

## TRAVEL PASSES

# Quick Mayan Ruins Ways (from Cancun)

Backpacking 15 Days / 4 Countries Mexico , Guatemala , Belize & Mexico Departure city: Cancun, Mexico End city: Cancun, Mexico



## HIGHLIGHTS

- Snorkel or scuba dive in underground caves
- Swim with nurse sharks and stingrays
- Experience the jungle as it comes alive in Tikal
- Explore the ancient Maya city of Palenque

Explore Mexico, Guatemala and Belize in this incredible tour that will take you through these Central America countries. Experience snorkelling in the unique 'cenotes' of Yucatan, swim in the refreshing waters of the multi-tiered limestone waterfalls in Agua Azul, grab a bike to explore the spectacular beaches of Tulum and much more!

### 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.

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12-21	Transport: 9	

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	Playa del Carmen to Cancun	Flores to Belize City
•	Tulum to Playa del Carmen	Palenque to Flores
•	Chetumal to Tulum	Merida to Palenque

- Caye Caulker to Chetumal via San Pedro
   Cancun to Merida
- Belize City to Caye Caulker

# Meals: 1

• 1 Lunch(es),

# 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

- Transportation - Hostel pick-up & drop-
- off - English speaking-guide
- Optional visit to Cenote Ik Kil

#### NOT INCLUDED

- Buffet lunch (\$150 pesos)
  Government tax to entry Chichen Itza (\$23 USD)
  Entrance fee to optional activity Cenote Ik Kil (\$80 pesos)
- (\$80 pesos) - Extra fees

#### **Cenotes Underground Snorkel**



This amazing day tour takes you to the Yucatan's mysterious underground world. Experience snorkelling in the unique 'cenotes' (sinkholes) of Yucatan and immerse yourself in the local culture as you spend time in a traditional Mayan village. You'll meet with locals and visit a traditional Maya medicinal shop while you see some of the region's most precious treasures.

#### INCLUDED

- English-speaking guidePublic transportation
- and moto taxi ride
- Entrance fees to 3
- different cenotes
- Snorkel mask
- Small group experience,
- Max 12 people
- Lunch

#### NOT INCLUDED

- Other Meals and drinks
- Tips for guide
- Personal expenses

#### Palenque Ruins, Agua Azul & Misol-Ha Waterfalls



Swim in the refreshing waters of the multi-tiered limestone waterfalls in Agua Azul and take a walk in nature. At Misol-Ha the river plunges 40 meters over the edge of a cliff offering you the chance to walk in the caves behind the stream. Explore the ancient Maya city of Palenque and climb the pyramids to look out over the lush green jungle setting.

#### INCLUDED - Palenque

accommodation pick-up & city centre drop-off - All transportation - Entrance fees to Palenque ruins, Agua Azul & Misol-Ha

#### NOT INCLUDED

- English-speaking guide
- Other meals/drinks
- Personal expenses
- Tips
- Travel insurance



**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-alifetime 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)

## Snorkel with Sharks & Rays



Enjoy snorkeling through mazes of pristine coral reef and get the

#### INCLUDED

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

# **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: Merida, Mexico

#### 🔄 Cancun to Merida

#### Type: Transfer

DepartureTimes: 01:00, 03:00, 05:00, 06:00, 07:00, 08:00, 09:00, 10:00, 11:00, 12:00, 12:30, 13:00, 13:30, 14:00, 14:30, 15:00, 16:00, 16:30, 17:00, 17:30, 18:00, 20:00, 21:30, 22:00, 22:30 Duration: 4.5 hrs.

## Day 2: Merida, Mexico

### 😭) Chichen Itza Day Trip (roundtrip from Merida)

DepartureTimes: 07:40 - 07:50 - 08:00 - 8:10 Duration: 9.5 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 Kukulkan. 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).

## Day 3: Merida, Mexico

### Cenotes Underground Snorkel

DepartureTimes: **08:45** Duration: **7 hrs.** 

Please make your own way to the meeting point in the centre of Merida and from there we'll move as the locals do. Walk trough the colonial streets of Merida to catch the local transportation that will take us to a traditional Mayan village. Take a motorbike ride and get into the jungle to find 3 different cenotes (sinkholes), you'll hear the stories and mysteries about this gorgeous subterranean world.

Swim and snorkel in these cenotes, and if you dare, try to reach the bottom and some other hidden places inside these beautiful caverns. After this refreshing time, you will continue your visit in the Mayan Village where you will learn about the traditional Mayan medicine and listen to a prayer in the Mayan language to show gratitude towards the spirits and guards of these places. A local family will give you a taste of local life using their ancient cooking skills to prepare the lunch you are going to taste. To finish your adventure day, take the local transport back to Merida and make your own way to your hotel, or if you want, feel free to stay longer on your own to explore more in this incredible land.

## Day 4: Merida, Mexico



Type: **Transfer** DepartureTimes: **22:00 23:45** Duration: **8 hrs.** 

## Day 5: Palenque, Mexico

#### Palenque Ruins, Agua Azul & Misol-Ha Waterfalls (from/to Palenque)

DepartureTimes: **08:00** Duration: **11 hrs.** 

You will be picked up early in the morning and transferred to the Palenque ruins. You will have 2 hours to visit these beautiful ruins hidden in the jungle on your own. Then you will be transferred to Misol-ha where you will spend 30 minutes. The last stop will be at Agua Azul where you will have 1 hour and 30 minutes to freely explore this beautiful area. After seeing these 3 beautiful attractions, you will be taken back to Palenque and dropped off at the city centre.

Palenque Ruins: The ancient Mayan city of Palenque is one of Mexico's most breath-taking archaeological parks surrounded by lush tropical forest and jungle. This site has a serene, mystical atmosphere. From the moment you enter, you feel engulfed by a sense of history, timelessness and awe. Explore the site on foot and climb up the pyramids for great views of the ancient city and the jungle. (approx. 2 hours)

Agua Azul Waterfalls: Rio Xumul-Ha (meaning River of Blue Water, or in Spanish, Agua Azul) features a series of torrential cascades and fast flowing waters rolling down a limestone ridge to form pools and small streams. Take a one-hour walk next to the falls in the breath-taking green valley and swim in one of the calm parts of the refreshing blue river. (approx. 60 - 90 minutes)

Misol-Ha Waterfall: River Misol-Ha (meaning "Streaming Water"), in the "Chol Maya" tribe area of Chiapas, creates one of the state's most wonderful natural sights as the river glides off the edge of a cliff and 40 meters down into a deep pool of water surrounded by lush vegetation. Swim in the deliciously refreshing water and be impressed by the sight of the fall from below. A small walkway will take you behind the water curtain created by the waterfall where you can walk inside the caves. (approx. 30 - 45 minutes)

# Day 6: Flores, Guatemala

Palenque to Flores
 Type: Transfer
 DepartureTimes: 06:00
 Duration: 10 hrs.

## Day 7: Flores, Guatemala

### $\stackrel{\circ}{\mathbb{N}}$ 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.

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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 8: Caye Caulker, Belize

### Belize City to Caye Caulker

Type: Transfer DepartureTimes: 08:00, 09:00, 10:30, 12:00, 13:30, 15:00, 16:30, 17:30 Duration: 1.5 hrs.

## ( Flores to Belize City

Type: **Transfer** DepartureTimes: **07:00** Duration: **5 hrs.** 

## Day 9: Belize City, Belize

 Free Day Explore on your own, or add an optional extra experience

# Day 10: 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 11: Caye Caulker - Tulum, Mexico

### ( Caye Caulker to Chetumal via San Pedro

Type: Transfer DepartureTimes: 07:00 Duration: 3 hrs.

## ( Chetumal to Tulum

Type: Transfer DepartureTimes: 05:10 08:30 12:25 Duration: 3.5 hrs.

# Day 12: Tulum, Mexico

Free Day

Explore on your own, or add an optional extra experience

## Day 13: Playa del Carmen, Mexico

### ) Tulum to Playa del Carmen

Type: Transfer

DepartureTimes: 01:15, 03:45, 04:15, 07:00, 09:00, 09:15, 11:00, 11:45, 12:30, 13:30, 14:45, 15:15, 16:00, 16:30, 16:45, 17:00, 17:30, 17:45, 19:00, 19:15, 21:45 Duration: 1 hrs.

## Day 14: Playa del Carmen, Mexico

• Free Day Explore on your own, or add an optional extra experience

## Day 15: Cancun, Mexico

## ( Playa del Carmen to Cancun

Type: Transfer

DepartureTimes: 00:15, 02:30, 03:45, 04:00, 05:00, 05:15, 06:30, 07:00, 07:15, 07:30, 07:45, 08:00, 08:15, 08:30, 08:45, 09:00, 09:15, 09:30, 09:45, 10:00, 10:15, 10:30, 10:45, 11:00, 11:15, 11:30, 11:45, 12:00, 12:15, 12:30, 12:45, 13:00, 13:15, 13:30, 13:45, 14:00, 14:15, 14:30, 14:45, 15:00, 15:15, 15:30, 15:45, 16:00, 16:15, 16:30, 16:45, 17:00, 17:15, 17:30, 17:45, 18:00, 18:15, 18:30, 18:45, 19:00, 19:15, 19:30, 19:45, 20:00, 20:15, 20:30, 20:45, 21:00, 21:15, 21:30, 21:45, 22:00, 22:15, 22:30, 23:00, 23:15, 23:30 Duration: 1 hrs.