



GROUP TRAVEL
CAE 2436



GUATEMALA AT A GLANCE

6 days / 5 nights

Guatemala at a glance? Well, with a population of 17 million and a GDP of US\$77.6 billion (2020), Guatemala is the largest economy in Central America and an upper middle-income country, measured by its GDP per capita (US\$4,603 in 2020). Its capital is Guatemala city, the currency is called "quetzal", language is Spanish, main exports are coffee, sugar, petroleum, apparel, bananas, fruits and vegetables.

*Guatemala is best known for its volcanic landscape, fascinating Mayan ruins, Spanish colonial architecture, indigenous art, and old world culture. Start your trip exploring Antigua, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. **Antigua** is famous for its natural setting, colonial city charm, Spanish Baroque-influenced architecture and a number of ruins. However, no trip to Guatemala would be complete if you don't visit **Tikal**. It was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1979. Tikal was the capital of a conquest state that became one of the most powerful kingdoms of the ancient Maya.*

*Further on, on this tour you get the best of Guatemala besides Antigua and Tikal: **Chichicastenango**, the house of the Quiché-Mayan civilization and one of the most traditional places in Guatemala; , **Panajachel** and **Lake Atitlan**, often called "The most wonderful lake in the world". A massive explosion on the crater of an old volcano caused the origins of this lake, and with time three volcanoes grew around it: **Tolimán**, **Atitlán** and **San Pedro**, creating this magnificent view. An immense hole was left in the earth's crust, making **Atitlán** one of the world's deepest lakes.*

DAY 1 DEPARTURE TO GUATEMALA

Arrival at the international airport in Guatemala City. Reception by our partner, and transfer to Antigua. Upon arrival, check-in at the hotel. You will have the rest of the day at leisure for private activities. Overnight at the Camino Real Antigua Hotel or similar.

DAY 2 ANTIGUA

Breakfast at the hotel. Today we will invite you to a guided city tour. Antigua, a UNESCO World Heritage Site was founded in the early 16th century. Built 1,500 m above sea-level, in an earthquake-prone region, it was largely destroyed by an earthquake in 1773 but its principal monuments are still preserved as ruins. In the space of under three centuries the city, which was built on a grid pattern inspired by the Italian Renaissance, acquired a number of superb monuments. Most of the surviving civil, religious, and civic buildings date from the 17th and 18th centuries and constitute magnificent examples of colonial architecture in the Americas. These buildings reflect a regional stylistic variation known as Barroco antigüeño. Among other significant historical buildings, we will visit the Palace of the Captains General, the Casa de la Moneda, the Cathedral, the Universidad de San Carlos, Las Capuchinas, La Merced and Santa Clara. After the tour, you will have free time for private activities, go shopping or just to relax at the hotel. Overnight at the Camino Real Antigua Hotel or similar. (B)

DAY 3 ANTIGUA – CHICHICASTENANGO - ATITLAN

Breakfast at the hotel. Early departure to Chichicastenango, one of the most important towns in Guatemala since it treasures a lot of Mayan culture, history and traditions. It is the home of the Quiché civilization (largest group of Mayan population). Chichicastenango is one of the most traditional places in Guatemala. The town was able to conserve its indigenous authenticity and this will give you the opportunity to experience its religious rituals, practiced almost on a daily basis. Upon arrival, you will visit the market, one of the

**PRICE PER PERSON
EN DOUBLE OCCUPANCY**

EUR 654.-

**Surplus single room
EUR 277.-**

**DEPARTURES EVERY
TUESDAY AND FRIDAY**

Jan 08 – Dec 15, 2024

**PRIVATE SERVICES
upon request**

INCLUSIONS

- ✚ Transfer from/to the Hotel in all airports
- ✚ 5 Nights in 4**** Hotels
- ✚ 4 breakfasts, 1 lunch.
- ✚ All excursions and services as described in the program. Highlights :
 - Guided Tours in Antigua, Chichicastenango, Atitlán.
 - Tikal archaeological site-
- ✚ Local english-speaking guide in all services
- ✚ All entrance fees to national parks, museums and excursions.
- ✚ 24 h. support via Whatsapp.

NOT INCLUDED

- International and domestic flights
- Meals and drinks and other services not mentioned in the program.
- Tips for tour guides, drivers and porters.
- Personal expenses





biggest in Central America. You will find yourself surrounded by every type of handicrafts, fruits and vegetables, flowers and many other goods. Among others, you will also visit the Iglesia de Santo Tomas, a 400 year old church with colonial architecture. It is the main place where Mayan prayer leaders practice their rituals. Especially on Sundays, these "priests" burn incense and devote themselves to their ancestors. The 18 steps that lead you up to the entrance, stands for each month of the year of the Mayan calendar. After the visit, we will continue to Panajachel at the shores of Lake Atitlán. Check in and free time for private activities. Overnight at the Porta del Lago Hotel or similar. **(B)**

DAY 4 ATITLAN – CIUDAD GUATEMALA

Breakfast at the hotel. Today we will take a boat to cross the Lake Atitlán, renowned as one of the most beautiful lakes in the world, and is one of Guatemala's most important national and international tourist attractions. Our target is Santiago Atitlán, lying between two volcanos, San Pedro and Toliman. We will visit the market, the church which structure dates back to as far as 1571 and some shops where you can purchase local handicrafts such as beautiful woven stuff, volcanic jade carvings and dubiously ancient Tz'utujil pieces allegedly unearthed from the grounds around. At a given time, you will return to Panajachel and further to Ciudad de Guatemala. Accommodation at the Radisson & Suites Guatemala Hotel or similar. **(B)**

DAY 5 GUATEMALA – TIKAL - GUATEMALA

Very early in the morning, around 05:00 am, we will take you to the airport for the flight to Flores (not included on the package, however we can be helpful to get your tickets). Arrival at the International Airport Tikal and transfer to the Tikal archaeological site for a visit. Tikal is the ruin of an ancient city and one of the largest archeological sites and urban centers of the pre-Columbian Maya civilization. It is located in the archeological region of the Petén Basin in what is now northern Guatemala. It was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1979. Tikal was the capital of a conquest state that became one of the most powerful kingdoms of the ancient Maya. Though monumental architecture at the site dates back as far as the 4th century BC, Tikal reached its apogee during the Classic Period, c. 200 to 900. During this time, the city dominated much of the Maya region politically, economically, and militarily, while interacting with areas throughout Mesoamerica such as the great metropolis of Teotihuacan in the distant Valley of Mexico. After the visit, lunch and transfer to the airport for your return flight to Guatemala City. Upon arrival, transfer to the hotel. Accommodation at the Radisson & Suites Guatemala Hotel or similar. **(L)**

DAY 6 GUATEMALA - RETURN HOME

After breakfast, free time to enjoy the last moments in Guatemala, go shopping or just to relax at the hotel. On-time transfer to the airport in Guatemala City for your connecting flight home or extension of your stay in Guatemala or Central America. End of our services. **(B)**

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

