



RIVIERA MAYA

D E S K R E F E R E N C E

MEXICAN CARIBBEAN TRAVEL

RIVIERA MAYA IS A MARVELOUS REGION IN THE MEXICAN CARIBBEAN

First things first: Cancun is fairly close and it's in the same state, but it's not in Riviera Maya. It's easy to get confused, though, especially since most if not all of your clients coming in by air will fly into the Cancun International Airport (CUN). However, once they arrive, instead of heading *north*, your clients will head south, where Riviera Maya begins just straddling the destinations of Puerto Morelos, Playa del Carmen and Tulum along nearly 120 km (86 mi) of simply stunning coastline.

Included are the resort towns of Puerto Aventuras, Akumal. You'll find more details on these awesome destinations later on in the guide.

P.S.: The Cozumel International Airport has been getting busier with international flights from legacy airlines and charters, in which case your clients can hop on over to Riviera Maya via ferry.

THE MAYAN CULTURE IS ALIVE AND WELL

Sure, the Mayans were busy building some pretty mind-boggling cities about 2,000 years ago, but what's even cooler is their descendants are still very much around and still very Maya. They may have one foot in the 21st century, but these folks keep their ancient traditions alive in their daily activities, gastronomy, clothing, architecture and language. So make sure to build in some tours for your clients to explore sites like Cobá, home to the highest pyramids on the peninsula; Muyil, surrounded by crystal clear canals; or Tulum, the biggest Mayan city built next to the Caribbean Sea. But make sure they also get the chance to visit a local Mayan village, learn a simple Mayan phrase or two and make new friends. They'll come back with indelible memories and happily say *yuun botik (ee-uun bohtic)*—"thank you" in Maya!

BE A RESPONSIBLE TRAVELER IN THE MEXICAN CARIBBEAN

The Mexican Caribbean is a lush destination, with several natural wonders that holds an impressive biodiversity which is one of the main reasons this destination is so unique.

Discover some ways to help us take care and preserve our natural treasures, the species that inhabit them; our historical sites and Mayan culture, so that future generations can continue to enjoy our paradise by visiting www.mexicancaribbean.travel/travel-information/responsible-traveler/

ADRENALINE JUNKIES PLEASE APPLY

This is a destination where your clients can do as little—or as much—as they want. That goes double for adventure: think 700 km (430+ mi) of flooded cave passageways to explore (including one of the world's longest underwater cave systems); the Great Mesoamerican Reef (basically the largest of its kind in the northern hemisphere); and the 1.6-million-acre Sian Ka'an Biosphere Reserve (a UNESCO World Heritage Site), where visitors can kayak around the pristine canals or just float with the current and literally watch the jungle go by. Mix it all with an astounding amount of exotic, endemic flora and fauna both on land and in the water and you have the perfect recipe for anyone looking for some serious excitement.

Here we bring it all together for your clients in our breathtaking nature and amusement parks, shows and environmentally friendly activities including cycling, trekking, breathtaking ziplines, snorkeling, scuba diving or exploring our most exciting attraction: the Mayan jungle. There's something for everyone on your list—trust us to make their wildest dreams come true.

STAY AND PLAY

There are so many choices for accommodations in Riviera Maya. Whether you are looking for an exclusive boutique hotel in Playa del Carmen, an incredible beachside resort in Puerto Morelos, or a room in the middle of the dense Mayan jungle in Tulum, you will surely find the accommodation of your dreams. Want luxury with a twist? We offer it at expansive, all-inclusive resorts where pampering guests is second nature and families can enjoy nannies and kids clubs or couples can seek adults-only privacy for romantic escapades—gourmet dining included, of course. Just so you know, our region has hundreds of Five- and Four-Diamond winners—more than any other region in North America! Big or small, Riviera Maya has it all.



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OVERVIEW

The Riviera Maya is part of the destinations that straddle the Mexican Caribbean. This strip of beachfront has taken the competition by storm around the world: its accessibility, adventure possibilities, remarkable culture and seriously privileged location are a gift for any travel agent.

What was once considered way too far off the beaten path has become a magnet for individuals, couples, families, and groups of friends who are seeking something different in the Mexican Caribbean, something with more of a Mayan flavor, something that offers a unique mix of adventure, relaxation and renewal. In fact, we hosted 13,530,307 visitors in 2021 and that number is only growing as we welcome travelers from all cultures and all backgrounds.

Riviera Maya itself is a triple play for tourists, bringing together the best of Mexico, the astounding *and* the Caribbean all in one place. It all started in the 80s, when visitors would come on day trips from Cancun to visit the breathtaking archaeological site of Tulum, built on a bluff overlooking the sea. By the 90s the area was booming with big investments in resorts, infrastructure and attractions. These manmade enticements—shopping, canopy tours, nature and adventure parks, and, of course, the stunning resorts—became an added level of “wow” for travelers who were already drawn by our many cultural and natural wonders. The Mayan archaeology and the contemporary Mayan communities with their living language and traditions, together with the beaches, the reefs, the awe-inspiring *cenotes*, the dense jungle and the wildlife all come together to offer visitors once-in-a-lifetime experiences.



Lay of the Land

Riviera Maya runs south from Puerto Morelos to Tulum, with Playa del Carmen between the two towns. And from one end to the other, Riviera Maya offers exotic flora and fauna, spectacular landscapes, white sand beaches and turquoise, crystal-clear waters—not only in the Caribbean Sea, but also in its underground rivers, lagoons, the canals that wind through the jungle and the cold, pure *cenotes*.

There are two main ways to arrive in this earthly paradise—via the Cancun International Airport or the Cozumel International Airport—and there are several ways to get around: by taxi cabs, vans (called *colectivos* or *combis*) or resort shuttles, though we most definitely recommend renting a car. Better yet: rent a 4WD vehicle so you can truly explore the area outside the boundaries of your fabulous resort.

If you arrive at the Cancun International Airport north of Riviera Maya you’ll soon find yourself on a modern, four-lane highway headed south. This is Highway 307, thickly fringed with jungle punctuated here and there with businesses and entrances to myriad resorts. You’ll be on there for about 20 minutes until you reach our main town of Puerto Morelos, which has its own allure, resorts, restaurants, nightlife, shopping, beaches and more. Puerto Morelos is an authentic fishing village with a cosmopolitan flavor and bohemian vibe that everybody loves. Beyond Playa there are even more resort enclaves, other coastal villages, nature and amusement parks, golf courses and archaeological sites. If you keep going

even *farther* south, you’ll eventually reach the Grand Costa Maya region, which comprises the destinations of Mahahual, Bacalar and Chetumal.

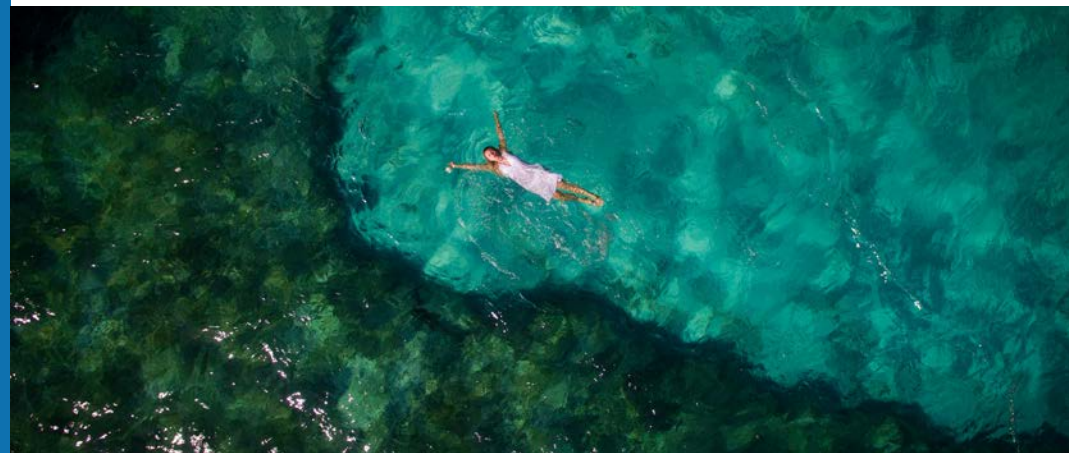
If you land at the Cozumel International Airport, a cab can whisk you to the port and you can board a modern ferry that connects the island to the mainland, departing every hour for the 30-minute trip across the water (year-round). Prices are very reasonable and some companies even sell tickets online, but it’s easy enough to just show up and buy a ticket for the next ferry that leaves. The ferry will drop you right off in Playa del Carmen right in front of the famous Quinta Avenida, right in the thick of things! And by the way, taking the ferry the other way around to Cozumel is also a great day trip for your clients staying in Riviera Maya.

History

As you may have guessed by now, the Mayan culture is the foundation of this area of the Caribbean. The Maya shaped the future of this region back in the Classic Period (300-1000 A.D.); they built their cities in privileged locations based on their deep knowledge of and love for nature. By doing so, they strived to secure the prosperity of their citizens and the blessings of their many gods. These cities were built near sources of fresh water, whether that was rivers, *cenotes* or lagoons, so they could secure their basic needs and thrive by expanding their commercial horizons during the Post-Classic Period (1000-1550 A.D.).

The result of this careful planning gave rise to cities such as Chunyaxché, now known as **Muyil**, which was

Continued on page 6



BEACHES

The Riviera Maya has 7 certified Blue Flag beaches, one located in Puerto Morelos and six located within Playa del Carmen:

PUERTO MORELOS

VENTANA AL MAR

Located in Rafael E. Melgar Ave., located right in front of the main square.

PLAYA DEL CARMEN

IBEROSTAR PLAYA PARAÍSO BEACH

Iberostar Playa Paraíso hotel’s beach, located along the Highway 307 Cancun-Chetumal. 873-5109

PLAYA PUNTA ESMERALDA

Playa Punta Esmeralda, located in 10 North.

IBEROSTAR TUCÁN & QUETZAL BEACH

Iberostar Tucán & Quetzal hotel’s beach, located in Paseo Xaman-Ha, Playacar.



PLAYA XCALACOCO

Playa Xcalacoco, located in Xcalacoco street.

PLAYA 88

Playa 88, located in 88 North.

PLAYA BAHIA KANTENAH

Playa Bahia Kantenah, located along the Highway 307 Cancun-Chetumal.

CERTIFIED BLUE FLAG BEACHES

7



GETTING HERE

You can arrive at Riviera Maya by different means, though the most popular are by air and by sea. As we mentioned, most of our visitors arrive at the Cancun International Airport (CUN), located 65 km (40 mi) north of Playa del Carmen. The second airport option is the Cozumel International Airport (CZM), which is answering increasing demand by updating its flight routes to offer better connectivity, followed by a short trip across the Caribbean Sea aboard a ferryboat. There's one more airport option we hadn't mentioned: the Playa del Carmen domestic airport (PCM). Though there's no international service, it does offer short hops to Cancun and Cozumel via air taxi services.

Continued from page 4

built next to the lagoon that later gave the city its name. Located in the southern region near Tulum, Muylil is part of the Maya Ka'an. Muylil has stunning views of the jungle and the canals that stream out of the lagoon, and it's surrounded by an astounding display of flora and fauna. To the northwest lies the city of **Cobá**, also built next to a great lagoon. Climbing the Nohoch Mul pyramid is now prohibited. Towards the northeast, near the sea, is the legendary **Tulum**, originally named by the Maya as Zamá, which means morning or sunrise. This is truly a must-see: it's the only Mayan city that was built next to the Caribbean Sea. Make sure they arrive early and have plenty of time to enjoy a view of the castle, the Dancer's Plaza and the Temple of the Frescoes (that one they *really* can't miss!)

There's also plenty for your clients to see and explore in the northern reaches of Riviera Maya. Topping the list is **Xel-Há** (pronounced *shel-HAH*), which was actually where the first European settlement in the peninsula was established. Then there's Polé, or as it's known today, **Xcaret** (pronounced *SHKA-ret*). This was once an important commercial port, where the Maya came to trade spices, food, clothing and tools. Every year, Mayan pilgrims would arrive at Polé, each of them eager to cross the Caribbean Sea to the island of Cozumel, which is right across the water from Playa del Carmen. These adventurous souls would cross the water in sturdy wooden canoes, fighting the currents and praying to the goddess Ixchel (pronounced *eeks-SHELL*) for good fortune for their families, fertility for their crops and their women and good luck in their trade. **Playa del Carmen**, known back then as Xamanhá (pronounced *shah-mahn-HA*) was one of the first villages to be discovered by the invading Spaniards.

Today it's the biggest town in Riviera Maya, chock full of attractions including restaurants with delicious fresh seafood, traditional cuisine and international fare; great shopping both of the small shop, boutique and mall kind; and some truly wonderful resorts.

Over the next 300 years under Spanish Colonial rule, the lack of adequate roads and the fierce resistance from the Maya themselves deterred European incursion into the area. **Fun fact:** for much of the 20th century this region was a major contributor to the world's chewing gum craze! That's right: this is where thousands of *chicleros*, collectors of natural gum or *chicle*, would collect the sap that turned into a billion-dollar industry for Wrigley, Adams and other candy manufacturers.

Meanwhile, the area remained what was called a "territory" and didn't become a Mexican state until 1974. By the 1980s, the Mexican government had begun to realize the enormous tourism potential of the region and had begun to build roads and other infrastructure. The "Riviera Maya" brand was born in 1997, and its 120 km (86 mi) of scenic Caribbean coastline have not looked back since!

Resort Roundup

The easiest way to picture Riviera Maya is by dividing it into three main areas, with Playa del Carmen (also known as Playa) in the MIDDLE. To the NORTH of Playa you'll find the city of Puerto Morelos and the resort enclaves of Playa Paraiso/ Playa Secreto, Punta Maroma/Punta Bete, and Mayakobá. To the SOUTH of Playa lie numerous parks and attractions such as Xcaret, Río Secreto, Xplor, Xel-Há, and towns of Puerto Aventuras, Akumal, and last but not least is Tulum. Apart from these main developments there is a scattering of beaches with small, bohemian-style properties such as Paamul, Kantenah, and Xpu-Há, which will appeal to your clients who are *really* looking to get away from it all.

As for accommodations, you'll find Riviera Maya has something for every



Xcaret

expectation, budget and desire. The downtown hotels of Puerto Morelos are mostly located around the Main Square, with all the big all inclusive resorts located adjacent along the coast. There are cozy eco-boutique hotels in Tulum, expansive family resorts, adult-only resorts, properties devoted to holistic renewal and a slew of all-inclusive hotels. Then there are the "urban beach" hotels in Playa del Carmen right near the bustling Quinta Avenida, or 5th Avenue, in the heart of all that's hip and fun. Or choose a secluded all-inclusive luxury resort sprawling over a perfectly private beach with nary a non-guest in sight. Have clients who prefer EP so they can explore more? There

are plenty of those, too. There's no shortage of high-end properties perfect for singles, couples, friends, and families because, as we mentioned above, Riviera Maya has more AAA Four- and Five-Diamond properties in one place than any other region in North America. You'll find international developers—including several Spanish companies—dominate the all-inclusive mega-resort segment, while American franchises and Mexican-owned brands round out the inventory. The best part is they're all within reach of the area's impressive collection of marinas, championship golf courses, shopping centers, animal sanctuaries and Mayan-inspired theme parks.



GETTING AROUND

Visitors arriving at the Cancun International Airport have several options to choose from to get to their hotel in Riviera Maya. It's important to point out all ground services from the airport need to be pre-arranged, whether online, through you, or inside the airport at a taxi stand. Travelers can't just walk outside and hail a cab.

Shuttles, limos and VIP vehicles

The airport itself has recently added a new Fare Finder to its website, allowing you to check all available rates and book transportation online to all the hotels in the region.

Rental Cars

All the major rental car companies have counters at the Cancun International Airport. We recommend that you book your clients' car in advance to ensure they get the type of car and amenities they want. Most agencies require that the driver be at least 21 years of age. A surcharge sometimes applies for drivers aged 21-24.

Bus

The bus company ADO provides first-class service from the Cancun International Airport to Playa del Carmen. (There is also a stop in Puerto Morelos along this route.) Buses run 8:30-23:50 hrs. The trip takes about 50 minutes. Current costs are approximately US\$10 one-way. Note: There is also frequent "regular" bus service along Mexico Highway 307. However, keep in mind this is a second-class bus that makes many stops.

Taxis

The fare from the Cancun International Airport to Playa del Carmen is around \$70-\$80 USD (per vehicle) and allows a maximum of four passengers; the return cab journey is around \$125 USD from Playa del Carmen. Rates go up as you move further south from Playa del Carmen (and away from the airport). Keep in mind what we mentioned above: your clients will need to buy a ticket from a taxi stand inside the airport when they get there because they won't be able to hail one from the street. Cabs to get around the area are available, although expensive.

RIVIERA MAYA RUNDOWN: NORTH TO SOUTH

Riviera Maya: the very name is enough to spark visions of endless beaches and pure fun under the sun. But while it certainly offers more than its fair share of all that, this destination also weaves in eco-adventures, ancient Mayan archaeology and experiences in modern-day Mayan villages, giving it a considerable edge over any other vacation destination in the Americas. The region technically runs from Puerto Morelos (south of the Cancun Airport) to Tulum.

You'll find this region's large resort complexes are intermingled with small independent communities with plenty of wilderness in between. Growth has still been impressive, but even more impressive is the ability of its people to keep so much of their land preserved in its natural state. If you're thinking eco-vacation, then you're in the right place: envision myriad archaeological sites and thriving Mayan villages for exploring; the uninterrupted miles of virgin beaches for relaxing; and mangroves and lush jungle for green adventures.

Right next to the Riviera Maya is Maya Ka'an. It encompasses eight different sites. Each one of them offers amazing experiences to its visitors: Chunhuhub, Felipe Carrillo Puerto, Kantemó, Muyil, Noh-Bec, Punta Allen, Señor, Tihosuco and Punta Herrero.

PUERTO MORELOS

(25.6 km/15.9 mi from the Cancun International Airport)

Puerto Morelos is located south of the Cancun International Airport. Located along the Riviera Maya, it is a small fishing village, with a peaceful and romantic vibe. Its bohemian and quiet atmosphere attracts people from around the world looking for a laid-back Caribbean village groove.

