



Getting Here Information Packet

Reef Conservation International's marine conservation dive trips are from Monday till Friday. We depart by boat for our island at 9:00am-9:30am on Monday from the Hokey Pokey Water Taxi Dock in Placencia, Belize. We return to the mainland (Placencia) on Friday anywhere from 11am-1pm depending on navigable ocean conditions. So you will need to schedule your arrival and departure in and out of Placencia, Belize either on a Saturday or Sunday. There are three options to reach ReefCI located in Placencia, Belize.

1. **By Air:** From Belize International Airport (BZE), fly down on a 'hopper' plane to Placencia with [Tropic Air](#) or [Maya Island Air](#). The flight takes about 45 minutes and will range anywhere from \$230-260 USD round-trip and is an exciting ride. Most guests choose this option. Tropic Air and Maya Island Air provide 7-9 daily flights on the weekends to/from Belize International Airport and Placencia; the first flight starting at 7:00 am and the last flight around 5:00 pm. I would definitely do a quick flight search at [Tropic Air](#) and [Maya Island Air](#) to find the best price.

Travel Tip! Have your camera ready as you will fly low enough to take in all the beautiful scenery with the Mayan Mountains and jungle on one side and the Belize Barrier Reef on the other. I highly recommend taking the flight option.

2. **By Bus:** The [James Bus Line](#) is the most reliable and economical bus line from Belize City to Placencia. Round-trip the journey will cost around \$100 USD. However, the journey is not for the faint of heart! It is a very long 4 to 5 hour bus ride on difficult, bumpy roads in a bus that is most likely not air conditioned. From Belize International Airport, take a taxi to the Belize Bus Terminal in Belize City. It's the only bus terminal in town, so a taxi driver will know its location – but it's not close to the airport at about 20 miles away. Next, take the Belize City to Independence Village (Mango Creek) bus route, which will take about 4-5 hours. Lastly, from Independence, take the short 10-minute water taxi boat ride to Placencia via the [Hokey Pokey Water Taxi](#). Please note that you must take either the 9:15am or 10:15am bus from Belize City to Independence because the last boat taxi from Independence to Placencia leaves at 5:30pm on Saturday and 4:30pm on Sunday. If you catch a bus later than the 10:15am out of Belize City, you will miss the last water taxi to Placencia and be stuck in Independence for the night or forced to hire a local boat captain at high cost.

Travel Tip! The bus journey is very long and arduous and I would only recommend it for an experienced international traveler and/or the adventurous type on a tight budget.

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3. **By Shuttle:** There are various shuttle companies that provide round trip runs directly from Belize International Airport to Placencia. Unfortunately, their rates are no cheaper than the short domestic flights offered by Tropic Air and Maya Island Air due to the long 4 to 5 hour drive and expensive gas prices in Belize.

Travel Tip! If you are planning to take the bus or shuttle option just for the scenery, you will regret not taking the flight option. You can't beat the view from the air! My recommendation is to take Tropic Air or Maya Island Air. The flight is beautiful - with the reef on one side and the Mayan Mountains on the other side, it is a breathtaking view all the way down the coast from Belize International to Placencia.

Need help searching for an international flight to Belize?

The international airport is Philip S.W. Goldson International Airport (Belize International Airport). It is in Belize City and the airport code is BZE.

1. Try [kayak](#), [google flights](#), [skyscanner](#), or [cheapoair](#) for searching the cheapest flight options. The major United States airlines servicing Belize International (BZE) are American Airlines, Continental Airlines, United Airlines, Delta, US Air, and Southwest.
2. If travelling from the U.K. or other parts of Europe, you will need to fly to the United States and then catch a connection down to Belize International (BZE). At present, there are no direct flights from Europe. There are direct flights available from London Gatwick (LGW) Airport into Cancun, Mexico that can work out cheaper. You can then book a [Tropic Air](#) flight from Cancun, Mexico to Placencia.

What is Reef Conservation International?

Feel the thrill of swimming with a whale shark, the excitement of spearing the invasive lionfish, and the satisfaction in helping the marine environment. ReefCI trips are a unique opportunity to protect the reef ecosystem by directly participating in our ongoing marine conservation projects! We are located on a small, private Caribbean island on the Belize Barrier Reef. The diving is incredible and the conservation work we do is meaningful! Learn to dive or further your dive qualifications; everyone contributes regardless of their experience. World class diving, plentiful home cooked food, and fun friendly people await you. If you have not done so already, [reserve](#) your spot today!

Please visit ReefCI on [TripAdvisor](#) for independent guest reviews. See what we have been up to on [Facebook](#) or check us out on [Instagram](#) or [Twitter](#). We look forward to welcoming you to ReefCI and beautiful Belize!

We are happy to answer any questions you may have. Simply email us at anthony@reefci.com with your questions. We always respond within 24 hours or sooner. Alternatively, feel free to call Anthony in the USA at +1 513-334-9393 if you wish to speak to ReefCI directly.

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