

# Backroads to the Beach 2011

## Summary

**O**ur tour starts in Mérida in the Mexican state of Yucatan and ends in Tulum, Quintana Roo. We recommend flying into **Mérida** on or before **Thursday February 17<sup>th</sup>** and back home on or after **Thursday March 3<sup>rd</sup>**. Of course you may prefer to come earlier or stay longer; let us know and we will make hotel reservations for you. We urge you to book your flight as soon as possible.

**Y**ou will be responsible for taking a taxi from the airport to the hotel; **Hotel Las Monjas** at Calle 66A #509; tel.: (999)928-6632. Once checked in you can unpack and reassemble your bikes and we will store your bike boxes at the hotel for your flight home. On Thursday February 17<sup>th</sup> we will meet at **6pm** in our hotel lobby for our first group dinner and our tour orientation.

**O**ur route will take us from Mérida, starting southwards, and we will meander round the Yucatan and finish on the beautiful Caribbean coast in Tulum.

Over our 10 days of riding we will average about 70km and cover a total of about 700km. We will travel mostly within the state of Yucatan, and finish in Quintana Roo. Our daily rides will take us to various towns and cities including; Ticul, Santa

**O**n the last day of the tour, Wednesday March 2<sup>nd</sup>, we ride into Tulum. You will have some time to enjoy the Caribbean. The next day (or later if you want to stay longer) you can take the first class bus back to Merida and disassemble and once again pack your bike in your bike box; ready for your flight home. Please allow plenty of time for the taxi ride back to the airport.



Elena, Oxcutzcab, Tekax, Tekit, Izamal, Pisté, Ek Balam, Cobá, and finally, Tulum.

**C**ount on a total of about US\$240 for accommodations (based on double occupancy); about US\$220 for food and drink; and about US\$150 for miscellaneous extras such as taxi, bus transportation, and entrance fees. Err on having a little extra and make sure to save a little money for souvenirs. Please note that in order to guarantee you a spot on the tour, the outstanding balance of the guides' fee must be received by us no later than December 17<sup>th</sup>.

# Itinerary

When	Where	Distance	Highlights
Day 0 Thurs Feb 17, 2011	Meet in Mérida	-	Yucatan cuisine, Colonial Architecture, Zocalo, Market
Day 1 Fri Feb 18, 2011	Mérida to Ticul	77 km	Picturesque Towns, Mayan villages, quiet roads, ex-haciendas, cenotes, Uxmal Mayan ruins
Day 2 Sat Feb 19, 2011	Ticul to Sta. Elena (via Muna)	53 km	Uxmal Mayan ruins, some hills
Day 3 Sun Feb 20, 2011	Sta. Elena	-	rest day. Enjoy the nature. Climb up to the town church for sunset
Day 4 Mon Feb 21, 2011	Sta Elena to Oxcutzcab	52 km	Puuc route Mayan ruins, Hacienda Tabi, quiet hilly backroads
Day 5 Tues Feb 22, 2011	Oxcutzcab to Tekax	40 km (hilly)	hills and backroads, colonial town, classic Yucatecan cuisine
Day 6 Wed Feb 23, 2011	Tekax to Tekit (via Cantamayec)	94 km	Longest day, scenic backroads
Day 7 Thurs Feb 24, 2011	Tekit to Izamal	85 km	Rolling hills, backroads, cenotes
Day 8 Fri Feb 25, 2011	Izamal	-	Mayan Ruins, huge pyramid, Convent, Zocalo, Market, beautiful Izamal, the best tacos in Mexico!
Day 9 Sat Feb 26, 2011	Izamal to Pisté (via Stilpech, Tunkas and Dzitas)	71 km	Cenotes, quiet roads, small towns
Day 10 Sun Feb 27, 2011	Piste to Ek Balam village (via Valladolid or via Espita)	88-90 km	quiet roads, tiny Mayan village
Day 11 Mon Feb 28, 2011	Ek Balam	-	Ek Balam Mayan ruins. Rest day. Nature. Cenote. Authentic Mayan food.
Day 12 Tues Mar 1, 2011	Ek Balam to Coba	85 km	backroads, small villages
Day 13 Wed Mar 2, 2011	Cobá to Tulum	55 km	Coba Mayan Ruins, Cenotes, Beach, snorkel, Scuba-Diving, Tulum ruins, beach camping possible
Day 14 Thurs Mar 3, 2011	Tulum	-	Tulum ruins, beach. Bus to Cancun or Mérida to fly back home or stay a while longer