

MEXICO

AND CENTRAL AMERICA



CARIBBEAN DESTINATIONS



Above: Photo courtesy
Fairmont Pierre Marques
Acapulco.

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Mexico and Central America

Hola! When you think of Mexico, several things probably come to mind: brightly coloured tapestries; the lively atmosphere of a fiesta; the soulful strains of a mariachi band. But did you know Mexico is also home to cosmopolitan cities, ancient ruins and some of the best beaches in the Americas?

For your next holiday, let Caribbean Destinations introduce you to a whole new world of Mexico. With over 13 years of experience and a team of knowledgeable consultants, we offer the best value, service and expertise in the industry.

When planning your holiday to Mexico, let

Caribbean Destinations, along with your travel agent, be your host in discovering this country of fascinating contrasts, from centuries old Mayan and Aztec temples, to today's luxurious beach front resorts on the Pacific coast and the Mexican Caribbean coast. Mexico is unforgettable, especially the warm hearted locals who cherish their rich cultural heritage and love to share it with you.

Caribbean Destinations has become one of Australia's leading travel companies that specialise in Mexico, working closely with the major airlines and more than 140 hotels located all over Mexico.



About Mexico

Mexico is located in the northern region of the American continent between the Gulf of Mexico on the east and the Pacific Ocean on the west. It is bordered by the United States on the north and by Guatemala and Belize on the south. Mexico is divided into six regions.

Central Mexico

The Mexican heartland. Here you'll find plenty of natural surroundings, picturesque towns full of life and colour, and beautiful colonial cities, some of which have been declared World Heritage sites.

Southern Mexico and the Gulf of Mexico

Lined with the shores of the Gulf of Mexico and the Pacific Ocean, this region offers an abundance of marshes, mangrove swamps and forests, all of which are ideal for eco-tourism outings and exciting outdoor adventures.

The Yucatan Peninsula

The gateway to the Mayan world. Here you can enjoy the white-sand beach resorts and the blue waters of the Caribbean Sea, where you can scuba dive along the world's second largest coral reef. You can also swim in fresh water pools in submerged caverns, known as 'Cenotes'.

The Pacific Coast.

In this region, you'll find cities and towns with rich cultural and culinary traditions, as well as some of the best beaches for water sports like surfing and fishing.

The Baja California Peninsula

Territory that has been inhabited from time immemorial, in this region you can play golf on world-class courses, discover the underwater treasures of the Sea of Cortez, and witness the amazing migration of the Gray Whale.

Climate

The main factors in Mexico's climate variation is that of its topography and of its position between the Pacific Ocean and the Gulf of Mexico. More than half of the country is mountainous. Mexico has pronounced wet and dry seasons. Most of the country experiences a rainy season from June to mid-October and significantly less rain during the remainder of the year. February and July generally are the driest and wettest months, respectively. The resort area's of the Yucatan Peninsula has a yearly median temperature between 24°C and 28°C. Temperatures here remain high throughout the year, with only a 5°C difference between winter and summer median temperatures.

General Information

Government	Federal Republic	Currency	Mexican Pesos / U.S \$
Religion	Roman Catholic	Population	93,985,848
Capital	Mexico City	Language	Spanish



Above: Photo courtesy Fairmont Pierre Marques Acapulco.



MEXICO CITY

Mexico's capital and one of the world's largest cities, Mexico City combines sophistication and modern conveniences with rich culture and thousands of years of history, making it one of the country's most popular tourist cities. It is a vivacious city that strives to be modern, while preserving its ancient roots. Popular attractions are the worlds oldest zoo, the Church of Guadalupe, the Square Of The Three Cultures and also a wonderful variety of museums.



La Casa Vieja

★★★★

Casa Vieja is a luxury all suite hotel situated in the exclusive area of Mexico City's Polanco district. Once a private residence La Casa Vieja is now considered the most unique boutique hotel in Mexico City.

- > 10 individual Junior suite and Master Suites
- > Kitchenettes
- > Cable Television and in room CD systems



W Hotel

★★★★

Where there's heat, there's passion. Welcome to W Mexico City off Reforma Boulevard in the trendy Polanco neighbourhood's chic shops, galleries, and nightlife, W Mexico City is awash in the painterly colours of Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera.

- > In room DVD players
- > Luxury Feather beds
- > 24 Hour room service
- > Mini Bar



Royal Zona Rosa

★★★

The Royal Zona Rosa Hotel Mexico City features 162 beautifully appointed rooms. Located in the city centre of Zona Rosa or "Pink Zone" with its colourful shops, market and restaurants.

- > Restaurants and bars
- > Gymnasium
- > Terrace swimming pool
- > 24 hour room service

JW Marriott

★★★★

One of the premier Mexico City hotels, the JW Marriott Hotel offers luxury accommodations in the exclusive Polanco District. The JW Marriott Hotel Mexico City is an internationally renowned and award winning hotel – Conde Nast readers have chosen it as the Best Hotel Overall in Mexico and Central America.

- > Stylish guest rooms with spectacular views of the World's largest City
- > Deluxe rooms with king size or two beds
- > Heated outdoor pool on Terrace
- > Located in the exclusive Polanco district 2 blocks from some of the best shopping in Mexico City



Galeria Plaza Mexico City

★★★★

Located in Zona Rosa, one block from the Paseo de la Reforma, the Galleria Plaza offers an array of spacious rooms and suites with all the amenities you expect to find in a hotel of this type.

- > Deluxe rooms and spacious Junior Suites
- > Roof top swimming pool
- > Two Restaurants, bar & lounge
- > 24 hour room service



Mexico City Tour

Half day city tour of Mexico City's highlights, including the Zocalo, Cathedral, Nacional Palace and Museum of Anthropology in Chapultepec. \$50 pp

Pyramids & Shrine of Guadalupe

Half day tour to Teotihuacan. Visit the pyramids of the sun and moon, the Temple of Quetzalcoatl. A stop at the holiest place of catholic worship, The Shrine of Guadalupe. \$50pp

Xochimilco and University City

Take a boat ride through the canals on a "trajinera" surrounded by a floating world of mariachi and marimba music. Visit to University city built on a petrified sea of lava. \$55pp

Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera

Day trip to the colonial district of Coyoacan, the oldest area of Mexico City and the home of Frida Kahlo. Visit to Frida Kahlo's home, the Diego Rivera Studio Museum and enjoy the charming area of San Angel and the typical Mexican markets in the area. Tour departs daily however the market is only open on Saturdays. \$150pp



OXACA

Oaxaca is best known for its expressions of culture and history and for its mix of pre-hispanic treasures and colonial patrimony, as well as for its music, dance, painting, traditions, colonial architecture, and culinary arts. The Spanish founded Oaxaca City in 1529 becoming the most important place in Southern Mexico. Its centre is a maze of colonial buildings and pedestrian only boulevards. This very Spanish city is best explored from the heart of the city, the Zocalo. Here you will find cafes, bars, Indian crafts from around the hills and street musicians serenading the passer by.



★★★★

Camino Real Oaxaca

The Camino Real Oaxaca is unique in all of México. Housed in a former convent of Santa Catalina with 91 rooms on two floors. Built in 1576, it is a grand colonial property, meticulously restored to retain its former grace. Spanish Baroque architecture and authentic colonial touches will take you back to earlier times in Oaxaca.

- > Heated outdoor swimming pool
- > Restaurants and bars
- > 24 Hour room service



★★★

Hostal de La Noria

Hostal de la Noria is housed in a beautifully restored colonial mansion and has featured in several interior magazines for its unique design. The hotel features 50 rooms and is located two blocks from the main square.

- > Furnished with beautiful colonial furniture
- > Indoor and patio restaurants
- > Cocktail lounge and room service



Monte Alban

Short drive out of Oaxaca, and up to the acropolis of Monte Albán (ancient capital of the Zapotecs), later inhabited by the conquering Mixtecs. One must wonder at the perfect geometry of this site, where you will visit the Ball Game Court, the Observatory and many other interesting structures. The dramatic frame of the rugged Sierra Madre mountains, and the spectacular view over the city and valley of Oaxaca, make Monte Albán one of the most impressive archaeological sites of the country. \$42 per person

Oaxaca City Tour

Tour includes visits to the church of Santo Domingo, representing the height of Mexican baroque, and its adjacent monastery converted into the Oaxacan regional museum, where the Zapotec gold treasure found in Monte Albán is exhibited. Proceed through the "andadores", pedestrian streets flanked by colonial buildings, to the shady "Zócalo" for a visit to the Cathedral, built with Oaxaca's characteristic green-shaded sandstone.

\$42 per person



SAN MIGUEL DE ALLENDE

San Miguel de Allende is a cosmopolitan and colourful Colonial city with international reputation. The beauty of its architecture have turned it into an important tourist and cultural centre frequently visited by writers, artists and foreigners, some of which fell in love with this place and have made it their home.

★★★★

Casa De Sierra Nevada

Casa Sierra Nevada, a luxury boutique hotel and cooking school, is in the heart of historic San Miguel de Allende Mexico. It caters to the most discriminating world traveller, with charming rooms and suites for the ultimate Mexican experience. Sazon cooking school, offers the finest instruction in traditional Mexican cooking.

- > 31 rooms and suites
- > Two restaurants
- > Nightly turndown service
- > Swimming pool

Learning to cook with the masters of Mexican cuisine. Sazon offers a variety of programs ranging from one hour cooking classes on local specialties to week-long culinary packages. Culinary packages will combine hands-on cooking history and culture of central Mexico ranging from trips to the local market, dinners in private homes and exclusive candlelit tours of historic buildings.



Colonial Mexico

3 Nights / 4 Days

Day 1: Mexico City – Queretaro – San Miguel De Allende

Pick up by tour guide. Land transportation to Queretaro. Visit the historical city that played a leading role in the struggle of independence. Continue to San Miguel de Allende which fascinates with its narrow cobble-stoned streets, elegant houses, flower decked patios and the pink Franciscan church. Overnight in Hotel Best Western Monteverde.

