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Belize never disappoints. No matter how high my expectations, they are exceeded every time. Your first introduction to the country – friendly, happy and helpful immigration agents – sets the tone for the entire trip, and it only gets better from there.

Even when you arrive, luggageless, at your first stop to find out the town's water has been off for 3 days, the hotel is under construction, and the room you're supposed to be in is occupied, you know it's going to be OK. Well, not OK... excellent.

"Welcome to Hopkins!" says the man from the porch of the lavender house with the pink trim. "First time here?" In fact, it is. This friendly man turns out to be Mike, a server at Belize's best restaurant, Chef Rob's, which is across the street from the lavender house and my guest house, All Seasons. By this time, I knew that the woman at Baggage Services at Belize International who told me with no hesitation that she would find my bag and put it on the next flight from Miami was as good as her word. I was ready to be welcomed to Hopkins. [Read](#)

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