

Trip Info

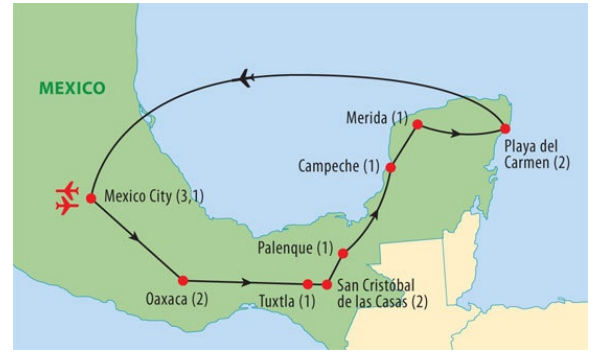
Group Size: Min: 10 | Max: 28

Transportation: Boat, Coach, Plane

Tips: Tipping Made Easy, \$140 AUD pp, pre-paid

Destinations Visited: Mexico City, Teotihuacan, Oaxaca, Monte Alban, Tuxtla, San Cristóbal de las Casas, Palenque, Campeche, Merida, Chichen Itza & Playa del Carmen

Tequila, margaritas, music, nachos and the fiery hot jalapeno peppers form the basis of the Mexican zest for life. Come join the party and admire the rich history, culture and traditions that make up this wonderful country.



Welcome to Mexico

Our Mexico tour starts in one of the largest cities in the world, Mexico City. Here we take a city tour and visit the Church of Our Lady of Guadalupe, arguably the most important Christian site in Latin America. From Mexico City our tour visits the nearby archaeological site of Teotihuacán which features several magnificent pyramids, before continuing south to Oaxaca. On the way we stop to admire the pyramids and tombs, at Monte Alban the spiritual capital of the Zapotecan people.

Bargain at the colourful Mexican markets

From Oaxaca our Mexico tour flies to Tuxtla where we continue high into the Chiapas Mountains to the charming town of San Cristobal de las Casas. On the way we stop to explore the Sumidero Canyon by boat. In the San Cristobal region we'll visit several of the small indigenous communities in the mountains. Here you can try out your bargaining skills at the colourful local markets full of authentic Mexican handicrafts.

Visit the most famous Mayan site

From San Cristobal our Mexico tour continues to Palenque, stopping on the way to visit the beautiful Agua Azul waterfalls. Palenque is an ancient site and boasts several magnificent pyramids, and in parts is still covered by lush tropical jungle. Our next stop is Chichen Itza the most famous of all the Mayan sites and home to the huge Pyramid of Kukulcan, recently voted one of the new seven wonders of the world. We end our Mexico tour with two wonderfully relaxing nights at the beautiful beach resort of Playa Del Carmen – what could be more perfect!

Itinerary

Day 1 Arrive in Mexico

Welcome to Mexico! On our arrival we will be met and transferred to our hotel.

Day 2 Mexico City

This morning we hit the hustle and bustle of Mexico City. It's one of the largest cities in the world and one of only a few to have hosted both the Olympic Games and the soccer World Cup! The rest of the day is at leisure to siesta or explore further on your own. Don't over sleep - this evening we enjoy a group welcome dinner. [B,L,D]

Day 3 Mexico City

We visit the nearby archaeological site of Teotihuacan known for its pyramid structures and well-preserved murals. We also visit the Church of Our Lady of Guadalupe, arguably the most important Christian site in Latin America. The rest of the afternoon is at leisure. [B,L]

Day 4 Mexico City - Oaxaca

We head south as we depart Mexico City and travel via the beautiful colonial city of Puebla, famous for its Baroque churches and ceramics, before continuing on to Oaxaca. [B,L]

Day 5 Oaxaca

An action-packed morning as we tour through the scenic region surrounding Oaxaca. We stop to admire the pyramids and tombs at Monte Alban, the spiritual capital of the Zapotecan people. [B,L]

Day 6 Oaxaca - Tuxtla

Today we fly to Tuxtla. [B]

