

# Backroads to the Beach 2012

## Summary

Our 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 January 26<sup>th</sup>** and back home on (or more likely after) **Thursday February 9<sup>th</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.

You will be responsible for taking a taxi from the airport to the hotel; **Hotel Santa Ana** at Calle 45 # 503 between 60 and 62; tel.: (999) 923-3331. 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 January 26<sup>th</sup> we will meet at **6pm** in our hotel lobby for our first group dinner and our tour orientation.

Our 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 71km and cover a total of about 706km. 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

On the last day of the tour, Wednesday February 8<sup>th</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 Mérida 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.

Count 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 November 26<sup>th</sup>.

# Itinerary

When	Where	Distance	Highlights
Day 0 Thurs Jan 26, 2012	Meet in Mérida	-	Yucatan cuisine, Colonial Architecture, Zocalo, Market
Day 1 Fri Jan 27, 2012	Mérida to Ticul	77 km	Picturesque Towns, Mayan villages, quiet roads, ex-haciendas, cenotes, Uxmal Mayan ruins
Day 2 Sat Jan 28, 2012	Ticul to Sta. Elena (via Muna)	53 km	<a href="#">Uxmal</a> Mayan ruins, some hills
Day 3 Sun Jan 29, 2012	Sta. Elena	-	rest day. Enjoy the nature. Climb up to the town church for sunset
Day 4 Mon Jan 30, 2012	Sta Elena to Oxcutzcab	52 km	<a href="#">Puuc</a> route Mayan ruins, Hacienda Tabi, quiet hilly backroads
Day 5 Tues Jan 31, 2012	Oxcutzcab to Tekax	40 km (hilly)	hills and backroads, colonial town, classic Yucatecan cuisine
Day 6 Wed Feb 1, 2012	Tekax to Tekit (via Cantamayec)	100 km	Longest day, scenic backroads
Day 7 Thurs Feb 2, 2012	Tekit to Izamal	85 km	Rolling hills, backroads, cenotes
Day 8 Fri Feb 3, 2012	Izamal	-	Mayan Ruins, huge pyramid, Convent, Zocalo, Market, beautiful <a href="#">Izamal</a> , the best tacos in Mexico!
Day 9 Sat Feb 4, 2012	Izamal to Pisté (via Stilpech, Tunkas and Dzitas)	71 km	Cenotes, quiet roads, small towns
Day 10 Sun Feb 5, 2012	Piste to Ek Balam village (via Valladolid or via Espita)	88-90 km	quiet roads, tiny Mayan village
Day 11 Mon Feb 6, 2012	Ek Balam	-	Ek Balam Mayan ruins. Rest day. Nature. Cenote. Authentic Mayan food.
Day 12 Tues Feb 7, 2012	Ek Balam to Coba	85 km	backroads, small villages
Day 13 Wed Feb 8, 2012	Cobá to Tulum	55 km	Coba Mayan Ruins, Cenotes, Beach, snorkel, Scuba-Diving, Tulum ruins, beach camping possible
Day 14 Thurs Feb 9, 2012	Tulum	-	Tulum ruins, beach. Bus to Cancun or Mérida to fly back home or stay a while longer