Day 2: San Miguel De Allende – Guanajuato

Transfer to Guanajuato, Mexico's oldest silver mining town built into a ravine. The city has a unique maze of narrow streets and alleyways and outstanding colonial architecture. Enjoy the arabesque

University, magnificent Teatro Juarez and its unique subterranean roadways. Overnight in Hotel Paseo de la Presa.

Day 3: Guanajuato – Patzcuaro – Morelia

Early departure to Patzcuaro which is located on southeastern shore of Lake Patzcuaro. It is a beautiful tranquil town where you can find Mexican handycrafts like ceramic, wooden carvings, copper, woven goods and even furniture. Late afternoon transfer to Morelia. Overnight in Hotel De la Soledad.

Day 4: Morelia – Mexico City

City tour of Morelia known as the aristocrat of the Colonial cities. Fine sculptured churches, colourful plazas and numerous arcades make Morelia still look today like a Spanish city. Afterwards continuation to Mexico City. Drop off at a hotel of your choice.



Colonial Mexico Tour departs Departures 2008: 25 August, 22 September, 20 October, 24 November, 8 December

Departures 2009: 23 February, 23 March, 20 April, 13 July, 24 August, 21 September, 19 October Prices start from \$750 per person.

Alternatively, the tour can begin on any day with private guide and driver. Prices start from \$1280 per person.



PUEBLA

In a broad, high valley about 60 miles southeast of Mexico City is a city known by many names over the years: City of Angels, City of Tiles or Heroic City of Zaragoza. Today we know it as simply Puebla. Established by the Spanish in 1531 on the main route between the port of Veracruz (the most important port in Mexico) and Mexico City, Puebla was the principal city of colonial Mexico. Puebla's appearance is the most European of all the colonial cities, because it was planned from the ground up by a Spanish city designer, rather than being built within an existing Indian community.



Camino Real Puebla

With the magnificent historical centre of this colonial city as its backdrop, Camino Real Puebla is located on the premises of 16th century Convent of La Concepción that belonged to the wealthy order of the Conceptionist Clarists from 1593 till 1861.

- > 84 luxurious rooms and suites
- > located a few steps away from the historical centre's main attractions

Puebla from Mexico City Puebla and Cholula

Day trip to historic Puebla, where the imperial French army suffered one of its most bitter defeats in 1863. You will wonder at the exuberant magnificence of the Rosary Chapel, visit the enormous and austere Cathedral and the hidden Monastery of Santa Monica.

Before returning to Mexico City, you will visit Cholula, known as the town of 365 churches, and for its tunnelled pyramid of Tepepana, the country's largest, on top of which the conquerors built the church of our Lady of Remedios.

\$85 pp – Tues / Thurs / Sat.



TAXCO

Just over 100 miles southwest of Mexico City is one of Mexico's most loved colonial towns Taxco, which is also best known in Mexico (and world-wide) for its silver. Better known for silver in fact, than the real "Silver Cities" which were the hub of Silver Mining in Mexico! Silver mining in Taxco has always been limited, and today the mines are virtually exhausted. Silver from other areas in Mexico is bought here to be crafted, and later sold locally or exported.



Posada de La Mision

Posada de La Mision, built during the glamorous 1940's, offers comfortable guest rooms with in-room fireplaces and beautifully tiled baths. All the rooms have TV with cable, telephone, and bathroom.

- > Rooms with terraces and city views
- > Individually decorated Junior Suite and Suites

Taxco from Mexico City Cuernavaca and Taxco

Tour to the city of eternal spring, Cuernavaca, visiting the Museum Brady and Cathedral, continuing to the silver town of Taxco, with its cobble-stoned streets and atmosphere of long ago. Return to Mexico City in the late afternoon

or early evening or stay overnight in Taxco and return to Mexico City the following day.

Day Tour \$65 pp.

Overnight in Taxco \$110.

(Accommodation in Taxco not included.)



MERIDA

Merida is an exciting and intriguing tourist destination for all kinds of travellers. The peaceful and very traditional colonial atmosphere that still surrounds this beautiful city can be felt from the moment of arrival. Anyone who has ever visited Merida knows that this city offers the traveller a delightful experience full of colours, aromas and tastes of ancient Mexico, spiced up with a touch of modernity and a pinch of European sensibility.



Hacienda Merida ★★★★

Located in the heart of the charming colonial centre of the City. The Hotel Hacienda Merida in Yucatan is the ultimate high – class boutique hotel and self contained destination. It is an amazing haven of relaxation in the middle of one of Mexico's most vibrant cities. Discover exceptional history, great entertainment, rich culture, while enjoying the peacefulness of this colonial historic monument dating back to 1840.

- > Swimming pool
- > Indoor and outdoor showers
- > Courtesy Internet room
- > Bar offering refined cocktails and wines
- > Spa



Villas Merida ★★★★

This restored and exquisitely-appointed 7 room 19th-century nobleman's mansion, is located 5 blocks from Barrio de Santiago, one of the most historic sites in the colonial sector of Mérida. Constructed around spaciouly-arched terrazas, tropical gardens, cooling fountains and majestic pool, this Hacienda Urbana has been meticulously restored, preserving much of the original Spanish colonial design. The principal objective of owners and personnel is an amiable and personalized service, that assure you an unique and memorable experience

CHICHEN ITZA

Chichen Itza, which in Mayan means “At the mouth of the well of the Itzas” was, at its peak, the most important city politically, economically, and religiously for the Mayans who inhabited what is now the Yucatan Peninsula.

Nowadays, you can only appreciate vestiges of what was once an impressive city with roads, temples, markets, dwellings, and a population of about 30,000 inhabitants. Up to now scholars have not been able to decipher all of their hieroglyphs on the pyramids, their rites, and the purpose of each of their erections. Nevertheless, we can still appreciate the glory and magnificence of ancient Chichen Itza.

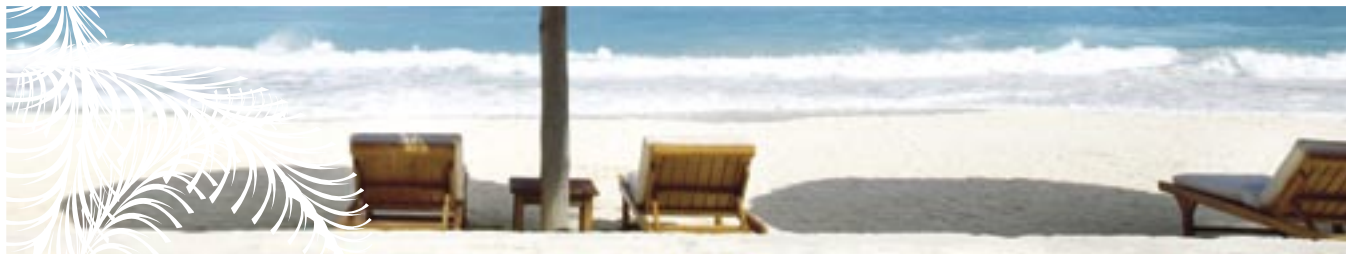
Chichen Itza, now one of The New Seven Wonders of the World, is an interesting archaeological site worth exploring thoroughly.



Hacienda Chichen Resort & Mayan Spa ★★★

By far, the most unique boutique hotel found among the haciendas in Yucatan. This colonial hacienda is a serene elegant hotel and Maya Spa retreat located just steps from the Chichen Itza archaeological site in the Yucatan Peninsula.

- > Art Gallery & Museum
- > Outdoor Terrace bar & restaurant
- > Guest rooms with private garden terraces



CANCUN

Situated on the Yucatan Peninsula facing the Caribbean Sea, Cancun has two parts: the Hotel Zone, a narrow island where luxury high rise hotels and the beach are the main attractions; and the downtown district, a booming city located on the mainland. Separating the two is the Laguna Nichupte. Once a small fishing village, the area underwent a transformation beginning in 1974 and today is a world famous resort town. Cancun is now Mexico's leading tourist destination.



Ambiance Villas Kin Ha

★★★

Ambiance Villas Kin Ha is a new and unique concept on one of Cancun's finest beaches, one block away from shopping, dining and nightlife. Featuring some of the largest suites in Cancun.

- > Fully furnished rooms and suites
- > One, two and three bedroom suites with kitchens
- > Fully serviced Resort
- > Superb for families



Royal Cancun

★★★★

Real Resorts, with its rich legacy of personalised service and hospitality, proudly presents, The Royal in Cancun the latest addition to its' "Royal" brand of luxury hotels.

- > All rooms feature in suite double Jacuzzi
- > Spacious marble bathrooms with ocean-view showers
- > Private terrace or balcony with hammock
- > 24 Hour 'All Inclusive' including room service



Gran Caribe Real Cancun

★★★

The new Gran Caribe Real Cancun is a deluxe "All Inclusive" hotel located on a powdery white beach bordered by the turquoise sea and beautiful views of the ocean or lagoon. The New Gran Caribe Real Cancun proudly boasts 479 newly renovated deluxe Suites and a beautiful beach front location, yet right in the middle of Cancun's world famous hotel zone.

- > 24 Hour 'All Inclusive'
- > Royal suites with added VIP services.
- > 24 Hour 'All Inclusive' including room service



JW Marriott Cancun Resort and Spa

★★★★

As a recipient of the coveted AAA Five Diamond Hotel Award for 2008, the JW Marriott Cancun Resort & Spa offers luxurious Mexico vacations that are truly unforgettable. As one of the most exquisite hotels in Cancun, our 448 guest rooms are opulently furnished with 32-inch flat-panel LCD televisions, Marriott's sumptuous Revive Bedding, and private balconies with stunning views of Cancun's white sand beaches and the turquoise waters of the Caribbean. Rated one of the top spas in Mexico, our exclusive Mayan-inspired spa features 35,000 sq. ft. of spiritual revitalization. And, with two world-class restaurants, a comprehensive business center equipped with over 20,000 sq. ft. of meeting space, and the stunning beauty of the Mexican Caribbean at your feet, the JW Marriott Cancun Resort is undoubtedly an extraordinary Mexican getaway. For corporate retreats, upscale vacations or the ultimate honeymoon, the JW Marriott Cancun Resort & Spa is the definitive pampering experience.

