



Dream It! Live It! Belize It!

Welcome to Los Porticos Villas!

Thank you for coming to Placencia and choosing Los Porticos Villas for your vacation.

This welcome book contains information about Los Porticos Villas and Placencia Village. In addition to a copy in your villa, it can be viewed online at <https://losporticosvillas.com/welcome-book/>.

Please come by the office so we can assist you in any way. We are happy to help so you can relax and enjoy your time at Los Porticos Villas.

Should you think of anything that you would like to see for your next stay at Los Porticos Villas, please let us know. We want your stays here to continue to be everything you hope for.

Thank you for choosing us.

Sincerely,

Karissa Rhamdas

Rental Manager at Los Porticos Villas for Snowden Consulting Ltd.

Los Porticos Villas Rules and Policies

Los Porticos Villas consists of 27 villas owned by year-round residents, part-time residents, and owners who rent their villas. As guests at Los Porticos we want you to enjoy yourself and our facilities. We trust you will be a good neighbor to residents who have their home at Los Porticos. Below is a summary of the rules and regulations which apply to everyone at Los Porticos Villas - guests and residents alike.

Bicycles, Recreational Equipment, etc.:

- Bicycles can be locked outside while an owner or guest is in residence.
- All items such as athletic equipment, fishing equipment, strollers, in-line skates, and toys of any type shall be kept in the villa or on verandas, but not on stairways, landings, breezeways or other common areas.
- Bicycles must yield to pedestrians on the walkways.

Pool:

- The pool is open between the hours of 8:00 am and 9:00 pm daily.
- No glass containers of any kind, including bottles in a koozie, are permitted on the pool deck or in the pool. Plastic cups are available in each villa and at the pool bar.
- Food and debris are to be cleaned up prior to leaving the pool area. No food is allowed in the pool.
- There is no lifeguard at the pool. Children under the age of 12 must be accompanied by an adult.
- Babies and toddlers who are not toilet trained must wear swimming diapers in the pool.
- For your safety, horseplay, roughhousing or running activities on the pool deck are not permitted.
- For your safety, please do not walk or play on the waterfall. Diving is not allowed.
- Inner tubes are for use only in the sea and not in either pool.

Noise:

There is a quiet time during the hours of 11:00 pm and 8:00 am. All owners and guests shall refrain from making noise in the villas or on the grounds which may disturb the occupants of other villas.

Smoking:

All rental units are non-smoking and a US \$250 cleaning fee per incident will be charged for smoking inside a unit. Smoking is permitted on verandas and common property. Smoking is not permitted at poolside or in the pool. Smokers are asked to dispose of their materials properly.

Staff of the Rental Manager, Snowden Consulting Ltd., inform you of these rules and, on occasion, enforce them. As our guests and as neighbors to others on the property, please respect and adhere to these rules and policies while enjoying your vacation.

Should you observe any behavior that disregards our policies and is disrupting your stay, please contact the Property Maintenance Manager: Sam Ack 622-1813, Sam.losporticos2017@gmail.com.

Important Notes:

- Guests are not permitted to have pets in the villas.
- Fines may be levied after warnings, and persistent breaches of the Los Porticos Villas Rules and Policies. Payment of these fines will be charged to your credit card or withheld from your damage deposit if one is on file.
- In the case of breakage or damage to a villa, or loss or damage to equipment in a villa, please inform the rental management staff immediately.
- Villas are inspected immediately after your departure, for damage and loss and for items your party may have left behind. The Rental Manager will try to return these items before you depart Placencia. The Rental Manager also reserves the right to inform you of loss or damage to the villa or its contents after your departure.
- Payment for the cost of repair of damages or replacement of broken or lost items will be charged to your credit card or withheld from your damage deposit, and you will be made aware.

