



## **Solo-ish Mexico**

9 days, Playa del Carmen to Tulum

Trip code CMPI

### **What's included**

- Your G for Good Moment: Yaxunah Community Visit, Yaxuná
- Your G for Good Moment: Sian Ka'an Biosphere Reserve Canal Float, Tulum

- Your Welcome Moment: Welcome Meeting - Meet Your CEO and Group
- Dinner Party: Taco Food Crawl, Playa del Carmen
- We Day: Unforgettable Highlights of the Yucatan, Chichén-Itzá
- G Day: A Magical Day of Cenotes, Valladolid
- Your Discover Moment: Mérida
- Me Day: Bacalar Me Day, Bacalar
- Complimentary arrival transfer
- Free time in Merida and Tulum
- Tulum Ruins guided tour & free time to go down to the beach
- Sian Ka'an tour
- All transport between destinations and to/from included activities

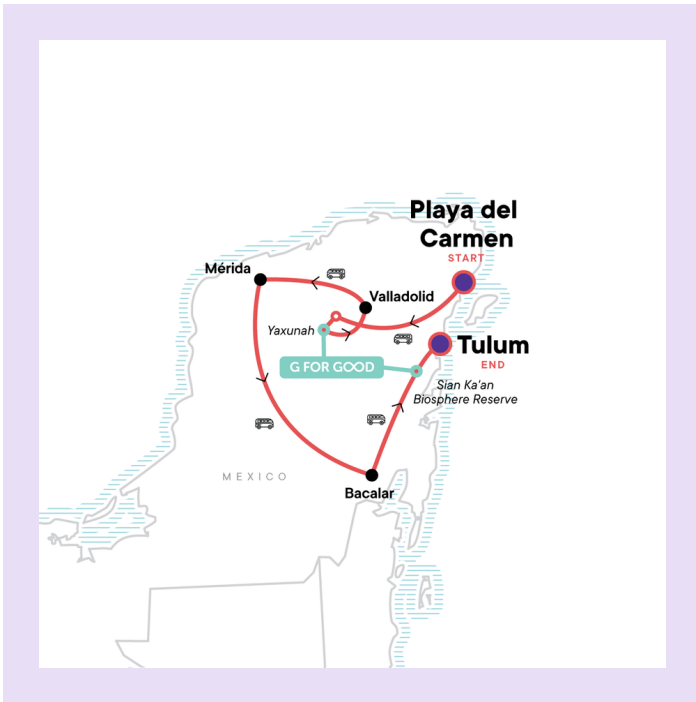
The information in this trip details document has been compiled with care and is provided in good faith. However it is subject to change, and does not form part of the contract between the client and G Adventures. The itinerary featured is correct at time of printing. It may differ slightly to the one in the brochure. Occasionally our itineraries change as we make improvements that stem from past travellers, comments and our own research. Sometimes it can be a small change like adding an extra meal along the itinerary. Sometimes the change may result in us altering the tour for the coming year. Ultimately, our goal is to provide you with the most rewarding experience. Please note that our brochure is usually released in November each year. If you have booked from the previous brochure you may find there have been some changes to the itinerary.

**VERY IMPORTANT:** Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

**VALIDITY:** Valid for all trips departing October 17th, 2024 and onwards

# Itinerary

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**NOTE:** Accommodations vary per departure and are subject to change until tour start date; they are not final and should be used as examples only. Travellers may login to the G Adventures App to view accommodations specific to their departure.

Day 1

## Dinner Party: Playa del Carmen

Welcome to Playa del Carmen. Meet your included arrival transfer at the airport, then join your CEO and fellow travellers for a welcome meeting before an authentic taco crawl experience featuring the best local carts from around town. Get to know your other Solo-ish travellers while walking through the lively streets and find the most delicious tacos led by your trusty CEO. Learn more about Mexican cuisine and witness for yourself how the joy of sharing a meal has the power to bring strangers together.



### Meals included

Dinner



### Accommodation

Hotel 12 bees (or similar)

Hotel



### Today's Activities

Arrival Transfer

Cancún International Airport - Playa del Carmen

1h

57km

You will be met at the airport and transferred to the hotel to start your adventure.

#### ACTIVITY

Your opportunity to meet your CEO and fellow travellers, and learn more about your tour. Don't forget to see the notice in the lobby (or ask reception) for the official time and place to meet up with the group.

#### ACTIVITY

Food is a universal language, and there's no better way to get to know a new friend, or a new community, than by breaking bread together and digging in to a delicious meal. Join your fellow Solo-ish travellers in an immersive taco truck walking tour with your CEO in the lead. Gain a true sense of the atmosphere in Playa del Carmen and listen as your CEO tells stories and offers facts about Mexican cuisine, while you fill up on the delicious tacos from the best local spots in town.

