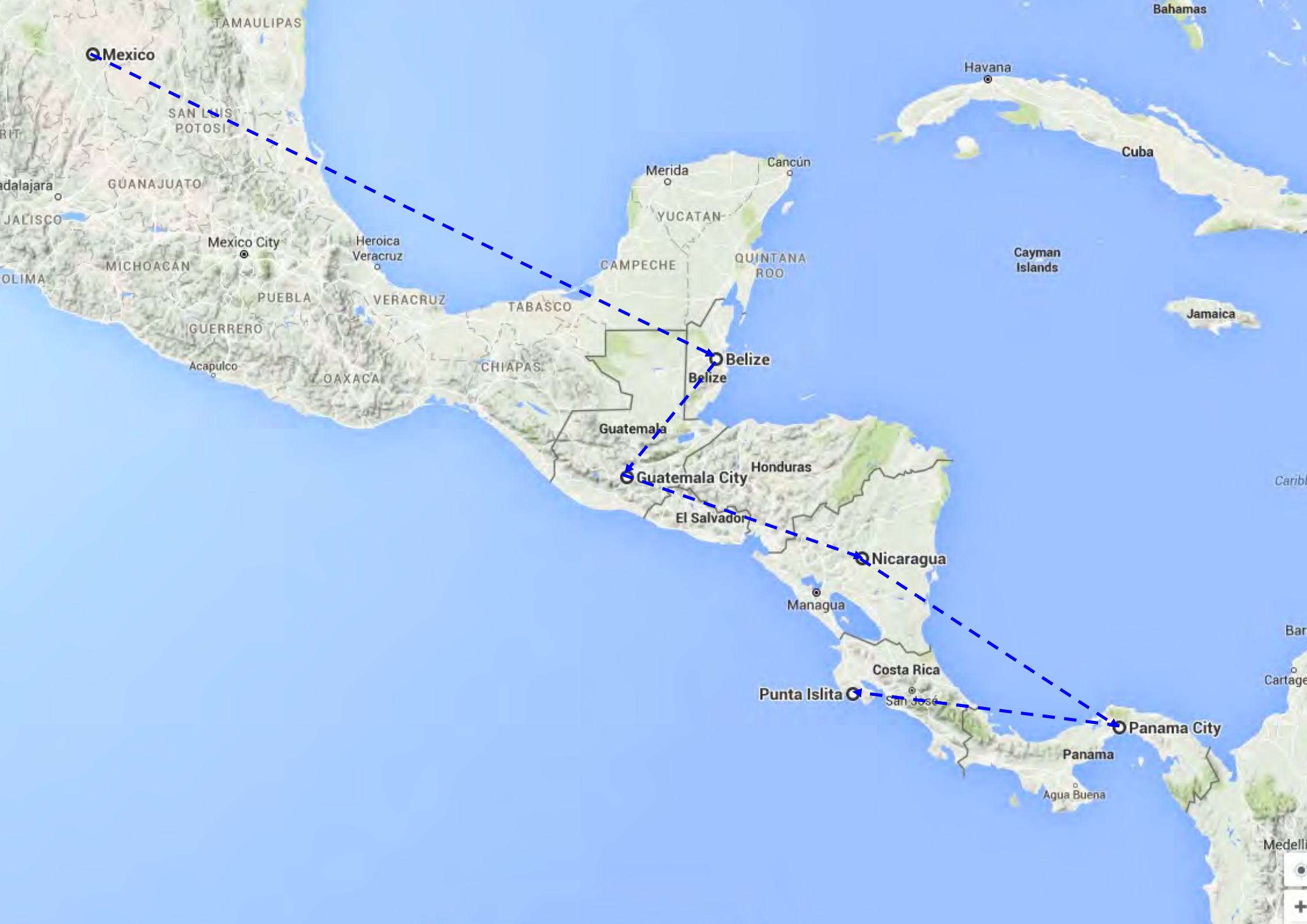




- Central America explored - Laterally -



Mexico

SAN LUIS POTOSI

GUANAJUATO

Mexico City

Heroica Veracruz

PUEBLA

VERACRUZ

GUERRERO

Acapulco

OAXACA

CHIAPAS

TABASCO

CAMPECHE

Merida

Cancun

YUCATAN

QUINTANA ROO

Belize
Belize

Guatemala

Guatemala City

Honduras

El Salvador

Nicaragua

Managua

Costa Rica

San Jose

Punta Islita

Panama City

Panama

Agua Buena

Cuba

Cayman Islands

Jamaica

Bahamas

Caribbean

Barbados

Cartagena

Medellin

In a Nutshell...

Day 1, - Fly from London to Cancun, Mexico. Ana y Jose.
 Day 2-7, - At leisure in Tulum. Ana y Jose.
 Day 8, - Self-Drive to Hacienda Temozon.
 Day 9, - Uxmal, Kabah & Loltun Caves. Hacienda Temozon.
 Day 10, - Hacienda Sotuta de Peon. Hacienda Temozon.
 Day 11, - At leisure. Hacienda Temozon.
 Day 12, - Fly from Cancun to Belize & transfer to San Ignacio. Chaa Creek.
 Day 13, - Maya Farm & Creatures of the night. Chaa Creek.
 Day 14, - Barton Creek Cave tour & Butterfly Farm. Chaa Creek.
 Day 15, - Treasure Hunt. Chaa Creek.
 Day 16, - Journey to Tikal, Guatemala. Jungle Lodge.
 Day 17, - Tikal & Uaxactun. Uaxactun Camping.
 Day 18, - Fly to Guatemala City, Transfer to Antigua. Casa Santo Domingo.
 Day 19, - Antigua & Chocolate workshop. Casa Santo Domingo.
 Day 20, - Coffee Encounter. Casa Santo Domingo.
 Day 21, - Pacaya Volcano Hike. Westin Airport Hotel, Guatemala City.
 Day 22, - Fly to Managua & transfer to Granada. Hotel Plaza Colon
 Day 23, - Visit Granada and Las Isletas archipelago. Hotel Plaza Colon.
 Day 24, - Mombacho Volcano Canopy Tour. Hotel Plaza Colon.
 Day 25, - Visit Masaya volcano national park & Pueblos Blancos.
 Transfer to Mukul. Mukul Resort.
 Day 26-29, - At leisure, Mukul. Mukul Resort.
 Day 30, - Fly to Panama City. American Trade Hotel.
 Day 31, - Panama Canal & Old Panama City. American Trade Hotel.
 Day 32, - The Pirate Trail & Gatun Lakes. American trade Hotel.
 Day 33, Fly to San Jose, Costa Rica connect to Punta Islita.
 Day 34-37, - Islita at leisure. Punta Islita.
 Day 38, - Fly to San Jose. Connect onto London.
 Day 39, - Welcome Home!

