

CENTRAL AMERICA MULTI COUNTRY - CHIAPAS EXTENSION




INTRODUCTION

Adventure through Mexico's east with this in depth Chimu Adventures extension travelling from Tuxtla in the state of Chiapas to the town of Merida on the Yucatan Peninsula. Along the way you will learn about the culture of the ancient Maya people by meeting their descendants in San Juan Camula and Zinacantan before visiting some of the Mayas most sacred sites at Palenque, Yaxchilan, Uxmal and Kabah. You will also enjoy some of the regions most spectacular natural scenery with a motorboat ride through the Sumidero Canyon and a visit to the waterfalls of Agua Azul.

On this all-encompassing personalised itinerary, Chimu will provide travel logistics for your travel party for the duration of your journey, plus expert guides for all the major sightseeing as per itinerary. Each night you will stay in superior accommodation, handpicked by our experienced team for their creature comforts, convenient locations, and impeccable service.

Please note: This itinerary is designed to fit into the middle of our Signature Mexico package. Instead of flying from Mexico City to Merida on day 5 of this itinerary you would fly to Tuxtla and travel by land to Merida, seeing the best of the Chiapas region. From Merida you would resume the Signature Mexico package from day 6.

ITINERARY

TRIP CODE
MXCVCE
DEPARTURE
Daily
DURATION
6 Days
LOCATIONS
Mexico


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DAY 1: Tuxtla to San Cristobal via Sumidero National Park

On arrival at Tuxtla airport you will be whisked away and welcomed to the area with a thrilling motorboat ride on the Grijalva River through the Sumidero Canyon. Enroute you will visit the colonial town of Chiapas de Corzo. There you will discover the temple ruins of the Olmecs, the oldest known civilisation of Mesoamerica. The town's main square, complete with a sacred Pochota tree, and the local markets are more sights to explore. You will continue to San Cristobal de las Casas for two nights. This colonial town has cobblestone streets and buildings with red roofs and stucco walls.



DAY 2: San Cristobal City & Tzotzil Indian Village Tour

Today you will explore the town centre of San Cristobal de las Casas. Highlights include the main plaza, the Cathedral de San Cristobal, the Templo de Santo Domingo Church and the Mercado de Dulces y Artesanias Ambar. Next you will head to the Chiapas highlands to visit two Tzotzil Indian Villages, San Juan Chamula and Zinacantan. During your visit you will uncover the unique customs and beliefs of the people of these villages who are descendants of the ancient Maya. A visit to the San Juan Chamula Church, complete with its striking white façade, chanting worshippers, candles and incense smoke, will leave an impression. In Zinacantan explore the local handicraft market and it's two churches, the Iglesia de San Lorenzo and the Iglesia Adventista Del Septimo Dia De Zinacantan.



DAY 3: San Cristobal - Agua Azul - Palenque

From San Cristobal de las Casas you will drive to Agua Azul, a series of five hundred blue waterfalls located on the Xanil River. Surrounded by rainforest, the turquoise waters of Agua Azul cascade into pools where you can take a swim whilst enjoying nature at its finest. Continuing from Agua Azul you will travel to the town of Palenque, the gateway to the Maya temples which share the town's name.



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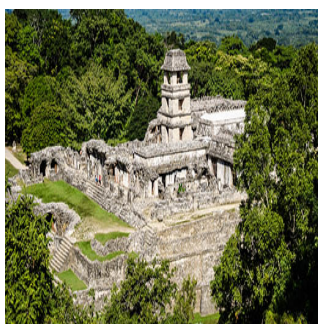
DAY 4: Bonampak & Yaxchilan tour

Today you will visit the archaeological site of Bonampak. Set within the dense jungle, the ruins of this ancient Maya city lay hidden until 1946. Known for its colourful murals depicting Mayan life and mythology, with its frescos completed in 790 AD. From Bonampak you will head to the border town of Frontera Corozal and board a boat to travel along the Usumacinta River which separates Mexico and Guatemala. Arriving in Yaxchilan you will visit the ruins of this significant Maya site. There are three main complexes, the Great Plaza, the Grand Acropolis and the Small Acropolis, with around 120 structures in total to explore.