Today is all about the impressive historical sites and local communities of the Yucatán. Beginning with a guided tour of the most iconic Mayan ruin to visit in Mexico, Chichen Itzá. Join your local expert who will teach you about the area, including the great pyramid and largest Maya ball court in the Americas. Gain a sense of Mexico's past and imagine how life must have looked and felt in this deeply spiritual place. Then, head to a nearby local community for a demonstration of how cochinita pibil is prepared, a traditional and delicious regional delicacy made from many different ingredients and then wrapped in banana leaves and slow-cooked. Deepen your connections to the landscape and its generations of people working to live from its soil by walking through the community, learning about day to day life, and sitting down for a delicious meal together bridging the gap between differences and sharing what we all have in common, curiosity and love. Arrive in Valladolid in the early evening and treat yourself to dinner. After a full day, a little alone time might be just what you need.



### Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch



### Accommodation

Hotel Fundadores (or similar)

Hotel



### Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Playa del Carmen - Chichén-Itzá

3h

190km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

ACTIVITY

With your incredible CEO at the helm, get to know the local community and your Solo-ish travel mates on a day packed full of interesting and engaging adventures. Begin with a guided visit to Chichén Itzá and learn about the beliefs and rituals that have defined the ancient Mayan civilization. Visit the 30m (98 ft) high temple, known as the Pyramid of Kukulcan, famous for its balustrade of 91 stairs up each of the four sides. Then, stop by other area like, the famous Castillo, the ball court, the cenote, and the Nunnery. Afterwards, travel about an hour to the community of Yaxunah, located in the central part of the state of Yucatán. Enjoy an introduction to the community's history as well as demonstration of how Cochinita Pibil is made. The visit will end with some tortilla making and a group lunch alongside a local family.

## ACTIVITY

The community of Yaxunah is located in the central part of the state of Yucatán, México about 19km southwest of the great Maya ruins of Chichén Itzá. This location itself is historical with ruins of colonial era haciendas and a nearby church. During your visit here, the group will be given an introduction to the community's history as well as you'll be welcomed with an explanation of Yucatecan food and their ingredients, then learn how "Escabeche" is prepared and then come together and enjoy lunch with the community. More than just tasting, this experience will provide travellers with a deeper understanding of the story behind each ingredient, connecting with the people who prepare it, and experiencing Yucatán with all your senses.

Private Vehicle

Chichén-Itzá - Valladolid

2h30m-3h

Sit back and scan the scenery from the comfort of your private vehicle. Between Chichén-Itzá and Valladolid the group will stop in Yaxunah for a community visit and locally-prepared/hosted traditional meal.

Free Time

Valladolid

Enjoy a free evening in Valladolid on your own. Choose to grab dinner and unwind after a busy day of sightseeing and connecting with locals.

Prepare to experience what G does best and enjoy an unforgettable day in the Yucatán. Begin the morning in Valladolid with breakfast at the hotel and then transfer to Mérida with a stop along the way at some local cenotes. These giant holes in the earth filled with clear, blue water in the lush foliage of the jungle evoke a different world. Lose yourself in time as you swim in these inviting pools, floating on your back and staring up at the open sky above. Lunch will be served along the way and you should be on the lookout for a fun surprise before reaching Mérida in the evening. Upon arrival, set off with a local guide on a walking tour. Get to know the layout of the area, stop by some of the iconic landmarks, and learn more about the history and culture of this place, including one last stop for dessert along the way. Native to the area, marquesitas are crepes rolled and filled with various sweets like condensed milk, cajeta, or queso de bola. Try some for yourself in one of the local stands. The remainder of the evening is free to do your own thing or to join up for an optional dinner out with the group at one of the CEO's local favourites.



## Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch



## Accommodation

Hotel Santa Lucia by Kavia (or similar)

Hotel



## Today's Activities

Mérida City Tour

Mérida

3h

Set off with a local guide on a city tour of Mérida. This vibrant capital of the Yucatán is rich in Mayan and colonial influences. Visit the city's focal point at Plaza de la Independencia, the fortresslike Mérida Cathedral, and the white limestone Iglesia de la Tercera Orden. All the while you will be learning the layout of the city while witnessing locals going about their daily lives here. End the tour with a deliciously sweet marquesita.