Since Puerto Morelos is hemmed in by mangroves, development and sprawl have been limited. At 100 meters (300 feet) offshore lies the Puerto Morelos portion of the Mesoamerican Barrier Reef System, the second largest barrier reef in the world. It is an unbelievably beautiful underwater world, ideal for snorkeling, scuba diving and sport fishing. If these water activities are your client's passion, this is place for them! The reefs are close to the beach and the tide is not strong, therefore, the beaches in Puerto Morelos have the gentlest waves in the Mexican Caribbean and are ideal for relaxing and sunbathing. It's also great for sailing, kayaking and wind surfing. The use of motorized nautical vessels is restricted to protect the marine fauna and the peaceful atmosphere.

There are so many activities for adventure lovers which guarantee a day full of action! Several eco-adventures excursions are offered and your clients can enjoy exciting tours, and nature and adventure parks that offer activities such as bikes or mountain bikes and ATV tours on jungle trails, flying on zip lines above the jungle canopy, and scuba diving in caves, rappelling and exploring the cenotes. La Ruta de los Cenotes is another of the natural wonders of Puerto Morelos, a paradise that houses more than 60 of these enigmatic bodies of water, which are connected to each other through the longest underground river system in the world: the Great Mayan Aquifer. These wells filled with fresh crystal-clear water were believed by the Mayans to be the entrance to the underworld and to guard the earth's secrets.

Another great attraction that has the typical geographic features of Puerto Morelos is the mangrove, an ecosystem that supports the biodiversity of the area. Its submerged roots provide a habitat and refuge for fish, mammals, and invertebrates.

Land activities include visits to the Crococun Zoo,

Selvatica, Xenotes and the botanical gardens Jardin Botanico Dr. Alfredo Barrera Marin. They spread over 160 acres of tropical forest with a Mayan vestige, the replica of a Mayan village and medicinal plant exhibit, hiking, bird watching. There's even a polo field called El Rey, which is located within the Ruta de los Cenotes.

Tourists can purchase souvenirs at the Hunab Ku craftwork market that is in the downtown area and offers the best in jewelry, coral works of art and comfortable hammocks, among other beautiful objects. They can watch the artisans making their products in their workshops.

The tilted Puerto Morelos Lighthouse is a favorite spot for visiting and taking photographs, along with the downtown park, the kiosko and church are meeting points for locals and visitors who come every day to enjoy the breeze.

Hotel options are varied in Puerto Morelos, no matter what type of hotel strikes their fancy, you will be able to search for your client's perfect accommodation. These deluxe European Plan and all-inclusive properties offer exotic spa treatments which your clients will love. Also, they can enjoy unique experiences such as being present at Mayan ceremonies or purify themselves in a temazcal (the sacred steam bath of the Mayans and Aztecs).

Puerto Morelos restaurants are a real treat. The delicious food satisfies for all tastes, from a feast of fresh seafood and the best ceviches, to gourmet Mexican international dishes, and they can enjoy all of them with a view to the beach and a little breeze. It also offers romantic places for savoring prime cuts cooked over a wood fire. The cafes are the highlight of the evening, where they can enjoy refreshing drinks while watching the sunset over the mangroves.

Playa del Secreto & Playa Paraiso

Picture yourself standing on a perfect stretch of white sand, shading your eyes as you look out towards the Great Mesoamerican Reef, just a short boat ride away. Welcome to Playa del Secreto and Playa Paraiso, where there are no towns, just some of the region's most popular all-inclusive resorts such as the spectacular **Vidanta Riviera Maya** and **Iberostar**. And get ready to work on your swing: there are



Ruta de Los Cenotes (From)	
Carretera Federal 307	Pto. Morelos
Las Mojarras Cenote	12.5 Km / 19 min 77.7 miles
Siete Bocas Cenote	15.5 Km / 20 min 9.63 miles
Boca del Puma Park	16 Km / 24 min 9.94 miles
Verde Lucero Cenote	18 Km / 27 min 11.18 miles
Chilam Balam Cenote	18.8 Km / 28 min 11.68 miles
Selvatica Park	19 Km / 29 min 11.81 miles
Gorilax Park	21.5 Km / 32 min 13.36 miles
La Noria Cenote	22 Km / 33 min 13.67 miles
Kin Ha Cenote	22 Km / 33 min 13.67 miles

Puerto Morelos Hotels

1. Moon Palace Golf and Spa Resort
2. Zoëtry Paraíso de la Bonita
3. Azul Beach
4. Desire Resort and Spa
5. Azul Beach Resort Riviera Cancun
6. Hyatt Ziva Riviera Cancun
7. Ocean Coral and Turquesa
8. Now Sapphire Riviera Cancun
9. Excellence Riviera Cancun
10. Acamaya Reef
11. Dreams Riviera Cancun
12. Desire Riviera Maya Pearl Resort
13. Hotel Hacienda Morelos
14. Marina El Cid
15. Now Jade Riviera Cancun
16. Royalton Riviera Cancun
17. The Hideaway at Royalton Riviera Cancun

Breathless Riviera Cancun
 Dreams Jade Resort & Spa
 Dreams Sapphire Resort & Spa
 Grand Residences Riviera Cancun
 Margarita Village Island Riviera Cancun
 Sensira Resort & Spa Riviera Maya
 The Fives Oceanfront Puerto Morelos

Ammar Inn
 Balanca Estudios
 Cabañas Puerto Morelos
 Casa Caribe
 Condos Layla
 Hotel Leona Vicario
 Hotel Muchin

Hotel Puerto Iglesias
 Ojo de Agua
 Puerto Corcho
 Suite Arrecifes



two amazing golf courses here, Vidanta Golf Riviera Maya and Iberostar Playa Paraíso Golf Club.

Punta Maroma & Punta Bete

You'll find a long list of popular all-inclusive resorts and luxury boutique hotels sandwiched between these two beauties. As with Secreto and Paraíso, there's no actual town, but hotel guests do have access to one of Riviera Maya's loveliest beaches. Properties here include **Belmond Maroma Resort & Spa, Secrets Maroma Beach, Catalonia Playa Maroma, El Dorado Maroma, Palafitos-Overwater Bungalows at El Dorado Maroma by Karisma, Hacienda Tres Ríos, Blue Bay Grand Esmeralda, H10 Ocean Maya Royale, Secrets Capri, Nickelodeon Riviera Maya** and the **Blue Diamond Riviera Maya**.

TIP
We highly recommend a visit during the day for the mix of funky shops and luxury high-end retailers, then at night for the excellent dining, the roving mariachi bands and the DJ music coming from the open-air bars.

Maroma Adventures, a popular tour center facing the Caribbean Sea, is also right here next to the El Dorado properties. This is a must if you stay nearby, because not only do they organize tours through the jungle and above or below the waves with all kinds of cool toys and crafts, but they can also see the view from up on a camel's back.

Mayakobá (Resort Complex)

As we follow the shoreline we get to Mayakobá, with its deluxe hotels, residences, an 18-hole Greg Norman golf course and—surprise—miles of beautiful Caribbean beachfront. This is sustainability central: the first hotel built here, the **Fairmont Mayakobá** (a AAA Five-Diamond property), was the first “green” hotel in Riviera Maya. In fact, biologists, architects and designers involved in the development of the Mayakobá site—spread out over 500 acres of mangrove forest and jungle—were very careful to preserve its diverse flora and fauna. Two other AAA Five-Diamond winners, the **Banyan Tree Mayakobá** and the **Rosewood Mayakobá**, and the newest property, the **Andaz Mayakobá**, complete the setting. Note: You must be a hotel guest or have golf reservations to enter this exclusive enclave.

PLAYA DEL CARMEN

(55 km/34 mi from the Cancun International Airport)

Playa del Carmen—or “Playa”—is spread out along 15 km (9 mi) of gorgeous Caribbean beach. A bit of history: for the Mayans, this area used to be called Xamanhá, which means “northern waters.” It was the main departure point for their trip to Cozumel to worship the goddess Ixchel. To prepare for their visit, the pilgrims would fast for several days, pray and take steam baths to purify their body and soul before heading to Cozumel, which was then called Kuzamil (pronounced *koo-sa-MEEL*).

If you haven't been to Playa in a few years, boy, are you in for a surprise! Playa is all grown up and is now the place to see and be seen. It's only a 50-minute ride from the Cancun International Airport via the four-lane 307 Highway and still ferry central for jaunts to Cozumel, plus it's right next door to the mega-resorts at the **Playacar** development, all of which has helped the city grow to about a quarter of a million residents—some local, some national, with a very heavy sprinkling of foreigners.

It also has plenty of day visitors from all over Riviera Maya and via cruises (both from Cozumel or those



La Quinta Avenida



Barcelo Maya Grand Resort

docking at Calica, just 10 km/6 mi south) who stream in to enjoy its excellent shopping, dining, people watching, and calm, beautiful beach. Two blocks inland and parallel to the sea is **La Quinta Avenida**. This busy iconic pedestrian byway now stretches about 20 blocks (4.5 km/2.8 mi) from the Paseo del Carmen outdoor shopping center at the southern end all the way north into the city.

Easily the hippest, most internationally diverse street in the entire Caribbean, plus great shopping is at **Calle Corazón** and **Quinta Alegría**, where your credit cards are accepted and *will* get a workout (you can expect to find well-known domestic and international brands).

The latest attraction on the Quinta is **Estación México**, a free walking tour through this famous avenue where you will learn about the history, anecdotes and activities offered in Playa del Carmen.

The guide will take you to Playa's most important places, such as: Parque Fundadores, Portal Maya, Nuestra Señora del Carmen Chappel, Frida Kahlo's Museum, Calle 12, Calle Corazón, the Mayan temple, and much more.

Where To Stay, What To Eat

Accommodations in Playa del Carmen are as varied as the crowd. Many of them are wallet-friendly two- and three-star family-run inns. Others, like the **The Yucatan Resort Playa del Carmen** and **Thompson Main House Playa del Carmen**, are trendy and upscale with an “urban beach” vibe since they're in the “downtown” area, though the Thompson also has an outpost within walking distance called **Thompson Beach House** right on the sand. Also on the beach are the new **Grand Hyatt Playa del Carmen Resort**, the **Mahekal Beach Resort**, and the **Wyndham Altra**. Many visitors stay right next-door at the upscale, gated **Playacar** enclave

(more on that below), where they have over 6,000 hotel rooms on tap.

Dining in this beach town is just as eclectic and it's delicious no matter what your budget looks like. Pick from local Mexican food (you've never had fish tacos until you try these fish tacos) and regional Mayan specialties to international cuisines including Italian, Argentine, Asian, French and more. “Fresh” is a standard menu item, meaning it's all just-caught or locally sourced. We put together some great recommendations for you in our *Riviera Maya for Foodies* section so don't forget to check it out!

PLAYACAR

Just south of Playa and the ferry pier is the private, gated development of Playacar. Since it opened in the 80s, this swanky enclave has become home to over 6,000 rooms divided among several large four- and five-star all-inclusive resorts, mostly with Spanish ownership and branding. Many of them rank among Mexico's best, so be sure to see our Lodging Chart. Nearly all are beachfront and within walking (or biking) distance to all the fun in Playa del Carmen. The development also has three shopping malls and million-dollar villas set back in beautifully landscaped lots along winding, tree-lined streets.

XCARET

(61 km/38 mi south of Cancun International Airport; 6 km/3.7 mi south of Playa del Carmen)

Xcaret will, quite literally, knock your socks off: this 200-acre eco-archaeological park combines the best of Riviera Maya in one place, with crystal clear grottoes you can float through, beautiful coves and pristine cenotes. Add in a Mayan village (the show is

marvelous), good food and all kinds of exotic animal exhibits, and you have a destination attraction like no other.

PUERTO AVENTURAS

(75km/47 mi south of the Cancun International Airport)

Puerto Aventuras—or simply “Puerto” to its friends—is deep in the heart of Riviera Maya. This world-class residential community development, built around a full-service, deep-draft marina (with facilities for larger vessels), is home to about 6,000 residents and has its own bevy of attractions for visitors.

You can practice your swing at the par-36 jungle golf course, opened by Thomas Leman in 1991, bat some balls on the tennis courts, or while away the morning at the nautical museum. There are also shops, restaurants, delicious Mexican bakeries, condos, villas and several hotels (about 4,965 rooms total).

Puerto Aventuras include **Omni, Dreams Puerto Aventuras, Catalonia, El Dorado** and **Hard Rock**. Immediately to the south of Puerto Aventuras there are five **Barceló Riviera Maya** properties totaling over 5,238 rooms. See *Lodging Chart* for details.

NEW & NOTABLE

HOTEL XCARET ARTE

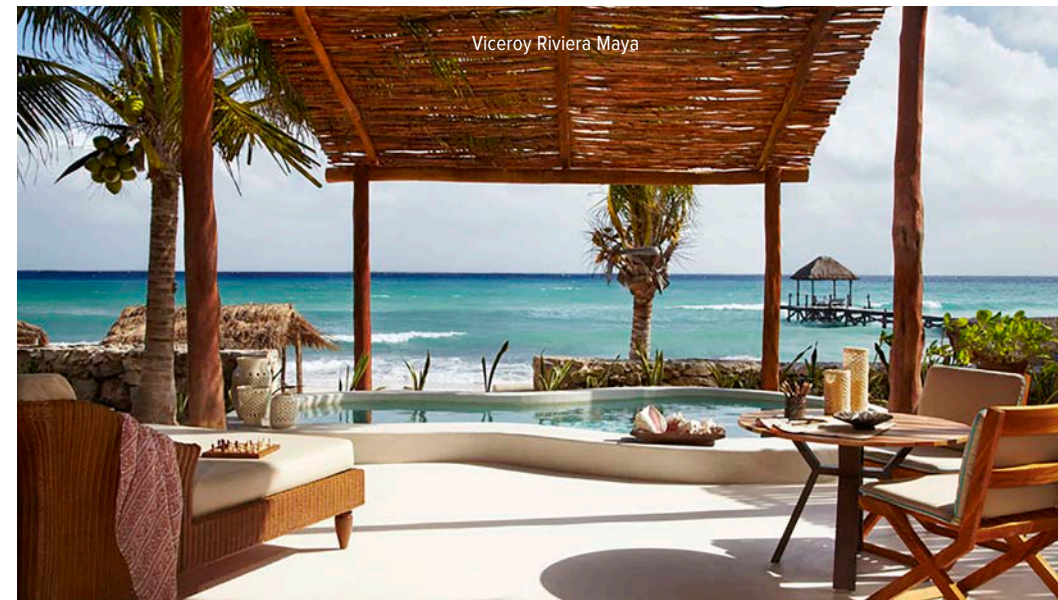
Grupo Xcaret's newest hotel. This hotel pays a homage to the best Mexican artists. It has 900 adults only (young adults ages 16 and up) suites inspired by artists of Mexico's culture, 9 gastronomic experiences under the care of the best Culinary Group in Mexico and an eco-integrating architecture so that you can feel pampered in an atmosphere of astonishment with no rush.

NICKELODEON™ HOTELS & RESORTS RIVIERA MAYA

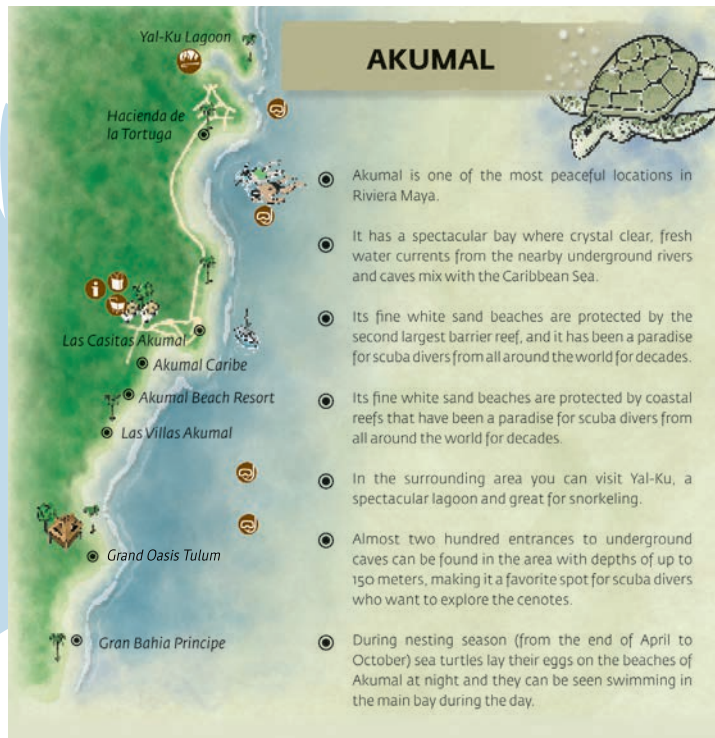
Exclusively designed for families who enjoy a premium vacation experience with a playful Nickelodeon™ twist. This hotel has 280 rooms, 6 restaurants, 3 bars and a 6-Acre Water Park called Aqua Nick.

XAVAGE

It is located 18 minutes away from downtown Cancun. Dare yourself in the intense rope course, rafting through the rapids, driving an all-terrain vehicle in an obstacle circuit and other activities. It is the most exhilarating park in Cancun and the Riviera Maya.



Viceroy Riviera Maya



AKUMAL

- Akumal is one of the most peaceful locations in Riviera Maya.
- It has a spectacular bay where crystal clear, fresh water currents from the nearby underground rivers and caves mix with the Caribbean Sea.
- Its fine white sand beaches are protected by the second largest barrier reef, and it has been a paradise for scuba divers from all around the world for decades.
- Its fine white sand beaches are protected by coastal reefs that have been a paradise for scuba divers from all around the world for decades.
- In the surrounding area you can visit Yal-Ku, a spectacular lagoon and great for snorkeling.
- Almost two hundred entrances to underground caves can be found in the area with depths of up to 150 meters, making it a favorite spot for scuba divers who want to explore the cenotes.
- During nesting season (from the end of April to October) sea turtles lay their eggs on the beaches of Akumal at night and they can be seen swimming in the main bay during the day.



TULUM

- This is one of the most picturesque towns in the region. Here you can find craftwork shops, restaurants and small businesses all along the main avenue.
- The hotel zone offers charming boutique hotels as well as comfortable cabanas and villas which were designed to blend into the beautiful landscape and offer a romantic atmosphere with ecological facilities complemented by luxurious amenities and services.
- The archaeological zone is 5 kilometers away.

