

BLACK ORCHID MANAGEMENT, LTD.

Travel Tips & Trip Planner

Packing Pointers & Recommended Packing List

PACKING POINTERS – Remember the slogan down here is “No Shirt, No Shoes, No Problem”. Bring twice the money and half the clothes, that's what they say.

With a tropical climate, you will find, that you are perfectly content and comfortable with simple lightweight clothing. Avoid polyester clothing (or any blends) it does not allow for air flow, and you will find it to be hot and uncomfortable.

CLOTHING – The climate in Belize is subtropical with an annual average temperature of 80 degrees F. So dress accordingly. You'll mostly wear casual, tropical light weight clothing, jeans (maybe), shorts, and short-sleeved shirts or t-shirts. Pack a hat to protect your head. Include a sweater, lightweight waterproof jacket (for evenings on the beach or boat rides), tropical weight long-sleeved shirt and long pants (if going into the jungle). Be sure to take a change of clothing in your carry-on luggage, just in case your luggage is temporarily lost or misplaced in transit.

EYE WEAR & CARE – Bright, sunny days require sunglasses, polarized is best. Lens cleaners may not be readily available down here, so please bring your own. Take plenty of eye lubricant (moisturizers) and cleaning solutions. Lens wearers who also use eyeglasses should plan on wearing glasses – rather than lenses – more often to give your eyes a break.

FOOTWEAR – Sandals or “flip ons” are the preferred footwear. Bring a good pair of walking shoes, hiking boots or tennis shoes (with several pairs of socks) if you are planning on doing any jungle excursions.

SUNSCREEN, LOTIONS & REPELLENTS – It's necessary to protect your skin from the sun's ultraviolet rays. Pack plenty of sunscreen. Your favorite brand may not be readily available and an unfamiliar brand may cause a bad reaction. As bugs do live in jungles and in beach areas, take along insect repellent. If you tend to have very sensitive skin, think about bringing some hydrocortisone cream.

CAMERAS & FILM – Specific kinds of film, assuming you have not gone digital, may be hard to find. Bring extra batteries for your camera, along with plenty of film. Upscale gift shops sell pocket-type and underwater disposable cameras. To be safe, bring your own.

DIVING, SNORKELING, FISHING EQUIPMENT – Bring your own or leave it at home. It's your preference. If you have a prescription lens mask, be sure and bring that, along with your PADI certification card. Many divers will want to bring their own BC, regulator, wet suit, fins and mask. Leave your weights at home. They are normally included included in your tour rates. Do not bring spear guns. They will be confiscated at the airport.

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Although most fishing trips include bait and tackle, serious fly fishing and spin casting anglers will probably want to bring their own gear.

BIRD WATCHING – A good pair of binoculars and a guide book are invaluable to increase your birding enjoyment.

JUST IN CASE – Take a small flashlight or headlamp with extra batteries and water bottle for caving, hiking and water adventures.

Photocopy important documents such as passports, driver's license, credit cards, prescription medication forms, airline ticket and other important information.

ESSENTIAL – Carry essential medications with you. Bring an extra supply of prescription medications to carry along with you on a daily basis, especially when traveling to remote areas. Bubble wrap is an excellent way to protect fragile gift items you want to take home, such as woodcarvings and other items.

1. Bring along any prescription medicines, that you or your kids may need while in Belize.
2. Be sure to bring, use and re-apply high protection sun-block generously. It is hard to keep kids out of the sun and even on an overcast day one can get badly burnt, potentially ruining your vacation.
3. Although lifejackets are a requirement for all boat operators, smaller sizes are not common, so bring along life jackets for babies and small children. Kids can also wear these when playing in the pool.
4. Communicate with guest services about the interests your family has in additional activities while in Belize. There is an assortment of tour packages available to choose from.
5. Stock up on high-energy snacks like granola bars and bottled water in cities or major towns before going on tours so that your children always have something available to eat and drink.
6. Pack water toys, stuffed animals and books to keep your children busy especially on the journey to Belize.
7. You will find a selection of disposable diapers, cereals and formulas in town, however, if you have a preferred brand, be sure to bring your own.

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WHAT TO PACK FOR A WEEK STAY – Most of what you will be wearing, will be casual. For evening attire, even the nicest restaurants on the island accept casual attire. Clothing selections should be items that are lightweight and loose cotton fitting attire. Belize can be hot, so prepare adequately for the sun. As a basic rule, if you cannot get along without it, bring a spare. This applies for contact lenses, glasses, sunglasses, flashlight and any personal medications.

- Passports – Driver's License – Credit Cards – Money – Travelers Checks
- Airline Tickets
- Emergency Contact Information
- 2 swimming suits
- 3 pairs shorts/capris
- Long Pants – Long Shirts
- Comfortable Evening Attire (dresses, pants & shirts)
- Sandals (1 pair, comfortable)
- Tennis shoes w/ 2-3 sets of socks (1 pair, comfortable)
- Swim Shoes (esp. recommended for elderly, we have lots of tile down here and tile is slippery when wet)
- Lightweight jacket for walking on the beach and while riding in boats.
- Lightweight rain jacket w/hood (if you are coming during the raining season)
- Dark Sunglasses
- Sunscreen lotion (plenty)
- Hat (wide brimmed)
- Camera
- Dry Bag (for camera, cell phones or Ipods) when participating in water activities
- Small Flash Light (for possible power outages)
- Insect Repellent
- Binoculars
- Small Dry Pack w/ Bars & Favorite Snacks
- Health Kit (special medicines, lotions, personal sanitary items)
- Baby Items (diapers, formulas, bottles, blanket, stroller, diaper bag, wet ones)
- Reading material (books, magazines, maps, guidebooks, these instructions)
- Prescription glasses & prescription diving mask (if applicable)
- Diving & Snorkeling Equipment (if you desire)
- Dive Certification Card

If coming to dive or snorkel – If you're diving or fishing you can bring your own equipment if you wish (prescription mask, snorkel, fins, suit, etc. – BUT NO WEIGHTS). Diving and snorkeling gear is available for rent at the various dive shops. Please keep in mind, when you book a

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diving, snorkeling or fishing trip with Black Orchid, your dive, snorkeling and fishing gear is included.

If you are coming to go on some of the various tours – If you plan to take any of the jungle tours on the mainland, you will need to bring a good pair of walking shoes, hiking boots (or tennis shoes), loose cotton pants, dark sunglasses, a wide brimmed hat, insect repellent and your camera.

THINGS TO AVOID – Remember no liquids in your carry on luggage.

- Avoid polyester clothing – leave it at home
- Leave fancy/expensive jewelry & watches at home (save it for city life)
- Do not bring diving weights or spear guns
- No fresh fruit or meat (especially pork) can be brought into the country
- If bringing more than \$10,000.00 USD in currency, you will need to declare it
- No ammunitions or firearms
- No illegal drugs