



CAE 2418

DISCOVERING THE MEXICAN SOUTHEAST

9 days / 8 nights

Tourism in Mexico is one of the main economic activities of the country, with more than 31 million visitors per year, being Cancun from far, the most visited spot and entrance gate to the region. The Yucatan Peninsula is the Southeastern zone of Mexico that separates the Caribbean Sea from the Gulf of Mexico, with Campeche and Quintana Roo serving as border states. Yucatan is home to many historical sites that draws many travellers and visitors from all over to the world to experience what it has to offer. It is predominantly known for its impressive Mayan ruins, of which one holds the title of a new “Wonder of the World”. Its cultural capital, nature reserves, its food and architecture play a big role too.

Discovering the southeast of Mexico is not quite complete until you visit Merida, the largest town and capital of the Yucatan region. It is one that is filled with colours, outstanding architecture and has been nicknamed “The White City”, (La Ciudad Blanca). The UNESCO world heritage site of Chichen Itzá is a centerpiece of the Mayan archaeological scene in Mexico and gets around 1.4 million visitors a year — the region’s 2nd most popular Mayan ruins. For over a thousand years Chichen Itza was one of the great cities of Central America – located here because of proximity to deep cenotes with access to fresh water. One of the Southeast’s most popular attractions is definitely the ruins of Palenque (Zona Arqueológica Palenque.) These well-preserved Mayan ruins are some of the most impressive in all of Mexico, with the best known Temple of Inscriptions. This massive temple is home to the tomb of Pakal the Great – one of the city’s most famous rulers.

Also included on this package is the Cañón de Sumidero, one of the must-see in Chiapas. The canyon was formed about 35 million years ago and is today one of the main attractions as it offers a magnificent panoramic view to visitors.

DAY 1 DEPARTURE TO MEXICO – ARRIVAL IN CANCUN

Arrival at the international airport in Cancún. Reception by our partner, and private transfer to the hotel in the city center. You will have the rest of the day at leisure for private activities. Overnight at the Krystal Cancun Hotel or similar.

DAY 2 CANCUN – MERIDA

Breakfast at the hotel. Early departure to Chichen Itza, the most renowned Mayan city in Mexico, dating from the sixth century and said to have been founded by Itzamná, Lord of the Skies, creator God, first priest and inventor of Mayan writing. This site captures advanced archaeo-astronomical knowledge of the Mayan culture. We will visit the area with its majestic buildings such as El Castillo or Pyramid of Kukulcan, 30 m. high, as well as the Observatory or Caracol, the Temple of the Jaguars, the Sacred Cenote, the Ball Court, the Platform of the Skulls and the Plaza of the 1000 Columns, among others. Lunch before we continue to Merida. Transfer to the hotel. Overnight at El Conquistador Hotel. **(B) (L)**

DAY 3 MERIDA

Breakfast at the hotel. Possibility to do Uxmal, considered without a doubt as one of the most beautiful archaeological sites of pre-Hispanic times. The size of its structures and the fine carving of its facades is remarkable. Its most imposing pyramid, the Temple of the Magician was built, according to a legend, in a single night by a dwarf. A characteristic of Uxmal is that it was built in Puuc Style, a totally Mayan architectural style, without Toltec influences as in Chichén Itzá. The date of its foundation is unknown, but it is estimated that it occurred between the fifth and sixth centuries AD. Then you can see the spectacular Light and Sound Show. In case the Light and Sound

PRICE PER PERSON IN DOUBLE OCCUPANCY

EUR 1.654.-

Surplus single room	+ USD 489.-
DISCOUNT triple room	- USD 99.-
Child 2-11 years old	USD 1.117.-

DEPARTURES EVERY THURSDAY

Jan 08 – Dec 15, 2024

PRIVATE SERVICES upon request

INCLUSIONS

- ✦ Private transfers airport and sightseeing tours
- ✦ Public transportation for connections.
- ✦ 09 nights in selected 4****
- ✦ 09 breakfasts and 3 lunches
- ✦ All excursions and transfers mentioned in the program.
 - City tour in San Cristobal de las Casas.
 - Excursion to Chichen Itzá and Palenque
 - Visit Cañon Sumidero + Agua Azul Waterfalls
- ✦ Local english-speaking guide in all excursions
- ✦ All entrance fees to national parks, museums and excursions
- ✦ 24 h. support (Hotline)