Continued from page 10

(78 km/48 mi south of the Cancun International Airport)

Xpu-Há (pronounced *shpooh-HAH*) is the place to go if you're looking for a gorgeous stretch of white powdery sand framed by tropical vegetation—plus it adds in limestone inlets gushing underground freshwater streams. Here you'll find the **Hotel Esencia** (which holds a charming story, worth discovering), the **Catalonia Royal Tulum** right about mid-beach, with the **Bel Air Xpu Há** to the north. You can walk to this hotel along the soft sand, but if you head south from the Catalonia you'll find a bit of a rocky beach along the way.

AKUMAL

(92 km/57 mi south of the Cancun International Airport)

Akumal (pronounced *ah-coo-MAHL*) literally means “place of the turtles,” which makes it turtle central! This is where you'll find the **Centro Ecológico de Akumal** (CEA), a non-profit center dedicated to environmental marine research, education and sea turtle protection.

The destination was once part of a large coconut plantation, and was first developed back in 1958 by Mexican divers salvaging a sunken Spanish galleon just off shore. Luckily for future visitors, they formed CEDAM, an internationally acclaimed society of divers dedicated to community service and ecological preservation. Today, Akumal is home to a tight-knit population of ex-pats and snowbirds who have been coming here for years and want to protect the community, the flora and the marine life, which bodes well for keeping the area as pristine as possible while permitting development. There are shops, galleries and arts and crafts, as well as a few hotels, resorts and private residences strung out along the coast.

The biggest draw is its silky, white-sand beaches, protected by offshore reefs, making it a haven for divers from around the world who come here year round. In fact, they've been coming here for decades—even before there were roads to get here! Back then, though, they'd have to stash their flippers, masks and tanks on a boat and come over all the way from Cozumel.

From north to south, in Akumal you'll find:

YAL-KÚ LAGOON: The limestone rocks and outcroppings make this a perfect home for all sorts of underwater life, and the crystal clear water lets you see each and every fin.

CALETA TANKAH: It has a beautiful cove, with turquoise waters and a powdery white sand beach. On the property there is also a cenote hidden in the exuberant jungle. It is the ideal place to spend the day enjoying nature's wonders. There is a beach club there so you can drink, eat and lay on a lounge chair, without worries.

AKUMAL BAY: This is the site of the area's original development. Today it's home to some great dive shops, beachside restaurants and the **Akumal Bay Resort**. If you come here off-season you'll find more Mexican tourists than foreigners, which gives it a distinctly “local” flavor. On the south end (Akumal Sur) there are condos, the **Sunscape Akumal Beach Resort & Spa** and **Bahia Principe** resorts (four properties with over 4,000 rooms), and the **PGA Riviera Maya by Bahía Principe Golf** is an 18-hole golf course, designed by Robert Trent Jones II. It was recently acknowledged by Golf Digest magazine to be among the best golf resorts in Mexico and the Americas. An official partner of the PGA of America. The relationship with the PGA of America is the PGA's first facility partnership in Latin America to support golfer development and tourism experiences

TULUM ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE

(About 117 km/72 mi or 1 hr 30 minutes south of the Cancun International Airport)

The Mayan archaeological site of Tulum has graced many a Mexico advertisement and for good reason: it really *is* that breathtaking and its one of the loveliest sites in the entire Republic. This is the focus of the southern end of the Riviera Maya and comes complete with a low-impact, boho-style seaside hotel zone and the funky fun inland city of Tulum.

But first, a little history: Back in the 16th century when the Spaniards first arrived, the seaside Mayan city of Tulum—one of only a handful of Mayan port cities—was actually still in use. Today, visitors can roam its small temples and buildings, including the Temple of the Frescoes, with its faded interior wall murals still visible, and the Temple of the Descending God, which shows a god tumbling from the

Continued on page 14



ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES

There are 19 archeological sites all along the Mexican Caribbean, where visitors can learn about different aspects of the ancient Mayan civilization.

Dotted along the Riviera Maya, you will find some Mayan vestiges and small archaeological sites such as Xaman Há, Xcaret and Calica.

The largest archaeological sites of the region are Tulum, Cobá and Muyil, this last one is located south of Tulum, in the area known as Maya Ka'an.

Akumal

Continued from page 12

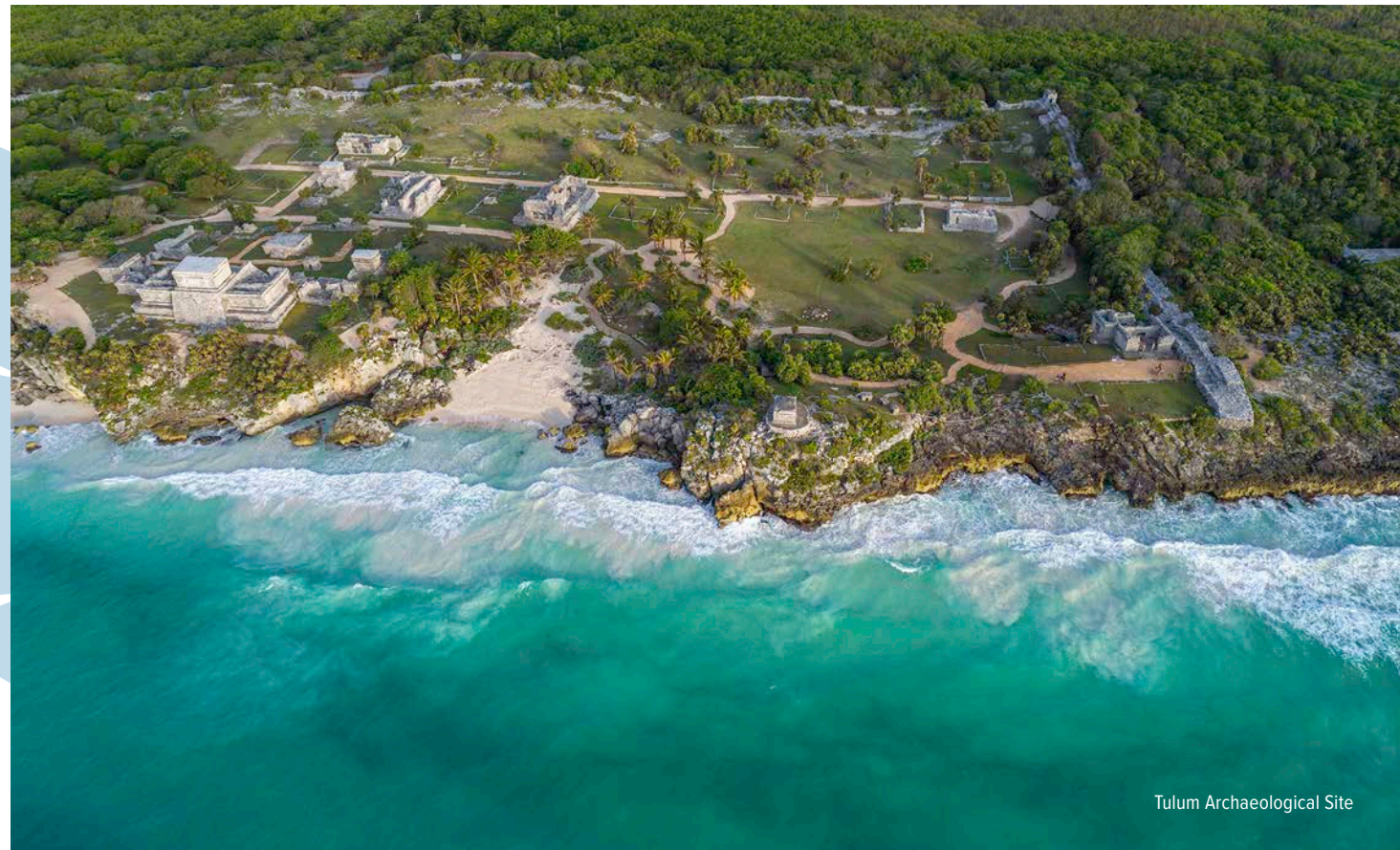
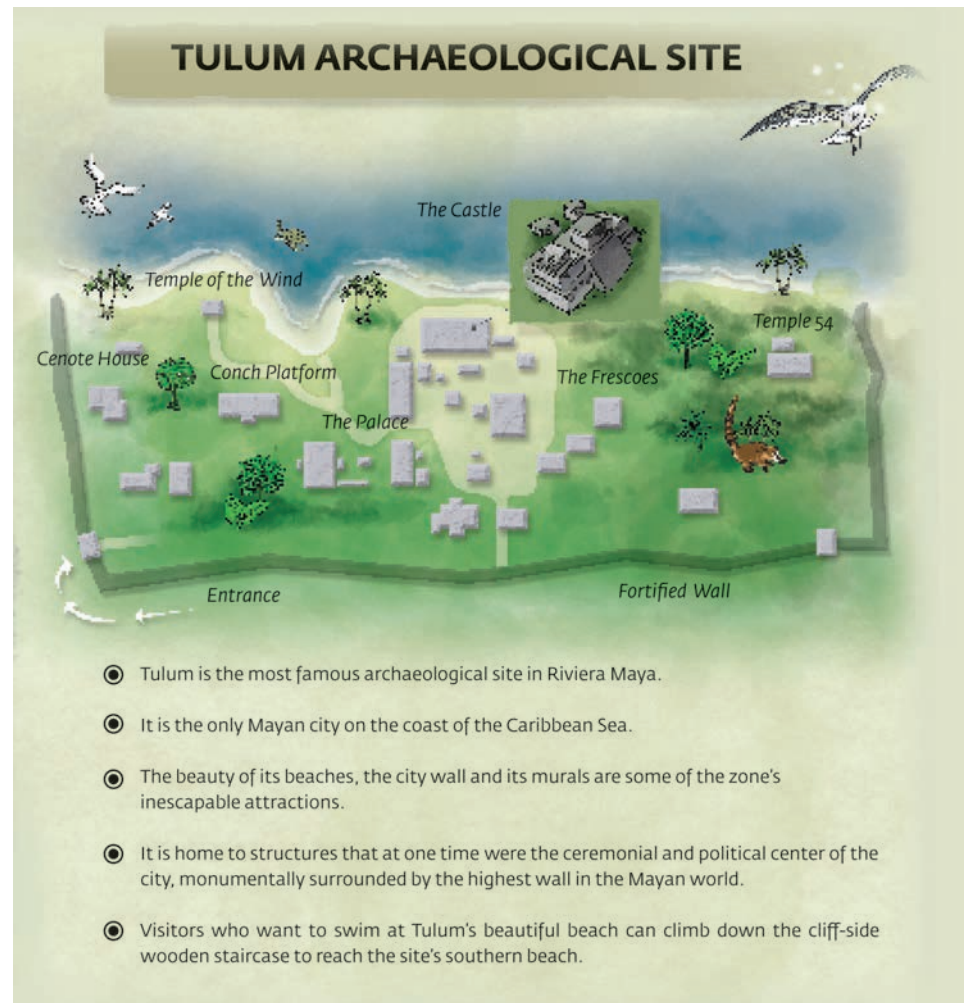
heavens. There are over 60 well-preserved structures within the three massive walls that surround the site. It's open from 8:00 to 17:00 hrs. but we recommend coming in early in the morning or late in the afternoon to miss the mass of visitors that descend from the huge tour buses. There's an admission fee to get in, and there are several English-speaking guides available to take you through and give you some insight into this marvelous place. At the entrance to the parking lot there's a busy outdoor souvenir market, so you might want to bring some pesos with you. From there you can walk to the site or take a tram. Depending on the time, you're going to want to take a swim in the small beach beside the site, so you can look up at the ruins and marvel at the Mayas' ingenuity.

Just beyond Tulum's hotel zone is a road that leads to the Sian Ka'an Biosphere Reserve, one of Mexico's top ecotourism attractions (we'll introduce you to it in the next couple of pages).

Tulum Hotel Zone

This area, located just a couple of kilometers south of the archaeological site, has become a magnet for those looking to escape big development and worldly worries: indeed, many travelers say they feel a spiritual connection to it. It's peaceful, quiet, and eco-friendly—the place to go if you're looking for yoga by the sea or meditation in the salt air.

Most accommodations are of the earthy boutique sort, with thatched roofs, solar panels and generators. But while the appeal for backpackers is big, it also attracts the eco-chic crowd in search of the barefoot-with-white-linen experience offered by establishments like the stunning **Azulik**, the cozy **Ana y José**, the #instaworthy **Papaya Playa** and the marvelous **Ahau Tulum**. Other hotels worth mentioning: **Casa Malca**, **Be Tulum**, **La Zebra**, **Hip Hotel**, **Mezzanine Colibri Boutique Hotel**, **Mi Amor Colibri Boutique Hotel**. There are less than 2,000 sleeping units in this area, but they're spread out over almost 100 different properties, so you'll find a variety



Tulum Archaeological Site



Tulum Archaeological Site



PARADISE IS FOREVER

In the Riviera Maya we're always working to improve our destination. For us, paradise is forever, which is why we incorporate responsible tourism in 80% of the education in the public and private sectors. We're proud to say these colleges are already shaping the future of upcoming generations, promoting safe and sustainable tourism.

of experiences and price points from eco-hotels, bungalows and hotels to campgrounds, all sprinkled along the 10-km (6-mi) stretch of beach.

El Pueblo (Downtown Tulum)

(117 km/73 mi south of the Cancun International Airport)

The downtown area is known as "El Pueblo" and it is a surprising blend of European and Mayan in the very best possible way. Unlike other touristy towns, downtown Tulum is small and sleepy. There aren't a lot of luxurious comforts, but its more than makes up for it with its relaxed and rustic vibes, great food, and many unique shops. The shops sell various locally made handicrafts perfect for souvenirs and gifts to your loved ones.

As if that weren't enough, there are a number of *cenotes* near Tulum; most have been explored, so you can access them safely and easily. Some of the most popular cenotes located along the Riviera Maya include Dos Ojos, Tajma Ha, Casa Cenote, Casa Tortuga, and Gran Cenote. In the last couple of years, some of the cenotes of the area have decided to open as "cenote clubs", being Buut-ha and Vesica the first ones to open under that concept.

COBÁ ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE

(43 km/27 mi inland from Tulum)

Put on your explorer hat: Cobá is an important Maya site, but it's still shrouded by thick jungle, so you'll definitely get that Indiana Jones feel as you walk through it. It was once

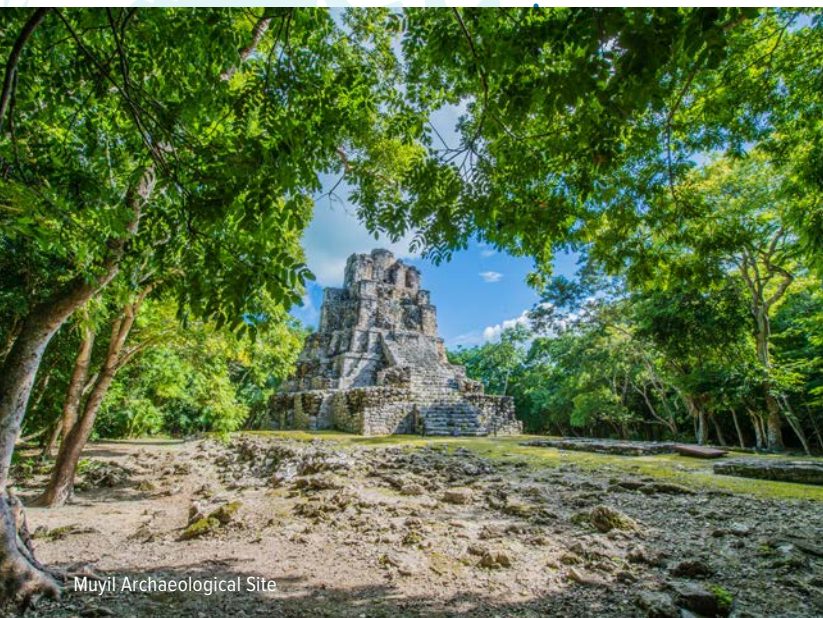
a huge city, but only 5% has been excavated so far and is just now being extensively studied. It was built between two lakes during the classic period (600-900 A.D.) and had an extension of over 80 square km (39 square mi) with about 50,000 inhabitants. The main pyramid, Nohoch Mul ("large hill" in Maya), at 42 meters/138 feet tall is the tallest in the Yucatan peninsula. There's a second pyramid, known as the "La Iglesia" (The Church), which is slightly smaller. Excavations have unearthed a nine-tiered castle and two ball courts, and the site has more *sacbé* (wide limestone-paved ancient roads) than any site yet discovered.

There's a small town near the site with a handful of simple hotels (including **Coqui Coqui Cobá Residence and Spa, Aldea Cobá, Hotel Mayahau Cobá, Hacienda Cobá, Hotel Sacbé Cobá**, among others) and a few restaurants. Some 15 km (9 mi) north is Punta Laguna, a large inland lake famous for the troops of spider monkeys that live on its shores.

There are a number of excellent tours in the area that combine a visit to Cobá with the opportunity to interact with some of the local Mayan communities that have settled deep in the forest—it's a once-in-a-lifetime experience to see an ancient culture come to life. The local guides will take you through the archaeological site and the rainforest as they inform you about the local customs and traditions, and the flora and fauna, followed by a stop in a local village. If you're looking for something more adventurous, then a zip-line over a huge *cenote* might be more your speed, after which you can rappel into the heart of the sinkhole and take a dip in the cool, crystalline waters. Operators include **Alltournative**.

MUYIL ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE

Muyil is located in the Sian Ka'an Biosphere Reserve and is one of the earliest ancient Maya sites (300 B.C.-250 A.D.) The main part dates from the post-Classic period, when it was part of the commercial route that once connected with the great city of Chichén Itzá. There are several important structures here including El Castillo,



Muyil Archaeological Site



Muyil Lagoon

COBA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE

- Cobá is located at 40 kilometers north west of Tulum.
- It covers an area of more than 70 square kilometers and has a network of 45 trails that connect the different parts of the site.
- Cobá boasts one of the most impressive panoramic views of the area.
- Visitors can admire a collection of 8 sculptured stelae with altars and sanctuaries.
- The archaeological zone is made up of 6,500 structures.
- Over 40 meters in height, Nohoch Mul is the tallest pyramid in the Yucatan Peninsula.

