

**Tour Begins Oaxaca**

**DAY 1 – Oaxaca**

Arrive to Oaxaca’s international airport and transfer to the Hotel Hacienda La Noria. The rest of the day is at your leisure to get acquainted with this beautiful city. Welcome dinner and overnight. (D)

**DAY 2 – La Verde Antequera & Monte Albán**

This morning we will explore the ruins of Monte Albán, a magnificent city built by the Zapotec Indians between 500 and 200 BC. The site is located high on a mountaintop overlooking the city of Oaxaca and is considered to be one of the most important archaeological sites in Mesoamerica. We will return for lunch and spend the afternoon touring the City of Oaxaca, called *La Verde Antequera* (The Green Antequera, a city in Spain) thanks to the green quarry stone incorporated into many of the cities buildings. The evening’s entertainment will be a presentation of the *Guelaguetza*, a traditional display of Oaxacan culture through dance and song. (B L D)

**DAY 3 – The Mitla Valley**

We begin the day touring the archaeological site of Mitla, an important Mixtec ceremonial center. Afterwards, we will visit the Zapotec weavers of Teotitlan to observe their traditional weaving and wool-dyeing techniques. Following lunch, we will learn the secrets of making *mescal* during a visit to a distillery. Our day ends with a stop at Santa María del Tule, the site of a massive Mexican cypress tree - quite possibly the largest and oldest tree in the world. We return to Oaxaca for dinner and an overnight stay. (B L D)

**DAY 4 – Flavors of Oaxaca**

This morning will be dedicated to the colors, flavors and aromas of the Oaxacan Cuisine. We begin with a visit to the Mercado Juarez, a colorful marketplace filled with all kinds of food and handicrafts. Our guide will explain and accompany us while we learn about the different ingredients and utensils used in the local kitchens. After we have seen the basic ingredients, we will now go to a traditional restaurant where we will have a cooking demonstration and lunch will be the tasting of all we have seen and learned. After lunch we return to the hotel and the rest of the day is at leisure. Dinner at the hotel. (B L D)

**DAY 5 – Oaxaca Handicrafts**

Today is a great day for those who love native handicrafts! We begin with a visit to San Bartolo Coyotepec, known around the world for its unique black pottery. We then go to the village of San Martín Tilcajate, the birthplace of the magical *alebrije* woodcarvings, followed by a stop at Santo Tomás Jalietza to see the local back strap weavers. After lunch we will return to Oaxaca for dinner and an overnight stay. (B L D)

**DAY 6 – Return flight**

We will have breakfast at the hotel then transfer to the airport.( B)

**Pricing**

Price per Person	Land Only
<b>Single</b>	<b>\$1,600</b>
<b>Double</b>	<b>\$1,350</b>
<i>* Call us Direct to Arrange Pre &amp; Post Nights or Tour Extensions.</i>	

**Schedule**

<b>2010</b>	
October	3 <sup>rd</sup>
December	5 <sup>th</sup>
<b>2011</b>	
January	23 <sup>rd</sup>
March	13 <sup>th</sup>
May	1 <sup>st</sup>
October	2 <sup>nd</sup>
December	4 <sup>th</sup>
<i>*Dates above indicate guaranteed scheduled departures. Customized tours may be arranged by contacting A Closer Look Tours directly.</i>	



BEYOND YOUR EXPECTATIONS