

# HISTORY AND CULTURE OF THE MAYAN WORLD

*A dive into the cultural and natural world of the Yucatan peninsula, with visits to colonial cities, natural wildlife habitats and biosphere reserves and Mayan communities. You will visit Merida, Valladolid, Tulum and more. It is an encounter with colonial history and an authentic contact with today's Yucatan.*

 Region	Yucatan
 Activity	Family trips Road Trip
 Duration	7 days
 Code	MEXCULTALT
 Price	From €1,242
 Level	2/5
 Comfort	2/5

## ITINERARY

### Day 1 WELCOME



Accueil at Mérida airport. Assistance and transfer to the hotel. Night in hotel in Mérida.

Time to discover the White City, where you can see the important places of the colonial zone. Don't forget to visit the Grand Museum of the Mayan World and the house museums of Paseo Montejo. When it comes to eating, there are many options, but we will try to give you our best places in the city to eat local, authentic and tasty. We spend the night in a hotel in the historic center.

### Day 2 MEXICO GULF



This day we recommend two activities.

a- Go to Puerto Progreso beach, about half an hour from Merida. It is a small town by the sea. The Boulevard facing the beach is full of very varied restaurants and you can eat on the sand with your feet in the water... Very close to Progreso there is a small Park of the Pre-History, which is worth the visit.

b- Visit to the Celestún Biosphere Reserve. It is the ideal place to enjoy and interact with nature, with its 21 km of length and shallow depth, it is the ideal habitat for many species of birds and in particular for the greater flamingo which inhabits the peninsula, the city offers a wide range of dishes

characteristic of the coast. We recommend a boat ride through the estuary and then a visit to Celestún beach, which is characterized by being shallow, having very few waves and because the water has a beautiful color. On the beach you will find inexpensive restaurants that serve seafood and Yucatan dishes.

### Day 3 VALLADOLID. A CULTURAL TREASURE



Breakfast at the hotel. Departure to the city of Valladolid. On the way, enter a cenote. Swimming time and lunch on site. Continue to Valladolid. This city was until the beginning of the 20th century the third largest and most important city on the Yucatán Peninsula. It had a wealthy elite of Creoles, owners of houses built in the Spanish colonial style. Installation in a city center hotel.

### Day 4 A WORLD OF CENOTES



There are so many activities to do in Valladolid!!! Chichen Itza is barely 40km away. Numerous cenotes guard the city, and even inside there are two.... If you haven't been to Celestun, don't miss the excursion to Ria Lagartos...with its pink flamingos and huge crocodiles... Visits to tequila factories and chocolate museums. Finally.... We will put you in contact with our specialist guide of the region, who will first offer you a bike ride in the city.....

📍 Day 5 **IT'S THE PRIMARY JUNGLE**



Departure to Tulum. On the way, we suggest you make a stop at Punta Laguna Park: If you like the jungle, with its wild animals and sports activities such as ziplining and kayaking, Punta Laguna is the place you should not miss.... Your destination today is Tulum, on the Riviera Maya.... Installation in a small hotel in the village of Tulum.

📍 Day 6 **THE GATE TO PARADISE**



There is more than just the beach in Tulum. The Sian Ka'an Reserve is a few kilometers away. Also considered a UNESCO Heritage site, Sian Ka'an is the largest protected area in the Mexican Caribbean. It is home to vast biodiversity, including birds and marine species, in its tropical forests, mangroves, marshes and coral reefs. In the Mayan language Sian Ka'an means the Door to Heaven. If you don't want to immerse yourself in the wild jungle, we recommend the Xcaret or Xel Ha theme parks, a few km north of Tulum... But if you don't want to drive for km, there are the Archaeological site of Tulum a few steps from your village: History and nature meet right at the gate of Paradise....

📍 Day 7 **FAREWELL**

You still have the morning to enjoy the sea. But, if you don't want to relax *farniente*, you can visit the Archaeological site of Tulum a few steps from your village: History and nature meet right there in the Gate of Paradise.... Tulum is the best example of the architectural style of Mayan buildings built on the northern coast of Quintana Roo between the years 1200 and 1520, thanks to its effective defensive system, this site was an essential establishment for any trade route and for the exploitation of the rich marine resources of the coast of Quintana Roo. In the afternoon, transfer to the airport for the return flight.