Fast Facts

- Office hours are 8:00 am to 5:00 pm from Monday to Friday. The office is open as needed on weekends. Contact numbers are below.
- Office phone: 523-3227; Rental Manager Karissa: 634-0953.
- Check in time: 2:00 pm; Check out time: 11:00 am
- If you need to check out before office hours, please leave the key on the kitchen counter in the villa and lock the door behind you.
- Please come to the office for:
 - Beach towels. You may trade in your towels for fresh ones during your stay.
 - Booking a tour or activity. Most tours need to be arranged a day in advance.
 - Taxi, golf cart and car rentals. Come by the office and we will arrange these for you.
 - Cold drinks, sunscreen, bug spray, coffee and other sundries for purchase.
 - Beach volleyball and a book exchange.
- No glass at the pool, plastic only. No smoking at the pool. No walking or climbing on the waterfall at the pool.
- When travelling during the evening, please make sure you have a flashlight. Los Porticos grounds are lit until midnight.
- Arrived late and looking for dinner? There are lots of restaurant options in the village or visit La Dolce Vita Restaurant just across from our office.
- If there is an emergency or you need a taxi to town please stop by the office and use our phone in the lock box located outside the office front door. The code for the lock box is on your key chain.
- Power outage? Yes, these do occur at times. No worries. Los Porticos Villas has a generator which will go in effect during any prolonged power outage, usually within 15 minutes of a power outage.
- Any problems with your Villa? Please come by the office or call us (see contact numbers above) so we can assist you. Emergency numbers are posted on the hours sign outside the office or call Karissa, the Rental Manager, at 634-0953.
- Wi-Fi is available at the pool and in all Villas. The password for the pool Wi-Fi is: *losparticos*. The password for your villa Wi-Fi is on the fridge in your villa or on the front cover of the Welcome Book in your villa.



Placencia, Belize

Welcome to Los Porticos Villas! We are located in Placencia Village, a place known for its friendly people, who are as diverse as the people who chose to visit our little corner of paradise from around the world. Placencia is also known for its sandy beach and The Sidewalk, which was featured in the Guinness Book of World Records as the narrowest main street in the world. In its earlier years, Placencia was a great fishing village with most local men working in the fishing industry. This was a main source of income for local families, with fish being sold to nearby Honduras and to the Fisherman's Coop in Belize City. The sidewalk was used to transport the local catch from the pier throughout the village with wheelbarrows. You can purchase the 'catches of the day', such as snapper, conch, crab and lobster, from the fishermen at the main pier at the tip of Placencia Village.

Placencia also has great local bars and restaurants offering delicious food and drinks, with friendly staff that are sure to show you a great time. Most places offer live music with local bands and DJs playing music in the early evening. Be sure to try some local dishes, such as the traditional rice and beans, fried fish, stewed chicken, fry jacks, and much more at any one of the restaurants located on the beach or along the main road.

Guest Information

Air Conditioning

Each villa has three or four individually controlled air conditioning units. To optimize the cooling of the air conditioning units, please close the windows and doors in the villa. In addition, humidity can be reduced by keeping the temperature around 22 degrees Celsius/72 degrees Fahrenheit. **When leaving for the day for a tour or a prolonged time, please turn off the air conditioning. We appreciate your efforts to conserve electricity.**

Airstrip Shuttle Service

Complimentary shuttle service is provided between the Placencia airstrip and Los Porticos Villas. Please advise the office when you require return shuttle service to the airstrip.

Alcoholic Beverages

Beer, liquor and wine can be purchased at the various grocery stores in the Village. Beer, soft drinks and wines are available for purchase at the front office.

Banks and ATM Service

There are two banks in Placencia Village: *Atlantic Bank* and *Belize Bank*. *Atlantic Bank* is located in a large free-standing building just south of the water tower and *Belize Bank* is located at the Placencia Plaza in the village across from the soccer field. ATMS are located in the bank buildings and dispense BZE currency. Service charges apply for ATM use.

Barbequing

Barbequing is not permitted on the verandas of the villas or on Los Porticos property.

Beach

The best beaches in Belize are on the Placencia Peninsula. Placencia has safe sandy beaches, with small tides, and no dangerous undertows. Beaches in Belize are public. Approximately 100 feet offshore, following the edge of building one (with small pool), there is a small coral reef with varied marine life. The beach is cleaned and raked daily. Debris washed up on the beach is brought in by the ocean and does not originate locally.

Jellyfish are occasionally found in this area, generally in late April and early May. Clear jellyfish are fairly harmless. Small brown jellyfish may sting and can result in skin irritation and redness. Dousing with vinegar (or other acidic liquid) usually relieves discomfort.

