



TOPDECKER, meet North America

Is this trip for you? ANCIENT. MESMERISING. SUN-SOAKED.

Thought Mexico was all sun-kissed beaches, tacos and drinking fruity cocktails from a bucket? Well yeah, there's that. But the REAL Mexico – the one that's filled with looming temples, fascinating culture, otherworldly natural wonders and ancient Mayan heritage – that's the one you'll find here. Want all the swim stops, mouth-watering cuisine, awe-inspiring scenery, hand-picked adventure-filled activities – plus plenty of free time to do your own thing? This is it.

WORTH NOTING...

If your trip date doesn't coincide with a bioluminescence tour in Isla Holbox, we'll visit stunning Cabo Catoche instead.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW



Explorer



Nights



Android/iPhone
app download
info



This is a principal
package.

Hi, and thanks for choosing to holiday with Topdeck

You can rest assured that we'll pull out all the stops to make your trip unforgettable.

Now it's time to get excited about your holiday...

ABOUT YOUR TRIP NOTES

These Trip Notes contain everything you need to know before your trip departs – including where to meet and what to bring. We recommend that you read these notes thoroughly so you know what to expect on your trip of a lifetime. Also, you can easily download and print this document off so you can bring it with you when you travel.

Please bear in mind that some points should be taken as a guide only – after all, everyone's different! For example, daily spending money and clothing lists can vary from one person to the next, so don't be alarmed if you don't expect to spend (or even wear) so much!

PLEASE NOTE: We strongly urge you to refresh this document as close to the time of your departure as possible to ensure you have the most up-to-date accommodation list and information available.

ON THE BUCKET LIST (INCLUDED)

- + Sightseeing tour of Mexico City
- + Guided tour of Teotihuacan
- + Flight and transfers from Mexico City to Mérida
- + Guided tour of Chichén Itzá
- + Sacred swim at Cenote Ik Kil
- + Guided tour of Tulum ruins
- + Swim at Cenote Dos Ojos
- + Bioluminescence tour, Punta Coco
- + Three Islands boat tour

MORE INCLUSIONS

- + Sightseeing tour of Mexico City
- + Guided tour of Teotihuacan
- + Optional extras:?
- + Teotihuacan hot air balloon ride: from \$150 USD
- + Flight and transfers from Mexico City to Mérida
- + Bus tour of Mérida: \$15 USD
- + Guided tour of Chichén Itzá
- + Sacred swim at Cenote Ik Kil
- + Guided tour of Tulum ruins
- + Swim at Cenote Dos Ojos
- + Bioluminescence tour, Punta Coco
- + Ferry transfer to Isla Holbox
- + Three islands boat tour
- + Ferry transfer to Cancún via Chiquila

YOUR TRIP WILL START

PICK UP:

Mexico City
Mexico

YOUR TRIP WILL FINISH

DROP OFF:

Cancun
Mexico

TRIP CURRENCIES

- + Mexico - MXN

YOUR ITINERARY

DAY 1 | MEXICO CITY, MEXICO

Ladies and gentlemen, welcome to Mexico City! Touch down at Benito Juárez airport, check into the hostel and kick the adventure off with a sightseeing tour and cerveza (beer) or two at tonight's group dinner. This is gonna' be good.



MEALS:

+ Dinner



INCLUDED TODAY:

+ Sightseeing tour of Mexico City

DAY 2 | MEXICO CITY INCLUDING TEOTIHUACAN

Channel your inner-Dora today – we're off to Teotihuacan, the ancient 'City of the Gods'. Dating back to 200BC, take a moment to let all that ancient history sink as you stroll down the Avenue of the Dead and past the site's looming pyramids and temples. Get those peaches working with a 250-stair climb to the top of the Pyramid of the Sun. The views are worth it, promise. Or take things to the next level with an optional hot air balloon ride. Back in Mexico City, pull out all the moves (or lack of) at a local salsa club.