- > Award winning AAA Five Diamond Hotel located on the white sand beaches of Cancun's Hotel Zone
- > Features expansive pools, lush grounds and stunning oceanviews from restaurants and guest room.
- > Mayan-inspired spa with all new Lifefitness equipment, one of the top rated in Mexico



ME Cancun By Sol Melia

★★★★

Designed to raise eyebrows, blur boundaries, tempt, tease and seduce. An experience beyond mere accommodation. Rande Gerber Lounge, Cancun's most exciting night scene, Maxin Poll bar, one of Mexico's largest infinity edged pool, or "The Level" an entire adult orientated floor with private lounge and living room.

- > In room pre-tuned ipods
- > Private Jacuzzis
- > A range of modern restaurants
- > Located on one of the best stretches of Cancun's beaches.



PLAYA DEL CARMEN

The capital of the Riviera Maya, Playa del Carmen, evolved from a small village of Mayan pilgrims to a lively, cosmopolitan city with the highest urban growth in the country. Playa del Carmen features some of the finest beaches in the Mexican Caribbean, with local Cafes, restaurants and night life all within strolling distance from our preferred hotels in the area. Xcaret and Tulum, closely located to Playa del Carmen, make for perfect day trip destinations as does Cozumel, only a short ferry ride away. Playa del Carmen on the Mexican Caribbean is a magnet for both Mexicans and visitors from other parts of the world.



Gran Porto Real Playa del Carmen

★★★★

Extraordinarily exotic, stylishly comfortable and with an air of historical grace, the Gran Porto Real Playa del Carmen is the best 4 star, all-inclusive hotel and tropical getaway resort of all the Playa del Carmen hotels, offering outstanding service in an enchanting, yet relaxing atmosphere, complemented by genuine Mexican hospitality.

- > 24 Hour 'All Inclusive'
- > In room Mini bar stocked daily
- > Kids Club with activities from 9am to 9pm for children 4 -12 years



The Royal Playa del Carmen

★★★★★

The Royal in Playa del Carmen has risen on the foundation of The Royal Porto Real, one of the most successful Adults Only beach front resorts on the Riviera Maya. Like its sister property, The Royal Cancun, guests will discover an explosion of luxury around every corner, all provided in an atmosphere of casual elegance boasting a perfect beach front location, mere steps from Playa del Carmen's famed Fifth Avenue.

- > 24 Hour 'All Inclusive' & VIP lounge
- > All rooms feature in suite double jacuzzi
- > Royal service in higher room categories



Shangri La Caribe Beach Resort

★★★

Shangri la Caribe Beach Resort is a secluded hotel in Playa del Carmen with thatched roof palapas with their own private terraces. The hotel is located beach front on the Caribbean Sea on 250 metres of white sand beach. Choose from various room styles within the Adventura, Caribe or Pueblito sections.

- > Oceanview rooms and connecting bungalows ideal for families
- > Two pools with Jacuzzi
- > Diving Centre and water sports
- > Restaurants and bars



La Tortuga Hotel and Spa

★★★

La Tortuga Hotel & Spa is perfectly located in the Heart of Playa del Carmen. Two blocks from the most beautiful stretch of white sandy beach and just around the corner from the famous 5th Avenue.

- > **Swim up Rooms.** Ground floor swim-up rooms, where you can take a refreshing plunge into the pool directly from your balcony
- > **Junior Suites.** 10 beautiful Junior Suites each with a private Jacuzzi
- > **Early Bird** booking discounts on various dates throughout the year.

Playa Palms Beach Hotel

★★★

Playa Palms is a beach front hotel located on a pristine beach in the heart of Playa del Carmen. Our 39 studios & suites are designed to give our guests an out of the ordinary hotel experience in a timeless environment with a high level of comfort and functionality. Situated directly in front of the Caribbean sea, our studios and suites have a spectacular ocean view that can be enjoyed while lounging on a large private terrace or resting inside the tastefully decorated rooms.

- > **All studios and suites feature kitchenettes**
- > **Oceanfront Studios featuring unobstructed views of the ocean**
- > **Discounted rates on various months throughout the year**



Tours from Cancun and Playa del Carmen

Chichen Itza

The majestic city of Chichen-Itza. Capital of the ancient Maya, a civilization archaeologists considered one of the most advanced in the Americas. **Daily \$130 pp**

Isla Mujeres

Join us on a fun and exciting day on this enchanted island where pirate's used to hide their treasures. "Isla Mujeres" is a beautiful fisherman's village. Snorkel to

the magnificent barrier reef, go cycling to the south part of the island and admire the breathtaking view or just relax on your own tropical beach. **Daily \$70 pp**

Xcaret

Nature's sacred paradise, eco-archaeological park, underground river, dolphin show, horses, a farm with tropical birds, beach and snorkeling in Xcaret's famous crystal caves and underground river. **Daily \$207 pp**

Tulum and Xel-Ha Ecological Park

Discover one of the most beautiful Mayan cities and the only one overlooking the Caribbean sea, then visit the largest natural aquarium in the world. Perched on a cliff overlooking the turquoise Caribbean sea, Tulum is thought to have been a major Mayan port. **Daily \$257 pp**



ACAPULCO

Much more than the name of a beach resort, Acapulco is a world renown synonym for relaxation and fun. Located on the Pacific Coast of Mexico, its perfect year-round tropical climate makes it the perfect place for all kinds of day and night time activities. The rare mixture of golden beaches, Sierra Madre Mountains, tropical jungles, lagoons and the Mexican warmth, mysticism and tradition perfectly blend in together to form a unique experience to last a lifetime.



Fiesta Americana Villas Acapulco ★★★

On the southern shores of the Mexican Pacific, this resort is located in the heart of the Condesa district, an area which in addition to being strategic is near restaurants, discotheques and shopping centres.

- > Beach front location
- > Three pools and Health Club
- > Restaurants
- > Fiesta Kids Club



The Fairmont Pierre Marques ★★★★

A memorable experience awaits you at the Fairmont Pierre Marques. A place where serene beauty meets every gaze, and every indulgence is graciously attended. Here, a fluid passing of time soothes and pampers your spirit on a secluded stretch of beach, surrounded by breathtaking tropical gardens.

- > Private balcony or patio
- > Three pools and two restaurants
- > Access to the facilities at The Fairmont Acapulco Princess

Acapulco City Tour and Cliff Diving Show

Tour includes the highlights of Acapulco with a drive along the coastal road with its luxury hotels, the bays of Acapulco and Caleta, and a stopover at "La Quebrada" to watch the high divers perform their daring dive into the ocean from a 40-metre-high cliff; proceed on a scenic highway via Las Brisas to the smaller and lovely bay of Puerto Marques and on to Revolcadero beach, on the open ocean, with time to walk around the impressively landscaped grounds of hotel Princess.



Mexico City – Taxco – Acapulco **7 Nights / 8 Days**

Combine the culture of Mexico City, the silver town of Taxco and the bright lights and beaches of Acapulco with our seven night "Acapulco package". Stay two nights at the Calinda Geneve Hotel Zona Rosa in the heart of colourful Mexico City. Transfer to the Silver town of Taxco for one night staying at the Posada de la Mision Hotel, continue to Acapulco for four nights at the Fiesta Americana Condesa Acapulco. Enjoy the Cliff divers show at La Perla and marvel as the high divers perform their daring dive into the ocean.

From \$770 per person.
Call us for complete itinerary and inclusions.
Seasonal surcharges may apply.



PUERTO VALLARTA

One of the few shore sites comprising an old fashioned village, a state-of-the-art tourist resort, beautiful beaches and a modern sea complex like Marina Vallarta. Puerto Vallarta is a harbour located on the coast side of the State of Jalisco, in Banderas Bay in the Pacific Ocean.

Casamanga ★★★★ Marriott Puerto Vallarta

Located on the Bay of Banderas, The CasaManga Marriott Puerto Vallarta is a tropical paradise with all the comforts of home. A full range of guest services includes everything from concierge services to babysitting and a kid's program. The resort features an 18 hole golf course, shops, cafes and restaurants.

- > Swim up bar
- > Cocktails lounges
- > Sauna and Jacuzzi
- > Room service



Westin Resort ★★★★ and Spa, Puerto Vallarta

This spectacular Oceanfront resort features spacious rooms and suites with private balconies and magnificent view. The resort features four pools, two with Jacuzzi, The trendiest place – Nikki Beach club and lounge, Westin Workout, state of the art spa and Westin Kid's Club.

- > Westin Heavenly Bed & Bath
- > Swim-up Bars
- > 24 Hour Room Service
- > Westin Kids Club



Grand Velas all ★★★★ Suites & Spa Resort

The only AAA four Diamond all – inclusive resort and member of The Leading Hotel of the World in Vallarta, this resort features 267 oceanview suites, first class amenities and service. Enjoy the hydrotherapy " Grand Velas Ritual" at the world class spa facility offering 80 different treatments.

- > Private terraces with oceanviews
- > 24 hour room service with fully stocked mini bar
- > Infinity pool with jacuzzi
- > World class spa





CABO SAN LUCAS

At the tip of Baja, mountains and desert meet the sea in perfect harmony, and contrasting wonders await to soothe and excite. Los Cabos presents two towns with two moods and two styles: Cabo San Lucas and San Jose del Cabo — one a vivacious party town and the other a sophisticated travellers' haven waiting to be explored. Golf, deep-sea fishing, water sports, all-terrain adventures and shopping are readily available.



★★★★

Riu Palace Cabo San Lucas

The Riu Palace Cabo San Lucas impressive architecture and 642 deluxe guest rooms are set in a spectacular enclave facing one of Los Cabo's famous landmarks. Unique amenities include Riu's renowned mini-bar and liquor dispenser, while some suites boast hydro-massage bathtubs and a Jacuzzi on the terrace.

This fabulous resort sets a new standard for All-Inclusive holidays, with luxurious facilities and a full range of sports and leisure alternatives, not to mention gourmet food, elegant furnishings, and Riu's personal, exclusive service.

