

## From the Editor Tamara Sniffin



It's always fun to do something for the first time, especially when culturally, you are out of your comfort zone! I do know my way around the kitchen and usually get a thumbs-up from those who sit at my table but venturing into Belizean/Mestizo cuisine is a whole new ball game.

I have made stew chicken with rice and beans a few times when visiting abroad, for folks who've never had the dish, but I'd never dream of subjecting any of my Belizean friends to it! It's kind of like understanding Creole but never speaking it, my feeble attempts are beyond amusing, and my friends TRY not to laugh.

However, I am proud to say that I have MASTERED cheese dip and get requests for it when invited to social functions here on the island! Now that feels good! Baby steps, right? That said you can imagine my anticipation when our My Beautiful Belize team Mary and Janelle decided it was time to make tamales.

Hove tamales but prefer them 'sin huesos,' without bones, which is such a gringo thing I'm embarrassed to say. This was going to be fun, and I could make them just the way I like them. It was a most enjoyable day; kitchen camaraderie fueled with cranberry margaritas and girlfriend chatter. The process was certainly one to learn from, and I don't know what I enjoyed more, the delicious result of masa pockets stuffed with tasty chicken and k'ol gravy or the day spent in the kitchen working together for the greater good of our bellies. I look forward to cooking more local dishes and trying my hand at making tamales some time again.

These are the things that make Belize the gift that just keeps giving: her people, her fellowship, her food, what more do you need?

We hope during you visit to our country you are blessed with the same gift. We welcome you to My Beautiful Belize.

# www.mybeautifulbelize.com

## Wolfe's Woofers The Wonders of Creation

Mario and I were at a beachside restaurant vesterday evening enjoying our drinks at one of the outdoor tables. We watched the fishermen cleaning their day's catch at the pier a short distance away.



"Oh, no!" Mario said, looking up the beach. "I hope he doesn't stop to talk," "Who? Oh, you mean the preacher. What do you have against him?"

"He's just boring," Mario said, "He's all the time talking about God. I get enough about that when I go to church with Consuela."

"I didn't know you go to church."

"Sure, I do. Every Christmas and every Easter, just like everybody else does." "Good evening, gentlemen. May I join you?"

"Certainly, Reverend," I said. "How are you today?"

"Absolutely wonderful. I'm out enjoying the beautiful weather God has provided for us."

'Check out the dog, Mr. Dennis," Mario said.

We watched a man walking his magnificent Great Dane dog up the beach. The playful animal was chasing a coconut that his owner was throwing in the water for him to retrieve.

"God graces all with his bounties," the minister said. "Even the dog seems to enjoy this weather."

The fish cleaning on the dock had attracted more birds. Seagulls and Man o' Wars fought over fish scraps while we watched.

"The Lord works in mysterious ways," said the reverend. "Consider the birds and dogs."

"What do you mean?" I asked.

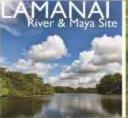
"The birds are small and they don't really need much. God gave them wings and they have the entire sky to themselves. Other animals, like that beautiful dog, are large and needs much more room. I wonder why God, the great creator, did not give them wings as well."

A seagull leaving the pier flew right over our table and crapped directly on the preacher's head.

Mario said, "There you go, Reverend. Now you know why."







## IN THIS ISSUE:

Birds of a feather: It's being touted as Belize's growing tourism activity, with more and more travelers 'flocking' to catch sight of feathered species both unique to Belize and migrating past. Yes, we're talking birding!! P. 3

Apps tell tales: If you had any doubts just how much interest there is in birding, check out the eBird Application, which keeps track of all the feathered discoveries and sightings! P. 6

Mmm, Sushi: Know what's better than fresh sushi made by a master? A BUF-FET of fresh sushi - check out Jyoto Restaurant for some tasty delights! P. 6 Beyond the lens: Some artists go past the call of duty, taking it on themselves to create awareness. Tony Rath is one such person! P. 11

Kitchen Fun: When we decided to make tamales, we had no idea how involved the process was. Having tried it ourselves, we appreciate the effort that goes into making these delightful pockets of goodness. Try it for yourself if you are ambitious. It's more fun with friends!! P. 12

What to eat in Belize? If you have some suggestions, let us know! P. 14

# Where Belize...

This funky cluster along the shore certainly is unique! We hope you guessed Punta Gorda Town, because this group of trees is located along the shores of that southernmost town!



