Rodriguez - 600-0287 or 226-2854. Antonia Guerrero - 600-5475 or 206-2152. Eleazar Portillo - 610-4560 or 226-3195.

San Pedro Polyclinic II - 226-2536. 8-12 and 2-5, Mon. to Fri. Emergencies 226-2555/2918 or 606-3864.

Ambergris Hopes Clinic: 226-2616 US Embassy - 227-7161

Canadian Consulate - 223-1060 Mexican Embassy - 223-0193 Guatemalan Embassy - 223-3150 Honduran Embassy - 224-5889

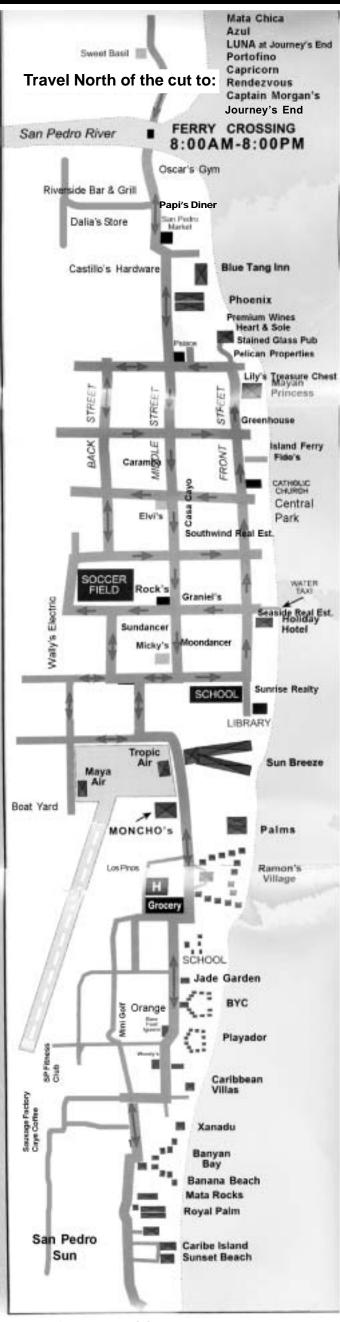
Miscellaneous

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Green Reef A non-profit organization dedicated to the promotion of sustainable use and conservation of Belize's marine and coastal resources. greenreef@btl.net

San Pedro AA - 226-4464, 2660

Saga Society A non-profit "humane society" to address the stray cat and dog population in San Pedro. Phone 226-3266.



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PIER LOUNGE - Home of the "World Famous Chicken Drop" every Wednesday night. Daily drink specials and two-for-one happy hour. Located beachfront in the Spindrift Hotel. Phone 226-2002.

THE SAN PEDRO SUN VISITOR'S GUIDE

Dining Out...

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JADE GARDEN RESTAURANT - Delicious Cantonese cuisine, steaks, seafood and vegetarian dishes. 226-2506. Coconut Drive. Takeout available. Closed Tuesday.

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unique dining experience on the beach at Banyan Bay. Serving breakfast, lunch and dinner daily. Phone 226-3739 ext. 135.

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PORTOFINO'S own "LE BISTRO" - One of the newest & most talked about restaurants on the island. Meet our boat at 6:30 p.m. at Fido's Dock for a complimentary ride to one of the best culinary experiences you will have while in paradise. For reservations, call 220-5096.

RENDEZVOUS RESTAURANT AND BAR - The most romantic spot in town featuring award winning chefs. Thai and French cuisine blended to make paradise taste like heaven, or so our customers say. Free Rendezvous Wine tasting from 11.30a.m to 4p.m fermented, blended and bottled here on the property. Open for lunch and dinner. Call 226 3426 for reservations and transport options.

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The San Pedro Sun

Visitor Guide

EVERY WEEK we print a <u>new</u> edition covering the "good news" about San Pedro and Belize!

Contact the San Pedro Sun for more information. spsun@sanpedrosun.net (501) 226-2070 www.sanpedrosun.net

August 4, 2005 • Visitor Guide Page 9

Reef Brief by Green Reef Peace Corp Volunteer

Get your Paddles ready!