- > All Inclusive. Including 24-hour room service
- > Two pools with swim up bars
- > Two children's pools
- > Daytime entertainment program for children ages 4 to 12 years daily
- > Interconnecting rooms available

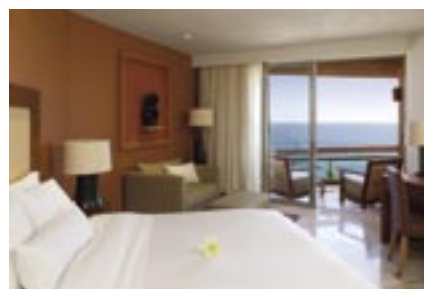


★★★★

The Westin Resort and Spa, Los Cabos

The Westin Resort and Spa, Los Cabos offers private balconies with exhilarating views, seven pools, four restaurants, a private beach and a world class spa featuring the Westin Workout Powered by Reebok. Energise your days with golf, sun and spa treatments and your nights with heavenly relaxation.

- > Royal Beach Club: daily breakfast, afternoon cocktails with hors d'oeuvres
- > Westin's heavenly bed & bath
- > Westin Kid's Club





Mexico's Baja Outback Adventures

Experience the Baja Outback Territory

Become a modern-day explorer traveling off the beaten path of the Baja Peninsula driving in the comfort of an H2 Humvee in a safe caravan-style expedition where you drive!

Discover Baja's Lush desert ranges, fossil canyons, mission trails and more. Learn from our naturalist guide about the abundance of natural wonders, while touching the untouched parts of the peninsula in our Multi-day expeditions.

Southern Cape Expedition

5 Days / 4 Nights

The Southern Cape Expedition travels from Los Cabos to La Paz, by way of Todos Santos. La Paz offers world-class fishing, desolate beaches, friendly locals, and warm Gulf waters which attract divers and kayaking fanatics from around the world. Opportunities to snorkel at Los Islotes

are spectacular, on the extreme north of the bay, where scores of friendly sea lions await onlookers. The Humvee caravan then continues to the East Cape and Punta Pescadero for more diving, kayaking and fishing, and spends the night before returning to the Los Cabos area via the semi-tropical town of Santiago.

Southern Cape Expedition, Interacting with the Great Whales

8 Days / 7 Nights

A week expedition and once-in-a-lifetime experience, allowing you an opportunity to get up-close-and-personal with the grey whales! Grey whales migrate down the pacific coast during the months of January through April, making their own stops along the way in Magdalena Bay, before ultimately arriving in the warmth of the Sea of Cortez.

Flavour's of Baja

9 Days / 8 Nights

This expedition is most ambitious one that combines the Southern Cape Expedition, the Mission Trail Expedition and also includes the whale watching experience. In this extended tour the group heads for San Carlos on the Pacific side for a whale watching opportunity and overnights in the area. The caravan then crosses the peninsula to Loreto, enjoying the history, activities and scenic wonders of the area. Mulege is the next stop, where historic cave and rock paintings in the area are explored. The expedition then travels to La Paz for snorkeling at Los Islotes, and returns to San Jose del Cabo

Day trips are also available and feature you driving the H2 with a driving and route guide as well as a certified naturalist. Call us for complete itineraries of our Multi Day tours or day trips from Los Cabos.



MEXICAN CHIC

We've hand picked some of the most beautiful hotels of Mexico to ensure you find your corner of paradise. High quality standards, relaxation, sophistication, elegance and hospitality will embrace you in style. Mexican Chic hotels, sophistication to satisfy the most demanding requirements.



★★★★★

Las Ventanas al Paraiso, A Rosewood Resort, Los Cabos

At this internationally acclaimed AAA five diamond resort, guests enjoy an unparalleled resort experience. Extraordinary service, exquisite suites and unwavering attention to detail have made it one of the world's elite resorts. Dramatically located in the Sea of Cortez, it features signature Baja- Mediterranean cuisine, pool butlers, and an award-winning holistic spa.

- > Three restaurants
- > 24 Hour room service
- > Nightly entertainment
- > Poolside butler service



★★★★★

Rosewood Mayakoba Riviera Maya

Surrounded by the emerald embrace of the jungle and caressed by warm Caribbean breezes, is a resort of rare luxury. Situated along a mile-long arc of white sand on the Riviera Maya, Rosewood Mayakobá is the heart of a 1,600 acre luxury resort enclave located 30 minutes south of Cancun and north of the charming seaside village of Playa del Carmen.

- > All suites with private plunge pool
- > Special Suite – overwater lagoon and beach front suites
- > Championship 18 hole golf course
- > 'Sense' a Rosewood Spa
- > Children's Activity Club and child-minding services.



★★★★★

Fairmont Mayakoba Riviera Maya

This AAA Five- Diamond ecologically chic resort was designed around a natural landscape of crystal clear lagoons, mangroves, forest and beach.

- > 401 guest rooms located in a traditional low-rise hotel building and clustered throughout the property in 90 two story casitas, all with terraces or balconies, LCD TV, CD players, A/C and spa-style bathrooms
- > El Camaleón Golf, Willow Stream Spa, 5 pools, 4 restaurants and Kid's Club
- > Electric carts, boats or bicycles will take you from place to place.



THE TIDES

RIVIERA MAYA



Located on the white sands of the Riviera Maya in Playa del Carmen and nestled in the tropical forest, The Tides Riviera Maya, formerly Ikal Del Mar, is the resort counterpart of being invited to an exclusive private villa and stunning spa. Our beach front resort near Playa del Carmen has a full service luxury spa, an award-winning restaurant and lounge featuring "Mayaterranean Cuisine," seven-miles of white-sand beach, and trips to nearby ancient cities and ruins.

- > Choose from thirty air-conditioned luxury villas in our Riviera Maya resort with private pools surrounded by luscious jungle gardens, including an exclusive Presidential Villa



THE TIDES

ZIHUATANEJO



Included on Travel + Leisure's 500 List and named "Most Outstanding Hotel" by Condé Nast Johansens, The Tides Zihuatanejo hotel in Ixtapa-Zihuatanejo blends the casual romance of beach front lifestyle with the coveted seclusion of a lush garden retreat. Seventy guest rooms and suites

afford stunning jungle and ocean views across a tranquil private beach. Relaxed contentment is made complete with award-winning Mexican-Pacific cuisine, four swimming pools, an intimate spa and superb service. Experience the ultimate Zihuatanejo Mexico vacation getaway.

- > Special Suite – Beach Suite, ranging from 700-1100 square-feet, boasts a spacious private terrace with ocean view and outdoor infinity mini-pool



MEXICO'S FIVE PERFECT DAYS

Enjoy the ancient Maya culture during this exceptional journey. Travel in a luxury 4WD Suburban, spend the nights in style at first class haciendas. Travel with your private tour guide introducing you to the many sights away from the tourist masses.

Five days of an unforgettable journey await you on our exclusive tour through the Yucatan Peninsula.

Day 1: A journey into the mysterious past, Cancun - Chichen Itza

This morning you will meet with your private tour guide. Travelling in a luxury 4WD Suburban you will be driven through the dense forest of the Yucatan while your guide shares interesting facts about your journey to come and the legends of the ancient Maya Culture. On the journey across the late classic Maya-Toltec site of Chichen Itza, you will see temples and palaces of the Mayas. During your walking tour visit the Temple of The Warriors, Holy Cenote, Ball Court and the Observatory named Caracol.

Afterwards take a refreshing swim in nearby cenote Ik Kil. Time for a typical Yucatekan lunch in the authentic Hacienda Chichen.

Afterwards we continue to the exclusive Hacienda San José Cholul, hidden away amidst the tropical forest. The domain, erected in the 17th Century, was renovated and rebuilt as a stunning hotel.

Your deluxe suite is equipped with a spacious bed- and bathroom and furnished with all the amenities you desire. This intensive day is topped off with a romantic dinner served under a sky gleaming with stars.

Day 2: A day in The Yucatan

After a short drive you will reach the nearby village of Tixkokob, famous for its handmade hammocks. In the home of a local family, you will be introduced into the secret of making "hamacas". The journey continues along a small country road to the remote village of Aké. Visit the mystical Maya site.

Continue along remote backcountry until you will reach Izamal, the city of three cultures: Maya, Spanish and Mestizos - where the overwhelming Franciscan convent is expecting you. Archbishop Diego de Landa had this spectacular house of god built on top of a prehispanic Mayan temple. It has the second biggest Portico (open court) of the world – only the St.Peter's Dome in Rome has a more imposing one! After returning to the Hacienda San José Cholul, enjoy a relaxing Mayan massage!

Day 3: Merida & Celestun

Your journey today begins at the "Gran Plaza" of Merida, Yucatan State's capital city, where you will visit the famous painting exhibition in the Governor's palace. Opposite this well maintained building is Mexico's oldest cathedral. You will be impressed by the striking simplicity of this catholic temple. Stroll up Paseo Montejo, Merida's Champs-Élysées.. For lunch, your guide will take you to the gourmet restaurant of the Hacienda Xcanatun. Your journey will continue to Celestun, a small fishing

village in the Gulf of Mexico. Depart Celestun just before sunset and travel through the back roads to the Hacienda Santa Rosa da Lima. This 18th Century hacienda captivates by its impressive colors which were carefully restored capturing the original colors. The former Sisal hacienda has been transformed to a luxury upscale hotel. The huge rooms feature three-meter high wood-beam ceilings. In the private garden you can relax in your own Jacuzzi.

Day 4: Uxmal and the pyramid of the magician

After breakfast, you will visit the small but nevertheless intriguing Maya site Oxkintok built on a hill top overlooking the dense forest. Entering the labyrinth with a flashlight encounter the various erected steleas. After a short drive we arrive in fascinating Uxmal with its towering pyramid of the magician. The structure is over 35 meters high and was built – according to the legend – overnight by a dwarf.

On your way back, marvel at the spectacular nature event of this region: At sunset, millions of bats fly out from a limestone cave into the slowly obscuring sky. The fauna is awakening as the world falls into darkness, and you might even face some nocturnal animals like ocelots, coatimundi, anteaters and armadillos. Return to Santa Rosa, dinner will be served under the open sky amidst the sweeping park of the hacienda.