MEALS:

+ Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

+ Guided tour of Teotihuacan
+ Optional extras:?
+ Teotihuacan hot air balloon ride: from \$150 USD

DAY 3 | MEXICO CITY TO MÉRIDA, YUCATÁN

Next stop, Mérida – the buzzing capital of Yucatán. A city seeped in colonial and Mayan heritage, we think the best way to maximise your free time here is on an optional bus tour. Or go it alone – it's totally up to you. Later, find a local haunt to try a plate of mukbil pollo. And if you head to Parque Santa Lucía you might even catch some traditional music.



MEALS:

+ Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

+ Flight and transfers from Mexico City to Mérida
+ Optional extras:?
+ Bus tour of Mérida: \$15 USD

DAY 4 | MÉRIDA TO PLAYA DEL CARMEN, QUINTANA VIA CHICHÉN ITZÁ

Act cool: we're off to visit one of the seven new Wonders of the World. Say hola to our local guide – they'll show us the ins and outs of this iconic landmark, ticking off the likes of the Temple of Kukulcan ('El Castillo'), the Platform of the Skulls, the Plaza of a Thousand Columns and the Sacred Cenote. Regather your strength with an included lunch before we roll on to Playa del Carmen. Tonight, you're free to explore Playa's 5th Avenue on your own.



MEALS:

+ Breakfast

+ Lunch



INCLUDED TODAY:

+ Guided tour of Chichén Itzá
+ Sacred swim at Cenote Ik Kil

DAY 5 | PLAYA DEL CARMEN

White sands. Aquamarine water. Palm trees. Hear that? It's the sound of a free day (and waves crashing). When you get tired of lounging on the beach, there are plenty of local bars to pull up a pew. If you're keen to delve a bit deeper, take up the offer of a Sian Ka'an biosphere reserve tour. The coastal wetland is teeming with local flora and fauna – perfect for David Attenborough wannabes. Tonight, why not get the gang together for sunset cocktails? This is what you came for.



MEALS:

- + Breakfast
- + Optional extras:?
- + Sian Ka'an biosphere reserve tour: from \$100 USD

DAY 6 | PLAYA DEL CARMEN TO TULUM, QUINTANA ROO

Another day, another incredible archaeological site. This morning we're cruising down the coast to one of the last cities built by the Mayans. Discover the who's who of Tulum with a guided tour – including the pyramid temple of El Castillo, the Temple of the Frescoes and the Templo Dios del Viento. Then: the arvo is free to explore the town, venture out on a bike, or laze on the beach – 100% your choice. Round up the day with a swim at the otherworldly Cenote Dos Ojos. Google it and get excited.



MEALS:

- + Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

- + Guided tour of Tulum ruins
- + Swim at Cenote Dos Ojos

DAY 7 | TULUM

This is your last day in Tulum – so, make the most of it. Spend the day yo-yoing between the beach and variety of local restaurants. Or for the Indiana Joneses, there's an optional trip to the ruins of Coba. Hike through the jungle. Rappel down cenotes. Zip through the canopies. Canoe across crystal-clear lagoons. Swim in hidden caves. This is about as adventurous as it gets, folks. Later, gather the gang and hit the beach clubs.



MEALS:

- + Breakfast
- + Optional extras:?
- + Visit Coba archaeological site (lunch included): from \$80 USD

DAY 8 | TULUM TO ISLA HOLBOX

Swap the great open road for the high seas. We're off to Isla Holbox: a car-free island that is simply paradise. Unplug and embrace the slow pace the locals love so much. After an afternoon of lounging in hammocks and making sand-angels – we'll regroup for an included bioluminescence tour at Punta Coco. You've gotta' see it to believe it.



MEALS:

- + Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

- + Bioluminescence tour, Punta Coco
- + Ferry transfer to Isla Holbox

DAY 9 | ISLA HOLBOX

What's better than an island boat tour? An included island boat tour. Explore three islands surrounding Holbox. Float through Yalahau Lagoon and try spot the local chimays, iguanas, crocodiles, flamingos and dolphins. Then: take a dip at Yala-Hau and get a dose of the healing powers at this freshwater spring (healing not guaranteed). Back on Isla Holbox, the rest of the day is up to you. More beach-lazing?



