



Location: 3.5 Miles Belize Olde River, Ladyville
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Welcome to Belize River Lodge

The Belize River Lodge (BRL) management & staff would like to take this time to extend our sincerest gratitude for choosing us for your Belizean adventure. We hope that you enjoy your stay with us, if we can help to make your trip more enjoyable in any way, please let us know and thank you for visiting with us.

We would like to take this opportunity to reassure you that the Belize River Lodge team is committed to providing the highest standards of service; making certain that your visit is memorable.

If you require any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us, via the BRL Manager Whatsapp phone +501-663-2759 or ask any of the BRL team for assistance. Myself or Manager on Duty are on property and will be happy to assist you with your request.

Thank you again for choosing Belize River Lodge and we hope that you enjoy your stay with us.

Warm regards,

Marguerite

Owner, Manager

THINGS ABOUT AND AROUND THE LODGE

Belize City is about 14 miles to the east of the Lodge with a population of approximately 100,000 in the downtown city and surrounding areas. The country of Belize is about 68 miles wide and 174 miles long with an approximate total population of 422,000. Belmopan is the capital of the country and is Belize's second city. Belize also has the second largest Barrier Reef, which is great for fishing, diving, and snorkeling.

Belize River Lodge has been in continuous operation since 1961, and has been known as Barothy's Caribbean Lodge Ltd., Keller Caribbean Sports Ltd. (KCS), and since January of 1987, Belize River Lodge. The Lodge is now owned and operated by your hosts, Marguerite Miles and Mike Heusner. Their onsite management makes BRL one of the most personalized lodges in the Caribbean, if you need anything, just let us know.

In 1961, when the Lodge was being cut into the jungle, it was built around the indigenous surroundings, thereby creating a natural botanical garden and a birdwatcher's paradise because of the many tropical songbirds. Since the late 1980's, Belize River Lodge has emphasized "catch and release" for Bonefish, Tarpon and Permit. In 2008, the Government of Belize is supporting this effort and a law has been passed that Bonefish, Tarpon and Permit can be fished "catch and release" only. Continuing the BRL conservation effort, we allow one Snook per day per boat to be kept (size discretion is determined by the guide) if an angler would like to taste snook. Some Snapper, Barracuda, and Grouper may be kept for fresh fish dinners.

Accommodation Policies

- * Only registered guest in the room
- * No smoking in the rooms
- * No pets allowed in the room
- * Please turn off lights and AC in room when checking out
- * Please leave keys in the office when checking out

Currency: US\$1.00 = Bz\$2.00, All pricing and billing is in US dollars.

Telecommunication: We do not offer phones to guest inside of the unit; however, there is Wifi on the property.

- Please feel free to utilize the internet and contact us via WhatsApp +501 663-2759, please use this number as a 24 hr. emergency contact

Manager on Duty: If you need management's attention, please let Marguerite know or contact us via the Manager Whatsapp phone +501-663-2759

BRL Pets: The Lodge has a few pets around, all are friendly and like attention. For your pet away from home, the fluffy brown dog is named **Osa**, who appeared at the Lodge in November 2023; and **Marina**, the Shepard looking dog, was is a Belize City street rescue. We also have two cats, a grey **Milky** and **Areska**, who came in from the jungle. The parrots are named **Polly** (Yellowhead) and **Cappy** (Redhead). Both Polly and Cappy are very old, Polly used to belong to Marguerite's mother who acquired her in 1984 and Cappy was orphaned while he was still featherless and rescued by Marguerite's daughter-in-law and syringe fed. Polly is estimated to be about midlife in parrot years, as they can live up to 80 years in captivity and Cappy is well over 25 years old. Besides domesticated pets, be careful of our wild ones, such as turtles, frogs, iguanas, snakes, spiders, howler monkeys, tapir, gibbon, quash and crocodiles. Your morning alarm will be the wild song birds, however, if you would like a wake-up call, please let us know.

Transportation to/from BRL: Before your arrival in Belize, we request your flight information, so that we meet you at the Philip Goldson International Airport and transfer you to Belize River Lodge. On your departure day, we return you to the PGIA for your airline check-in.

Local Transportation: Taxi services are available if needed; all taxi are identified by green license plates in Belize.

- If you need any other transportation during your stay, we can contact Edmund Crawford, taxi and tour guide. Edmund's number is +501-607-7039. We can get a price and Edmund is paid directly by you.

Check-In Time: 2:00 pm

- If you have an earlier flight, we try to accommodate all early check-ins.

Check-Out Time: 10:00 am, due to the early arrival of airlines, we need to allow time for staff to clean and prep rooms for arriving guests. We try accommodating all late check-outs.

- We will have staff pick up your luggage and place beside the Lodge porch to await your departure time to the airport.
- You can rest and relax on the Lodge porch until it is time to depart for the airport for your airline check-in time.

