

TRAVEL PASSES

Beautiful Beach Ways (from Cancun)

Backpacking

23 Days / 6 Countries

Mexico, Belize, Guatemala, El
Salvador, Costa Rica & Panama

Departure city: Cancun, Mexico

End city: Panama City, Panama



HIGHLIGHTS

- Watch the sunrise over the ruins of Tikal
- Trek up the impressive Pacaya Volcano
- Relax on the idyllic San Blas Islands
- Ride the waves in El Tunco

Explore the best of Central America as you travel from Cancun to Panama City. Visit historic ruins, buzzing cities and stunning beaches on your way!

MAP



What is included



Travel Passes

Include all of your transport and experiences while giving you full flexibility to change the dates and pick your accommodation on the go.



Accommodation: 3

- 2 nights in basic dorm-style cabin
- Dorm accommodation



Transport: 14

- San Jose to Panama City
 - San Salvador to San Jose
 - El Tunco to San Salvador
 - Antigua to El Tunco
 - Lanquin to Antigua
 - Flores to Lanquin
 - Caye Caulker to Belize City
 - Belize City to Flores
- Chetumal to Caye Caulker via San Pedro
- Tulum to Chetumal
- Playa del Carmen to Tulum
- Cancun to Playa del Carmen
- Panama City accommodation pick-up/drop-off
- Shared 4x4 transportation & boat to/from islands



Meals: 8

- 3 Breakfast(s), 3 Lunch(es), 2 Dinner(s),

What is not included

- Guide throughout the trip
 - Meals not mentioned in the itinerary
 - Travel Insurance
 - Tips
- Personal Expenses
- Accommodation pick-up drop-off from Bus Stations

*Prices for optional activities are subject to change at any time without prior notice. Please confirm these prices before departing on your trip.

Experiences Included

Chichen Itza Day Trip



Learn about the ancient ways of life in this well-preserved Mayan citadel with an English speaking guide. Ponder the disappearance of this archaeological site former inhabitants while you walk around these pre-Hispanic ruins. Recently added to the list of the 7 World Wonders, this is a site you do not want to miss!

INCLUDED

- Roundtrip transportation
- English-speaking guide specialized in archeology
- Box lunch
- Entrance fees to Chichen Itza archaeological site

NOT INCLUDED

- Governmental Entrance Fee (USD 23)
- Breakfast & drinks
- Tips for guide
- Extra fees

Snorkel with Sharks & Rays



Enjoy snorkeling through mazes of pristine coral reef and get the unique opportunity to swim with nurse sharks and stingrays.

INCLUDED

- Accommodation pick-up/drop-off
- Half day snorkel tour with English-speaking captain/guide
- Park fees
- Water/Fruit
- Snorkel gear & boat ride

NOT INCLUDED

- Other meals & drinks
- Personal expenses
- Tips for guide

Tikal Early Morning Day Tour



Experience the jungle as it comes alive in the early hours of the morning. Learn about this former Maya citadel, once the largest and most powerful civilization in Meso-America, by exploring this archaeological site and taking advantage of this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to marvel at the majestic pyramids hidden away in the jungle.

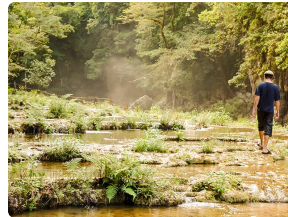
INCLUDED

- Transportation
- English-speaking guide

NOT INCLUDED

- Accommodation ick-up and drop-off
- Entrance Fee to Tikal Archaeological Site
- Lunch & drinks
- Tips for guide
- Sunrise tour upgrade (\$15 USD or approx. 117 Quetzal)

Semuc Champey & Kanba Caves Tour



Hike through the mysterious caves of Kamba, which are filled with extraordinary limestone formations. Enjoy free time to swim in the crystalline waters of Semuc Champey, where you will find natural pools filled with fresh mountain spring water above a 300-meter long limestone bridge immersed in a pristine lush jungle setting.

