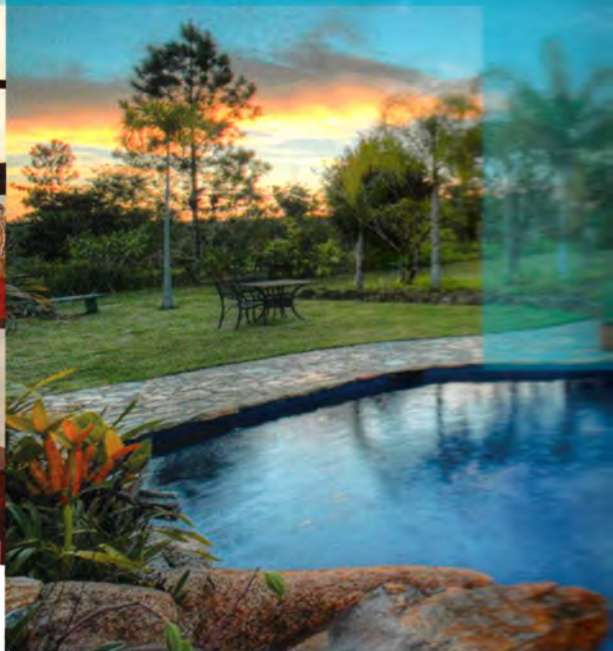


Unique Adventure Travels

HIDDEN VALLEY INN- HIKING AND MAYAN TEMPLES

BY WALTER GREENE

PHOTOS COURTESY OF HIDDENVALLEYINN.COM



The Cayo region in the Mountain Pine Ridge forest of Belize, Central America offers a totally different travel experience that is off the beaten path. With Hidden Valley Inn and Reserve as an ideal forest base, you can create quite an adventure as you romp through dense, uncharted forest and along hiking trails while rediscovering magnificent waterfalls and exploring historic Mayan temples, or ... you can just chill out in one of the 12 cozy cottages at Hidden Valley and enjoy their first class amenities like the garden pool, hot tub, generous massages and of course the incredible world class cuisine.

VAST FOREST

This haven of luxury is accessible by way of a three-hour drive from Belize City, or from a small private airstrip on property. Hidden Valley Inn and Reserve is literally tucked away in 7200 acres of lush tropical forest. About 12 waterfalls and numerous hiking trails are perfect for Bird watching. Sightings of Orange Breasted Falcons, King Vultures, Stygian Owls, Solitary Eagle and Black and White Eagles are frequent. Visiting historic Mayan Ruins like Cabal Pech and Caracol are popular among the adventurous visitors. A luxurious picnic lunch at Yok' ol Chen, which means: over the water or over the stream is facilitated on a wooden platform with breath-taking views are also among the choice treasures that are available to guest.

THE HEART OF THE INN

The main house or "heart" of the inn, was the home of the original owner and has now been transformed into a luxurious lounging area with several fireplaces, dining rooms, a kitchen, a gift shop and a bar, all fashioned from exotic tropical cypress paneled walls festooned with beautiful pictures of the surrounding wildlife.



Afternoon tea is served daily accompanied by delicate tea sandwiches, cheese rolls and scones. The dinner menu changes daily as a fusion of local and international ingredients lend to what is known as some of the best food in Belize.

PRIVATE COTTAGES

Pebble stone pathways connect the main house to cozy cottages that are all well appointed and elegantly decorated for your comfort and pleasure. Guests rave about the handcrafted mahogany furnishings, the brick fireplaces, screened windows and the "claw foot" bathtubs. Deluxe rooms also feature outdoor Granite Waterfall showers.