

# BORDERS REOPENING FOR FOREIGN TOURISTS

## A. PHASED REOPENING

The Government of Belize has approved the reopening of Belize's Land and Sea Borders in a phased approach, as follows:

1. Phase 1- Foreign Tourists Only (Date: May 31st, 2021)
2. Phase 2- Foreign Tourists and Visitors of Friends, Family, and Relatives (To be determined)
3. Phase 3- Full-Reopening (To be determined)

In the first phase, land and sea borders will be reopened to receive foreign tourists only. This phase is divided into two sub-phases

- **A) Phase 1A**- Reopening of the Western Border (Benque Viejo Del Carmen) and Northern Border (Santa Elena) ONLY, on May 31st, 2021.
- **B) Phase 1B**- Reopening of the San Pedro Border Point and the Punta Gorda Border Point on a date to be determined.

Under Phase 1, direct transits of travellers or commercial passenger transport from one border to the other border will not be permitted. Day trips to Guatemala or Mexico will not be allowed in the first phase. Entry and exit by Belizeans, Permanent Residents, Military Personnel, Diplomats may require official permission from the Department of Immigration and the Ministry of Health and Wellness.

## B. REQUIREMENTS UNDER PHASE 1

In Phase 1A, Foreign Tourists wishing to enter Belize via the two indicated land border points should note the following requirements:

1. Only Foreign Tourists entering Belize for Vacation and Recreational Purposes, for more than one day, shall be eligible for entry.
2. Foreign Tourists must show proof of booking at a Belize Tourism Board Gold Standard Certified Hotel or Accommodation.
3. Foreign Tourists must be transported from the Border Facilities into Belize by a certified Gold Standard transport operators
4. Testing Requirements are as follows:
  - a.) Foreign Travellers entering Belize shall be required to present proof of a negative PCR Covid-19 test taken within 72 hours prior to arrival or any other test for SARS-CoV2 approved by the Ministry of Health and Wellness taken within 24 hours prior to arrival in Belize.
  - b.) All Foreign Travellers with no previous tests shall be subject to Rapid Tests on arrival by the Ministry of Health and Wellness of Belize.
  - c.) The Ministry of Health and Wellness reserves the right to test any traveller for any reason whatsoever (at the traveller's expense).



## C. WHAT TO EXPECT UPON ARRIVAL AT THE LAND BORDERS IN PHASE 1A

Foreign Travellers must note that in Phase 1A, the two land borders will be open only during the time of 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM (Belize Time). The following are additional requirements that you can expect when travelling through our Borders in Phase 1A:

- 1.It is mandatory for all persons to wear facemasks in all public spaces while in Belize.
- 2.It is mandatory for all persons to abide by the six feet social distancing rule in all public spaces while in Belize.
- 3.Hand sanitization stations will be made available to travellers.
- 4.All persons may be subject to COVID-19 testing upon arrival at the land border, at their own expense (\$50 USD per test).
- 5.Any person testing positive for COVID-19 at the land border shall be denied entry. This may include their travelling party or close contacts.

Upon arrival at the Land Border in Phase 1A, the following will be the procedure for travellers:

- 1.All travellers will be required to visit a Public Health Checkpoint. At this checkpoint, the temperature of every person will be taken, and review of testing documentation will be done. Travellers will also be required to complete and submit a Public Health Declaration Form.
- 2.If the traveller has a negative PCR test taken within 72 hours of travel to Belize, or another Ministry of Health and Wellness of Belize approved negative SARS-CoV2 test, the traveller will proceed to Immigration and Customs. However, random testing of these individuals may still occur.
- 3.If the traveller has no proof of negative testing, they will be subject to a SARS-CoV2 test at the Border, at their own expense. The Travellers will be swabbed and will be asked to wait for results. If the traveller results are negative they will be able to proceed to Immigration and Customs. If the results are positive, a Foreign Visitor will be denied entry to Belize. If the results for a Belizean, Permanent Resident, Diplomat, or Military Personnel is positive they will be subject to quarantining by the Ministry of Health and Wellness.
- 4.If travellers are presenting any symptoms they will be subject to the testing regimen described above and further medical evaluation by the Ministry of Health and Wellness.