The Ambergris-Caye Lagoon Reef Eco-Challenge kayak race is just around the corner. Teams have been busy brushing up on their paddling skills for the 13.5 mile race around the southern tip of Ambergris Caye. The race will commence at 1:00 p.m. on Sunday, August 7th at the old football field. Contestants will paddle north toward the cut at Boca del Rio and loop around heading south along the oceanfront towards Boca Chica. Cutting through Boca Chica, teams will finish the loop by heading north back to the old football field. After finishing the race, there will be a ceremony to award cash prizes and gift certificates that were graciously donated by local businesses of San Pedro.

Three different racing categories will be competing simultaneously. There will be a competitive category which racers have a choice of using a single or double kayak. This will be an interesting category as the strength of two paddlers has better

chances at overpowering a single kayak but never underestimate the endurance and determination of a single individual. Hint, hint: Ali we're rooting for you! The second category is for single kayaks only and the last category is for our recreational participants in double kayaks (Malibu II sit on tops).

We welcome the community of San Pedro and all the visitors on the island to cheer our teams on as they paddle through the beautiful environment of Ambergris Caye. Teams will take pleasure kayaking among lush mangroves, lagoons, and coral reef ecosystems. The Eco-Challenge Committee has organized this race to promote ecotourism and conservation on Ambergris Caye. The abundant flora and fauna biodiversity found on La Isla Bonita is dependent on the health and preservation of these natural habitats. A portion of the funds raised from the event will be put towards enforcement needs of the **Bacalar Chico National Park & Ma-**



Challengers, brace yourselves for the upcoming eco-challenge on August 7th!

rine Reserve. Please contact Green Reef at 226-2833 for any additional information.

This is an opportunity for families and friends to gather on the beach or on the Costa Maya grounds and support the conservation of Ambergris Caye. Every voice is important and cheering the teams on is one step further to the protection of our home. Hope to see you there!!!

A New Face

Green Reef Environmental Institute would like to send out a warm welcome to Nicole Vasak. Nicole is our new Peace Corps volunteer and will be working as Project Director for Green Reef. Nicole comes all the way from Long Island, New York. We are excited to have a new member on our team and look forward to working with her on the future projects of Green Reef.

Grumpy and Happy

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Call us at 226-3420 or email us at diving@grumpyandhappy.com

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Jambel's Jerk Pit - An Irie Dining Experience Continued from page 6

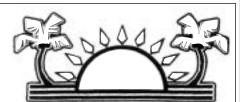
Complementing it was homemade rice and beans, boasting a rich flavor rarely matched on the island, coleslaw, a slice of orange and a jerked garlic sauce that was also homemade. Mmm, a dish that is certainly recommended; one can even get it mild, spicy or hot. Jambel's has many other plates to choose from. Maybe a taste of the delicious coconut curry chicken, done Jamaican style of course, or you can try their sweet and sour jerked pork chops, which are to die for! Do you prefer vegetarian? No problem mon'! They have dishes like jalapeño pastas, jerk tomato pasta or stir fry veggies.

There is also a wide variety of dishes to choose from, all meats and spices are jerked. If you can make it for breakfast, choose among many plates like eggs rancheros which is served with bacon, ham or sausage and your choice of toast, fry jacks, Johnny cakes or tortillas. Hankering for dessert? The key-lime pie is said to be the "best on the island", a sweet surprise that surpasses all expectations; dare to try it for yourself!

Adding to the "irie" feeling is the attention to detail. Parents get a break when dining out with children. Thanks to Jambel's, children get their own kids' menu, and as a treat, they also get a coloring page and crayons to color. With this much attention, it is easy to understand why Fitzgerald's business has such staying power. "The restaurant has been serving the island for seven years," he states, "and now with its popularity and undeniable taste I proudly own two more branches, two here and one in Belize City." When asked what is next for the restaurant, he stated "our next move is to have a Reggae, Caribbean jerk buffet on Wednesday's, which will be a night where you eat till you

Overall the experience was a heavenly experience and the dishes were flawless, one that will make you certainly come back for more. The restaurant opens Monday to Sunday from 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Come have yourself an "irie" experience dining at the Jambel's Jerk Pit, yea mon'!

The San Pedro Sun welcomes you to the Annual Costa Maya Festival 2005!





