

Mayan Expedition 2 | Acquaintance to the Mayan History

Yucatan Private Tour



The Mayan Culture reigned on the Yucatan Peninsula, on the Southeastern side of Mexico, enclosed by the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean Sea. It was in this area, where the Mayans reached their Superior degree of development. Nonetheless Mayan Civilization covered a vast extension, from Mexico's Southern Pacific Coast, way in to Central America. Traces of Maya nomad settlements go back to 1500 BC. We distinguish mainly 3 Mayan periods of Social and Urban development: Nomad, Mayan Pre Classical and Mayan Classical. These Periods are relatively evident in their building techniques, their carved inscriptions on their Pyramids, buildings and temples. Mayans developed a structure of writing, using hieroglyphs; and so kept record of Mayan findings in mathematics, Architecture and Astronomy.

Day 1: Cancún

Arrival in Cancún, transfer to hotel and overnight stay.



Day 2: Cancún

Cancún – Tulum – Coba – Chichén Itza

Depart from Cancun to visit the archeological site of Tulum, which stands on a Cliff facing the rising sun, with outstanding views of the Caribbean. With over 20 Buildings, you will be able to observe the Stalls on the monuments, with the graphic legacy of the Mayan Culture; you will also see the First Castle on your Route dedicated to Kukulcan, the God of Gods of the Mayas. Tulum was a major link in the Maya extensive trade network, both maritime and land routes converged here. After this visit we head towards Coba the largest Mayan city on the peninsula that was the ground commercial controller of its time by an enormous network of pathways; the longest goes for 100 kms. After Coba we will transit to reach Chichén Itza or our last activity of the day: the Light and Sound Show.



Day 3: Chichén Itza

Chichén Itza - Uxmal

An early morning visit to the site of Chichen Itza will start our day. Chichen Itza the Mayan Post Classic Sacred City, which represents the most intact and impressive of the Ruins of the Mayan Civilization that the modern world preserves. Chichen Itza means "The Mouth of the Well". Chiche Itza has a huge "Cenote" a big pond nourished by underground rivers which supplied clean water to the complex. Chichen Itza, as other Mayan Centers was originally a ceremonial and spiritual site instead of a commercial area. Chichén Itzá has maybe the most impressive Pyramid of all the Maya World. The Castle with 4 staircases (One for each season of the Year) with 91 steps each, totaling 365 with the top platform. The orientation of the pyramid is such that for about an hour around 4 o'clock during the spring and fall equinoxes (March 21 & September 21), the shadow of north-west edge of the pyramid on the side of the north stairway, draws seven triangles of light that imitates a serpent creeping downwards until it joins the huge serpent's head at the bottom of the stairway. At Chichén Itzá, you will see an Astrological Observatory with a Design similar to other built in the Modern Age. We will continue towards Uxmal which has the other very professional Light and Sound show related to the Mayan Culture. We will stay overnight in Uxmal.



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Day 4: Uxmal

Uxmal - Merida

Sightseeing tour in Uxmal, the three times built city of the Mayas on the southern lands of Yucatan better known as the "Puuc region" Mayan word for "Mountain range". The architecture of Uxmal is among the most majestic in Yucatan. Its beauty is characterized by low and horizontal palaces placed around patios and quadrants richly decorated with detailed sculptures. Uxmal, enveloped by legends and myths is situated within a series of hills known as the Pucc or the mountainous area of the Yucatan. The Governor's house and the temple of the wizard are considered architectonic marvels by experts for their precise construction and beauty. An unforgettable experience walking in one of the most decorated and beautiful cities characterized by the prominence of "Chaac", the rain god, who is venerated, conjured, and evoked through the magical repetition of his image. Continue to Merida the Capital of the State of Yucatan. Merida has preserved its Colonial Heritage in the Historic District of the Town. It is the Center of the State and all the roads converge at the State Capital. Merida's Central Square or "Plaza Grande" is surrounded by ancient buildings that form the Historic District such as The San Idelfonso Cathedral of Merida, the most antique church of the American Continent, built in the second half of the XVIth Century.



Day 5: Merida

Merida - Izamal – Cancun

Merida the "White city" was founded in 1542 by Francisco de Montejo "the younger" on the original site of the indigenous city of Ichcaanziho, also known as T'ho. Today Merida is the capital of the state. After a brief tour, we will ride to Izamal to visit quaint colonial city where time seems stopped. The city's convent has the second largest atrium around the world after one at St. Peters in the Vatican. Drop off in your hotel. The first missionary convent in Mexico was built in Izamal as the City was founded just after 1542. We will continue towards Cancun, where you will be delivered at your chosen hotel.



Cancun and **Riviera Maya** are located on the Eastern side of the Yucatan Peninsula on the South East part of Mexico. They are on the Caribbean shoreline that extends over 500 kms and offers all sorts of leisure interests and the most modern hotel and service infrastructure. You find here, the second largest Reef Barrier in the World, in parallel to the Mexico Caribbean Coast. The "Palancares Reef" extends way South in to Central America. Cancun is an Island, part of this outstanding reef and is connected to the mainland by bridges. Relatively close by you have other Islands such as Isla Mujeres, Contoy, Holbox and Cozumel. Cancun and Riviera Maya are nestled in the most pure manifestation of Nature with the close by jungle and the tropical forest.

Included Services

- » Welcome meeting at Cancun Airport by our representatives
- » 1 night accommodation in Cancun
- » Transportation in air conditioned vehicles
- » English speaking guide during the days of the tour. Other languages on request.
- » Accommodation in the below mentioned and locally rated hotels with breakfast included
- » Visits mentioned in the itinerary, including entrances fees to the archaeological sites
- » Local taxes in hotels
- » Transfer Airport – Hotel on arrival date.

Not Included Services

- » Meals not previously mentioned
- » Gratuities in Hotels
- » Tips during the excursions (for the Guide and Bus driver)
- » Hotel accommodation after the tour

Hotels

- » Cancún: Oasis America 4*, Radisson Hacienda Cancún 5* or similar
- » Chichén Itza: Posada Chichén 3*, Mayaland 4* or similar
- » Uxmal: Mision Uxmal 4* or similar
- » Merida: Hotel Los Aluxes 4*, El Castellano 5*, El Conquistador 5* or similar

