



**Matachica Resort Named Amongst Top 10 Resort Hotels in Central America by the
Travel + Leisure World's Best Awards 2020**

Ranked Number Five in Central America and Top Rated in Belize

Ambergris Caye, Belize, July 8, 2020 – Secluded beachfront getaway, Matachica Resort is honored to announce they have been named amongst the top ten resort hotels in Central America in the *Travel + Leisure World's Best Awards 2020*, based on an annual readers survey celebrating its 25th year. The property was ranked the fifth best resort hotel in Central America and the best in Belize.

Each year, the readers of *Travel + Leisure* — one of the largest travel media brands in the United States, with an audience of 6.7 million — share their thoughts on destinations, hotels, resorts, spas, airlines, cruise lines, tour operators, rental-car agencies, and more in an annual survey. The results are now featured in the August 2020 issue of *Travel + Leisure* and at www.travelandleisure.com.

“It is a true honor to be recognized again by the *Travel + Leisure World's Best Awards 2020*,” says Daniel Lighter, owner of Matachica Resort and sister property GAÏA Riverlodge. “Our dedicated staff eagerly await the opportunity to welcome guests back to our little piece of paradise in beautiful Belize.”

Matachica is perfectly located along a remote stretch of beach and is a stone's throw from the world's second-largest barrier reef. The boutique-sized property underwent a sustainable redesign in 2018 that reconfigured the hotel's open-air communal spaces and reimagined its 32 private and secluded casitas and villas. Similar to sister property GAÏA Riverlodge, all of Matachica's dining and bar spaces are open-air. The design of both properties allows guests to feel a true sense of privacy that enhances their ability to disconnect from the world and reconnect with nature and themselves. At Matachica, visitors are given the opportunity to partake in private on- and off-site activities including snorkeling with sharks, sea kayaking, sailing, cave tubing, and more.

Belize has been fortunate to have very few cases of the COVID-19 virus, which is the result of early steps the Belizean government took to close borders, implement a State of Emergency, and closely manage the population's movements with an evolving set of laws that were adapted as the situation unfolded. As Belize's tourism industry prepares to re-open, with the re-opening of its international airport on August 15th, the Belize Tourism Board (BTB) is launching its Gold Standard Recognition Program for hotels, restaurants and operators. The 9-Point Program will

enhance the tourism industry's health and safety standards by adapting new behaviours and procedures to ensure both travellers and employees are confident in the cleanliness and safety of Belize's hotels and restaurants. Properties, like Matachica, will go through a declaration process in order to achieve "Tourism Gold Standard Recognition" and will be rewarded with certificates issued by The Belize Tourism Board.

With its limited number of COVID-19 cases, Belize is the perfect destination to escape to and Matachica offers the ideal, secluded setting with its inherent boutique-size, private and sequestered accommodations, spacious beach, open-air communal spaces and restaurants, and knowledgeable staff.

To access high-res imagery of Matachica, please click [here](#). For further information, images, or requests regarding either Matachica Resort or sister property GAÏA Riverlodge, kindly contact ZOÏ Agency:

Francesco Tribuzio

Francesco@agence-zoi.com

Brittany Elliott

Brittany@agence-zoi.com