LatinDiscover.com
rediscovering the New World

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TRIP DETAILS
- Mexico

Departures Daily
Trip Ref 4778

ITINERARY IN BRIEF

PRICES FROM $1,473

Colonial Jewels of Mexico

Day 1: Arrival in Mexico (Sunday)
Arrival to Mexico City International Airport and transfer to the hotel. Overnight.

(Included meals: NA)

Day 2: Mexico City (Half day City tour & Museum)
Breakfast at hotel. Guided visit including the most important buildings in the historical centre located around the " The Zocalo", the Cathedral, National Palace, to admire the famous murals of Diego Rivera. Continue to the modern part of the City, ending at the Anthropology Museum (closed on Mondays), one of the World's 10 best museums. Overnight.

(Included meals: Breakfast)

Day 3: Mexico City (Teotihuacan & Guadalupe Shrine)
Breakfast at hotel. Guided excursion to the famous Teotihuacán Pyramids, aprox 05 hours excursion starting with a visit to the Virgin of Guadalupe Shrine, place of peregrination of millions of Mexicans and people from all around the world. Continue to the north of the City, to the Teotihuacán Pyramids, where we will visit the Sun and the Moon Pyramids, the Quetzalcoatl Temple and the fortresses. Free time – for those who like to climb to the top of the Pyramids (on their own risk!). Overnight.

(Included meals: Breakfast)

Day 4: Mexico City - Queretaro - San Miguel de Allende

Breakfast at the hotel. This morning we will depart to Queretaro, attractive city which has been declared a national monument. It is situated at the bottom of a basin surrounded by hills from where you have some excellent views. Visit includes the aqueduct, the ex.convent de la Cruz and historical center.

We will continue to San Miguel de Allende, and proceed to visit taking you past by the famous church with pink, sugar-candy pointed towers of the parroquia dominating the building. These bizarre towers were designed by an untutored Indian, Zeferino Gutierrez in the late 19th century. In the main chapel is the much revered image of the Cristo de la Conquista, made by Indians in Patzcuaro from cornstalks and orchid bulbs in about the 16th century. Overnight.

(Included meals: Breakfast)

Day 5: San Miguel de Allende - Guanajuato
Breakfast at the hotel.We will depart to Guanajuato. On the way, we stop in Dolores Hidalgo, a small town, where the Mexican independence movement started. Arrive in Guanajuato, the town presents a highly unusual appearance, with its winding lanes, its plazuelas shaded by Indian laurels, its large variety of decorative style and, above all, its curious underground avenue that lies along the bottom of a ravine hollowed out by a torrent, the waters of which are now held back by a dam. Visit, mainly on foot, includes the Hidalgo market, Juarez Theater, the university, the alley of the kiss and the monument of El Pipila, a hero of the Independence. The city is an authentic jewel among the colonial cities, was once an important mining center, which derived great wealth from its abundant silver deposits. Overnight.

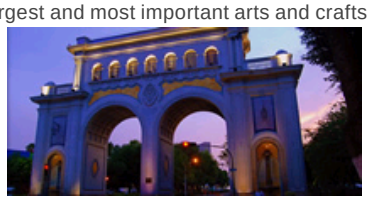
(Included meals: Breakfast)

Day 6: Guanajuato - Zacatecas
Breakfast at the hotel. Morning, departure to the beautiful city of Zacatecas, a magnificent historic monument to the vice regal era, located on the hillside of the Cerro de la Bufa. Pink quarry stone constructions and plazas, filigree ironwork on balconies, narrow streets and stone paved streets, polished by time, create an extraordinary profile. The city was founded in 1548 in the southern center of the state originally as

a residence for those working in the surrounding mines. In time it became a cultural center of beautiful architecture. Visit of the cathedral, built in 1752, it is considered a masterpiece of baroque. Carved in pink quarry stone, its main entrance resembles delicate lace where there are garlands of flowers and foliage with a large rose in the center. Panoramic view of the city from Cerro de la Bufa, where we take the cable car and visit the Eden mine a great experience by a small train with narrow wagons, similar to those used in the New Spain era to transport precious minerals Overnight.

(Included meals: Breakfast)

Day 7: Zacatecas - Tlaquepaque - Guadalajara
Breakfast at the hotel. We will continue to the pottery village of Tlaquepaque, probably Mexico´s largest and most important arts and crafts center, hosting wares from all over the country. At present days Tlaquepaque is still rich with local tradition and art. It attracts many of Jalisco´s more talented artists, and has a reputation for the quality and diversity of its wares. Many summer homes have been converted into shops, which house various crafts, art and restaurants. The heart of Tlaquepaque is El Parian, a popular place to relax for people wishing to people watch or simply sit and watch the world go by, enjoying the steady pace of life in this small town. Continue to arrive in Guadalajara. Mexico´s second largest city and home of the famous tequila drink. Overnight.