To join our guessing game, follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter @mybeautifulbelize, using the hashtag #whereinbelize.

You can also send us your images of mystery locations to add to our guessing game! Send them to hello@mybeautifulbelize.com and join the fun!

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Bird lovers are flocking to Belize

What makes Belize such a great place for birding? Let me count the ways! According to my handy dandy eBird app, 584 species of birds have been recorded in Belize. Other sources estimate that roughly ten of them are endemic (only occurs in a certain country or area) to Belize and over 250 species are estimated as winter migrants from North America. Lucky birders may see as many as 200 birds in one day!

Every month of the year is a good time to come armed with your binoculars and camera. Our beautifully diverse habitats offer scenic coastal areas were pelagic birds are enjoyed and the vast savannahs, lush tropical jungles, pine tree forests and vibrant wetlands are teeming with hundreds of resident birds along with many who migrate through. Belize is blessed with six Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas (IBAs) identified by BirdLife International, which covers over 75,000 acres, giving Belize the highest proportion of iBA coverage of land area in the Americas. Nearly half of our nation's land and adjacent waters are protected under forest reserves, marine reserves, wildlife sanctuaries, national parks and other protected areas, providing and protecting bird habitats.

Not only are you sure to spot some breathtaking birds but the landscapes are equally beautiful. Exploring areas like the Chiquibul National Park in search of Scarlet Macaws, the Mountian Pine Ridge area where rare Orange-breasted falcons live, Half Moon Caye where Red-footed Booby Birds roost, the Cockscomb Basin Wildlife Sanctuary where Keelbilled Toucans, Red-lored Parrots and Wood Storks can be found, or the coastal pine savannas where the endangered Yellow-headed Parrot has one of its last strongholds in Belize, each area offers a spectacular outdoor experience.

As if that wasn't enough, I have to say next to a first-ever sighting of a bird species or 'lifer' in birding lingo, my favorite part has to be the amazing guides. Belize is fortunate to have extremely talented individuals who are not only fantastic at spotting our feathered friends but are the nicest people you'll ever meet. Warm, friendly, good humored, smart as all get out, and totally in love with birds and the natural environment, these are people you want to hang out with all day! We are nature lovers...we all speak the same 'language' and share the brotherhood of birding.

Can you believe this story gets even better? As if scenic landscapes, countless birds and amazing guides weren't enough, where will you stay during your birding adventure? This is the icing on the cake! Belize has a number of secluded jungle lodges that offer the best in accommodations and comfort with birding tours starting at your doorstep. You are surrounded by bird song and images of colorful birds darting through dense tropical foilage. At some places having binoculars at your dinner table is a mainstay, as you enjoying outdoor dining while spotting birds. Many of these lodges offer birding packages for the more avid avian fan, or tours a la carte are always available. Over the years, a few of my favorite places to stay at not only for the accomodations but abundant wildlife include Hidden Valley Inn, Gaïa Riverlodge, Sleeping Giant Rainforest Lodge, Pook's Hill Lodge and Lamanai Outpost. On the more rustic side we love Howler Monkey Resort, where you can bird and monkey watch from your front porch over looking the Belize River.