SIAN KA'AN BIOSPHERE RESERVE

- The Sian Ka'an Biosphere Reserve starts only a couple of kilometers south of Tulum and is one of Riviera Maya's most beautiful natural wonders.
- Sian Ka'an means "where the sky is born" in the Mayan language. It was declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO. Famous for its biodiversity, it has three enormous fresh water lagoons with different colors of blue water that are connected to the sea.
- Inside the reserve, at Punta Allen, where Riviera Maya ends, visitors can take boat tours over the lagoons, which are the natural habitat of manatees, dolphins, turtles, multi-colored birds and crocodiles.
- The perfect way to end a visit to this magical fishing village is to enjoy a delicious lobster, the local specialty.

or The Castle. It's over 50 feet high and archaeologists discovered jade figurines in it during excavation (note: unfortunately, you can't climb it as it was damaged during Hurricane Gilbert). There's also an observation tower and a walkway through the dense forest with ramps and interpretive signs.

SIAN KA'AN BIOSPHERE RESERVE

This 1.6-million-acre reserve is only 6 km (4 mi) south of the Tulum ruins and is Mexico's largest protected area. Its name means "where the sky is born" and, as you gaze over it, you'll no doubt feel the awe the Maya must have felt the first time they saw it. It's so huge there are several different ecosystems within its territory, from semi-

evergreen tropical forest to wetlands, savanna and ocean. The abundance of animals is incredible, with magnificent cats including the jaguar, puma, ocelot, crocogay, and jaguarondi; thousands of howler monkeys; crocodiles and other reptiles; and over 345 species of birds.

In 1987 the Sian Ka'an Biosphere Reserve was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site for its exceptional natural beauty and extraordinary diversity of life; there are also more than 23 little-visited Mayan archaeological sites within its confines, as well as the villages of Boca Paila and Punta Allen. Both of these are on a small peninsula along the Reserve's eastern border, with the Caribbean on one side and the mangroves, canals, wetlands and islets on the other. This is the only sector of the Reserve that's

open to very limited tourist development, and there are private homes as well as small fishing lodges there. (See the *Lodging Directory* for more information.)

You can access this natural wonder via a rugged—but scenic—coastal road, stretching along the coast from just south of the Tulum Hotel Zone all the way to Punta Allen (57 km/35 mi to the south). The drive time to Punta Allen is two hours, depending on the conditions, but worth every minute, because you now have access to a Caribbean paradise at its unspoiled best.

MAYA KA'AN

A window into the cultural identity of the Mexican Caribbean

This secluded place is an authentic stretch of Mayan communities and lush jungle, inhabited by the descendants of the Maya who were once known as the Cruzoob, or the rebel Mayas of the Caste War. Its territory includes the towns of Felipe Carrillo Puerto and Jose Maria Morelos; both represent the cultural identity of the Mexican Caribbean and are important historical sites for their participation in the Caste War of 1847. For over half a century, the communities of the Maya Ka'an bore witness to the key battles of the Mayans against the government of those times. Today, they are passionate about maintaining their customs and the Mayan language, as well as the traditions and ways of life from two centuries past, a legacy of the ancient Mayan culture.

Maya Ka'an

Maya Ka'an is a region that encompasses eight different

TIP
Maya Ka'an is the perfect destination for travelers who enjoy doing outdoor activities and having a true cultural immersion in the Mayan culture.



Tihosuco



Maya Ka'an



Felipe Carrillo Puerto



Sian Ka'an

sites where it is possible to have unique experiences surrounded by mesmerizing landscapes and learn about the cultural legacy of the Mayas.

This ecotourism destination is different from any other one in the Mexican Caribbean due to its contribution to the conservation of the region's environment, culture

and small villages. It is located in the middle of the state of Quintana Roo, between Tulum and Grand Costa Maya and shares its land borders with the state of Yucatan. There are some companies running Maya Ka'an's tours which you can get or you can rent a car to get there.

Maya Ka'an comprises the following Mayan villages: Muyil, Punta Allen, Felipe Carrillo Puerto, Tihosuco, Kantemó, Señor, Punta Herrero and Chunhuhub.

Felipe Carrillo Puerto

It is the starting point for traveling around Maya Ka'an. It is a rich region due to its history, traditions and Mayan cultures that the locals have preserved through time.

It was founded in 1850 under the name of Chan Santa Cruz (Small Santa Cruz). Known as the Warriors Town, it was a sanctuary for the rebel Mayas during the Caste War of Yucatan and it is where the Cruz Parlante (the Talking Cross) event happened.

In Felipe Carrillo Puerto, it is possible to experience its cuisine by sampling local dishes served at markets throughout the region. There are some ecotourism centers such as Sijil Noh Há and Balam Nah located on the shore of the Ocom lagoon system. There are some healing centers such as Raxalaj.

Punta Allen

Punta Allen, a small fishing village located 50 km (31 mi) south of Tulum, features the Sian Ka'an Biosphere Reserve. It contains a tropical jungle and mangroves, which are the perfect setting to enjoy exciting ecotourism activities.

This village is also home to about 400 people who depend on spiny lobster fishing for their livelihood as well as to a few small restaurants and a handful of small hotels, some shops, a small clinic and even a taxi service. There are also cozy and charming lodging options such as rustic

bungalows, inns and hostels.

If fishing is your thing, you're in luck: this area is one of the world's hotspots for ocean fly-fishing, with prize catches being bonefish, permit, tarpon, barracuda and snook. You can charter your excursions with the guides who live in and around the village.

Bird-watchers will find a reproduction sanctuary for different kinds of seabirds like the magnificent frigatebirds, neotropical cormorants, seagulls, brown pelicans, roseate spoonbills and sea eagles, among other species.

Whether you come here for the fishing, the kayaking down the canals of the reserve, the birdwatching or the diving, you're guaranteed to go home with some fabulous stories of your close encounter with one of Mother Nature's finest achievements.

Muyil

Muyil boasts the beauty of Muyil and Chunyaxche Lagoons and its historic Mayan architecture. It has an amazing archaeological site that contains several Mayan vestiges, the most important of which is called El Castillo (The Castle).

Muyil was a seaport used by the Mayas because of its access to the sea. Nowadays you can kayak or swim through its canals, a truly relaxing experience. Muyil is the perfect place for archaeology and nature lovers.

Señor

A small village where you will be able to experience the Mayan culture at its fullest, and be able to talk to the Mayas that live in that region and hear from them about their way of living, customs and traditions that have been inherited from their ancestors.

In Señor you will be able to learn the importance of the henequen, a fibre plant that was very important to the Mayas and the Spaniards, besides learning about corn crops and agriculture in the attraction called Milpa Maya (Maya Cornfield).

Tihosuco

It is renowned for its cultural richness and historical significance as well as being a community which still retains and practices its traditions.

HOTELS IN RIVIERA MAYA

- Generations Riviera Maya
- El Dorado Royale/ El Dorado Casitas Royale
- Valentin Imperial Maya
- Mayan Palace
- Iberostar Playa Paraiso
- Belmond Maroma Resort & Spa
- Catalonia Playa Maroma
- Secrets Maroma Beach Riviera Cancun
- El Dorado Maroma
- Hacienda Tres Rios
- Blue Bay Grand Esmeralda
- Ocean Maya Royale by Hio
- Secrets Capri Riviera Cancun
- Blue Diamond Riviera Maya
- Rosewood Mayakoba
- Fairmont Mayakoba
- Banyan Tree Mayakoba
- Grand Velas Riviera Maya
- Grand Riviera Princess
- Airfaz Mayakoba

PLAYA DEL CARMEN

- Sandos Caracol Eco-Resort & Spa
- The Flies Downtown Hotel
- Viceroy Riviera Maya
- Le Réve Hotel & Spa
- Paradisus Playa del Carmen La Perla y La Esmeralda
- The Reef Coco Beach

PLAYACAR

- Playacar Palace
- The Reef Playacar
- Riu Palace Riviera Maya
- Riu La Lupita
- Viva Windham Azteca Resort
- Occidental Allegro Playacar
- Royal Hideaway Resort & Spa
- Riu Playacar
- Viva Windham Maya Resort
- Riu Palace México
- Riu Tequila
- Iberostar Quetzal
- Iberostar Tucan
- Sandos Playacar Beach Resort & Spa

PUERTO AVENTURAS

- Hard Rock Hotel Riviera Maya
- Omi Puerto Aventuras Beach Resort
- Catalonia Yucatán Beach & Catalonia Riviera Maya
- Dreams Puerto Aventuras
- Barceló Maya Beach Resort

XPU HA

- Bel Air Collection Xpu Ha Riviera Maya
- Esencia
- Al Cielo

GOLF COURSES

- Vidanta Golf Riviera Maya:** 18 holes, Par 54. Designed by Jack Nicklaus.
- Iberostar Playa Paraiso Golf Club:** 18 holes, Par 72. Designed by PB Dye.
- El Camaleón Mayakoba:** 18 holes, Par 72. Designed by Greg Norman.
- Gran Coyote Golf:** 18 holes, Par 71. Designed by Nick Price.
- Hard Rock Golf Club Riviera Maya:** 18 holes, Par 72. Designed by Robert von Hagge.
- Puerto Aventuras Golf & Raquet Club:** 9 holes, Par 36. Designed by Thomas Lemman.
- PGA Riviera Maya by Bahía Principe Golf:** 18 holes, Par 72. Designed by Robert Trent Jones II.

For more information:
www.mexicancaribbean.travel/things-to-do/golf/

KANTENAH

- El Dorado Seaside Suites
- Grand Palladium Riviera Resort & Spa
- Grand Sirenis Riviera Maya Hotel & Spa

AKUMAL

- Hacienda de la Tortuga
- Las Casitas Akumal
- Akumal Caribe
- Akumal Beach Resort
- Las Villas Akumal
- Bahia Principe Grand Coba
- Bahia Principe Luxury Sian Ka'an

TULUM

- Ishita
- Dreams Tulum
- Mezzanine
- Diamante K
- Kore Tulum Retreat Wellness Resort
- Papaya Playa Project
- Azulik
- Posada Punta Piedra
- Bahia Principe Grand Tulum
- Zamas
- Maya Tulum
- Hemingway
- Amansalá
- Posada Margherita
- Ana y Jose
- Cabañas Tulum
- Los Lirios
- Selina Tulum Hotel
- Coqui Coqui
- La Nueva Vida de Raminiro
- Cabañas La Zebra
- Casa Violeta
- Cabañas La Eufemia Hotel
- Hip Hotel
- Encantada Boutique Hotel
- Las Ranitas Eco Boutique Hotel
- La Harmaca Loca
- Be Tulum
- Rosa del Viento

SIAN KA'AN

- Boca Paila Fishing Lodge

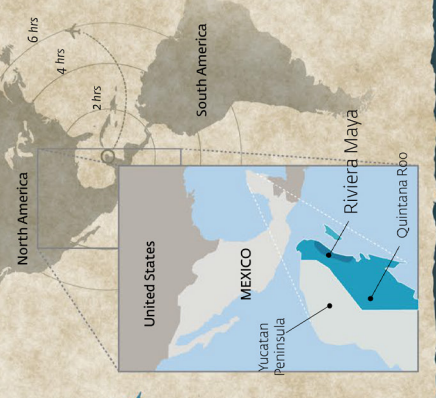
DISTANCES (In kilometers)

	Cancun Airport	Puerto Morelos	Playa del Carmen	Xcaret	Akumal	Xel-Ha	Tulum	Coba	Sian Ka'an	Felipe Carrillo Puerto	José María Morelos
Cancun Airport	0	23	55	61	90	99	115	161	165	215	300
Puerto Morelos	23	0	32	38	67	76	92	138	142	192	277
Playa del Carmen	55	32	0	6	35	44	60	106	110	160	245
Xcaret	61	38	6	0	29	38	54	100	104	154	239
Akumal	90	67	35	29	0	9	25	71	75	123	208
Xel-Ha	99	76	44	38	9	0	16	62	66	116	201
Tulum	115	92	60	54	25	16	0	46	50	96	180
Coba	161	138	106	100	71	62	46	0	96	142	202
Sian Ka'an	165	142	110	104	75	66	50	96	0	78	235
Felipe Carrillo Puerto	215	192	160	154	123	116	96	142	78	0	86
José María Morelos	300	277	245	239	208	201	180	202	235	86	0

Mexican Caribbean



Caribbean Sea



Sian Ka'an Biosphere Reserve

Maya Ka'an
 Tihosuco • Señor • Kantemó
 Felipe Carrillo Puerto • José María Morelos



ATTRACTIONS

Up until now you've read about the cultural and historic side of Riviera Maya, our natural bounty, our conservation mission and the respect we have for our traditions and heritage. But there's much more to this coast with the most: there's also a long list of fun activities to indulge in and jaw-dropping nature and amusement parks to experience. This is where we say there's something for everybody at every age—and we mean every word! Thing is, we can write all we want about diving in the Great Mesoamerican Reef, hiking in the jungle or zip-lining through the treetops, but what we'd really love is for you to come experience it for yourself.



TIP

Turtle nesting season starts in May and ends in November, but by August you can see the first little turtles hatch. Everyone gets involved in protecting these amazing creatures, even our visitors! Other interacting with wildlife activities that are worth-mentioning are: Scuba diving with bull sharks in Playa del Carmen (November to March). Night diving with crocodiles in a cenote in Tulum.



Cave of Hanging Snakes in Kantemó

Get to know this wonderful civilization by visiting the Museum of History. Be part of their ceremonies and gastronomic activities. One of the main attractions includes visiting its colonial church; part of the building was destroyed during the Caste War. You can also visit the Caste War Museum and learn about it.

Punta Herrero

This is a small fishing village located south of the Sian Ka'an Biosphere Reserve, on the south edge of Espíritu Santo Bay.

It is considered one of the best places for sport fishing and fly fishing, among other destinations like Punta Allen and Punta Pájaros.

Kantemó

In Kantemó you will find the cave of the hanging snakes, where you will be able to watch the snakes moving around the cave to hunt and eat the bats that live inside it. These snakes are not poisonous. You will also be able to see fossils, proof that this place was once part of the seabed.

In this destination you can enjoy a bike ride through the exuberant Mayan jungle, where you

will be able to listen to the chirping of the birds and the surrounding nature.

Chunhuhub

A picturesque village that has numerous Mayan vestiges and colonial buildings. Chunhuhub is one of the last important villages on the way to old Bakhahal, nowadays Bacalar.

It offers a unique gastronomic experience; you will enjoy a traditional Mayan meal made from the ingredients the inhabitants have collected from their gardens, and they will cook them in a pib (a traditional Mayan cookout). Enjoy your meal with some handmade tortillas and refreshing fruit water.

Lodging Options in Maya Ka'an

Most of Maya Ka'an's hotels are located in Punta Allen, but you can also find some bungalows or cabins in Felipe Carrillo Puerto and José María Morelos.

The ecotouristic centers Beejkax Ha in Kantemó and Sijil Noh Ha in Felipe Carrillo Puerto are a few of the lodging options. Both are located in the middle of the jungle. You can also go camping in Balam Nah, located in Felipe Carrillo Puerto.

Cirque du Soleil

JOYÀ, the first resident Cirque du Soleil show in Riviera Maya—and Mexico—combines gastronomy and the performing arts in an intimate theater setting to engage your five senses and leave you awestruck. Drawing on Mexico's history and heritage, JOYÀ tells the story of an alchemist and his granddaughter embarking on a quest to uncover the secrets of life. This amazing dinner show gives visitors a taste of Mexico's magical and cultural past. Suited for all ages, Cirque du Soleil JOYÀ is an unforgettable experience you can't miss! Make your reservation at the website www.cirquedusoleil.com

Aventuras Mayas

This ecotourism company can take you snorkeling, rappelling, zip-lining or trekking around the imposing Mayan jungle, or take you on a day excursion to Riviera Maya's archaeological sites. They have four different tours to choose from and their park is recommended for kids 6 and older. Open 8:00-17:00 hrs www.aventurasmayas.com

Alltournative

Alltournative's Jungle Maya Expedition will take you on an all-day adventure that will have your audience back home

sitting at the edge of their chairs: prepare for swimming in a cenote, riding into the wilderness, lunching Mayan-style in the jungle and touring through the archaeological site at Tulum with a knowledgeable guide. This outfitter also has spine-tingling zip-lines ready for you to enjoy, offers your choice of dips in a subterranean or an open sky cenote, and much more. At the park, you can enjoy of many amenities included in your tour, from safety and fun to a delicious and locally prepared meal, after the exciting journey into the Mayan jungle!

Become a true adventurer and get all the emotion of driving an ATV through jungle paths with suspended bridges and elevated trails while listening to the sound of the Mayan forest at **Native Park Playa del Carmen** or **Native Park Tulum**. Enjoy pleasant walks immersed in a protected natural area to explore underground caves filled with unique stalagmites and stalactites. Get a new perspective of the scenery while flying full-speed above the vegetation in a zip-line circuit. Discover archaeological vestiges and learn about the lifestyle of the first inhabitants of the area. A true gem of the journey, it's a chance to refresh by swimming in the beautiful turquoise waters of the cenotes that are exclusive to the nearby Mayan villages



All attractions are natural and Alltournative takes part in the conservation of the natural areas in its parks as well as on its tours, which means you'll be contributing your part to responsible tourism and sustainable fun. Open 08:00-16:00 hrs www.alltournative.com

Grupo Xcaret

Grupo Xcaret is a family of parks, tours and hotels owned by the family of the founder, Mr. Miguel Quintana, who's efforts enhance the preservation and share our Mexican culture, full of diverse traditions and history. He first created **Xcaret**, which was the first of its kind in the area. This theme park, is also part animal reserve, part beach resort, that manages to balance commercialism with conservation while showcasing the essence of the Mexican Caribbean experience. There are many onsite restaurants, bars, equipment rental areas and souvenir shops. Opened in 1990, Xcaret is a place where you can spend the entire day, but we recommend you also stay after dark so you can enjoy the Xcaret México Espectacular show. Hot tip: save 10 percent if you buy your tickets online at www.xcaret.com. You don't even have to leave the park to find accommodations: there's a five-star **Occidental at Xcaret Destination** hotel plus **Hotel**

Xcaret México, La Casa de la Playa, and its newest hotel called **Hotel Xcaret Arte**, which is a homage to the best Mexican artists. Between the three properties there are over 1,800 rooms.