Stingrays feed on sea grass. Be alert when walking in sea grass in the water or walking on washed-up sea grass on the shore. All stingray injuries should be medically assessed to ensure no parts of the stingray barb or venom sack remains. In addition, clean and soak the affected area (usually around the ankle) in water as hot as you can tolerate for about 1.5 hours

Sargassum is an algae which originates in the Sargasso Sea in the Atlantic Ocean around Bermuda. The Atlantic is home to two species of sargassum (*S. natans* and *S. fluitans*) which reproduce vegetatively and travel on the ocean's surface. These two species are also found throughout the Caribbean and the Gulf of Mexico, and are transported by the Gulf Stream. The sudden invasion of tons of algae on Caribbean shores are the result of changing weather patterns and warmer temperatures in the region. According to marine biologists, cooler autumn weather traditionally slows the algae's growth, plus changes in ocean circulation patterns, water temperature and nutrient systems typically keep the weed at sea. As the sea temperature increases, Sargassum is more likely to make its way to the shores of Caribbean beaches.

Beach Towels

Beach towels are available at the office. You can trade in your towels for fresh ones during your stay.

Belize International Phillip SW Goldson Airport

Duty free shopping is available at the airport in Belize City.

Bicycle Rental

Bicycles are available for rent from the office: BZ\$5.00 per hour, BZ\$10.00 per half-day, BZ\$20.00 per full day and BZ\$100.00 per week.

Car and Golf Cart Rental

The office is happy to assist with car and golf cart rental reservations.

Currency

Local currency is the Belize dollar (\$BZD). The Belize dollar is equivalent to \$US0.50. This is a fixed exchange rate of \$1US = \$2BZ. Both Belize and US (paper only) currencies circulate interchangeably. Businesses accept US dollars and will provide change in both US and Belize dollars.

Churches

Several churches are located on the Placencia Peninsula:

- St. John's Memorial – Placencia Anglican (Episcopal) Church, Sunday service at 8:00 am
- Worship Center, non-denominational, Sunday services at 7:00 pm, phone (501) 523-3333
- Jehovah's Witnesses hold services at the community center in Placencia Village every Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday

Departure/Check out

- Please inform the office of your departure time so transportation can be scheduled to the Placencia Airstrip.
- Please pay your room bill two hours before your scheduled departure. Major credit cards (Visa, MasterCard) and cash (both BZ and US) are accepted. Personal cheques and Traveler's cheques are not accepted.
- Please return beach towels to the main office on check-out.
- If you have scheduled an early departure, please settle your account the night before departure.
- If you need to check out before office hours, please leave the key on the kitchen counter in the villa and lock the door behind you.
- Hotels and resorts are required to charge a nine percent hotel tax on accommodations. A service charge has also been added to your bill. Additional tips for good service are appreciated. If you wish to leave an additional tip for a specific member of the staff, please tip them directly or you can leave the tip at the office. Thank you for your generosity!

Eco-conscious

Please conserve electricity and water as much as possible. Turn off the air conditioning units when not in the villa. To obtain maximum benefit from the air conditioning units, shut windows and doors in the villa. In addition, humidity can be reduced by keeping the temperature around 22 degrees Celsius/72 degrees Fahrenheit. We appreciate your efforts to conserve electricity and water.

Temperature Conversion Chart

	° C	° F	° C	° F	
0	-18	32	70	21	158
10	-12	50	80	27	178
20	-7	68	90	32	194
30	-1	86	100	38	212
40	4	104	110	43	230
50	10	122	120	49	248
60	16	140	130	54	266

Distances (Miles) Between Towns and Other Major Points

	Santa Elena Corozal	Corozal Town	Orange Walk Town	Belize City	Belmopan	San Ignacio	Western Border	Dangriga Town	Punta Gorda
Santa Elena, Corozal	***	7.4	38.1	92.1	142.6	159.1	166.8	196.6	293.1
Corozal Town	7.4	***	30.7	84.7	135.2	151.7	159.4	190.2	285.7
Orange Walk Town	38.1	30.7	***	54	104.5	121.0	128.79	159.5	255.0
Belize City	92.1	84.7	54	***	50.5	67.0	74.7	105.5	201.0
Belmopan	142.6	135.2	104.5	50.5	***	21.5	29.2	55.0	150.5
San Ignacio Town	159.1	151.7	121	67.0	21.5	***	7.7	76.5	172.0
Western Border	166.8	159.4	128.7	74.7	29.2	7.7	***	84.2	179.7
Dangriga Town	197.6	190.2	159.5	105.5	55.0	76.5	84.2	***	107.5
Punta Gorda Town	293.1	285.7	255	201.0	150.5	172.0	179.7	107.5	***

Driving in Belize

Driving in Belize is on the right-hand side of the road. Seat belts are required for drivers and passengers. Speed limit is 55 mph on highways and 25 mph in cities and towns. Right-hand turns on a red light are permitted with caution. Driving directions to and from Los Porticos can be found on the website.

