

Welcome to my 14-day Mexico adventure itinerary! Over the next two weeks, you will journey through the vibrant streets of Mexico City, explore the breathtaking Mayan ruins in Tulum, soak up the paradise beaches of Cancún and Playa del Carmen, and discover the tranquil beauty of Isla Mujeres. With a mix of culture, history, and relaxation, this journey promises a diverse range of experiences and unforgettable memories. So, buckle up and get ready for an incredible exploration of Mexico's treasures!

Pack your bags, and let's embark on the trip of a lifetime! Mexico awaits, and I guarantee you'll return home with a heart full of joy, a camera full of stunning photos.



MEXICO ITINERARY

DAY 1: Mexico City

Stay 4 nights in Mexico City. Mexico City has so much to offer! Make sure to take this opportunity to explore the surrounding area as well.



Hotel Punto MX
\$300 USD for 4 nights



To get from the airport to our hotel we ordered a taxi which costed 480 pesos - \$26 USD for 6 people

I stayed in Centro Historico which is a great area for a first time visit and its within walking distance to many of the main attractions. Some other good neighbourhoods you can stay in are Roma and Polanco.

DAY 2: Xochimilco

Spend the day exploring Xochimilco. Xochimilco is known for the colourful gondola style boats called trajineras. The atmosphere is very festive there, so I recommend doing this activity with a group of people who are ready to have a drink, dance and join the fiesta. Each trajinera fits up to 20 people and visitors can enjoy live mariachi performances while buying traditional drinks, snacks and souvenirs from local vendors on smaller boats.



To get there, the cheapest option is to take the metro. Take line 2 (going to Tasquena) then take the train to Xochimilco station. You will then need to walk 20mins to Embarcadero Nuevo Nativas. Total cost: 8 pesos (\$0.45 USD)



The hourly cost for the boat ride is between 500-600 pesos (about \$25-30 USD) for the entire boat, regardless of how many people are on the boat. So the more people you bring, the cheaper it will be.



DAY 3: Grutas De Tolantango

Take a day trip to Grutas De Tolantango. This was by far my favorite activity of the trip. There you will find hot springs, caves, pools that cascade down the mountainside, a suspension bridge and a zip-line surrounded by tropical vegetation. Las Grutas de Tolantango is located in Hidalgo in the Tolantongo Canyon and is about a 4 hours drive from Mexico City

I recommend booking 'Full-Day Tour Exploring the Waters of Tolantongo' on Airbnb. The tour included private transportation, entry ticket, a Mexican breakfast buffet, snacks, a backpack with water, towel, headlamp and a waterproof case for your phone. The guide was absolutment amazing, you will only be with a small group of 12 people which we enjoyed.



Full day exploring the waters of Tolantongo
\$150 USD



DAY 4: Mexico City

Spend the day exploring. Mexico City bursts with culture and energy. It's a place where you can explore ancient ruins like the Templo Mayor, indulge in delicious street food, wonder around the local markets and experience the culture, art, and flavors.

THINGS TO DO IN MEXICO CITY:

- ✓ Chapultepec Castle
(Entrance fee: 90 pesos - \$5 USD)
- ✓ Nivel 40 Sky Bar for a drink
(tallest building in Mexico)
- ✓ Eat tacos at Orinoco
- ✓ Go to a wrestling show at Lucha Libre
Tickets starting from 250 pesos - 14 USD

DAY 5: Travel Day



After enjoying 4 days exploring the vibrant streets and rich culture of Mexico City, head to Playa del Carmen for a change of scenery.



Ciudad de México - Cancun: \$86 USD (including 25kg luggage)



To get from Cancun Airport to Playa Del Carmen we booked a private shuttle through 'Cancun Airport Transportation' which was \$80 USD for 6 people



Antera Hotel & Residence
\$118 USD for 2 nights

DAY 6: Playa Del Carmen

Playa del Carmen is a tropical paradise where you'll find gorgeous beaches and a lively vibe. Fifth Avenue, the main pedestrian street is a hub for shopping, dining, and nightlife, and nearby attractions like Mayan ruins and cenotes offer adventure and exploration. Playa del Carmen is the perfect blend of relaxation and fun.