Although any time of year is a good one for birding in Belize, fall is the time for North American migrants. Starting in October through mid-November, the Belize Audubon Society organizes the annual Urban Bird Watch where throughout the country guides lead

Continued on Page 4









By Tamara Sniffin

SAN PEDRO'S

Homework help! Afterschool fun! Tuesday - Saturday Indoor playground! Gaming! Arts and Crafts! Science experiments! 10am-7pm

Sunday 12pm-5pm

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3pm: Live Music (Cover Band) 12pm: Guitar JAM circle

8pm: Live Reggae Tuesdays 6:30pm: Hermit Crab Races Wednesdays 4pm: Live Music

Thursdays 2pm: Paint 'n Splash 7pm: Trivia & Karaoke (9pm)



three-hour walks through populated areas. In October 2018 the Belize Audubon Society, the Belize Tourism Industry Association and the Belize Tourism Board organized the first annual Belize Birding Festival in Belmopan with great success! Plans are already in place for the 2019 Birding Festival over the weekend of October 19th with location to be announced.

For raptor lovers, the Belize Raptor Research Institute (now the Belize Bird Conservancy) organizes an annual Hawk Watch fall migration count in Punta Gorda, southern Belize. The target species is the Hook-billed Kite, a potential indicator species of climate change. This annual count is conducted daily by local biologists assisted by the local community and international students. The data obtained helps in the conservation of raptors from the Neotropical and temperate zones by informing the



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scientific community and management agencies of changes in raptor populations. Literally hundreds, even thousands of migrating raptors can be counted in one day!

With all that Belize has to offer, and with the increasing number of birders traveling from around the world to spot new birds, it is no wonder that enthusiasts are flocking to Belize. Web sources for more information include www. belizebirdingfestival.bz and www.belizebirdconservancy.org.







# Birding...there's an app for that! By Tamara

eBird is a popular website and app where birders can record check lists, photos and audio recordings. The submitted data documents bird distribution, abundance, habitat use, and trends through checklist data collected within a simple, scientific framework. Birders enter when, where, and how they went birding, and then fill out a checklist of all the birds seen and heard during the outing, eBird's free mobile app allows offline data collection anywhere in the world, and the website provides many ways to explore and summarize data and other observations from the global eBird community.

eBird is the world's largest biodiver-

sity-related citizen science project, with more than 100 million bird sightings contributed each year by eBirders around the world. A collaborative enterprise with hundreds of partner organizations, thousands of regional experts, and hundreds of thousands of users, eBird is managed by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology.

Belize has no shortage of eBirders, and most guides are proud of their lists! Their contributions to eBird have been instrumental in building a data base of birds, their habitats and when they are observed. This invaluable information not only provides big-picture data such a population trends and changes but helps those who visit Belize in knowing where to go when pursuing their avian dreams.

Thanks to our Belizean eBirders, the below information is available.

### Top Hot Spots by Species (to date December 29, 2018)

- 1. Lamanai Maya Site Orange Walk - 368 species
- 2. Black Rock Lodge Cayo -362 species
- 3. Lamanai Outpost & Lodge Orange Walk – 357 species
- 4. Chan Chich Orange Walk 353 species
- 5. Cockscomb Basin Wildlife Sanctuary - Stann Creek - 349 species
- 6. Chaa Creek Cayo 345 species
- 7. La Milpa Field Station Orange Walk -343 species
- 8. Crooked Tree Wildlife Sanctuary - Belize -336 species Green Hills Butterfly Ranch
- Cayo 321 species Belize Botanic Gardens &
- 319 species



PALAPABARBELIZE

# duPlooy's Jungle Lodge - Cayo **Top Districts by Species** (to date December 29, 2018) Listed by district on map at

# Jyoto's all you can eat sushi buffet is a gastronomical delight!

Jyoto Japanese Restaurant and Sushi Bar opened about a year ago, and quickly became one of my favorite dinner spots. Serving authentic Japanese dishes and sushi, Chef Toshiya Tsujimoto is a firm believer in fresh local seafood and produce to provide truly excellent dishes. I've eaten there countless times, and as a huge sushi lover, I'm never disappointed.

