Exploring Southern Belize at Parrot Cove Lodge

Nestled between the reef and rainforest, Hopkins is a sleepy little village with an idyllic atmosphere. Parrot Cove Lodge has taken advantage of this location - offering guests rooms with amazing views of the ocean and mountains, and a wonderful ambiance and service. Belizeans are invited to enjoy a bit of Paradise this summer!

A young cook tends to the lobster on the grill at Caye Caulker’s Lobster Fest 2007.

It's a postcard view from Jude Beach Villa.
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 Garifuna 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 formations 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

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Where did you take your San Pedro Sun & Visitor Guide? Take a photo of you and the paper and send it to us at: spsun@sanpedrosun.net

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More foreign subscribers than any newspaper in Belize!
Exploring the southern region of Belize is often overlooked in favor of the cayes or jungle. As The San Pedro Sun found out, however, there is a place that is flanked by both the sea and jungle. Hopkins, in the Stann Creek District, has that extra commodity of being on the coastline, plus it is backed by the Maya Mountains that attract so many, and offers so much. It is a sleepy little town, with quaint homes and great vistas, where nature is fertile and thriving. Resorts on this beautiful stretch of Belizean land have managed to capture some truly amazing settings on which to grow and develop.

One such resort is the Parrot Cove Lodge. Owners Brad and Esther Paumen have brought luxury and comfort, along with an appreciation for the bounty of nature, into their beach villas and poolside rooms. Upon arrival at the Dangriga airstrip, a friendly and efficient manager, Ralph Mesh picks us up for the scenic drive to Hopkins. Along the way, he points out different landmarks, and tells us a bit about the development on Hopkins. It’s quite a revelation to see the mountains in the background as we drive along the highway, and then a turn into a dirt road flanked by marshes and swamp which indicates that we are heading towards the coast.

According to Ralph, the location of Parrot Cove Lodge in Hopkins offers the best of both worlds to visitors. While some are looking for some R & R, the sand beaches or pool offer just that. Others looking for a jungle adventure laced with a coastal getaway also get their fix when teaming up with Jaguar reef L and Tours tours. Da Parrot Villa and Jude Beach House provide secluded comfort and privacy, just like home!

Swab Caye $2,100,000 US
5 acre Private Island located in Ambergris Bay. Located only few miles from Leonardo Di Caprio’s Island Blacadore Caye.

Beach Lot $119,000 US
Beachfront lot 60x120’ located in Ambergris Bay. Beautiful white sandy beach and grass free sea bottom.

Beachfront lots overlooking the reef, 3 side by side beachfront lots 12.7 miles north of San Pedro Town. 75x140 each $500,000 US per lot. Plus 3 second row lots right behind it 75x114 each $500,000 US per lot. Buy all six lots for $1,800,000 US.

Blue Reef Condo $399,000 US

For Sale: $250,000 US
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An adventure between the reef and rainforest – Parrot Cove Lodge
to enjoy such great activities such as jungle hikes, cave exploration, sightseeing ruins, horseback riding, bird watching and more. Guests can enjoy excellent snorkeling and diving with all arrangements through Parrot Cove and the tours through Hamansi dive shop. Their amenities, including a pool, tours, restaurant and bar, and beach home, caters to a range of clientele looking to make their stay a fun-filled one.

Our tour of the grounds begins with their first villa: Da Parrot Villa, a one storey building stocked with all the amenities of a family getaway, complete with kitchen, dining area and luxurious bedroom and bath. You can imagine yourself checking in and forgetting all your cares. Curl up and relax with a good book; strap on your hiking boots and head out for a good old fashioned hike in the jungle; or slip on your bath suit, and either head out to the pool, or to the beach! The possibilities are endless, and with the incredibly helpful staff on hand, there is almost nothing that you can’t have or enjoy.

The Jude Villa is our next stop, and we admire its distance from the main resort, noting that it offers even more escapism. With its own little beach area, complete with lounge chairs and shady trees, it’s a picture perfect setting for couples to frolic, or families to enjoy quality time with each other. Filled with locally made furniture and equipped with all the amenities of home, Jude Villa offers what many visitors are looking for, comfort and

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Parrot Cove Lodge

rustic luxury in a different world.
Walks on the beach can be a fun adventure in itself, as the setting is not just sea and sand, but lush vegetation and vistas. It is easy to lose oneself in the surroundings.