Day 5: Valladolid & Tulum

Start your day in a different way: Enjoy a relaxing, aromatized massage with fresh herbs and indulge yourself in your private pool under the morning sun. Enjoy breakfast on your patio by your private pool.

Afterwards it's time to say good bye to the friendly people of Santa Rosa and we return to the Riviera Maya coast.

En route we stop in the beautiful cenote in Dzitnup which was already used by the ancient Mayas for ceremonies. Enjoy a refreshing swim in the crystal clear waters below a thousand year old stalagmites. Afterwards we take a short city walk in tranquil colonial town of Valladolid and have lunch in the cool patio of El Meson del Marques. On we go traveling on country roads to one of the main attractions in the Riviera Maya: Tulum! Built on a cliff top overlooking the Caribbean Sea, this old port of the Mayans attracts many visitors daily.

Afterwards transfer to your beach resort in the Riviera Maya or Cancun.



Your "Five perfect Days" can begin any day that suits your arrival into Cancun.

Prices start from \$3970 per person for two persons travelling.

The journey suits small groups of friends up to six persons. For groups of four persons travelling prices start at \$2740 per person.

Groups of six person travelling prices start from \$2330 per person.

Call us for our detailed itinerary notes and inclusions.



Photo courtesy of Fairmont
Mayakoba Riviera Maya



The Magic of Mexico (Mexico City – Cancun)

8 Nights / 9 Days

Day 1: Mexico City – Puebla – Oaxaca

Pick up by tour guide. Transfer to colonial city of Puebla which features more than 70 churches and 1000 colonial buildings in historical center. Visit the Zocalo, the monumental Cathedral and Rosary Chapel. Continue to Oaxaca, another colonial jewel of Mexico. Late afternoon visit to Oaxaca including baroque church Santo Domingo and its monastery featuring a regional museum. Accommodation and overnight at Hotel Aitana.

Day 2: Oaxaca

A short drive to Monte Albán built on a flattened hilltop overlooking the Oaxaca valley was for 2000 years the center of the Zapotecan and Mixtecan cultures. Continue to Mitla and visit "The City of the Dead" with its unique mosaics. Enjoy the 2000 year old cypress tree of Tule, one of the largest on Earth! Return to Oaxaca. Accommodation and overnight at Hotel Aitana.

Day 3: Oaxaca – Veracruz

Departure to the Port City of Veracruz at The Gulf of Mexico where we arrive by midday. Afternoon visit The Fort San Juan de Ulua, Baluarte de Santiago, El Faro, Zocalo and the Portals. At night you can join folklore dances on the Zócalo. Accommodation and overnight at Hostal de Cortez.

Day 4: Veracruz – Canon del Sumidero – San Cristobal

Transfer through subtropical landscape from the Gulf of Mexico to the highlands of Chiapas. By noon arrival in Cahuare where a boat ride into the impressive Sumidero canyon begins. Afternoon drive to San Cristóbal de las Casas. Accommodation and overnight at Hotel Masion de Los Angeles.

Day 5: San Cristobal de las Casa

San Cristóbal de las Casas; a colonial and beautiful city with narrow streets, shady plazas. Visit the Indian market, the Temple of Santo Domingo and the amber museum.

In the afternoon visit the Tzotzil towns of San Juan Chamula and Zinacantán. Evening free to enjoy the city. Overnight at Hotel Masion de los Angeles.

Day 6: San Cristobal de las Casas – Agua Azul - Palenque

Transfer to the lowlands of Chiapas, to Palenque. En route visit of Mexico's most beautiful waterfalls Agua Azul and the impressive falls Misol-Ha. Continue to Palenque. Accommodation and overnight at Hotel Plaza Palenque.

Day 7: Palenque – Campeche

Visit to the magical archaeological zone of Palenque built amidst lush tropical forest. Visit the famous Temple of Inscriptions with the tomb of ruler Pakal. Afternoon transfer to Campeche on the Gulf of Mexico. Accommodation and overnight at Hotel Baluartes.

Day 8: Campeche – Uxmal - Merida

City tour of Campeche including its typical Baluartes. Continue to Uxmal, once an important Mayan trading place. Visit the Pyramid of the Magician, Nunnery, Governors Palace. Afternoon transfer to Merida, the state capital of Yucatan. Enjoy the lively colonial city in a walking tour around the Zocalo. Accommodation and overnight at Hotel del Gobernador.

Day 9: Merida – Chichen Itza - Cancun

Departure from Mérida to Chichen Itzá. Visit the biggest and most visited Mayan Site, Chichen Itza with its famous Kukulcan pyramid, Temple of the Warriors, Ball Court and Observatory. Continue to Cancun or Playa del Carmen. .



Departure Dates 2008:
8 September, 13 October, 10 November,
8 December.

Departure Dates 2009:
9 February, 9 March, 6 April, 20 July,
10 August, 7 September, 12 October.

Prices start at \$1810 per person.

Alternatively The Magic of Mexico can depart any day with a private guide and driver.

Prices start at \$3320 per person.

Passport to Mexico (Mexico City – Cancun)

6 Nights / 7 Days

Day 1: Mexico City – Puebla

Pick up by tour guide. Transfer to Puebla. En route visit the biggest pyramid by volume in the Americas, Cholula which offers a fantastic view from its top over the volcanoes Popocatepetl and Iztacciuatl. Puebla's historical center is under The World's Monument Protection and features over 70 churches and 1000 other colonial buildings. Accommodation and overnight at Hotel Best Western Real de Puebla.

Day 2: Puebla – Xalapa – Veracruz

Departure from Puebla to Xalapa, state capital of Veracruz, where we visit the spectacular Museum of Anthropology which features important artifacts from Olmec, Huastec and Totonac civilisation. Visit Ex-Hacienda del Lencero, once residence of famous president Lopez de Santa Ana. Afterwards transfer to the Port city of Veracruz, one of the most festive Mexican cities. Enjoy the lively zocalo by night. Accommodation and overnight at Hostal de Cortes.

Day 3: Veracruz – Tlacotalpan – Catemaco

City tour including Zocalo, Cathedral and the famous Portales. Afterwards drive to southern Veracruz. En route visit the picturesque town of Tlacotalpan and then continue to San Andres Tuxtla and to Catemaco.

Accommodation and overnight at Hotel La Finca or similar.

Day 4: Catemaco – Nanciyaga – Villahermosa

Boat ride on Lake Catemaco to Monkey Island and visit the Ecological Reserve Nanciyaga. Back in Catemaco town, visit the Basilica del Carmen located on the Zocalo. Afterwards transfer to Villahermosa.

Accommodation and overnight at Hotel Maya Tabasco.

Day 5: Villahermosa – Palenque – Campeche

Morning visit to the open air museum La Venta famous for its giant Olmeca heads. Continue to Palenque, the mystical Maya site built in emerald green jungles of Chiapas. Visit the famous

Temple of Inscriptions, burial site of Ruler Pakal. Afternoon transfer to Campeche. Accommodation and overnight at Hotel Baluartes.

Day 6: Campeche – Uxmal – Merida

City tour Campeche including its typical Baluartes. Continue to Uxmal, once an important Mayan trading place. Visit the Pyramid of the Magician, Nunnery, Governors Palace. Afternoon transfer to Merida, state capital of Yucatan. Enjoy the

lively colonial city in a walking tour around the Zocalo. Accommodation and overnight at Hotel del Gobernador.

Day 7: Merida – Chichen Itza – Cancun

Departure from Mérida to Chichen Itzá. Visit the biggest and most visited Mayan Site Chichen Itza with its famous Kukulcan pyramid, Temple of the Warriors, Ball Court and Observatory. Continue to Cancun or Playa del Carmen.



Photo courtesy of Fairmont Pierre Marques Acapulco.

Departures 2008: 18 August, 15 September, 06 October, 17 November, 1 December
Departures 2009: 16 February, 16 March, 20 April, 13 July, 17 August, 14 September, 5 October
Prices start at \$1390 per person.

Alternatively Passport to Mexico can depart any day from Mexico City with a private guide and driver. Prices start from \$2810 per person.



Mexico's Copper Canyon

Take a train ride to another world, the world of Copper Canyon, a network of several major canyons combined with a series of lesser canyons. Cutting across the Sierra Madre in the Mexican State of Chihuahua, the Barranca del Cobre (Copper Canyon) area is larger than the Grand Canyon. It is rugged and remote terrain; much of which is only accessible by train. The train, which travels between Los Mochis and Chihuahua City with all the comforts and dining services, will take you from cactus and sagebrush to cedar and pine, and from your window you will marvel at cascading waterfalls and breathtaking views of the Canyons. Along the way you can visit natural wonders and rustic villages. Be charmed by the shy but warm Tarahumara people, the native inhabitants of the Copper Canyon, famous for their dancing.

Los Mochis to Chihuahua

5 Nights / 6 Days

Day 1

Arrival at Los Mochis Airport. Reception by local driver-guide and transfer along farmland to the colonial El Fuerte, a sleepy town with a remarkable past.

Overnight in Posada del Hidalgo.

Day 2

Breakfast at the hotel. Transfer to train station and begin an adventurous journey on-board the 'Chepe' train. After travelling along Septentrion River, the train begins a steep access into canyonlands. Crossing wide stretched bridges and sweeping through several tunnels we reach Bahuichivo. Land transfer to Cerocahui. Afternoon excursion to Viewpoint Cerro Gallegos with a breathtaking outlook into the Urique Canyon. Return transfer to Cerocahui.

Overnight Hotel Mision.

Day 3

Breakfast at the hotel. Free time to discover rural town Cerocahui on your own. By midday transfer to the train station Bahuichivo to continue train ride to Posada Barrancas. Here you stay at Hotel Mirador which has been built right on canyon edge with spectacular views into Copper Canyon. Every room has a balcony with a canyon view! Afternoon excursion to Divisadero to encounter bizarre rock formations like the Balancing Rock.

Overnight Hotel Mirador.