Private Vehicle

Mérida - San Vicente

15m

16km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

ACTIVITY

With your Solo-ish travel mates and CEO, explore some of the world's coolest activities alongside new friends. It's not just an epic day of fun, its chock full of incredible experiences and a surprise G element along the way to take your day to an 11. Head out in the morning after breakfast and travel deeper into the jungle. Visit some cenotes, or natural sinkholes in the earth that were sacred to the ancient Maya. Swim in the refreshing water and cool off from the heat before a delicious lunch to build those energy levels back up for more swimming. Be on the lookout for your G surprise before arriving in Merida for a free evening to yourself.

Private Vehicle

San Vicente - Valladolid

2h

172km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Day 4

## Mérida

Take advantage of a free day to head out on one of many fantastic optional excursions in and around Mérida or to explore on your own. Perhaps visit to the Uxmal ruins, the anthropological museum, or head back to another cenote if you didn't get enough yesterday.



### Meals included

Breakfast



### Accommodation

Hotel Santa Lucia by Kavia (or similar)

Hotel



### Optional Activities - Day 4

Uxmal Ruins Visit

Uxmal Ruins

70-110USD

8h-9h

200km

Founded in 700 AD, magical Uxmal was once home to as many as 25,000 Mayans. Located 62km (38 mi) south of Merida, in Yucatán's Puuc ("hill" or "chain of low mountains") region, this UNESCO World Heritage Centre represents the pinnacle of late Maya art and architecture. Wander the site, see the Pyramid of the Magician, and visit nearby Kabah, one of three neighbouring sites.

Anthropology Museum Visit

Mérida

55MXN

Installed on two floors of a refurbished mansion, this museum is considered to be one of the most important collections of Pre-Columbian Mayan culture in the Yucatán Peninsula. Learn everything there is to know about Mayan society, from war to writing, art to architecture, calendars, customs and offerings to the dead.

Day 5

## Mérida/Bacalar

Hit the road today and leave Mérida behind as the group drives south to the small town of Bacalar. Located all the way at the bottom of the Yucatán's west coast, and close to the Belize border, this charming village should be on every travellers' bucket list. Cross a time zone and arrive in the afternoon with some time to enjoy the town by yourself. Visit the "Lagoon of Seven Colors", book a boat trip, or check out Los Rápidos for some active adventure. Bacalar is still relatively off the beaten path and a great place to relax and unplug.



### Meals included

Breakfast



### Accommodation

Hotel Circulo Bacalar (or similar)

Hostel



### Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Mérida - Bacalar

5h-6h

345km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the comfort of your private vehicle transfer to Bacalar. Please note that the group will cross a time zone on this route.

Free Time

Bacalar

The afternoon belongs to you and Bacalar is the perfect place for some downtime to relax. Optional activities in the area range from exploring the San Felipe Bacalar Fort, or visiting the famous lagoon for some kayaking on the water.



### Optional Activities - Day 5

Kayaking

Bacalar

10-12USD

Throw on a lifejacket and paddle the pale blue waters of Laguna Bacalar. Bring a camera to capture the surreal beauty of the mineral-infused lake.

Fortress Exploration

Bacalar

10MXN

Built in 1729, the San Felipe Bacalar fort was built by the Spanish hoping to fend off further pirate attacks. See the original stone walls, with canons facing out to the sea. The fort is built in the form of a four-pointed star and is surrounded by a moat.

Day 6

## Me Day: Bacalar

Awake to the sounds of Bacalar coming to life as the locals go about their daily routines. Then, take the day entirely for yourself! That's right, the choice really is all yours. Choose to have a slow morning and wander around on your own. You can also choose to join your CEO on a walk to the San Felipe fortress. Later, keep the solo vibes going and have a night to yourself, or grab a buddy and find a fun spot to try some regional food staples.



### Meals included

Breakfast



### Accommodation

Hotel Circulo Bacalar (or similar)

Hostel



### Today's Activities

ACTIVITY

Traveling solo alongside your new Solo-ish travel mates means there's always something fun to do and new friends to explore with. But the joy of travel can also be about taking time to yourself to recharge, refresh and reflect on the journey. Today, choose to join your CEO for a local activity, or take the time to yourself to enjoy your own company in one of the most incredible places on our planet.

Day 7

## Bacalar/Tulum

After breakfast, the group will travel north up the coast to Tulum. Upon arrival, head out for a guided visit of the ruins to the only Mayan city built on a coast. Enjoy time exploring the ruins, learn more about their significance, and head down to the nearby beach for free time to swim or lay on the sand in the sun while the waves crash in the distance. Afterwards, transfer to the hotel where you'll have some free time to shop, eat, and sightsee on your own in town.