Chef Toshiya is a creative soul, and while searching for ways to introduce his new creations, he decided to introduce a once-a-month sushi buffet special. Talk about a dinner deal: all you can eat sushi and Japanese dishes for only \$80BZ for adults, \$40BZ for children ages 8 to 14, and free for children under 7. We're talking gyoza (dumplings) to fresh sashimi - the variety is endless and totally delicious! For an additional fee, the drinks can be unlimited too. All the sake, wine, cocktails and sodas for an additional \$35, or all sodas and fresh juices for \$10; you just can't beat that. Throw in live music and beautiful art displays, and you're in for a fantastic dinner date!





The buffet is offered every mid-month and has two seating hours, 5PM to 7PM and 7:30PM to 9:30PM. Tickets are sold in advance and can be purchased at the restaurant located at Mahogany Bay Village, south of San Pedro Town or by calling 628-0100. To find out the date for the next Sushi Buffet, follow Jyoto on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ jyotorestaurant



By Janelle Cowo









PIRATE'S TREASURE - A unique dining experience with their Chef's Table. Watch as Chef Mar prepares a fresh 3-course Belizean meal over a coconut-

husk fire while you enjoy refreshing cocktails and island vibes. Regular Menu always available without reservations. 4PM to 10PM, 668-2156.



CROCS SUNSET SPORTS BAR: The newest bar north

of the bridge, with refreshing cocktails, bar food, killer sunset views and all the

games on large-screen TVs. Book upstairs bar for private events. Open from 11am everyday.



THE TRUCK STOP: Belize's first shipping container food park. Come try the different exciting options from our food trucks, play

backyard games, or cool off with a sundae from our ice cream shop.



 Belizean Comfort Foods and Gourmet Seafood. One Mile North of the Bridge, at the island's

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PORTOFINO RESTAURANT - Enjoy our Euro-



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5096 or 678-5096.

### PIRATE'S NOT SO SECRET BEACH BAR &



GRILL: The island's trending destination; adventure to SECRET BEACH! Soak up the sun or take a dip in crystal clear shallow waters accompanied

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delicious Sunday brunch (with mimosas!). Located just off the main road in Tres Cocos, before the Truck Stop. Like us on Facebook and keep up with the fun!



THE GREEN PARROT - Eats and treats. Relax on the patio, sip your favorite island drink gaze out at the azure Caribbean Sea,

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WHITE SANDS DIVE SHOP: A PADI 5 star Dive shop in San Pedro Town on Ambergris Caye teaching scuba diving and certifying divers, as well as providing daily Diving and Snorkeling adventures to the beautiful Belize Barrier Reef. Scheduled (local) departures are at 9:00AM, and they pick you up at the hotel dock. 226-2405.



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# #thisisyourbelize - Tony Rath promotes the preservation of our Belizean heritage

Once I discovered photography, art, and imagery, I was immediately drawn to the works of Tony Rath. It was a vague sense of 'knowing' Tony took pictures of Belize and its people, its waters, its animals - feeling that he was an important asset to our country. It wasn't until later in life, deep in my work with the media, that my interest went beyond the pretty images. In fact, it was the less than stellar subjects that his lens captured - coupled with a passionate story and plea to the people of Belize - that made my respect and love for Tony Rath the photographer and Belizean really grow.

You must understand; there weren't many cameras - or really, any sort of image capturing device, where I grew up. Photographs were few and far between, and the few we were gifted have become treasured collectibles in my home. Discovering Tony's work - witnessing sights of Belize that I had never dreamed of - took my breath away. I feel strongly about a lot of artists' works, and Tony is right at the top. I love watching artists put ink to skin, pen to paper, paint to canvas, bringing to life the images in their minds and ideas to life. Tony takes his tools: lens, lighting, a willing (or unsuspecting) subject and somehow, brings out angles and sheds light on shadows that the ordinary onlooker would not have noticed.

