

MEXICO - DISCOVER MEXICO CITY



TRIP CODE

MXTSMCSO

DURATION

4 Days

LOCATIONS

Mexico



INTRODUCTION

Enjoy a weekend in Mexico's largest city. Enjoy what the city has to offer including the Historic Centre, Zocalo and Chapultepec Park. Certainly a city stopover not to be missed!

ITINERARY

DAY 1: Mexico City – Arrive & Transfer to Hotel

On arrival, please make your way through to the Arrivals Hall where our representative will be waiting for you to transfer you to your hotel.



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DAY 1: Mexico City - Arrival

One of the world's largest metropolis, Mexico City is also the oldest urban centre in the Western Hemisphere, when it was called Tenochtitlan. Spanish conqueror Hernan Cortes and his men were awestruck by the sight of the imposing temples of the Aztecs. Reporting back to King Carlos V, Cortes was struggling to convey the majesty of what he saw. Imagine the King's surprise at learning that "one of the plazas is twice the size of that of Salamanca", and "the principal pyramid is taller than the tower of the cathedral at Seville", or that the stone and wood craftsmanship that adorned these monuments "could nowhere be bettered". Nowhere is Mexico's explosive past better depicted than at its central plaza, the Zocalo. Surrounded by some of the finest buildings of the colonial era, lie the remnants of one of the Aztecs' principal monuments, the Templo Mayor. Its mysterious shapes stand as a haunting tribute to the pre-Hispanic civilization that flourished here long ago.



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DAY 2: Half Day Mexico City Tour

This morning you will be collected from your hotel to explore magnificent Mexico City, built on top of the ruins of the Aztec capital of Tenochtitlan. Our first stop is the Zocalo (main square), one of the biggest public squares in the world. Visit the Metropolitan Cathedral, the biggest church in Latin America, and the Palacio Nacional (closed on Mondays), which hosts Diego Rivera's murals depicting the history of Mexico. We then drive along the famous boulevard Paseo de la Reforma, built during the short-lived reign of Emperor Maximilian to connect the main square and his castle in Chapultepec. On completion of your tour, you will be taken to your hotel. Please note this is a small group tour and only operates daily except Mondays.



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DAY 3: Teotihuacan Pyramids and Guadalupe Shrine

This morning you will be collected from your hotel to visit the impressive archaeological site of Teotihuacan, located 50km northeast of Mexico City. On the way, stop at the "Plaza de las Tres Culturas", where three cultures converge: Aztec, Spanish, and contemporary Mexican. Continue to the Shrine de Guadalupe, Latin America's most revered religious shrine. It is here where the Virgin of Guadalupe is said to have appeared before an Indian named Juan Diego in 1531, and an image of her was miraculously emblazoned on his cloak. There is time to explore the New Basilica de Guadalupe (the Old Basilica, built in 1700, is slowly sinking) and to see Juan Diego's cloak. Drive for another hour to Teotihuacan, one of the most impressive cities of the ancient world, held sacred by the Aztecs. Explore its temples, palaces and pyramids, including the Quetzalpapalotl Palace, the Pyramid of the Moon, and the immense Pyramid of the Sun, ranked among the biggest in the world. Shrine of Guadalupe not available to visit on December 11th and 12th. On completion of your tour, return to Mexico City and you will be taken to your hotel. Please note this is a small group tour.



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DAY 4: Transfer to the airport for onward destination

You will be collected from your hotel at the appropriate time and transferred to the airport for your onward flight.




INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

Accommodation

Standard

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|-----------------------------|--|
| Inclusions | <p>Guided tours and excursions Accommodation Ground transfers Transport Breakfasts Other meals where specified</p> <p>Exclusions Visa fees (if applicable) Airport tax (if applicable) Personal expenses Optional activities not mentioned in itinerary Gratuities for staff/guides</p> |
| Difficulty Rating | 1 (easy) |
| Single Surcharge | FROM US\$180 - Subject to season and availability, contact us for more details. |
| Notes | Contact us for more details |
| Price Dependent upon | Season and availability |

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SUSTAINABILITY

Chimu Adventures undertakes a number of sustainability measures within its operations including:

- 1) Only using local guides and office staff to both maximise local employment opportunities and minimise carbon footprints. Local guides also ensure you benefit from the intimate knowledge, passion and culture of the country you're visiting.
- 2) Where possible, using locally owned and operated boutique hotels to maximise the return to the local community.
- 3) Chimu's "Pass it on" programme has provided funding to hundreds of local community projects in Latin America. Our aim is to empower local communities, helping them to develop their own infrastructure for the future. Since 2006, we have been working with Kiva (a well-known Non-Governmental Organisation), providing hundreds of loans to local businesses all over South America.
- 4) In our pre tour information we provide a range of tips and advice on how to minimise your impact on both local environments and communities.
- 5) Chimu Adventures' offices also take a number of sustainability measures including carbon offsets for company vehicles and most staff travel. Chimu Adventure's internal processes are also structured to create a paperless office and to reduce waste. There are also internal programmes to help staff minimise their carbon footprint such as our staff bike purchase assistance plan which encourages office staff to commute to work via bicycle. Currently almost half of our office based staff commute to work via bicycle.