Flights...

Date	Airline & Flight Number	From	Departs	To	Arrives	Class
TBC	TBC	LONDON GATWICK T.N	TBC	CANCUN T3	TBC	TBC
TBC	TBC	CANCUN	TBC	BELIZE INT	TBC	TBC
TBC	TBC	FLORES	TBC	GUATEMALA CITY	TBC	TBC
TBC	TBC	GUATEMALA CITY	TBC	MANAGUA	TBC	TBC
TBC	TBC	MANAGUA	TBC	PANAMA CITY	TBC	TBC
TBC	TBC	PANAMA CITY	TBC	SAN JOSE	TBC	TBC
TBC	TBC	SAN JOSE	TBC	ISLITA	TBC	TBC
TBC	TBC	ISLITA	TBC	SAN JOSE	TBC	TBC
TBC	TBC	SAN JOSE	TBC	LONDON GATWICK T.N	TBC	TBC

Your Sample Itinerary...

Day 1, - Fly from the UK to Cancun, Mexico.

Depart London Gatwick on a direct flight to Cancun, Mexico.

On arrival, collect your car rental and drive south along the Riviera Maya to Tulum (around 90 minutes).

The Yucatan Peninsula is the gateway to the Mayan world. Here you can enjoy the white-sand beaches and the blue waters of the Caribbean Sea, where you can spend a fun day at the waterparks, try your hand at deep sea fishing, snorkel and scuba dive along the world's second largest coral reef, swim in fresh water pools in submerged caverns known as cenotes and explore ancient Mayan ruins.

Tulum's pre-Hispanic name was Zama, which means "dawn"; most archaeologists believe this is due to Tulum's geographic location, perched on a cliff looking eastwards upon the Caribbean Sea, allowing for a full appreciation of the sunrise. Tulum was not as important economically, militarily or religiously as Coba or other sites to the west like Chichen Itza, Uxmal and Palenque; however, its spectacular and unique location allow for unforgettable photography (weather permitting)!

Car Rental: Dodge Journey or similar, 5 doors with A/C.

Full Insurance Cover includes: PLI (Public Liability Insurance, CDW (Collision and Damage Waiver) & 0% Deductible.

Does not include: Medical Insurance, fuel and crane.

Charges of tow trucks, arrests and traffic tickets in the event of an accident are not covered by any of the auto rental companies in Mexico. Said charges will be covered directly by the credit card the customer has used as guarantee. The customer may request a summary of charges from the personnel at Europcar who assisted him/her during the accident.

Additional insurance can be hired and paid on-site directly.

GPS and BABY SEAT are subject to availability and cannot be pre-paid.

Accommodation: Ana y Jose, Two Bedroom Coba Villa.

Meals: In-flight meals.

Day 2-7, - At Leisure in Tulum.

Spend these days at your leisure to enjoy the coastal setting and surroundings, relax on the beach or treat yourself to a massage in the spa of your hotel.

- Day at leisure.

No activities included.

- Xcaret Entrance Tickets included:

Xcaret Park is Mexico's sacred paradise, full of culture and nature where you can enjoy aquatic activities, cultural attractions and shows. A space filled with the natural beauty of the Caribbean Sea and the magic of a thousand-year-old civilisation.

- Xcaret Park Mexico opens daily from 8:30 to 22:30 h.
- Shows, exhibitions and cultural tours.
- Water activities in the underground rivers.
- Access to beaches, bays and natural pools.

Tulum





Xel-Ha Waterpark

- Life jackets and inner tubes.
- Lounge chairs, hammocks and rest areas.
- Safety bag service during the river journey.
- Dressing rooms and showers.
- Show "Xcaret Mexico Espectacular", a musical journey through the history of Mexico.
- * Snorkel equipment requires a deposit (\$25 USD).
- * Food & drinks are not allowed into the park.

- Private Tour to Sian Kaan included:

Discover the biosphere reserve of Sian Kaán, exploring the marshes, mangroves, and the flora and fauna that make these natural waterways their home. Visit a jungle engulfed Maya temple, take a boat trip along the water, looking out for crocodiles, dolphins and turtles and float down the 'lazy river'. Includes bilingual guide, entrance fees and transportation.

- Day at leisure.

No activities included.

- Xel-Ha Waterpark Entrance Tickets included:

Spend an action packed day at Xel-Ha waterpark where you'll find a nature preserve in a series of interconnecting lagoons set among spectacular rocks and caves. A huge variety of tropical fish swim in its beautiful clear waters and therefore Xel-Ha has become a superb snorkelling and diving location.

Includes: Access to the Park from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm. More than 20 activities and attractions. Breakfast buffet (9:30 to 11:30 am). Snacks Buffet (starting at 11:30 am). Traditional Mexican and international cuisine, buffet style lunch. Unlimited drinks (soft drinks, juices, water) and home open bar. Use of Snorkelling equipment plus free snorkelling tube (requires a \$25 USD refundable deposit per person) locker and towel.