Spend the day strolling through Fifth Avenue

DAY 7: Cozumel

The island of Cozumel is located directly across the water from Playa Del Carmen. It will take approximately 40 minutes to get there by ferry.



The two ferry companies are Ultramar and Winjet and the cost is between \$8-13 one way and \$17-\$25 round trip. You can catch the ferry from the Playa Del Carmen ferry terminal.



I recommend renting a car for the day to explore the Island. We paid \$120 for the day for a car that could fit 6 people

Once there, you can get a day pass at a beach club, you will have access to their beaches, swimming pools, oceanfront restaurants, beach bars, sun loungers, water activities and more. The cost is normally between \$20 to \$65 USD. You can also explore the Mayan Ruins (\$10 USD entrance fee), visit Chen Rio beach or snorkel at Playa El Cielo (There's no access to this beach from the mainland, so you'll need to book a tour).



DAY 8: Travel Day

You will now head to Tulum. There is 3 options, private shuttle, taxi or the cheapest one is to take a colectivo or ADO bus (cost is approx \$5 USD per person). Being a larger group we opted for the private shuttle.



Playa Del Carmen - Tulum

Private shuttle booked through 'Cancun Airport Transportation'
\$195 USD for 6 people



Round Villa Private Pool & Jungle Rooftop 2A

\$863 USD for 3 nights for 6 adults

Where to stay in Tulum: Two option Tulum Town or Tulum Beach:

-Tulum town is a great area to stay for travelers on a budget or partiers who prioritize proximity to bars and nightlife.

-Tulum beach zone is great if it's your first time visiting Tulum and you want to lay out on the beach all day. But the hotels are way more pricey and limited restaurants (and expensive) compared to town.

We decided to book a villa in Tulum town and had a great experience.

DAY 6: Tulum

Spend the day exploring Tulum. To get around, you can rent bikes, scooters or ATV. Otherwise you can also order Ubers (this is is option we opted for, being a big group it was more affordable)



Cost to rent a bike: around \$5 USD per day



Cost to rent a scooter: around \$25 USD per day



Cost to rent an ATV: around \$50 USD per day

A day in Tulum is all about adventure and relaxation. Start with a visit to the Mayan ruins overlooking the ocean, then go to the beautiful Tulum Beach for sun and local food. Visit some cenotes, and later, explore the town's shops, art, and cafes.



THINGS TO DO IN TULUM:

- ✓ Tulum ruins
(Entrance fee: 90 pesos - \$5 USD)
- ✓ Tulum jungle gym
(Entrance fee: 500 pesos - \$30 USD)
- ✓ Ven a la Luz sculpture
(Entrance fee: 60 pesos - \$3 USD)
- ✓ Go to Azulik

DAY 7: Tulum

Spend the day in a beach club. They have a lot of very nice beach clubs in Tulum but these are the ones I recommend:

- Rosa Negra Beach Club
- Taboo
- Ziggy's
- Mia Beach Club
- The Papaya Playa Project



RESTAURANT RECOMMENDATION TULUM:

- ✓ Bak Steakhouse
- ✓ Funky
- ✓ Arca
- ✓ Taboo
- ✓ Geisha
- ✓ Hartwood
- ✓ Chambao
- ✓ Rosa Negra
- ✓ Casa Banana



DAY 8: Chichen Itza

You cannot go to Tulum without visiting one of the world's seven wonder, Chichen Itza! For this you have 2 options, you can book a guided tour with a group of tourist on GetYourGuide or you can do a private tour with a local (this is the option we opted for)

We paid 4500 pesos (\$250 USD) for the day for 6 adults. The price for a normal size car was 3000 pesos. He picked us up from Valladolid, drove us to Chichen Itza and waited there for as long as we needed then he drove us somewhere nice to have left. We then went to 3 cenotes including Suytun which is very popular and 2 less touristy ones. Once the tour was finished he drove us back to our hotel in Tulum.

The tour didn't include tickets or food.



