

MEXICO - BELIZE - GUATEMALA

Central America Discovery Tour

14 Days / 13 Nights

PRICE PER PERSON

Starting from 2,685 EUR



Itinerary

1. DAY • Istanbul – Cancún

We meet at Istanbul Airport for our journey into a region woven together by history, nature and culture, landing in Cancún on Mexico's Caribbean coast after our long flight. Following passport control, we transfer to our hotel by private vehicle. While Cancún is known for its turquoise sea and white sand beaches, for us its real significance is as a gateway into the Maya world. After resting from the journey, we hold our group welcome meeting in the evening, receiving detailed information on the tour program, border procedures, daily departure times, currencies and safety matters.

2. DAY • Cancún – Chichén Itzá – Mérida

After breakfast, we head to Chichén Itzá, the most important archaeological site on the Yucatán Peninsula. Accompanied by an expert guide, we visit the Pyramid of Kukulcán, the most striking example of the relationship between Maya architecture and astronomy; the Great Ball Court, one of the largest ceremonial ball courts in the Maya world; the Temple of the Warriors; the round-shaped El Caracol Observatory, used for observing the sky; and the Sacred Cenote, a natural sinkhole considered holy in Maya religious life. After our visit, we head to Mérida, the capital of Yucatán State, and settle into our hotel.

3. DAY • Mérida

After breakfast, we begin our city tour of Mérida, also known as the "White City." We visit Plaza Grande, the heart of the city's social life; Mérida Cathedral, one of the earliest cathedrals in the Americas; and Paseo de Montejo, lined with mansions reflecting 19th-century wealth. Visiting local markets, we get a close look at Yucatán cuisine (cochinita pibil, sopa de lima, panuchos, salbutes), traditional textiles and handicrafts. Depending on the program's schedule, a visit to a nearby cenote may be arranged.

4. DAY • Mérida – Palenque

After breakfast, we leave Mérida and begin a long overland journey to Palenque, set within the tropical rainforests of Mexico's southeastern Chiapas region. As we leave behind Yucatán's flat, arid landscape, the tropical vegetation grows denser, giving us the chance to observe small towns and rural settlements along the way. After settling into our hotel, we rest ahead of the next day's visit to the ancient city, with the option of a short walk in the area depending on weather conditions.

5. DAY • Palenque Ancient City

After breakfast, we head to the Ancient City of Palenque, hidden within the tropical forest. We visit the Temple of the Inscriptions, known for the tomb of Maya ruler K'inich Janaab' Pakal; the Palace Complex, made up of a courtyard, corridors and a four-story tower; and the Cross Group, associated with Maya kingship and cosmology. Throughout the visit we walk to the sounds of tropical birds, butterflies and howler monkeys; a light raincoat and non-slip shoes are recommended due to high humidity. Depending on the program's schedule, a short excursion to nearby natural areas or waterfalls may be arranged.

6. DAY • Palenque – San Cristóbal de las Casas

After breakfast, we head to San Cristóbal de las Casas in the mountainous region of Chiapas; along the way, we feel the transition from tropical lowlands to a mountainous area at an altitude of around 2,200 meters. After arriving in this city known for its cobblestone streets, colorful houses, colonial churches and bohemian atmosphere, we take a short walking tour of the historic center and Zócalo square, the baroque-fronted Santo Domingo Church, and the surrounding handicrafts market. In the evening, guests who wish may explore Chiapas's cafés and restaurants, known for their quality coffee.

7. DAY • San Juan Chamula and Maya Villages

Today we follow the traces of Maya culture that continues to live on today. We travel to San Juan Chamula, home to a large Tzotzil Maya community, and visit the Church of San Juan Chamula, which looks like a traditional church from the outside but blends Maya beliefs with Christianity inside (photography is strictly forbidden inside the church). In the village square, we observe local people in traditional dress, along with handmade goods and market stalls; permission must always be asked before photographing people. Depending on the program's schedule, another Maya village and weaving workshops may also be visited. In the afternoon, we return to San Cristóbal.

8. DAY • San Cristóbal – Chetumal

After breakfast, we begin the day's long transfer journey toward Chetumal, a Mexican city near the Belize border. Leaving the mountainous areas of Chiapas behind for a flatter, more tropical landscape, we observe small towns and agricultural land along the way. In the evening, we arrive in Chetumal, the capital of Quintana Roo state, and settle into our hotel; here we receive a briefing ahead of the next day's border crossing, and passports and documents should be kept ready.