XPLOR is a unique adventure that provides a full day of options and activities. There are 14 zip-lines with water landings and amazing suspension bridges, or you can choose jungle trips on amphibious vehicles. If that's not your speed, how about an underground paradise where you can swim surrounded by amazing stalactites and stalagmites, or a raft trip across stunning subterranean caverns, using your hands as paddles? Hot tip: Xplor is also open at night. With a thrilling nocturnal adventure, you'll be enjoying the best of **Xplor Fuego!** A nutritious buffet is included, specially designed to recharge your energy, as are dressing rooms, lockers, and top-quality safety equipment. For discounts and advance purchase visit www.xplor.travel or call (888) 922-7381 in the U.S. and Canada.

XAVAGE, located south of Cancun on Chetumal–Puerto Juárez Federal Highway km 338. It is an amusement park that dares you to unleash the wild within by performing a challenging rope trail, riding a fierce jet boat, rafting in the rapids and driving an

TIP

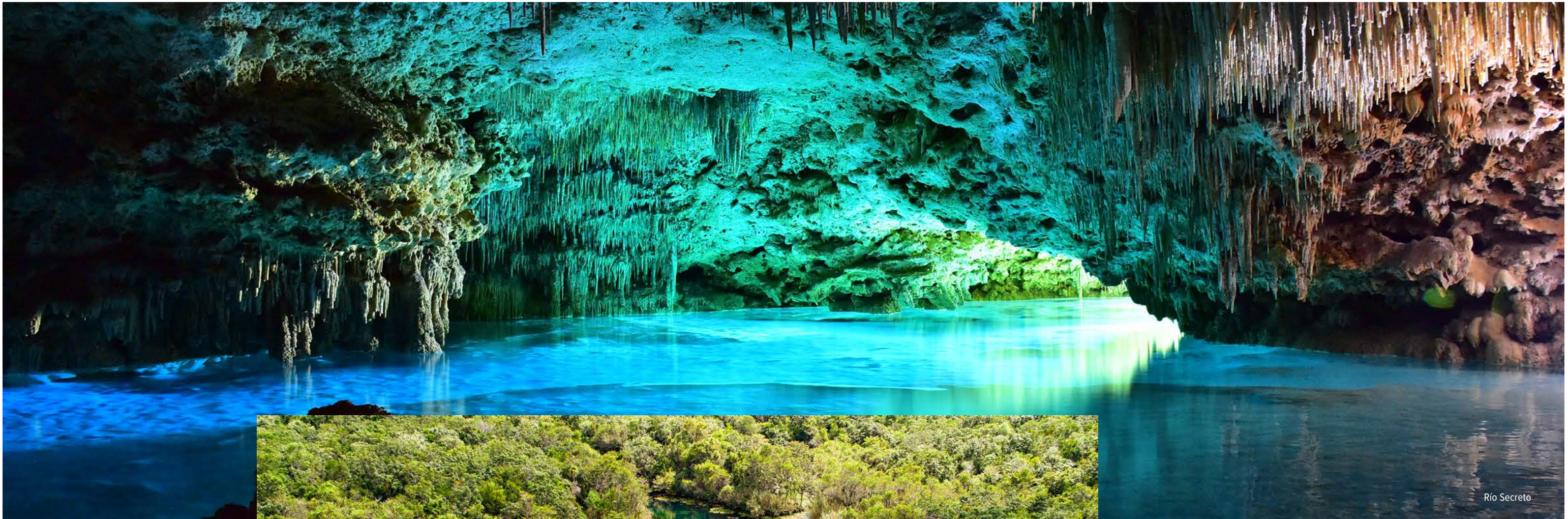
We have several coral farming programs and are currently developing new systems. By supporting eco parks and attractions, you're supporting these efforts, too!



Xel-Há



Xcaret



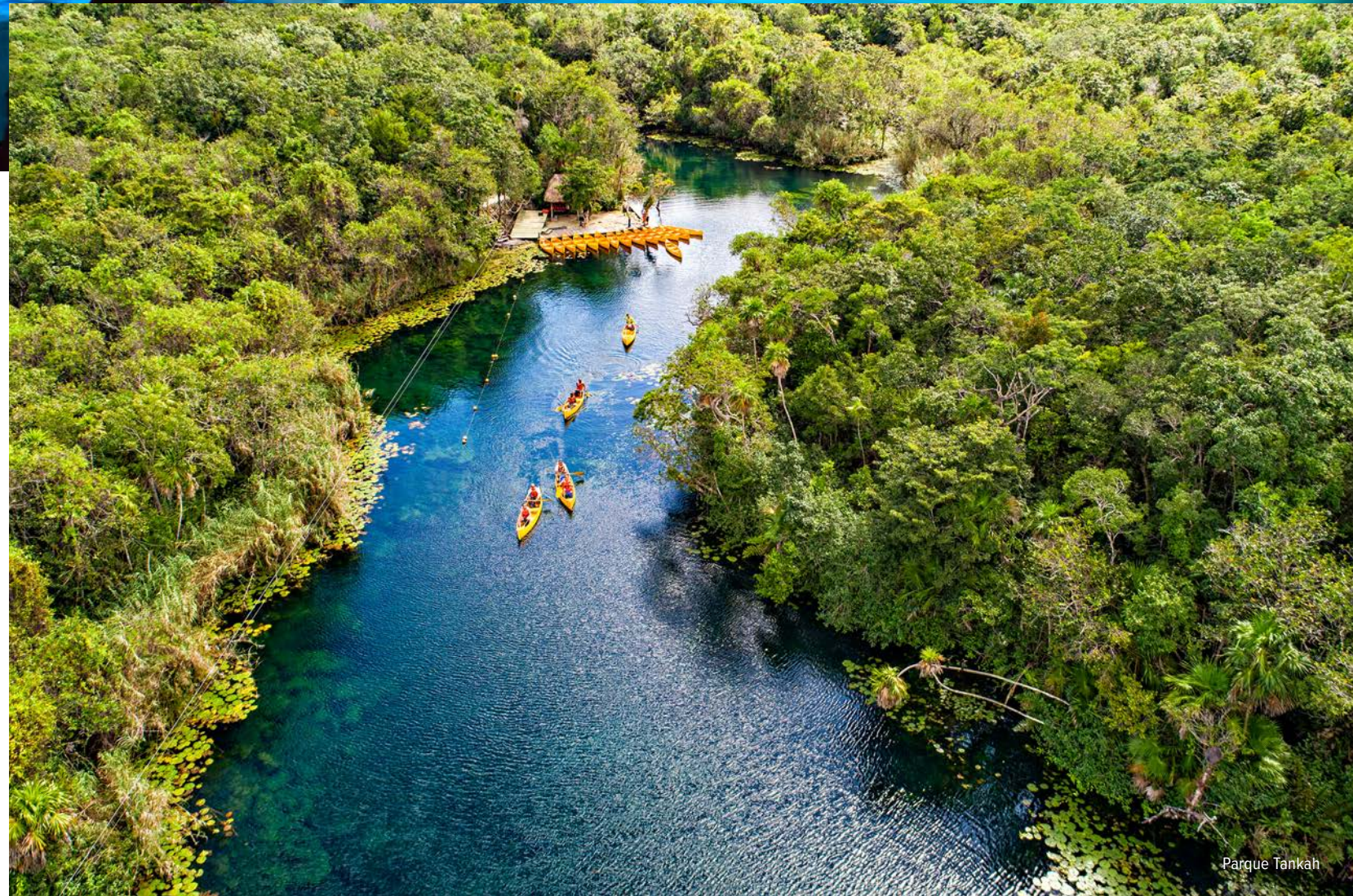
Río Secreto

all-terrain vehicle through an obstacle circuit, among other activities. Open 8:30-17:00 hrs. www.xavage.com

XENSES is an amazing park where you'll test how much you can trust your senses by exploring a pitch-dark tunnel with only your touch, while experiencing incredible optical illusions. This is a great experience for families with children ages 6 and older.

XEL-HÁ 110 km/68 mi south of the Cancun International Airport) is one of the most magical spots in the Mexican Caribbean, an incredible "natural aquarium" where the saltwater from the ocean meets the freshwater currents from the springs and underground rivers, creating a fascinating ecosystem—thus the Mayan name which literally means "place where water is born." This is an all-day affair, where you can do as much or as little as you like (though we really, truly do encourage you to do a lot)! This place is picture perfect and brimming with all kinds of flora, fauna and marine life, thanks greatly to the care of the team at Xel-Há, who are completely committed to protecting the environment. This means no non-biodegradable sunscreen as it can damage the coral and the sea life, so if yours doesn't meet the standards, they'll hold it for you and give it back when you leave. But don't worry about baking yourself: the park hands out biodegradable sunscreen at no cost to you. For current info, tickets and some very enticing pictures, visit www.xelha.com.

Río Secreto



Parque Tankah

Located just south of Xcaret on Highway 307, Río Secreto offers 14 km/9 mi of spectacular underground caverns studded with stalactites and stalagmites, plus *cenotes* to explore by foot and underwater. Note: if you are looking for a safe and fun option for a rainy day in the tropical Riviera Maya, this is it!

The fun begins after you walk through the large underground dry caverns following the 600-meter (656-yard) limestone pathway. Then you'll find yourself dipping into the cool, clear water to float through the caves down the 500-meter (547-yard) underground river. It's a 90-minute tour of majestic calcium formations and an utter stillness in these ancient caverns—that's an hour and a half that will certainly fly by.

Credit cards are accepted, and guides are fluent in English and Spanish. Río Secreto is not recommended for children under 6 or travelers who have trouble walking. All you need is comfortable clothing, walking shoes and your bathing suit—Río Secreto provides the rest. Open 9:00-14:00 hrs www.riosecreto.com, (800) 985-2664 U.S. and Canada.

Jungala

it is a luxurious boutique water park located inside the Vidanta hotel, 40 minutes away from Cancun. Among its main attractions are the Aqua Drop, Aqua Loop, Flatline loop and Whizzard, in addition to a wave pool with

natural sand and a lazy river, which is the largest in Latin America, with more than a kilometer long.

Kantun Chi

This remarkable eco-park is located in the heart of Riviera Maya. Its name means "yellowstone mouth" in Maya, and it's a magical place where you can swim in the freshwater *cenotes* and explore the strikingly beautiful underground caverns. Chill out and relax with Mother Nature, she's done an amazing job in this coastal paradise.

Akumal Monkey Sanctuary

We're very grateful to live in such a gorgeous spot on Earth, so we're very conscious about taking care of our surroundings. At the Akumal Monkey Sanctuary and Rescued Animals they do just that. This is not a zoo, but a true sanctuary. Here you'll meet locals of Mayan descent volunteering to help preserve our fauna and our natural heritage. Feel-good tip: when you visit the Sanctuary to see the rescued animals you'll be contributing to our preservation efforts! Open 9:00-17:00 hrs www.akumalmonkeysanctuary.com

RIVIERA MAYA FOR FOODIES

The gastronomy of Riviera Maya, rooted in ancient and very delicious traditions, has experienced an extraordinary evolution sparked by its homegrown chefs. This progression has not only attracted their culinary colleagues from around the world, but has also reaped a wide following of food and wine connoisseurs and critics who spare no words in praising its cuisine.

If you consider yourself a gourmand, a foodie or someone who just knows a really good thing when you taste it, you're in for a treat. A little history: because of its seaside location and access to an incredible variety of seafood, the Mayans who settled here developed a gastronomy slightly different from their inland counterparts, who mainly relied on game and fowl such as wild turkey for their meals. This was ground zero for today's chefs, and they've completely run with it and made it their own.

That smorgasbord of chefs has resulted in a fabulous variety of options, from award-winning restaurants with fare that ranges from exquisite Mayan fusion to the finest international dishes all the way to humble beachside eateries where shoes are optional and you'll find yourself hard-pressed not to lick your fingers. So whether you have money to burn or not, this is one destination where you'll eat like royalty no matter where you decide to dine.

Keep reading for an insider's look at our tasty heritage and we'll wrap it up with a guide of some of the region's best places to experience it for yourself.

Plank

A Taste Of Mayan Heritage... And Beyond

The "Maya" component of the "Riviera Maya" equation is evident in the many exquisite regional dishes of the area, some of which are still prepared as they were in pre-Hispanic times. In fact, the National Association of Restaurateurs has awarded Riviera Maya's restaurants its highest award of excellence in preparation of regional dishes. Typical Mayan seasonings like *tikin-xic* (pronounced *tee-kin-SHEEK*) or *cochinita pibil* (*ko-chee-NEE-tah pee-BEEL*) make frequent appearances on local restaurant menus—and once you try either one you'll see why. The former is a Mayan method of grilling fresh fish with various regional spices; the latter—when prepared in the most traditional manner—involves baking a well-seasoned pig wrapped in banana leaves in an underground pit, which is later served with pickled red onions.

But because Riviera Maya has received such a varied influx of visitors and residents from all over the world, it's only natural they would have brought with them their international cuisines. This means you'll find Italian restaurants, Argentine chefs, Cuban eateries, and French delicacies. And all of them completely take advantage of the choice local seafood caught fresh every morning.

The best spirits and wines put in an appearance in our restaurants, as well. The national drink, tequila, and its smoky cousin, mezcal, have been elevated to top-drawer status here, meaning you can enjoy a fine pairing or a select tasting led by experts who know their blue agave. Mexican wine, too, has a legacy of award-winners that are chosen by our sommeliers to accompany your dinners. And, of course, the best of the best

from the wine regions of Europe, the United States, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Chile and Argentina are also in their cellars.

It's interesting to note that while stand-alone restaurants up and down the coast can certainly be the focus of a gourmet culinary tour of the Riviera Maya.

Here in Riviera Maya, though, as in all of Mexico, food is much more than just what's on your plate...

The Riviera Maya became a gastronomic destination thanks to a few unique factors, starting with its original inhabitants. Due to its coastal location, the Mayans who once lived in this region developed a slightly different cuisine than their inland counterparts, with distinct flavors and ingredients. And to make things even more tasteful, in recent years, traditional gastronomy has been transformed by mixing regional ingredients and recipes with contemporary techniques, resulting in a new culinary fusion.

Today in the Mexican Caribbean, we already realized that the tourists wants and demands local cuisine, wants to know the smells, flavors, traditions and above all the origin of the ingredients of traditional Mayan cuisine," says Chef Federico Lopez.

Many of the finest restaurants in the Mexican Caribbean belong to acclaimed and prestigious chefs. All of them are interested in using local ingredients and sustainable products to fully capture the true essence and textures of the dishes in the region. One of these restaurants is "Axiote, Cocina de Mexico", located in Playa del Carmen, which is owned by award-winning chef Xavier Pérez Stone.

At the forefront is indigenous cuisine, with ingredients that haven't changed in

hundreds of years, such as corn, beans, and chili peppers. Some of the dishes that exemplify this mix of regional ingredients with the gourmet flavor are the octopus salbute with dried candied Hibiscus Flower, Ceviche Negro and Ceviche Verde.

Mexican gastronomy demonstrates unquestionable antiquity and historical progression. It is collectively elaborated. It supports products native to the land and boasts great creativity from its chefs, who have been perfecting it over centuries.

Furthermore, the Mexican Caribbean's cuisine combines contemporary techniques that give it a character of innovation and constant adaptation. Thanks to this, it has managed to remain influential for generations, feeding the people of the region for millennia and now equally delighting its visitors.

"About 90 per cent of the ingredients we use in the kitchen are from Mexico. We use venison from Mexico, we use lamb from Mexico, we use fish and vegetables from Mexico. We try to represent new flavors with classic ingredients," says Chef Xavier Pérez Stone.

Recommended Dining

Now that we have your appetite going we'd like to offer you a list of recommendations where you can find some of the deliciousness we mentioned above. We'll start from the north end and head down south on this culinary tour. ¡Buen provecho!

PLAYA DEL CARMEN

Ah, Playa: go for the glam or go for the shorts and sandals—no matter where you stop for breakfast, lunch or dinner, it's going to make your taste buds happy. Note: after dinner drinks are a must.

Porfirio's: Located in la Quinta Avenida, Porfirio's is a restaurant that presents the best of Mexico, transforming its traditional flavors, textures and aromas into the most exquisite dishes of Mexican haute cuisine resulting from a careful selection of ingredients. A restaurant that renews the concept of contemporary cuisine, balancing homemade recipes and street food. Tel: (984) 110-7805 www.porfirios.com.mx

Ilios: Ilios brings gourmet Greek and Mediterranean cooking to Playa's Quinta Avenida. Sumptuous décor and a menu embracing Caribbean seafood prepared with Greek accents and flavors. <https://iliosrestaurante.com.mx/playa-del-carmen/>

Axiote: The restaurant's Chef is Xavier Stone, awarded Best Cook of Mexico in 2012 and Iron Chef Canada in 2014. He has created a menu that fuses together ancient Mexican food with a modern twist, incorporating ingredients from all over Mexico. Liquors and spirits of Mexico are also part of the history and gastronomy. Axiote has different mezcals, beers and wines and complements them with dishes. Tel: (984) 803-1727 www.axiote.rest

Amate 38: A fine restaurant with a jungle theme and a cenote. It serves unique and fresh regional food using local fresh ingredients using ancient cooking techniques with charcoal and a wood oven. Tel: (984) 231-2982 www.amate38.com

Los Aguachiles: Los Aguachiles is a very basic, local restaurant—the best way to describe it would probably be a "high-end" taco stand, so, as you can surely guess, this means most dishes are tacos made with fish and other tasty fresh seafood. You choose the level of spiciness when ordering the sauce to top your *aguachiles* and *ceviches*. Tel: (984) 849-1442 www.losaguachiles.mx

Primo: Primo celebrates its love

TIP

Axiote: The restaurant's Chef is Xavier Stone, awarded Best Cook of Mexico in 2012 and Iron Chef Canada in 2014. He has created a menu that fuses together ancient Mexican food with a modern twist.

