



Belize Foundation for Research & Environmental Education

COVID-19 TESTING PROTOCOLS AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK

The information for testing requirements below is accurate as of January 1, 2022, and is subject to change. Please follow the instructions provided by your airlines and recheck all travel requirements two weeks before your flight.

Pre-Testing for Travel to Belize

Effective August 9, 2021, the Belize Government requires a negative COVID-19 test, regardless of vaccination for entry into the country. Negative test results must be shown from a PCR test within 96-hours or a Rapid Antigen test within 48-hours of arrival in Belize. An official email or correspondence from a third-party testing entity will be accepted so long as your name and timestamp are clearly visible on the test result. At home-tests are not accepted. If your test is not valid upon arrival to Belize or not accepted by health officers, you may be required to re-test at the airport. The cost of testing upon entry is \$50 USD per person, which must be paid in cash. BFREE requires that all guests test before departure from the US and not rely on testing in Belize. Those who test positive in Belize will be quarantined for a minimum of 14 days. If you recently recovered from COVID-19 and have credible proof of clinical recovery, a test result will still be required, but credible proof of clinical recovery from a physician *should* waive the quarantine requirement.

Departure Testing for Travel to the USA

Effective December 6, 2021, all US-bound air travelers, regardless of citizenship or vaccination status, will be required to show a negative pre-departure COVID-19 viral test taken no more than one calendar day before they board their flight to the United States. BFREE can arrange for a licensed testing team of trained medical personnel, approved by the Belize Ministry of Health, to use testing kits that are FDA and WHO-approved for all visitors. Tests will occur at or near the accommodation of your last night in Belize as scheduled on your itinerary. If testing is not available in the area, testing will occur at the airport before departure. The COVID-19 Rapid Antigen Test fee in Belize is \$75 USD and can be paid with cash or credit card at time of the test. One must show their passport and complete the provided intake form.

Self-reporting is not accepted. Self-test kits are illegal in Belize. The government regulates the importation of test kits, and they will be confiscated and the passenger possibly fined.

In Case of Positive Results

In case of a positive COVID-19 result, individuals are required to quarantine for a mandatory period of 14-days. BFREE will assist in accommodating individuals with their quarantine location. However, BFREE staff will not be available to stay in the location of the quarantined individual. For visitors under the age of 18 with a positive COVID-19 result, BFREE requires a chaperon remains in the country with the quarantined individual. Hotel accommodations for the quarantined individual vary in cost. Hotel staff can bring meals from restaurants or shop at the grocery store for essential items at an additional cost.

Traveler Liability

Travelers to BFREE are responsible for charges due to the pandemic, including, but not limited to, costs for country entry to both Belize and the USA, requirements to quarantine for a positive test result, COVID-19 testing, or flight changes. BFREE cannot and does not assume any responsibility for financial losses that may incur due to (but not limited to) cancellation of airline tickets, COVID testing, and quarantine expenses.

COVID-19 Assumption of Risk

The novel coronavirus, COVID-19, is a worldwide pandemic as declared by the World Health Organization. COVID-19 is extremely contagious and is confirmed to be spread mainly from person-to-person contact and by air. People reportedly can be infected and show no symptoms and therefore spread COVID-19. Evidence has shown that COVID-19 can cause serious and potentially life-threatening illness and even death. As a result, the Belize government requires proof of negative COVID test for international travelers, mask-wearing, physical distancing, and other safety measures such as enforced curfews and closed land borders. Although BFREE will take appropriate measures to ensure that its activities will be conducted using recommended safety protocols, including physical distancing and enhanced disinfecting, BFREE cannot prevent you from becoming exposed to, contracting, or spreading COVID-19 while traveling in Belize or staying at the BFREE Field Station. Therefore, if you choose to travel to Belize and BFREE, you may be exposing yourself to and/or increasing your risk of contracting or spreading COVID-19.

By signing this Agreement, I acknowledge I have read and understood the above warning about COVID-19. I acknowledge the contagious nature of COVID-19 and voluntarily assume the risk that I may be exposed to or infected by COVID-19 by traveling to Belize and the BFREE Field Station and that such exposure or infection may result in personal injury, illness, permanent disability, and death. I understand that the risk of becoming exposed to or infected by COVID-19 by traveling may result from the actions, omissions, or negligence of myself and others, including, but not limited to, BFREE employees, other participants, officers, agents, and members of the general public. Traveling to Belize and the BFREE Field Station is of such value to me that I accept the risk of being exposed to, contracting, and/or spreading COVID-19 in order to travel to Belize and the BFREE Field Station.

All visitors to BFREE must be fully vaccinated (two weeks after a second dose of a two-dose vaccine series or two weeks after a single-dose vaccine series). Visitors to BFREE agree to share proof of vaccine by emailing a photocopy of their vaccine card no later than 14-days before arrival at the BFREE Field Station to contact@bfreebz.org along with a signed copy of this agreement.

BFREE Visitor Print Name

BFREE Visitor Signature & Date

***(Parent or Legal Guardian Signature required
if visitor to BFREE is under 18 years old)***