INCLUDED

- Transportation
- English speaking guide
- Entrance fee to Semuc Champey National Park

NOT INCLUDED

- Lunch
- Tips for Guide
- Flashlight

Pacaya Volcano Trek



Brag to your friends about trekking an active volcano after hiking up the steep slopes of the Pacaya Volcano to reach a moon-like landscape of dried lava with

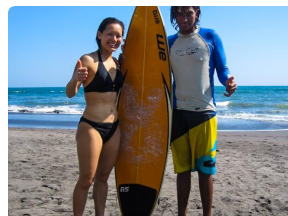
INCLUDED

- Transportation
- Local Guatemalan guide (Spanish only)
- Entrance fee to Pacaya Volcano

NOT INCLUDED

- English-speaking guide
- Snacks & bottled water
- Optional hiking equipment rental
- Optional horseback

El Tunco Surfing Experience 2D/1N



Soak up the sun and relaxing vibes of El Tunco on the Pacific coast of El Salvador where you can stay overnight in this laid-back beach town. Take a surfing

INCLUDED

- Dorm accommodation
- 1 breakfast on day 2 (to be coordinated with reception)
- 1-hour surfing lesson

NOT INCLUDED

- Meals & drinks
- Transfers to/from El Tunco
- Tips
- Personal expenses

Recommended Itinerary

This is a recommendation for your trip, but travel passes are flexible and you can decide how long to stay in each destination.

Day 1: Cancun - Playa del Carmen, Mexico



Chichen Itza Day Trip (roundtrip from Cancun)

DepartureTimes: 04:00 (summer), 05:00 (winter)

Duration: 10 hrs.

Upon arrival to Chichen Itza, a specialised guide will give you a detailed tour of the site, enjoying the quiet of the morning visit before the crowds. Throughout the tour, your guide will provide archaeological essential background to better understand the history of Chichen Itza.

Discover how this large pre-Columbian city played an important role in the Mayan civilization around 600 AD to 1200, and remained a center of worship and pilgrimage until the arrival of the Spaniards. Even today, it is still considered sacred by the Maya people of Yucatán Peninsula site. Like many of the cities of ancient Mexico, the site was abandoned, and its ruins were hidden by jungle. Hear how the site was discovered and excavated by archaeologists, earning the protection of UNESCO and today considered one of the New Seven Wonders of the World. They will explain the philosophy, cosmology and mythology behind this ancient place, such as the meaning of the stone carvings, pyramids, platforms, ball games. Visit the Temple of the Jaguars, the Temple of the Warriors and of course the famous pyramid, also known as the Temple of Kukulcan. Hear how a serpent of light seems going up the stairs of this temple in the spring and fall equinoxes (around March 21st; September 21st). Enjoy a lunch box on your way back to Cancun.



Cancun to Playa del Carmen

Type: Transfer

DepartureTimes: 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30, 10:0, 10:30, 11:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30, 13:00, 13:30, 14:00, 14:30, 15:00, 15:30, 16:00, 16:30, 17:00, 17:30, 18:00, 18:30, 19:00, 19:30, 20:00, 20:30, 21:00, 21:30

Duration: 1.5 hrs.

Day 2: Playa del Carmen, Mexico

● Free Day

Explore on your own, or add an optional extra experience

Day 3: Tulum, Mexico



Playa del Carmen to Tulum

Type: Transfer

DepartureTimes: 01:15, 01:30, 02:45, 04:00, 06:00, 07:15, 08:00, 08:30, 09:00, 09:15, 09:30, 09:45, 10:45, 11:45, 12:30, 14:30, 15:15, 17:15, 18:30, 18:45, 19:00, 19:15, 21:45, 22:15, 23:30

Duration: 1 hrs.

Day 4: Tulum - Caye Caulker, Mexico



Tulum to Chetumal

Type: **Transfer**

DepartureTimes: 00:05, 08:35, 09:45, 10:35, 12:05, 13:05, 15:50, 17:05, 21:05

Duration: 4 hrs.



