

Tour Begins in Tuxtla Gutierrez

DAY 1 – Tuxtla Gutierrez

You will arrive at Tuxtla Gutierrez the capital city of the State of Chiapas, once part of Guatemala. Tuxtla is a commercial center and the gateway to the state of Chiapas. Transfer to the hotel for dinner and overnight. (D)

DAY 2 – Sumidero Canyon – San Cristobal

We will have breakfast at the hotel this morning and depart on an unforgettable boat trip up the Sumidero Canyon, created by the mighty Rio Grijalva. Along the way through the canyon, with some of the walls towering more than 2,000 feet above you, you will witness an abundance of wildlife, rock formations, caves, and interesting vegetation populated by exotic birds, monkeys and crocodiles.

Lunch will be in Chiapa de Corzo, an attractive colonial town. The Town's center of activity is within the arcaded plaza with a central fountain built in 1562 that resemble the Spanish Crown. After lunch depart to San Cristobal de Las Casas, where we will climb over 6,000 feet through the clouds to the temperate pine-clad Valley of Jovel. San Cristobal's cobble stone streets, interesting markets, shops and art galleries are a treasure to explore. Dinner and hotel check-in for a two night stay in San Cristobal. (B L D)

DAY 3 – San Cristobal – Surrounding Villages

After breakfast at the hotel, we will learn about the indigenous way of life and customs as we visit the towns of San Juan Chamula and Zinacantan. San Juan Chamula is the center for some unique religious practices. Not too far is the next town of San Lorenzo Zinacantan where the citizens are known as flower growers, particularly geraniums, and producers of fine textiles and musical instruments.

We will return to San Cristobal for a leisurely afternoon to include lunch, city touring, shopping, and dinner. (B L D)

DAY 4 – Agua Azul – Misol-Ha - Palenque

Breakfast at the hotel, we begin our journey from the cool highland country to the low land jungle, stopping along the way at Ocosingo a place important for its cheese production. Next to Agua Azul and Misol-Ha; two stunning cascade attractions on a short detour while on our way to Palenque.

Palenque the ancient Maya city located in a lush jungle setting is a site built with an exquisite architecture and decorations, identified as a UNESCO World Heritage Site that flourished from 500 AD to 700 AD. The abandoned city remained relatively untouched for 700 years. Dinner and over night in Palenque. (B L D)

DAY 5 – Campache

Today begins with breakfast and a leisurely morning revisiting Palenque. Lunch en route to the city of Campeche, another World Heritage Site, located along the waters of the Gulf of Mexico. Founded by the Spaniards, the wealthy families built lavish mansions of which many still stand. The same wealth also attracted pirates creating the necessity for several forts and defensive walls. Dinner and over night in Campeche. (B L D)

Pricing

Price per Person	Land Only
Single	\$2,045
Double	\$1,615
<i>* Call Us Direct to Arrange Pre & Post Nights or Specialized Pick-Ups.</i>	

Schedule

2011	
January	28 th
April	1 st
October	14 th
December	9 th
<i>*Dates above indicate guaranteed scheduled departures. Customized tours may be arranged by contacting A Closer Look Tours directly.</i>	

DAY 6 – Uxmal - Merida

After breakfast we journey to the archeological site of Uxmal, a World Heritage Site considered one of the most important in the Maya culture. Uxmal was an active city with a large regional dominance, and its architecture is a great testimony of the engineering skills of the Maya. This site flourished from 600 AD to 900AD, abandoned due to drought conditions, was rediscovered and excavated in 1929 and with many of its buildings yet to be excavated.

Lunch en route as our journey continues to Merida, the capitol of the state of Yucatan. The city combines the appeal and grace of old Europe with a large dose of modern cosmopolitan culture, boasting with beautiful government buildings and shady parks with music everywhere. Dinner and over night in Merida. (B L D)

DAY 7 – Chichen-itza – Riviera Maya

After breakfast at the hotel, we explore Chichen-Itza, one of the New Seven Wonders of the World, and most famous and well restored Maya architectural sites. The city was abandoned in the 14th century, for reasons unknown, but remained a continued site for Mayan pilgrimages.

As our tour ends and we leave you along the Riviera Maya on the Mexican Caribbean, with its spectacular white powder sand beaches. Overnight in Cancun.(B L D)

DAY 8 – Return Home

Breakfast at the hotel and transfer to the airport for a flight home. (B)
(Optional Post Nights and Tour Extensions Available.)