Electricity

Electricity is standard North American 110 volts/60 Hz. If the electrical power to the Placencia peninsula is interrupted, Los Porticos Villas is equipped with an on-site generator that will be turned on in the event of a sustained power outage.

Emergency & Medical Services

The Placencia Health Centre is located behind the primary school in the Placencia Village. The Centre is open from Monday to Friday from 8:30 am to noon, and from 2:00 pm to 4:30 pm. In case of emergencies there is a lock box located outside the main office door just to your left, which is equipped with a land line phone and a mini list of emergency numbers. The code to the lock box is located on your villa key tag.

Emergency numbers:

- ✓ Dr. Alexis (501) 622-7648
- ✓ Placencia Medical Centre (501) 523-3326
- ✓ Placencia Pharmacy (501) 523-3346
- ✓ Placencia Police Station (501) 503-3142
- ✓ Placencia Volunteer Fire Department (501) 523-3207 or (501) 626-0667
- ✓ Belize Emergency Response Team (501) 223-3292

Garbage Removal

Garbage will be removed from your villa during housekeeping. Additionally, garbage can be disposed of in the garbage area located at the entrance of the property.

Gas Station

MnM gas station is located in the parking lot behind *MnM Hardware* next to the Hokey Pokey water taxi dock in Placencia Village.

Groceries

There are several grocery stores in Placencia Village including: *Top Value*, *Everyday Super Market*, *Nang Kee*, *Ming's Super Market* and *Placencia Super Market*. Seafood can be purchased at the *Fish Co-op* located on the west side of the Placencia Sidewalk near the docks. Produce and fruit can be purchased at *David Perez Fruits and Vegetables* and *Greg De la Fuente Fruit and Vegetables* as well as from vendors who bring produce in trucks to the Village.

Hardware Stores

There are two hardware stores in Placencia Village: *Wallen's Hardware* and *MnM Hardware*.

Hotel Tax

Hotels and resorts are required to charge a 9% hotel tax on accommodations.

Internet Access

Complimentary internet is available in every villa. Wi-Fi is also available at the pool. Many restaurants and bars have free Wi-Fi. The password for the pool Wi-Fi is: *losporticos*. The password for your villa Wi-Fi is on the fridge in your villa or on the front cover of this book.

Language

The official language of Belize is English. Almost all people in Belize speak English. Most Belizeans also speak one or more of the following languages as well: Belize Kriol, Spanish, Garifuna, Maya, Hindu and Chinese.

Laundry

Each villa is equipped with a washer and dryer as well as an iron and ironing board.

National Symbols of Belize

The black orchid is the national flower of Belize. The mahogany tree is the national tree of Belize. The Keel-billed Toucan is the national bird of Belize and Baird's Tapir or mountain cow is the national animal of Belize and is the largest land mammal of the American tropics. In spite of its local name, the tapir is not a cow. It is closely related to the horse and is also kin to the rhinoceros. The tapir is vegetarian. The tapir is protected under the law thus the hunting of the tapir is illegal.

Natural Pests:

There are insects, non-poisonous snakes, and spiders in the area, all of which are generally harmless. Insect repellent is recommended for mosquitoes and sand flies (also known as "no see'ums"). There is a non-poisonous variety of scorpion in the area; their sting is akin to a bee sting and typically does not require medical treatment. Sting pain can be ameliorated by applying ice. Insect repellent is recommended and can be purchased at the office or in the grocery stores in Placencia Village.

Office Hours

The office is open 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday to Friday. The office is open as needed on weekends. Check hours posted outside of main office for any changes to this schedule as business warrants. For emergencies after hours, please contact the rental manager, Karissa, at 654-0322 or 634-0953.

Office Services

Information and assistance with restaurant, taxi, tour, and car and golf cart rental reservations is available at the office. We also have bicycles available for rent at the office. We are happy to assist you with any of your needs during your stay.

Phones

Villas are not equipped with phone landlines. Belize uses GSM phones with a SIM card. Some European and North American visitors may be able to use their own cell phones in Belize. BTL uses a GSM frequency. Smart uses a CDMA frequency. **Area codes are not required when making local calls.** The country code for Belize is 011. The country code for Canada and the USA is 001.

Parking

Parking for paying guests is available on the property. Golf cart parking is available separate from the main parking lot. Parking for restaurant patrons and visitors is out front along the main road.

Payment

Major credit cards (Visa, MasterCard) and cash (both BZ and US) are accepted. The fixed exchange rate is \$1US = \$2BZ. Personal cheques and Traveler's cheques are not accepted.

Pets

Guests are not permitted to have pets in the villas.

Placencia Breeze

The *Placencia Breeze* is the village newsletter and is published every month. Copies are available at the office and at the Placencia Tourism Center in the village.

Placencia Tourism Center

The Placencia Tourism Center is located across the street from Scotia Bank just behind the ReMax office. The

Center is open Monday-Friday from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm and provides the following services:

- Information on the Placencia area and local attractions
- Sale of local maps, posters and travel guides
- Transportation information (boat, bus and airline schedules)
- Information about special events
- Emergency assistance
- Lost and Found

Placencia Village

Placencia Village is approximately a 30-minute walk from Los Porticos Villas, and can be reached by traveling south on either the road or beach. The road into Placencia Village parallels the lagoon and terminates at the end of the Peninsula. The Village is located at the tip of a long, narrow peninsula separating the Caribbean Sea and the mangrove-fringed Placencia Lagoon. The Village has a population of just over 1,500.. A one-mile concrete sidewalk serves as the main street for Placencia Village. Constructed over 30 years ago as a means of wheel-barrowing fish around without fighting the sand, Placencia's sidewalk now has the distinction of being the narrowest street in the world according to the Guinness Book of World Records. A number of village accommodations, restaurants, bars, and gift shops are located along the sidewalk.

Population

The population of Belize is approximately 340,000 comprising Creoles (African-European), Garifunas (Caribs), Mestizos (Spanish, Indian), Maya, English, Mennonite, Lebanese, Chinese, East Indians, and European. The population of Placencia Village is approximately 1500 and the population of the Placencia peninsula is approximately 3500.

Post Office

The Post Office is located beside Placencia Office Supply at the far end of the village across from Nang Kee Store. Postage for letters to USA and Canada is BZ \$0.60 and to Europe BZ \$0.75. Postage for postcards to the USA and Canada is BZ \$ 0.30 and to Europe BZ \$0.40.

Recycling

Beer bottles and soda bottles can be recycled at Wallen's Hardware and most grocery stores. Both markets are located on the main road in Placencia Village. Placencia does not have facilities for plastic recycling at this time. You can also take empty beer and soda bottles to the front office.

Public and Bank Holidays

Belize celebrates 14 national holidays:

- New Year's Day: January 1
- National Heroes and Benefactors Day: March 9
- Good Friday
- Holy Saturday
- Easter Sunday
- Easter Monday
- Labor Day (honours the nation's workers): May 1
- Commonwealth Day (celebrates Belize's membership in the Commonwealth of Nations): May 24
- St. George's Caye Day (honors the 1798 battle that virtually guaranteed Belize becoming a British colony after an invasion from Mexico was turned back): September 10
- Independence Day (Belize gained its independence from Britain on September 21, 1981 and is a member of the Commonwealth of Nations)
- Pan American Day: October 12
- Garifuna Settlement Day (this day commemorates the arrival of the Garifuna people in Belize in 1832 from the Bay Islands of Honduras. This ethnic group originally inhabited St. Vincent Island in the lesser

Antilles in the far eastern region of the Caribbean, and are ancestors of escaped slaves who inter-married with the native Carib Indians): November 19

- Christmas Day: December 25
- Boxing Day: December 26

Restaurants in Placencia Village

There are many restaurants that offer a wide variety of different cuisines and dining experiences. Please note that some restaurants add a 10 percent service charge to the bill. The office can provide information and assist with restaurant reservations.

Safe

Each villa is equipped with a safe for your valuables. Instructions for the safe are located inside the door of the safe.