Chetumal to Caye Caulker via San Pedro

Type: **Transfer**

DepartureTimes: 15:00

Duration: 3 hrs.

Day 5: Caye Caulker, Belize



Snorkel with Sharks & Rays

DepartureTimes: 10:30, 14:00

Duration: 3 hrs.

Discover the unparalleled natural beauty of Belize's marine life with a snorkeling experience that you will never forget. On this half-day tour in Caye Caulker Marine Reserve, you will get the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to snorkel along the reef in complete serenity. Navigate through mazes of pristine coral reef among schools of tropical fish, and even get the chance to swim with nurse sharks and stingrays. See all this and more at three different snorkeling stops along the magnificent local reef of Caye Caulker.

Day 6: Caye Caulker, Belize

● Free Day

Explore on your own, or add an optional extra experience

Day 7: Flores, Guatemala



Belize City to Flores

Type: **Transfer**

DepartureTimes: 11:00, 13:30

Duration: 5 hrs.



Caye Caulker to Belize City

Type: **Transfer**

DepartureTimes: 08:00, 09:00, 10:30, 12:00, 13:30, 15:30, 17:00

Duration: 1.5 hrs.

Day 8: Flores, Guatemala



Tikal Early Morning Day Tour

DepartureTimes: 03:00, 04:30, 08:00

Duration: 8.5 hrs.

Depart Flores at 4:30 am this morning for your early morning experience to Tikal archaeological site. Walk among giant pyramids towering over 200 feet at dawn to feel the magical vibration of Tikal and its historic splendor. Listen to the jungle sounds of exotic birds, monkeys and small mammals and feel the humid jungle air on your skin as the Maya inhabitants of this site felt it 2000 years ago. Immerse yourself in the jungle at dawn for an early morning tour through the archaeological site to experience the jungle come alive as it wakes up at sunrise, a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to get in touch with nature and marvel at the majestic pyramids hidden away in the jungle.

This magical ancient city is teeming with native flora and fauna. If you are lucky you may be able to spot a jaguar walking leisurely through the park, although large numbers of visitors have caused the wildlife to move further into the jungle away from the noise. Howler monkeys here are famous for their loud growling sounds which may surprise you from a tree top overhead. Keep an eye out for colorful birds throughout the park such as toucan, parrots, eagles and quetzals.

Tucked away in the vast Peten Region that covers 222 square miles of lush jungle in the northwest corner of Guatemala lie the ruins of the most magnificent archaeological site and important Maya citadel in Mesoamerica. Tikal National Park, declared as a UN World Heritage Site in 1979, is the largest excavated archaeological site on the American continents and is one of the most important natural reserves of Central America.

It is known that Tikal, meaning "Place of Voices" in Maya, was one of the most powerful cities of their era covering more than 16 square kilometers and dominating other tribes in the surrounding region as well as interacting with neighboring cultures as far as Teotihuacan in the Valle de Mexico. The site was estimated to house between 10,000 - 90,000 inhabitants before being abruptly abandoned over 1000 years ago.

*

It is necessary to purchase your entrance fee at any Banrural bank in Flores the day before the tour. The ticket booths will not be open at the time you arrive to take part in the sunrise tour.

Day 9: Lanquin, Guatemala



Flores to Lanquin

Type: **Transfer**

DepartureTimes: **08:00**

Duration: **9 hrs.**

Day 10: Lanquin, Guatemala



Semuc Champey & Kanba Caves Tour

DepartureTimes: **09:00**

Duration: **10 hrs.**

Take a hike through the mysterious caves of Kanba (activity at your own risk) which are filled with extraordinary limestone formations distributed among an endless stretch of different chambers (so far, the end of the cave system has not yet been discovered) housing a sharp pointed rock altar where ancient Maya once performed sacred rituals. The Maya people of Guatemala continue holding spiritual ceremonies here and believe that the cave is the "heart of heaven" where the secrets of many centuries are held.