The treat is not over however. How about a wonderful stay over at the newly built Parrot Cove Beach House? Luxurious and all-encompassing, this beach house provides that extra touch of elegance for your stay at Parrot Cove Lodge. Enjoy the Jacuzzi, big screen TV’s and cozy dining nook, two separate bedrooms and a large porch for gatherings and enjoying the sunrise. Sleep in sumptuous hand-carved beds and either cook your own gourmet meals in your private kitchen, call for room service or head into their restaurant, where you can have their head chef prepare some amazing Belizean dishes, with fresh and flavorful ingredients. Your wish is Parrot Cove Lodge’s command. Grab a drink at the

Artists in the family!
Chatting with owner Esther Paumen revealed that she was an artist who enjoyed her time in Belize and used it to her advantage to create some wonderful pieces, such as this work in progress. The best part is that it is now becoming a family effort, with daughter Andrea putting in her creative poet’s touch to the painting. By adding a touch of Belizean prose and humor, they hope to create a masterpiece for their guests to enjoy when staying at their home in Belize.

The Parrot Cove Beach House is a newly constructed unit that affords comfort and luxury for large families or guests simply looking to enjoy their space and privacy. Handcarved beds and full service kitchen, dining room and bathroom (Jacuzzi included) are all in place to make your stay a wonderful one.
As has become customary, the 2007 Caye Caulker Lobsterfest was a tremendous success. Belizean mainlanders, island locals, and tourists congregated at La Isla Carinosa over the weekend. With much thumping music, contests, icy drinks, and lobsters cooked in every form imaginable, Caye Caulker was the place to be. From delectable lobster shish kebabs to scrumptious lobster ceviche, to finger-licking lobster barbeque, to mouthwatering lobster salad, to lobster omelet’s, lobster fritters, coconut curry lobster, stewed lobster, lobster burgers, it was certainly a Belizean Caribbean Thanksgiving.

What started off as an overcast Friday morning quickly Continued on Page 10

Lobsterfest in Caye Caulker

During the hottest parts of the day, revelers drifted towards the split hoping to find reprieve from the at times scorching sun. The Lazy Lizard Bar at the Split was at its best with its famous frozen drinks and ice cold beers.

Lobster ceviche, deep-fried lobster nuggets, Lobster tacos, Lobster burritos, Barbecued lobster, Lobster kabobs, and coconut curry lobster, among others were a huge hit among the fest goers.

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Continued on Page 10

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RENDZVOUS 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 11:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Fermented, blended and bottled here on the property. Open for lunch and dinner. Call 226 3426 for reservations and transport options.


HACAL KIK - Delectable home baked breads, pastries and desserts. Offering breakfast and lunch specials and take-out meals. Catering available. Open Mon. through Sat. 8am to 7pm. 226-3115.

BEACH ‘N’ KITCHEN - Yummy breakfasts, beach ‘n’ lunches! Daily Lunch Specials and treats! Near the Palapa Bar, one mile north of the bridge. Call 226-4456.

WET WILLY’S - World Famous Ladies Night every Wednesday night! Plus, great lunch and dinner specials! Great drinks over the water! Come visit us or call 226-4136.

CAPTAIN MORGAN’S RETREAT - Savor a taste of Temptation Island. Underneath a starry night enjoy the exquisite meals prepared by our expert chefs. A small boat ride takes you to one of San Pedro’s guilty pleasures.

CAPRICORN RESTAURANT & BAR - Enjoy our magical menu by sun or starlight. Indulge in fresh seafood and USDA steaks at a quaint, tropically luxurious restaurant on the beach. Reservations recommended. 226-2809.

PORTOFINO RESTAURANT AND GREEN PARROT BEACH BAR - Meet our boat at 6:30 p.m. at Fido’s Dock for a complimentary ride to one of the best culinarian experiences you will have while in paradise. For reservations, call 220-5096.

SUSET GRILL - Offering local and international cuisine. Open 7 days a week for lunch and dinner. Located on the lagoon side. 226-2600.