Optional activities in the area (not included):

Turtles at Akumal - Swim and explore the turquoise Caribbean sea with a visit to nearby Akumal for a close encounter with the graceful and sadly endangered Sea Turtles of this enchanting coast. Akumal means in native Mayan language "Place of the Turtles" and for years it has been a sanctuary for these ancient and endangered mariners. Today it is fascinating to learn how these animals have adapted to the local fishermen and tourists; they are not shy at all and exhibit 'friendly behaviour' swimming intrepidly with snorkellers and divers.

Rio Secreto - Take an incredible underground river tour and explore the Riviera Maya's unique crystal museum. In this surreal locale near Playa del Carmen, you can observe natural history dating back millions of years as you hike and swim through a 600-metre route full of beautiful stalactites and stalagmites. Go deep inside an under-ground cave, where you'll experience true silence among some of the most dramatic mineral formations in the world.

Whale Sharks at Isla Contoy - Drive to the boat dock in Puerto Juarez. You'll receive an informative briefing about the whale sharks and the area's ecosystems. Depart by boat from Puerto Juarez towards the whale shark reserve in the surrounding waters of Isla Contoy. Here you will have the unique opportunity to snorkel with the biggest fish in the world. I

Accommodation: Ana y Jose, Two bedroom Villa.

Meals: Breakfast.

Day 8, - Self-Drive to Hacienda Temozon.

Drive to the haciendas near to Merida today and stop by some of the Yucatan's fascinating interior before arriving in the late afternoon at your historic hacienda (Ranch).

From Tulum, we suggest your first stop at Ek Balam. The enormous elaborate Acropolis pyramid, located inside the Mayan site of Ek Balam, is a striking sight after driving through the surrounding jungle. Ek Balam, which means black jaguar, was at the height of its importance as a city during the Late Classic period (600-900 A.C.). When the Maya abandoned the site, it became covered, literally, as the dense low-lying jungle of the Yucatan engulfed it. As with all of the Mayan pyramids, these were discovered when archaeologists and adventurers saw a group of hills with trees and brush growing out of them. Digging in the mounds, they uncovered treasures of buildings and artefacts hidden for hundreds of years.

Nearby visit a local cenote with an opportunity for a refreshing swim. The Yucatan Peninsula is a porous limestone shelf with no above-ground lakes or rivers. All of the fresh water rivers are underground. Being porous, caverns and caves formed where the fresh water collects, hence the cenotes or "sink holes". In the Yucatan there are about 3,000 cenotes, with only 1,400 studied extensively. These crystal and turquoise waters were once the only source of water in the Yucatan jungle!

Final stop before reaching your hacienda we suggest a quick visit to Valladolid. Located halfway between Merida and Cancun, Valladolid is a bustling Mayan city with a special colonial flavour. This is where you will see the majority of the townspeople still using the typical dress of the Maya and the buildings around the Main Plaza painted pastel colours. You will get a sense of the laid-back pace of life and this makes for a pleasant journey breaker to stretch the legs.

Note, the above route is just a suggestion and should you prefer to just drive directly to your hacienda, the drive time is around 3-4 hours.

Accommodation: Hacienda Temozon,
One Junior Suite with two queen beds.

Meals: Breakfast.

Day 9, - Uxmal, Kabah & Loltun Caves.

Head out this morning with your guide on a private tour of the Ruta Puuc (Puuc Route) and the Loltun Caves, including the delightful archaeological site of Uxmal.

Loltun Caves' name is derived from two Mayan words, LOL (flower) and TUN (stone). Located in the hilly Puuc region, these are the largest caves on the peninsula. Evidence has been found here of human contact going back 7,000 years. Mammoth, bison, feline and deer bones have been found in the caves, along with fresco paintings on the walls.

The caves will amaze and delight and are a special treat for children. A special feature in these caves is the columns that can be "played" like musical instruments. When struck with the flat side of one's fist, they strike two deep and beautiful bell-like tones.

The Mayan town of Uxmal, in Yucatán, was founded about 700 A.D. and had 25,000 inhabitants. The layout of the buildings, which date between 700 and 1000 A.D. re-



Rio Secreto





veals a knowledge of astronomy. The Pyramid of the Soothsayer, as the Spaniards called it, dominates the ceremonial centre, which has well designed buildings decorated with a profusion of symbolic motifs and sculptures depicting Chaac, the god of rain. Return to your hacienda later this afternoon.

Note: transportation is included today together with a bilingual guide. Uxmal is around 40 minutes from Temozon and Loltun Caves a further 40 minutes from Uxmal. Tour duration is around 7 hours.

Accommodation: Hacienda Temozon,
One Junior Suite with two queen beds.
Meals: Breakfast.

Day 10, - Hacienda Sotuta de Peon.

Enjoy a fascinating visit to Hacienda Sotuta de Peón which was built in the late 1800s in Tecoh. You will journey to the past as you experience the highlights of the hacienda and the restoration project of the ancient henequén zone in the Yucatan state.

Visitors will literally travel back in time, transported on wooden platforms which are pulled by mules over Cauville rails, as were originally used by the workers of the time. Here, you will witness the step-by-step process of the transformation of the Henequen (or Green Gold as it was known throughout the region), from plant to fibre and from fibre to finished product. Your tour will also include a visit to a typical Mayan House. At the end of the day there will be the opportunity for a refreshing swim in the Cenote. Or if you prefer, there is a huge swimming pool, surrounded by lush gardens of tropical flowers and brilliant green trees and indigenous plants.

Accommodation: Hacienda Temozon,
One Junior Suite with two queen beds.
Meals: Breakfast & Lunch.

Day 11, - At leisure.

Optional visit to Merida. (Not included).

Drive to nearby Merida (around 1 hour). Merida is known as the 'white city' and is the capital city of the state of Yucatan, famous for its rich Mayan history as well as some of Mexico's most important archaeological sites. Historically, Merida's wealthy inhabitants were land barons; the scale of their wealth can be seen today on Paseo Montejo, an avenue which was inspired by the "Paseo de la Reforma" in Mexico City and which is host to large, opulent white stone mansions. Today those old mansions are used principally as public buildings, museums and corporate offices. In recent years, Merida has seen, and continues to undergo, an explosion of art and culture.