Enjoy some free time to swim and go river tubing in the crystalline waters of Semuc Champey where there are natural pools filled with fresh mountain spring water above a 300-meter long limestone bridge. Flowing underneath the bridge is the Cahabón River where you will have time to swim in the cool waters in a beautiful natural surrounding immersed in native flora and fauna. At the end of the bridge you will visit waterfalls over 40-feet in height where the water from the pools rejoins the Cahabon River. The color of the water is constantly changing depending on factors such as the season, sun and rainfall, a characteristic of the national park that makes this place an idyllic and awe-inspiring setting to experience and take photographs.

Day 11: Antigua, Guatemala



Lanquin to Antigua

Type: **Transfer**

DepartureTimes: **08:00**

Duration: **8 hrs.**

Day 12: Antigua, Guatemala



Pacaya Volcano Trek

DepartureTimes: **06:00, 14:00**

Duration: **8 hrs.**

Get up close and personal with an active volcano and brag to your friends about it. Hike up the Pacaya Volcano slope for two hours and then trek onto dry lava that resembles a moon-like landscape. Look up to catch an eruption from the active volcano if you're lucky (depending on the activity of the volcano you may or may not see eruptions or lava). Take unforgettable photos in a landscape so surreal that you feel like you are walking on the moon. Admire the breathtaking landscape and views of neighbouring volcanoes peeking through the clouds around you. Take your time returning to the base of the mountain as you make your way down the slippery, muddy slopes. (Note: Horses can be rented for the trip up and back.)

We recommend wearing comfortable trekking shoes and bringing a flash light and a walking stick (or rent one for a few dollars from local kids before you start your hike). It gets dark and steep on the mountain if you are going up in the afternoon. If you are travelling during rainy season bring a raincoat or poncho... you will definitely need it! Bring bottled water for the trek and some extra cash to buy snacks afterwards or pack a few power bars in your day pack to take with you.

Day 13: El Tunco, El Salvador



Antigua to El Tunco

Type: **Transfer**

DepartureTimes: **08:00**

Duration: **5 hrs.**

Day 14: El Tunco, El Salvador



El Tunco Surfing Experience 2D/1N

DepartureTimes: **15:00**

Arrival to El Tunco

Arrive to El Tunco and make yourself at home at the cozy Hostal Makoi in the tiny seaside village. This is the perfect spot to relax in a laidback atmosphere with hammocks and a handy kitchen for guests to use as they please. Spend the rest of the day relaxing and dining on freshly caught seafood on the beach. Chill out with new friends by night at your hostel.

Day 15: El Tunco, El Salvador



El Tunco Surfing Experience 2D/1N

DepartureTimes: **15:00**

1-hour Surfing Lesson & Free Time

Relax in paradise on the beach at El Tunco where you will have the chance to take a 1-hour surfing lesson and try your luck at standing up and surfing the perfect wave. Use the skills you learned to catch as many waves as you can. If you've got enough energy afterward, spend the rest of the day in the water perfecting your skills. Say goodbye to your new friends and surf instructors as your trip comes to an end.

Day 16: San Salvador, El Salvador



El Tunco to San Salvador

Type: **Transfer**

DepartureTimes: **09:30 10:30 11:30 12:30 13:30 14:30 15:30 16:30 17:30 18:30**

Duration: **1 hrs.**

Day 17: San Jose, Costa Rica



San Salvador to San Jose

Type: **Transfer**

DepartureTimes:

Duration: **1 hrs.**

Day 18: San Jose, Costa Rica



San Jose Bites & Sights Experience

DepartureTimes: **08:30, 11:30**

Duration: **3 hrs.**

On this San Jose tour you'll get up close and personal with Costa Rican life, through architecture, history, food, and more! Nothing could get you closer to authentic San Jose than strolling through the streets with a local as they show you the ins and outs of daily life. Take a wander through the city with us on this tour that takes typical San Jose and turns it into a local experience you'll never forget.