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We at **Southwind Properties** specialize in the listing & sale of fine island properties - Homes, Condos, Hotels, Commercial, Income-Producing Properties & Land for homes or large parcels for development. Be sure to meet with Marianne, Lori or Claudio to discuss your particular needs. **Southwind Properties** prides itself in being there full-time for full service and full disclosure for all your real estate needs. Call 226-2005/2060 or E-mail southwind@btl.net for more information.

Condos/Commercial/Residential

BELIZEAN SHORES – Located 3.5 miles north of San Pedro Town Center – beautiful resort – great investment! All units fully furnished. Available condos: **(D13)** Condo 4C is a lower unit on the north side of the resort. It is situated on the northeast side of the building and stays cool throughout the day. **Great price at \$175,000US.**

(\$49) Condo 2A is a lower unit on the north side of the resort one building off the beach. *Priced to sell at \$185,000US*.

Secluded piece of Paradise 2.6 acres with more than 435' of beachfront and another 458' of lagoon water frontage on the western coast of Ambergris Caye. Price \$400,000US.

San Juan House & Restaurant (N17) Located in the San Juan area, this large parcel, 1680 sq. yards, has over 200' of lagoon frontage encased in mature mangroves with a natural underwater cave that goes out to the sea. The wildlife is incredible and the area is quiet and peaceful, yet close to town. There is a restaurant and bar, separate kitchen and storage building and living quarters on the well manicured property. Please inquire for further details. Serious inquires please

Commercial Building (P38) – Commercial property in the heart of San Pedro Town on Angel Coral Street with a 2 story concrete/wooden structure with 4 rental spaces on lower level and a 1 bed/1 bath apt on upper level! Corner lot approx. 95' x 45'. Excellent investment for commercial property in this location at only \$225,000US. Price has been reduced to \$200,000.00 US – bring an offer!

Raw Land

Caribbean Coves (G29) located 3 miles up the west side of Ambergris Caye.

Watch the beautiful sunset from this beachfront property. 68' x 200' – only
\$79.900US – terms available.

Club Caribbean - off the beach lots starting at \$15,000US.

Holiday Lands (M53) Parcel 2615 – measures approximately 78' x 72', only two rows off the beach. Asking price \$60,000US.

Flying Fisherman (D16) lot 300' off the beach, measures 50' x 78'. Only \$19,000US

REDUCE FOR QUICK SALE -\$11,000US

Palm Bay Club (M49) Lot #94 – 3rd row lot, 100' x 90'. \$16,000US Paradise Coves (W23) Located 3 miles north and only 150' from the sea, this property has a septic system, 20,000 gallon cistern and a concrete foundation awaiting completion. An excellent investment in this desired area. \$120,000US. Robles – 3 side by side off the beach lots each 92' x 190' for \$60,000US each.

Mayan Saunas

Continued from page 5

technology that they are using. And, the dome keeps the heat trapped."

The interview between Dr. Awe and Mr. Vasquez continued, "We know that sometimes when people have fevers etc. they would be brought in and made to sweat so they could get rid of or release some of the diseases that they had. We also know that women, either during child-birth or after childbirth, were often brought into the "pibmah" or again had a steam bath, to cleanse them. People would go into them and they would beat each other's back with

branches. And by doing that, it would open the pores so that you sweat some more so part of it was just to get rid of whatever things that are bad in your body. We do that sometimes."

When the Mayas abandoned the site in the Terminal Classic Period, in about 950 AD, they left the sweat bath full of shards of their pottery. Dr. Jaime Awe, "When the Mayas abandoned here it looks like they smashed a lot of offerings at the entrance and even on top of the steps of this little chamber. Many of those objects include things like figurines like whistles which are musical instruments and beautifully carved vases."





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The San Pedro Sun Virtual Taste Trip.

Throughout the country of Belize, one of the most typical dishes one may find in restaurants and homes is the traditional Rice and Beans. Usually made with coconut milk, this dish is generally served with stewed chicken and potato salad or coleslaw. The following are the recipes for both Rice and Beans and Potato Salad.

Rice and Beans

(Serves 4)

- *1 cup red kidney beans
- *1 cup thick coconut milk
- *1 clove garlic (optional)
- *Salt & Pepper to
- *2 cups uncooked rice
- *1 onion, sliced
- 1. Soften beans (soak first) with garlic.
- 2. Boil until tender and whole.
- 3. Add the milk, onion and season-
- 4. Wash rice, then add to the beans.
- 5. Cook over gentle heat until liquid is absorbed.
- 6. Stir gently with a fork, and add a little water from time to time until rice is cooked.