Axiote

for food, ancestral distilled spirits, local craftsmanship and "rustic" cooking. This space exists under a massive tree while bringing Playa diners to authentic Mexican cuisine cooked under open flame, an underground oven, in ceramic and stone "comales". It is all delicious and colorfully served. www.opentable.com.mx/r/primoplaza-del-carmen

Flama Wood Fired Cuisine: Flama features smoked and wood grilled and baked main courses with the freshest local seafood and meats, inspired by traditional Mediterranean and global cuisine essence. www.opentable.com.mx/r/flama-wood-fired-cuisine-playa-del-carmen

PUERTO MORELOS DINING

Akumal makes laid-back look really good, but it also cleans up for upscale gourmet dinners in no time at all.

El Merkadito: Around since 1979, this beachfront seafood spot offers the freshest ceviches, grilled and

Maya-inspired fresh fish, fruit-inspired cocktails and attentive service. Its adjacent beach is picture postcard perfect. www.elmerkadito.mx

Punto Corcho: Chef Daniel Ovadia is behind this culinary experience devoted to fresh fire grilled seafood and farm-raised beef. Extensive cocktail, wine and mezcals plus Mexican microbrews with a seafront view of the Puerto Morelos Malecon and adjacent main plaza. <https://bullandtank.com/punta-corcho>

Pelicanos Restaurant and Marina

This is one of the quintessential restaurants in Puerto Morelos; Being specialists in haute cuisine and seafood, they have become an icon of the city, proudly representing its colors, flavors and aromas. With a history full of union, love and a lot of flavors for more than 20 years. With the best view of the Caribbean Sea, our quality and seasoning are unmatched. <http://www.pelicanos.com.mx/>



Kin Toh

TIP

Tulum is a paradise for travelers looking for new culinary delights. The destination has lots of excellent restaurants, with options ranging from the simplest dining hall to lavish establishments, overlooking the Caribbean Sea, inside a cenote and even in the middle of the imposing Mayan jungle or in the top of the trees. Many of Tulum's restaurants have been recognized by prestigious travel and lifestyle magazines.

TULUM AREA DINING

Tulum is hip and happening; think white linen, bare feet, with a big helping of hippie chic mixed in. The cuisine? Just as exotic.

Kin Toh offers an haute cuisine restaurant experience. Built on stilts 12 meters (40 feet) above Tulum's Mayan jungle, this venue provides one of the best locations to enjoy the beautiful Caribbean sunsets. The chef uses

different textures, flavors, temperatures and the best ingredients for the eatery's Mexican and Mayan infused cuisine. The produce is fresh, mostly organic and locally sourced, ensure the best quality in every dish.

Kin Toh also serves a wide selection of international spirits and Mexican distillates. Each night brings a surprising performance from world-renowned artists to complete the Kin Toh experience. www.kintoh.com

El Tábano: Surrounded by a luscious garden in the middle of the jungle, El Tábano is a favorite of locals and visitors alike. It's quite the experience, serving homemade, flavorful dishes with regional character and a dash of the chef's personality. Tel: (984) 134-8725

Ocumare: Ocumare Restaurant presents the first Shared Dining experience in Tulum, a culinary opportunity to live among family and friends. Michelin Star Chef Mauricio Giovanini created a menu honoring

flavors from India, Morocco, Argentina and Spain, mastered by fire-techniques and paired with the best seasonal and local products. Tel: (984) 146-9722 www.ocumaretulum.com

Nu Tulum: Enjoy bounty from the Caribbean Sea and Mayan jungle. Step into the jungle to encounter a bohemian, open-air, enchanting candle-light restaurant called NÜ, serving "bespoke" cocktails and freshly sourced local ingredients blended into a culinary journey for the senses. Guests from around the world are genuinely welcomed to take in the magic of their surroundings, enjoy the subtle lounge music, and delight in deeply sensual, creative, and memorable meals. www.newtulum.com

Arca Tulum: Arca creates dishes in step with roots and traditions, set in a jungle garden setting and using curated suppliers for locally-sourced fresh ingredients. Grilled meats are the specialty here along with innovative seafood entrees and plenty of vegetable choices. www.arcatum.com

Tamarindos Tulum: Chef Enrique Silva (following years in Los Cabos) with a degree in agricultural engineering and a love for Mexican cuisine learned in his mother's kitchen as she prepared daily meals for his large family. After collaborating with master chef Larry Nicola at Hotel Palmilla, Silva founded Los Tamarindos in 2006 with a vision of providing a unique Mexican farm-to-table experience where food-freshness and seasonality dictate what dishes we serve. Now he brings his vision to Tulum aiming to blend his style with Mayan flavors. <https://www.tamarindostulum.com/>

Bak Restaurant and Dinner Show: Enjoy one of the best culinary experiences of your life while you are delighted by "Cha'an Ka'ak". A show brought as a gift from Kaulil, God of Fire, to offer protection and energy to the soul. Their Ritual of Fire and Rob Report worthy culinary chops make this one of Tulum's most desired dining choices. Part of the legendary Grupo Anderson chain (Senor Frogs). www.bakrestaurant.com

Hartwood: This restaurant is on a jungle road that runs alongside the Caribbean Sea and is completely off-grid: the nearest power lines are miles away. All cooking is done by open fire in its handmade wood-burning oven and grill, and every single ingredient is deeply rooted within the Mundo Maya. All fish are spear-caught within the Caribbean and the Lagoons of the Boca Paila, and they harvest their colorful, exotic produce from communal Mayan farms called *milpas*, where they work daily with the local community. www.hartwoodtulum.com



WELLNESS

If you're in the market for a relaxing getaway, you'll find plenty of options for it in Riviera Maya. Think massages on the beach as your hair is ruffled in the cool sea breeze; or being submerged in a fragrant sauna; escaping to a holistic retreat; or spending a morning in a beauty spa—R&R never had it so good!

TIP

The Riviera Maya is a wellness hotspot because of the wide variety of experiences it provides, from state-of-the-art spas offering luxury treatments, to holistic indigenous experiences like pre-Hispanic Temazcal, energy and vibrational healing, soaking baths, purifying rituals and body wraps.

Spas all along Riviera Maya have incorporated the best of the techniques of the ancient Maya with the finest Oriental and European treatments, served up in luxurious, modern facilities by highly trained and certified professionals. This is holistic renewal at its most relaxing, catering to body, mind and spirit. Choose from all sorts of massages, acupuncture, crystal therapies, reflexology, aromatherapy, and hydrotherapy; from the purification rituals in the traditional temazcal (Mayan sweat lodge) to the exotic Hammam and Watsu water massage—it's all here. Guests in Riviera Maya will also find cutting-edge and high-end medical spa treatments, including Botox, Meso-Lift and body reshaping using high-intensity ultrasound techniques.

MULUK SPA & WELLNESS by Hotel Xcaret Mexico is a mystical and natural sanctuary that offers a holistic experience which leads you on the path of complete restoration through relaxation, stimulation of the senses and health.

Boasting unique facilities which blend in with

nature and are enhanced with state-of-the-art technologies. Muluk Spa fuses the origin of the word Spa—"salus per aquam", which means health through water—with its different wellness philosophies which it calls Journeys.

ROSEWOOD'S SPA SENSE was designed around a cenote, taking advantage of the natural landscape of freshwater and limestone walls where the ancient Mayans hosted sacred ceremonies. The spa is on a private island, so you have to access it by crossing a bridge. Here, natural beauty and ancient Mayan traditions mix together to create an exquisite and exclusive service, paired with Rosewood's luxurious ambiance. It offers 12 treatment rooms, a steam room, a meditation room and a relaxation pool. Guests can enjoy a temazcal experience, facials, massages, a juice bar, sauna, Jacuzzi, and yoga and relaxation classes. www.rosewoodmayakoba.com

YĀAN HEALING SANCTUARY is a healing center where you will find your inner and outer beauty in the integration of mind, body and soul. From the moment

you pass the burning flame, you will be immersed in the elements of fire, air, water, and earth and feel at peace with Yāan's elegant and organic design, which respects the flow of nature in both space and time.

ESENCIA HOTEL'S AROMA SPA is located under an enormous thatched palapa and is surrounded by gardens in which the majority of the ingredients for the treatments are grown. It has five rooms, one of these for couples. Its Full Moon ritual celebrates life, and includes a temazcal ceremony to the beat of Mayan drums, the trumpeting of conch shells, singing and traditional dancing. www.hotelesencia.com

AZULIK'S MAYA WELLNESS CENTER offers specially designed treatments that combine ancient Mayan techniques with traditional spa treatments for personalized therapies and remedies to ease any physical or spiritual ailment. Its therapists are professionals in different spa techniques and practice the Mayan therapeutic methods they have inherited from their families through generations. From the Mayan sobada to the temazcal, all treatments are meant to heal the vital energy of your body and soothe your soul with a little help from the elements. www.azulik.com/about-our-spa/

CENOTE SPA AT GRAND HYATT PLAYA DEL CARMEN RESORT embraces the natural healing pools found around the Riviera Maya, the cenotes, recreating the perfect holistic environment for this sanctuary devoted to the wellbeing of mind, body, and spirit.

The water and mangroves are the perfect combination of nature represented in our eight treatments suites, including two for couples; these elements will assure you feel renewed, relaxed and revitalized with any of our enticing selection of massages and body treatments.

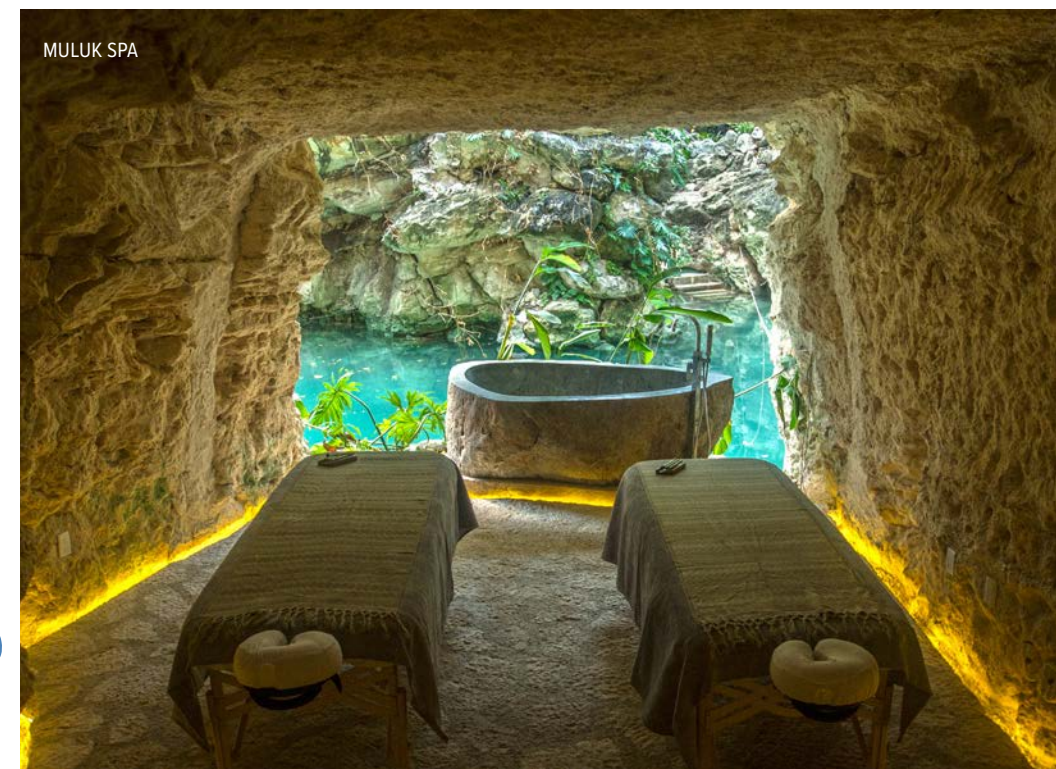
CHABLÉ MAROMA SPA has two single treatment rooms, four double treatment rooms and an hydrotherapy circuit, consisting in hot and cold jacuzzis, steam bath for her and for him and a wonderful rainforest pool with water jets. The treatment menu, integrates Mayan ancestral techniques and herbal medicine, with scientifically developed ingredients and state-of-the-art equipment.

PALMAIA, THE HOUSE OF AIA: The origins of physical and emotional states of being are tied to the subtleties of one's body, which is composed of nine energy centers that move and give fluidity to one's vital energy.

At Atlantis, they seek inner harmony by working on different energy centers to facilitate being in the eternal present. Located in Playacar www.thehouseofaia.com

TIP

Holistic renewal is at its best in our coastal paradise, where trained professionals offer European, Asian and Mayan treatments plus the latest medspa techniques in luxurious surroundings.



YĀAN HEALING SANCTUARY

MULUK SPA



El Camaleón Mayakoba

7 RIVIERA MAYA GOLF COURSES

IBEROSTAR PLAYA PARAÍSO GOLF CLUB

Course Designer: P.B. Dye
 Specifications: Open daily 6:00-19:00 hrs; par 72, 6,701 yards; grass: Paspalum. Unlimited food and beverages on course and at clubhouse. Home of TV series "Big Break Mexico." www.iberostar.com; Tel: (984) 877-2800 ext. 8590

VIDANTA GOLF RIVIERA MAYA

Course Designer: Nicklaus Design
 Specifications: 18 holes, par 54, 2,923 yards; flat executive; grass on greens: Tifward; grass on fairways: Bermuda 419. First tee time: 6:30 and every 7 minutes. www.vidantagolf.com; Tel: (984) 206 40 43 or (984) 206-4000 ext. 4303, U.S. & Canada: (866) 354-3958

EL CAMALEÓN MAYAKOBA

Course Designer: Greg Norman
 Specifications: 18 holes, par 72 and home to OHL Classic Mayakobá, the only Mexico tournament on the PGA tour. Tee times: 7:00-18:00 (every 10 minutes) Yards: 7,067; grass: Paspalum. Par: 72; www.mayakobagolf.com; Tel: (984) 206-4650/53

GRAN COYOTE GOLF

Course Designer: Nick Price
 Specifications: 18 holes, par 71, championship course. Grass on greens: Paspalum Platinum; tees, fairways, roughs: Sea Isle 1. www.grandcoralgolf.com; Tel: (984) 109-6025

HARD ROCK GOLF CLUB RIVIERA MAYA

Course Designer: Robert von Hagge
 Specifications: 18 holes, par 72; grass: Bermuda; 7,136 yards, challenging any player regardless of expertise or levels of play. www.hrhrieveramaya.com/world-class-golf.htm; Tel: (984) 873-4990

PUERTO AVENTURAS GOLF & RACQUET CLUB

Course Designer: Thomas Lehman
 Specifications: 9 holes, par 36; grass: Bermuda. Open daily 7:30-sunset. Web: www.puertoaventurasgolfcourse.com; Tel: (984) 873-5109

PGA RIVIERA MAYA BY BAHÍA PRÍNCIPE GOLF

Course Designer: Robert Trent Jones II
 Specifications: Open daily from 6:30; 18-hole championship, par 72, plus an executive, 9-hole, par 27 course; grass: Paspalum Platinum. www.rivieramaya-golfclub.com; Tel: (984) 875-5048