Seasonal Seafood

Lobster and conch are served in restaurants only in season. Here are the seafood and fishing regulations:

- **Lionfish** are an invasive species to the Caribbean that eat up our commercial fish and have no natural predators here; the best eradication methods are to kill them and they are good to eat too. But take care as their fins are poisonous (not the fillet though).
- **Complete Ban** – Coral – All Parrotfish – Blue Tang – Surgeon Fish – Permit – Tarpon – Bone Fish – Marine Turtle (all species) -Whale Shark – All Marine Mammals – Diced Conch – Diced Lobster
- **Closed Seasons** – Conch July 1st to Sept 30th – Lobster February 15th to June 14th – Nassau Grouper – December 1st to March 31 Wild Shrimp (trawler sources; farm shrimp is legal all year around) July 14 – March 14th – Hickatee May 1st to May 31st
- **Catch & Size Limits** – Conch Shell Length – 7 inches, Market Clean – 2.5oz, Lobster Cape Length – 3 inches Tail Weight 2.75 oz, Nassau Grouper must be 20 – 30 inches only and must be landed whole (no fillet)

Security

Please lock your doors when you are away from the villa and at night. We are not responsible for items left in the villa, at the beach, or swimming pool.

Smoking

Smoking in the villas is not allowed. A \$250 USD reconditioning fee per incident will be applied to your bill for smoking in the villa. Smoking is permitted on verandas and common property with the exception of the pool area.

Souvenirs

There are many souvenirs shop located in Placencia. Most are located on both sides of the village sidewalk.

Swimming Pool

The main pool is open from 8:00 am to 9:00 pm. Swimming is at your own risk. No lifeguard is on duty and no diving is permitted. Children under 12 must be accompanied and supervised by an adult. Please do not walk or climb on the waterfall. Please use only plastic dishes and cups in the pool area. The pool is for the use of Los Porticos patrons only. Rules are posted at the pool.

Tipping

A 10 per cent tip is standard in Belize for restaurant, tour guide, and aesthetic services.

Taxi Service

There are independent taxi operators in Placencia Village. Taxis are identified by their green license plates. Taxis are typically available in the parking lot area immediately beside MnM Hardware in Placencia Village. The fare

for one or two people from Los Porticos to Placencia Village is approximately BZ \$10. For more than two passengers, the fare is an additional BZ \$5 per person. The office can assist with making taxi arrangements.

Time Zone

Belize occupies the time zone GMT-6, the same as Central Standard Time in the USA and Canada. Since Belize does not observe daylight savings time, Mountain Standard Time is observed during this time.

Tours and Excursions

All tours and excursions arranged by Los Porticos Villas are led by licensed local guides. Tours include snorkeling, scuba diving, sailing, fishing, caving, Maya Sites and jungle excursions. Tour prices are subject to change and are based on availability. For tour information or to book a tour, please visit our office or website at www.losporticosvillas.com

TV

Each villa is equipped with a television. Cable service provides over 100 channels which include several movie channels. A channel listing can be found at <http://www.southerncable.bz/channels/>.

Water

Tap water in your villa and in Placencia is safe to drink. Drinking water originates from an artesian spring in Big Creek on the Caribbean Sea in Belize's Toledo District. Drinking tap water and refilling non-disposable water bottles reduces waste.

Weather

The climate is subtropical with a prevailing wind from the Caribbean Sea. The annual temperature averages about 80 degrees Fahrenheit/27 degrees Celsius. The rainy season is between June and November.

*We hope you all had a great time in Placencia's paradise
and we hope to see you again
at Los Porticos Villas!
Safe travels home or on to your next destination!!*

Loved your stay? Please let others know



Los Porticos Villas, Main Street Placencia Village Stann Creek District, Belize C.A Email: reservations@losporticosvillas.com

