



The Ancient and Living Maya

YUCATAN, MEXICO

February 13-18, 2020

5 NIGHTS

Travel with:



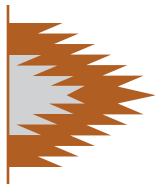
THE LAURA & ALVIN SIEGAL
LIFELONG LEARNING
PROGRAM

Tia Stephanie TOURS

Cultural Journeys

Mexico | Colombia | Guatemala

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The Ancient and Living Maya

YUCATAN, MEXICO

Join us on a journey of learning and discovery to explore the ancient and living Maya of Yucatan. We'll explore Maya archeological sites in the Yucatan Peninsula, visit Maya communities, and learn of their living traditions in food, craft, art and more!

Arrival Airport: Cancun (CUN)

Departure Airport: Merida (MID)



Hotels

Meson del Marques, Valladolid

Casa del Balam, Merida

Lodge at Uxmal, Uxmal



Location





Itinerary

DAY 1:

Thursday, Feb 13 - Arrive Cancun Airport (CUN), Transfer to Valladolid, Traditional Welcome Lunch, Afternoon Visit to Ek Balam, Overnight Valladolid (L)

You'll be met at the Cancun airport (CUN) and transfer to our hotel in Valladolid. Upon arrival, we'll enjoy a delicious lunch of traditional Yucatecan cuisine, very different from other regions of Mexico. In the afternoon, we'll visit a lesser visited, but very impressive Maya site, Ek Balam, where we'll view stunning high relief carving, and begin to learn about the ancient Maya in the Yucatan Peninsula. Returning to Valladolid, the evening is at leisure to stroll on the main plaza in front of our hotel.

DAY 2:

Friday, Feb 14 - Sunrise at Chichen-Itza, Breakfast at Mayaland, Tour Izamal Golden City, Lunch of Yucatecan Cuisine in Izamal, Overnight Merida (B, L)

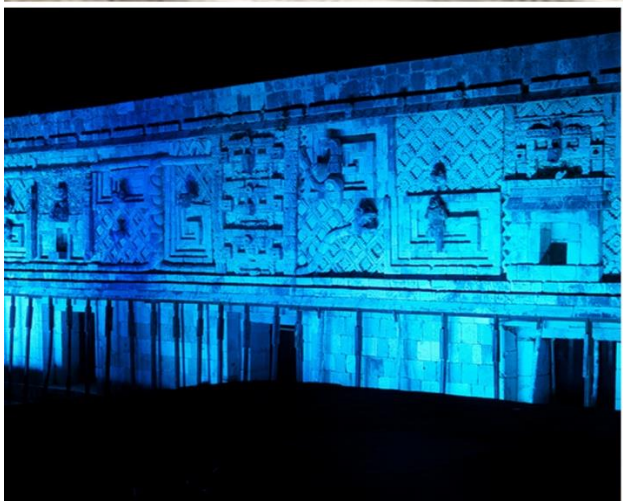
A special treat is in store, as we'll rise early to experience sunrise at Chichen-Itza, a monumental site with multiple structures. Afterwards, we'll enjoy a delicious breakfast nearby, before departing to the Golden City of Izamal. We'll visit the Colonial period convent here, imposed over the former Mayan ceremonial center. After touring and visiting some fine Mayan artisans, we'll enjoy lunch of the famous Yucatecan dishes, such as cochinita pibil, queso relleno, poc chuc and sikil pac! We'll drive to Merida and

check into our centrally located hotel. Our evening is at leisure, but there is plenty to do at night in Merida, all within walking distance of our hotel.

DAY 3:

Saturday, Feb 15 - Merida Highlights! Overnight Merida (B, L)

Today, we'll explore the city center, markets, monuments, local neighborhoods, avenues, Porfirio Era mansions and more, to learn about the multi-cultural influences of the past and present in Merida. We'll enjoy a lunch and demo of some of the famed Yucatecan dishes. Our evening is at leisure, but once again, music and dance fill the air at night in Merida and we can join in the action.



Itinerary

DAY 4:

Sunday, Feb 16 - Puuc Route with various stops en route, arriving at Uxmal. Visit nearby community of Santa Elena to learn about the living Maya traditions, Light and Sound Show, Overnight Uxmal (B, L)

Today we depart from Merida, making our way through the Puuc Hills. We'll stop in the towns and visit artisans along the way. We'll also visit one community in particular, Santa Elena to learn about the living Maya traditions in home construction, farming, diet, crafts and other aspects of daily Yucatecan life. Arriving in

Uxmal, we'll check into our Lodge, rest and relax, and refresh in one of the pools. We'll go to Uxmal at night to witness the fun and atmospheric Light and Sound show, where we'll learn about Chaac, the rain god, who is summoned to bring rain. Returning to the Lodge, our dinner is at leisure at the Lodge restaurant.

DAY 5:

Monday, Feb 17 - Morning Visit to Uxmal, Ancient Pib Cooking for Lunch, Swim/Relax, Overnight Merida (B, L, D)

This morning, we'll arise early to be among the first to view the

morning sunlight at the stunning Classic-Era Maya site, Uxmal. We'll walk the site and learn about this high period of Maya architecture and civilization. Returning to the Lodge, we'll enjoy a "pib" demo and meal, which is the ancient Maya underground cooking method. We'll enjoy our meal in the "choza Maya". The rest of the afternoon is at leisure to swim and relax, before we enjoy our farewell dinner at the Lodge.

