Chaa Creek’s Avian Adventures – Belize’s Best Birding Vacations
Belize has for years been quietly earning a reputation as one of the world’s best travel destinations for birding. With an amazingly diverse landscape supporting some 603 identified species ranging to seabirds like the Magnificent Frigate Birds and Ospreys, to Harpy Eagles and Orange Breasted Falcons in Mountain Pine Ridge, rainforests filled with Parrots, Toucans and Mot Mots, and a colourful assortment of Hummingbirds everywhere, being a birder in Belize is like being a kid in a candy land.

In the 1990s when The Lodge at Chaa Creek agreed to host the Birds Without Borders – Aves Sin Fronteras project sponsored by the Foundation for Wildlife Conservation and the Zoological Society of Milwaukee, the project resulted in the recording of over 300 endemic and migratory birds in the Chaa Creek area, and led to the training of local naturalist guides, some of who became passionate about specialising in birds.

And now all of that knowledge and passion has come together with Chaa Creek’s Avian Adventures.

We want to make birding in Belize comfortably satisfying for everyone – from the curious novice through to the most experienced Ornithologist. We also believe that birding in Belize should not be limited by budgets, which is why we offer the widest range of birding vacations anywhere.

With accommodation options ranging from glamping at the Macal River Camp, with complete access to all Chaa Creek amenities, to luxurious lodgings in the Tree Top or Ix Chel Rainforest Villas – along with a selection of suites, villas and cottage accommodation in between – there’s a Chaa Creek birding adventure to suit families, couples, groups, and individuals.
Birding in Belize
At Chaa Creek

Chaa Creek now offers a full menu of birding tours, ranging from early morning Bird identification walks to all day excursions. An all-inclusive Belize Birding Vacation Package is also available.

Early Morning Bird Walk

Take an early morning stroll through rainforest trails with a licensed naturalist guide who will help you identify birds while explaining their habits, habitats and other interesting facts. As a fun, healthy activity and an introduction to the birds of Belize, this is a great way to start the day.

Avian Jewels of the Jungle Tour

Look up, and prepare to be entranced by the wealth of birds you’ll discover under the rainforest canopy of Chaa Creek’s 400-acre private nature reserve. Toucans, Trogons, Euphonias, Mot-mots, Orioles, Honey Creepers and Tanagers are just a few of the species you may encounter.

**Tour location:** Chaa Creek Nature Reserve

**Departure Time:** 7:30am

**Return Time:** 10:30am

**Duration:** Three hours

**Tour via:** Hiking

**What to bring:** Insect repellent, hat, long sleeve shirt, hiking shoes, camera and sunscreen.

**Costs:** US$25.00 + Tax per person
Chaa Creek’s Birds Of The Bush

Chaa Creek’s nature reserve is a birder’s paradise, as you’ll discover while travelling along well-maintained nature trails aboard an all terrain vehicle and on foot, accompanied by naturalist guides whose extensive local knowledge will reveal avian wonders most casual hikers pass by. Guests are amazed by the rich beauty and variety of birds right in our backyard.

Tour location: Chaa Creek Nature Reserve
Departure Time: 7:30am
Return Time: 11:30am
Duration: 4 hours
Tour via: ATV
What to bring: Insect repellent, hat, long sleeve shirt, hiking shoes, camera and sunscreen.
Costs: US$75.00

Macal River Birding Tour

Canoe the scenic Macal River six miles downstream to San Ignacio Town, passing riverbanks alive with an amazing variety of avian life. Your guide will show you where to look and help you identify aquatic and arboreal birds such as cormorants, kingfishers, swallows, herons, flycatchers, vultures, sparrows and more.

Tour location: The Macal River from Chaa Creek to San Ignacio Town (six miles)
Departure Time: 8:00am
Return Time: 12:00pm
Duration: 4 hours
Tour via: Canoe
What to bring: Insect repellent, hat, long sleeve shirt, water shoes, and sunscreen.
Costs: US$55.00 + Tax
Belize Rainforest Raptor Discovery

Climb aboard an all terrain vehicle in search of some of the world’s most magnificent birds of prey – the Raptors of Belize. Travel within a five-mile radius that’s home to Blackhawk Eagles, Bat Falcons, Grey Hawks, Roadside Hawks, Crested Caracara and other Belizean raptors while your guide explains their behaviours and importance to the health of this rainforest ecosystem.

**Tour location:** The Chaa Creek Nature Reserve (five mile ATV excursion)

**Departure Time:** 8:30am

**Return Time:** 11:30am

**Duration:** 3 hours

**Tour via:** All Terrain Vehicle.

**What to bring:** Insect repellent, hat, long sleeve shirt, hiking shoes, camera and sunscreen.

**Costs:** US$75.00 + Tax

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Town and Country Birding Tour

Belize’s low-population density and slower pace draws birds to urban settings, as you’ll discover in this eye-opening tour. From tour vans and ATVs you’ll quickly learn to pick out House Wrens, Grackles, Melodious Black Birds, Pigeons, Vultures, Thrushes, Tanagers, Toucans, flycatchers and other birds in their urban environment. This tour takes in Cayo District wetlands and riverine areas as well as San Ignacio Town, with an opportunity to enjoy lunch at the Guava Limb Café.

**Tour location:** San Ignacio Town and environs

**Departure Time:** 7:30am

**Return Time:** 3:00pm

**Duration:** Full day

**Tour via:** Van or all terrain vehicle

**What to bring:** Insect repellent, hat, long sleeve shirt, hiking shoes, camera and sunscreen.

**Costs:** US$100.00 + Tax
The Birds of Belize’s Wild West

The Cayo District, Belize’s wild west, has some of the country’s richest, most scenic birding spots, and we’ll visit the best of them during this full day tour. Experienced naturalist guides who specialise in birding will help guests check off their target species list, or just marvel at the beauty and variety of birds encountered at locations that may include the Spanish Lookout area, Aguacate Lagoon, Mountain Pine Ridge, Blue Hole National Park, Guanacaste National Park, El Pilar archaeological site, Monkey Bay, Runaway Creek, Actun Chapat, the Cahal Pech archaeological site, and the ancient Maya city of Caracol.

**Tour location:** Various locations throughout the Cayo District

**Departure Time:** 7:00am (after breakfast at the Lodge)

**Lunch:** Pack lunches or purchase at sites

**Return Time:** 4:00pm

**Duration:** Full day

**Tour via:** Vans and/or, 4x4 vehicle

**What to bring:** Insect repellent, hat, long sleeve shirt, hiking shoes, camera and sunscreen.

**Costs:** US$170 + Tax
BOOK YOUR BELIZE BIRDING TOUR TODAY!

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