

## **PRESS RELEASE**

## BELIZE'S TOURISM REBOUNDS: OUTLOOK FOR FURTHER GROWTH REMAINS POSITIVE

Belize City, Belize, May 10, 2022: The latest statistics for both overnight tourist arrivals and cruise tourism provide a clear indication that Belize's tourism is moving fast on its path to recovery since the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic.

This year's quarterly figures show that overnight tourist arrivals to Belize totaled over 97,000, with the largest number of overnight visitors recorded in the month of March, with over 41,000 overnight visitors. Traditionally, March has been the peak of the tourism high season (Pre-Covid). With the steady growth in the first quarter, the outlook remains positive as Belize's tourism industry rebounds.

Meanwhile, for the first quarter of 2022, there were a total of 48 cruise ship calls and over 199,000 cruise ship passengers, with the largest number recorded in March, with over 93,000 passengers. The total includes cruise arrivals from both cruise ports, Fort Street Tourism Village (FSTV) and Harvest Caye.

The Belize Tourism Board (BTB) remains committed to working in partnership with its local and international industry stakeholders. Together, we will aggressively and effectively promote Belize as the leading tourism destination and achieve full recovery of the industry for the benefit of both Belizeans and visitors.

## Overnight Tourist Arrivals breakdown:

|     | 2019    |                     | 2020    |                     | 2021    |                     | 2022 (P) |                     |
|-----|---------|---------------------|---------|---------------------|---------|---------------------|----------|---------------------|
|     |         | % change<br>vs. '18 |         | % change<br>vs. '19 |         | % change<br>vs. '20 |          | % change<br>vs. '21 |
| Jan | 50,590  | 4.0                 | 48,554  | -4.0                | 6,908   | -85.8               | 25,661   | 271.5               |
| Feb | 49,868  | 8.7                 | 50,817  | 1.9                 | 7,938   | -84.4               | 30,238   | 280.9               |
| Mar | 57,697  | 6.2                 | 23,962  | -58.5               | 15,444  | -35.5               | 41,879   | 171.2               |
| Apr | 46,694  | 15.8                | 689     | -98.5               | 14,609  | 2,020.4             |          |                     |
| May | 36,779  | 3.0                 | 543     | -98.5               | 20,814  | 3,736.1             |          |                     |
| Jun | 42,938  | -1.0                | 212     | -99.5               | 26,362  | 12,321.9            |          |                     |
| Jul | 45,196  | -2.3                | 621     | -98.6               | 27,742  | 4,366.3             |          |                     |
| Aug | 33,764  | -3.1                | 705     | -97.9               | 16,782  | 2,278.8             |          |                     |
| Sep | 19,645  | -8.5                | 772     | -96.1               | 11,685  | 1,413.9             |          |                     |
| Oct | 25,341  | 1.6                 | 3,179   | -87.5               | 13,574  | 327.0               |          |                     |
| Nov | 38,981  | 0.4                 | 4,856   | -87.5               | 22,848  | 370.5               |          |                     |
| Dec | 55,674  | 2.1                 | 9,213   | -83.5               | 34,286  | 272.1               |          |                     |
|     | 503,166 | 2.8                 | 144,124 | -71.4               | 218,991 | 51.9                | 97,778   | 222.8               |

## Cruise Ship Passenger Arrivals breakdown:

|     | <u>2019</u> |                    | 2020    | j j                    | <u>2021</u> |                        | 2022 (P) |                        |
|-----|-------------|--------------------|---------|------------------------|-------------|------------------------|----------|------------------------|
|     |             | % change<br>vs '18 |         | %<br>change<br>vs. '19 |             | %<br>change<br>vs. '20 |          | %<br>change<br>vs. '21 |
| Jan | 165,885     | 26.1               | 156,240 | -5.8                   | 0           | -100.0                 | 47,154   | -                      |
| Feb | 147,926     | 24.5               | 118,241 | -20.1                  | 0           | -100.0                 | 58,239   | -                      |
| Mar | 143,176     | 8.4                | 68,618  | -52.1                  | 0           | -100.0                 | 93,836   | -                      |
| Apr | 104,775     | 14.8               | 0       | -100.0                 | 0           | 0.0                    |          |                        |
| May | 80,993      | -1.3               | 0       | -100.0                 | 0           | 0.0                    |          |                        |
| Jun | 55,012      | -25.6              | 0       | -100.0                 | 0           | 0.0                    |          |                        |
| Jul | 76,813      | -6.6               | 0       | -100.0                 | 11,401      | 0.0                    |          |                        |
| Aug | 66,168      | -27.5              | 0       | -100.0                 | 14,932      | 0.0                    |          |                        |
| Sep | 47,629      | -28.8              | 0       | -100.0                 | 22,180      | 0.0                    |          |                        |
| Oct | 53,763      | -28.8              | 0       | -100.0                 | 23,571      | 0.0                    |          |                        |
| Nov | 103,978     | -7.4               | 0       | -100.0                 | 49,344      | 0.0                    |          |                        |
| Dec | 124,440     | -17.2              | 0       | -100.0                 | 88,778      | 0.0                    |          |                        |
|     | 1,170,558   | -3.1               | 343,099 | -70.7                  | 210,206     | -38.7                  | 199,229  | -                      |