Entrance fee to Chichen Itza: 615 pesos - \$35 USD



Entrance fee to the Cenotes: Between 150 to 250 pesos per cenote (Between \$8 - \$13 USD)



The bus from Tulum to Valladolid was 211 pesos - \$11 USD). The company we booked through was ADO

Our driver was amazing, if you would like to use him as well his name is Saul and his number on Whatsapp is +52 985 808 4870

DAY 9: Travel Day

You will now be heading to Cancun! Cancun is the perfect destination to end your trip!



Tulum - Cancun

Private shuttle booked through 'GuateGo' \$267 USD for 6 people



Mex Hoteles

\$45 USD for 1 night

Once you have checked in to your new hotel in Cancun, spend the afternoon swimming with turtles, jet skiing or even some parasailing above the beautiful beaches of Cancun.



Swim with turtles + seaside parasailing with transportation

We paid \$125 USD per person with the company "Parasail Cancun"



DAY 10: Isla Mujeres

Spend day 10 at Isla Mujeres. Isla Mujeres is a beautiful, peaceful paradise just across from Cancun. Isla Mujeres is more laid-back and tranquil than Cancun, but that doesn't mean there isn't plenty to do, it just means you can do nothing at all or fill your day with water sports, shopping and exploring.



Take the ferry from Gran Puerto Cancun ferry dock. Tickets cost \$22 USD return and the ferries run every 30mins from 5:30am to 11pm

THINGS TO DO IN ISLA MUJERES:

- ✓ Underwater sculpture museum
- ✓ Playa Norte
- ✓ Book an all inclusive catamaran tour
- ✓ Rent a golf buggy and drive around the island. Cost around \$50 USD per day
- ✓ Playa Sol
- ✓ Playa Centro
- ✓ Book a snorkling tour
- ✓ Garafon natural reef park

DAY 11-14: Cancun

I recommend ending your trip by staying a few days in an all inclusive resort, to relax and enjoy your last few days (this is what we did).

There are more hotels in Cancun offerings all-inclusive than there are that don't, All-inclusive in Cancun is on a whole other level than most places. It is not uncommon to see gourmet restaurants, top-shelf liquor, a daily restocked mini fridge, and even 24-hour room service.

 Catalonia Grand Costa Mujeres
\$1,230 USD for 4 nights (for 2 adults)

When booking an all inclusive resort you will be staying there the majority of the time but we did book 2 activities during our stay:



Swimming with dolphins experience

\$89 USD (The price includes an access pass to VenturaPark where you can spend the afternoon)

We booked our tickets with Dolphinaris Cancun



Coco Bongo! This is one of the most popular nightclubs in Cancun.

It has everything, music, drinks, confetti, balloons and live performance every night.

Ticket cost start at \$76 USD (food + unlimited drinks)





TIPS

- **Transportation:** Don't take taxis they are crazy expensive (I'm talking 3 times the price as an Uber), and if you don't have a choice make sure you ask for the price when you get into the taxi because they don't have meters, you can try to negotiate the fare but most won't. Ubers are not available in Tulum.
- **Street Food:** Enjoy the delicious street food, but choose vendors with good hygiene practices to minimise the risk of getting sick.
- **Water:** Tap water is not drinkable.
- **Safety:** Mexico is safer than you think! It has a negative reputation, but of the dangerous parts of Mexico you are unlikely to visit. Mexicans are very welcoming and friendly people.
- **Be prepared for seaweed:** In Tulum, Cancun, and Playa del Carmen, you probably don't picture a meter of seaweed separating you and the beach. But that's the reality of the situation in many popular Caribbean destinations.
- **Payment:** you can pay in pesos and american dollars in most places. I recommend bringing cash with you as a lot of places are cash only.
- **Toilets:** In almost every state of Mexico, it is requested not to flush toilet paper because the pipes are narrow, and the paper can get stuck, causing damage to the pipe system.



BUDGET BREAKDOWN



Accommodation
\$989 USD per person
(only stayed in 4+ star hotels)



Activities
\$658 USD



Spending money
\$1,000 USD



Transportation
\$285 USD



Total
\$2,932 USD