### Meals included

Breakfast



### Accommodation

Hotel El Capitan (or similar)

Hotel



### Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Bacalar - Tulum

3h-3h30m

210km

Sit back and scan the scenery from the comfort of your private vehicle between Bacalar and Tulum. Please note that the group will pass through to another time zone along this route.

Tulum Ruins Visit

Tulum

1h-4h

The Maya built the ancient seaport of Tulum in the late 13th century. Located some 130 km (80 mi) south of Cancun, this picturesque site features a number of limestone structures protected on three sides by a 7m (23 ft) thick wall. Visit "El Castillo" (the castle), overlooking the Caribbean coast, and the Temple of Frescoes, then head down to the beach. Dive into the warm aquamarine waters and imagine spotting ancient vessels laden with turquoise and jade.

Free Time

Tulum

Take this time to soak in the spectacular coastline of Tulum. Swim in the cobalt waters off of the white sand beaches. Hunt down some delicious street food and have a picnic in the sand. Or simply window shop and find a nice spot to sit down and do some journaling or people watching.

Day 8

## Tulum

Today, you'll visit the Sian Ka'an Biosphere Reserve, also known as "The Place Where the Sky is Born". Known for its wetlands and vast biodiversity, the area is now a designated UNESCO World Heritage Site. Travel by boat along a network of canals that were dug out by the Mayans and search for wildlife like tropical birds, monkeys, and crocodiles as you float along. Keep an eye out for Mayan ruins in the mangrove forests as you go. Return to Tulum in the afternoon and spend the remaining time on your own. Relax on the beach, walk down the main street, or simply read a good book in the sand. Tonight, perhaps you'll choose to have dinner together to celebrate the end of a successful Solo-ish adventure.



### Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch



### Accommodation

Hotel El Capitan (or similar)

Hotel



### Today's Activities

#### ACTIVITY

Sian Ka'an Biosphere Reserve is one of Mexico's most important protected areas due to its diversity in bird and animal species. The Reserve uses ecologically responsible technologies, including systems for wetland waste management, rainwater collection, and solar and wind energy generation to protect the environment.

Visit the reserve and take a boat ride across the lagoon before hopping into the crystal clear water of one of the canals. Next, enjoy nature's lazy river as you float past Mayan ruins and mangrove forests, letting the current slowly bring you down stream. It's just you, the sound of chirping birds, and the fish swimming around your feet - pure paradise!

Free Time

Tulum

Enjoy time to yourself in Tulum. Hit the beach, read a book in the sun, or walk down the main street and get some exercise under the swaying palms.

You arrived a solo traveller and are leaving with many new friends. Say goodbye to your fellow Solo-ish travellers and depart at any time.

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## Meals included

Breakfast

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## Today's Activities

Departure Day

Not ready to leave? Your CEO can help with travel arrangements to extend your adventure.

## What's included

- Your G for Good Moment: Yaxunah Community Visit, Yaxuná
- Your G for Good Moment: Sian Ka'an Biosphere Reserve Canal Float, Tulum
- Your Welcome Moment: Welcome Meeting - Meet Your CEO and Group
- Dinner Party: Taco Food Crawl, Playa del Carmen
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- Your Discover Moment: Mérida
- Me Day: Bacalar Me Day, Bacalar
- Complimentary arrival transfer
- Free time in Merida and Tulum
- Tulum Ruins guided tour & free time to go down to the beach
- Sian Ka'an tour
- All transport between destinations and to/from included activities

## What are the main highlights of this trip?

Enjoy a taco walking food tour through various local street taquerias in Playa del Carmen, See the massive pyramid at Chichén Itzá on a guided tour, Visit a small Mayan pueblo and savour the delicious regional Yucatán cuisine, Cool off from the heat with a swim in the crystal-clear waters of freshwater cenote pools

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## Is there a disclaimer I should read before booking this trip?

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**VERY IMPORTANT:** Please ensure that you view a final copy of your Trip Details a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

## What important notes should I be aware of before the trip?

Important Note for Water Activities:

During this itinerary, some experiences take place in protected natural areas, such as Bacalar Lagoon and the Sian Ka'an Biosphere Reserve, where strict environmental regulations are in place. Please note that the use of sunscreen is NOT permitted, including biodegradable products.

To ensure comfort during these activities, we recommend bringing:

UV-protective swimwear (e.g. rash guards or long-sleeve swim shirts)

Lightweight long-sleeve clothing for sun protection

A hat or cap

## **What is the group leader like?**

All G Adventures group trips are accompanied by one of our group leaders, a G Adventures representative, or an expedition team. The aim of the group leader is to take the hassle out of your travels and to help you have the best trip possible. They will provide information on the places you are travelling through, offer suggestions for things to do and see, recommend great local eating venues and introduce you to our local friends. While not being guides in the traditional sense you can expect them to have a broad general knowledge of the countries visited on the trip, including historical, cultural, religious and social aspects. We also use local guides where we think more specific knowledge will add to the enjoyment of the places we are visiting- we think it's the best of both worlds.

