

# Views of the Pacific 2009

## Summary

**O**ur tour starts in Puerto Vallarta in the Mexican state of Jalisco. We recommend flying into **Puerto Vallarta (PVR)** on the morning of, or before **Saturday December 5th** and back home from **Zihuatanejo-Ixtapa (ZIH)** on or after **Saturday December 19th**. Of course, you may prefer to come earlier or stay longer; let us know and we will make hotel reservations for you. Please note that you **MUST arrive in the morning on Saturday, or a day early** so that we can get your bike box shipped on to Zihua. **Alternatively**, you may choose to fly back out of PV, in which case your bike box need not be shipped, but you will have to add two days for the return bus trip and bicycle packing in PV. 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 Azteca** at Madero 473; tel.: (322)222-2750. Once checked in you can unpack and reassemble your bike and we will either store your bike box at the hotel for your flight home, or help you ship it on to Zihuatanejo (the shipping must be done by Saturday afternoon, or else the box will have to stay behind in PV). On Saturday December 5<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 Puerto Vallarta, along a winding, hilly coastal road southeast to Zihuatanejo. Over our 11 days of riding we will average 69km daily and cover a total of about 759km. We will travel from the state of Jalisco, through the states of Colima and Michoacan and finally



into the state of Guerrero. Our daily rides will take us to various towns and cities including; El Tuito, Tomatlán, Punta Perula, Barra de Navidad, Manzanillo, Tecomán, La Placita, Maruata, Rio Nexpa, Lazaro Cardenas, Ixtapa and Zihuatanejo.

**A**t the end of the tour, on Saturday December 19<sup>th</sup>, 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 to Zihuatanejo-Ixtapa international airport (ZIH).

**Alternatively**, you can take a first class overnight bus back to Puerto Vallarta, stay a night in PV where you can pack your bike, and then fly home on Monday December 21<sup>st</sup>.

**C**ount on a total of about US\$215 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 guides' fee must be received by us no later than October 5<sup>th</sup>.

# Itinerary

When	Where	Distance	Highlights
(optional) Day 00 Fri Dec 4, 2009	Optionally arrive early	-	If you want to fly into Puerto Vallarta, but out of Zihuatanejo, you must arrive early
Day 0 Sat Dec 5, 2009	Meet in Puerto Vallarta	-	Beaches, Night Life, Live Shows, Market.
Day 1 Sun Dec 6, 2009	Puerto Vallarta to El Tuito	45 km	Into the foothills. Spectacular Mountain Views, Waterfalls and Rivers.
Day 2 Mon Dec 7, 2009	El Tuito to Tomatlán	54 km	Flat easy riding, frequent breaks to help get acclimatized.
Day 3 Tues Dec 8, 2009	Tomatlán to Punta Perula	58 km	Beaches. Curvy, rolling, very quiet road. Seafood. Our favourite Pacific coast beach.
Day 4 Wed Dec 9, 2009	Punta Perula to Barra de Navidad	82 km	Beautiful, Quiet, Hilly, Sinuous Roads. Small Beach Resort. Beaches, Night Life, Seafood. What a beach resort <b>should</b> be like.
Day 5 Thurs Dec 10, 2009	Barra de Navidad	-	Beach time. Surfing, boogie boarding. Nightlife.
Day 6 Fri Dec 11, 2009	Barra de Navidad to Manzanillo	64 km	All the Comforts of Home, Big Resort Town and Bustling Port. Night Life, Beaches, Seafood.
Day 7 Sat Dec 12, 2009	Manzanillo to Tecoman	64 km	Scenic Inland Roads. Real Mexico. Good Food.
Day 8 Sun Dec 13, 2009	Tecoman to La Placita	60 km	Into Michoacan and the start of the great views and more challenging cycling. Small-Town Real Mexico. Beach.
Day 9 Mon Dec 14, 2009	La Placita to Maruata	50 km	More beach. Very Quiet, Scenic, Hilly, Curvy Roads. Spectacular Views of the Ocean. Small Towns.
Day 10 Tues Dec 15, 2009	Maruata	-	Beautiful beaches, body surfing, fresh seafood
Day 11 Wed Dec 16, 2009	Maruata to Playa Rio Nexpa	96 km	Incredibly Quiet Roads - Challenging Climbs, Rewarding Views of Ocean and Mountains. One of the most spectacular sections of Mexico. Small Towns. Surfer Beaches.
Day 12 Thurs Dec 17, 2009	P. Rio Nexpa to Lazaro Cardenas	78 km	Relatively easy day. Good market. Bustling town.
Day 13 Fri Dec 18, 2009	Lazaro Cardenas to Zihuatanejo	108 km	State crossing, quiet rolling roads, long day grand finale
Day 14 Sat Dec 19, 2009	Zihuatanejo	-	Fly home or stay a little longer.