PASTA LA VISTA - Authentic Italian Cuisine, pizzas made on homemade garlic herb bread. Open 4-10pm daily. Pick-up, delivery, dine-in. 226-2651. Located at the end of Tropic Air Strips.
The Lobsterfest was an energetic celebration of the yearly harvest which brought visitors and locals to enjoy music, dancing, frozen drinks, the crowning of Miss Lobsterfest and of course, lobster - in every culinary form imaginable.

Sun and sea were also in high demand, as fest revelers swam, frolicked, and enjoyed the calm, crystal clear blue waters around the island.

gave way to shining skies. Hundreds of festival goers descended on Caye Caulker on Friday alone. Unfortunately, there were not enough water...
Parrot Cove Lodge Continued from Page 6

bar, and head on out to the beach and lounge around enjoying your well-deserved break from the world. Either way, you can rest assured that you will be pampered and taken care of in every manner.

Parrot Cove Lodge caters to groups for business staff parties and retreats, family reunions, wedding anniversaries, weddings, special family dinners, birthday parties, conferences, etc. A iso, this is a wonderful resort to bring the family! This summer, exploring your Belizean back yard is not far away. It is a hop, skip and five miles on the Southern Highway. Take a much needed break without breaking the bank. This summer, great discount rates are being offered to Belizeans looking to enjoy themselves. How can you pass up the opportunity to stay in one of their luxurious villas? Don’t fancy a villa? Regular poolside rooms are also available with all amenities (swim & snorkel gear, etc.) included. Keep in mind that all accommodations also include complimentary continental breakfast! Couples looking for romantic dining can even get their special table for two out on the pier by candlelight! Come celebrate your second honeymoon, Belizean style! Be sure to call Parrot Cove Lodge at 523-7225 or email them at vacation@ParrotCoveLodge.com.

Real Estate in Southern Belize

Sittee River Estates is a beautiful parcel of land, with plots starting at the near 1 acre size and up. It is an affordable and gorgeous place to build a getaway home. When Brad Paumen came to Belize three years ago, he decided to purchase Pleasure Cove Lodge Resort, which he renamed Parrot Cove Lodge. This became the first of his many ventures, and soon, he had expanded to include a new booming real estate business that includes Sittee River Estates - a rich subdivision with access to the Sittee River, and amazing orange groves and more.

A Iso hot on his list of offerings are private islands. M any people dream of owning their own islands, and what better way to live the dream than in a paradise such as Belize? W ith easy access to the world’s second largest barrier reef, incredible marine life, awesome fishing and jungle reserves within easy reach.

For M r. Paumen, real estate was an easy choice to branch into. It is a business that caters to the tourist that comes down and falls in love with Belize, and allows the opportunity to view properties as part of the stay, in a no pressure environment. Beach lots and farm lands are also available. W hether you are staying at Parrot Cove Lodge or planning on heading down to Belize with land purchase in mind, don’t forget to email vacation@ParrotCoveLodge.com. Y ou never know what you might find in Belize!

Southwind Properties

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 M arianne, E dwardo or C laudia 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. C all 226-2005/2060 or e-mail southwind@starband.net for more information.

Commercial/Condos/Homes

M ayan Princess – Located in the heart of San Pedro. Well maintained, good management. (D15) Unit 14- beachfront, second level condo. $140,000.00 US

Beach Front Home at Spanish Reef: (W29) Atractive beach house located only 4 miles north of San Pedro. Home consists of 2 bdrms, 1 bath, wide porch & large storage room. Lot - 50’ x 100’. $450,000.00 US.

Upscale & Secluded Villa (A23) Custom, unique architecture, beachfront villa, 5 bdrms, 3 1/2 baths, 3 storey solid concrete building, tastefully furnished. Nothing compares in class, style or quality. C all for further details. $1,669,000.00 US. C ash.

Esmeralda Apartments (F18) Two apartment building, Esmeralda area close to the Tennis Club, two large units, 3bdrm/3 baths & 2bdrm/1bath. G ood rental producer. Fenced yard, security bars. $285,000.00

Raw Land

Palmero Point (G43) Nice lot located several rows off the beach in the beautiful Palmero Point Beach Club subdivision, located 9 miles north of town. Measuring approximately 107’ x 164’. Only $30,000.00 US.

Paradise Coves (C49) G ood sized lot 3.5 miles north of San Pedro – great location and great price at $25,000.00 US

San Pablo (G40) G reat Canal & Corner lot located in the nice San Pablo subdivision. Excellent investment and opportunity for a home or business. $60,000.00 US.

