



# Mexico City and the Yucatan

Mexico City • Mérida • Cancun



## Day 1 • Mexico City

Our journey begins as we board our international flight and wing our way southward to Mexico City. Upon arrival in Mexico City we are met by our coach and tour guide and then transfer into the city. This afternoon we take a walking tour along the city's main thoroughfare, the **Paseo de la Reforma**. **D**

## Day 2 • Mexico City

This morning we embark on a panoramic tour of the city which includes the **Zócalo** (or **Plaza de la Constitución**), the principle square of the city, and the **National Palace**. We also visit the **Templo Mayor** archaeological site and museum. Our city tour ends with a guided visit to the **Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe**. After lunch a short drive takes us to the ancient ruins and pyramids of **Teotihuacán**. This is the most visited archaeological site in Mexico. We return to Mexico City for dinner. **B/D**

## Day 3 • Mexico City

We depart Mexico City this morning for a day excursion to **Puebla**, a carefully planned colonial city with modern vitality and flair. Here we take a guided city tour. En route we visit the huge **Cholula Pyramid** as well as **Santa María Tonanzintla**, a massive Indian church with baroque-inspired decorations. We return to Mexico City for dinner. **B/D**

## Day 4 • Mérida

We take a morning flight to Mérida, the capital and main commercial city of the Yucatan peninsula. Our first visit is to the archaeological ruins of **Uxmal**. Here a guided tour will introduce us to the **Magician's Pyramid**, the **Governor's Palace**, and the "Nunnery" **Quadrangle**. After our tour we return to Mérida, which the Mayas called the "Place of the Fifth Point," locating it at the center of the universe. Here we enjoy a guided tour. **B/D**

## Day 5 • Mérida

This morning we visit the **Cenotes at Cuzama**. The *cenotes* are sinkholes where underground rivers break through the limestone crust of the earth. For Mayas, they represent the doorway to the spiritual underworld. We will get on a horse drawn cart, which takes us 5 miles into the jungle to visit and swim into the beautiful and clear cenotes. **B/D**

## Day 6 • Mérida

**Celestun** is home to the largest population of the Pink Flamingo on the American continent. To visit them, we take a boat tour. We also learn about the importance of mangroves in the region. There is also time to take a swim. We return to the hotel late in the afternoon. The rest of the day is at leisure. **B/D**

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### Day 7 • Cancun

We depart this morning for Cancun on the Caribbean Sea. Cancun is part of Mexico's largest resort area, known as the "Mayan Riviera." En route we tour **Chichén Itzá** with its magnificent architecture, including the imposing **Castillo**. We also learn about the "hoop dreams" of the Mayas as we visit the ball courts and learn about the game of *pok-ta-pok*. Before arriving in Cancun, we take time to visit **Cenote Ik Kil**, a beautiful subterranean pool under an arched limestone roof. **B/D**

### Day 8 • Cancun

We enjoy the natural wonders of this area today as we visit an eco-park, **Xel Ha**, a former Mayan town. Here, for an optional fee, we can snorkel or swim with dolphins! We can also choose to tube down a river, explore a Mayan cave, or just relax in this fabulous setting. *[Client may choose to visit a different eco-park. Price may vary.]* Tonight we enjoy a farewell dinner. **B/D**

### Day 9 • Return

We transfer to the Cancun airport this morning and board our homebound flight. We return with lasting memories of exotic landscapes, ancient cultures, and a wealth of new friends! *Adiós!* **B**

**Abbreviations for Meals: B=Breakfast L=Lunch D=Dinner**

**Cost of tour: \$1,499\***

*Land portion only*

*\*Based on 24 paying participants*

#### Included

##### **Transportation**

- Private deluxe air-conditioned motor coach
- Domestic flight: Mexico City to Merida

##### **Accommodations**

- Multi-bedded tourist class hotels

##### **Meals**

- As indicated in itinerary

##### **Sightseeing**

- Admission to all activities as indicated in itinerary

##### **Tour Guides**

- Teacher serves as tour leader  
(Professional tour director can be added upon request)
- Local guides for city tours and major attractions

##### **Taxes and Tips**

- All taxes and tips for provided services except end of tour tip for tour guide and driver

##### **Complimentary Tours**

- One tour per 8 paying participants

#### Not included

- Roundtrip air transportation
- Meals not indicated in the itinerary
- Beverages, except with breakfast
- End of tour tip for driver and tour guide
- Items of a personal nature such as passport fees  
*Passport must be valid for 6 months beyond return date*
- Travel Insurance

**This tour can be customized to your specifications.**

Tour Code: SPMY10

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