Your San Jose food tour starts with a morning pick-me-up cup of coffee in a café located in Parque España, where you can get to know your local guide and relax into your surroundings. From here you'll take a stroll through the park, enjoying the views of the Yellow House, or Foreign Ministry, as you go, and learning more about the park itself, which is the oldest in the city and also known as Expression Park. You'll visit a number of landmarks in this area, including the National Liquor Factory and the Metal Building, two 19th century buildings that play an important role in the history of San Jose. Your guide will give you all the local knowledge about what these landmarks mean to the city, and its citizens, giving you exclusive insights in what makes San Jose tick.

Your San Jose walking tour continues through Parque Nacional for yet another taste of San Jose's rich history, before you head back into contemporary Costa Rican life and towards the Central Market. While seeing the sights and architectural gems of San Jose will help you get to know the city better, on this tour you'll use another sense – taste – to get you even more in tune with San Jose.

There's no better place in San Jose to experience the local cuisine than the Central Market, a 120-year old building full to the brim with typical Costa Rican food and drink. Here you can sample local delicacies, learn about the herbs used in local medicines, or simply sip on your second rich and smooth Costa Rican coffee of the day. The Central Market is an experience that no visitor the San Jose should miss, and with a local guide by your side you'll unearth all the secrets behind this San Jose treasure.

The Central Market will be the last stop on this San Jose tour, and by the end you'll be full of local knowledge (and perhaps even some local lingo!), giving you the full San Jose experience that is sure to be a highlight of your time in this vibrant city.

Day 19: Panama City, Panama



San Jose to Panama City

Type: **Transfer**
DepartureTimes: **23:00**
Duration: **16 hrs.**

Day 20: San Blas Islands, Panama

San Blas Chichime Islands Experience 3D/2N

DepartureTimes: **05:00**

Transfer Panama City - San Blas Islands (L/D)

You will be picked up at your accommodation in Panama City early this morning and taken on an exciting ride through the jungle on 4x4 transportation. You will have the option to stop at a supermarket to purchase last-minute items such as water, snacks, beverages and grab something for breakfast. We will then make another stop to pass through immigration formalities and pay the entrance fees to Kuna Yala Islands (not included in standard package).

We will continue our way to the dock where you will meet your boat to take a shared transfer to your island. Upon arrival, get settled in and enjoy an excursion to discover the breathtaking surroundings of this pristine place.

Please note that there are not a lot of goods available for purchase on the islands and we strongly recommend taking advantage of the grocery store stop to stock up on snacks and bottled water.

Day 21: San Blas Islands, Panama

San Blas Chichime Islands Experience 3D/2N

DepartureTimes: **05:00**

San Blas Islands (B/L/D)

Enjoy a fresh breakfast with the sounds of the waves on the shore before going on another exciting day. Afterwards, if time permits, opt to swim or snorkel around your island in the crystal clear turquoise waters to spot colourful tropical fish among coral reefs or simply spend time relaxing on a hammock. You can also hire a boat and visit a traditional Kuna Yala village of this archipelago, where you can purchase handmade souvenirs to contribute to the community (optional activity at extra cost, inquire upon arrival).

Spend the evening watching the horizon turn different shades of red and pink as the sun sets over the Caribbean.

Day 22: Panama City, Panama

San Blas Chichime Islands Experience 3D/2N

DepartureTimes: **05:00**

Transfer San Blas Islands - Panama City (B)

Say goodbye to your piece of natural paradise this morning for your scenic one-hour return trip to the dock by boat and 4x4 transportation ride back to Panama City, and be dropped off at your accommodation in the afternoon.

Day 23: Panama City, Panama

Panama City Hop On/Hop Off Day Tour

DepartureTimes: **08:30-15:43**

Duration: **2 hrs.**

See Panama City from an open top tour bus. Enjoy views of the Pacific Ocean, the lush rainforest and the famous Panama Canal. Panama City is a unique and striking modern city, and this tour is designed to ensure that you see all the main tourist attractions, beginning with the world-famous Panama Canal. Learn all about the construction of this 8th wonder of the world. The tour also takes you to the historic district of Casco Antiguo, declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO because of its wonderful colonial Spanish and French architecture.