## **How large will the group be?**

Max 16, avg 12.

## **What meals are included in this trip?**

8 breakfasts, 3 lunches, 1 dinner

## **What are the meals like on this trip?**

Eating is a big part of traveling. Travelling with G Adventures you experience the vast array of wonderful food that is available out in the world. Generally meals are not included in the trip price when there is a choice of eating options, to give you the maximum flexibility in deciding where, what and with whom to eat. It also gives you more budgeting flexibility, though generally food is cheap. Our groups tend to eat together to enable you to taste a larger variety of dishes and enjoy each other's company. There is no obligation to do this though. Your CEO will be able to suggest favourite restaurants during your trip. The above information applies to G Adventures group trips. Please refer to the meals included and budget information for included meals and meal budgets.

## **What are the modes of transportation on my trip?**

Private bus, ferry, walking.

## **Is there an extra cost for travelling solo?**

We believe solo travellers should not have to pay more to travel so our group trips are designed for shared accommodation and do not involve a single supplement. Single travellers joining group trips are paired in twin or multi-share accommodation with someone of the same sex for the duration of the trip. Some of our Independent trips are designed differently and solo travellers on these itineraries must pay the single trip price.

## **Where will we stay during the trip?**

Hotels (8 nts) on a twinshare basis. If you are interested in purchasing your own room, please see below for the My Own Room option.

## Will I get my own room?

Please note that if you have booked the "My Own Room" option for this tour, you will receive your own single room for all night stops

## What are the joining instructions?

For details of your joining hotel please refer to your tour voucher, G Account, the G Adventures App or contact your travel agent.

An arrival transfer is included when you arrive on Day 1, or if you arrive up to three days prior provided that you have booked your pre-accommodation through G Adventures in our joining hotel. Due to customer experience and quality considerations, all services related to the tour must be continuous.

Our driver will be waiting for you with a G Adventures sign, and they will be waiting for you outside the luggage hall. If for any reason you are not met at the airport, please call our local support line. If you are unable to make contact for whatever reason, please make your way to the joining point hotel via taxi.

Please note that day 1 is an arrival day and no activities have been planned on this day.

Upon arrival to your Joining Hotel (note that check-in time will be in the afternoon), look for a note or bulletin board in the reception with a note from your CEO. This note will give the details of your Welcome Meeting on day 1 (usually at 6pm), where you will get a chance to meet your CEO and other travellers, as well as learn more about how the tour will run. If you don't see a note, please ask reception for details!

If you are arriving later and will miss the Welcome Meeting, your CEO will leave a note at reception for you with any information you may need, and with morning instructions for the next day.

## What happens if I experience problems when arriving?

We don't expect any problems, and nor should you, but if for any reason you are unable to commence your trip as scheduled, as soon as possible please contact your starting point hotel, requesting that you speak to or leave a message for your CEO (if you are not on a group tour please refer to the emergency contact details provided in this dossier). If you are unable to get in touch with your leader, please refer to our emergency contact details. If you have pre-booked an airport transfer and have not made contact with our representative within 30 minutes of clearing customs and immigration, we recommend that you make your own way to the Starting Point hotel, following the Joining Instructions. Please apply to your travel agent on your return for a refund of the transfer cost if this occurs.

## Who should I contact in case of an emergency?

Should you need to contact us during a situation of dire need, it is best to first call either the G Adventures Local Operator (if one is listed below) or our G Adventures Local Office. If for any reason you do not receive an immediate answer, please leave a detailed message and contact information, so they may return your call and assist you as soon as possible.

### AIRPORT TRANSFER

If you have purchased an arrival through G Adventures or if an arrival transfer is included in the cost of your tour, please note that:

Your arrival transfer has been arranged based on flight information provided to us. If you are advised of a flight schedule change or flight cancellation within 48 hours of your scheduled arrival time, please call the emergency contact number to advise of your new arrival flight information. If you do not, we will not be able to rearrange your arrival transfer and you will need to make your own way to the starting hotel at your own expense. If your arrival transfer does not arrive within 30 minutes after you have exited the arrivals area please take a taxi to your start point hotel.

### EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS

G Adventures Office San Jose, Costa Rica

During Office hours (Weekdays 9am-5pm Local Time): +506 4001 8474

After hours emergency number: +51 997 582 712

If you are unable for any reason to contact our local office, please call the numbers listed below which will connect you directly with our Sales team who will happily assist you. Hours of operation by region can be found [here](#).