Day 7 Tuxtla - San Cristóbal

We head high into the Chiapas Mountains to the charming town of San Cristóbal de las Casas, a colonial town of white stucco walls and red-tile roofs, cobblestone streets, graceful arcades and open plazas. This town is located 2,000m above sea level offering us stunning views! Along the way, we stop to explore the spectacular Sumidero Canyon by boat. The dramatic cliffs of this canyon are up to 1km high and the river is up to 100m deep! [B,L]

Day 8 San Cristóbal

A captivating day as we visit several of the small indigenous communities in the mountains surrounding San Cristóbal de las Casas. Try your bargaining skills at busy local markets full of authentic Mexican handicrafts. Enjoy an afternoon at leisure as we return to the delightful town of San Cristóbal. [B,L]

Day 9 San Cristóbal - Palenque

We drive through lush green valleys as we head back down the mountain to Palenque. Along the way we visit the beautiful Agua Azul waterfalls, one of the country's most attractive areas consisting of outstanding natural beauty. [B,L]

Day 10 Palenque - Campeche

Our entire morning is dedicated to the nearby archaeological site of Palenque which boasts several magnificent pyramids and, in parts, is covered in lush tropical jungle. In the afternoon we will make our way to Campeche. [B]

Day 11 Campeche - Merida

An incredible day as we visit Uxmal, one of the most important of all Mayan sites and recognised as a World Heritage site. After lunch we continue on to Merida, often referred to as the 'white city' because of its colonial buildings. We enjoy a city tour including the main square where we visit the Cathedral, Government Palace, Town Hall and the House of Montejo. [B,L]

Day 12 Merida - Playa del Carmen

Another amazing day of antiquities as we visit Chichen Itza, the most famous of all Mayan sites and home to the huge Pyramid of Kukulcan, recently voted one of the new Seven Wonders of the World. Later we arrive in Playa del Carmen. [B,L]

Day 13 Playa del Carmen

A free day to relax on the beach, try snorkelling in some of the clearest waters on the planet, or explore the coast. This evening we enjoy a farewell dinner. [B,D]

Day 14 Playa del Carmen - Mexico

We leave the beach behind as we fly to Mexico City. [B]

Day 15 Depart Mexico City

Today we transfer to the airport to begin our journey home. [B]

Day 16 In transit

Day 17 Arrive in Australia

Inclusions

Travel

- Return economy class flights from Australia to Mexico
- 1 domestic economy class flight within Mexico
- Airport transfers on the first and last day of tour
- All transfers and touring conducted in air-conditioned vehicles
- Pre-paid tips - \$140

Accommodation & Meals

- 14 nights accommodation in good quality hotels with private facilities (3-4 star)
- 14 breakfasts, 9 lunches and 2 dinners including group welcome and farewell dinners

Sightseeing

- English-speaking guides who will bring the sights of Mexico alive

Tour through bustling cities and colourful markets

- Enjoy a half day tour of the ever-busy Mexico City, home to more than 20 million people
- Spend two wonderful nights in the colourful town of San Cristóbal de las Casas, high in the Chiapas Mountains
- Fantastic tour of the San Cristóbal region including the small Indian villages of San Juan Chamula and Zinacantan, where we can test our bargaining skills at the local markets piled high with souvenirs and authentic handicrafts, and the Santo Domingo Church

Explore ancient archaeological sites and historic townships

- Visit the archaeological site of Teotihuacan which features several magnificent pyramids and the nearby town of Guadalupe whose Church of Our Lady is arguably the most important Christian pilgrimage site in all of Latin America
- Visit the historic town of Puebla, famous for its Baroque churches and beautiful ceramics
- Sightseeing in the area of Oaxaca, including a visit to Monte Alban, spiritual home of the Zapotecan people and boasting many impressive pyramids, temples and tombs. Also included is a visit to the historic downtown Oaxaca which remains a Spanish colonial treasure and is filled with 17th and 18th century European architecture.
- Explore the ancient site of Palenque, home of pyramids and temples, some of which are still covered in lush tropical forest giving them a mystical appearance
- Overnight stay in the colonial city of Campeche which is still surrounded by its ancient city wall and watch towers
- Visit Uxmal, one of the most important sites of the ancient Mayan civilisation. It features magnificent pyramids, temples and intricate carvings.
- See the great pyramid of Kukulcan at Chichen Itza amongst other ancient ruins. This 90 foot tall pyramid was built during the 11th-13th centuries, directly upon the multiple foundations of previous temples.