Day 4

Breakfast at the hotel. Free time to enjoy hikes along Canyon ridge to several viewpoints. Afternoon continue on train 'El Chepe' to wild west town Creel. Overnight Hotel The Lodge at Creel.

Day 5

Breakfast at the hotel. Excursion to Lake Arareka and visit of close by rockformations (Elephant Rock). Continue to Mision Cusarare with its impressive church. Visit next doors museum with an acclaimed collection of 12 oil paintings which were found in 1967 during renovation work. Short hike through a pine forest to picturesque waterfalls of Cusarare. Return transfer to Creel train station where you continue train ride to Chihuahua. Dinner in train restaurant. Overnight Hotel Palacio del Sol.

Day 6

Breakfast at the hotel. City tour of the state capital Chihuahua, Mexico's largest state. Visit historical Revolution Museum where one of Mexico's most known heroes used to live, Francisco 'Pancho' Villa. Afternoon transfer to airport Chihuahua.

Our Copper Canyon Tour can start on any day to suit your arrival to Los Mochis.

Departs daily from \$1330 per person.



Los Mochis to Los Mochis

4 Nights / 5 Days

Day 1

Arrival at Los Mochis Airport. Reception by local driver-guide and transfer along farmland to colonial town El Fuerte, a sleepy town with a remarkable past. Overnight in Posada del Hidalgo.

Day 2

Breakfast at the hotel. Transfer to train station and begin an adventurous journey on board of the 'Chepe' train. After travelling along the Septentrion River, the train begins a steep access into canyonlands. Crossing wide stretched bridges and sweeping through several tunnels we reach Bahuichivo. Land transfer to Cerocahui. Afternoon excursion to Viewpoint Cerro Gallegos with a breathtaking outlook into Urique Canyon. Return transfer to Cerocahui. Overnight Hotel Mision.

Day 3

Breakfast at the hotel. Free time to discover rural town Cerocahui on your own. By midday transfer to train station Bahuichivo to continue train ride to Posada Barrancas. Here you stay at the Hotel Mirador which has been built right on the canyon-edge with spectacular views into Copper Canyon. Every room has a balcony with a canyon-view! Afternoon an excursion to Divisadero to encounter a bizarre rock formation like the Balancing Rock. Overnight Hotel Mirador.

Day 4

Breakfast at the hotel. Free time to enjoy hikes along Canyon ridge to several viewpoints. Afternoon return on train 'El Chepe' to Los Mochis. Dinner on train. Transfer to Hotel Santa Anita where you will overnight.

Day 5

Breakfast in hotel. Transfer to airport Los Mochis.

Our Copper Canyon Tour can start on any day to suit your arrival to Los Mochis.

Departs daily from \$1130 per person.



Club Med began in 1950. A new style of holiday was born, offering holiday makers an idyllic setting where they feel renewed, in touch with nature and other people and enjoy a variety of sports.

In 1967 the Mini Club was launched and radically changed family holiday habits. This innovative service entirely dedicated to children allowed parents to enjoy time on their own, safe in the knowledge that their little one's were being looked after and entertained.

These days, Club Med continues to amaze across the 5 continents. Generous and refined, it has achieved an alchemy by combining a sophisticated package to satisfy the most demanding requirements. In majestic locations and friendly Resorts, the multiple activities, from sports to creative workshops and well-being treatments craft an exceptional way of life. A unique concept that remains faithful to its pioneering spirit: refined, generous, a la carte, multicultural.

What's Included In a Club Med Package?

- > Twin share Superior accommodation with the option to upgrade to a Deluxe Room or Suite
- > 3 meals per day in a choice of restaurants
- > Unlimited wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner
- > Daily and evening entertainment
- > A wide range of sports and activities with expert tuition
- > Open bar and snacking service
- > Kids and teenagers facilities

Club Med Cancun ★★★★

On one of the most beautiful sites in Cancún, this Club Med Resort is flanked on one side by the turquoise waters of the Caribbean and on the other by a delightful lagoon. With its traditional central square, its bungalow-haciendas and its local specialty restaurants, the entirely renovated Club Med Resort is a doorway to a very special natural world and to the early civilizations of Mexico.

- > 3 restaurants including one specializing in Yucatan Cuisine
- > Club Med Spa



Club Med Ixtapa ★★★★

The Resort of Ixtapa Pacific is set against the Sierra Madre Mountains, north of Acapulco, stretching out along the edge of a vast sandy beach in a lush green tropical park, brightly splashed with bougainvillea pink. Its terracotta tiles and colored walls give it the charm of a family hacienda resounding with all the exuberance Mexico has to offer.

- > Tennis, Club Med Fitness
- > Beautiful 400m beach
- > 2 restaurants including one specialty restaurants with a la carte menu



EXPERIENCIA MEXICO Y CUBA

Combine the mysterious past and beautiful colonial cities of Mexico with the nostalgia of Cuba on our 14 night 15 day itinerary. Highlights includes Mexico City, San Miguel de Allende and Merida in Mexico, Havana, Trinidad and Santa Clara in Cuba.

The tour includes private guides and drivers throughout the itinerary.

14 Nights / 15 Days

Mexico City – Havana

Day 1: Mexico City

Arrival at Mexico city and transfer to The La Casa Vieja Hotel, Mexico City.

Day 2: Mexico City

Breakfast at the hotel. A half-day tour to Teotihuacán, where gods, men, heaven and earth met in the mythical past; visit the pyramids of the Sun and the Moon and the impressive Temple of Quetzalcóatl. A stop at the holiest place of Catholic worship in Latin America, the shrine of Guadalupe, is made on the way back into town.

Day 3: Mexico City – Queretaro – San Miguel de Allende

Breakfast at the hotel. Pick up by tour guide. Land transportation to Queretaro. Visit of historical city that played a leading role in the struggle of independence. Continue to San Miguel de Allende which fascinates with its narrow cobble-stoned streets, elegant houses, flower decked patios and the pink Franciscan church.

Overnight in Hotel Best Western Monteverde. Includes breakfast

Day 4: San Miguel de Allende - Guanajuato

Transfer to Guanajuato, Mexico's oldest silver mining town built into a ravine. Unique its maze of narrow streets and alleyways, outstanding its colonial architecture. Enjoy the arabesque University, magnificent Teatro Juarez and its unique subterranean roadways.

Overnight in Hotel Paseo de la Presa. Includes breakfast

Day 5: Guanajuato - Morelia

Early departure to Patzcuaro which is located on southeastern shore of Lake Patzcuaro. It is a beautiful tranquil town where you can find Mexican handicrafts like ceramic, wooden carvings, copper, woven goods and even furniture. Late afternoon transfer to Morelia.

Overnight in Hotel De la Soledad. Includes breakfast

Day 6: Morelia – Mexico City – Mérida

City tour of Morelia known as the aristocrat of the Colonial cities. Fine sculptured churches, colourful plazas and numerous arcades make Morelia still look today like a Spanish city. Afterwards continuation to Mexico City. Transfer to Mexico City Airport for flight to Merida.

Arrival at Merida and Transfer to Hacienda Merida. Accommodation Hacienda Merida including Breakfast

Day 7: Mérida

Tour City tour of Mérida, the centre of culture in the Yucatan region even before the Conquistadors arrived. Today it is a prosperous city of narrow streets, colonial buildings and shady parks. The Plaza Grande, as Main Square is called, has been the city centre since Mayan times. It is flanked by Mexico's oldest cathedral, and by the harmonious colonial edifices housing City Hall and Government Palace. The Paseo de Montejo was an attempt by the 19th c. city planners to create a wide boulevard similar to Paseo de la Reforma in Mexico City, which in turn was planned as a replica of the Champs Elysées in Paris. Some of the fine mansions inspired in European architecture built by wealthy families at the end of that century may still be seen alongside the paseo

Day 8: Merida - Chichen Itza - Cancun

Breakfast at the hotel. Today visit one of antiquity's most spectacular ceremonial centers, Chichen-Itzá, which reached the height of its splendor in the early VIth century; you will admire the Temple of Kukulcan, the Red Jaguar Throne, the Temple of the Tigers, the Observatory and the Ball Game Court. Luncheon will include samples of the delicious Yucatán cuisine; Continue to Cancun Airport for your flight to Cuba.

Arrive at Havana International Airport and transfer to the Hotel Palacio Raquel in the Historical Center of Old Havana.

Day 9: Havana

After breakfast at the hotel enjoy a walking tour of the four main squares in Old Havana: Plaza de Armas, de San Francisco de Asís, Plaza Vieja and de la Catedral. Visit the City Museum. Lunch at Café Taberna Restaurant. After lunch visit the Havana Club Foundation and Rum Museum, which includes some rum tasting. Afterwards take a horse-drawn carriage ride around the outskirts of Old Havana. Return to the hotel. In the evening transfer to El Aljibe Restaurant for dinner with the complete menu included and afterwards transfer to the World renowned Tropicana Cabaret for Show with some drinks included. After the show return to the hotel.

Day 10: Havana

After breakfast at the hotel enjoy a tour of the modern part of Havana including, the Seafront, Miramar Neighbourhood, Club Havana, the Revolution Square, the University of Havana, Hamel's Alley, Central Park and The Capitol Building. Lunch at A Prado y Neptuno Restaurant and return to the hotel for the afternoon at your leisure.

In the evening departure for La Cabaña Fort to attend the legendary



Photo courtesy of Fairmont Pierre Marques Acapulco.



Firing of the Cannon Ceremony and to visit the weapons and forts museums as well as the Che Guevara Commanding Headquarters. Dinner at La Mina Restaurant. Return to the hotel.

Day 11: Havana – Cienfuegos

After breakfast, check out of the Hotel Palacio Raquel and depart to Cienfuegos with a short stop at Fiesta Campesina. The journey to Cienfuegos takes approximately 4 hours, on arrival at Cienfuegos, visit The Valle's Palace. Lunch at the historical Cienfuegos Yacht Club. Continue to the Hotel Boutique La Union, a small colonial hotel in the city centre. City tour of Cienfuegos included visits to Martí Park, the Cathedral, the City Hall, Tomás Terry Theater, Prado Promenade, Seafont and visit to Jagua Fort. In the evening enjoy dinner at the hotel.