www.losporticosvillas.com Tel: 501-523-3227

SOME FAVORITE PLACES IN THE VILLAGE

RESTAURANTS

- **La Dolce Vita** is on site at Los Porticos Villas and is open for dinner and serves Italian cuisine. Menu is available on our website or ask to see a menu in the office
- **Rum Fish y Vino** has tapas, meals and cocktails. Winner of Small Restaurant of the Year 2017 for the Belize Tourism Board.
- **Rick's Café** on the sidewalk makes pizza and Italian specials as well as seafood such as ceviche and sushi.
- **The Shak** at the tip of the village has smoothies and lunches
- **Dawn's Grill 'n Go** offers freshly squeezed watermelon, cantaloupe, and lime juices as well as meals
- **Omar's** has great seafood; they are not licensed to serve alcohol but you can buy a drink at Barefoot Bar and bring it to their restaurant
- **Barefoot Beach Bar** has bar food and is the place to hang out in the evenings. Located on the beach with cool sea breezes blowing
- **Tipsy Tuna, also** on the beach, has drinks, bar food, and excellent chicken wings. They also have daily specials including sushi.
- **Tutti Frutti** has the best gelato you have ever tasted.
- **The Galley Restaurant** serves pizza and local desserts. They offer delivery service to Los Porticos Villas.
- **De' tach Restaurant & Bar** on the beach has great burgers, breakfasts and seafood.
- **The Vineyard** is an air-conditioned restaurant with steaks and seafood as well as cocktails.
- **Cha Chi's** offers pizza, cold beers, and daily specials, including Indian cuisine.
- **Above Grounds Coffee Shop** and **Brewed Awakenings** both offer coffees, smoothies, teas and shakes as well as baked goods
- There are taco stands and street vendors by the bus stop and near the basketball court. Meat pies are a great buy and there is a little shop across from the Placencia Supermarket that has early morning pies.
- **Excellent Chinese** serves Belizean's favorite fast food, fried chicken, and other quick cheap eats.
- **The Vine** offers great take out lunch and dinner specials including BBQ pork and chicken, lionfish burgers, and other local fare. On the lane by the Smart phone office.
- **John the Bakerman.** on Westby Lane on the way to the sidewalk. Fresh cinnamon buns!

THE SIDEWALK AND MAIN STREET

- Produce and fruit can be purchased at *David Perez Fruits and Vegetables* and *Greg De la Fuente Fruit and Vegetables* as well as from vendors who bring produce in trucks to the Village.
- The **Fish Co-op** at the Southern tip of the sidewalk sells lobster (during lobster season), snapper and other local fish
- If you want a manicure or pedicure or haircut and style, go to **Z-Touch** (on the sidewalk). Joel at **Belizean Pride Salon** off the sidewalk near Serenade Guesthouse also cuts hair.
- For art, go to Greta Leslie's **Art' n Soul** on the sidewalk
- The **Placencia Tourism Center** is located across the street from Scotia Bank just behind ReMax office and they have newsletters, postcards, maps, and provide information.
- Claudia's **One World** gift shop has souvenirs. Just across is **Kaj Expressions** with locally made jewelry.
- And nearby is **Street Feet Night Club** open on weekends.

NORTH OF THE AIRSTRIP

- **Mango's, The Flying Pig,** and **Maya Beach Bistro** all offer food ranging from comfort food to inspired Caribbean cuisine.
- For art, visit **Lola** in Seine Bight.

GROCERY STORES

- ***Sun and Sand (aka Old Ming's)***: Located across from Captain Jacks.
- ***Ming's (aka New Ming's)***. Located across from Omar's.
- ***Everyday Supermarket*** located across from Scotia Bank
- ***Top Value Supermarket*** located across from Atlantic Bank – closest to Los Porticos
- ***Nan Kee*** located near the pier by the barber shop.

MEDICAL and EMERGENCY SERVICES

- ***Placencia Health Center*** is located behind the Anglican Primary School beside Pickled Parrot Restaurant and Bar. Open Monday to Friday from 8:00 am -5:00 pm. Phone: 523-33268
- ***Placencia Pharmacy*** is located across from Top Value Supermarket. Open Monday to Saturday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. Phone: 523-3346
- ***Dr. Alexis*** is located across from Chabil Mar Resort, just past Turtle Inn. He takes emergency calls and makes house visits. Phone: 622-7648
- There is an emergency office phone in a lock box outside the office front door. You may use this to make local calls. Police can be reached in emergency at 911. Lockbox code is on your villa key tag.

TAXI SERVICES

Taxis in Belize are all required to be licensed and they have green license plates. You can find taxis near the bus stop in Placencia. You may also use the courtesy phone to call a local taxi to pick you up at Los Porticos. Here are our recommendations:

Johnny Taxi Service: 670-2815 or 608-5868

Walter Taxi Service: 632-8768

Noel Taxi Service: 600-6047