

have been given for what we are intending to do." Of course, there is much in The Placencia domain that is already completed for the benefit of its guests and residents alike, including The Placencia Marina, which will offer up to 263 slips, including 25 for super yachts. "We have the only super-yacht marina in Belize where the big yachts can tie up alongside and have full use of the hotel and all its amenities," says Lomont. "We also have the only casino in the region, which we opened up in May." The exclusive VIP Casino boasts 150 slot machines, 7 game tables, a bar, and is serviced by The Placencia Hotels Capriccio Restaurant. Within the next two years, the Casino will be expanded to 200 slot machines, 30 game tables, a lounge, a nightclub, and a five-star restaurant.

The Placencia Hotel and Residences has progressed far from its original conception as a "small bed and breakfast," and has become "a property that offers a bit more than the average resort would," Lomont says in a most understated way. But however large and stillgrowing it may be, Lomont stresses that because its founder, Marco Caruso, has continued to be a daily, on-site presence, and because the property has not changed hands since its inception, it's still a "very personal, very private, and very cozy" place to live or visit – and certainly a very special place to experience the "Beauty of Belize."

PREFERRED VENDORS

Belize Electricity Ltd. - Belize Electricity Ltd. (BEL) is the primary distributor of electricity in Belize, Central America. The company serves a customer base of approximately 70,000. BEL's national electricity grid connects all major municipalities (load centers), except for Caye Caulker, with approximately 1,850 miles of transmission and primary distribution lines. The grid is supplied by local Independent Power Producers utilizing hydroelectricity, biomass, petroleum, and solar energy sources. The Government of Belize (GOB) is the largest shareholder in BEL - www.bel.com.bz

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