Delicious rice and beans, served with stewed chicken and either creamy potato salad or coleslaw, is a main dish served in homes and restaurants throughout the country of Belize

7. Serve hot with a meat dish. (Some favorite meat dishes with rice and beans are: stuffed baked chicken, stew chicken, stew fish, fried fish or meat balls).

Dad's potato salad

*12 Large Potatoes, Cooked, Peeled, and cubed

- *1 Medium Onion, chopped
- *6 Hard Boiled Eggs, chopped
- *1 can mixed vegetables
- *1 can vegetable salad
- *Salad cream (to your taste)
- *Evaporated Milk (also to your

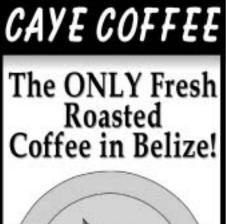
Mix all ingredients together to desired thickness and consistency and enjoy!!!

When cooking with coconut milk, rice has a tendency to to become quite sticky and might stick at the bottom of the pan. To avoid this problem, be sure to place a griddle

Cooking Tip:

under the pan and reducing heat to low once all liquid has been absorbed. Try not to stir the rice and beans until the last minute to make it light and fluffy.

Open Daily Call 226-2683





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Free Island Delivery Call for Wholesale Prices Located in San Pablo next to the Sausage Factory Phone 226-3568 www.cayecoffee.bz





Sailing the Hobie Cat with Sailsports Belize Continued from page 4

ments. When the front of the sail, just behind the mast, luffs or flutters in the breeze, you lose power. To start moving, pull the sail in just enough to stop the sail from fluttering. The Tell Tails are ribbon like markers on the sail that say where the wind direction is going. Tell tails react to air flowing over the sail and will help you see that the sail is pulled in too tight or too loosely, it also serves as an indicator for turbulence. These are the things one needs to know when operating a Hobie Cat. At first it may seem like a lot of work, but to be able to have the chance of viewing the island from the water and operating the boat yourself it is unlike any other. The catamaran is designed for people

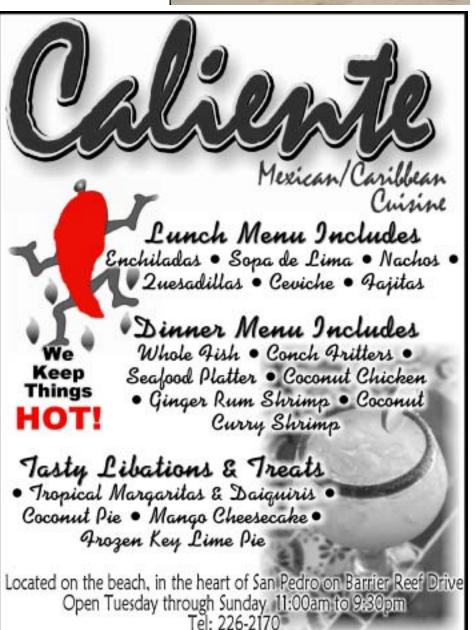
who want to experience something different from a regular boat ride, and the chance to feel the wind and water on your face is a great sensation.

So, come check out Hobie Cat Sailing with the crew of SailSports

Look for the brightly colored Hobie Cats on the beach at Sailsports Belize. Learning to navigate the waters of La Isla Bonita with skilled instructors enhances your watersports experience in San Pedro.

Belize and have yourself a blast sailing on the open sea. They provide all the equipment and instructions you need to have a safe and enjoyable ride. Chris will give you a short safety talk and then launch the Hobie through the surf and into the turquoise waters of the sea. The joy of this trip is to give the non-sailor the true feeling of what a Hobie Cat can do and the sort of speeds that can be obtained from these boats. Get first hand experience in sailing and feel the wind roar past you as the Hobie skims across the water. During this wild and exhilarating experience a very competent and qualified captain ensures your safety and enjoyment to the fullest!









