

# Belize 2020

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### January - March 2020



#### **Krem's New Year's Cycle Classic**

Event Dates: January 1, 2020

Event Description: This is a single day road cycling race held since 1991 on New Year's Day, January 1, and is thus the first race on Belize's cycling calendar. The usual route is over the Philip Goldson Highway from Corozal District to Belize City, finishing at the corner of Central American Boulevard and Mahogany Street, approximately two blocks from the home of the race's sponsor, Kremandala Ltd.

**More Info: Facebook: [Click Here](#)**



#### **Sidewalk Arts and Music Festival**

Event Dates: February 8 & 9, 2020

Event Description: Every year the small fishing village of Placencia located in the Stann Creek District comes alive as the central sidewalk is transformed into an art gallery and music festival where numerous photographers, painters and sculptors converge to display and sell their products. The event is filled with fun, games, music and poetry readings. Numerous mouth watering foods are also on sale.

**More Info: [Click Here](#)**

**or call BTIA/Placencia Village Council at 523-3396**



#### **Street Art Festival, Belize City**

Event Dates: February 22, 2020

Event Description: This festival is designed to focus not only on the wide range of cultural activities offered through the Bliss Centre but also to showcase Belizean artists in giving them an intimate setting with the Belizean public by creating an environment to honor and celebrate our diverse culture. The Festival takes place on Albert Street in downtown Belize City featuring local artists, fashion shows, a food court, a kid zone and vendor stalls/booth offering a variety of local food.

**More Info: [Click Here](#)**

**or call National Institute for Culture and History at 501-227-0811**



#### **La Ruta Maya River Challenge**

Event Dates: March 6-9, 2020

Event Description: La Ruta Maya Belize River Challenge is considered one of the longest canoe races in Central America. The race brings together professional and amateur paddlers from all over the world who take on the four day grueling challenge of paddling 175 miles on the Belize Old River against rapids and winds all the way from San Ignacio, Cayo District, to the Belcan Bridge in Belize City.

**More Info: [Click here](#)**



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# Belize 2020

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### April- May 2020



#### **National Band Fest 2020**

Event Dates: April 4, 2020 (TBC)

This is an annual popular event drawing thousands of visitors from all over Belize. The venue is rotated each year and the event captures over 700 band members competing in numerous categories including best wind instruments, best drum corps and most popular band.

[More Info: Click Here](#)



#### **Holy Saturday Cycling Classic**

Event Dates: Easter Weekend (April 10 – 13) 2020

Event Description: The Holy Saturday Cross Country Cycling Classic is Belize's biggest cycling event held every year during the Easter holidays. The race begins on Holy Saturday morning, near Mile 2 on Belize's George Price Highway. There is a lead-out from inside Belize City at the BTL Park with actual racing beginning on the highway. Cyclists race to the western town of San Ignacio, in the Cayo District, turn at the Hawkesworth Bridge and return to Belize City. The estimated distance of the Classic is some 142.4 miles.

[More Info: Visit Facebook Page or Blog Site](#)



#### **National Agriculture and Trade Show (NATS), Belmopan**

Event Dates: April 26 – 28, 2019 (TBC)

Event Description: The NATS is the biggest and most attended entertaining and educational annual event celebrated in Belize. The 3 day event is organized by the NATS Committee with the objective of educating the larger public about the importance of agriculture, its contribution to the Belizean economy and to food security. The show is held every year during the months of April or May at the National Agriculture Show Grounds in the Capital of Belize, Belmopan.

[More Info: Click Here](#)

[or call the Ministry of Agriculture at 822-2241](#)



#### **Cashew Festival, Crooked Tree**

Event Dates: May 9 & 10, 2020 (TBC)

Event Description: Crooked Tree is home to a great number of cashew trees and this festival celebrates the cashew harvest in a big way, with music, dancing and lots of cracking, shelling, roasting and stewing of cashews, as well as the making of cashew cake, cashew jelly, cashew ice cream, cashew wine and cashew.