9. DAY • Chetumal – Belize City – Caye Caulker

Early in the morning we head to the Belize border, and after completing Mexican exit and Belizean entry procedures, we cross into Belize, the only country in Central America where English is the official language. After reaching Belize City by road, we take a speedboat from the harbor to Caye Caulker Island. Known for its "Go Slow" motto, the island stands out for its colorful wooden houses, limited motor traffic and relaxed way of life. After settling into our hotel, we have free time to walk along the beach, swim, or watch the sunset.

10. DAY • Belize Barrier Reef and Shark Ray Alley

Today we experience one of the tour's most special nature encounters: a boat trip around the Belize Barrier Reef. We stop at different snorkeling spots to observe colorful coral gardens and tropical fish in the clear waters; guides brief participants who haven't snorkeled before on equipment use and safety rules. We spend time at the famous Shark Ray Alley, where nurse sharks and large rays can be observed, under the guidance of professional boat crew. Guests who cannot swim or prefer not to take part in the water activity may stay on the boat or spend free time on the island.

11. DAY • Caye Caulker – Belize City – San Ignacio

After breakfast, we bid farewell to Caye Caulker and return to Belize City by boat, then travel by private vehicle to San Ignacio in the west of the country. After reaching this region, one of Belize's most important centers for nature and adventure tourism, we settle into our hotel and take a brief look around the town center, which has a more rural, forested atmosphere than the coast. Depending on the program and time available, optional activities such as cave tours, canoeing or river activities, nature walks, zip-lining, and nearby Maya ruins may be enjoyed.

12. DAY • San Ignacio – Guatemala – Tikal – Flores

Early in the morning we head to the Guatemalan border, and after completing Belizean exit and Guatemalan entry procedures, we travel through the Petén region to Tikal National Park. At Tikal, considered one of the largest and most powerful cities of the Maya civilization, we visit the Great Plaza, surrounded by Temple I, Temple II, the North Acropolis and palace structures, and the Great Jaguar Temple, standing around 47 meters tall, while observing wildlife rich with howler monkeys, toucans and parrots. After Tikal, we cross to Flores Island on Lake Petén Itzá and spend the night in this peaceful town, known for its colorful colonial houses and lake views.

13. DAY • Flores – Guatemala City

After breakfast, we leave Flores and travel to Guatemala City (transport may be arranged by road or domestic flight depending on the current program and operational conditions). In Guatemala City, the country's political, economic and cultural center, we begin our city tour, visiting Constitution Square, the Metropolitan Cathedral, and the National Palace of Culture. Depending on the program's schedule, a handicrafts market or museums may be visited. In the evening, we hold our farewell dinner together as a group, reflecting on the experiences we've shared over almost two weeks.

14. DAY • Guatemala City – Istanbul

After breakfast, we have free time depending on our flight schedule. At the appointed time, we leave our hotel and transfer to Guatemala City International Airport, and after passport and baggage procedures, begin our return flight to Istanbul. At the end of this journey, we leave behind not only the cities we visited, but the legacy of the Maya civilization, the colors of the Caribbean Sea, the sounds of the rainforest, and the cultural diversity of three different countries.

Price Information

Departure Date	EUR	Status
5 March - 19 March 2027	2685	-

Priced at 3,050 USD per person, based on double-room occupancy. A single-room supplement applies for participants requesting a single room. International airfare is not included in the tour price unless otherwise stated.

Not Included in the Price: International airfare departing from Istanbul, domestic connecting flights within Turkey, visa/electronic permit fees, international departure tax, travel health insurance, lunches and dinners, personal expenses, excess baggage, single-room supplement, gratuities, and optional activities such as snorkeling/diving equipment, canoeing, zip-lining and cave tours.

A specified deposit must be paid to confirm the reservation; the remaining payment schedule is explained in the tour contract. Availability is limited.

Services

- Hotel accommodation as specified in the program (13 nights, standard double rooms)
- Breakfasts as specified in the program
- Airport-hotel-airport transfers
- Overland transportation between cities in Mexico, Belize and Guatemala

- Belize City–Caye Caulker round-trip boat transfers
- Professional local guiding services as specified in the program
- Royal Line Holiday tour leadership and operations coordination
- Entrance fees to the ancient sites of Chichén Itzá, Palenque and Tikal
- City tours explicitly stated as included in the program
- Operational support at border crossings
- Pre-departure online briefing session
- WhatsApp communication group for participants