(Included meals: Breakfast)

Day 8: Guadalajara (City tour & Tequila)
Breakfast at the hotel. In the morning, sightseeing tour of the city, which includes the huge twin-towered cathedral surrounded by attractive plazas, the government palace, Degollado theater and Hospicio Cabañas. Guadalajara as it is now, first arose in 1560 after two failed attempts of raising the city in two other areas. It is the capital of Jalisco State, Western Mexico. The city itself is filled with numerous museums, historical buildings, galleries and outstanding restaurants. We will proceed to visit the town of Tequila- Over the way, we have a lovely view of maguey plantation. It is called “Tequila Weber Blue Agave”, because of its gray color, and it is the raw material for the national drink “tequila”. At Tequila town, we will visit the Hacienda San Jose del Refugio and we will learn about the modern process for making tequila in a new distillery. We will have the opportunity to taste the tequila. Return to Guadalajara. Overnight.

(Included meals: Breakfast)

Day 9: Guadalajara - Patzcuaro - Morelia
Breakfast at the hotel. On the way, possibility of a panoramic visit at Rancho Los Tres Potrillos, propriety of the Mexican singer Vicente Fernández. We will get to know Pátzcuaro, which in purépecha means “Heaven’s door”. This City is famous for its colonial beauty and unique for its customs. Within the attractions are the Basilica of Our Lady of Health, the “House of the Eleven Patios”, and the Historic Downtown. Continue on to Morelia, capital of Michoacan state. Enjoy the wide variety of cafes and restaurants which offer typical dishes at the portals of Morelia´s downtown. Overnight.

(Included meals: Breakfast)

Day 10: Morelia - Mexico City
Breakfast at the hotel. Visit of Morelia, a World Heritage site, worldwide known for its student habitat and its magnificent colonial constructions of “pink cantera”: the Cathedral, the Government Palace, Clavijero Palace, the Major Plaza, the market of typical candies, the Aqueduct, and the San Diego Chapel. Departure to Mexico City. Overnight.

(Included meals: Breakfast)

Day 11: Mexico City - departure
Breakfast at the hotel. At proper time, transfer from hotel to the airport to take flight back home.

(Included meals: Breakfast)

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Includes:
Taxes
10 American breakfast
All Transfers and excursions as mentioned in program, seat in basis.
10 nights accommodation in standard room at the hotels above mentioned or similar
English speaking assistance for transfers and Bilingual English-Spanish speaking guide for excursions

Does not Include:
Tips to drivers and guides.
Airfares (domestic and international)
Tips to bellboys and room-maid at hotels.
Airport taxes (domestic and international)
All services, meals or items not mentioned
Personal expenses such as: phone calls, laundry, beverages, etc.

4* Hotels:

Hampton Inn / Holiday Inn Zocalo Mexico City (3 nights)
Mision de los Angeles or Real de Minas San Miguel de Allende (1 night)
Mision / Holiday Inn Express / Real de Minas Guanajuato (1 night)
Emporio / Casona de los Vitrales Zacatecas (1 night)
De Mendoza / Morales / Best Western Plaza Genova Guadalajara (2 nights)
Catedral / Casino Morelia (1 night)
Hampton Inn / Holiday Inn Zocalo Mexico City (1 night)

Notes:
- Prices in USDollars, minimum 2 passengers.
- A supplement will apply for solo travellers.
- Official English / Spanish speaking local guide on tours.
- Triple rooms with 2 beds only, hotels don´t guarantee 3 beds.
- Specific properties may be replaced for others of same quality.
- Check in at hotels is normally at 3pm. Check out at 12.00 (noon)
- The order of the itinerary may be altered according to flight schedules.
- All prices may vary on special holidays, Easter week and/or long Weekends.
- Services in shared basis (SIB) only available from 7 am to 8 pm. Arrivals and departures out of this schedule will require private services.
- The itineraries are planned with great care, although, for operational and/or weather reasons, it may be necessary to change the sequence of activities in the itinerary or the specified route and visits, and though such cases are exceptional, in general the itinerary should be treated only as a basic guideline.
- Category of hotels is based on standards of the country (only to be used as a guide). One star being the most limited of services and, five stars having superior amenities and closer to international standards.
- Depending on the number of passengers, transport will be provided in shared service, based on a van (up to 9 pax) or a sprinter (up to 12 pax) or a bus (up to 40 pax). For operational reasons the Chichen Itza tour (with drop off in Cancun) might be operated in a bus.

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