BRL Cancellation Policy: Deposits are refundable only if a written cancellation is received at the Lodge 120 days prior to guests' arrival. Less than 120 days, deposits will be refunded only if a replacement can be found. Cancellations *must be* in writing to the Lodge.

- Please note that if your cancellation is before the 120 days, there is a \$100.00 processing fee on all cancellations.

Security: Belize River Lodge has someone on stand-by 24 hours a day. We have a daytime staff always willing to help as needed. During the evening and night, we have a “night watchman” who patrols the property. He is on-site if any assistance is needed, he can get a hold of Marguerite or the Manager on Duty at any time.

Emergency: In case of an emergency, please contact us via the Manager Whatsapp phone +501-663-2759 or request assistance from any BRL staff.

- If needed, the Belize Medical Associates (BMA - private hospital) is in Belize City, about a 20 minute car ride away.
- BMA has 24 hour a day emergency service and BRL always has a driver on-hand.

Police Department: For a situation that requires police attention, please call the Ladyville Police at

- As there is no road access into Belize River Lodge, the Police department is no immediate help. Please contact the office ASAP, so that we can help or contact the police as necessary.

Fire Department: For a fire emergency, please call via the Manager Whatsapp phone +501-663-2759 or request assistance from any BRL staff.

Fire extinguishers and emergency fire exit signs are located on each porch and there are smoke detectors in each room.

- As there is no road access into Belize River Lodge, the fire department is no help. Please contact the office ASAP in case of any fire, so that we can put our “plan of action” into action.

In your rooms:

In your room, you will find a pitcher of fresh drinking water, a small insulated cooler of ice and glasses; all ice and drinking water are purified. Tap water from the shower and sink is good treated well water, good for brushing your teeth, however we recommend not drinking it.

Also in your rooms are alarm clocks, hair dryers, spare pillows (in tote-box above closet) and a universal surge protector electric charging station (10 Outlet Plugs with 4 USB Slot). Clothes hangers and travel soaps, shampoos and lotions are provided. If you need more, just let us know.

While in your room, there are fans to move air and all bedrooms have air conditioners. Most of the air conditioners are split unit and set in Celsius known as the centigrade scale. If you are used to temperatures in Fahrenheit, please see the below chart for AC settings.

18 C = 64.4 F	24 C = 75.2 F
20 C = 68 F	26 C = 78.8 F
22 C = 71.6 F	28 C = 82.4 F

Please do not set the air conditioner units below 18C as the outside pipes may freeze, yes, even in our humid Belize weather.

Housekeeping: BRL provides daily housekeeping services. If you would not like housekeeping, please let Marguerite or the Manager on Duty know ahead of time.

Safety Deposit Box: A safety deposit box is installed in your room.

- Directions to close: Close door, type in 4 digit code, punch Lock.
- Directions to open: Punch in 4 digit code.
- If you forget your 4 digit code, myself or Manager on Duty have the bypass keys. Bypass keys will not be issued to anyone.

We don't expect any problems, however, if at any time something comes up, please let us know so that we can handle it and your relaxed visit can continue.

Medical Services: Should you require medical attention, or in case of a medical emergency, please contact us via the Manager Whatsapp phone +501-663-2759 or request assistance from any BRL staff.

Belize Medical Associates (BMA)

5791 St Thomas St, Belize City

+501 223-0303

Universal Health Center

Cor. Chancellor & Blue Marlin Ave; Belize City

+501 224-5537

- Dental services available if needed.

A Day at BRL: *A quick breakdown of your day at the Lodge*

- 6:00 am: In the dining room, coffee or tea is served
 - If you are up before the 6:00 am coffee is ready, there is a self-serve coffee/tea service set up (Keurig), where you can come in and help yourself at any time.
- 7:00 am Breakfast
 - If prearranged with your guide, a Continental style breakfast at your convenience).
- Fishing times are normally 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM. While touring or fishing from the Lodge, lunch is “box style” - sandwiches, fruit, snacks, soft drinks and water.
- 6:15 pm Appetizers are served on the main Lodge porch
- 7:00 PM Dinner is an appetizing combination of Belizean Creole and American cuisine. Before and after dinner, cocktails are on the honor/self-serve system, relax, help yourself and please write down all beer, wine, and alcoholic beverages in your room tab book, located at the bar. Enjoy! Please feel free to smoke on porches or verandas.

OTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE LODGE

Marguerite’s Restaurant & Meals: BRL serves family style a blend of Belizean Creole cuisine and our daily menus are varied and very tasty. When checking in, we ask to see if you have any dietary requirements. If we somehow missed yours, please be sure to let management know of any dietary restrictions or requirement that the kitchen staff needs to be aware of. If you have any special dietary restrictions (food allergies, diabetes, Celiac disease, etc or special requests), so that we can prepare your meals to your needs.