CHART MICE 2022

HOTEL PLAN	# ROOMS	BALLROOM DIMENSIONS				BALLROOM CAPACITY PER SET-UP								
		SPACE		HEIGHT	COCKTAIL	THEATRE	BANQUET	CLASSROOM	IMPERIAL	U-SHAPE				
		M2	SQ.FT	MTS							FT			
ALOFT TULUM	EP/PE - B&B	140	256	2,755	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ANDAZ MAYAKOBA	EP/PE	214	576	6,200	6	19.7	550	450	400	225	-	-	-	-
BANYAN TREE MAYAKOBA	EP/PE	117	307	3,310	7	21	250	250	210	120	70	50	-	-
BARCELO MAYA BEACH	AI/TI	630	480	5,167	4	13	560	500	390	300	150	120	-	-
BARCELO MAYA CARIBE BEACH	AI/TI	414	350	3,767	4	13	400	370	280	220	110	90	-	-
BARCELO MAYA COLONIAL Y TROPICAL	AI/TI	960	1,125	12,109	-	16	1,300	1,200	1,000	800	350	300	-	-
BARCELO MAYA PALACE DELUXE	AI/TI	756	400	4,306	6	18	400	380	290	200	80	80	-	-
BELMOND MAROMA RESORT & SPA	EP/PE	63	82	882	2.2	7.2	40	50	40	25	30	25	-	-
BLUEBAY DIAMOND RIVIERA MAYA	AI/TI	128	188	2,025	5	53	150	140	120	120	-	60	-	-
BLUEBAY GRAND ESMERALDA	AI/TI	979	579	6,232	5	16	360	600	300	320	-	95	-	-
CATALONIA ROYAL TULUM	AI/TI	288	308	3,315	5	15	-	150	100	100	-	50	-	-
COMPLEJO IBEROSTAR PARAÍSO	AI/TI	2,004	1,429	15,382	7	23	-	1,500	860	800	-	-	-	-
CONRAD TULUM RIVIERA MAYA	AI/TI	349	5,175	55,713	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
DREAMS PUERTO AVENTURAS	AI/TI	305	300	3,229	3	10	100	120	70	60	70	80	-	-
DREAMS TULUM RESORT AND SPA	AI/TI	432	507	5,457	6	19	580	600	350	320	120	90	-	-
EL DORADO ROYALE & SPA RESORT	AI/TI	647	907	9,767	6	20	-	1,080	784	476	-	-	-	-
FAIRMONT MAYAKOBA	EP/PE	401	910	10,000	6	18	800	750	600	480	-	-	-	-
GRAN BAHIA PRINCIPE AKUMAL	AI/TI	630	294	3,165	3	9	-	264	90	220	-	-	-	-
GRAN BAHIA PRINCIPE COBA	AI/TI	1,080	520	5,597	3	10	-	410	180	225	-	-	-	-
GRAN BAHIA PRINCIPE SIAN KA'AN	AI/TI	420	182	1,954	2	8	-	350	190	220	-	-	-	-
GRAND HYATT PLAYA DEL CARMEN	EP/PE	314	536	5,768	6	20	550	550	320	320	-	-	-	-
GRAND PALLADIUM RIVIERA RESORT & SPA	AI/TI	1,554	505	5,437	6	20	380	600	360	384	42	60	-	-
GRAND RIVIERA & SUNSET PRINCESS	AI/TI	1,492	2,532	27,233	7.5	25	1,500	1,500	1,200	1,200	-	-	-	-
GRAND SIRENIS RIVIERA MAYA	AI/TI	948	243.6	2,622	3.4	36	120	200	100	140	52	50	-	-
GRAND VELAS ALL SUITES & SPA RESORT	AI/TI	491	1,546	16,643	5	17	1,600	1,800	700	1,000	250	200	-	-
HACIENDA TRES RIOS & NATURE PARK	AI/TI	259	545	5,866	5	17	560	560	400	360	350	250	-	-
HARD ROCK RIVIERA MAYA (DECCA BALLROOM)	AI/TI	1,264	2,324	23,755	7	23	2,400	2,400	1,800	1,800	-	-	-	-
HARD ROCK RIVIERA MAYA (EPIC BALLROOM)	EP/PE	1,264	3,000	32,293	7	23	3,818	3,610	2,710	2,242	-	-	-	-
HILTON PLAYA DEL CARMEN	AI/TI	524	-	6,500	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
HILTON TULUM RIVIERA MAYA	AI/TI	735	-	63,669	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS PLAYACAR	AI/TI	196	249	2,680	3	9	250	300	200	190	100	90	-	-
HOTEL XCARET ARTE	AI/TI	900	3,894	41,914	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
HOTEL XCARET MEXICO	AI/TI	900	1,203	12,948	7	23	1,200	1,100	800	600	N/A	N/A	-	-
IBEROSTAR QUETZAL Y TUCAN	AI/TI	700	428	4,604	4	13	500	400	200	250	110	100	-	-
OCCIDENTAL GRAND FLAMENCO XCARET	AI/TI	778	1,019	10,990	7	26	1,150	1,048	520	676	N/A	310	-	-
OCEAN MAYA	AI/TI	591	437	4,704	3	9	400	350	300	170	-	-	-	-
PANAMA JACK RESORT PLAYA DEL CARMEN	AI/TI	287	166	1,787	3	10	130	120	90	90	60	70	-	-
PARADISUS LA PERLA & LA ESMERALDA	AI/TI	904	1,428	15,100	5.7	9	1,300	1,100	800	800	336	284	-	-
PLAYACAR PALACE	AI/TI	201	300	3,330	5	16	300	300	240	200	70	70	-	-
PLATINUM YUCATAN PRINCESS	EP/PE	472	597	6,426	5.5	18	200	430	270	250	-	-	-	-
ROSEWOOD MAYAKOBA	AI/TI	128	122	1,313	3	9	80	90	80	60	40	32	-	-
ROYAL HIDEAWAY PLAYACAR	AI/TI	200	315	1,667	3	9	120	120	80	70	60	60	-	-
SECRETS CAPRI RIVIERA CANCUN	AI/TI	291	480	5,167	6	20	400	350	220	200	-	150	-	-
SECRETS MAROMA	AI/TI	412	752	7,752	5.5	18	600	600	480	320	60	60	-	-
SECRETS MOXCHÉ PLAYA DEL CARMEN	AI/TI	485	1,110	11,950	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
THE REEF COCO BEACH	AI/TI	196	400	4,306	5	15	550	550	450	300	-	-	-	-
THE REEF PLAYACAR	AI/TI	196	400	4,306	4	13	550	500	450	300	-	-	-	-
THE ROYAL PLAYA DEL CARMEN	AI/TI	507	631	6,787	8	25	900	800	600	600	250	180	-	-
UNICO HOTEL RIVIERA MAYA	AI/TI	448	1,078	11,603	6.2	12.34	1,104	1,104	840	768	-	-	-	-
VALENTIN IMPERIAL MAYA	AI/TI	540	1,064	11,448	5	16	1,000	800	400	350	90	60	-	-
VIVA WYNDHAM AZTECA	AI/TI	480	250	2,691	6	18	200	150	130	80	50	80	-	-
WYNDHAM GARDEN PLAYA DEL CARMEN	AI/TI	196	687	2,284	2.7	8.4	250	300	150	120	70	90	-	-
TOTAL							27,577 ROOMS	47,706 M2	513,505 SQ.FT					

HOTEL	CONTACT	ROOMS	CAT.	PLAN	SITE
PUERTO MORELOS					
Azul Beach Resort Riviera Cancun (sensored)	(998) 872 8450 (998) 872 8466	435	5	All inclusive	www.karismahotels.com/azul-beach-resorts/riviera-cancun
Breathless Riviera Cancun	(998) 283 0900	526	5	All inclusive	www.breathlessresorts.com/riviera-cancun
Desire Riviera Maya Resort	(998) 872 8280 (998) 872 8296	114	5	All inclusive	www.desire-experience.com/
Desire Riviera Maya Pearl Resort	(998) 872 8063 (998) 872 8067	88	5	All inclusive	www.desire-experience.com/
Dreams Jade Resort & Spa	(998) 872 8888	550	5	All inclusive	www.nowresorts.com/
Dreams Riviera Cancun Resort & Spa	(998) 872 9200 (998) 872 8500	486	5	All inclusive	www.dreamsresorts.com/
Dreams Sapphire Resort & Spa	(998) 872 8383	496	5	All inclusive	www.nowresorts.com/
Excellence Riviera Cancun	(998) 872 8500	440	5	All inclusive	www.excellenceresorts.com/
Grand Residences Riviera Cancun	(998) 872 8130	103	5- Grand Tourism	All inclusive	www.grandresidencesrivieracancun.com/
Hyatt Ziva Riviera Cancun	(998) 881 4001	438	5	All inclusive	www.hyatt.com/
Margarita Village Island Riviera Cancun	(998) 872 8080	148	5	All inclusive	www.karismahotels.com/
Marina El Cid Spa & Beach Resort	(998) 872 8999	282	5- Grand Tourism	All inclusive	www.elcid.com/
Ocean Coral & Turquesa	(998) 287 2100	586	5	All inclusive	www.hotelocancoralturquesa.net/
Sensira Resort & Spa Riviera Maya	(998) 868 5460	359	5	All inclusive	www.sensiraresorts.com/
The Fives Oceanfront Puerto Morelos	(984) 242 0144	93	4	All inclusive & European plan	www.thefiveshotels.com/
Zoetry Paraiso de la Bonita Riviera Maya	(998) 872 8300	90	5	All inclusive	www.amrcollection.com/
Acamaya Reef	(998) 871 0131	7	Boutique	European plan	acamayareefcabanas.com/
Ammar Inn	(998) 871 0026	10	Boutique	European plan	amarinn.mx/
Balcan Estudios	(998) 348 6929	8	Boutique	European plan	balancastudios.com/
Cabañas Puerto Morelos	(814) 693 9243	10	Boutique	European plan	n/a
Casa Caribe	(998) 251 8060	5	Boutique	European plan	casacaribepuertomorelos.com/
Condos Layla	(552) 459 7162	4	Boutique	European plan	laylaguesthouse.com/
Hotel Hacienda Morelos	(998) 253 6060	31	Boutique	European plan	haciendamorelos.com/
Hotel Leona Vicario	(998) 184 9873	13	Boutique	European plan	hotel29_@outlook.com
Hotel Muchin	(998) 126 0278	10	Boutique	European plan	facebook.com/HotelMuchin
Hotel Puerto Iglesias	(998) 193 1800	20	Boutique	European plan	n/a
Ojo de Agua	(998) 234 5716 (998) 384 6941	34	Boutique	European plan	hotelojodeagua.com/
Puerto Corcho	(998) 186 1632	10	Boutique	European plan	facebook.com/PuertoCorchoPM
Suite Arrecifes	(998) 253 6060	28	Boutique	European plan	arrecifespuertomorelos.com/
TOTAL 6636					
PUNTA BRAVA					
El Dorado Generations Riviera Maya	(998) 872 8030	144	4 estrellas	All inclusive	www.karismahotels.com
El Dorado Royale a SPA Resort by Karisma	(998) 872 8030	478	4 estrellas - 4 Diamantes	All inclusive	www.karismahotels.com
TOTAL 622					
PLAYA DEL SECRETO					
Valentin Imperial Maya	(984) 206 3660	540	5 estrellas	All inclusive	www.valentinmaya.com
TOTAL 540					
PLAYA PARAISO					
Grand Luxxe (Grupo Vidanta)	(984) 206 4000	142	5 estrellas	Europeo	www.grandluxxe.com
Iberostar Grand Hotel Paraíso	(984) 877 2800 Ext. 8516	310	5 estrellas - Mayores de 18 años	All inclusive	www.iberostar.com
Iberostar Paraíso Beach	(984) 877 2800	424	5 estrellas	All inclusive	www.iberostar.com
Iberostar Paraíso del Mar	(984) 877 280 Ext. 8217	424	5 estrellas - Premium)	All inclusive	www.iberostar.com

HOTEL	CONTACT	ROOMS	CAT.	PLAN	SITE
PLAYA PARAISO					
Iberostar Paraíso Lindo	(984) 877 2800	448	5 estrellas - Premium)	All inclusive	www.iberostar.com
Iberostar Paraíso Maya	(984) 877 2800 Ext. 8317	434	5 estrellas - Premium)	All inclusive	www.iberostar.com
Mayan Palace (Grupo Vidanta)	(984) 206 4000	663	5 estrellas - Gran Turismo	Europeo	www.mayanpalace.com.mx
Ocean Breeze (Grupo Vidanta)	(984) 206 4000	98	5 estrellas - Gran Turismo	Europeo	www.oceanbreezehotels.com
The Bliss (Grupo Vidanta)	(984) 206 4000	30	5 estrellas - Gran Turismo	Europeo	www.theblissresorts.com.mx
The Grand Bliss (Grupo Vidanta)	(984) 206 4000	96	5 estrellas - Gran Turismo	Europeo	www.theblissresorts.com.mx
The Grand Mayan (Grupo Vidanta)	(984) 206 4000	50	5 estrellas - Gran Turismo	Europeo	www.grupovidanta.com
TOTAL 3119					
PUNTA MAROMA					
Belmond Maroma Resort & Spa	(998) 872 8200	63	5 estrellas	Europeo	www.belmond.com
Blue Bay Grand Esmeralda	(984) 877 4500	979	Gran Turismo	All inclusive	www.bluebayresorts.com
Catalonia Playa Maroma	(984) 877 3300	404	4 estrellas	All inclusive	www.hoteles-catalonia.com
Dorado Maroma	(984) 206 3477	157	5 estrellas (4 Diamantes)	All inclusive	www.karismahotels.com
Hotel Chable Maroma	(998) 387 0044	70	Boutique	Europeo	www.chablemaroma.com
Secrets Maroma Beach Riviera Cancun	(984) 877 3600	412	5 estrellas - Adultos	All inclusive	www.secretresorts.com
TOTAL 2085					
PUNTA BETE XCALACOCO					
Banyan Tree Mayakoba	(984) 877 3688	120	4 diamantes	Europeo	www.banyantree.com
Blue Diamond Luxury Boutique Hotel	(984) 206 4100	128	5 estrellas - Gran Lujo	All inclusive	www.bluediamond-rivieramaya.com
Grand Riviera Princess	(984) 877 3500	672	5 estrellas	All inclusive	www.princess-hotels.com
Family Club Princess	(984) 877 3500	144	5 estrellas	All inclusive	www.princess-hotels.com
Grand Sunset Princess	(984) 877 3500	672	5 estrellas	All inclusive	www.princess-hotels.com
Platinum Yucatan Princess	(984) 877 3500	472	5 estrellas	All inclusive	www.princess-hotels.com
Grand Velas Riviera Maya	(984) 877 4400	539	5 estrellas - Luxury	All inclusive	www.velasresorts.com/www.grandvelas.com
Hotel Fairmont Mayakoba	(984) 206 3000 / 873 4916/ 873 4900 RLH	401	5 estrellas - Gran Turismo	All inclusive	www.fairmont.com
Hotel Hacienda Tres Ríos	(984) 877 2400	257	5 estrellas - Gran Turismo	All inclusive	www.haciendatresrios.com
Mvngata Boutique Hotel	984 110 7574	23	4 estrellas	Europeo	www.mvngatahotel.com
Ocean Maya Royale	(984) 873 4700	320	5 estrellas	All inclusive	www.oceanhoteles.net
Ocean Riviera Paradise	(984) 159 1800	974	5 estrellas	All inclusive	www.oceanhoteles.net
Petit Lafitte	(984) 877 4000	47	4 estrellas	Media Pensión	www.petitlafitte.com
Platinum Yucatán Princess All Suites & Spa Resort	(984) 148 6600	470	5 estrellas	All inclusive	www.hotelplatinumyucatanprincess.com
Rosewood Mayakoba	(984) 875 8000	130	Especial	Europeo	www.rosewoodmayakoba.com
The Royal Haciendas	(984) 206 3110	252	5 estrellas	Europeo - Todo Incluido	www.royalresorts.com
Viceroy Riviera Maya	(984) 877 3000	41	Especial	Europeo	www.viceroyhotelsandresorts.com
TOTAL 5662					
PLAYA DEL CARMEN					
All Riviera Resort	(984) 879 3444	27	3 estrellas	Europeo	www.hotelallriviera.com
Barrio Latino Hotel & Suites	(984) 984 147 2579	18	3 estrellas	Europeo	www.hotelbarriolatino.com
Condo Hotel Riviera Maya Suites	(984) 803 4657	37	Condos	-	www.rivieramayasuities.com
Grand Fifty Suites	(984) 688 8342 / 83 06	40	4 estrellas	Europeo	www.grandfiftysuites.com
Hacienda Paradise Boutique Hotel	(984) 873 1397	33	Boutique	Europeo	www.xperiencehotelsresorts.com
Hotel Colibrí Beach	(984) 803 1090	34	3 estrellas	Europeo	www.hotelcolibríbeach.com

HOTEL	CONTACT	ROOMS	CAT.	PLAN	SITE
PLAYA DEL CARMEN					
Hotel Holiday Inn Express & Suites Playa del Carmen	(984) 257 1000	91	4 estrellas	Europeo	Pendiente
Hotel HM Playa del Carmen	(984) 206 4646	91	4 estrellas	Europeo	www.hmhotels.net
Hotel Hul Ku	(984) 873 0221	38	3 estrellas	Europeo	www.hotelhulku.com
Hotel LunaSol	(984) 873 3933	16	3 estrellas	Europeo	www.lunasolhotel.com
Hilton Playa del Carmen (Antes The Royal Playa del Carmen)	(984) 877 2900	513	5 estrellas - 4 diamantes	All inclusive	www.resortshilton.com/playa-del-carmen
Kinbe	(984) 873 0441	29	3 estrellas	Europeo	www.kinbe.com
Lab Nah	(984) 873 2099	33	2 estrellas	Europeo	www.labnah.com
Las Golondrinas	(984) 873 2805	51	2 estrellas	Condos	www.hotellasgolondrinas.com.
Mahekal Beach Resort	(984) 873 0611	196	4 estrellas	Media pension y europeo	www.mahekalplaya.com
Kayak Luna (Antes Marquee Playa Hotel)	(984) 163 6442	20	4 estrellas	Europeo	https://www.lifehousehotels.com/
Mistik Condohotels & Residences	(984) 803 5250	52	Condo Hotel	Europeo	www.mistik.com.mx
Nina (Grupo Tukan)	(984) 873 2214	20	4 estrellas	Europeo	www.tukanhotels.com
One Playa del Carmen	(984) 877 30 60	108	3 estrellas	Europeo	www.onehotels.com
Panama Jack Resort Playa del Carmen (Antes Gran Porto Real)	(984) 873 4000	287	4 estrellas -3 Diamantes	All inclusive	www.panamajackresorts.com/playa-del-carmen
Paradisus Playa del Carmen la Esmeralda	(984) 877 3900	510	5 estrellas	All inclusive	www.paradisus.com
Paradisus Playa del Carmen la Perla	(984) 877 3900	394	5 estrellas	All inclusive	www.paradisus.com
Posada Mariposa	(984) 873 3886	23	3 estrellas	Europeo	www.mariposagrouphotels.com
Sense 5ta. Avenida By Artisan	(984) 148 6400 / 6401	22	Boutique	Europeo	www.artisanhotels.mx
Siesta Fiesta	(984) 803 1166	21	2 estrellas	Europeo	www.siestafiestahotelplaya.com
The Bric Hotel	(984) 803 31 91/113 78 61	14	3 estrellas	Europeo	www.thebrichotel.com
The Fives Downtown Curio Collection by Hilton	(984) 877 2752 / 984 688 9311	93	5 estrellas	Europeo	www.thefives.com.mx
The Reef Coco Beach	(984) 877 2880	196	5 estrellas	All inclusive	www.thereefcocobeach.com
Thompson Playa del Carmen	(984) 206 4800	119	5 estrellas - Gran turismo	Europeo	www.thompsonhotels.com
Tukan Hotel (Grupo Tukan)	(984) 873 1256 / 1257	175	4 estrellas	Europeo	www.tukanhotels.com
Unic Design Hotel	(984) 879 4139	21	4 estrellas	Europeo	http://www.unicdesignhotel.com
TOTAL 5662					
PLAYACAR					
City Express Playa del Carmen	(984) 206 3930	135	3 estrellas	Europeo	www.hotelescity.com
Iberostar Quetzal	(984) 877 2000	350	5 estrellas - Premiun	All inclusive	www.iberostar.com
Iberostar Tucan	(984) 877 2000	350	5 estrellas - Premiun	All inclusive	www.iberostar.com
Occidental Allegro Playacar	(984) 877 2700	286	5 estrellas	All inclusive	www.occidentalhotels.com
Occidental Royal Hideaway	(984) 873 4500	200	5 estrellas -Gran Turismo	All inclusive	www.royalhideaway.com
Playacar Palace	(984) 873 4960	201	5 estrellas	All inclusive	www.palaceresorts.com
Playacar Vacation Rentals	(984) 873 0418	50	Renta Vacacional	-	www.playacarcationrentals.com
Sunset Fishermen's	(984) 873 4950	63	4 estrellas	Time share	www.sunsetworld.net
Riu La Lupita	(984) 877 4220	300	5 estrellas	All inclusive	www.riu.com/es/hotel/mexico/playa-del-carmen/hotel-riu-palace-rivieramaya/index.jsp
Riu Palace Mexico	(984) 877 4200	434	5 estrellas	All inclusive	www.riu.com/es/hotel/mexico/playa-del-carmen/hotel-riu-palace-rivieramaya/index.jsp
Riu Palace Riviera Maya	(984) 877 2280	460	5 estrellas	All inclusive	www.riu.com/es/hotel/mexico/playa-del-carmen/hotel-riu-palace-rivieramaya/index.jsp
Riu Tequila	(984) 873 4300	664	5 estrellas	All inclusive	www.riu.com/es/hotel/mexico/playa-del-carmen/hotel-riu-palace-rivieramaya/index.jsp