DAY 5: Campeche via Palenque Ruins

From Yaxchilan we'll head to the UNESCO World Heritage listed ruins of Palenque. The site consists of around five hundred buildings set within the natural surroundings of the Tumbala Mountains and amongst the cedar, mahogany and sapodilla trees of the jungle. This environment also provides a habitat for the local toucans and howler monkeys. Highlights of the ruins include the Temple of Inscriptions, or El Palacio, and the Temple of the Crosses. From Palenque, we'll continue to the walled port city of Campeche for the night.



DAY 6: Campeche to Merida via Uxmal & Kabah

Departing Campeche, you will travel to the UNESCO World Heritage site in Uxmal. This ancient Maya city is considered one of the best preserved ruins with highlights including the Great Pyramid, The Pyramid of the Magician, the Quadrangle of the Birds and the Quadrangle of the Nuns. From Uxmal you will visit Kabah, the second largest ruin in the Puuc region. Here, a guide will take you to Codz-Pop, the most preserved and restored building at this site. In the afternoon you will arrive in Merida, the vibrant capital of the state of Yucatan. Merida is a foodie haven and there are several attractions to visit from its grand museum, main plaza and cathedrals to its nearby underwater cenotes.



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INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

Accommodation	Hotel
Inclusions	<p>Inclusions</p> <p>Private airport transfers</p> <p>Accommodation with breakfast daily</p> <p>Sightseeing with local English-speaking guide as detailed in itinerary</p> <p>Other meals where stated</p> <p>Exclusions</p> <p>International flights</p> <p>Visa & reciprocity fees</p> <p>Travel insurance</p> <p>Beverages</p> <p>Personal expenses</p> <p>Gratuities for tour guides & drivers</p> <p>Any items not mentioned as included</p>
Difficulty Rating	1 (easy adventure)
Single Surcharge	A single supplement surcharge applies and is subject to availability. Please contact us for more information.
Notes	<p>Prices are based on per person, twin share.</p> <p>Prices are correct at time of publishing but are subject to change at any time.</p> <p>All entrance fees are subject to change without prior notice.</p> <p>Designed to enhance your Signature Mexico experience.</p>
Price Dependent upon	Seasonality and availability at time of booking.

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SUSTAINABILITY

Being environmentally accountable is a crucial part of our organisation. Chimu is currently striving towards using less paper, taking several initiatives to do so, and tracking our progress along the way. Our goal: A paperless organisation. For this reason, all information given to you will be sent electronically. We encourage those who choose to travel with us to support our aspirations and actions and ask that you reconsider printing out documentation. To view these documents, you can download them to your iPad or portable computer before and during your trip.

Chimu is passionate and dedicated to sustainability measures and understands the crucial part sustainability plays within the tourism industry.

We use local guides and office staff to both maximise local employment opportunities and minimise carbon footprint. Local guides also ensure you benefit from the intimate knowledge, passion, and culture of the country you're visiting. Our guides are all highly qualified (most with university degrees) or equipped with many years of experience and

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are paid above the standard wage. Whether it be our knowledgeable local guides, locally produced meals, or the transport on tour, we do not use imported goods when local products are available. We aim to minimise our impact on the environment and give as much back as possible to the communities we work in.

While visiting the many national parks, heritage sites, museums, and landmarks, our travellers are encouraged to explore whilst remaining culturally aware and sensitive. We further encourage you to buy appropriate souvenirs and discourage the buying of anything wrongfully made or taken from the environment i.e., shells and endangered species products. Information on how you can be environmentally conscious, and travel responsibly will be made available in our Travellers Guides and provided during your travels by guides and staff.

For more information on our sustainability policies, including how we are striving towards being a paperless organisation, click [HERE](#)

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