

Haciendas, Cenotes & Ruins 2006

Summary

Our tour starts in Mérida in the Mexican state of Yucatan. We recommend flying into **Mérida** by **Wednesday January 25th** and back home on or after **Wednesday February 1st** - if you can it's worth your while to stay an extra day or two to see Mérida. Of course you may also prefer to arrive earlier; let us know and we will make hotel reservations for you. We urge you to book your flight as soon as possible.

On Wednesday January 25th we will meet by **6pm** in our hotel lobby; **Hotel Las Monjas** at Calle 66A #509; tel.: (999)928-6632. You will be responsible for taking a taxi from the airport to the hotel. That evening after dinner you can unpack and reassemble your bikes and store the bike boxes at the hotel for your flight home.

Our route will take us from Mérida, south along gently rolling paved and dirt roads to the hilly Puuc region, then north and east, the hills gradually softening back to rolling, to



end up in Valladolid. Over our 5 days of riding we will average 77km daily and cover a total of about 384km. We will travel entirely within the state of Yucatan. Our daily rides will take us to various towns and cities including; Ticul, Oxcutzcab, Izamal, Pisté (Chichén Itzá) and Valladolid.

At the end of the tour; on Wednesday February 1st you will take a deluxe bus or van from Valladolid back to Mérida. Once there you may walk or ride back to the hotel where 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\$110 for accommodations; about US\$85 for food and drink; and about US\$95 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\$350 (or the outstanding balance) must be received by us no later than December 25th.

Itinerary

| When | Where | Distance | Highlights |
|-----------------------------|--|----------|--|
| Day 0 Wed Jan 25, 2006 | Meet in Mérida | - | Yucatan cuisine, Murals, Colonial Architecture, market |
| Day 1 Thurs Jan 26, 2006 | Mérida to Ticul | 83 km | Picturesque Towns, Mayan villages, quiet roads, ex-haciendas, cenotes, Uxmal Mayan ruins |
| Day 2 Fri Jan 27, 2006 | Ticul to Oxcutzcab (via ruta Puuc Mayan ruins & Loltún cave) | 67 km | Rolling, hilly roads. Spectacular Mayan ruins and caves |
| Day 3 Sat Jan 28, 2006 | Oxcutzcab to Izamal | 118 km | Quiet roads, no tourists, cenotes |
| Day 4 Sun Jan 29, 2006 | Izamal | - | Massive pyramid, Convent, Zocalo, Market... The BEST tacos in Mexico! Optional sidetrip. |
| Day 5 Mon Jan 30, 2006 | Izamal to Pisté (via Stilpech, Tunkas and Dzitas) | 71 km | Cenotes, quiet roads, small towns |
| Day 6 Tues Jan 31, 2006 | Pisté to Valladolid | 45 km | Chichén-Itzá ruins, caves, cenotes, colonial town |
| Day 7 Wed Feb 1, 2006 | Bus or van back to Mérida | - | Yucatan cuisine, Murals, Colonial Architecture, market |