MEALS:

+ Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

+ Three islands boat tour

DAY 10 | ISLA HOLBOX TO CANCÚN

You know it as the go-to party destination for spring breakers. But there's more to this city than sunburnt freshmen and bucket cocktails (although, there's plenty of those too). This is our final full day – so go hard before you go home. Do the obvious and hit the beach (no judgement). Get your culture-fix at one of the city's museums. Strap on a snorkel and take a peek at the Faritos reef. Flex the plastic at La Isla Shopping Village. Or channel your inner Johnny Depp on Captain Hook's party ship. Just make sure you're back in time for one last group dinner together!



MEALS:

+ Breakfast

+ Dinner



INCLUDED TODAY:

+ Ferry transfer to Cancún via Chiquila

DAY 11 | CANCÚN

Wash the salt from your hair and shake the sand from your underwear. It's time to say adios to Mexico – and your trip mates. But who said the adventure has to end? Flights to LA are super cheap this time of year...



MEALS:

+ Breakfast

TIPPING

NO TIP NECESSARY

Your Topdeck Trip Leaders and Drivers never expect tips, and they won't ask for any either. We also know how much tipping can cost you. So go ahead – spoil yourself with the money you save traveling with us (just don't forget Mum's souvenir).

TOPDECK TRAVEL APP

Our app is available to download before you travel. With a range of cool features including a currency converter, budget planner, check-in tool and group chat, it'll help you plan your trip like a pro. Think of it as your very own Topdeck Trip Leader in the palm of your hand.

TRIP GROUP CHAT

Connect with your fellow Topdeckers before you depart and begin your magical friendship in the flash of a winking face emoji.

ITINERARY VIEWER

Get the lowdown on where you'll be going and what activities you'll be doing on each day of your trip with this handy little tool.

CHECK-IN

Plug in all your vital deets and we'll keep them safe for when you really need them. Making your life easier, one swipe at a time.

BUDGET TRACKER

Keep an eye on your holiday spending, leaving you with more FUN-ds to play with. Think: elaborate Spanish feasts (not questionable supermarket sandwiches).

MAPS

Navigate your way to meeting points and lesser-known local gems using pins dropped by your Trip Leader, seek out your own bucket list sites and take to the streets like a pro.

Once the trip is over, you'll need the app to give us feedback about your trip experience. We love to hear what you thought about your trip, as it helps to give us an idea of the things we're doing well and the things we could be doing better.

PLEASE NOTE: The Topdeck Travel App should only be downloaded once you have booked your trip. You will not be able to log in unless you have a Topdeck booking reference number.

[GET IT FOR IPHONE](#)

[GET IT FOR ANDROID](#)



PASSENGER SAFETY

NIGHTS OUT

One of the best parts of travelling is experiencing the nightlife and entertainment each city has to offer. However, amidst the fun and excitement, it's important to be aware of your surroundings and personal safety as well. Before you hit the road with us, be sure to familiarise yourself with the following safety information.

When you're on a night out, remember to avoid walking alone, particularly through deserted areas like beaches and back streets. Always stick together, take a registered taxi where possible, and keep a note of your accommodation details so you can find your way back to your fellow Topdeckers if you become separated. It's also a good idea to get your Topdeck trip mates' mobile numbers in case you need to get hold of them while out and about.

In some countries, alcoholic measures can be considerably larger than what you may be used to. Try to keep track of what you're drinking, and if you see one of your trip mates looking a little worse for wear, take them back to your accommodation. Never leave your drink unattended.

It's also important to be aware that what you might consider harmless flirting may be interpreted differently in some countries. Be yourself and have fun, but stay savvy – you don't want to find yourself in an uncomfortable situation.

RESPECTING FELLOW PASSENGERS

Here at Topdeck, we're all about inclusivity. We want to make sure that everyone has a great time on our trips, and

that everyone feels like they're part of one happy Topdeck family.

What we're not about is excluding people or making them feel like they don't belong – that's just not what families do. That's why we always encourage Topdeckers to be kind and courteous to their fellow passengers. The golden rules? Always remember to respect each other's space, be mindful of causing excessive noise in shared accommodation and treat others how you'd wish to be treated yourself. Easy!