Day 12: Cienfuegos – Trinidad

After breakfast checkout of the Boutique la Union hotel visit Cienfuegos Botanical Gardens before continuing to Trinidad. After a short 45 minute journey, arrive at Trinidad where you will enjoy a walking tour including Plaza Real del Jigue, Las tres Cruces Neighbourhood, Carrillo Park and the Main Square. Lunch at Don Antonio Restaurant. After lunch enjoy a visit to Cantero Palace and a typical pottery workshop. Continue to your hotel, Brisas Trinidad del Mar hotel. The hotel is situated on the spectacular beach of Playa Ancon approximately 10 minutes from Trinidad's city centre. Your stay

at Brisas Trinidad del Mar includes all meals, snacks and drinks including alcoholic and non alcoholic drinks, non motorized land and water activities.

Day 13: Trinidad – Sancti Spiritus – Remedios – Santa Clara

After breakfast checkout of the hotel and continue to the Valley of the sugar Mills to visit the San Luis viewpoint and the Manaca-Iznaga State. Continue to Sancti Spiritus and on arrival enjoy a city tour of the colonial centre, the Main Theater, Serafín Sánchez Park, Holly Ghost Main Parish, Santa Helena Farm and Yayabo River Bridge. Lunch at El Mesón de la Plaza. Continue to the quaint town of Remedios where you will visit the San Juan de los Remedios Parish and the Remedios Parrandas Museum. Continue to Santa Clara where you will check in to the Los Caneyes Hotel. Enjoy dinner at the hotel.

Day 14: Santa Clara – Havana

After breakfast at the hotel, visit the Che Guevara's Mausoleum, Monument to the armor-plated train defeated by Che Guevara, boulevard, Leoncio Vidal Park. Return to the hotel and enjoy lunch before continuing to Havana. Arrival at the Nacional Hotel de Cuba.

Day 15: Havana

Breakfast at the hotel. Transfer to Jose Marti Airport.

The Mexico & Cuba tour is a private itinerary with your own private guide and driver. The tour can begin on any day to suite your arrival into Mexico City.

Prices start from \$4450 per person excluding air travel from Mexico City to Merida and from Cancun to Havana.



COSTA RICA

More than one million tourists visit Costa Rica each year. What draws so many people to this lightly advertised destination? Natural beauty and diversity are the answers. Enjoy beaches, rivers, mountains, and an abundance of flora and fauna. Twelve major life zones provide habitat for over 10,000 kinds of flowering plants, 850 bird species, 3,000 butterfly species, and 209 species of mammals. Volcanoes, rainforests, cloud forests, lowland jungles, the Pacific coastline, and tranquil Caribbean beaches stretch across seven provinces.

Highlights of Costa Rica are Volcano Arenal especially if it is active, The highlands around La Fortuna and Monteverde, Montezuma and the Nicoya peninsula, Puerto Viejo and the trek to Chirripo Grande.

Highlights of Costa Rica

5 Nights / 6 Days

An exhilarating tour which enables you to see in 5 nights the essential and totally different attractions of Costa Rica – Arenal and its volcano and lake, the canals of Tortuguero teeming with wildlife. Active volcanoes, jungle hikes, and boats tours on jungle channels await you in Costa Rica.

Day 1: San José – Poás Volcano – La Fortuna – Arenal Volcano

We pick you up at your city hotel and drive straight to Poás Volcano, visit the main crater with its diameter of 1.3km, one of the largest craters in the world. Continue to the Caribbean lowlands and the village of La Fortuna in the afternoon. Check-in at Hotel Lomas del Volcán. Later today, we will drive to Ecotermales La Fortuna.

Day 2: La Fortuna – Lava Field Hike – Ecocentro Danaus – La Quinta de Sarapiquí – Insect Museum – Vegetable Gardens – Plant a Tree

We start with a short drive to Arenal Volcano National Park. Continue by bus to Ecocentro Danaus, and visit the butterfly garden. Continue our journey via Muelle and Aguas Zarcas and drive along huge fruit plantations. We then reach La Quinta de Sarapiquí Lodge, a small, cozy and clean country hotel near Puerto Viejo de Sarapiquí. Overnight at La Quinta de Sarapiquí Lodge.

Day 3: Visit to the Local School – Pineapple Plantation – Rainforest Hike

Today you will get in contact with the local population. We first visit the local school. In the afternoon, we will drive to Tirimbina Rainforest Reserve. Return to La Quinta de Sarapiquí in the afternoon.

Day 4: La Quinta – Guápiles – Tortuguero

Continue our journey via Horquetas to Guápiles. Here, you will enjoy a typical Costarican breakfast, before we continue

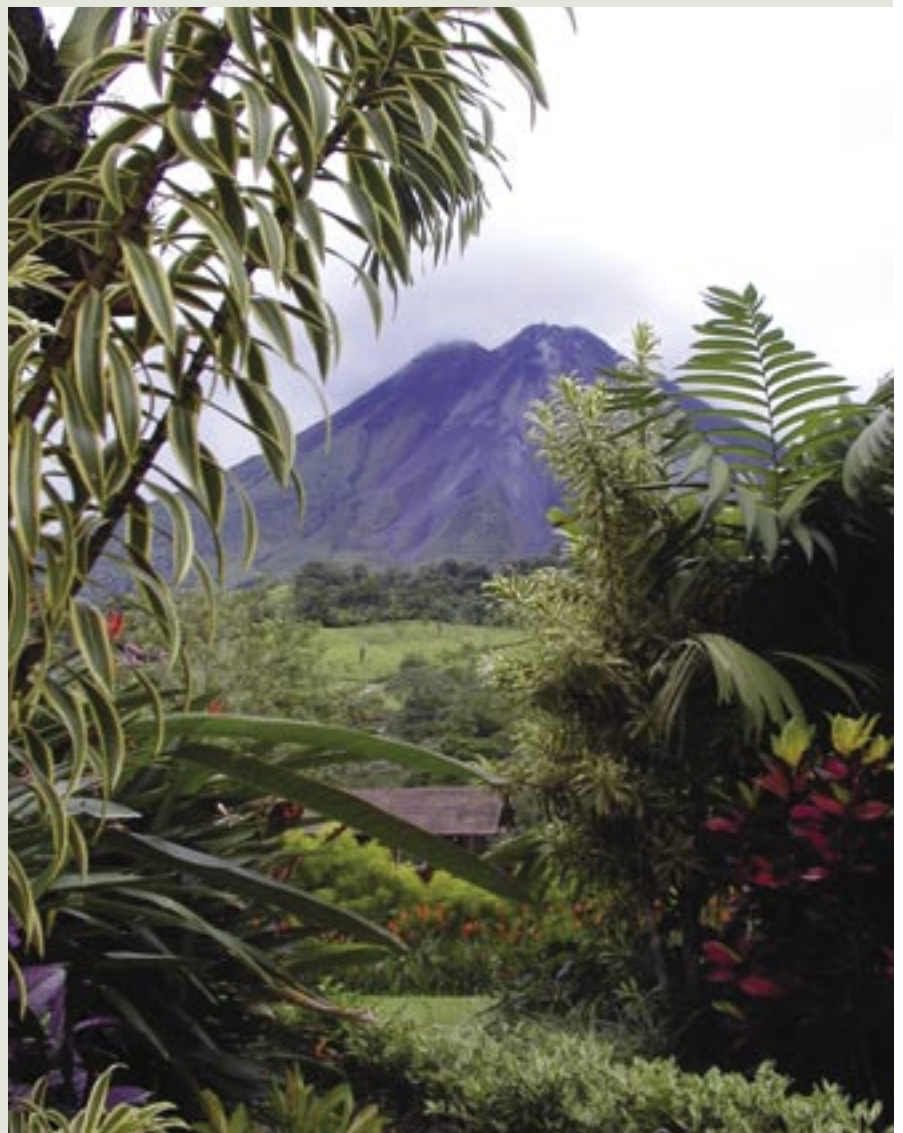
to the area of Matina/Caño Blanco. Continue by boat and cruise on rivers and canals along the beautiful Tortuguero. (Mawamba Lodge or Laguna Lodge) The afternoon is at your leisure.

Day 5: Tortuguero National Park

Spend the day exploring Tortuguero National Park.

Day 6: Tortuguero – San José

After breakfast we start our way back to San José.



Our Highlights of Costa Rica Tour departs every Monday from San José. Prices start from \$1280 per person.



BELIZE

Belize is on the Caribbean coast, bounded on the North by Mexico, South and West by Guatemala, and the beautiful Caribbean Sea washes its 174 mile coastline to the East. Belize offers an intriguing mix of tropical forests rich with wildlife, majestic 3,675 foot mountains, mysterious Maya temples, diving and fishing experiences beyond compare.

Highlands, Islands and Tikal

9 Nights / 10 Days

Day 1: Arrival Belize City

Arrival at Belize International Airport. Transfer to Belize City. Dinner and Overnight Hotel Belize City.

Day 2: Altun Ha & Baboon Sanctuary

Early morning breakfast. Full day tour of Altun Ha Maya site and the Community Baboon Sanctuary. Overnight Hotel Belize City.

Day 3: Manatee Watch & Snorkelling

Breakfast. Full day excursion, Manatee Watch & Snorkeling on Reef island. Overnight Belize City Hotel.

Day 4: Belize Zoo and Xunantunich

Early morning breakfast. Full Day guided tour of the Belize Zoo and Xunantunich Maya site. Drop off at the end of the tour at a Cayo Area Hotel/Resort. Overnight.

Day 5: Mountain Pine Ridge

Early morning breakfast. Depart for full day tour of Mountain Pine Ridge Reserve. Overnight Cayo Area Hotel.

Day 6: Tikal

Full day guided tour of Tikal Maya Ruins with lunch and entrance fees included. Overnight Hotel Cayo District.

Day 7: River Cave Expedition

Full day River Cave Expedition. Drop off at Belize City Municipal Airstrip for air

transfer to San Pedro, Ambergris Caye. Overnight San Pedro area Hotel.