Ambergis Bay (A25) Beachfront Lot #446, approx. 66’ x 110’. $66,000.00 US. Can be bought together with lot 447 for a combined beachfrontage of 148’.

Ambergis Bay (A26) Beachfront Lot #447, approx. 82’ x 110’. $82,500.00 US. Can be bought together with lot 446 for a combined beachfrontage of 148’.

Ambergis Bay (G38) Lot #33. M easuring approx. 58’ x 155’. $70,000.00 US. Ambergis Bay (E13) Beachfront parcel approx. 50’ x 95’ depth. $65,000.00 US.

Flying Fisherman (D16) Lot 300’ off the beach, measures 50’ x 78’. Only $22,000.00 US

Santa Rita (H32) Lot 18 – 50’ x 130’ - 3rd row – $24,500.00 US

Club Caribbean (E13) off the beach lots 116 - $30,000.00 US.

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July 5, 2007

Visitor Guide Page 11
Environmentally Responsible Travel

Nearly half of the land area in Belize is protected as nature reserves, national parks, forest reserves, marine reserves or sanctuaries. UNESCO’s declaration of seven World Heritage Sites within the borders of Belize affirms the importance of our natural heritage, not only to Belize but to the world. Every year over one million visitors are drawn to Belize as an eco-tourist destination and we have a delicate balance to maintain between conservation and tourism. Many organizations are diligently working on grass-roots conservation efforts and improving the social responsibility of tourism businesses while giving you, the visitor, the best possible experience. However, we still need your help.

Socially Responsible Travel is a partnership between you and the efforts being made in our country. Your effort, no matter how small, combined with the efforts of other travelers and locals can collectively make a big difference. Thank you in advance for your efforts in conserving and preserving our natural heritage for future generations of Belizean and travelers. Here are practical things you can do to make a difference.

Hotels

All hotels participating on the Toucan Trail sign a pledge of Good Business Practice.

* Reuse your bath towels and have sheets changed only every other day to save thousands of gallons of water.
* Reduce electricity rates for hotels by turning off lights, fans and air conditioners when not in the room.
* Affirm hotel managers and owners when you see efforts in conservation being made.

Packing

* Travel simply and lightly.
* Buy biodegradable soaps and natural shampoos.
* Remove items from plastic packages before you arrive. Belize has few landfills and most garbage is burned or buried or ends up being used by someone else.
* Bring a refillable water bottle. A sk to have your bottle refilled or find a store that offers refills to cut down on the plastic waste.
* Bring a Tupperware container for take out meals and leftovers to reduce the use of Styrofoam boxes.
* Bring rechargeable batteries instead of using disposable ones.

** Belize does not have a recycling program and so please “pack out” any used batteries and recyclable plastics so they can be recycled at home.

For further information about the Toucan Trail, kindly visit the Belize Tourism Board website at www.toucantrail.com
taxis or chartered boats to accommodate all those who planned to take part of the Lobsterfest. Nevertheless, by Friday evening the annual Miss Lobsterfest pageant was already sold out and at the end of the night, it was Miss Elizabeth Canul had emerged as Miss Lobsterfest 2007. On Saturday and Sunday, the stall occupants had their grills out and fired up, and booths ready to cater to all those who craved the spiny Caribbean lobster. Food booths were everywhere, scattered throughout much of Front Street. Hotels filled up long in advance in anticipation of the weekend. Between the sack races, beer drinking contests and the music along with the sunny scenery, it all added to the sunny disposition of festival goers. All in all, CC 2007 Lobsterfest proved to be a successful weekend.
Recipe Courtesy of Cruzy’s Crib in Caye Caulker

Ingredients:
* 2 lbs flour
* 3 cups sugar
* 3 eggs
* 1 tsp cinnamon
* 1 tsp nutmeg
* 6 tsp baking powder
* 3 sticks butter
* 1 tsp vanilla
* 81 cup evaporated milk

Directions:
* Mix all the dry ingredients together with butter until crumbly.
* Mix milk, eggs, vanilla and add to the dry ingredients.
* Don’t knead mixture. Instead mix together to form sticky dough.
* The trick to make dough into balls is to put water in a bowl and moisten hands.
* Roll dough into balls and place on a cookie sheet.
* Bake at 250 degrees for 1/2 hr or so until light golden brown
* Makes two dozen

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“Dammit, lady; the word is Theatre: T-H-E-A-T-R-E.”