[More Info: Click Here](#)



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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### May 2020



#### **BTB Love Belize Sea Challenge**

Event Dates: May 20-25, 2020

The BTB Love Belize Sea Challenge is a sea kayak race from Punta Gorda Town to Corozal Town, a grueling six day adventurous extreme challenge covering over 218 miles of sea paddling. The race is a joint venture between the Belize Tourism Board and Love FM. The race aims to promote Belize as a key tourism destination for paddlers and kayakers; underscore Belize's rich and effervescent culture and history, including food, music and tradition, of the communities along the coastline; create environmental awareness with paddlers and fans on the important of protecting Belize's natural and cultural resources and provide visiting teams with a unique Belizean experience and opportunity to see Belize from a closer and local perspective.

[More Info: Click Here](#)



#### **Chocolate Festival**

Event Dates: May 23 & 24, 2020

Event Description: The Festival is a three-day celebration of Belizean chocolate and the cacao-driven culture of the Toledo District. Southern Belize is recognized for its superior cacao beans. These cacao beans are a significant export crop and, within country, are transformed into distinctive and high quality chocolate. Every year Belize celebrates this marvelous food, and many devoted followers return to the Toledo District each year to find out what's new in the world of chocolate making.

[More Info: Click Here](#)



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# Belize 2020

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### June 2020



#### **Mango Fest**

Event Dates: June 6 & 7, 2020 (TBC)

Event Description: The people of Hopkins Village celebrate the opening of mango season with the Hopkins Mango Fest; the best mangoes in Belize can be found in Hopkins in abundance. What better way to celebrate than with a festival? Mango season in Belize usually begins around the end of April/May and runs through the end of June/July. There are over 15 different mango varieties in Belize, and they are eaten and enjoyed throughout the different stages of ripeness.

**More Info: [Click Here](#)  
or call BTIA at (501) 615-9591**



#### **San Pedro Lobster Fest**

Event Dates: June 11-20, 2020 (TBC)

Event Description: The San Pedro Lobster Festival is an annual event that celebrates the reopening of the lobster season in Belize. The first festival was first held in 2007 with a week of nightly events leading up to one epic block party. Over the past 10 years the festival has evolved into a 10 day festival filled with over 20 great activities and incredible lobster themed foods!

**More Info: [Call the San Pedro Town Council at 226-2198](#)**



#### **Placencia Lobster Fest**

Event Dates: June 26-28, 2020

Event Description: The Placencia Lobster Fest began in the summer of 1998. The Placencia Chapter of the Belize Tourism Industry Association (BTIA) recognized a need to improve the local economy and decided to create an event that would attract visitors from all over the world to Placencia Village. The event was purposely planned to coincide with the start of the Placencia Fisherman's Cooperative annual Fisherman's Day festivities and with the start of lobster season.

**More Info: [Call the Placencia Village Council at 523-3396](#)**



#### **Caye Caulker Lobster Festival**

Event Dates: June 26 - 28, 2020

Event Description: The Festival starts with the crowning of Miss Lobster Fest and lasts for three days with an all-day beach party. The event includes displays of live Lobsters, weighing in of the biggest Lobster for the weekend brought in by the local fishermen, the main dance event hosted on the Saturday night and of course all sorts of delicious and mouth-watering Lobster dishes.

**More Info: [Call the Caye Caulker Village Council at 226-2198](#)**



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# Belize 2020

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### July - August 2020



#### **Grand Caribe's 4th Annual Deep Sea Classic Fishing Tournament 2020**

Event Dates: July 17 - 19, 2020

Event Description: Home to the only official International Game Fishing Association (IGFA) approved weigh station in Belize and in the region, Grand Caribe Belize holds its annual Deep Sea Classic Fishing Tournament at Ambergris Caye during the month of July. The tournament will be held from July 17 to the 19th, 2020. The event attracts big prizes and the participation of local and international avid Anglers. There is live music, a lot of fun for the entire family, kayak racing and a volleyball tournament. Renowned marine artist, Carey Chen, will participate and auction his art pieces towards charity.

