

# BASE GUIDE

DREAM YACHT  CHARTER

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW TO ENJOY YOUR NEXT DREAM DESTINATION!



THE CARIBBEAN | BELIZE

## BASE ADDRESS

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Robert's Grove Marina  
Dream Yacht Charter Office  
Robert's Grove Marina  
Seine Bight  
Placencia, Stann Creek  
**GPS POSITION:** 88.365388°W 16.558564°N  
**OPENING HOURS:** 8:30am – 5:30pm

## BASE MAP

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## BASE CONTACTS

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If you need support while on your charter, contact the base immediately using the contact details in this guide. Please contact your booking agent for all requests prior to your charter.

### BASE MANAGER & CUSTOMER SERVICE:

Name: Georges Costa

Phone: + 501 670 8283

## BASE FACILITIES

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- |                                                 |                                                      |
|-------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Electricity | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Luggage storage  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restaurant       |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Toilets     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bar              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Showers                | <input type="checkbox"/> Supermarket / Grocery store |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Laundry                | <input type="checkbox"/> ATM                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Swimming pool          | <input type="checkbox"/> Post Office                 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wi-Fi       |                                                      |

## BASE INFORMATION

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### LICENSE

Sailing licence required: A certificate of competency is mandatory and will be issued by Belize Port Authority. The application should be made before your arrival. We will assist you and submit it for you locally.

### PAYMENT

The base can accept:  Visa  MasterCard  Amex  Cash

*The base accepts credit cards only for the **security deposit**. The local payments are not possible with the credit card.*

### EMBARKATION TIME

Embarkation time is at 5pm and briefing will be the next morning.

### YACHT BRIEFING

The morning after arrival at the marina, the team will give a detailed walk-through of your yacht's technical equipment, information about safe and accurate navigation, including the yacht's navigational instruments, as well as mooring, anchorage and itinerary help. The safety briefing introduces the safety equipment and your yacht's general inventory. It will take between 45 minutes to one hour depending on your yacht's size.

### STOP OVERS

For all DYC charters starting in Placencia, the first night at the marina is free of charge. Please note, you must call the base 24 hours in advance for a stopover.

### DISEMBARKATION TIME

The disembarkation check is at 8am.

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# DREAM YACHT CHARTER



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The sails must be stowed and covered; the garbage must be removed including food from the fridge. Snorkel gear must be rinsed free from sand and returned, and linen must be bagged for removal.

The marina staff will meet you in front of the gas station for a fuel refill and dock the boat back in the marina. The team will inspect your yacht's equipment and a general visual check of its interior and exterior. A diver will check its hull, keel, rudder(s) propeller(s) and /or bow thruster. General inspection will take approximately one hour. You can expect to finish the process around 10am.

## **BAGGAGE**

Please only take soft bags and not suitcases, as they would be too cumbersome onboard.

## **BASE AND EMERGENCY CONTACTS**

- Base emergency telephone number: + 501 670 8283
- Marina emergency telephone number: + 501 661 7530
- Coastguard emergency telephone number: + 501 232 9440
- VHF base channel: NO
- VHF marina channel: NO
- VHF emergency channel: 16

## **HOW TO GET THERE?**

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### **ACCESS BY PLANE**

Placencia Airport (PLJ): The airport is 3km from the base, which is a 5-minute journey by car/shuttle. There are regular flights from Belize City and Belmopan with Maya Island Air and Tropic Air. Please check the schedule on the [airport website](#).

### **TRANSFERS FROM THE AIRPORT TO OUR BASE**

If you need an organized transfer from the airport, please contact our base manager. Major car rental companies operate from the airport, please refer to airport website for info, working hours and contacts. Taxis are regularly available in front of the airport buildings.

### **ACCESS BY ROAD**

From the airport, head north onto Placencia Road. Turn left onto Placencia Road and carry on until you find the marina on your left.

Information subject to change without notice.

## **PROVISIONING & RECOMMENDATIONS**

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### **BASE PROVISIONING SERVICE**

This base provides a provisioning service:  No  Yes (fee is 10% of delivery)

# DREAM YACHT CHARTER



## LOCAL SUPERMARKETS

Publics Market  
Seine Bight Village  
Placencia  
Stann Creek District  
(10 min walk from base – 0,6mi/0,9 km from  
the base)

Day	Time
Monday - Sunday	8am – 8pm

Opening hours may differ during public holidays and are subject to change without notice.

## FUEL AND WATER

Fuel can be found at Robert's grove marina and Thunderbirds Marina.

Water can be found at the following locations:

- Robert's Grove Marina
- Thunderbirds Marina
- Hatchet Cay
- Sittee River Marina
- Placencia Marina
- Sapodilla marina

## HOTEL SUGGESTIONS:

- [Robert's Grove Resort](#)  
- Placencia Road, Placencia
- [Laru Beya Resort](#)  
- Placencia Road, Placencia
- [Itzana Resort](#)  
- Mile 20 Placencia Road, Placencia, Stann Creek District
- [Turtle Inn](#)  
- Placencia Village, Placencia

## RESTAURANT SUGGESTIONS:

- [Maya Beach Hotel Bistro \(seafood, international\)](#)
- [1981 Naia resort \(international\)](#)
- [Rhum and Fish \(international\)](#)

# DREAM YACHT CHARTER



- [De Tatch \(seafood and local\)](#)
- [Carmen's \(Mexican, fast food\)](#)
- [Habanero Mexican Café & Bar \(South American, Central American\)](#)

## AREA GUIDE

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### LOCAL AREA INTRODUCTION

A network of 450 isolated cays sit off the coast of Belize, which borders the tropical Caribbean Sea, Mexico and Guatemala. With its roots in ancient civilization, Belize is famous for having the world's second longest unbroken barrier reef, an extensive cave network, historic Mayan ruins and a diverse underwater ecosystem.