## PERIOD & BUDGET

### When to travel?

The best period for travelling is during the following months:

Jan

Feb

Mar

Apr

May

Jun

Jul

Aug

Sep

Oct

Nov

Dec

### Price

1300.00eur/pax

*The budget is an indication of the price per person, subject to availability. Your local agent will send you a customized quote with the exact price. The price can vary according to availability, level of services, period of travel, number of participants, booking time frame and other items.*

### Included

- 6 nights in a hotel with breakfast
- Car rental for the entire stay.
- Entrance to the Cenote with lunch.
- The Havana / Yucatan flight.

Transfers.

- Our English-speaking assistance 24/7

### Not included

- The supplement in a single room: contact us
- The supplement for accompaniment by an English-speaking driver: contact us
- Meals
- Tips, all expenses & personal equipment, drinks and anything not in "PRICE INCLUDES"

### Terms and conditions

#### Booking conditions

Booking a trip with Altaï Cuba implies acceptance of the terms and conditions of sale. Each customer is required to complete a registration form and, subject to availability at the time of registration, travellers are expected to pay a deposit of 35% of the total price to complete their booking. Payments can be made online or by bank transfer. You will receive an e-mail with your booking confirmation.

#### Invoice procedure

Once your booking is confirmed you will receive an invoice by e-mail. The full balance of the trip must be received at least 35 days before your departure date. Altaï Cuba reserve the right to cancel your booking, free of charge, if this deadline is not respected.

#### Cancellation policy

If for any reason you have to cancel your trip, Altaï Cuba require written confirmation of your decision. The money you have paid will then be refunded according to the following deductions:

- Cancellation received more than 30 days prior to the departure date: a sum of €50 per person will be retained
- Cancellation received 30 to 21 days before the departure date: your deposit, 30% of the total trip price will be retained
- Cancellation received 20 to 14 days before the departure date: 50% of the total trip price will be retained
- Cancellation received 13 to 7 days before the departure date: 75% of the total trip price will be retained
- Cancellation received less than 7 days before the departure date: 100% of the total trip price will be retained

#### Special cases:

Please note that, regardless of the date of cancellation or modification if you have agreed to pay for services such as hotel reservations, flights or additional activities, these services are usually non-refundable so additional fees may apply.

- Fixed fares: if your airline ticket was issued in advance, often done to avoid significant surcharges, you will be charged 100% of any non-refundable fees if you wish to change or cancel your flight plan.

- Fixed in-country costs: early charges for firm bookings will be charged if you cancel or modify your trip.
- Insurance costs: if you have taken out comprehensive or cancellation insurance, the cost of insurance is due and cannot be refunded.

**Please note that fees apply according to the date we receive your cancellation or modification request in writing.**

If we have to cancel a departure due to an insufficient number of participants, you will be informed no later than 21 days before departure and a full refund will be issued, you will not be entitled to further compensation. We reserve the rights to cancel departures due to exceptional circumstances which may impact the safety of participants. Such circumstances include those amounting to 'force majeure' in which case participants will receive a full refund but they will not be entitled to any compensation.

### **Changes to travel contract**

If you wish to make a change to your booking please contact Altaï Cuba in writing; you will be expected to pay any fee which might arise from this change. In the event of unforeseen external events, Altaï Cuba may change some aspects of the travel contract. If any changes are necessary you will be informed as quickly as possible.

### **Pricing**

The prices on our website are updated regularly and all of the prices we advertise are accurate when published. Altaï Cuba reserve the rights to make changes to any of these prices. Before you make a booking we will give you the up-to-date price of your chosen holiday including any supplements, upgrades or additional activities you may have requested. If the number of travellers is fewer than the indicated number of participants on the website, a small group surcharge may be applied. For all of our trips we include details of services, prices and what is/is not included but please be aware that changes to the prices may be necessary in accordance with exchange rates or price changes of various components of the journey.

### **Contract transfer**

If you are unable to travel for any reason, you can transfer your booking to another person in which case our modification conditions apply. Both the transferor and transferee will be jointly and severally liable for payment of the total holiday price and other associated expenses. Some airline carriers treat name changes as cancellations and you may be required to pay for the cost of a new ticket.

### **Insurance**

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By law, all tourists visiting Cuba must have travel insurance to cover medical costs. You may be asked to provide proof of your travel insurance policy when you arrive at the airport.

We strongly recommend that you take out personal travel insurance for your trip with Altaï Cuba as soon as your booking is confirmed. We advise you to purchase a travel insurance policy which covers flight cancellations, luggage loss and emergency health care. Please look carefully at which activities are covered by your insurer and do not forget to bring all necessary documents and information with you (name of the company, name of the contract, insurance policy number, telephone number...)

