



Belize Eco Birding Tour
December 2023



This December, we want to take you on the ultimate EdVenture in Belize, and this time, we are going birding!

To help us with this EdVenture, we have partnered with the eco-tourism experts at Belize Zoological EdVentures, who have been leading birding tours in Belize for almost 20 years.

Why Belize? We have been bringing groups to Belize to experience the natural wonders of that small country for over 15 years.

Belize is the focus of our international wildlife conservation efforts, and home to many of our conservation partners.

Home to almost 600 species of birds, Belize is considered to be the ultimate birding destination for individuals with any level of birding experience - from expert to novice.

During this 7 day EdVenture you will not only experience amazing birding opportunities, but also learn about our conservation efforts in Belize, all while experiencing the vistas, ecosystems, and culture of one of the best kept secrets in Central America.

Plus, you will get a chance to meet Ranger, the ambassador for scarlet macaws at the Belize Zoo!

inspire-edventures.com/birding-in-belize



BELIZE

ECO BIRDING TOUR

- Customized Birding Package
- All inclusive: Lodging, meals, transportation and in-country local guides
- Educational and Fun
- We've been leading educational adventures since 2005

Day 1: December 5, 2023- Overnight Bird's Eye View Lodge (D)



Black-Collared Hawk

Upon arrival in Belize , you will be met outside baggage claim by your guides and be transferred to Crooked Tree Wildlife Sanctuary. Established in 1984 to protect resident and migrant birds, the sanctuary is managed by the Belize Audubon Society and encompasses a network of inland lagoons, swamps, and waterways. After check in at Birds Eye View Lodge and before dinner, we'll all meet for a program orientation with your guide.

The activities may be re-arranged depending on weather and birding opportunities. However, most of the sites listed in the itinerary will be visited by the group.

Activity Level: Moderate - *Travelers who are physically fit and comfortable with longer days of touring.* While some birding will be along roadsides and on relatively flat and well-maintained trails, other days could involve some birding on trails that might be muddy or less well-maintained. Each evening before dinner, we will go over the activities for the next day so that you are aware of what the day will entail. The schedule is very full, and participants are encouraged to take a morning or afternoon off to recharge if needed or when possible.

Day 2: December 6, 2023 - Overnight Bird's Eye View Lodge (BLD)

Today, we head out onto the extensive waterways of Crooked Tree's 44,000-acre Ramsar Wetlands to see a mix of Herons, Ibises, Roseate Spoonbills, Northern Jacanas, Boat-billed Herons and enigmatic Jabiru. After lunch, explore the pine savannas on the search for Yucatan endemics including Yucatan Jay, Yucatan Woodpecker, Yellow-lored Parrots and possibly the Black Catbird. Other possibilities include Rufous-browed Peppershrike, Snail Kite, Black-collard Hawk, Great-black Hawk, Aplomado Falcon, Crane Hawk, Canivet's Emerald . An evening walk will be available for those who hope to catch up with a Common Pauraque, Black-crowned Night-Heron and Limpkin.



Yellow-headed Parrot



Yucatan Jay

Day 3: December 7, 2023 - Overnight Pook's Hill Lodge (BLD)

Wake up early to participate in early morning birding before returning to the lodge for breakfast. After breakfast, we head out to Captain Hook's Shrimp Farm where we will spend the remainder of the morning looking for shorebirds including Sandpipers, Stilts, rails etc. After lunch at the shrimp far we move on to Pook's Hill Lodge in western Belize.

Pook's Hill is situated within a private reserve at the foothills of the Maya Mountains, bordering the Roaring River and Tapir Mountain Nature Reserve. The lodge encompasses an ancient Maya plaza group. This unique location, coupled with its unparalleled position in the very heart of the country, makes Pook's Hill a perfect base from which to discover the sights and sounds of Belize. This evening, after dinner, go on a nocturnal walk around the lodge.

Day 4: December 8, 2023 - Overnight Pook's Hill Lodge (BLD)



Spectacled Owl

Today, we'll spend our day at the lodge walking the trails through the broadleaf forest of the surrounding Tapir Mountain Reserve, possible species include the Crimson Collared Tanager, Scarlet Rumped Tanager, various species of migratory warblers, in addition to the Spectacled Owl and Bat Falcon.



Bat Falcon

Day 5: December 9, 2023 - Pook's Hill Lodge (BLD)

Early morning transfer with boxed breakfast to Mountain Pine Ridge Forest Reserve for a full day of birding. Mountainous terrain and Caribbean pine forests serve as home to the King Vulture, Red-lored Parrot, Rufous-capped Warbler, Rusty Sparrow as well as the rarely seen Orange-breasted Falcon. After lunch at one of Francis Ford Coppola's resorts, we will continue our birding in the Mountain Pine Ridge Forest before transferring back to Pook's Hill in the evening.



Ornate Hawk-Eagle



Black and White Hawk Eagle

Day 6: December 10, 2023 - The Belize Zoo & Tropical Education Center (BLD)

After Breakfast, we head out, and down to the the St. Herman's Blue hole National Park for some birding. We are going to be walking around the foothills to look for Orange-billed Sparrows, Euphonias, various species of hummingbirds and possibly get to see and hear the cryptic Nightingale-Wren. After Lunch we will drive to the Belize Zoo and Tropical Education Center. The Belize Zoo and Tropical Education Center is a refuge for a number of wild animals since its founding in 1983. The organization was born from an effort to provide a safe haven for a number of wild animals that, ironically, had been used in the making of documentaries about tropical forests. The zoo and its education center encompass 29 acres of tropical savanna and house more than 125 animals native to Belize and offer awesome local birding.



Grace's Warbler



Scaly-breasted Hummingbird

Day 7: December 11, 2023 - The Belize Zoo & Tropical Education Center

Before Breakfast we will make our way down to the Monkey Bay Wildlife Sanctuary to look for Yellow-tailed Orioles, Tanagers, Barred and possibly Great Antshrike, White-winged Becards, and possibly the Blue Seedeater. Following Breakfast, we'll go over to the Zoo to get a in depth tour and learn more about the local fauna under their care. After some down time, we'll make our way over to the Sharon Matola Wildlife Sanctuary to observe several species of parrots coming in to roost and see what species will be settling in for the night. The Belize Zoo is within the Maya Forest Corridor, so, look out for more interesting species of wildlife!

Day 8: December 12, 2023- Departure (B)

Following breakfast, check-out of the hotel and transfer to the airport to say goodbye to wonderful Belize and our new friends!

The All Inclusive Cost

Double Occupancy: \$2399 per person

Single Occupancy: \$2899 per person

What's Included:

All Lodging and In-Country Transportation

Breakfast, Lunch, and Diner Daily

Presentations by the staff of Belize Zoological EdVentures

All Park Entry and Tour Guide Fees

What Isn't Included

Airfare to and from BZE (more details on this soon)

Travel Insurance (required - more details soon)

Alcoholic Beverages, Souvenirs, Customs Fees

To make sure that you have an amazing personal experience, we have limited the number of spaces on this tour, so if you are interested, visit the link below to reserve your space!

Final payments will be due by October 15th, 2023.

inspire-edventures.com/birding-in-belize