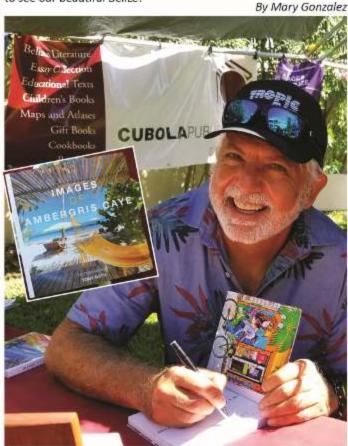
Meeting him was a joy. It was an Oceana in Belize sponsored event, with Kate Walsh as the main subject, the Belize Blue Hole the setting, and Tony Rath the photographer. While everyone was eyeing the actress, I could hardly contain my excitement at meeting Tony, His warmth and charisma quickly dispelled any nerves I may have had, and we became friendly (cue my lifetime achievement award overthe-top speech). I kept following him on social media, since the man is quite busy all over the place, photographing amazing places both on land and in the water (and even in the air!)

Then, in 2014, Tony shared a link to a story he worked on while in the Chiquibul rainforest: "Belize is at (https://tonyrath.exposure. co/belize-is-at-war) The Chiquibul is essentially the terrain between Guatemala and Belize's border issues, and stories of poachers and illegal trespassing to loot the fertile land's bounty are constantly in the news. During a reconnaissance expedition deep into the National Park, Tony accompanied some of Belize's most experienced bushmen, highly trained rangers from the Friends of Conservation and Development - the organization tasked with managing this vast region, and a filmmaker.

His incredible photographs captured the utter rugged beauty of the forest, the hardships faced by the limited number of rangers trying to watch over 265,000 acres of tropical broadleaf forest, and the team's struggle to make it to their destination. Not only were his images powerful but his words struck a nerve in those who read it, learning just how hard it is to protect our national heritage against poverty-stricken Guatemalans who risk their lives to poach from Belize's rich resources just beyond their border. It was then that my admiration shifted, and my respect grew.

Here is someone who has chosen to make Belize his home and where he raised his family. He continues to promote our country, while also asking her people to become aware and to fight for their heritage. His photographs often touch on various issues that Belize faces, and he makes a statement, staunch in his beliefs. Each community has its vocal leaders, those who fight against injustice, those who call for unification, those who speak up for those who cannot, and those who push boundaries so that others may be able to live a better life. When they are leaders who use their platform to ask for a better Belize, we salute and applaud them. We join them however we can, and at My Beautiful Belize, we promote them and try to share their works and increase awareness with our readers.

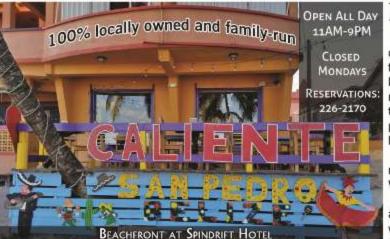
Belize provides habitats for so much of the wildlife that makes our country diverse and unique. As travelers and tourists become more aware and conscious of their global impact, we implore that you take into consideration the wildlife and surroundings you come across. Wild, untamed and truly free, as nature intended, is the way to see our beautiful Belize!



Tony Rath is a professional photographer based in the culture capital of Belize: Dangriga Town. He is a trained marine biologist and has worked as a diver and underwater photographer for the Smithsonian Institution; diving on oil rigs off California and captaining a sailboat across the Atlantic Ocean and through the Mediterranean and North Seas. Tony first visited Belize in 1979 and moved there permanently in 1988. Since then he has explored and photographed most of Belize by land, sea, and air. He has also photographed the neighboring countries of Honduras, Guatemala, and Mexico.