Optional tour to Celestun Nature Reserve. (Not included).

Visit the wonderful wildlife sanctuary at Rio Celestun Biosphere Reserve. Celestun is an enticing spot for all naturalists, but especially for bird watchers as there are more than 200 species of birds to be seen here. Celestun is also home to one of the largest migratory flamingo populations in the world.

Accommodation: Hacienda Temozon,
One Junior Suite with two queen beds.
Meals: Breakfast.

Day 12, - Fly from Cancun to Belize & transfer to San Ignacio.

Drive around 3.5 hours this morning to the airport in Cancun and drop your car at the airport. Board a direct flight to Belize City where on arrival you will be welcomed by a laterallife representative and transferred to San Ignacio (also known as Cayo district) in the West of the country. The drive time to Cayo is around 2 hours, depending on traffic.

Enroute to Chaa Creek, stop by the Baboon Sanctuary for a quick visit to break up the travelling of today.

Encompassing a spectacular range of rolling hills, peaks and gorges formed from some of the oldest rocks in Central America, this highland region covers nearly 300 square miles of unpaved roads and nature trails. The karst limestone terrain is especially suited for hiking, biking, horseback-riding and cave exploring.

Stay 4 nights at Chaa Creek which includes entry into their 365-acre Rainforest Reserve, guided tours of their Natural History Centre and Butterfly Farm, Access to the Ruta Maya Trail System, Canoeing upstream the Macal River, Swimming in the newly built pool, Early Morning Bird Walk with a Naturalist Guide, a guided interpretive tour of the Maya Medicinal Plant Trail and Wi-Fi Internet Access.

Accommodation: Chaa Creek, Two Bedroom garden suite.

Meals: Breakfast & Late lunch.

Day 13, - Maya Farm tour & Creatures of the Night

The 33 acre Maya Organic Farm is an integral part of the Chaa Creek Reserve; it provides freshly harvested produce for The Lodge at Chaa Creek and the Macal River Camp. The farm integrates traditional Maya farming with more advanced systems of irrigated raised beds of composted soil fed with nutrients derived from nature's store house. Few people, including our native Belizeans, understand the complexity of the Mayas organic farming techniques. The indigenous Maya have survived for over 2000 years on subsistence farming for home use, barter, and sale as the backbone of their existence. They have used resources supplied by nature to nourish the soil and protect their crops from insect devastation. Costly chemicals were simply not an option and their continuing methodology has clearly stood the test of time... You get to see all the different fruits and vegetables that are grown and the different organic farming methods with soil enrichment that are used based on a five-year rotation plan using Makuna beans and Lucina as nitrogen fixers. Cacao, root crops, and vegetables planted on the farm often-times can only be found in the older Mayan settlements. Freshly harvested organic fruits and vegetables from our traditional Maya Farm are complimented by local dairy and meat products to create a distinct flavor of the Caribbean and Latin American region. This tour is done on horseback but can be done by vehicle as per your choice. Duration 2.5 hours, private basis.

Creatures of the night

Join the creatures of the night tour and experience the undiscovered side of the rainforest! Chaa Creek's experienced and knowledgeable naturalist guides will take you through trails populated by Ocelots, Howler Monkeys, Tarantulas, Patos, Jaguarundis and many more intriguing rainforest residents. The exotic beauty of the tropical night comes alive with troops of fireflies dancing through the trees, decorating the river valley below. The light from your head lamp may capture a surprised inhabitant, while a special ultraviolet light illuminates phosphorescent insects busy at work! Nature's orchestra performs a live concert that promises to heighten your senses. When the lights go off the night comes to life.





Look out for Armadillos scampering through the bushes searching for food. Listen up for the chirping of Crickets, the hooting of the Owls in the distance, toads croaking nearby, and the distant barking of the Kinkajous. Leaves at 8pm; 1.5 – 2 hrs excursion. Small group basis.

Accommodation: Chaa Creek, Two Bedroom garden suite.

Meals: Breakfast.

Day 14, - Barton Creek Cave tour & Butterfly Farm.

Transfer through the Cayo region to the Butterfly farm and Green Hills. Here you can enjoy a guided tour of this beautiful butterfly sanctuary and learn about the butterflies of this area. Continue on through the Mennonite Community of Upper Barton Creek to the river at Barton Creek.

The Barton Creek Cave Tour is a low intensity adventure trip which is great for families offering something for everyone. Equipped with Canoes and high powered lights guests gently paddle along the river into the cave system known as Xibalba (she-bal-ba), Maya for underworld. Stalactites and Stalagmites hang high overhead as you float past impressive calcite crystal formations. Knowledgeable guides discuss the relevance of the cave to the ancient Mayan people and the archaeological significance of this 7.5km limestone Cave system which was used for ceremonial purposes and as a burial site by the ancient Maya people. Private basis.

Note: Barton Creek - this activity is suitable for young children as this is a low intensity tour. Families with children just need to be aware that they will be inside a dark cave but their guide carries a big flashlight to illuminate inside the cave.

Accommodation: Chaa Creek, Two Bedroom garden suite.

Meals: Breakfast & Lunch.

Day 15, - Kid's Treasure Hunt

This adventurous mini-trek is led by a professional naturalist guide and takes children on a mission of tropical discovery through the Chaa Creek Nature Reserve. Along the trail, the guide will point out many of the tropical plants and animals that are found within the reserve and share the importance of conserving tropical forests and their inhabitants.

This afternoon is at your leisure.

Accommodation: Chaa Creek, Two Bedroom garden suite.

Meals: Breakfast.

Day 16, - Journey to Tikal, Guatemala.

