

Guatemala: The Land of the Mayan People, Open Registration

Feb 24 – March 6/2023 Tentative Schedule

Friday, Feb. 24: ANTIGUA:

Morning arrival from night flight or evening arrival depending on Aeromexico flight schedule. Lunch/dinner, setting in, overnight in Antigua. Los Olivos Hotel in Antigua. <u>https://en.hotellosolivos.com.gt/</u>

Saturday, Feb. 25: ANTIGUA: Breakfast at our Hotel. Orientation gathering followed by Walking Tour in smaller groups in Antigua visiting colonial ruins, Hermano Pedro Church, café, jade, chocolate, markets, a chance to get familiar with the city. Lunch at Coaba Farm <u>https://www.caobafarms.com/</u>. Optional visit to the Market/rest/freetime. Dinner together. Overnight Hotel Los Olivos.

Sunday, Feb. 26: ANTIGUA - PANAJACHEL: Breakfast at 8:00 am at the Hotel. Visit the morning Easter Procession in Antigua, watch people making the offering carpets of flowers and sawdust, watch the procession. Gather for Lunch in Antigua. Drive from Antigua to Lake Atitlan and Panajachel. Stop in Solola for a visit with Tzotzil, a mayan dance and music group performance. <u>http://www.gruposotzil.org.gt/</u> Overnight at Hotel Regis. Dinner and Freetime. <u>www.regisatitlan.com</u>

Monday, Feb. 27: PANAJACHEL: Breakfast at Hotel and morning visit the FundaMaya Project and the Elder's lunch and day care centre. Deliver a bed to a senior and serve lunch to the elders. <u>https://www.fundamaya.org/</u> Lunch out. Optional afternoon hike to Reserva Natura Atitlan <u>www.atitlanreserva.com</u> or visit Santa Catarina, the next town on the lake. Dinner together. Overnight at Hotel Regis.

Tuesday, Feb. 28: SAN JUAN LA LAGUNA: Breakfast at the Hotel and early morning boat over the lake to San Juan La Laguna on of the villages around the lake. Visit the coffee project, and the artisans of San Juan, visual artists and their incredible paintings, visit the Natural Dye Weaving Centre and Chocolate Café. Vegetarian Lunch at Alma de Colores, a labour and social inclusion project for people with disabilities. www.almadecolores.org. Take a hike up to the incredible lookout over the lake. Later afternoon we will visit with Nan Maria, Mayan Spiritual Leader, for a Mayan Ceremony, giving thanks for the journey we are on. Boat back over the lake and overnight at Hotel Regis.

Wednesday, March 1: SANTA LUCIA/XELA: Breakfast at the Hotel, pack up and then drive to Santa Lucia Utatlan (Julio's community), visit with the women in his community who are part of the Mayan Skills Project. Lunch at Julio's. Buy some things in the market to bring to Nan Maria, our friend and Mayan Elder, have a window into her life. Have a small concert with the local Marimba group: Marimba Utatlan. Drive to Quezaltenango (Xela) in the afternoon. Dinner and Overnight in Xela, location TBA.

Thursday, March 2: CHWITZIRIBAL/XELA: Breakfast at Hotel. Visit the Chwitiziribal Community and the school, share some time with the children and teachers in the new school. Snacks, games, a day of joy for the children,

then depart for Fuentes Georginas (Hot Springs) and spend the afternoon there beginning with Lunch. Return to Xela and Dinner and Overnight in Xela, TBA <u>https://newschoolguatemala.weebly.com/</u>http://www.fuentesgeorginas.com/

Friday, March 3: XELA-CHICHICASTENANGO: Breakfast at the Hotel, morning visit Trama Textiles Weaving Cooperative, <u>https://tramatextiles.org/</u> visit to the market in Xela and have a walking tour with Eduardo, lunch at Pollo Campero. After lunch depart for Chichicastenango. Overnight at The Mayan Inn, Chichicastenango. <u>www.mayaninn.com.gt</u>

Saturday, March 4: CHICHICASTENANGO/ZACUALPA: Breakfast in Chichi at the Hotel, drive to Zacualpa, visit the Genocide Memorial at the Catholic Church there and share a Mayan Ceremony with Nan Juliana a Mayan Spiritual Leader and elder. Lunch at the Church with the Sisters, afternoon time to reflect, drive back to Chichi, visit the cemetery, free-time, watch the market setup and evening reflection. Dinner. Overnight at the Mayan Inn.

Sunday, March 5: CHICHICASTENANGO-ANTIGUA: Breakfast at the Hotel, visit to the Market in Chichicastenango. Lunch and early afternoon drive to Antigua. Stop in Tecpan to visit Iximche, an ancient Mayan City Archeological Site to understand the History of the Mayans. Freetime. Evening Easter procession in Antigua. Overnight in Antigua at Hotel Aurora. www.hotelauroraantigua.com/en/

Monday, March 6: ANTIGUA: Breakfast in Antigua. Morning visit to the Hermano Pedro Hospital and a tour of the facility. Lunch together. Freetime for the afternoon. 5 pm Group reflection on the trip at the Hotel and final Dinner and Celebration. Overnight: Hotel Aurora.

Tuesday, March 7 : Breakfast at Hotel, shuttle to airport and flight to Vancouver or other destinations, or more time in Guatemala.