

Today I'd go ... to Belize

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Every Thursday I write about a place I'd like to go. This week, I want to see the Mayan ruins of Belize, just in case the world ends next year.

Mayan myth has it that the world will end in 2012. In central Belize, Hamanasi Adventure and Dive Resort doesn't believe the world will end, but that it's a great time to visit Mayan sites and learn a little Mayan history — just in case.

They've recently announced a fun new Maya End of the World package, which includes day trips to places such as the famous pyramids of Cahel Pech and Xunantunich, the Actun Tunichil Muknal Cave (recently named one of the world's most sacred places to visit by National Geographic) to find pottery relics and skeletons, the Southern Barrier Reef in search of stingrays (whose spines were used in Mayan bloodletting ceremonies), the unexcavated Mayflower Mayan site, and the ruins of Lubaantun and Num Li Punit.

From the email about the package:

Hamanasi's central location on the Belize coast provides easy access to a number of significant Mayan sites, as well as the Barrier Reef. As part of the package special tours and trips will be available such as:

- Climbing the pyramids at Xunantunich and Cahel Pech
- Entering the Underworld to view pottery shards and skeletons at the Actun Tunichil Muknal Cave
- Snorkeling the Barrier Reef for sting rays whose spines were commonly used in bloodletting ceremonies
- Discovering the unexcavated Mayflower Maya site hidden in the rainforest and hiking to nearby Antelope Falls
- Visiting Lubaantun and Nim Li Punit Mayan ruins followed by lunch with a local Mayan family

The Maya End of the World Package includes 7 nights in beachfront accommodations, meals, ground transportation, return flights to/from Dangriga from Belizean International, hotel and sales tax, service charge, free use of bikes and kayaks, a welcome drink, and special Mayan gift. Upgraded accommodations may be available upon request for an extra charge. Excluded are Belize departure tax, international airfare, souvenirs, and alcoholic beverages. Price starts at \$1,850 per person based on double occupancy and is subject to availability and blackout dates. To learn more about Hamanasi and register for the Maya End of the World Package visit hamanasi.com or email info@hamanasi.com.