Set off early this morning to Guatemala crossing the border at Melchor de Mencos in the Peten region and transfer to Tikal. Spend time in Tikal National Park on a fascinating tour of this impressive UNESCO World Heritage Site and experience the sights and sounds of tropical birds and animals, including howler and spider monkeys that live in the jungle canopy. Once home to an estimated at 50,000 residents or more, Tikal flourished from 800 BC to 900 AD. Follow in the footsteps



of Maya royalty and commoners as your guide leads you to such sites as the majestic Great Plaza and its Temple of the Jaguar (44 meters / 144 feet), Temple of the Masks (38m / 125ft), the Acropolis and much more.

Please see below an estimated schedule for today:

09:00 am – Pick up from Chaa Creek for 2.5 hour transfer approximately to Tikal.
11.30 am – Arrive in Tikal National Park.

The accommodation is rustic but the location is fabulous to be able to enjoy the morning call of howler monkeys and to explore the park at sunrise.

Note 1: A new entry/exit border fee has been introduced into Guatemala, you will be requested to pay \$15 USD per person, per entry/exit.
A change of vehicle is required at the border.

Note 2: electricity at Jungle Lodge is turned off at around 10pm so remember to bring a couple of torches.

Accommodation: Jungle Lodge, Junior Suite with two double beds.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner.

Day 17, - Tikal & Uaxactun.

Rise early for a sunrise walk around one of the greatest Mayan sites as you explore the incredible pyramids of Tikal. Observe huge temples rising up through the jungle canopy and a variety of tropical animals and birds on show. You'll hear the sounds of the howler and spider monkeys as well as many colourful tropical birds and other mammals.

Continue the drive deeper into the national park to the remote town of Uaxactun. The site of Uaxactun is famous for the oldest complete Maya astronomical complex found and is one of the longest occupied Maya sites. It's also the community where the "Chicleros" (gum collectors) have lived for over 100 years. Many of Uaxactun's residents nowadays make their living from gathering forest products such as chicle (exported to Japan), allspice and xate palm leaves (ornamental plants exported to the US and used for floral arrangements).

Tour the archaeology site and learn more about the chicle process and the different crafts. The community also has a small interesting archaeology museum. At sunset you'll head to the lookout tower for drinks where you may be able to see the ruins from Tikal rising above the jungle! Later head back to the campsite for a local candlelit dinner. The night will be spent in tents in this impressive site in the middle of the jungle where you'll be surrounded by the sounds of the jungle.

Accommodation: Uaxactun Camping – Two Tents.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner.

Day 18, - Fly to Guatemala City, Transfer to Antigua.

You may have some time this morning to further explore the small town of Uaxactun. Later depart Uaxactun and transfer out of Tikal National Park to the airport in Flores (drive time is around 2 hours) for a flight to Guatemala City.

You will be welcomed in Guatemala City and transferred 1 hour to Antigua. Antigua is an absolute gem of a city tucked into the Guatemalan highlands. Surrounded by hills and volcanoes, the cobblestone streets and stunning colonial architecture take you back to a bygone era. Wander through parks and plazas, explore





handicraft markets where locals in their traditional dress come from the surrounding villages to sell their fare. A UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1979, this city of approximately 35,000 sits in a fertile valley surrounded by small-scale coffee farms, indigenous villages and three imposing volcanoes.

Note on TAG Luggage Restrictions: Please be advised that, due to the aircraft type and respective weight limitations, TAG Airlines can only guarantee passengers will be permitted to check in 9kg of luggage per person, plus one piece of hand luggage, max weight 4.5kg. TAG Airlines will be as flexible and accommodating as possible and, while any additional luggage cannot be guaranteed prior to check-in for the flight, it will be evaluated based on flight occupancy to see whether it will be permitted on your flight. If you are unable to take all of your luggage with you on your flight, the airline will transfer your luggage on the next available flight - this should be later that same day, or early the following morning. We will then ensure your bags are taken from the airport to your hotel.

Accommodation: Casa Santo Domingo, Estancia Conventual Deluxe.
King bed, 01 sofa bed and rollaway bed for other child in living room.
Meals: Breakfast & Lunch.

Day 19, - Antigua & Chocolate workshop.

This morning is at your leisure to explore Antigua on foot or perhaps take a Tuk-Tuk ride.

Highlights of this colonial city include the many ruined churches, convents, and cathedrals such as the Iglesia San Francisco, the Cathedral and La Merced Church.

This afternoon learn about the indulgent art of chocolate making. Start by learning a bit about the history, from the Mayan discovery of the cacao bean to the mass production of chocolate throughout the world.

Allow some time to talk about the industry today, the different types of cacao, its health benefits and more before taking on the challenge of making your own chocolate. Starting with the bean which will work into Cacao tea, Mayan hot Chocolate and European hot chocolate. Try your hand at traditional chocolate bars, to which you can use your creativity by adding some ingredients, including almonds, coffee beans, ginger, sea salt and much more. Of course tasting is included.

Accommodation: Casa Santo Domingo, Estancia Conventual Deluxe
Meals: Breakfast.

Day 20, - Coffee Encounter.

DLG Coffee Tour (De La Gente) - This morning, enjoy an encounter with a local grower who is part of a collective of farmers who each have their own small-holding. You visit the farm and then spend time with the farmer's family in his home to interact, see the coffee being roasted, ground (with participation) and then served together with a delicious local lunch. Afternoon at leisure.

Accommodation: Casa Santo Domingo, Estancia Conventual Deluxe
Meals: Breakfast & Lunch.



Day 21, - Pacaya Volcano Hike.

Transfer to Pacaya National Park to begin the hike and ascend one of Central America's most famous and active volcanoes. If the weather is favourable at the top, you can see down into the crater to observe the lava as well as experience the energy of an active volcano. A picnic lunch and horse support is included (if required).

Later this afternoon you will be driven back to Guatemala City for an overnight stay close to the airport.