Tony recently released his latest collection of pictures (in collaboration with Cubola Productions), titled "Images of Ambergris Caye." The photographs span 20 years of imagery and reveal a lot regarding development and growth on the island. He has also put forth a collection of images titled "Images of Belize." These books are available at gift stores on the island and throughout the country, and at airport boarding locations. Follow him on Instagram @tonyrath, and on Facebook @belizephotography to keep up with his stunning work.











| Making Tamales: 1t's a family affair

Growing up in a Mestizo household, these pockets of masa filled with chicken, k'ol and some veggies were a favorite for many special occasions, from birthdays to New Year's parties. With my aunt and grandma in the lead, my cousins and I had the little tasks of gathering the plantain leaves needed to wrap the tamales and washing and chopping the onions and tomatoes needed for the sauté. I would watch in wonder at the careful process of making this one dish, and of courses, enjoyed eating them hot out of the pot when they were ready!

Fast forward two decades later, and I still remember every single step required to make tamales by heart. Since I left my hometown of Orange Walk ten years ago, I have only made tamales twice.

Just shy of the New Year I got nostalgic for the foods I grew up eating and thus, our My Beautiful Belize family decided to make tamales! It was quite an experience for Tamara, Mary and I, working in the kitchen all day while sipping on tasty, yet non-traditional cranberry margaritas.

While making tamales can be a bit time consuming, the steps are rather easy, and that's where teamwork comes in! The ingredients are easily found at your local grocery store.

Here is our recipe so that you too, can have fun cooking with the family!



### Ingredients

- Whole chicken, cut and cleaned
- · 4 cloves garlic, peeled
- · 2lb tomatoes
- 2lb onion
- · 4 habaneros (optional)
- 5lbs masa (corn dough) Note: If ready made masa can't be found, cornflour (minza) can be used as a substitute. To make the cornflour into dough, simply knead the flour with water till it's moist and holds up well (not crumbly and dry)
- 1 ½ cups vegetable oil
- Salt
- · Pepper
- · Complete seasoning
- · Red recado
- · Vegetable Oil
- · Steamed plantain leaves
- · Aluminum foil

### Directions

Chicken and K'ol

 Season cleaned chicken with salt, pepper, Complete Seasoning or Seasoned Salt to taste. Add to pot along

Continued on Page 13

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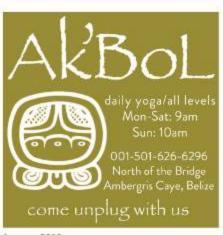
with garlic, half of one onion, and one tomato cut in half. Add water to completely submerge chicken as well as dissolved red recado for coloring. Boil until chicken is cooked.

- Remove cooked chicken from pot and let cool
- Remove garlic, onion, and tomatoes from the chicken broth, reserve
- 4. Dissolve until smooth about one pound masa in a cup of water. Add to chicken broth and continuously stir until mixture is a thick porridge-like consistency. This is known as the K'ol which in the Mayan language, translates to a sauce that has been thickened with masa 5. Optional blend reserved garlic, onion, and tomatoes removed from broth with whole fresh habaneros to make a pepper sauce to add to the tamales
- Julienne the remainder of the onions and tomatoes and sauté in oil with salt and pepper to taste

### Masa

- 7. Add oil and salt to taste to the masa, kneading the oil into the mixture until it is properly greasy you know it's ready when your hands feel oily too. You're better off with a little extra oil than not, because not enough oil in the masa mixture can mean a tough tamale in the end. Be sure to taste for proper salt ratio too; there's no comeback from an under-salted tamale!
- Layer your plantain leaf over an equally sized piece of tinfoil
- Grab a fistful of oily masa, place on plantain leaf and pat out until you make a flat tortilla Assembly
- 10. Spread a spoonful of k'ol to the masa tortilla. Top with a piece of chicken, sautéed onion and tomatoes, and add a drizzle of pepper sauce. Pour some more K'ol on top of this mixture
- Fold the edges of the masa as if making an envelope
- Wrap the constructed tamale with the plantain leaf, then seal with the foil sheet to prevent water from entering this precious cargo
- 13. Assemble all tamales and place in a large pot. Carefully add water till all tamales are covered, then place on high heat to steam and bubble, till all the water has nearly evaporated. This can take approximately an hour to an hour and a half, depending on size of pot and number of tamales you take on.