NOT INCLUDED

- ✓ **International and domestic flights**
- ✓ Local airport taxes
- ✓ Tips for Guides, drivers and Porters
- ✓ Personal expenses
- ✓ Optional tours
- ✓ Other services not mentioned in the program





Show will be suspended, the visit of Uxmal and Kabah will be made with lunch. However, if the show is suspended in case of rain, there is no refund. Return to Merida to the hotel (8 hrs.). Rest of the day at leisure. Overnight at the El Conquistador Hotel. **(B) (L)**

DAY 4 MERIDA – VILLAHERMOSA - PALENQUE

Breakfast at the hotel. On time transfer to the airport for your flight to Villahermosa (Plane ticket not included; the flight must arrive before 10:00 hrs.). Reception by our representative and private transfer to the Archaeological Zone of Palenque, one of the most important cities of the Classic Mayan Period, notable for its beautiful sculptural art and its impressive architecture in the middle of the greenery of the jungle. It is the only city whose foundations were tombs. We will have the opportunity to know the Temple of the Inscriptions, inside which the sarcophagus of King Pakal was found, and the Temple No. XIII, where in the 90s of the XX-century archaeologists discovered the tomb of the Red Queen. We will also admire the Palace, which was the main residence of its rulers, with its observatory tower. We will finally see the Set of the Cross and its crests, as well as the Temple of the Sun. Lunch before returning to Palenque.

Overnight at the Tulija Palenque Hotel. **(B) (L)**

DAY 5 PALENQUE – SAN CRISTOBAL

Breakfast at the hotel. Transfer from Palenque to the Agua Azul Waterfalls. After a short ride, you will get to this incredible natural beauty. Agua Azul means literally “blue water” which is a clear reference to the stunning bluish hues the water has, especially when hit by the sun. The Waterfalls consist of many cataracts following one another, creating a stunning sequence of waterfalls. Free time for a while just for relaxing admiring the beauty of the area, go for a walk between the cataracts or jump in the water to swim or dive. Continuation to San Cristobal de las Casas and transfer to the hotel. Rest of the day at leisure. Overnight at Plaza Magnolias Hotel **(B)**

DAY 6 SAN CRISTOBAL

Breakfast at the hotel. In the morning you will join us in a city tour. Your guide will give information about the historical places, amongst other things; Santo Domingo church, the San Cristóbal cathedral, cultural centre el Carmen, el Cerrillo, the principal market, Guadalupe church and Cerrito de San Cristóbal. The day continues to the indigenous Mayan communities of San Juan Chamula and Zinacantán. The community of San Juan Chamula is particularly linked to the Church of San Juan Bautista where ceremonies were held that had a great influence of paganism (photos are strictly forbidden in the church). The indigenous population of Zinacantan is different in the fact that it is very loyal to the Catholic faith. You will be able to admire how women weave the waist loom, as well as surprise you with their multi-colored embroidery. Return to San Cristobal and accommodation at the Plaza Magnolias Hotel or similar. **(B)**

DAY 7 SAN CRISTOBAL - TUXTLA GUTIERREZ - CANCUN

Breakfast at the hotel. Transfer to the Sumidero Canyon. The imposing Canyon is about a thousand meters high at its maximum point, which we will have the possibility to see in detail while we take a boat trip through the canyon. Then we will take a walk to admire the canyon. We will continue to Tuxtla Gutierrez airport for your flight to Cancun (plane ticket not included). Upon arrival transfer to your hotel in Cancun. Overnight at the Krystal Hotel or similar. **(B)**

DAY 8 CANCUN

Breakfast at the hotel. You deserve it! After a long road trip, you can finally relax and enjoy the hotel facilities. You can plan some visits or activities such as Tulum, an archeological center at the shores of the Caribbean or spend the whole day in Xcaret, a thematic park with an exceptional show with Mexican music and dances at the end of the day. Or you can end your day (and tour) with a special dinner aboard a pirate ship. Do you need help? Your guide in Cancun will help you to take the right decision. **(B)**

DAY 9 CANCUN – RETURN FLIGHT

Breakfast at the hotel and free time to enjoy the hotel and its facilities. At the given time transfer to the airport in Cancun for your flight home or your next destination. Planning an extension in Cancun or somewhere else? It will be a pleasure to help you. End of our services. **(B)**



(B) Breakfast **(L)** Lunch **(D)** Dinner