Discover Mexico

11 nights/ 12 days

Mexico is packed with culture and history. Its pre-Hispanic civilizations built some of the world's great archaeological monuments. Travel through time and discover the magic of Chichen Itza and Uxmal, two of the most important archaeological pre-Hispanic cities in the Mayan world. Cancun offers a marvelous view of the turquoise waters of the Caribbean white sand beaches. Mexico is a land of endless adventure. Tour includes overnights in Mexico City, Oaxaca, San Cristobal de las Casas, Palenque, Campeche, Merida & Cancun.

Day to Day Itinerary:

DAY 01: MEXICO CITY -

Arrival in Mexico City. Reception at the Airport. Transfer to your Hotel. Rest of the day at leisure.

DAY 02: MEXICO CITY (City Tour with Anthropology Museum)



Breakfast. You will be transferred in a scenic passing, through the front of some facades of beautiful historical downtown buildings, such as the Palace of Fine Arts, the House of tile, arriving to the heart of Mexico, with his majestic Arms Square ""El Zocalo". You will be entered the National Palace to admire the macro mural of Diego Rivera in the main staircase

a veritable compendium of the history of Mexico, from the particular point of view of the great Mexican painter. We sill be acceded by the Metropolitan Cathedral the

largest in Latin America, home to the Archdiocese of Mexico, crossing its Ships and Altars. We are leaving to continue to make a panoramic tour of other beautiful facades of buildings architectural expression. Arriving to a craft gallery where you can buy a souvenir.

You will be transited by the most cosmopolitan boulevard, Reforma Bolulevard, which was designed by the Emperor Maximilian, inspired in the Parisian model of the Champs Elysees, which allows for important buildings and monuments. We arrived to the Chapultepec area forest, to access to the world renowned National Anthropology Museum, where they will complete a comprehensive view of the ancient Aztec city of Tenochtitlan and its glory with the visit and the Aztec room. Afterwards we will return to your hotel around 14 30 hrs.

(Meals: Breakfast)

DAY 03: MEXICO CITY (Tour to Guadalupe Shrine & Teotihuacan Pyramids)

After breakfast, departure to visit two impressive ceremonial centers, Teotihuacan (Prehispanic) and the Shrine of Guadalupe (contemporary), witch outline the majority religious development of the Mexican people. We will begin visiting the pre-Hispanic archaeological site of Tlatelolco, or also know as the "Plaza de las Tres Culturas" with its colonial church of Santiago. We will continue to Teotihuacan "the city of the Gods", according with the Aztec myth, with more than 2,500 years of



History. This place had a vital development, based on the Uses of the natural fiber textiles and obsidian tools and raw materials exchange. This will be explained in detail in a crafts center and you will have the chance to buy a souvenir alluding to this visit. You will be enter to the enigmatic archaeological site, visiting the temples of "Quetlzalpapalotl" (bird - butterfly) and the "Feathered Shells" and the whole Pyramid of the Moon. Finally ending



with the impressive Pyramid of the Sun. You will be guided into a local restaurant for your take your lunch (not included).

Afterwards you will be delight to visit of the Shrine of Guadalupe, which is Mexico's largest religious shrine, where the San Juan Diego's Tilma is keep, with the most venerated image in Mexico, the Virgin of Guadalupe, "Matron Saint of America".

(Meals: Breakfast)

DAY 04: MEXICO CITY / (Tour to Puebla) / OAXACA

Breakfast. Depart by land to visit first Santa Maria Tonantzintla, masterpiece of the Native baroque hand made church, the splendid Rosario chapel in Puebla, the Cathedral, the Main Plaza and the art and crafts market. Continue to Oaxaca. Arrival and accommodation.

(Meals: Breakfast)

DAY 05: OAXACA (Tour to Mitla, Tule & Montealban)

Breakfast. In the morning visit to Monte Alban, archeological area built in top of a mountain. There are Olmec, Zapotec and Mixtec culture vestiges, Grand Plaza, the Observatory, the Steele of Dancers and the tomb number 7 (the latest discoveries).

In the afternoon visit to Mitla, the city of the death. This is a beautiful place all made in grecas with a special symbolism to the death. See the largest Tule tree in America and visit the unique Oaxaca city, museum and Santo Domingo church and the Golden museum. Return to Oaxaca.

(Meals: Breakfast)



DAY o6: OAXACA / SAN DRISTOBAL DE LAS CASAS

Breakfast box and early departure to the sierra. By the mountain enjoy the landscape to arrive in Chiapa de Corzo and take a ride by the river into the Sumidero Canyon. Lunch included. Visit the fountain mudejar style and arrive in San Cristobal de las Casas. Accommodation.

