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

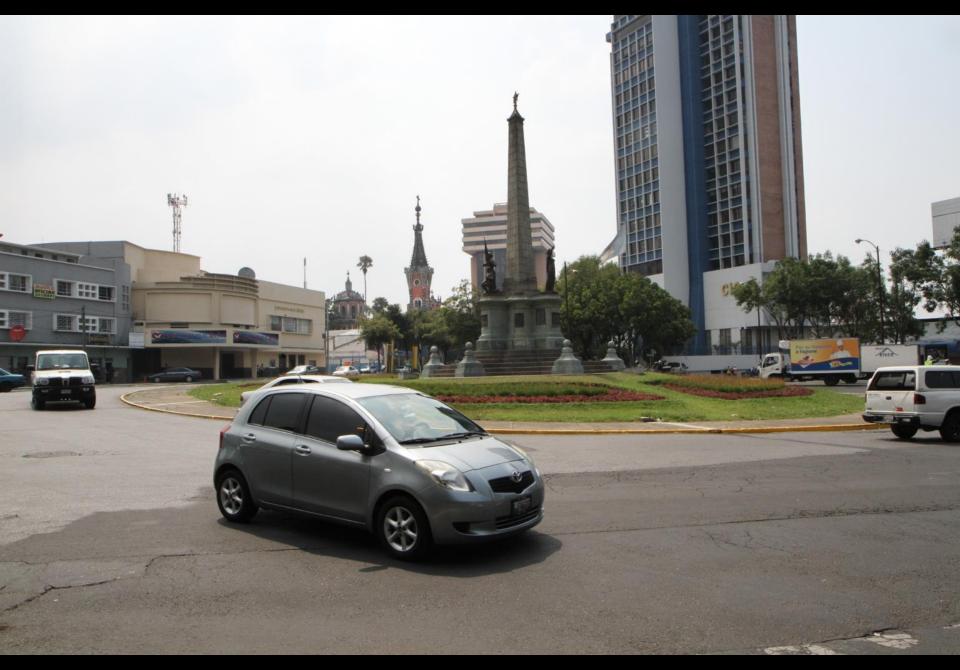
Ferry back to Belize City
Drive to Mexico border crossing
Visit Tulum Mayan temple
Beach swim in Playa del Carmen





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)