Once you've turned off the flame, carefully remove the tamales from the pot and let cool. Remove foil and serve the plantain-wrapped bundles of tasty goodness as is, that way your guests have some fun unwrapping their delicious meal. Enjoy!















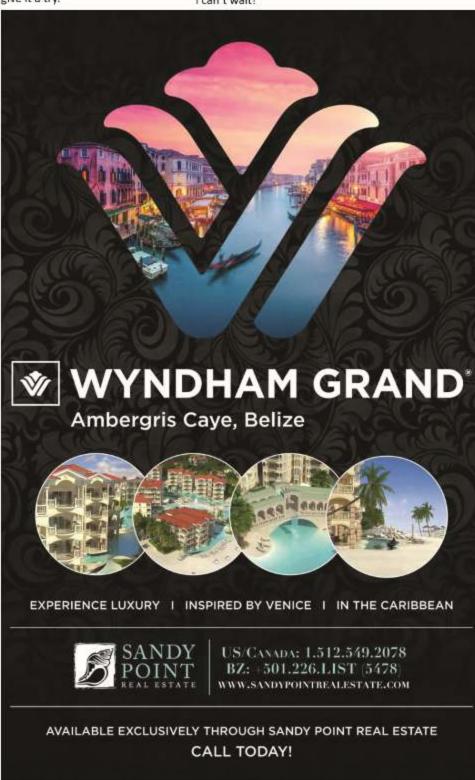




## Making 2019 the Year of Food Experiences! By Mary Gonzalez

A while back, I asked friends online to share their favorite 'unique' Belizean meals with me. I hadn't thought much beyond wanting to hear about new foods and possibly try them out myself. As I face a new year ahead, and seeing our first issue's cover, I'm now tempted to make a food bucket list for 2019! There is NO better way to get to know people and a place than through its cuisine. Even if it's just to taste and decide it's not for you I really, TRULY, recommend that you give it a try. I'm obviously also giving myself a swift kick in the rear to finally do this. I need to step out of my comfort zone of the Mestizo foods I love so much, and maybe try out something different. For 2019, I really want to try out the following:

Hudut: I recently admitted to not having had this particular Garifuna dish, and the look of horror on my friend's face made me realize I may have my Belizean card revoked. That same friend almost fainted when I added to the list: Cow Foot Soup. I plan on trying this one, even if the name conjures up some serious mental imagery I'd rather not have. (I do want to keep my Belizean citizenship, after all) Boil Up: Yes...yes...I'm the worst Belizean ever. This Creole dish needs to be ingested immediately — or so I've heard. I can't wait!





This will
always and
forever be one
of my favorite
cartoons by our
beloved and
dearly departed
Island Dog
(Mike Gvara).
It pretty much
sums up the
initial thoughts
upon hearing
the words
'Cow foot Soup'

Cohune Cabbage: I'm such a dimwit sometimes. Do you know I thought that Cohune Cabbage was shredded green cabbage sautéed in cohune oil? Oh dear me, how wrong! This classic East Indian dish is made from the center of a special palm (the cohune) and is probably close to the k'ox'an (ko-shan) that my grandmother so revered (and didn't share). Whatever it is, I plan on tasting it this year.

Caldo: I have actually had this, but it was back in my childhood days, when the last thing I wanted was soup with corn tortillas. Thus, I need to give it another shot – especially since I may have forgotten what culantro tastes like!

Ceviche de Maimula/Ojitos: I may go all Andrew Zimmern on myself with the eyeball ceviche. Maimula – or Horse Conch, on the other hand, is a different kind of conch made into ceviche after hours of boiling to soften the tough meat. Who knows, I may become a convert!

