

Mexican Three Week Odyssey 2013

Summary

Our tour starts in Mérida in the Mexican state of Yucatan. We recommend flying into **Mérida** by **Monday February 4th** and back home on or after **Monday February 25th**. 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 bike and we will store your bike box at the hotel for your flight home. On Monday February 4th 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, along some flat and some hilly roads southwestward, along the Gulf Coast,

through the wetlands of Tabasco, the cacao growing region, and finally into the mountains of Chiapas. Over our 14 days of riding we will average 81km daily and cover a total of about 1127km. There is an optional side-trip at the end of the tour. We will travel



from the state of Yucatan into Campeche and Tabasco and finally into the state of Chiapas. Our daily rides will take us to various towns and cities including; Tekit, Sta. Elena, Uxmal ruins, Hopelchen, Campeche, Sabancuy, Ciudad del Carmen, Frontera, Villahermosa, Comalcalco, Cardenas, Pichucalco, Tapilula, Jitotol, and finally, San Cristóbal de

las Casas.

At the end of the tour; Sunday February 24th you will take an overnight first class or deluxe bus from San Cristóbal back to Mérida. Once there you may cycle or taxi 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 for the taxi ride back to the airport.

Count on a total of about US\$310 for accommodations; about \$270 for food and drink; and about \$200 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 4th.

Itinerary

When	Where	Distance	Highlights
Day 0 Mon Feb 4, 2013	Meet in Mérida	-	Yucatan cuisine, Colonial Architecture, Zocalo, Market
Day 1 Tues Feb 5, 2013	Mérida to Tekit	80 km	small towns quiet roads, cenotes
Day 2 Wed Feb 6, 2013	Tekit to Sta. Elena	73 km	Important Mayapan post-classic Mayan ruins, more haciendas, quiet backroads, and cenotes, famous Uxmal
Day 3 Thurs Feb 7, 2013	Sta. Elena to Hopelchen	73 km	Mayan villages, cave
Day 4 Fri Feb 8, 2013	Hopelchen to Campeche (via Edzná, China)	112 km	Edzna Mayan ruins, small villages, quiet roads, cArNaVaL!!!
Day 5 Sat Feb 9, 2013	Campeche	-	More cArNaVaL!!! Explore the walled, fortified colonial city, excellent market, waterfront
Day 6 Sun Feb 10, 2013	Campeche	-	So much to see and do here...
Day 7 Mon Feb 11, 2013	Campeche to Sabancuy	133 km	More cArNaVaL!!! Deserted beaches, charming friendly town, longest day
Day 8 Tues Feb 12, 2013	Sabancuy to Ciudad del Carmen	85 km	Last night of cArNaVaL!!! Gulf coast, isolated beaches, bustling exciting city
Day 9 Wed Feb 13, 2013	Ciudad del Carmen to Frontera	93 km	small towns, villages, lagoons and wetlands and birds
Day 10 Thurs Feb 14, 2013	Frontera to Villahermosa	82 km	The wetlands of the state of Tabasco
Day 11 Fri Feb 15, 2013	Villahermosa	-	Amazing market. La Venta park; Olmec archeological museum, Tabasco zoo. Exciting bustling city.
Day 12 Sat Feb 16, 2013	Villahermosa to Comalcalco	67 km	Culinary route, turtle sanctuary, Comalcalco Mayan ruins
Day 13 Sun Feb 17, 2013	Comalcalco to Cardenas	45 km	Comalcalco market, cacao hacienda, cacao fermenter, cacao growing region
Day 14 Mon Feb 18, 2013	Cardenas to Pichucalco	106 km	quiet backroads, entering the foothills
Day 15 Tues Feb 19, 2013	Pichucalco	-	rest day

When	Where	Distance	Highlights
Day 16 Wed Feb 20, 2013	Pichucalco to Tapilula	53 km mountains	mountains. Challenging climbing. Amazing views and scenery. Small villages and towns
Day 17 Thurs Feb 21, 2013	Tapilula to Jitotol	52 km mountains	Climbing higher into the mountains and yet more spectacular views. Small villages and towns.
Day 18 Fri Feb 22, 2013	Jitotol to San Cristóbal	73 km mountains	Spectacular Mountain Scenery, Villages, the Historic Old Town
Day 19 Sat Feb 23, 2013	Around San Cristóbal	-	Colonial Town, Markets - explore San Cristóbal
Day 20 Sun Feb 24, 2013	San Cristóbal to Mérida	-	Leave in the afternoon for Mérida, or stay a little longer!
Day 21 Mon Feb 25, 2013	Mérida to home	-	Morning arrival in Mérida. Stay a little longer or fly home.