



SOUTHEAST COAST: SEASIDE SENSATIONS

Known for its unspoiled beaches and relaxed atmosphere, the Southeast Coast is a water lover's dream, whether your clients prefer swimming, snorkeling, diving, fishing or kayaking. The region in the Stann Creek District is rimmed by the Maya Mountains and features some of the most magnificent beaches in Belize, as well as access to dive spots along the reef. And the local Garifuna people add their unique cultural charms to the experience.

Top stops:

Placencia

Called "barefoot perfect" by visitors the world over, your clients will want to immediately kick off their shoes and relax, whether hanging on the beach or in one of the rustic seaside eateries. The pristine beaches are a gateway to water sports galore, from fly fishing and sailing to snorkeling and diving.

Dangriga

Meaning "sweet water" in the Garifuna language, Dangriga is the Garifuna capital of Belize, where travelers can experience this vibrant culture up close and personal. Musicians playing handcrafted drums made of mahogany and cedar add to the colorful ambiance.

Hopkins

Its 12-mile stretch of beach is among the best in Belize and part of the allure is the slow pace of this Garifuna fishing village, where the locals carve canoes and weave baskets by hand. The nearby atolls of Glover's Reef, Lighthouse Reef and Turneffe Islands are accessible.

Cockscomb Basin Wildlife Sanctuary

This 128,000-acre jungle habitat is home to an array of animals and birds, but the real draw is the jaguars—which are best seen on an evening guided tour. The sanctuary plus surrounding area offers the jaguars lots of space to roam and thrive.

Laughing Bird Caye National Park

Palm-fringed beaches and shallow swimming areas, as well as great diving, make this 10,000-acre protected park a popular day trip from Placencia.