Accommodation: Westin Airport, Standard Room - Two Double Beds.

Meals: Breakfast & Light Picnic Lunch.

Day 22, - Fly to Managua, Nicaragua & transfer to Granada.

You will be transferred early this morning around 1 hour back to the airport in Guatemala City for a direct flight to Managua, capital of Nicaragua. On arrival, meet your guide and transfer 1 hour to Granada.

Granada is a favourite amongst travellers and expats alike and historically is one of Nicaragua's most important cities both economically and politically. It is situated on the north-western shore of Lake Cocibolca and has a rich colonial heritage, seen in its architecture and layout. En route to Granada you have the option to stop at the Chocolate Museum.

This afternoon, spend some time walking around at your leisure. Granada's layout is typical of the Spanish grid system. Restaurants, cafes and boutiques are abundant and this small city is easily navigable on foot. Granada exudes colonial charm; it is small, friendly and laid back.

Note each twin room must be occupied by one adult and one child as per the hotel's child safety policy.

Accommodation: Hotel Plaza Colon,
Two Twin Superior Rooms with Patio View.

Meals: Breakfast.

Day 23, - Visit Granada and Las Isletas Archipelago.

Set out on a guided half day tour of the oldest town in the America's. Visit several places of interest in the city, such as the Convento San Francisco with its ancient statues from Zapatera Island, La Merced church with its stunning view of the city and La casa de los Leones. Later you transfer to the shore of great lake Nicaragua and board a short boat trip around the tropical Isletas. Here you will have beautiful views of Mombacho volcano and the exotic flora and fauna that characterize this region. Lunch in a traditional restaurant in the city.

Las Isletas is an archipelago of 365 little volcanic islands (one for each day of the year) situated inside Cocibolca Lake. All these islands are rich in fauna and flora, especially in water birds. You can visit the islands by small boat leaving from Acese port or Cabaña Amarilla port both situated in the South end of the Malecón. Travel along narrow canals that divide the islands and admire the fortification from the XIX century on San Pablo Island and a monkey-colony.

Accommodation: Hotel Plaza Colon,
Two Twin Superior Rooms with Patio View.

Meals: Breakfast & Lunch.





Day 24, - Mombacho Volcano Canopy Tour.

After breakfast, you'll be driven the short distance to Mombacho Volcano, the defining feature of the Granada skyline. Your guide will take you to the top to enjoy a beautiful 1 to 1.5 hour walk along the Crater Trail as well as great views of Granada. Back at the foot of the volcano, you have the chance to enjoy an exhilarating canopy tour through the trees and high above the forest floor. Later return to your hotel and enjoy the rest of the day at leisure.

Accommodation: Hotel Plaza Colon,
Two Twin Superior Rooms with Patio View.

Meals: Breakfast.

Day 25, Visit Masaya Volcano National Park & Pueblos Blancos.

You will be driven this morning to Masaya Volcano National Park where you can enjoy a stunning view of the active Santiago crater. It is one of the few places in the world where such an active volcano can be observed up close. Visit the ecological museum to learn about the various themes of geology, history, volcanology and ecology. Visit Nicaragua's most popular open-air handcraft market located in Masaya then drive to Catari-na one of the famous traditional towns, where ornamental plants and flowers are grown. Also you will enjoy impressive panoramic views over the Apoyo Lagoon.

Later transfer around 2 hours to the Pacific Coast for a 5 night stay at the luxurious Mukul Resort. Mukul Resort & Spa provides Nicaragua with its first seriously luxurious resort. There are 36 spacious accommodations, each with ocean views, private pool and butler service. Stay in one of the spacious one or two-bedroom Beach & Ocean Front Villas, which have stone walls and gardens providing privacy, an indoor-outdoor setting, complete with swimming pool, wrap-around deck, and breath-taking views of the Pacific Ocean. Meals are taken either in the palapa-shaded Beach Terrace, the barefoot-dining Parilla, or La Mesa Restaurant and offer a fusion of international cuisine with a Nicaraguan flavour twist. The Beach Club is the heart of Mukul, a gathering place where guests can enjoy snacks by the pool, a romantic barefoot candlelight dinner, or a Flor de Caña rum cocktail.

Accommodation: Mukul Resort, One Bedroom Beachfront Villa,
King Bed and two single beds.

Meals: Breakfast.

Day 26-29, - At leisure, Mukul.

Enjoy lazy days at Mukul. Activities and water sports can be arranged locally.

Accommodation: Mukul Resort, One Bedroom Beachfront Villa.

Meals: Breakfast.

Day 30, - Fly to Panama City.

You will be transferred around 2 hours this morning to the airport in Managua for a direct flight to Panama City. On arrival in Panama City, you are welcomed and transferred to your hotel in the historic Casco Viejo district for a 3 night stay.

Arrival note: once you exit the luggage area, pass through the doors and head to the right to meet our local representative who will be receiving you with a sign bearing your name. In case you do not locate your guide please approach the Tourism Authority of Panama (ATP) tourist Information stand.

Accommodation: American Trade Hotel,
Connecting Cuarto & Cuarto Chico rooms.

Meals: Breakfast.

Day 31, - Panama Canal & Old Panama City.

This morning visit the ruins of Old Panama, climb up the Cathedral Tower, visit the Old Panama Museum and then continue to Casco Antiguo (the old city compound), which dates back to the late 1600s. Your guide will describe the events in history leading up to the eventual movement of the capital city to its present location. Casco Antiguo is home to the monuments of Ferdinand de Lesseps and other Frenchmen instrumental to the ill-fated attempt of the French to construct a canal through Panama.

The tour continues with a visit to the Miraflores Locks at the Panama Canal where large ships can be observed transiting the Canal. Enjoy a presentation by the Panama Canal Authority on the history of the Panama Canal and marvel at the workings of this feat of human engineering. Lunch will be served at a local restaurant. Continue to the Panama Canal area, including the town of Balboa, formerly part of the Panama Canal Zone. Late afternoon you will return to your hotel in Panama City. This excursion lasts around 6 - 7 hours and includes: Bilingual Guide, Full Entrance to Miraflores Visitor Centre, Biodiversity Museum and Panama Viejo, Lunch in a Panamanian restaurant and private transportation.

