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GO OFF THE GRID

10 best places to get totally unplugged

BEACH + ISLAND BUDGET WORLD'S SEXIEST FOOD + WINE LUXURY

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Off the Grid

by Sarah Tuff

BELIZE

The hideout: A rosewood and thatch cabana at the [Cotton Tree Lodge](#), between the Moho river and the southern jungles of [Belize](#) ([view slideshow](#)).

Low-tech lowdown: You're swinging in a hammock, admiring the placid Moho river, sampling the Mayan chocolate bar you made earlier in the day, and contemplating a soak in the Jacuzzi tub. Off the grid? This is off the hook. While this eco-lodge eschews energy-guzzling excess in favor of solar power, organic foods, and reforestation, that planet-protecting ethos doesn't get in the way of guests' fun or comfort. The ten cabanas include flush toilets and hot water; the bar and restaurant prepare tropical drinks and seafood dishes.

Your new "to do" list:

- Go kayaking, bird-watching, or horseback riding
- Attend a tortilla-making workshop
- Peer at stalactites and stalagmites in Tiger Cave, a Mayan ceremonial site

The road less traveled: Land at the Belize International Airport in Belize City for a connection to Punta Gorda, then travel by boat 15 miles along the coast and up the Moho river to the Cotton Tree Lodge.

Don't forget:

Sturdy water shoes. On Mondays and Fridays, Cotton Tree guides take guests cave-swimming.

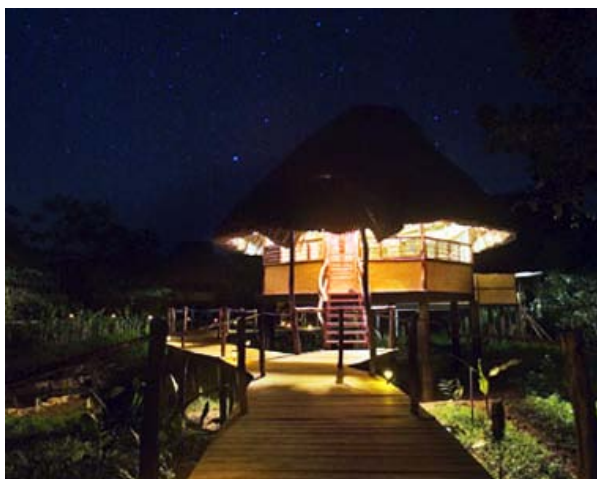
Cotton Tree Lodge

Tel: 501 670 0557

Doubles from \$139

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