BRL’s kitchen can handle an assortment of dietary restrictions and have a menu planned for your requirements. Please let us know if you need a diet to take into account:

☐ Diabetes ☐ High Cholesterol ☐ Celiac Disease ☐ Vegetarian ☐ Other

If you do not eat one or more of the below foods, due to allergies, dietary needs to just plain dislike, please let us know ahead of time so that we can plan your menu accordingly.

(** Alternative)

<input type="checkbox"/> Milk	<input type="checkbox"/> Pasta, white flour	<input type="checkbox"/> Pickles
<input type="checkbox"/> Eggs	<input type="checkbox"/> White Rice (** brown rice)	<input type="checkbox"/> Relish
<input type="checkbox"/> Eggs cooked in breads	<input type="checkbox"/> Potatoes (** sweet potato)	<input type="checkbox"/> Beef
<input type="checkbox"/> Milk cooked in breads	<input type="checkbox"/> White bread (** wheat)	<input type="checkbox"/> Pork
<input type="checkbox"/> Butter	<input type="checkbox"/> Onions (raw / cooked)	<input type="checkbox"/> Chicken
<input type="checkbox"/> Cheese	<input type="checkbox"/> Mayonnaise	<input type="checkbox"/> Fish
<input type="checkbox"/> Sugar, white	<input type="checkbox"/> Mustard	<input type="checkbox"/> Shellfish (shrimp, lobster, conch)
<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____		<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____

☐ If you would prefer, a garden salad can be provided for lunch instead of sandwiches.

Available upon request: Soy &/or Almond milk, bran cereal.

** Notes substitutions.

Continental breakfasts: Available upon request; however, notice needs to be given before 7:00 pm dinner on the previous evening. Your guide will not be available to depart early unless an early departure is set up with him before the end of the previous fishing day.

Drinking Water and Ice: All drinking water and ice (rooms, bar, dining table and skiffs) is purified bottled water and purified ice. We purchase ahead of time from a reputable water company, water in 5 gallons and ice in 2 lb bags. Please be conscious to securely close ice coolers while in skiffs.

BRL Bar: Our bar is the self-service and honor system. The BRL bar will have a little of everything: a Belizean rum and Belizean Belikin Beer; a vodka, a gin, a whiskey and a tequila. Mixers, tonic and soda water, cokes and other soft drinks are at the bar for you to mix your favorite drink in the evening. We also have full bottles of alcohol & wine for sale by the bottle. Please check with the office to see what is available by the bottle.

Everyone can use bar as desired and write their drinks in the booklet for their room by the bar. Only Beer and alcohol needs to be noted.

Telephone and WiFi: There is a telephone in the office, which can accept all calls – call direct from the USA 011-501-225-2002. The BRL toll free number does not ring in Belize.

All BRL building are set up for wireless internet. The passwords for your building is given to you upon check-in, in case we forget, please just ask for the passwords.

Lodge TV: On the main Lodge porch, we have a TV. While the main focus of the Lodge is not TV, we know that there are important sports games throughout the year and it can also be used to see video footage of fish landed during the day. If you don't see it, just ask us.

Music: BRL has a Bluetooth speaker available if you would like to enjoy music in the evenings or during dinner. If you don't see it, just check with us.

Gratuities: BRL does not include a service charge or gratuities on your bill. Gratuities are appreciated by our staff who work hard to make your stay enjoyable and memorable. Please tip your guide directly on your last day of activity and the staff on your departure day. Tipping is a personal thing based on service. Please plan on tipping in cash (Everyone in Belize accept US dollars (no coins), so no need to exchange for Belize dollars.) for both guides and BRL staff. As a note, again this is personal preference, but BRL guides are normally tipped on the last fishing day, at the end of the day. The pooled staff tip can be given into the kitchen to the ladies after breakfast on your last morning.

Rod Rentals, Flies, Lures and Leaders: Belize River Lodge has rental equipment, subject to availability. Fly fishing equipment is top quality, mainly Winston and Sage rods, 8 wt's, 10 wt's & 12 wt's, & Teton, Sage and Bauer saltwater reels. All reels have Cortland, Scientific Angler or Rio lines.

If you find that you are short of the needed equipment, flies, lures &/or leaders we have a good stock of the items that work well for our local waters. Please check with someone in the office.

Snorkeling & Tours: On any given day while fishing the Flats, you can take time from fishing and head to the reef for a little snorkeling. Let your guide know that you are interested in snorkeling in the morning before leaving the Lodge and he will plan this into your fishing day. Mask, snorkels and fins are available for rent at US\$10.00 per day, per set.

- If you would like to explore a Maya site, the Zoo or other options, especially on your arrival or departure days, please let us know and we can give you pricing. This is an additional cost to you.