Accommodation: American Trade Hotel, Connecting Cuarto & Cuarto Chico rooms.
Meals: Breakfast & Lunch.

Day 32, - The Pirate Trail & Gatun Lakes.

The Pirate Trail & Gatun Lakes - early in the morning your guide will meet you at the hotel for a drive (around 2 hours) across the Isthmus of Panama to the Caribbean province of Colon.

In Colon, begin with a visit to Portobelo Fortress. During the 17th and 19th centuries the Port of Portobelo was used as a Spanish Fortress and as a Caribbean terminal. Products such as spices, gold and silver that came from Peru and other Spanish colonies passed through the country, along a trail called the Royal Path, and then were boarded on ships to be transported to Spain. Portobelo was attacked by pirates several times; the best known attack was organized by Henry Morgan. Another worthy area to visit is Drake Island, where Sir Francis Drake was buried.

Visit the ruins of the colonial port, the customs house where the treasures and gold were stored and the Portobelo church, where the famous Black Christ statue is located. A ceremony to commemorate the Black Christ, which is worshipped throughout the country, is held on the 21st of October of each year.

Afterwards you will be visiting San Lorenzo. The San Lorenzo Fort was constructed by the Spaniards in the 16th century, and it was besieged by British pirates over the years due to its strategic location guarding the entrance to the Chagres River. Sir Henry Morgan captured San Lorenzo and used it as the entrance point to sack Panama City in 1671.

The return to Panama City will be on the Trans-Isthmian train (currently weekdays only). The railway follows a similar route as the original train built to transport 49 passengers coming from the east coast of the United States across the Isthmus to continue their journey by boat to California. The route was diverted when Gatun Lake was formed to give away to the Panama Canal.

The train will take you along the magnificent waterway, flanked by the exuberant rainforests of Soberania National Park. After approximately one hour you arrive at the Corozal Station in Panama City and from there you will be transferred to your hotel.





Note: the train journey will either be on the outbound or the return, subject to schedules and time changes. The other direction will be travelled by minivan.

Accommodation: American Trade Hotel,
Connecting Cuarto & Cuarto Chico rooms.
Meals: Breakfast & Lunch.

Day 33, - Fly to San Jose, Costa Rica.

Transfer to the airport in Panama City for a flight to San Jose, Costa Rica. On arrival you are welcomed by a laterallife representative and transferred to the local airport for a private charter flight to Isleta.

On arrival in Isleta, welcome by the hotel and transfer 10 minutes to the hotel for a 5 night stay.

During your stay at Isleta, many activities and local experiences are included such as canopy zip-lining, horseback riding, sea-turtle and monkey expeditions, golf clinics, mangrove kayaking, cooking lessons, art sessions with the local community, and more. A daily schedule is posted and you may choose as many of the activities as you wish during your stay.

Note: on departure from Panama City, a departure tax of \$40 USD per person is charged locally.

Note today's charter flight from San Jose to Isleta has a checked baggage limit of 200lbs.

Accommodation: Punta Isleta, Two Bedroom Villa with private pool.
Meals: Breakfast.

Day 34-37, - Punta Isleta at leisure.

Isleta is in an untouched part of Guanacaste province with a quaint nearby village which is supported by the hotel. Meals would all be at the hotel.

Accommodation: Punta Isleta, Two Bedroom Villa with private pool.
Meals: Breakfast.

Day 38, - Fly to San Jose. Onto London.

Today you will be transferred to the local airstrip for a private charter flight to San Jose. Connect with your international flight home.

Note today's charter flight from Isleta to San Jose has a checked baggage limit of 200lbs.

Accommodation: Overnight flight.
Meals: In flight meals.

Day 39, - Welcome Home!
Arrival in the UK.

Laterally sleeping...

Ana y Jose, Tulum, Mexico

Surrounded by lush tropical vegetation amid the Mayan jungle, emerges Ana y Jose Hotel and Spa as one of the legendary lodgings in Tulum, Mexico. Indulge in a calmer pace where natural treasures await. Relax on the white sand beach, swim in the turquoise waters of the Caribbean Sea and enjoy the warm atmosphere of this unique hotel.

www.anayjose.com



Hacienda Temozon, near Merida, Mexico

Located in the Yucatan Peninsula, Hacienda Temozon recreates the belle époque of the Mexican southeast. Hacienda Temozón was built in 1655 and is the perfect place to be surrounded by nature. The rooms are very large, with towering ceilings. Each room is infused with the very Yucatecan scent of orange flower. Brightly-coloured, original tile floors are offset against the white walls and period-style furniture, giving grandeur to every room. The bathrooms are ample with the crowning feature of an outside bath, which is surrounded by trees and lush greenery. The hotel's swimming pool runs through the gardens, a stunning stretch of blue that is complemented by the bright-red building and the green of the trees. To relax further, indulge in a spa treatment. These can be enjoyed inside or in a candlelit cave.

www.haciendatemozon.com



Chaa Creek, San Ignacio, Belize

Chaa Creek, a private 340-acre nature reserve set along the banks of the Macal River in the foothills of the Maya Mountains, is comprised of comfortable palm-thatched rooms, restaurant and bar, and a full service spa - all nestled along the riverside in a setting of unmatched beauty and tranquillity. Cayo district (San Ignacio), located in the western interior of Belize, is a 1500 square mile district that encompasses a large portion of the Maya Mountains and has more than its fair share of ancient Maya sites to visit and explore, such as Caracol, Xunantunich, and Cahal Pech. Cayo is home to forests teeming with wildlife, and immaculately beautiful tropical watersheds catered to by a variety of jungle and river lodges.