DRUG USE

Topdeck has a strict zero-tolerance drug policy. Passengers should not bring any illegal substances onto the Topdeck coach or into any of the accommodation we stay in on our trips. This includes marijuana, even if it is legal in some of the states your trip passes through. If you are found in possession of drugs, you will be removed from the trip. All instances of drug possession will be reported to Topdeck Head Office, who may consider alerting the relevant authorities.

REMEMBER – if you are found in possession of drugs, not only could you risk getting in trouble with the local police, but our Driver will also be held responsible if drugs are found on the Topdeck coach. Trust us, you wouldn't want that to happen to any of our Drivers – they're awesome.

MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Culture shock, homesickness, random periods of feeling down – these things happen and are totally normal. You can rest assured that if you're feeling low, your Topdeck crew will do their utmost to cheer you up again.

Measures you can take to look after your mental health and wellbeing while on the road with us are:

- + Call home. Sometimes it's nice to hear a familiar voice and have a good old-fashioned catch up with your loved ones
- + Eat well. Never underestimate the power of a good, wholesome meal. Nobody feels at their best when they're hungry!
- + Drink responsibly. Not only will you swerve the dreaded hangover, but by keeping an eye on what you drink, you could also avoid getting into any potentially uncomfortable situations
- + Talk to your Trip Leader. Don't forget, they're probably far from home, too – so they're sure to know of some tried-and-tested ways to beat the blues
- + Integrate with your fellow Topdeckers. This one is key! The more fun you're having on your trip, the less likely you are to feel homesick (trust us).

HOW TO BE A RESPONSIBLE TRAVELLER

Responsible travel isn't difficult to achieve. With a little conscious thought and preparation, you can have an awesome holiday AND have a positive impact on the places you visit. Sweet!

Here are five things you can do to ensure you're travelling responsibly:

- + Conserve water. You know the drill – reuse your hotel towels, take short showers and remember to turn off the tap when you're brushing your teeth
- + Reduce your waste. Ditch the plastic bag, refuse unnecessary packaging, dispose of your waste responsibly and recycle as much as possible
- + Go local. Hunt down locally owned and operated restaurants and bars, shop in local markets and book tours and activities run by local guides
- + Consider the wildlife. Avoid any attractions that involve closely engaging with wild animals
- + Respect local people and culture. Obeying local laws is a given – but also remember to dress and behave in a manner appropriate to the community. Be polite and keep an open mind!

OTHER INFORMATION

INSURANCE

Before your trip departs, it's compulsory for all passengers to take out comprehensive travel insurance covering cancellation, medical expenses (including repatriation), loss or damage to baggage and personal belongings, money and personal liability.

World Nomads provides comprehensive travel insurance for people from over 140 countries. For more information, visit www.topdeck.travel/travel-insurance.

PASSPORTS AND VISAS

Please make sure your passport is valid for at least six months after the last day of your trip. Some countries will refuse entry if you do not have at least six months validity remaining on your passport after your departure date. Depending on your nationality, you may require a visa to enter certain countries.

It is your responsibility to obtain visas prior to your trip departure. To determine which visas you'll need, you can consult either your own government's website or the government websites of the countries in which you will be travelling.

PLEASE NOTE: Some visas can take up to six weeks to acquire, so don't leave it until the last minute. Also, bear in mind that the validity of a visa often runs from its date of issue rather than the date of entry into the country. Please check with the appropriate embassy/embassies prior to departure, as requirements do change periodically.

WHAT TO BRING

Based on our experience, these items are key. Everyone's different though – so if you want to bring more or less, go for it! (As long as you don't exceed your 20kg allowance, that is.)

- + 1 pair of comfortable walking shoes
- + 1 pair of smart casual shoes
- + 1 pair of thongs/jandals/flip-flops
- + 2 pairs of jeans/trousers
- + 2 pairs of shorts/skirts
- + 4 shirts/T-shirts
- + 2 sweaters/jumpers
- + Smart casual evening wear
- + 1 rainproof jacket
- + 1 warm jacket
- + Underwear and socks
- + Swimwear
- + Towel
- + Toiletries
- + Hat and sunscreen

- + Basic medical kit (including plasters, aspirin etc)
- + Insect repellent
- + Conversion plug
- + Reusable water bottle
- + Snow gear



THAT'S IT!