Be awestruck by amazing natural settings

- Enjoy a stunning scenic drive into the Chiapas Mountains and explore the majestic Sumidero Canyon by boat
- Visit the beautiful Agua Azul waterfalls
- 2 nights at the beautiful beach resort of Playa del Carmen on Mexico's famous holiday coastline

Dates & Prices

Start Date	End Date	Total Cost*	Status
22-Sep	08-Oct	\$6,560	Available
20-Oct	05-Nov	\$6,560	Available
17-Nov	03-Dec	\$6,560	Available
19-Jan	04-Feb	\$6,644	Available
16-Feb	04-Mar	\$6,644	Available
16-Mar	01-Apr	\$6,644	Available

Price Valid From: Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane

Other Cities: Depart Adelaide and Perth add \$255pp

Tips: Total cost includes - Tipping Made Easy \$140 AUD pp pre-paid

Taxes: Total cost includes air taxes of \$430

Single Supplement: From \$715 (subject to seasonality)

Day/Date Variations: Due to airline flight schedules day of arrival and departure may vary depending on your city of departure

***Taxes & Fuel Costs:** Change regularly so above levies shown as a guide only

Prices shown are per person based on twin-share.

Prices and itineraries correct at current time but are subject to change.

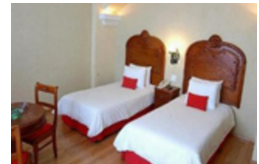
Please call for more details. View our [full terms & conditions here](#).

Accommodation

Hotels listed are subject to change and the below list should be used as a guide only. Every effort is made to avoid any hotel changes however if a change becomes necessary then a hotel of a similar standard will be used.

Holiday Inn Hotel Zocalo, Mexico City

Holiday Inn Hotel Zocalo is located on Mexico City's Main Square (Zocalo). It is surrounded by restaurants, theatres, markets and shops and is only five minutes away from the Aztec ruins of the Templo Mayor and the Bellas Artes Palace. The terrace-restaurant provides splendid views of the square below as well as of the Metropolitan Cathedral and the National Palace of Government. The location of this hotel really couldn't be better, being right in the middle of the historical centre of Mexico City.



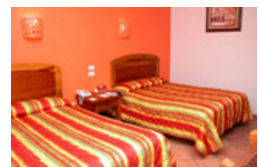
Holiday Inn San Cristobal Espanol

The Holiday Inn San Cristobal Español offers 79 guest rooms and is located at the heart of the wonderful colonial city of San Cristobal de las Casas - which is considered the cradle of Chiapas' ancient cultures. This is a charming and colourful Spanish-colonial style hotel located within walking distance of the main handicraft market, main square, cathedral and a multitude of shops and restaurants.



Casa Conzatti Hotel, Oaxaca

The Casa Conzatti Hotel offers 45 guest rooms and has been adapted from a lovely colonial-style house located in a peaceful residential area in Oaxaca's historic Centre. It is conveniently located within walking distance of the Santo Domingo Church and Cultural complex. While dining in 'Magnolias' restaurant, you can sample various traditional dishes, as well as a selection of international specialities. Casa Conzatti is a wonderful place from which to explore Oaxaca's fascinating history and culture.





Viva Mexico

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Weather

At sea level the weather in Mexico remains hot and warm all year round making this a great destination for any time of the year, although the months between October to May tend to be the most popular.

Mexico City	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Ave Max C	19	21	24	25	26	24	23	23	23	21	20	19
Ave Min C	6	6	8	11	12	13	12	12	12	10	8	6
Rainy Days	4	5	9	14	17	21	27	27	23	13	6	4

Currency

Mexican Peso (MXN; symbol M\$) = 100 centavos. Notes are in denominations of M\$1,000, 500, 200, 100, 50 and 20. Coins are in denominations of M\$100, 50, 20, 10, 5, 2 and 1, and 50, 20, 10 and 5 centavos.