www.chaacreek.com



Jungle Lodge

Offering an outdoor pool and a restaurant, Jungle Lodge Tikal has a privileged position inside Tikal National Park, just 1 km from the main square. It features free WiFi and beautiful tropical gardens. An array of activities can be enjoyed on site or in the surroundings, including hiking and bird watching.

www.junglelodgetikal.com



...sleeping Laterally

Uaxactun Camping, Guatemala

Camp at the Uaxactun ruins. This site is famous for holding the oldest complete Maya astronomical complex yet to be found, and is one of the longest occupied Maya sites. Chicleros (gum collectors) now live here, as many of Uaxactun's residents make their living from gathering forest products such as chicle (gum), allspice, and xate palm leaves. Enjoy drinks and sunset, and a simple candlelight dinner this evening. Spend the nights in tents enjoying the sounds of the jungle and possible festivities putting you to sleep! This is a simple, yet comfortable camping excursion.

Casa Santo Domingo, Guatemala

Casa Santo Domingo is one of Antigua's top hotels having successfully integrated modern comforts and amenities with one of the grandest monasteries of the Americas and its five centuries of history! The hotel is an integral part of the beautiful Colonial city of Antigua, preserving treasures from the baroque period of ancestral America. The facilities of the hotel include various archaeological areas and museums, a swimming pool and one of the finest restaurants in Guatemala.

www.casasantodomingo.com.gt

Westin Airport Hotel, Guatemala City

This chic hotel in a modern building is a 6-minute walk from the Zona Viva upscale shopping and entertainment district. There's a modern cafe and an elegant bar with live music. Amenities also include sports courts, a gym and a spa, as well as an outdoor pool, a steam bath and a hot tub.

www.hotelcaminoreal.com.gt/en

Hotel Plaza Colon, Nicaragua

The hotel is set in an elegant antique colonial house that has been restored to its original style and architecture, with interior courtyards and balconies overlooking Central Park and the Cathedral. Granada has a cheerful night life full of bars and lounges; at the Hotel you can visit El Bar and enjoy your welcome cocktail "El Macua", the national drink of Nicaragua. Explore the cobbled streets of Granada and the quaint villages of Pueblos Blancos, Masaya Craft Market and Isla Ometepe.

www.hotelplazacoln.com



Laterally sleeping...

Mukul Resort, Nicaragua

Mukul Resort & Spa provides Nicaragua with its first seriously luxurious resort. There are 36 spacious accommodations, each with ocean views, private pool and butler service. Stay in one of the spacious one or two-bedroom Beach & Ocean Front Villas, which have stone walls and gardens providing privacy, an indoor-outdoor setting, complete with swimming pool, wrap-around deck, and breath-taking views of the Pacific Ocean. Meals are taken either in the palapa-shaded Beach Terrace, the barefoot-dining Parilla, or La Mesa Restaurant and offer a fusion of international cuisine with a Nicaraguan flavour twist. The Beach Club is the heart of Mukul, a gathering place where guests can enjoy snacks by the pool, a romantic barefoot candlelight dinner, or a Flor de Caña rum cocktail.

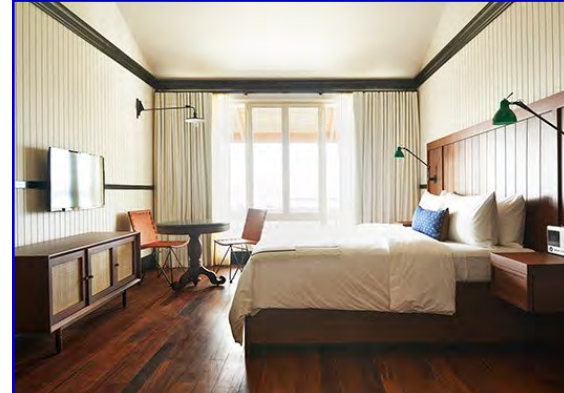
www.mukulresort.com



American Trade Hotel, Panama

American Trade Hotel lies at the heart of Panama City's historic Old Town known as Casco Viejo. Having been restored from its original and crumbling beginnings as the former American Trade department store, the property offers 50 stylish rooms with traditional décor fitting the era but complimented with modern luxuries. Facilities include a rooftop pool deck, lobby bar, café, restaurant and Jazz Bar.

www.acehotel.com/panama



Punta Islita, Costa Rica

Overlooking the Pacific and hidden around the hillside are villas, casitas, suites and spacious rooms, each with a private porch and hammock. Beds have rough-hewn wooden bedposts and bathrooms are fitted with deep tubs. Casitas have their own private plunge pools or outdoor whirlpools and private gardens. A massive thatched dome covers the restaurant and opens onto an infinity-edge pool with a sea view and a swim-up bar. If you overdo with activities here -- which include golfing, zip-line canopy tours (shorter and lower to the ground than most canopy tours), and mountain biking -- stop by the spa for massage treatments using local herbs.

www.hotelpuntaislita.com



What's Included...

- All accommodation on a twin/double share basis with private facilities
- Breakfast throughout, other meals as specified
- Private excursions and transfers including entrance fees
- Shared/small group activities as noted
- English speaking guides on excursions
- Domestic economy flights

What's Not Included...

- Items of a personal nature - phone calls, laundry, minibar etc
- Gratuities & Portage
- Early check-in / late check-out
- Departure taxes
- Excess baggage fees
- Beverages during meals
- Insurance cover
- Visas

How to Proceed...

Once you are in agreement with the itinerary, we ask for a deposit representing 30% of the trip cost unless noted otherwise together with a signed booking form which will be emailed to you for completion. The balance of the trip is due 90 days prior to your departure date.

For payment of ground arrangements we ask that you arrange a direct bank transfer or send us a cheque.

For payment of any international flights, we ask for a debit (no surcharge) or credit card (surcharge applies) which will then be processed through our flight issuing agent and financially protected under their ATOL or IATA licences.

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