Toll-free, North America only: 1 888 800 4100

Calls from UK: 0344 272 0000

Calls from Germany: 0800 365 1000

Calls from Australia: 1 300 796 618

Calls from New Zealand: 0800 333 307

Outside North America, Australia, New Zealand, Germany and the UK: +1 416 260 0999

## What information should I be aware of as the itinerary draws to a close?

If you would like to book an airport Departure transfer for your tour, please contact our Sales Team or your Travel Agent in advance of travel.

## Are there any additional packing suggestions I should consider?

We recommend using a backpack for your convenience, or a medium-sized suitcase if you prefer. A daypack is also essential for carrying everyday items. Space is limited on transportation, so there is a limit of one main piece of luggage per person. You will be responsible for carrying and handling your own luggage.

# What should be on my packing list?

## Documents:

- Flight info (required) (Printouts of e-tickets may be required at the border)
- Insurance info (required) (With photocopies)
- Passport (required) (With photocopies)
- Vouchers and pre-departure information (required)
- Visas or vaccination certificates (With photocopies)

## Essentials:

- Toiletries (required) (Shampoo, bodywash, soap, etc.)
- Binoculars (optional)
- Camera (With extra memory cards and batteries)
- Cash, credit and debit cards
- Day pack (Used for daily excursions or short overnights)
- Ear plugs
- First-aid kit (should contain lip balm with sunscreen, sunscreen, whistle, Aspirin, Ibuprofen, bandaids/plasters, tape, anti-histamines, antibacterial gel/wipes, antiseptic cream, Imodium or similar tablets for mild cases of diarrhea, rehydration powder, water purification tablets or drops, insect repellent, sewing kit, extra prescription drugs you may be taking)
- Flashlight/torch (Headlamps are ideal)
- Fleece top/sweater
- Footwear
- Hat
- Headphones (Noise-cancelling recommended)
- Locks for bags
- Long pants/jeans
- Moneybelt
- Outlet adapter
- Personal entertainment (Reading and writing materials, cards, music player, etc.)
- Reusable water bottle
- Shirts/t-shirts
- Sleepwear
- Small travel towel
- Sunglasses
- Swimwear
- Watch and alarm clock
- Waterproof backpack cover
- Windproof rain jacket

## Health & Safety:

- Face masks (Clients will be only be required to wear a face mask where it is mandated by local regulations.)
- Hand sanitizer
- Pen (Please bring your own pen for filling out documents.)

### **Warm Weather:**

- Sandals/flip-flops
- Sturdy water shoes/sandals
- Shorts/skirts (Longer shorts/skirts are recommended)
- Sun hat/bandana
- Swimwear

### **Water Activities:**

- UV-protective swimwear (required) (e.g. rash guards or long-sleeve swim shirts)
- Lightweight long-sleeve (for sun protection)
- Sun hat/bandana

## **When can I do my laundry on this trip?**

Laundry facilities are offered by some of our hotels for a charge. There will be times when you may want to or have to do your own laundry so we suggest you bring non-polluting/biodegradable soap.

## **What are the visas and entry requirements for my trip?**

All countries require a valid passport (with a minimum 6 months validity). Contact your local embassy or consulate for the most up-to-date visa requirements, or see your travel agent. It is your own responsibility to have the correct travel documentation. Visa requirements for your trip will vary depending on where you are from and where you are going. We keep the following information up to date as far as possible, but rules do change and sometimes without warning. While we provide the following information in good faith, it is vital that you check the information yourself and understand that you are fully responsible for your own visa requirements.

Visa information specific to your destination and nationality can be found in our Important Pre-Departure Information page [here](#)

## **What should I consider when planning my personal expenses and discretionary spending for this itinerary?**

Every traveller is different and therefore spending money requirements will vary. Some travellers may drink more than others while other travellers like to purchase more souvenirs than most. Please consider your own spending habits when it comes to allowing for drinks, shopping and tipping. Please also remember the following specific recommendations when planning your trip.

## How much emergency money should I bring on this trip?

Please also make sure you have access to at least an additional USD \$200 (or equivalent) as an 'emergency' fund, to be used when circumstances outside our control (ex. a natural disaster) require a change to our planned route. This is a rare occurrence!

## Do I need to pay a departure tax?

Mexico entrance tax: 717MXN (USD35)

Mexico exit tax by land: 717MXN (USD35)

Mexico airport departure tax: free

Border Fees must be paid in full at the time of entry and exit and are subject to change without prior notice.

