

You are cordially invited by your hosts: Jay Hughey, Amy Chance, and Rebecca Louise Goddammit

NO B.S. - LET'S GET THIS PARTY STARTED!!!

# Save the Date

Friday, August 31 - Monday, September 3rd, 2012

(Accommodations for Friday, Saturday, and Sunday night included. The option to stay past the rally dates, at cost, will be available.)

\*\*\* Please - no arrivals in San Pedro prior to Friday 8/31 \*\*\* We appreciate your cooperation in advance!!

# Save the Money

Rally Fees will be \$400 or less (Full amount and payment terms forthcoming)

What's included?:

3 nights accommodations, meals & drinks at the rally house, and all the fun your widdle heart could desire.

Plan Early – Time is Money! Passports and plane tickets can get expensive if you wait until the last minute.

## Save your Soul ..

#### (sorry, no hope for your liver after we're done with you)

In preparation for your rally, you should learn to love rum, Bob Marley, rum, Belikin beer, rum, Jack (the person not the booze), rum, Jimmy Buffett, sand, rum, sun, Mate, rum, sunscreen, rum, Panty Rippers, Jerry Jeff Walker, rum, Lighthouse Beer, sand, rum, Kriol, rum, starlit skies, rum, ocean breezes, manta rays, rum, friendly locals, rum, Claudia, rum, Lucky the Cat, and.....did we mention.... rum.

Let's get down to business......continued on next page....

## SOME SPECIFICS TO HELP YOU START PLANNING YOUR TRIP ....

- LANGUAGE: English is the National Language of Belize. A second island language, Kriol, is also spoken by many Belizean locals.
- CURRENCY: The official currency is the Belizean Dollar, but US Dollars are accepted EVERYWHERE. The Belizean Dollar is tied to the US Dollar at a rate of 2/1... (\$2 BZD = \$1 USD) Credit & Debit Cards are accepted widely in San Pedro. US Coins are not accepted - only paper money - so no bringing your piggy bank. \*\*\* The best part is when they give you change in both US and Belizean Dollars, and coins after a few cocktails...have fun with that one!!\*\*
- PASSPORTS: All U.S. citizens must have a U.S. passport valid for at least six months from the date of arrival in Belize and a proof of return to the U.S. If you do not have a passport, please visit <u>http://travel.state.gov/passport/get/get\_4855.html</u> for more information on obtaining a passport in time for the rally. We'll also be sending out a separate email soon with details on applications for new passports and renewals for existing passport holders.
- VISAS: No visas are required for citizens of the United States for tourist visits of up to 30 days, but they must have onward or return air tickets and proof of sufficient funds to maintain themselves in Belize.
- EXIT FEES: Belize has an "Exit Tax" of approximately \$39 U.S. Some airlines include this fee in their tickets, some do not. Please check with your airline on their individual policy. If your fee is not included, be prepared to pay \$39 in US Dollars when exiting the country.
- SHOTS: No "special" immunizations are required for travel from the US to Belize. However if traveling in from another country other than the U.S. – you should check the list here for further requirements: <u>http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/belize.htm</u>

### TRAVEL TO BELIZE FROM THE U.S.

First and fore mostly, we HIGHLY recommend that you take some additional time on your rally trip and explore the beauty that is Belize. There are SO many other places to see and things to do other than solely visiting San Pedro. In the coming months we'll be sending out suggestions of other wonderful Belizean destinations for you to consider while you're heading south. Take some time – enjoy the country!!

As of a quick check today, the flights into BZE (from various ralliers originating airports) are ranging from approximately \$550 - \$680. Flight prices fluctuate constantly. Your hosts have been (and will be) keeping a close eye on flight costs and alerting you when we see fare sales, or discounts on flights to Belize. We will alert you at the moment we see any significant drop in prices.

The most direct route to San Pedro from the U.S. is to fly into BZE (Belize City International Airport), and then connect to San Pedro via one of the local flight or water taxi options detailed later in this section.