**More Info: Email Mrs. Amy Leiva at [guestrelations@grandcaribebelize.com](mailto:guestrelations@grandcaribebelize.com) or call (501)280-4726**



#### **Benque Viejo July Fair**

Event Dates: July 16 - 19, 2020 (TBC)

Event Description: The Fair is held in honor of Benque Viejo del Carmen's patron saint Nuestra Señora de Monte Carmelo (Our Lady of Mount Carmel). The celebration consists of early morning prayers known as alborada and a novena in honor of the Virgin Mary accompanied by marimba music. Each day of the novena has a sponsor. The Benque Fiesta also includes a feria, a social event that includes the selection of Señorita Flor de la Feria and numerous cultural displays.

**More Info: Call the Benque Viejo Town Council at 501-803-2020**



#### **International Costa Maya**

Event Dates: July 31 - August 2, 2020 (TBC)

Event Description: The International Costa Maya is the largest in Belize, and dates back to 1991, when it was called the Sea and Air Festival featuring the Mundo Maya countries of Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua and now Panama. The festival celebrates the dance, sound and cultures of these vibrant countries. The highlight of the event is the selection of the Reina de la Costa Maya Beauty Queen.

**More Info: Call the San Pedro Town Council at 226-2198**



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# Belize 2020

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### August 2020



#### **Queen of the Bay Pageant**

Event Dates: August 22, 2020

Event Description: This event aims to select the Queen of the Bay, who is crowned on September 10th, the day Belize celebrates the Battle of St. George's Caye. This beauty pageant had its beginning in 1946 and sees six beautiful young women representing their main district towns vying for the prestigious title. The event is held amidst banners and bobbing balloons bearing Belize's national colors, which instill the spirit of patriotism among Belizeans.

**More Info: [Click Here](#)**

**or call the National Institute for Culture and History at 501-227-0811**



#### **Tourism Expo, Orange Walk**

Event Dates: August 29, 2020 (TBC)

Event Description: The Orange Walk Tourism Expo showcases the various Belizean products and services, which form part of the Tourism Industry in Belize. It highlights Orange Walk through the participation of many out-district businesses as well as businesses and services belonging to Orange Walkers. These include hotels, restaurants, tour guides, tour operators, cultural groups, artisans, and educational institutions. Along with these products and services, the different cultures of Belize are displayed through the traditional cultural dishes, music and presentations.

**More Info: [Call the BTIA Orange Walk at 667-7382](#)**



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# Belize 2020

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### September 2020



#### **Yamaha Saltwater Fishing Tournament, Placencia**

Event Dates: September 12, 2020 (TBC)

Event Description: Part of the September Celebrations each year, the 2-day Placencia Saltwater Fishing Tournament draws anglers from far and near for the 2-day competition. The eagerly anticipated event kicks off in the wee hours of Saturday morning, when boats loaded with enthusiastic anglers leave the Placencia Municipal Pier in high hopes of catching the big ones!

[More Info: Click Here](#)



#### **Carnival Jouvert**

Event Dates: September 5, 2020 (TBC)

Event Description: The jouvert is an essential part of celebrating carnival in Belize. It is held in the morning/day break and it involves participants being covered from head to toe in mud, paint, powder or chocolate "baccahanal-ing" through the streets of Belize City. It is part of the celebrations leading up to the commemoration of the Battle of St George's Caye Day, which is celebrated on September 10th each year.

[More Info: Click Here](#)

[or call the National Institute for Culture and History at \(501\)-227-0811](#)



#### **Carnival Road March, Belize City**

Event Dates: September 5, 2020 (TBC)

Event Description: When Belizeans think of the month of September one word resonates in their hearts – "Celebration"! This historical event was adapted in 1975 when five free spirited women got together to "spice up the tenth of September celebrations". Costume bottoms shortened from the modest ankle length to conservative knee length to the provocative bikini length, clearly influenced by the Caribbean are worn by revelers during the carnival parade through the principal streets of Belize City.

