

#### INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGY

National Institute of Culture and History

# ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESERVES EDUCATIONAL VISIT POLICY

The Institute of Archaeology/NICH seeks to ensure that future generations have an opportunity to enjoy and appreciate the rich cultural heritage of our nation. With learning and education at the heart of its work, the IA/NICH is committed to promoting and advancing knowledge and understanding of Belize's cultural and archaeological heritage.

Through its mission statement the IA/NICH seeks to offer teachers the opportunity to use the various Archaeological Reserves in supporting the goals of the National Curriculum.

It is the policy of the IA/NICH to offer an effective and enjoyable educational environment which engages and inspires all students.

The following are conditions that MUST be adhered to in order to qualify for the waiver of entrance fees to the various Archaeological Reserves.

- 1. All requests for Educational Visits must be made to the IA/NICH at least five (5) business days prior to the intended date of visit. An application form (see below) must be completed and returned to the IA/NICH for approval. Please note that your request is not automatically approved as School Passes are limited to 200 students per site per specific date.
- 2. Site passes are valid for one (1) visit to designated reserve, for date and time specified only. The passes can be issues for weekdays (Monday to Friday) and Saturdays only.
- 3. One (1) Supervisor (teacher or parent) is mandatory for every ten (10) students in Primary Schools (Standard 6 and below).
- 4. One (1) Supervisor (teacher or parent) is mandatory for every fifteen (15) students in High Schools (1st Form and above).
- 5. The Park Manager at any Archaeological Reserve is authorized to refuse entry to any school that does not meet the required level of supervision.
- 6. **The IA/NICH is not responsible for providing tour guide services**. Schools are encouraged to communicate with local Tour Guide Associations for assistance.
- 7. A hard copy of the Site Pass MUST be presented to the Park Manager upon arrival at the site in order to qualify for the waiving of entrance fees.



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- 8. In the interest of overall safety of students, NO Site Passes will be issued for Nohoch Che'en, Barton Creek or Actun Tunichil Muknal Archaeological Reserves, except with special consideration granted at the discretion of the Director of the Institute of Archaeology.
- 9. All supervisors shall be vigilant with students to reduce noise levels, stop all loud music, stop littering, prevent excessive horseplay, stop excessive and dangerous climbing and any other matters relating to overall crowd control.
- 10. Teachers and Parents are responsible for the removal of all garbage brought on site by their respective groups.
- 11. All visitors are expected to respect and abide by all regulations and signage at the Archaeological Reserves.
- 12. Enclosed footwear for walking and outdoor activity should be worn to ensure the safety of all visitors.
- 13. Visitors are not to enter any area open for active archaeological excavations.
- 14. Visitors are not to remove any object from any Archaeological Reserve.
- 15. If students from a specific school are found to be willfully damaging, destroying or defacing any cultural site or any IA/NICH property, the school will be sanctioned and the IA/NICH reserves the right not to issue any more passes to that school.
- 16. The IA/NICH does not accept liability for any damage, loss of property, injury or death that may be sustained in the course of the visit to the Archaeological Reserve.



Processed by:

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## **EDUCATIONAL VISIT APPLICATION FORM**

THIS FORM IS NOT A SITE PASS. Please submit completed form to the IA/NICH for review and approval. Forms must be submitted at least five (5) business days prior to intended date of visit. School Name: City/Town/Village: District: Contact Person: Phone Number: Email: Date of Trip: DAY MONTH YEAR ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESERVE (Please select one): Altun Ha **Cahal Pech** Caracol Cerro Maya Nim Li Punit Lamanai Lubaantun Santa Rita Serpon Sugar Mill Xunantunich El Pilar TIME OF VISIT (Please select one): **MORNING AFTERNOON** Specify Time (if known): STUDENTS: **TEACHERS: NUMBER OF VISITORS:** PARENTS: EDUCATION LEVEL (Please select one): PRIMARY: **Below Standard 1** Standard 1-3 Standard 4-6 1st Year 3<sup>rd</sup> Year **HIGH SCHOOL:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Year 4th Year TERTIARY: Sixth Form/Junior College University Other (specify): APPLICANT SIGNATURE DATE INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGY OFFICIAL USE ONLY Date Received: Approved Rejected Comments: