



DISTINCTIVE
AMERICAS

Classic México

15-days / 14-nights



Itinerary Summary

No.	Date	Location	Details	Meals	Hotel	Nts
1	Day 01	MÉXICO CITY	Arrive in México City	-	Hampton Inn & Suites	3
	Day 02		Half day city tour	B		
	Day 03		Full day tour to Teotihuacan and the Shrine of Guadalupe	B		
2	Day 04	SAN CRISTÓBAL	Air, road & boat transfer to San Cristobal de Las Casas	B	Casa Mexicana	2
	Day 05		full day tour of the city and surrounding Indian Villages	B		
3	Day 06	PALENQUE	Transfer to Palenque visit to the waterfalls of Agua Azul en-route	B	Quinta Cha Nab Nal	2
	Day 07		half day tour of Palenque	B		
4	Day 08	MÉRIDA	Air & road transfer to Mérida	B	Casa Lecanda	2
	Day 09		full day guided excursion to the ruins at Uxmal and Kabah	BL		
5	Day 10	CHICHÉN ITZÁ	Transfer to Chichén Itzá for a guided tour and lunch	B	Hacienda Chichén	1
6	Day 11	TULUM	Road transfer to Tulum	B	Ana y José	3
	Day 12		Day at leisure	B		
	Day 13		Day at leisure	B		
	Day 14	DEPART	Transfer to Cancún to meet your return flights	B	-	
	Day 15	HEATHROW	Arrive back in the UK	-	-	





Detailed Itinerary



Day 01 DEPART - MÉXICO CITY

Depart Heathrow for México City flying with British Airways.



BA0243 Economy Dep: Heathrow T5 14:05

Arr: México City T1 18:20

Private transfer on arrival to your hotel.

Hampton Inn & Suites by Hilton



1 x Standard Room for a Bed & Breakfast basis for 3-nights

This is a beautifully renovated 108-room family friendly hotel located near the Zocalo (Main Square) and close to Paseo de la Reforma. With a great location in Centro Historico, the hotel boasts clean and modern rooms and suites with a Mexican flavour.



Day 02 MÉXICO CITY



Private tour of the city

You will explore México City, built on top of the ruins of the Aztec capital of Tenochtitlan. Your first stop is the Zocalo (main square), one of the biggest public squares in the world. You will visit the Catedral Metropolitana – the biggest church in Latin America, and the Palacio Nacional – which hosts Diego Rivera's murals depicting the history of México. You will continue to a handicraft market, where you will have time for some browsing, before driving along the famous boulevard Paseo de la Reforma, built during the short-lived reign of Emperor Maximilian to connect the main square and his castle in Chapultepec. The last stop is the Museum of Anthropology, where you will have some time to explore the treasures of past cultures.



Day 03 MÉXICO CITY



Private full day tour to Teotihuacan and the Shrine of Guadalupe

First stop will be at the Plaza de las Tres Culturas, where three cultures converge: Aztec, Spanish, and contemporary Mexican. You will continue to the Basilica de Guadalupe, Latin America's most revered religious shrine. It is here where the Virgin of Guadalupe is said to have appeared before an Indian named Juan Diego in 1531, and an image of her was miraculously emblazoned on his cloak. You will have time to explore the New Basilica de Guadalupe and to see Juan Diego's cloak. You will then drive for another hour to Teotihuacan, one of the most impressive cities of the ancient world, held sacred by the Aztecs. You will explore its temples, palaces and pyramids, including the Quetzalpapalotl Palace Complex, and the immense Pyramid of the Sun, ranked among the biggest in the world.



Day 04 MÉXICO CITY - SAN CRISTÓBAL DE LAS CASAS

Private transfer to the airport to meet a flight to Tuxtla Gutiérrez with AeroMexico.



AM553 Economy Dep: México City T2 11:14

Arr: Tuxtla Gutiérrez 12:07



Private transfer to San Cristóbal de las Casas via the Sumidero Canyon including a boat

En route you will have a boat ride through Sumidero Canyon. Created by the mighty Rio Grijalva, you will journey by boat through the Sumidero Canyon with its walls towering 2500 feet above you. A wealth of wildlife and interesting caves that can be viewed on your way through this spectacular canyon.



Day 04 MÉXICO CITY – SAN CRISTÓBAL DE LAS CASAS ...

Casa Mexicana



1 x Standard Room on a Bed & breakfast basis for 2-nights

Centrally located in the beautiful colonial city of San Cristóbal, the Casa Mexicana is well located within walking distance of the main historical sites and tourist attractions. The property is colourfully decorated throughout with pieces of artwork and folk. The spacious guest rooms all have private facilities and open onto the tropical gardens or a private courtyard.



Day 05 SAN CRISTÓBAL DE LAS CASAS



Private full day tour of the city and surrounding Indian Villages

Explore on foot the colonial city centre of San Cristóbal de las Casas and visit the cathedral, on the north side of the pretty main square, with its lavish interior and gold-encrusted pulpit, the impressive 16th Century Dominican Church Templo de Santo Domingo, with its intricate pink façade and gilded Baroque interior and the handicraft market in front of the church, where Tzotzil Indians from the surrounding hills come to trade. Then travel by road into the Chiapas Highlands, to the Tzotzil Indian villages of San Juan Chamula and Zinacantan. The Tzotzils descend from the ancient Maya and maintain some unique customs, costumes and beliefs. Visit the beautiful white church in San Juan Chamula. The candles, incense and chanting worshippers make a powerful impression. Finally travel by road to the nearby village of Zinacantan, with its church and handicraft market.



Day 06 SAN CRISTÓBAL DE LAS CASAS - PALENQUE



Private transfer to Palenque with a visit to the waterfalls of Agua Azul en-route

Quinta Cha Nab Nal



1 x Junior Suite on a Bed & Breakfast basis for 2-nights

Only three kilometres from the archaeological site of Palenque, this luxury resort evokes images of a Mayan Palace. Built in traditional pre-Hispanic design this boutique property has been updated with modern sophistication. There are two junior suites, four deluxe suites and one presidential suite. There is also an outdoor swimming pool amongst the tropical vegetation and waterfalls.



Day 07 PALENQUE



Private half day tour of Palenque

The exquisite Mayan ruins at Palenque are amongst the best found anywhere in Mexico. The majority of the construction occurred between 600 and 800AD, during which time many grand temples and palaces appeared across the 20sq km site. Abandoned after the 10th century, many of the sites are yet to be excavated. Climb the magnificent Temple of Inscriptions for panoramic views across the site.



Day 08 PALENQUE - MÉRIDA

Private transfer to the Villahermosa airport to meet a flight to Mérida with AeroMexico.



AM2466 Economy Dep: Villahermosa 12:40

Arr: Mérida 13:47

Private transfer on arrival to your hotel.

Casa Lecanda



1 x Patio Room on a Bed & Breakfast basis for 2-nights

Casa Lecanda is a small luxury boutique hotel located within the historical centre of Mérida. This beautifully restored traditional Yucatecan home has been designed to retain the original Meridian style with points of European luxury so prevalent in the golden age of Mérida's Sisal barons. Featuring beautiful tiled courtyards, a pool and seven luxurious rooms, Casa Lecanda is a striking property located next to Mérida's Paseo Montejo Boulevard. Each room offers views of the hotel's pretty patios and grounds. Guests can enjoy a range of international cuisine in the Casa Lecanda's à la carte restaurant, which serves a continental breakfast. There's also a wine and tequila bar.



Day 09 MÉRIDA



Private full day guided excursion to the ruins at Uxmal and Kabah including lunch

A World Heritage site, Uxmal is one of the best restored and maintained ruins in Yucatan, and certainly one of the most magnificent. Its architecture, some of the most majestic of the Yucatan ruins, is characterized by low horizontal palaces set around courtyards, decorated with rich sculptural elements and details. Rising up from the encroaching jungle, the Pyramid of the Magician is the centrepiece of the ruins and its presence dominates the whole site. The nearby Mayan ruins of Kabah are an amazing site with very few tourists. Unlike the many Mayan sites near Cancún that are crowded with people, the distance and location makes Kabah a really special experience. Arguably as dramatic as Chichén Itzá or Uxmal, it covers a huge area and the views from the top of the temples are simply stunning.



Day 10 MÉRIDA - CHICHÉN ITZÁ



Private transfer to Chichén Itzá for a guided tour and lunch

Chichén Itzá is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and is one of the 'New 7 World Wonders', a unique place just waiting to be discovered! The famous Mayan pyramids and temples of Chichén Itzá cover an area of over 4 square miles and are over 1500 years old. The name Chichén Itzá is a Mayan word: CHI (mouth) CHEN (well) and ITZA (of the witch water). Some say this is because people were often thrown into the nearby cenote (sinkhole) as sacrifices, and those who survived were believed to be seers. The site is divided into three sections. The North grouping of structures is distinctly Toltec in style, whilst the central group appears to be from the early period and the southern group is known as 'The Old Chichén'.

Hacienda Chichén



1 x Standard Room on a Bed & Breakfast basis for 1-night

Built in 1921, the Hacienda Chichén became the Carnegie Institute's Mayan expedition Headquarters in the Yucatán and has recently been re-modelled to serve as a hotel. Stay in one of 12 cottages housing a total of 28 guestrooms, each cottage may have one or up to four rooms uniquely decorated and designed. All guestrooms have patio terraces overlooking the lush gardens. The hotel has a restaurant, swimming pool, patio and gardens.



Day 11 CHICHÉN ITZÁ - TULUM

Private transfer to Tulum on the Riviera Maya and to your hotel.



Day 11 CHICHÉN ITZÁ - TULUM ...

Ana y José Charming Hotel & Spa



1 x Superior Garden View Room on a Bed & Breakfast basis for 3-nights

Surrounded by lush, tropical vegetation amid the Mayan jungle, the Ana y Jose is a small, boutique style hotel situated on the beach, 7 km south of the Tulum ruins. Family owned, this is the perfect place to relax and unwind on the beach, learn about Mayan culture while visiting the Tulum ruins, or discover the wildlife and scenery of the ecological parks nearby. There are 23 rooms settled in bungalow style villas with charming Mexican decoration, safe and ceiling fan. The hotel facilities include a pool, spa, *temazcal* (Mayan steam bath) and restaurant.



Days 12 - 13 TULUM



Days at leisure.



Day 14 TULUM - CANCÚN - DEPART

Private transfer to Cancún airport to meet your return flight with British Airways.



Please Note:
This flight does not operate daily



BA2202 Economy Dep: Cancún 17:00

Arr: Gatwick North 09:20 (Day 15)



Day 15 UK

Arrive back in the UK.



Holiday Cost

from £3,595.00 per person

20% deposit is required to secure this booking

Suggested Itinerary

- This is just a suggested itinerary which we can amend to fit your exact requirements.

Includes

- International flights as listed.
- All pre-payable airport departure taxes.
- Hotel accommodation as listed.
- Transfers as listed (on a shared basis unless specified as private).
- Meals as listed.
- Excursions as listed (on a shared basis unless specified as private).

Excludes

- Local departure taxes where applicable.
- Tips and gratuities.
- Any future currency surcharges.
- Any future airline fare, tax or fuel surcharges.*

**In the event of airfare /tax increases you will have the option to pay for your airfare in advance to avoid these increases.*

Please Note

- The cost of this itinerary is based on 2 passengers sharing one room.
- All flights, accommodation and services are subject to availability at the time of booking.
- Air fares, taxes, schedules and routings are subject to change until ticket issue.

Booking Conditions

- Usually a deposit of 20% is required to secure a booking.
- The final balance would be due 10 weeks prior to departure.
- You can review our full booking conditions at: www.distinctiveamericas.com

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