(Meals: Breakfast & Lunch)

DAY 07: SAN CRISTOBAL DE LAS CASAS (Visit the Ancient Villages)

Breakfast. Leave to visit the ancient villages of San Juan Chamula and Zinacantan. These



small communities are very traditional and many of the villagers continue to follow ancient religious practices within the Catholic churches. In the main church of Chamula, where a traditional Christian mass hasn't been held for 40 years, people sit on the pine needle covered floor and receive treatments from local shamans amid clouds of burning incense. Afternoon at leisure to walk by the cobblestone streets, see on your own the church of San Domingo and the Market place.

(Meals: Breakfast)

DAY 08: SAN CRISTOBAL DE LAS CASAS / (Visit Agua Azul and Misolha Waterfalls) / PALENQUE

After breakfast at your hotel transfer to Palenque, the Agua Azul and Misolha Waterfalls en route. Agua Azul is one of those places where the magic is real, and the real is magical. It is as if the aquamarine waters of the Caribbean had tunneled beneath the ground to burst forth in cascades amongst the rainforest. After descending from Tonina we will break our journey here and have time to explore and swim among this spectacular series of waterfalls. Refreshed and dried off, we will continue on to the secluded waterfall of Misol-Ha that cascades into a pool surrounded by tropical forest. Contact with nature is essential to an

understanding of the Mayan world, for it was knowledge of the natural rhythms of life in the tropics, knowledge accumulated through centuries of village life, that underpinned the awesome power of the kings and spawned perhaps the greatest civilization of ancient America. Continue to Palenque for accommodation. Dinner included.

(Meals: Breakfast & Dinner)

DAY 09: (Tour to Palenque) / CAMPECHE

Breakfast. Today we will visit the archaeological site Palenque, considered one of the most beautiful sites in all Mexico. A UNESCO historical monument, Palenque is considered a world treasure. Ancient structures rise out of the lush rainforest on multiple terraces set against the mountains, many of them built by the great King Pacal in the 6th & 7th centuries AD. There are many major buildings to explore and new buildings are now being uncovered and studied. Many wonderful examples of Maya art and history are carved into the buildings' facades, some of them the most famous depictions from the ancient Maya world. Continue to Campeche for accommodation. Dinner included.

(Meals: Breakfast & Dinner)







DAY 10: CAMPECHE / (Visit to Uxmal ruins) / MERIDA (City Tour Merida)

After breakfast panoramic view of Campeche and continue to visit Uxmal ruins, one of the most popular ancient mayan cities. "Uxmal" in maya means "three times built". Here the guide will explain in depth the Puuc architect style of buildings such as the Nun's Quadrangle, the Ball court, the Turtle House and the Governor Palace. This Puuc style stand as a highly decorative and detailed one. It own its name to the Puuc hills located in the region. The Governor Palace is the most famous structure in Uxmal because it is the best example of the Puuc Style. It had been renewed as the most beautiful building in Mesoamerica After lunch continue to Merida. Arrive and panoramic view of Merida, the white city. See the Montejo boulevard, the Patriots monument, the main plaza with the Cathedral and Palace of Government.

(Meals: Breakfast)

DAY 11: MERIDA / (Tour to Chichen Itza archeological park) / CANCUN



Breakfast. Today we will pick you up early in the morning and drive 1.5 hrs southeast of the city of Merida to the ruins of the ancient Mayan city of Chichen Itza. The name of Chichen Itza comes from the Mayan words: Chi (Mouth), Chen (hole or well) and Itza (Itza people). All together, these Mayan words means "At the mouth of the Well of the Itza people". The visit will be leaded by an expert and knowledgeable guide, who will explain in detail about the beautiful architecture of the

buildings and the way of living of the Mayan people.

Explore the main buildings of this ceremonial city standing as the masterpiece the Pyramid of Kukulkan, the largest and most important ceremonial building in the ancient city.

Walk over a "Sac beh" or white path used for ceremonial purposes to get to the Sacred Cenote, used for the worship of Chaac, the Mayan god of rain. This cenote was also considered by the Mayans as an entrance to the underworld.



In Chichen Itza you will also visit the Temple of the Thousand Columns, The Observatory, The Ball Court, other not at all less important buildings. Then and after a long walk through the majestic Mayan city and new wonder of the world, you will enjoy a delicious Yucatecan food. After lunch we will transfer you to Cancun's Airport. Arrival, check in and accommodation. Breakfast. Check out and transfer to the airport.

(Meals: Breakfast & Lunch)

DAY 12: CANCUN | INC: B

Breakfast. Check out and transfer to the airport.

Inclusions:-

- 1. 3 nights in Mexico City
- 2. 2 nights in Oaxaca
- 3. 2 nights in San Cristobal de las Casas
- 4. 1 night in Palenque
- 5. 1 night in Campeche
- 6. 1 night in Merida

- 7. 1 nights in Cancun
- 8. Accommodation at selected hotels with breakfasts.
- 9. All transfers, visits and excursions on regular basis.
- 10. Local English-speaking guides are included on the tours.
- 11. Meals mentioned