HOTEL	CONTACT	ROOMS	CAT.	PLAN	SITE
PLAYACAR					
Riu Playacar	(984) 877 2300	388	5 estrellas	All inclusive	www.riu.com/es/hotel/mexico/playa-del-carmen/hotel-riu-palace-rivieramaya/index.jsp
Riu Yucatan	(984) 877 2050	507	5 estrellas	All inclusive	www.riu.com/es/hotel/mexico/playa-del-carmen/hotel-riu-palace-rivieramaya/index.jsp
The Reef Playacar	(984) 873 4120	196	4 estrellas	All inclusive	www.thereefcocobeach.com
Viva Wynham Maya	(984) 873 4600	604	4 estrellas	All inclusive	www.vivaresorts.com
Wyndham Garden Playa del Carmen	(984) 206 3434	196	4 estrellas	Full service	www.hotelesprisma.com
TOTAL 5384					
XCARET					
Hotel Xcaret México	(984) 159 1600	900	5 estrellas	All inclusive	www.hotelxcaret.com
Occidental at Xcaret Destination	(984) 871 5400	757	5 estrellas	All inclusive	www.occidentalhotels.com
La Casa de la Playa	1 855 272 9804	63	5 estrellas	All inclusive	www.lacasadelaplaya.com
Hotel Xcaret Arte	1 844 795 4525	900	5 estrellas	All inclusive	www.hotelxcaretarte.com
TOTAL 2620					
XPUHA					
Catalonia Royal Tulum Beach & Spa Resort	(984) 875 1800	288	5 estrellas		
Hotel Esencia	(984) 873 4830	29	Boutique		
TOTAL 317					
PUERTO AVENTURAS					
Barcelo Maya Beach	(984) 875 1500	612	5 estrellas	All inclusive	www.barcelo.com
Baarlo Maya Caribe	(984) 875 1500	408	5 estrellas	All inclusive	www.barcelo.com
Barcelo Maya Colonial	(984) 875 1500	480	5 estrellas	All inclusive	www.barcelo.com
Barcelo Maya Palace Deluxe	(984) 875 1500	756	5 estrellas	All inclusive	www.barcelo.com
Barcelo Maya Tropical	(984) 875 1500	480	5 estrellas	All inclusive	www.barcelo.com
Catalonia Riviera Maya Resort & Spa	(984) 875 1020	423	5 estrellas	All inclusive	www.cataloniacaribbean.com
Catalonia Yucatan Beach Resort & Spa	(984) 875 1020	205	5 estrellas	All inclusive	www.cataloniarivieramaya.com
Dreams Puerto Aventuras Resort & Spa	(984) 875 3000	305	5 estrellas	All inclusive	www.dreamsresorts.com
Hard Rock Hotel Riviera Maya	(984) 875 1100	1266	5 estrellas	All inclusive	www.palaceresorts.com
Pa Beach Club & Hotel	(984) 875 1950	30	Boutique - 5 Estrellas	Europeo	www.puertoaventurashotel.com
TOTAL 4695					
AKUMAL					
Grand Bahía Príncipe Akumal	(984) 875 5000	758	5 estrellas	All inclusive	www.bahia-principe.com
Grand Bahía Príncipe Tulum	(984) 875 5000	978	5 estrellas	All inclusive	www.bahia-principe.com
Las Villas Akumal	(984) 875 7050	56	4 estrellas	Europeo	www.lasvillasakumal.com
Luxury Bahía Príncipe Cobá	(984) 875 5000	1080	5 estrellas	All inclusive	www.bahia-principe.com
Luxury Bahía Príncipe Sian Ka'an	(984) 875 5000	420	5 estrellas	All inclusive	www.bahia-principe.com
Sunscape Akumal Beach Resorts & SPA	(984) 875 7300	310	5 estrellas	All inclusive	/www.sunscaperesorts.mx/akumal
Secrets Akumal Riviera Maya	(984) 875 7600	443	5 estrellas	All inclusive	www.secretresorts.com
TOTAL 4045					
KANTENAH					
El Dorado Hidden Beach Resort	984 875 1910	42	5 estrellas	All inclusive	www.hiddenbeachresort.com
El Dorado Seaside Suites & Hidden Beach Resort Au Naturel & Sensimar Seaside Suites & Spa	984 875 1910	617	5 estrellas - 4 diamantes	Gourmet All inclusive / Solo adultos	www.karismahotels.com
Grand Palladium Colonial Resort & Spa	(984) 877 2100	414	5 estrellas	All inclusive	www.palladiumhotelgroup.com
Grand Palladium Kantenah Resort & Spa	(984) 877 2100	422	5 estrellas	All inclusive	www.palladiumhotelgroup.com
Grand Palladium Riviera Resort & Spa	(984) 877 2100	324	5 estrellas	All inclusive	www.palladiumhotelgroup.com

HOTEL	CONTACT	ROOMS	CAT.	PLAN	SITE
KANTENAH					
Grand Palladium White Sand Resort & Spa	(984) 877 2100	264	5 estrellas	All inclusive	www.palladiumhotelgroup.com
Grand Palladium The Royal Suites Yucatan	(984) 877 2100	130	5 estrellas	All inclusive	www.palladiumhotelgroup.com
Grand Sirenis Maya Beach	(984) 875 1700	504	5 estrellas	All inclusive	www.sirenishotels.com
Grand Sirenis Riviera Maya	(984) 875 1700	554	5 estrellas	All inclusive	www.sirenishotels.com
Unico 20°87° Hotel Riviera Maya	(984) 875 7700	448	5 estrellas	All inclusive	www.unicohotelrivieramaya.com
TOTAL 4045					
TULUM					
Akumal Bay	984 875 7500	310	5 estrellas	A.I.	www.akumalbayresort.com
Bahía Príncipe Grand Tulum	984 875 5000	3236	5 estrellas	A.I.	www.bahia-principe.com
Dreams	984 871 3353	432	5 estrellas	A.I.	www.dreamsresorts.com
Hilton & Conrad Tulum Riviera Maya	984 689 0577	735	5 estrellas -Gran Turismo	A.I.	www.hilton.com
Secrets	984 875 7600	434	5 estrellas	A.I.	www.secretsresorts.com.mx
Sunscape	984 875 7300	228	5 estrellas	A.I.	www.sunscaperesorts.mx
Akumal Caribe	984 875 9012	61	5 estrellas	EUROPEO	www.hotelakumalcaribe.com
Las Casitas Akumal	984 875 9071	18	5 estrellas	EUROPEO	www.lascasitaskumal.com
Mereva	984 147 6571	25		EUROPEO	www.mereva.mx
Villas Akumal	984 875 7050	72		EUROPEO	www.lasvillasakumal.com
Ahau	984 147 5225	24		EUROPEO	www.ahautulum.com
Akiin	984 113 7293	8		EUROPEO	www.akiintulum.com
Akuun Tulum	984 246 7413	21		EUROPEO	www.akuuntulum.com
Alaya	984 240 0955	24		EUROPEO	www.ahaucollection.com/alaya-tulum
Amansala	984 804 0950	85		EUROPEO	www.amansala.com
Ana y José	998 880 5629	32		EUROPEO	www.anayjose.com
Azúcar	81 1380 2176	5		EUROPEO	www.azucarhotel.com
Azulik	984 980 0640	67		EUROPEO	www.azulik.com
Be Tulum	984 6890577	64		EUROPEO	www.betulum.com
Cabañas la Luna	984 146 77 37	10		EUROPEO	www.cabanaslaluna.com
Casa Malca	994 980 0679	71		EUROPEO	www.casamalca.com
Cabañas Tulum	984 871 1131	20		EUROPEO	www.hotelcabanastulum.com
Casa Teka	984 169 8504	11		EUROPEO	www.casateka.com.mx
Casa Violeta	984 271 0606	10		EUROPEO	www.casavioletatum.com
Chiringuito	998 688 9373	13		EUROPEO	www.chiringuito-tulum.com
Coco Limited	55 4169 2072	31		EUROPEO	www.cocounlimitedhotel.com
Delek	984 257 01 01	21		EUROPEO	www.delektulum.com
Diamante k	984 876 2115	29		EUROPEO	www.diamantek.com
El Paraiso	984 131 7566	11		EUROPEO	www.elparaisohotelitulum.com
Encantada	984 114 7525	8		EUROPEO	www.encantada.com
Habitas	984 147 6595	35		EUROPEO	www.ourhabitas.com/tulum/
Hotel Ikal Chit	984 239 0929	19		EUROPEO	www.ikaltulumhotel.com
Hotel Ma'xanab Tulum	984 110 7244	16		EUROPEO	www.maxanab.com
Kore	984 161 0001	94		EUROPEO	www.koretulum.com
La Valise	1 305 999 1540	9		EUROPEO	www.lavalise.com
La Zebra	984 115 4728	29		EUROPEO	www.lazebratum.com
María del Mar	984 231 1304	22		EUROPEO	www.mariadelmartulum.com
Mezzanine	984-115-4728	9		EUROPEO	www.mezzaninetulum.com

HOTEL	CONTACT	ROOMS	CAT.	PLAN	SITE
TULUM					
Mi Amor	984 115 4728	17		EUROPEO	tulumhotelmiamor.com
Nest Tulum	970 433 2019	9		EUROPEO	www.nesttulum.com
Nomade	984 689 0577	50		EUROPEO	www.nomadetulum.com
Panamera Tulum	998 109 2540	14		EUROPEO	www.hotelpanamera.com
Papaya Playa Project	984 871 1160	97		EUROPEO	www.papayaplayaproject.com
Piedra Escondida	984 688 8532	9		EUROPEO	www.piedraescondida.com
Playa Esperanza	984 223 2934	10		EUROPEO	www.playa-esperanza.com
Playa Las Palmas	984 105 0415	6		EUROPEO	www.facebook.com/playalaspalmasglamping/
Poc-Na	984 213 4543	35		EUROPEO	www.playapocnatulum.com
Posada del Sol	984 134 8874	10		EUROPEO	www.laposadadelsol.com
Posada Lamar	984 106 3682	8		EUROPEO	www.posadalamartulum.com.mx
Punta Piedra Beach	984 806 4502	14		EUROPEO	www.posadapuntapietra.com
Sanará	984 210 30 28	19		EUROPEO	www.sanarahotels.com
Selina	984 179 8451	78		EUROPEO	www.selina.com/es/mexico/tulum/
Tulum Treehouse	707 494 3148	5		EUROPEO	www.slowness.com/places/tulumtreehouse
Villa Pescadores	984 214 3457	18		EUROPEO	www.ahaucollection.com/villa-pescadores-tulum/
Zamas	984 145 2602	17		EUROPEO	www.zamas.com
Aldea Cobá	998 884 1540	6		EUROPEO	www.aldeacoba.com
Aloft Tulum Marriot	984 689 0431	140		EUROPEO	www.marriott.com/en-us/hotels/tuyal-aloft-tulum
Kimpton Aluna	984 689 0430	78		EUROPEO	www.alunatumhotel.com
Bardo	984 807 1433	29		EUROPEO	www.hotelbardo.mx
Breathless Tulum (Secrets Aldea)	N/A	300	5 estrellas	EUROPEO	www.breathlessresorts.com.mx
Casa Agape	984 134 6434	12		EUROPEO	www.casaagape.mx
Coco Hacienda	984 277 2575	17		EUROPEO	www.cocohaciendatum.com
Coco Village	55 4169 2072	10		EUROPEO	www.cocovillagetulum.com
Era Hotel & Spa	984 116 6310	9		EUROPEO	www.erahoteltulum.com
Ginger	984 160 3088	13		EUROPEO	www.gingertulum.com
Hotel MX Tulum	984 802 5088	80		EUROPEO	www.hotelesmx.com/hotel/mx-tulum
Latino Hotel Boutique	984 238 0243	13		EUROPEO	www.latinohotelboutique.com
La Palmita	984 179 3467	10		EUROPEO	www.lapalmitatum.com
Náay	984 231 1241	36		EUROPEO	www.naaytulum.com
Oostel	984 319 7044	29		EUROPEO	www.smart-oostel.com
Nahil Tulum (The Na Project Holding)	984 204 5215	8		EUROPEO	www.thenaproject.com/nahil
Una Luna	55 2900 4991	13		EUROPEO	www.unaluna.mx/
Las Mariposas	984 125 0424	6		EUROPEO	N/A
L'Hotelito	984 160 0229	10		EUROPEO	N/A
TOTAL 7584					
TOTAL HOTELS				583	
TOTAL ROOMS				62,046	



MEXICAN CARIBBEAN EVENTS CALENDAR

JAN	PUERTO MORELOS SPORT FISHING TOURNAMENT , puertomorelos.com/producto/torneo-de-pesca-deportivo/ - Annual sport fishing tournament that brings together competitors from Mexico and around the world to fish for Blue Marlin, White Marlin, Wahoo, Dorado, Tuna, Barracuda and other game fish.
FEB- MAR	CARNAVAL DE COZUMEL , One of the Cozumel's main events. This tradition has 150 years of history and is held every year between February and March, although the exact dates vary. In the weeks before the main events there is also an exciting program of "pre-Carnival", warm-up events that include the presentation and election of Carnival Kings and Queens, with performances and live music from top singers and groups. The Carnival includes dazzling technicolor processions along Cozumel's downtown oceanfront, where locals and visitors line to see the dancing performers and to catch some gifts that are thrown, like necklaces of plastic beads. After the oceanfront extravaganza, the music keeps playing and parties continue well into the night. Then, on the Wednesday after Fat Tuesday, the closing ceremony is held with the traditional burning of Juan Carnaval.
MAY	THE SACRED MAYAN JOURNEY , www.travesiasagradamaya.com/en/ - The Sacred Mayan Journey is an event that recreates a Mayan rite that has more than 500 years of history. Embark on a voyage through the Caribbean Sea, where brave oarsmen and women cross to the island of Cozumel for asking the oracle of the goddess Ixchel its designs. The Renewal of the Cosmos is underway, and the rhythm of life must continue, just as the Mythical Canoe navigates the sky towards the stars to close cycles and times of adversity. The moment has come for the cleansing and healing ceremonies to celebrate in the ancient commercial port of Polé (Xcaret) and Cuzamil (Cozumel). The pilgrims face the adversities of the sea to ask for the advice and wisdom of Ixchel, the Maya goddess of fertility, the moon, and pregnancy. Once they receive her message, they are ready to travel back to the place known today as Xcaret, and as soon they arrive, to start spreading this advice to their communities.
SEPTEMBER 16	DÍA DE LA INDEPENDENCIA (MEXICO'S INDEPENDENCE DAY) - A nationwide festival celebrating Mexican Independence Day. On September 15 local residents and visitors congregate around the City Hall to participate in the traditional "grito," or cry for independence. Led by the Mayor of Cozumel from the balcony at City Hall, the cry "Viva Mexico" is made. Following the "grito" is an impressive fireworks display and other festivities including traditional foods as well as musical and folkloric dance performances.
OCT-NOV	FESTIVAL OF LIFE AND DEATH TRADITIONS , www.festivaldevidaymuerte.com - The Festival of Life and Death Traditions is a celebration which aims to ensure different concerts, theatrical plays, dance, interactive workshops, the traditional All Hallow's Eve mass, and other activities are part of the Día de Muertos. This Mexican festivity is considered a World Intangible Cultural Heritage by UNESCO.
NOV 1 & 2	DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS/ HANAL PIXÁN - Día de Muertos is a Mexican holiday that has a lot of history and tradition, and it is celebrated all over Mexico on November 1st and November 2nd. This holiday came up from ancient traditions among Mexican pre-Columbian cultures that used to honor life and death. "El Día de Muertos" honors the memory of relatives or friends who have passed away, and it is a way to help them to support their spiritual journey. It is believed that during this time of the year, the souls of the dead awaken and return to the living world to feast, party, drink, dance and play music with their loved ones. Hanal Pixán is the Mayan celebration equivalent to Día de Muertos, which takes place on November 1st and the 2nd. This holiday is mainly celebrated in some Mayan communities such as Tres Reyes, Nuevo Durango and Pac-Chen. Experience this festivity by trying traditional Mayan dishes, such as mukbil pollo, tamales, pan de muerto, cocoa sorbet and "aguas frescas" (non-alcoholic beverages made of fruit).
NOV	WORLD WIDE TECHNOLOGY CHAMPIONSHIP AT MAYAKOBA , www.championshipatmayakoba.com/ - The World Wide Technology Championship at Mayakoba is the first PGA TOUR event to ever be contested outside of the United States and Canada, regarded as one of the finest on the PGA TOUR by professionals and spectators, alike. Hosted at an unparalleled resort complex in the beautiful Riviera Maya, the World Wide Technology Championship at Mayakoba, México's first PGA TOUR event, will feature 132 professional golfers participating in four rounds of stroke play competition, at the Greg Norman-designed El Camaleón Golf Club in Mexico's Riviera Maya.
NOV-DEC	RIVIERA MAYA JAZZ FESTIVAL , rivieramayajazzfest.com/ - Considered one of the 10 best jazz festivals in the world and the only one to offer free admission to all its concerts, the Riviera Maya Jazz Festival is an important event that takes place year after year at the end of November and at the beginning of December, in Playa del Carmen. Since 2003, this festival has welcomed world-class artists, who come to this destination to spread happiness and delight the attendees, with the most vibrant rhythms.
DEC	TULUM INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL - FICTU , fictu.com/ - The Tulum International Film Festival (FICTU) aims to put together a selection of outstanding, conscious films that offer a cross-section of the multitude of voices in contemporary cinema. With a selection of films with varying genres and styles, the programming team hopes to demonstrate a strong commitment to celebrating and making visible narratives or perspectives that are often marginalized.

TIP
For updated information,
please check our website:
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