Day 8: Hol Chan Marine Reserve & Shark Ray Alley

Half day snorkel excursion to Hol Chan Marine Reserve & Shark Ray Alley. Afternoon at leisure. Overnight San Pedro area Hotel.

Day 9: San Pedro

Day at leisure to relax or explore the island on your own. Overnight San Pedro area Hotel.

Day 10: Depart Belize Int'l Airport

Air transfer from San Pedro to Belize International Airport to connect with your homebound flight.

Highlights of Belize departs every Friday from Belize City. Prices start from \$2710 per person.

GUATEMALA

Heart of the Mayan World, Guatemala is a country of 108,889Kms² that contains a multicultural, multilanguage, and multiethnic heritage, offering its visitors archaeology, colonial towns, wildlife, natural spots with plentiful rivers, silvery lakes, imposing volcanoes, native villages that sprinkle the fertile valleys and high lands, contrasting with the great hotels and business centers of Guatemala City, capital of the country.

Guatemala Highlands with Tikal

5 Days / 4 Nights

Day 1

Arrival at the international airport in Guatemala City – transfer to a city hotel.

Day 2

Antigua City Tour – Bus ride to Panajachel.

Day 3

Panajachel – visit to the market of Chichicastenango and the church, Santo Tomas – drive back to Panajachel.

Day 4

Boat excursion on Lake Atitlan to Santiago Atitlan – return to Panajachel by boat and continue to Guatemala City by bus.

Day 5

Early flight to Flores – visit to the archaeological site of Tikal – return to Flores – flight back to Guatemala City.

Transfer to the International Airport.



Guatemala Highlights departs on set dates throughout the year. From \$750 per person.

Alternatively, the tour is available on a private basis and can depart any day from \$1100 per person. Flights to and from Flores are not included.

PANAMA

Panama has a wide range of tropical landscapes including pristine beaches, rain forests, cloud forests, over 900 species of birds, 1500 species of trees and over 7000 vascular plants. Without a doubt, Panama is a real tropical paradise for nature lovers and outdoor adventurers



Highlights of Panama

6 Nights / 7 Days

Explore and discover the highlights of Panama on our Highlights of Panama tour. Visit the cosmopolitan Panama City, the world-known Panama Canal, the fantastic green foggy forest in Cerro Punta, the mountain village Boquete and the beautiful islands of Bocas del Toro.

Day 1: Panama City

Arrive Panama City and transfer to the hotel.

Day 2: Partial crossing of the Panama Canal

This morning a very special experience; the partial crossing of the historical Panama Canal. Drive through a part of this technical wonderwork, pass different locks and learn interesting information about the history of the Canal. Afterwards return to the hotel and the rest of the day is at your leisure.

Day 3: Panama City – Boquete

Morning transfer to the national airport and flight to David. From there you will then drive to Boquete. Learn the processing of the coffee fruit. You also receive a sample of this coffee.

Day 4: Boquete – Cerro Punta – Boquete

In the morning drive to Cerro Punta. From there start a six hour journey with your guide. On this hike you see the fantastic panorama of the country, the flowers and the coffee plants, the wonderful mountains and many animals.

Day 5: Boquete – Changuinola – Bocas del Toro

Transfer to the airport of David and fly to Changuinola on the Atlantic coast. Enjoy a boat trip through an old canal and afterwards in the open sea, before you arrive at Isla Colón (Bocas del Toro).

Enjoy the exotic atmosphere and Calypso music and fantastic beaches with crystal-

clear water, enjoy an array of water sports and experience an unaffected ecosphere, where sea turtles and many bird colonies call their homeland.

Day 6: Bocas del Toro

Today a boat trip leads you to the Laguna Bocatorito, where you can admire dolphins. At a small local restaurant you can try out different sea fruits. Coral Key is also excellent for snorkelling. In the afternoon you will transfer to the Red Frog Beach where you have time to swim or discover the island. After that your trip leads you passing the Hospital Point back to the main island.

Day 7: Bocas del Toro – Panama City

After breakfast transfer to the airport and fly back to Panama City. In the afternoon you can discover the colonial, old and modern parts of this versatile city. Afterwards the tour leads you to the Canal with inspection of the Miraflores Lock.

Our highlights of Panama tour begins each Friday, prices start from \$1750 per person based on twin or double share. Price includes all transfers, internal flights in economy class, 6 nights in mid range hotels and English speaking guide and driver.

CRUISING MEXICO

Mexico cruises have become one of the most popular ways to visit Mexico. Cruises feature great food, entertainment, interesting ports of call and fascinating tours of ancient ruins, fabulous wildlife and a rich variety of art and cultures along way. Departing from Los Angeles, or San Diego, you can experience the famous ports of Puerto Vallarta, Acapulco, Ensenada and the superb beaches of Cabo San Lucas. There are a number of different cruise itineraries in Mexico offered by most of the major lines.

Baja Mexico's Sea of Cortes – On board Cruise West



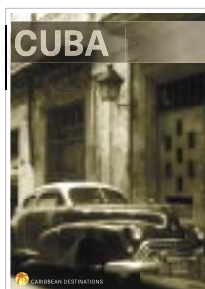
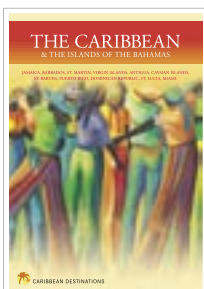
On a small ship carrying only 102 passengers, this cruise focuses on getting you closer. The Spirit of Endeavour cruises down small remote waterways, the same that local fisherman use, allowing passengers to experience small villages and the friendly locals. This way guests can experience the Sea of Cortes's unique ecology and the friendly marine life, natural history and culture of Baja Mexico. For those who want to explore the secret wilderness Baja has to offer in an intimate and casual way, this cruise is for you.

Continue your adventure with a train ride into another world, the world of Copper Canyon. The train travels between Los Mochis and Chihuahua City with the comforts of dining services on board. Visit the breathtaking views of the canyon and be charmed by the small villages along the way. The Copper Canyon, the perfect combination with your intimate cruise west experience.



Groups, Incentives, Meetings and Conferences

There's never been a better time to bring your meeting or incentive to Mexico. Not only does this world-class destination offer everything you need to plan a memorable event; beautiful beaches, charming colonial cities, natural beauty, world class golf and spa experiences, cultural and archaeological attractions – it also has outstanding hotels and resorts to suit every taste and budget. Every city in Mexico has something in particular, something unique waiting to be discovered. Culture, tradition, history, gastronomy and the country's spectacular scenery, all combine to offer our incentive travellers a mixture of experiences, emotions and sensations that make Mexico the perfect reward for a job well done. Over the years we have had the privilege to be chosen by many conference organizers, corporations and sporting organizations to provide the appropriate accommodation, transfers and touring options on behalf of their clients, customers and members. Contact us and we guarantee that you will receive very special attention, enthusiasm and a commitment to provide competitive pricing for the Mexican product you are interested in.





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M.D DESTINATIONS PTY LTD TRADING AS CARIBBEAN DESTINATIONS

Please read these Terms and Conditions carefully. By paying your deposit, you will be deemed to have understood and accepted these Terms and Conditions.

Bookings and Payment

Upon confirmation of the booking, a deposit of \$200.00 per person is required within seven days to avoid cancellation. Full payment is required no later than 45 days prior to departure. If a booking is made within 45 days of the date of departure, full payment is required at the time the booking is confirmed.

Itinerary Planning Fee

Should a detailed itinerary/quote be requested, a non refundable fee of \$50.00 will be charged prior to it being prepared. Once a reservation is made, this fee will be deducted from the final balance.

Amendments and Charges

Once the booking has been made and confirmed to you, any amendments to the booking will incur a fee of \$25 per amendment. A service fee of \$40 per booking will be charged for land reservations only comprising fewer than three nights at any one hotel. If a booking is made within 21 days of departure an additional service fee of \$25 may be levied.

Cancellations

If it is necessary to cancel all or part of your holiday, the following cancellation fees will apply in addition to any other fees charged by the relevant hotel or other supplier:

45 days or more prior to departure	\$200 per person
Between 31 and 44 days prior to departure	50% of tour cost.
Less than 30 days prior to departure	No Refund of tour cost

Accommodation Over-bookings

In the event that a property is oversold and a guest cannot be accommodated, the hotel will immediately inform you of the overbooking problem and provide an alternate accommodations at a comparable hotel. No compensation is payable from any hotel as per the contracted agreement.

Services Not Used

No refund is available once your holiday has commenced or in relation to services which are included in the holiday price which have not been used. In the event that a refund is due from any service provider, we will make every reasonable effort to obtain and process the refund as quickly as possible. However we will not be responsible for delays occasioned by the service providers.

Not Included in Tour Price

Cost of passports, visas, travel insurance, airport departure tax, excess baggage, vaccinations, all items not specifically mentioned as being included, and all items of a personal nature such as laundry, telephone and other communications costs, gratuities, meals and beverages (which are not stated as being included) are not included in the tour price.

Insurance

Travel insurance is strongly recommended by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade for all overseas travel. See www.smarttraveller.gov.au for up to date travel information. We recommend that you consider purchasing a travel insurance policy for your holiday. We are an authorised representative of Cover-More Travel Insurance. The Cover-More policy offers cover for such things as: overseas medical and dental expenses, loss of deposit through cancellation, loss or theft of luggage and personal items and loss or theft of

travel documents. Caribbean Destinations can assist you with the purchase of travel insurance or alternatively you can purchase a policy at any time via our website*.

Passports and Visa Information

Please ensure that your Australian passport has at least 6 months validity beyond your anticipated return date. Passport holders will need visas for certain destinations which must be obtained prior to travel. Holders of other passports should contact the appropriate Consulates for their entry requirements. As visa requirements change over time, it is your responsibility to check for any changes and to be in possession of all the appropriate travel documents. For vaccination information go to www.tmvc.com.au.

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All prices are quoted in Australian dollars where specified and are current at the time of printing. If the exchange rate fluctuates or airfares increase before full payment of your holiday has been received, you will be required to pay for any increase.

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