Optional Tours

MEXICO

FROM MEXICO CITY:

Garibaldi Show - 3hrs - USD\$55pp (May not be available on Sundays and Mondays)

Visit the Zocalo to admire its illuminated monuments, the National Palace and the Cathedral. Your evening continues as you travel to the famous Plaza Garibaldi, the meeting place of the Mariachis, to enjoy a traditional Mexican show with live music and dancing.

Garibaldi Show with dinner - 5hrs - USD\$105pp (May not be available on Sundays and Mondays)

Travel to the Hotel Bellini for a delicious evening meal before continuing to the Plaza Garibaldi, meeting place of the Mariachis, to enjoy a traditional Mexican show with live music and dancing. Afterwards, be taken to enjoy an evening panoramic view of downtown Mexico City.

Ballet Folklórico de México - 3hrs - USD\$95pp (Wednesday and Sunday)

For five decades, this folkloric ballet ensemble has presented dances in costumes which reflect the traditional culture of Mexico. The ensemble has performed in over 80 countries around the world. Price includes transfers to the Anthropology Museum or Hidalgo Theatre and entrance to the show.

FROM PLAYA DEL CARMEN:

Coba, Grand Cenote and Aktun Chen - Full Day- USD\$80pp

Experience three unique wonders of the Yucatan world. The first stop is the Mayan ruins of Coba, the largest and oldest ancient city in the Yucatan. From the highest pyramid of the ruins, you can look out over the jungle for miles in every direction! Visit Grand Cenote for a cool swim in the crystal clear water of a limestone cave. After a buffet lunch, continue to Aktun Chen, one of the most breathtaking caves in Mexico, before returning to your hotel.

Tulum Express - 5hrs - USD\$40pp

Discover one of the most beautiful and ancient Mayan cities for an informative and historical guided tour. The thing that you'll find most striking about this ruins site is not only its pyramids, but its amazing setting and the staggering backdrop of the Caribbean Sea.

Xel-Ha All Inclusive - Full Day - USD\$105pp

Xel-Ha is an eco-park with a large lagoon for snorkelling, a few fresh water cenotes and hidden beaches with hammocks for relaxing. The park has countless tropical fish among the rock formations and underwater caves in crystal clear lagoons. The lagoon is calm, even on windy days, so snorkelling is easy. The open-sea aquarium offers a myriad of land and water activities, ecological attractions, world-class restaurants and countless more unimaginable experiences. Included in your tour is park admissions, food and beverages, snorkel equipment, lifejacket, floating inner tubes and aquatic adventure activities. An optional extra for this tour is a swim with the dolphins, speak to your guide to arrange in advance.

Garrafon Discovery - Full Day - USD\$62pp

Hop on the boat from Cancun to Isla Mujeres and get ready for a wonderful time at Garrafón Reef Park. Picture yourself snorkeling, swimming in the pool, kayaking, wandering the sculptured garden, and lounging in our comfortable hammocks. It really is a slice of paradise. The Garrafón Discovery package includes continental breakfast, buffet lunch, domestic open bar all day long, snorkel equipment, life jackets, kayaks, pool and showers, plus access to a guided shopping tour. Please note: an additional \$3USD dock fee is payable per person and must be paid at time of registration. Clients must organise own transportation from hotel to Aquatours Marine.

**** PLEASE NOTE ****

All tours are based on minimum participants (unless otherwise stated) and are subject to availability. The length of tours advised are an approximate only and can be booked on tour directly with your Tour Director. Prices are a guide only and are subject to change without notice. Payment must be made to your Tour Director with cash.

Disclaimer

Prices shown are per person based on twin-share. Prices and itineraries are correct at time of downloading from the website but are subject to change. Taxes and fuel surcharges change regularly so levies shown as a guide only. For full terms and conditions please visit our website or call 1300 664 170 for details.