The country's 300km-long Belize Barrier Reef Reserve System is UNESCO World Heritage protected and a renowned snorkeling and scuba destination. Sailing in Belize can include stops at the Glover's Reef Marine Reserve, South Water Caye Marine Reserve and you can visit the Blue Hole Natural Monument, an impressive 1,000 ft-wide sinkhole ringed with coral.

If you're sailing Belize, a certificate of competency is mandatory and will be issued by Belize Port Authority. The application should be made minimum 2 weeks before your arrival. We will assist you and submit it for you locally.

### TOP THINGS TO DO IN BELIZE:

1. **Explore the Mayan ruins of Altun Ha:** One of the first things on your list should be venturing ashore and walking among ancient stone structures built by the Mayans, which date back to around 800-900 BC. Altun Ha is located just 30 miles north of Belize City.
2. **Sail to Ambergris Caye:** Ambergris Caye is the largest island in Belize, and remains unspoiled and low-key despite being one of the most popular islands. You can spend a morning fishing on the reef and your guide will happily cook your catch for dinner.
3. **Dive the famous Blue Hole:** Certified divers won't want to miss the famous Blue Hole – a perfectly circular underwater sinkhole within the Lighthouse Reef Atoll. You'll find a wealth of coral formations, marine life, and deep caves filled with stalactites.
4. **Visit Cockscomb Basin Wildlife Sanctuary:** Cockscomb Basin Wildlife Sanctuary is known as the world's first jaguar sanctuary. The sanctuary is home to exotic flora and fauna, as well as waterfalls for a refreshing swim.
5. **Discover the Cayo Region:** This region along Belize's western border is ideal for adventure seekers with its Actun Tunichil Muknal cave systems, subterranean waterfalls and ancient rivers. Adrenaline-inducing zip-lining experiences can also be found here.

**CURRENCY:** Belize Dollar

**VOLTAGE:** 110V

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# DREAM YACHT CHARTER



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**DIALING CODE:** +501

## **INTERNET**

There is free Wi-Fi at our marina, and also at Hatchet Cay and Coco Plum Cay.

## **ENVIRONMENT**

- Respect your surroundings and leave only footprints in the sand
- Only use the engine or genset when needed (fill up your tanks for the water maker at the docks when you can)
- Recycle your garbage in the correct containers at the marina
- Respect regulations around marine reserves and private islands where disembarking is not permitted

## **REGULATIONS**

Night sailing is forbidden in Belize. Fishing is forbidden in marine reserves. Please also note that marine reserves typically charge a per person fee or mooring fee.

Information subject to change without notice.

# **SAILING CONDITIONS**

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## **SAILING AREA**

The sailing ground off the coast of Placencia, where our base is located, is bursting with sandy low-lying cays where you can immerse yourself in beautiful, undeveloped and peaceful surroundings.

On land, spend time discovering Mayan ruins and meet locals who speak English and a dialect called Belizean Creole. The nation's multi-cultural influences are everywhere, including the Mexican/Jamaican fusion cuisine and punta afro-Caribbean music.

By sea, you can visit the three atolls during your Belize yacht charter, including Glover's Reef, Lighthouse Reef and Turneffe. Explore this rich marine paradise and swim among 500 species of fish, 100 types of coral, sharks, rays, and dolphins.

Charter highlights include Coco Plum Cay, Wippari Cay, Lark Cay, South Water Cay, Lagoon Cay and Hatchet Cay. There are three coral atolls outside of the reef, where a local skipper is required to sail the open water.

## **WEATHER**

The best time to visit Belize is from late November to mid-April, during the dry season. Warm temperatures, sunny skies and access to top attractions can be experienced this time of year.

The temperatures remain fairly consistent year round with an average range from 74°F to 84°F.

## **TEMPERATURE**

# DREAM YACHT CHARTER



Climate in Placencia, Belize:

- Summer high: The September high is around 88°F
- Winter low: The January low is 72°F

## **WIND SYSTEMS**

A Belize yacht charter vacation offers balmy easterly trade winds year-round averaging between 15 and 22 knots that produce excellent cruising conditions. Calm waters are the norm while sailing inside the barrier reef.

While passages are short and primarily line-of-sight, plotting courses and referencing charts is necessary due to the many reefs. Avoid Tom Owens Island as there are too many difficult reefs to navigate. If you are sailing outside the barrier reef to Glover's Reef, Turneffe Reef and Lighthouse Reef, you will need a local skipper.

Belize trade winds blow along the coastal cays consistently most of the year.

Although cold fronts affect the country from October through to April the most likely months for frontal passages are December, January and February. In December and January fronts are most likely to become stationary over Belize.

## **LOCAL FORECAST**

You can find Belize weather forecasts on [Windguru](http://Windguru) and [nms.gov.bz/](http://nms.gov.bz/)