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Come in and try our
Blue Water Frappuccino
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At the Sunbreeze Hotel
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Madre De Cacao

Sayab (Maya)

Scientific Name: Gliricidia sepium **Plant Family:** Fabaceae

Description: A tree growing to 10 meters high; trunk: thin, to 30 centimeters in diameter; bark: brown, somewhat rough; leaves deciduous, divided into 7-17 leaflets each three to seven centimeters long; flowers bright prink to white, in dense, muliflowered racemes five to 10 centimeters long; pods dark brown, 10-15 centimeters long by 1-1.5 centimeters wide.

Habitat: Forests, fields, roadsides, and planted as living fence posts.

Traditional Uses: Boiled, cooled bark water is useful for washing tired, burning, or irritated eyes - slice a piece of bark eight centimeters by 2.5 centimeters and boil in one cup of water for 10 minutes; strain through a cloth twice and use to wash eyes. Seeds and bark are pulverized and mixed with ground corn



The flowers are considered edible and quite delicious when cooked with eggs.

to kill rats. Mash fresh leaves and apply as poultice for wounds, ulcers, boils and diaper rash.

In Mexico, an excellent brown soap known as Cacahuananche is made from the bark. It is suitable for washing hair, skin and laundry. The fresh flowers are eaten as a vegetable, primarily when cooked with eggs. According to Standley and Steyermark (1946), cattle feed on the leaves, which are toxic to rodents and



variety of uses.

Research Results: Aerial parts of Madre de Cacao in a 1:1 ethanol-water extract were shown to have anti-inflammatory activity in rats at a dose of 0.375 milligram per kilogram (Dhawan et al. 1977). Insecticidal activity of petroleum ether extracts of leaf, flowers, fruit, and root was observed against Aedes aegytpi (yellow fever mosquito) (Sievers et al. 1949). Chemical analysis of the plant yielded flavonoids and carbohydrates (Dayal 1985) and proteids (Lavin 1986).

This column is **NOT** intended to be a guide for self-treatment of a medical problem or as a substitute for qualified medical advice. As with any health problem, a qualified physician should be consulted before taking any medication. The intent of this column is to give an overview of the pharmacological properties of Belizean plants. Articles re-printed by permission of the author.



• Ambergris Caye's latest trendy restaurant, is now open. Serving Palm Tree Cuisine, a fusion of Central American and Caribbean delicacies, fund offers a selection of fresh local seafood, tender meats and exotic vegetables prepared by our renowned chef.

Menu selections include: Jerk Seared Sea Scallop Crouton, Smoked Oyster Bruschetta, Spinach Pesto Goat Cheese Salad, Rib-Eye Steak Argentino, Almond Nut Crusted Grouper, White Chocolate Pudding laced with a cardamom anglaise sauce, Strawberry & Mango Ice Parfait.

boasts an atmosphere of relaxed elegance and style, with inventive cuisine in an enchanting setting.

Serving breakfast, lunch and dinner...

At Journey's End Resort Reservations: 226-2173



Wolfe's Woofers by **Dennis Wolfe**

Buying Lumber

"I need two sacks of cement and some rebar," I said to Ellis.

"O.K.," Ellis said. "She'll write it up for you in the office."

As the order was being written, Steve pulled up in his golf cart.

- "What's up, Steve?" I asked.
- "Charlie sent me down here to buy some lumber for him," Steve said.
- "What do you need?" Ellis asked him.
- "I'm supposed to pick up some two by fours."
- "How long do you want them?"
- "Oh, man," Steve said. "Charlie didn't say anything about that. I'll have to go back and ask him."

He drove out of the lot and I walked out to get the sacks of cement and rebar loaded into my golf cart. Just as we finished, Steve came driving back up.

- "O.K." he said to Ellis. "I'm going to need eighteen two by fours."
- "All right," Ellis said. "How long do you want them?"
- "Oh, Charlie and I are building a little storage shed," Steve told him. "I want them for a long time."





Trivia Tidbits

*An adult sitting in a relaxed position inhales approximately one pint of air with every breath.

*Guinea pigs were first domesticated by the Incas, who used them for food, in sacrifices, and as household pets.

*Sharks can be dangerous even before they are born. Scientist Stewart Springer was bitten by a sand tiger shark embryo while he was examining its pregnant mother.

*Flamingoes feel safest when they are crowded together, hundreds in a

*The Roman historian Pliny was so impressed by garlic and its perceived powers, he listed no less than 61 medicinal uses for the pungent bulb. Among them was that of warding off vampires, restoring hair loss, and preventing warts.