I have a Christina Arts, a Duane P. Arts and a John Arts, but no Theodore Arts.”

“Sir,” she replied, “I just told you we have no listing for Theodore Arts. We

“It’s not a person,” I said. “It’s a school. I want Theatre Arts.”

Glendale.”

After a few moments she said, “Sir, there is no listing for a Theodore Arts in

“I need a number for Theatre Arts in Glendale,” I told her.

After checking the web site and finding no number, I dialed long distance

“Let me see what I can do,” I said. “What is the name of the school?”

Dulce said. “I found their website on the internet but I

“Dennisito has been talking about a school where he wants to go to study


“Dennis, I want you to check on something for me.”

“Gossip — otherwise, a busybody. *A “quidnunc” is a person who is eager to know the latest news and

*If all the blood vessels in a single human body were stretched end to

*Benjamin Franklin slept in four beds every night. He had a theory

*The Swedes drink more coffee than any other people in the world.

*Kangaroos usually give birth to one young annually. The young kan-

*Garoo, or joey, is born alive at a very immature stage, when it is only

*According to one study, nuns have an average life expectancy of 77

*Komodo dragons eat deer and wild boar.

*The sale of chewing gum is outlawed in Singapore because it is a

*The sale of chewing gum is outlawed in Singapore because it is a

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*** Caye Casa - Three beachfront condos under construction, quiet, in
town, pool, pier, thatch porches, furnished, with on site property management. Living the dream. Inquire!

*** Oasis Del Caribe Fully furnished 2nd floor ocean front 2 bedroom $335,000

*** Miramar new 3rd floor beachfront 2 bedroom condo. Furnished $425,000 bring offers!

*** Miramar new 3rd floor beachfront furnished 2 bedroom condo with 4th floor penthouse suite unfurnished $495,000 offers

*** Miramar new completed 2nd floor beachfront 2 bedroom furnished condos from $375,000.

*** Blue Reef 2 bed 2 bath tastefully furnished beach level condo rental income $365,000

*** Banana Beach Resort: 1-3 bedroom ocean front condos with 2 Pools, beach, restaurant and bar from $115 to $165,000 with guaranteed rental incomes.

*** Tres Cocos 2 bed2 bath garden home with swimming pool $495,000

*** Vista Del Mar – Attractive and well maintained Holiday Lands home. 2 bedroom 2 bathroom spacious owners quarters with 4 immaculate one bed, one bath rental apartments. 100% occupied. $575,000.

*** St Georges Caye private island large beach home $1,150,000

*** Large 3 bedroom 2 bath all concrete furnished private home 150 ft from ocean with direct beach access. Lions Park area. $425,000.

*** Beach villa - Caye Villas Mata Grande 2 Bed 3 bath fully furnished pool rental management program $429,000 offers!

*** La Floridita ocean view home Tres Cocos area $250,000

COMMERCIAL  Oceanside beach bar and restaurant Caye Caulker $650,000

UNDEVELOPED PROPERTIES

*** West Bay LAST OF ITS KIND private sandy cove 260 ft frontage only $325,000. Cash offers

*** Playa Blanca 75 x 300 ft beach $300,000

*** Mata Grande 100 x 200 ft prime beach lot with pier permit $445,000

*** Beach lots from $95,000

*** Acreage available on Lagoon side Inquire.

*** Commercial sized Islands in the lagoon Inquire.

*** Boca Ciega 4.5 acres 170ft beach front. $350,000.

*** Buena Vista Point ocean view 75ft x 150ft $79,000.

*** Buena Vista Point ocean view 75ft x 150ft $89,000.

*** Laguna Estates ocean view lots from $60,000.

All prices are in US dollars and subject to change without notice. For further details on these properties and much more call our AMBERGRIS CAYE SPECIALISTS
Ambergris Caye’s latest trendy restaurant, is now open. Serving Palm Tree Cuisine, a fusion of Central American and Caribbean delicacies, offers a selection of fresh local seafood, tender meats and exotic vegetables prepared by our renowned chef.

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- 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

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