[More Info: Click Here](#)

[or call the National Institute for Culture and History at \(501\)-227-0811](#)



#### **Battle of St. George's Caye**

Event Dates: September 10, 2020

Event Description: The Battle of St. George's Caye was a short military engagement that lasted from 3rd to 10th September 1798, off the coast of what is now Belize. However, the name is typically reserved for the final battle that occurred on 10th September. The Spaniards had previously attempted to expel the British settlers and their slaves on six occasions. The 10th of September 1798 marked the final Spanish attempt to take over the area. In Belize, the Battle of St. George's Caye is a national public and bank holiday.

[More Info: Click Here](#)

[or call the National Institute for Culture and History at \(501\)-227-0811](#)



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# Belize 2020

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### September - November 2020



#### **PanYaad Band Concert, Belize City**

Event Dates: September 12, 2020 (TBC)

Event Description: One of the most lively musical events in connection with the National Independence Day celebrations in Belize is the Pan Yaad Steel Band Concert. This is an event held at the Marion Jones Sports Complex in Belize City. This event is not only intended to add greater spirit and life to the national celebrations but it also offers Steel Band aficionados the opportunity to enjoy steel band music at its best.

[More Info: Click Here](#)

or call the **National Institute for Culture and History** at (501)-227-0811



#### **Belize Birding Festival**

Event Dates: October 24 & 25, 2020

Event Description: Home to more than 500 species of birds—including the keel-billed toucan (Belize's national bird), harpy eagle, blue-crowned motmot, and endangered jabiru stork and scarlet macaw—Belize is a bird-watcher's Eden. The festival brings together birders from the region and provides art exhibitions, guided tours and other special events.

[More Info: Click Here](#)

or call the **BTIA Secretariat** at (501)-227-1144 or (501)-615-9591



#### **Belize International Film Festival, Belize City**

Event Dates: November 2020 (Date to be announced)

Event Description: The festival focuses on Central American and Caribbean films, as well as international films from around the world. A recurring theme in the Festival is the highlighting of relevant contemporary issues, such as poverty, abuse and poaching. A distinct award category called "Best Environmental Film" was created to further acknowledge and solidify its commitment to environmental awareness. There are different categories of film presented at the festival.

[More Info: Click Here](#)

or call the **Belize Film Commission** at (501)-227-0811



#### **Battle of the Drums, Punta Gorda**

Event Dates: November 14, 2020

Event Description: The Battle of the Drums is a loud and proud celebration of the Garifuna culture. Garifuna dances such as the Punta, Hungu, Paranda, Chumba and Wanaragua dance and drumming styles are displayed. This is an event popular among drumming enthusiasts as well as visitors.

[More Info: Click Here](#)



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# Belize 2020

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### November 2020



#### **Garifuna Settlement Day**

Event Dates: November 19, 2020

Event Description: Garifuna Settlement Day is a public holiday in Belize celebrated each year on November 19. The day was recognized as a public holiday in the southern districts of Belize in 1943, and declared a national holiday in 1977. The holiday celebrates the settlement of the Garinagu in Belize and includes a re-enactment of the arrival of the Garinagu in Dangriga, parades, street music, and traditional mass in Garifuna language and traditional Garifuna drumming and dancing.

**More Info: [Click Here](#)**



#### **Taco Festival, Orange Walk Town**

Event Dates: November 22, 2020 (TBC)

Event Description: This food and music festival is held in Orange Walk Town and attracts thousands of taco enthusiasts from all over Belize. In addition to numerous varieties of tacos, there is live music, a canoe race and games for the entire family.

**More Info: Call Dillon Jones at (501)-626-4882**



#### **International Yoga Festival**

Event Dates: November 29, 2020

Event Description: This annual event in December is the first of its kind in the region, designed to bring together people from around the world to enjoy soulful moments of wellness, healing, rejuvenation and reflection. The festival promotes positive interactions, vitally important for the wellbeing of Belize and beyond. International and Belizean presenters come together to share many styles of Yoga, meditation, therapies and workshops. This is a family, alcohol free event.

**More Info: [Click Here](#)**



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