*Flamingos are not naturally pink. They get their color from their food, tiny green algae that turn pink during digestion.

*Tuna swim at a steady rate of nine miles per hour for an indefinite period of time — and they never stop moving. Estimates indicate that a 15-year-old tuna travels one million miles in its lifetime.

*The palms of the hands and soles of the feet contain more sweat glands than any other part of the body.



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- 1 bed courtyard suites \$ 123,500.
- 1 bed balcony suites \$57,500.
- **❖Eden Park Villas** luxury 2000 ft2 2 bedroom beachfront now selling! Palms \$ 450,000.
- Paradiso \$ 495,000.
- **Imperial** \$ 595,000.
- **❖Villa del Mar new custom built beachfront home,** 1 ac, pier, 3 bedroom \$975,000.
- ❖Casa Grande Palmeros Point Beach Club. New 3 bedroom 3 ½ bathroom beach home fully furnished and self sufficient \$675,000.
- ❖The Villa Turquesa at Mata Grande designer 3 bedroom beach home with pier and optional adjoining beach lot \$ 975,000.
- ❖Villa Aurora custom built home. 3 bedroom, 3 bathroom. Pool -\$675,000. ❖Tres Cocos Garden Home 2 bedrooms with caretaker quarters. Location!
- **♦Ocean view** 3 bed/2 bath concrete home with roof top deck. \$ 210,000. **❖Duplex home** close to the Yacht Club \$ 125,000. Reduced to only
- Caye Villas Beach villas with pool.
- 2 Bed 2 bath fully furnished \$394,000.
- 2 bed 3 bath fully furnished \$ 395,000.
- **❖Mi Casa.** Rental suites with spacious top floor owner's quarters and loft apt. \$650,000.
- **❖San Pablo home** Flamboyant Park area. 2 bed, 1 bath home \$165,000
- **❖ Casa Flores** income producing triplex on double lot. \$350,000.
- ❖The Castle 10 apt complex \$525,000. Drastically reduced: \$400,000

UNDEVELOPED PROPERTIES

- ❖In town beach lot! Commercial or residential. \$ 490,000.
- **❖Beach Lot** next to Sunset Beach resort \$ 475,000.
- ❖5 acre island on the reef at Turneffe Offers! ♦ Boca Ciega 4.5 acres 170ft beach front, \$ 350,000.
- ❖Near Mexico Rocks 178ft beach front 2.4 acres \$ 534,000 Sold
- **❖Mata Grande** 100ft x 200ft beach front \$ 225,000 − under contract. ❖Punta Arenas 200ft beach front 3 acres \$ 425,000 – Sold
- **❖Rocky Point** 2 x 1250ft 30 acre beach front parcels \$1100 per foot!
- **❖Buena Vista Point** Ocean view 75ft x 150ft \$ 79,000.
- **❖Laguna Estates** ocean view lots from \$20,000.
- Laguna Estates commercial tracts & islands Inquire!
- ❖Caribbean Coves 200ft ocean front \$ 150,000 under contract **❖San Marcos 2 adjoining** 50' X 100' lots - \$35,000 each
- ❖2 adjoining Alta Mar 100ft x 100ft lots \$65,000 each.
- All prices are in US dollars and subject to change without notice. For further details on these properties and much more call your AMBERGRIS CAYE SPECIALISTS.





Tropical Lounge Cuisine served in one of the most BEAUTIFUL settings on Ambergris!

Try our famous frozen Mojitos and signature drinks and enjoy the best stocked bar on the island!!! Sample such dishes as:

Plantain crusted shrimp with a papaya chili sauce Crab, scallop and shitake stuffed grouper drizzled with a rum-g-mango glaze!!!

And don't forget to save room for dessert!!! We make the best ice cream on the Caye right on the premises here at Rojo Lounge

5 miles north of San Pedro, come by Island Ferry or golf cart Open for lunch and dinner, Tuesday through Sunday



A new level of relaxed luxury on North Beach, Ambergris Caye. Azul combines the space and privacy of fine private villas with the amenities and services of a world class resort, all on 400 feet of beautiful beachfront and ten acres.

For more information, please contact us at 226 4012 or e-mail info@azulbelize.com



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