



Sample Itinerary

Mexico City and the Yucatan



320 Elton Hills Dr NW
Rochester, MN 55901
(507) 289-3332 • (800) 658-7128
Fax (507) 281-9747
www.ed-ventures.com
students@ed-ventures.com



Basilica square of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico city

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



Santuario de los remedios,"Cholula, Puebla



Ancient Mayan pyramid

baroque-inspired decorations. For dinner we return to Mexico City. **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. The Mayas called this city "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 carriage, 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



Cenote at Cuzama



Horse drawn carriage



Ik-Kil Cenote,
Chichen Itza

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**

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 **D**=Dinner



Chichen Itza snake and Kukulkan Mayan temple pyramid



Snorkeling

Prices vary according to season, group size, and customization of each tour.
Contact our staff at students@ed-ventures.com for more information

Included

Transportation

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

Accommodations

- Youth hostels and 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 driver

Complimentary Tours

- One per 8 paying participants

Not included

- Roundtrip air transportation (Included upon request)
- Professional tour director
- Meals not indicated in the itinerary
- Beverages, except with breakfast
- End of tour tip for driver
- 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.



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