Transportation to Belize City: Taxi service is available most of the time. If interested, please ask office to inquire into pricing. The driver is paid direct at the end of your trip.

Salt Water: Saltwater is very corrosive. Rinse your rods & reels daily with fresh water. At the Lodge, it is policy that at the end of the day, your guide &/or BRL staff will rinse your rods & reels down with fresh water at the dock and place to dry on the rack. After your trip, rinse & clean all equipment & clothing thoroughly before storing.

If you have time before your flight and would like to clean your equipment before travelling back home, please let us know and we will have a bucket of fresh water, a little Dawn soap and cleaning and drying cloths delivered to the porch of your room.

Natural Pests: Due to the tropical climate of Belize, it is very likely that you will encounter natural pests. Belize River Lodge is a jungle lodge so the possibility of seeing lizards, geckos, iguana, frogs and spiders are common and are harmless. They all help to eliminate unwanted pests. If you encounter a scorpion or a snake, don't panic! Usually they are more afraid of you and are trying to get away. Let us know if you need help.

We try to protect the environment and we minimize the use of sprays and insecticides. Mosquitos and No-seeums (sandfly's) can be pesky, especially around sun-up and sun-down. Mosquito repellent is a good deterrent.

Cigars: The Caribbean is known for some of the finest cigars in the world, we have a good stock available for sale in the small humidor on the porch. However, if you wanted to try a Cuban, let us know and we can get them for you. *24 hours notice* is required on this service.

Professional Massage: Unwind and treat yourself to a relaxing and therapeutic massage! Let us know you are interested, and a licensed masseuse will arrive at the Lodge after dinner and relieve your body's aches, pains and tensions. Cost of a massage is US\$65.00 per hour. *24 hours notice* is required on this service and based upon availability of the masseuse.

Hairdresser: Ladies, while Belize River does not have a cosmetologist on site, we can make arrangements for you to go into Belize City for a hair or nail refresher. *24 hours notice* is required on this service and based upon availability of the cosmetologist.

Taxidermy: The Lodge can also provide fish Taxidermy. We recommend only fiberglass fish replicas. If you catch your trophy, please take a few photos, length and girth measurements, and then release your newly acquainted friend, so someone else may have a chance to catch it again. We work with Pflueger Marine Taxidermy of Florida. Please inquire for costs.

BRL Fishing Club: To be a member of our club, please remember to let Mike or Marguerite know if you have landed any Tarpon over 80 lbs, a Permit of any size, a Super Slam (Tarpon, Permit, Bonefish & Snook) or a Grand Slam. Of course, there is no cost and you get a club certificate to take home and a copy is kept on the porch.

Facts about your hosts: Mike & Marguerite purchased the Lodge in 1986 and have owned and managed it ever since; however, their tourism career started years prior. Mike & Marguerite managed the Lodge, when it was known as *Keller's Caribbean Sports* (KCS) from 1980-1981. In late 1981, they were hired to manage *Pyramid Island Lodge* and moved to Caye Chapel. After a few years, they left Caye Chapel and opened up *Discover Belize*, known for live-aboard (the Permit) fishing and duck hunting trips, yes, there are blue-winged teal in Belize. In the mid '80's with Belize's regulations on gun control tightening and Mike & Marguerite's focus to conservation beginning, they phased out the duck hunting and continued fishing with a big focus on catch and release on the sporting species. When KCS went on the market in 1986, it was the right transition for them. When Mike & Marguerite purchased the Lodge, the guides were from good Ole' Vic's days – Jimmy Evans, Richard Smith, Phillip Andrewin, Roy Baptist and Leroy Eiley. These guides were a font on information on the old days and the fishing of Central Belize. With Mike and Marguerite's experience of Belize, tourism and fishing, they are entertaining and knowledgeable hosts.

Photos & Social Media: All of our promotional material, brochures, magazine ads, website, dvd, flyers etc are guest photos. If you have any pictures from your trip that you would like to share and don't mind us using your photos, please let us know. We can download the pictures to our computer before you leave the Lodge or you can send them to us via www.wetransfer.com (free large file transfer website). We appreciate all pictures of all fish, flora, fauna or anything that you find interesting while visiting.

Social Media is necessary in today's world and for year's we tried not to bother anyone while they were on vacation or after getting home. However, we need help, so are asking if you can please:

Post any pictures of the BRL, LCOL or your fishing, please [#belizeriverlodge](#) so that it will post to our **Instagram** account.

Post any pictures to our **Facebook** account at <http://www.facebook.com/belizeriverlodge>

Please leave us a review on **Google** at [Belize River Lodge](#). While you are visiting BRL, we do everything we can to insure a good trip, if for some reason, things are not as you expect, please let us know right away while you are here and we will try to make things right. We all prefer good reviews, you writing them and us receiving them.