Travelers from Texas will find direct international routes to BZE from:

Houston (IAH/Continental) Dallas (DFW/American Air) Austin (must connect - 1 stop through either city)

Austin Travelers will need to make one stop (IAH or DFW) on their way to BZE, however, we've found that there is usually little to no increase in fare cost for this additional leg.

Flights are nonstop from both IAH and DFW and are approximately 2.5 hours in duration. (Note: Flight schedules change seasonally, so check listings carefully.)

#### CALI TRAVELERS:

Travelers from California, sadly, must take connecting flights to reach BZE. The choices of connecting vary widely and range airlines. The most common connections being:

Via Houston (IAH) on Continental Via Dallas (DFW) on American Via Atlanta (ATL) on Delta Via Miami (MIA) on American Via San Salvador (SAL) on Taca Air

### CONNECTING TO SAN PEDRO FROM BZE

Once you've landed at BZE, there are two ways to connect to San Pedro..... via air....and water.

#### TRANSFERRING TO SAN PEDRO VIA AIR:

Connecting from BZE to San Pedro and other parts of Belize via air is extremely simple and reasonably priced (approx \$100 roundtrip). There are two local airlines which service the country....

Tropic Air <u>www.tropicair.com</u> Maya Island Air <u>www.mayaregional.com</u>

Both airlines have several flights a day to/from San Pedro, Placentia, Punta Gorda, Caye Caulker, Corazol, and Dangriga. Once you have booked your international flight into BZE, you can easily book your flight from BZE to San Pedro by visiting either airlines website. The flight takes approximately 15 minutes from BZE to San Pedro and the airlines schedule is EXTREMELY flexible (meaning if you land earlier or later than expected on your international arrival – it is VERY easy to reschedule to another flight at the ticket counter in BZE.) FYI..... The planes on both local airlines are 12 seater propeller planes. Fun!

NOTE: Your RR2012 Hosts have secured a 20% discount on flights with Tropic Air. Details to follow in a separate email at a later date. Please contact your hosts prior to booking your Tropic Air Flights.

#### TRANSFERRING TO SAN PEDRO VIA WATER:

A more economical option of traveling from Belize City to San Pedro is via Belize Water Taxi <u>www.belizewatertaxi.com</u>. From BZE you'll take a street taxi from the airport into Belize City to the Water Taxi pickup point at the Brown Sugar Terminal, 111 Front Street. The water taxi will cost you \$15 USD each way, and will take approximate 1:15 minutes via water to reach San Pedro. Water taxi's run 4 times a day to San Pedro with the last one leaving at 5:30pm. (watch your connection times!)

#### **BUDGET TRAVEL OPTION**

We have heard (yet none have personally experienced) of a much more "budget option" of traveling from the U.S. to San Pedro. It involves flying into Cancun (which is a generally a much cheaper flight from the U.S.), taking a 5-hour bus south to Chetumal, over-nighting in Chetumal and taking a 1.5 hour water taxi to San Pedro. The bus costs approximately \$30-\$40 and the water taxi costs \$30 one-way. More details on the Cancun travel option to be continued in a later email.

#### ARRIVING IN SAN PEDRO - WHAT TO EXPECT

You will NOT need to rent a car in San Pedro. Your hosts have arranged all transport from the airport to your first night's accommodations. Please make sure we are copied on your final arrival plans (via air or boat), and we will have your escort meet you upon arrival. EXPECT TO HAVE FUN!!!

#### MORE INFO COMING SOON .....

That's it for now folks... we'll be sending out updates from time to time, so check your email accounts! The Rally Planning is still in the early stages, but we're putting out information as soon as possible in hopes to give you all plenty of time to book your vacations and flights. We're extremely excited about this rally and hope you'll join us. We can't think of a better group of friends in which to share this crazy island adventure!

#### **QUESTIONS / CONTACT INFO:**

Please address all questions for the rally hosts (Jay Hughey, Amy Chance, or Rebecca Louise Goddammit) via:

# hosts@rr2012.info

That will reach all of us - and any of the hosts can answer your questions.

Website coming soon: www.rr2012.info