I'm pretty sure there will be other items I'll add as I go about my year of eating, but for now, I'll stick to the main dishes most people love and adore. They're all items I've either never eaten, or want to give a second chance with, hopefully, more grown up taste buds. I'll be sure to share my fun on social media, so stay tuned. (Follow @tiachocolate on Instagram for my POV, and follow @mybeautifulbelize on both Instagram and Facebook to catch all our fun!)



69 Pescador Drive (Middle Street)

\* Across from Atlantic Bank \* Call 615-7395

# 2019 events on the radar!

lanuary

12th - Graffiti Fest - Corozal House of Culture (NICH) . Corozal, Corozal, Belize Sat 10 AM

18th-20th - The Dive Bar - Gasoline Lollipops Belize 2019 (with the Alcapones) 6PM -11:55PM (pictured, right)

February

2<sup>nd</sup> - Palapa Bar - 4th Annual Groundhog Day Bar Crawl by Boat -at 10:30 AM - 5 PM



9th - 16th - Ak'bol Yoga Retreat and Eco Resort • 7th Belize Yoga & Meditation Vacation

2<sup>nd</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup>: Ak'Bol Yoga Retreat and Eco Resort - Live. Love. Yoga Belize Retreat 2019 @2PM

3rd - 5th; El Gran Carnaval de San Pedro -at San Pedro Town in Ambergris Caye

8th - 11th: La Ruta Maya River Challenge -starting at Hawksworth Bridge in Santa Elena/San Ignacio

Town and ending in Belize City

30th & 31st: Expo Tattoo Festival 2019, hosted by Belizean Ink - Wimpas Tattoo Shop on Ambergris Caye. Two days of art, music, and entertainment!

April

19th - 21st: National Agriculture and Trade Show - (tentative) at the Agriculture and Trade Show Grounds in Belmopan City

20th: Cross Country Cycling Classic - starting at Belize City and ending at San Ignacio Town

19th - 21st Easter in Belize - celebrations held at all major municipalities



11th - 12th: Cashew Festival - (tentative) at Crooked Tree Village in the Belize District

24th - 26th: Chocolate Festival of Belize -Friday, (tentative) at Punta Gorda Town in the Toledo District

1st - 2nd: Mango Festival - (tentative) at Hopkins Village in the Stann Creek District

15th - 22nd: San Pedro Lobster Fest -Block



For delivery or pre-orders, call 668-1322



27th - 29th: Dia de San Pedro - San Pedro Town in Ambergris Caye 28th - 30th; Caye Caulker Lobster Fest - Cave Caulker Village



12<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup>: Benque Fiesta (tentative) at Benque Viejo del Carmen Village in the Cayo District

1st - 3rd: International Costa Maya Festival at the Honorable Louis Sylvester Sporting Complex in San Pedro Town 1st - 3rd: Tres Pescados Slam Tournament

September

7th: Carnival Road March at Belize City 10th: Happy St. George's Caye Day (National Holiday)

21": Belize's 38th Independence Day - celebrations held at all major municipalities

October

19th - 20th: Belize Birding Festival location to be announced

26th: Holiday Halloween Bash - (tentative) at San Pedro Holiday Hotel in San Pedro Town

November

19th - Garifuna Settlement Day celebrations held at all major municipalities

## here in Belize...

Despite its relatively small square mileage, a lot of Belize remains a mystery. There are so many hidden nooks that may never be discovered by all. We can't tell you how often it is we take the wrong turn down a dirt road, only to find ourselves feeling like we're in a whole new world. It's the beauty of exploring a place that remains relatively undeveloped, and if you're up for the adventure, who knows where you'll end up!

This particular image clearly features items that have been there a LONG time! Do you know where this particular scene

is located?



Join our guessing game by following us on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter @mybeautifulbelize, using the hashtag #whereinbelize. You can also send us your images of mystery locations to add to our guessing game! Send them to hello@mybeautifulbelize.com and join the fun!





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MOOD



MUD



SPA



TREATMENT