

Eternal Spring in Mexico 2005

Summary

Our tour starts in Morelia in the Mexican state of Michoacan. We recommend flying into **Morelia** by **Thursday July 7th** and back home on or after **Thursday July 21st**. 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.

On Thursday July 7th we will meet by **6pm** in our hotel lobby; **Posada Don Vasco** at Vasco de Quiroga #232; tel.: (443)312-1484. You will be responsible for taking a taxi from the airport to the hotel. That evening after dinner we will unpack and reassemble our bikes and store the bike boxes at the hotel for our flight home.

We start by being transported from Morelia to Carapán where we'll start cycling. We will wind and loop around the Purepecha highlands of

Michoacan, over many mountains, by the lakes of Patzcuaro and Zirahuén and finally we will return to Morelia. Over our 10 days of riding we will



average 53km daily and cover a total of about 532km. We will travel entirely within the state of Michoacan. Our daily rides will take us to various towns and cities including; Carapán, Cheran, Paracho, Zirahuén, Santa Clara del Cobre, Patzcuaro, Uruapan, Angahuan (volcán Paricutin), Tinguindín, Tangancicuaro, Zacapu, and then finally back to Morelia.

At the end of the tour; on Wednesday July 20th we will return to the beautiful colonial city of Morelia. You should disassemble and once again pack your bike in your bike box; ready for your flight home. Please allow plenty of time when you take a taxi back to the airport.

Count on a total of about US\$160 for accommodations; about US\$180 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 guides' fee of US\$500 (or the outstanding balance) must be received by us no later than June 7th.

Itinerary

When	Where	Distance	Highlights
Day 0 Thurs July 7, 2005	Meet in Morelia	-	UNESCO Heritage site, colonial state capital, markets, museums
Day 1 Fri July 8, 2005	Transport to Carapán, ride to Cherán	27-51km	Beautiful mountain scenery, side trip to Paracho the guitar capital
Day 2 Sat July 9, 2005	Cherán to Zirahuén	42km	Very quiet smooth roads, great views, small towns and villages, small lakes-side resort
Day 3 Sun July 10, 2005	Zirahuén to Pátzcuaro via Sta. Clara del Cobre	36km	Brick road, copper town, view of lake Pátzcuaro
Day 4 Mon July 11, 2005	Pátzcuaro	-	Rest day. Gorgeous colonial town, handicrafts from the surrounding area, market
Day 5 Tues July 12, 2005	Pátzcuaro to Uruapan	69km	Mainly downhill, Tarascan ruins, world capital of the avocado, national park
Day 6 Wed July 13, 2005	Uruapan to Angahuán	37km	Challenging climbing, spectacular views
Day 7 Thurs July 14, 2005	Angahuán	-	Volcán Paricutín, world's newest volcano
Day 8 Fri July 15, 2005	Angahuán to Tinguindín	56km	agricultural center, fruit orchards, small colonial town
Day 9 Sat July 16, 2005	Tinguindín to Tangancicuaro	59km	Unfinished gothic cathedral, sweeping views
Day 10 Sun July 17, 2005	Tangancicuaro to Zacapu	54km	valley of the 11 towns
Day 11 Mon July 18, 2005	Zacapu	-	Rest day. Ixtlan de los Hervores geyser
Day 12 Tues July 19, 2005	Zacapu to Patzcuaro	61km	Easy climbs, fast descents, great views of lake Patzcuaro, mask making town
Day 13 Wed July 20, 2005	Patzcuaro to Morelia	67km	Tarascan ruins,
Day 14 Thurs July 21, 2005	Morelia	-	Stay a little longer or fly back home