

# Belize: Three Great Lodges Species List | January 10 – 20, 2025 with Naturalist Journeys



**Compiled by guide Bryan Calk with local guides Isaias, Roni, and Steve. Our clients included Phil, Ruth, Lynn, Howard, Jim, Paula, Betsy, Gene, Tom, Mike, and Terri.**

Belize was a place of color and movement—flashes of feathers in the trees, the gleam of an orange bill against deep green, the conversation and laughter over a meal rich with spice and tradition. Everywhere we turned, there was something to see, something to learn. The forests and rivers around our lodges were alive with birds, from the impossibly small American Pygmy Kingfisher to the Black-headed Trogon feeding right in front of us with calm curiosity. A Tody Motmot appeared like a secret whispered between the trees, while a Striped Owl, spectral and mysterious, reminded us that the forest never truly sleeps. Our cameras filled with images, but it was the moments themselves—the hush before a sighting, the quiet thrill of recognition—that stayed with us the most.

Beyond the birds, Belize unfolded in layers of warmth and generosity. The people we met welcomed us with open hearts, sharing their stories and traditions. Meals at the lodges and local restaurants became more than just food; they were experiences, full of flavor and conversation. At a small-batch chocolate maker’s workshop, the rich scent of cacao filled the air as we traced the journey from bean to bar. A visit to a butterfly farm surrounded us with delicate wings in every shade imaginable, their movement as mesmerizing as the birds we had come to see. Each day was a blend of discovery and connection, a reminder that nature and culture are intertwined. We left with memories of birds, of kind faces, of the feeling of being part of something bigger—a world both wild and welcoming, waiting to be explored again.

BIRDS 279 species were recorded of which 15 were heard only, 3 were endemic and 2 were introduced. Details are included below.

The eBird link below details the 279 species of birds our group observed during the tour. If you’re new to eBird, be sure to click “Show All Details” on the right side of the list to expand the report and reveal where and when each of the birds were seen and how many.

[Belize: Three Great Lodges | January 10-20, 2025 | eBird Trip Report](#)

Following is a list of the birds, mammals, reptiles and amphibians we were fortunate to observe during the trip.

#### **MAMMALS (10):**

**Southern Opossum** *Didelphis masupialis* – One seen while driving along the road to Black Rock Lodge during our night drive

**Central American Agouti** *Dasyprocta punctata* – Seen most days, especially common at Black Rock and Tanager lodges

**Deppe's Squirrel** *Sciurus deppei* – One seen at the Nim Li Punit Ruins site near Tanager Lodge

**Yucatan Black Howler Monkey** *Alouatta pigra* – Heard on a couple occasions at Black Rock Lodge, and seen at Tanager Lodge on our last day

**Central American Spider Monkey** *Ateles geoffroyi* – Seen at the Caracol Ruins site

**Kinkajou** *Potos flavus* – One found while doing a night walk at Bocawina

**White-nosed Coati** *Nasua narica* – Two seen on the same day, including brief views at the Green Hills Butterfly Farm

**Gray Fox** *Urocyon cinereoargenteus* – One seen while driving around Spanish Lookout during our time at Black Rock Lodge

**Yucatan Gray Squirrel** *Sciurus yucatanensis* – Seen well at Black Rock Lodge and Caracol

**Tayra** *Eira barbara* – One seen moving through the canopy during our night drive at Black Rock Lodge, and another couple seen crossing the road ahead of us while driving to Tanager Lodge

#### **REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS (10):**

**Morelet's Crocodile** *Crocodylus moreletii* – Seen at Spanish Lookout while at Black Rock and while visiting the Hopkins wetlands

**Asian House Gecko** *Hemidactylus frenatus* – Seen or heard pretty much daily at the lodges around the lights and eaves

**Brown Basilisk** *Basiliscus vittatus* – Common around the grounds at Tanager Lodge

**Black Spiny-tailed Iguana** *Ctenosaura similis* – A couple seen along the road and while visiting at Caracol

**Green Iguana** *Iguana iguana* – Seen daily around Tanager Lodge (where we also got to taste one!)

**Browns' Leopard Frog** *Lithobates brownorum* – Found during a night walk at Bocawina

**Yellow Tree Frog** *Dendropsophus microcephalus* – Calling and seen in the small pond outside the dining room at Bocawina

**Central American Gulf Coast Toad** *Incilius valliceps* – Found during a night walk at Bocawina and at Cockscomb Basin Jaguar Preserve

**Mesoamerican Slider** *Trachemys venusta* – Seen during an outing to Spanish Lookout while at Black Rock Lodge

**Red-eyed Tree Frog** *Agalychnis callidryas* – Seen and heard at Bocawina Lodge during a night walk and after dinner