## Should I be tipping on my trip?

It is customary in Latin America to tip service providers such as waiters, at approximately 10%, depending on the service. Tipping is an expected - though not compulsory - component of your tour program and an expression of satisfaction with the persons who have assisted you on your tour. Although it may not be customary to you, it is of considerable significance to the people who will take care of you during your travels. There are several times during the trip where there is opportunity to tip the local guides or drivers we use. Recommendations for tipping drivers and local guides would range from \$5-10 USD per day depending on the quality and length of the service; ask your CEO for specific recommendations based on the circumstances and culture.

Tipping of your G Adventures Chief Experience Officer is very much appreciated. The amount is entirely a personal preference; however as a guideline \$5- 7 USD per person, per day is our recommendation in the region. However, if you felt your CEO did an especially outstanding job, any additional amount will always be welcome.

## What activities are optional on this trip?

### Uxmal Ruins

- Uxmal Ruins Visit (70-110USD per person)

### Mérida

- Anthropology Museum Visit (55MXN per person)

### Bacalar

- Kayaking (10-12USD per person)
- Fortress Exploration (10MXN per person)

## Are there any health considerations I should know before travelling?

Please note inoculations may be required for the country visited. It is your responsibility to consult with your travel doctor for up to date medical travel information well before departure.

You should consult your doctor for up-to-date medical travel information well before departure. We recommend that you carry a First Aid kit and hand sanitizers / antibacterial wipes as well as any personal medical requirements. Please be aware that quite often we are in remote areas and away from medical facilities, and for legal reasons our leaders are prohibited from administering any type of drug including headache tablets, antibiotics, etc. When selecting your trip please carefully read the brochure and itinerary and assess your ability to cope with our style of travel. Please refer to the Physical and Culture Shock ratings for trip specific information. G Adventures reserves the right to exclude any traveller from all or part of a trip without refund if in the reasonable opinion of our CEO they are unable to complete the itinerary without undue risk to themselves and/or the rest of the group.

## What do I need to know to about safety and security on my trip?

Many national governments provide a regularly updated advice service on safety issues involved with international travel. We recommend that you check your government's advice for their latest travel information before departure. We strongly recommend the use of a neck wallet or money belt while travelling, for the safe keeping of your passport, air tickets, travellers' cheques, cash and other valuable items. Leave your valuable jewellery at home - you won't need it while travelling. Many of the hotels we use have safety deposit boxes, which is the most secure way of storing your valuables. A lock is recommended for securing your luggage. When travelling on a group trip, please note that your group leader has the authority to amend or cancel any part of the trip itinerary if it deemed necessary, due to safety concerns. Your Chief Experience Officer (CEO) will accompany you on all included activities. During your trip you will have some free time to pursue your own interests, relax and take it easy and explore at your leisure. While your CEO will assist you with options available in a given location, please note that any optional activities you undertake are not part of your itinerary, and we offer no representations about the safety of the activity or the standard of the operators running them. Please use your own good judgement when selecting an activity in your free time. Although the cities visited on tour are generally safe during the day, there can be risks to wandering throughout any major city at night. It is our recommendation to stay in small groups and to take taxis to and from restaurants, or during night time excursions.

Water based activities have an element of danger and excitement built into them. We recommend only participating in water based activities when accompanied by a guide(s). We make every reasonable effort to ensure the fun and adventurous element of any water based activities (in countries with varying degrees of operating standards), have a balanced approach to safety. It is our policy not to allow our CEOs to make arrangements on your behalf for water based activities that are not accompanied by guide(s).

Swimming, including snorkeling, is always at your own risk. [Read more about travel safety](#) for ways to further enhance your personal safety while traveling.

## What rules should I know before joining this trip?

Illegal drugs will not be tolerated on any trips. Possessing or using drugs not only contravenes the laws of the land but also puts the rest of the group at risk. Smoking marijuana and opium is a part of local culture in some parts of the world but is not acceptable for our travellers. Our philosophy of travel is one of respect towards everyone we encounter and in particular the local people who make the world the special place it is. The exploitation of people in the sex trade is completely contrary to this philosophy. Our CEOs have the right to expel any member of the group if drugs are found in their possession or if they utilize the services of paid sex workers, in any capacity.

## Is travel insurance required for my trip?

Travel insurance is compulsory in order to participate on any of our trips. When travelling on a group trip, you will not be permitted to join the group until evidence of travel insurance has been sighted by your leader, who will take note of your insurance details. When selecting a travel insurance policy we require that at a minimum you are covered for medical expenses including emergency evacuation and repatriation. A minimum coverage of USD200,000 is required. We strongly recommend that the policy also covers personal liability, cancellation, curtailment and loss of luggage and personal effects. Some tours include adventure activities that require extra coverage (e.g. crampon use); please review your itinerary and make sure that you are covered for all included activities. If you have credit card insurance we require proof of purchase of the trip (a receipt of credit card statement) with a credit card in your name. Contact your bank for details of their participating insurer, the level of coverage and emergency contact telephone number.

