

# HortClub trip to Guatemala, Belize and Mexico - 2013

## Day 1, May 6, 2013

Arrive Guatemala City  
Visit Guatemala Botanic Garden  
Drive to Antigua; tour Antigua

## Day 2, May 7, 2013

Visit Valhalla macadamia nut farm  
Drive to Panajachel in Lake Atitlan region  
Eat Pupusas at Cheros eatery in Panajachel  
Water taxi to Santa Cruz La Laguna

## Day 3, May 8, 2012

Visit to IMAP – Institute for MesoAmerican Permaculture  
Home stay, San Jorge La Laguna  
Traditional dress and group dinner

## Day 4, May 9, 2013

Chichicastenango Market  
As Green as it Gets coffee tour  
Drive back to Antigua



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## Day 5, May 10, 2013

Morning flight to Flores  
Hike and swim in Flores  
Drive to Tikal National Park  
Sunset hike to pyramids in Tikal

## Day 6, May 11, 2013

Morning sunrise hike in Tikal  
Zip-line  
Drive to Belize  
Visit Belize Botanic Garden  
Evening in San Ignacio

## Day 7, May 12, 2013

Hike the Actun Tunichil Muknal Cave  
Ferry from Belize City to Caye Caulker

## Days 8, May 13, 2013

Sail to Hol Chan Marine Reserve  
Snorkeling

## Day 9, May 14, 2013

Ferry back to Belize City  
Drive to Mexico border crossing  
Visit Tulum Mayan temple  
Beach swim in Playa del Carmen







Our tour guide was  
David Reyes.

He met us at the  
Guatemala City  
Airport



Guatemala City





We spent only a brief time in Guatemala City to see the Botanic Garden.



The Guatemala Botanic Garden was a pleasant way to start our trip.

It was deceptively large and had a good diversity of tropical plants.







Greenhouse for arid plants



The garden contained several large specimens, like this giant *Euphorbia* with raised ridges along the stem and trunk.





Patrick likes to smell stuff.

He is sniffing Cup of Gold vine  
(*Solandra maxima*).

In MesoAmerica, it is also known  
as Kieli as the manifestation of  
the God of wind Kieli Tewiali.

The flowers have be used by  
native Indians as a psychotropic  
drug.







Group picture next to Ombu (*Phytolacca dioica*)