## What is Planeterra?

Planeterra International Foundation is a non-profit organization committed to turning travel into impact by helping local communities earn an income from tourism. Planeterra connects underserved local communities to the benefits of tourism by developing and supporting small community-owned businesses. These businesses support Indigenous people, empower women, grant youth access to employment opportunities, and protect the environment. Planeterra also works to ensure these businesses have a thriving customer base by integrating their projects into G Adventures' itineraries globally.

G Adventures is Planeterra's largest corporate donor, covering all operating costs, so 100% of your donation will bring opportunity to people in need.

G Adventures Dollar-a-day Program - Make Every Day Count - Turn your travel into impact with [Planeterra Foundation](#).

Did you know? Most communities around the world do not benefit from tourism. Give back to the places you visit on your travels by creating opportunities for local people to earn an income, and protect the environment.

Make every day count by donating \$1/day for the length of your trip, and join us in empowering the communities you will visit when you travel. 100% of your donation goes directly to Planeterra projects.

## How can I share feedback about my trip experience?

Earn 5% off your next G Adventures Tour (up to \$100 USD)\*

After your travels, we want to hear from you! Your feedback information is so important to us and to thank you for your time, we are pleased to offer a 5% discount (up to a maximum of \$100 USD) off your next G Adventures holiday. All you need to do is submit the form within 4 weeks of the completion of your tour, and you'll be able to join the thousands of travellers who have taken 2, 3, 4 or even 10 or more tours with us!

Discount cannot be combined with other offers or applied to 'Independent' style trips. Maximum discount value is \$100 USD (or equivalent currency). Valid for new bookings only. G Adventures reserves the right to withdraw or modify this offer at any time without notice. Limited to one discount per person.

## Does G Adventures have an email newsletter I can subscribe to?

Our adventure travel e-newsletter is full of travel news, trip information, interesting stories and contests. To avoid missing out on special offers and updates from G Adventures, subscribe at [www.gadventures.com/newsletters/](http://www.gadventures.com/newsletters/)

Stay current on how our company invests in our global community through our foundation – Planeterra. Sign up for [Planeterra's monthly news](#) to learn more about how to give back and support the people and places we love to visit.

## Are international flights included in this trip?

No, international flights are generally not included in the price of your tour.

However, on some combo tours travelling between two different countries, international flights are included as part of the itinerary and price of the tour. Please speak to your GCO or booking agent for further details.

In addition, check-in times and baggage allowances/restrictions vary by airline and can change at any time. For the most up-to-date information for your flight, please contact your airline. We recommend checking in online in advance to avoid potential delays at the airport.

## What should LGBTQ+ travellers know about safety and travel considerations on this trip?

The safety and well-being of all of our travelers is a priority at G Adventures and that includes our travelers who identify as part of the LGBTQ+ community. We recognize that there are specific concerns and questions you may have about your adventure in terms of safety and security. We encourage you to visit our [LGBTQ+ page](#) for useful resources to ensure you feel safe and comfortable throughout the duration of your trip. The Equaldex tool linked on this page can be of particular help when deciding where you may want to visit next.

## Dossier Disclaimer

The information in this trip details document has been compiled with care and is provided in good faith. However it is subject to change, and does not form part of the contract between the client and the operator. The itinerary featured is correct at time of printing. It may differ slightly to the one in the brochure. Occasionally our itineraries change as we make improvements that stem from past travellers, comments and our own research. Sometimes it can be a small change like adding an extra meal along the itinerary. Sometimes the change may result in us altering the tour for the coming year. Ultimately, our goal is to provide you with the most rewarding experience. Please note that our brochure is usually released in November each year. If you have booked from the previous brochure you may find there have been some changes to the itinerary.

**VERY IMPORTANT:** Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

## Itinerary Disclaimer

While it is our intention to adhere to the route described below, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the itinerary and on occasion it may be necessary, or desirable to make alterations. The itinerary is brief, as we never know exactly where our journey will take us. Due to our style of travel and the regions we visit, travel can be unpredictable. The Trip Details document is a general guide to the tour and region and any mention of specific destinations or wildlife is by no means a guarantee that they will be visited or encountered. Aboard expedition trips visits to research stations depend on final permission.

Additionally, any travel times listed are approximations only and subject to vary due to local circumstances.