DAY 6:

Tuesday, Feb 18 - Return Flights from Merida (B

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YUCATAN | PRICING & INCLUSIONS

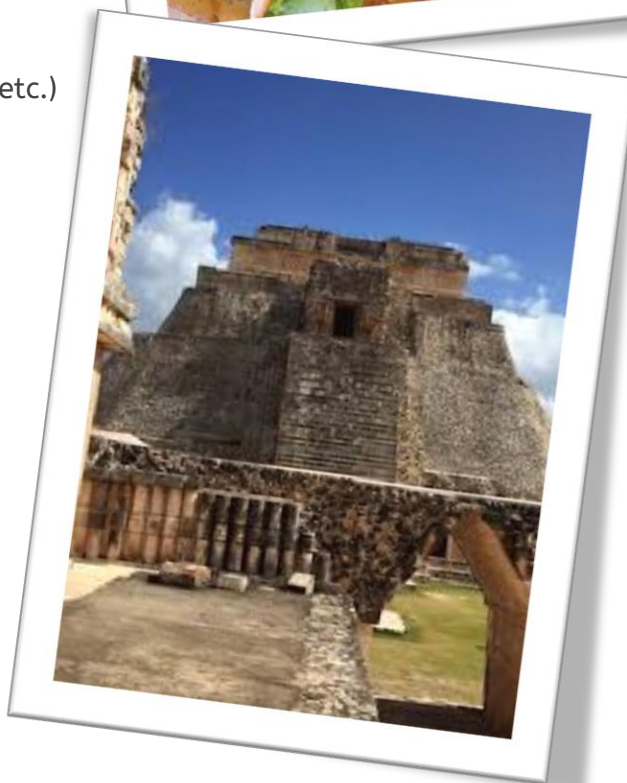
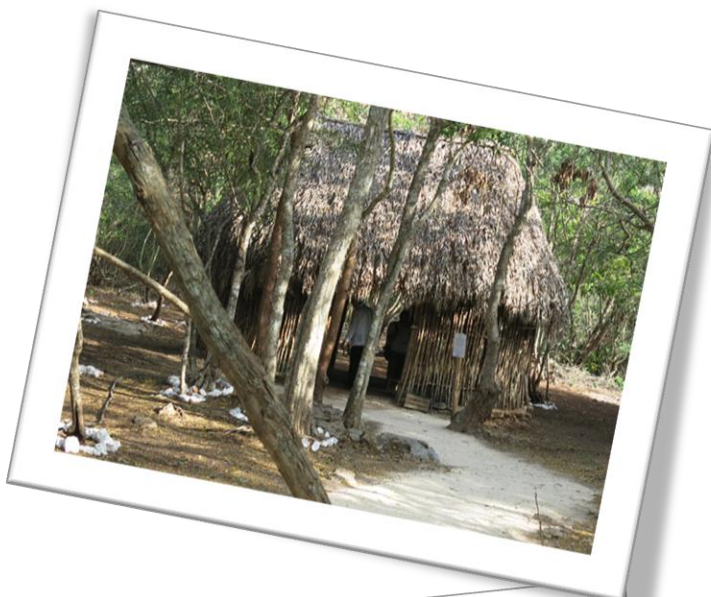
Price Per Person Double Occupancy: \$2,499
\$425 Single Supplement

INCLUDES:

- 5 nights accommodation
- Transfers in and out
- 5 breakfasts
- 5 Lunches
- 1 Dinner
- Expert, professional guiding and transportation
- Entries according to itinerary
- Water on van
- Tips for Hotel
- Tips for Driver and Guide

DOES NOT INCLUDE

- Flights to/from Mexico
- Dinners not identified
- Personal Items (laundry, phone, cab rides, etc.)
- Alcoholic Beverages



This trip will be accompanied by
Damaris Pinales-Alpizar. Associate Professor of Spanish



Damaris Pinales-Alpizar

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF SPANISH

Damaris is an associate professor at Case Western Reserve University (CWRU). Previously, she has worked as a journalist in Cuba, Belize, and the Yucatan Peninsula, in Mexico. Given her professional experience of more than ten years in the border of Mexico and Belize, Damaris has extensive knowledge of the area and its history. In Belize, she was the founder editor of *Conexión*, the first bilingual and trans-border newspaper; in Mexico, she worked as a news analysis specialist for the government, and as a correspondent for *Diario de Yucatan*, the oldest newspaper in the region. As an academic, she has published the book *Written in Cyrillic The Soviet Ideal in the post-1990 Cuban Cultural Production* (Chile, 2012). Her new book *The Damn Circumstance: Essays on Cuban Culture* is coming out this year. She has also edited the books *The Atlantic as Frontier: Cultural Mediations between Cuba and Spain* (Spain, 2014), and *Sieges to the Lettered Cayman: Literature and Power in the Cuban Revolution* (the Czech Republic, 2018). In 2018, she won the Fulbright Scholar Grant to research in Russia for her book project provisionally entitled *Geopolitics of Socialist Translation: Flow and Circulation of Eastern Bloc Literature in Cuba*. She has also published several articles in academic journals in the USA, Cuba, Mexico, Canada, Puerto Rico, Spain, Brazil, Argentina, and Russia.



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Reservation and Information Form

Form Section I

To Sign up, please complete fully, read and sign. Return form to Tia Stephanie Tours by mail or email. Upon receipt of this completed, signed form and your deposit, we will reserve your spot on this tour.

Please see cancellation policy and terms and conditions below.

Tour Name: The Ancient and Living Maya - Yucatan, Mexico **Tour Date:** February 13-18, 2020 (5 nights)

General Information

Travelers Name (as it appears on Passport): _____

Date of Birth: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Email Address: _____

Passport No. _____

Place of Issue: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Personal Health / Fitness

Describe any medical condition: _____

Trip Accommodations

I am traveling alone: ☐ YES ☐ NO

Please assign me a roommate: ☐ YES ☐ NO

Note

Single travelers for whom roommates are not assigned or available may be subject to a single supplement surcharge, according to hotel policy.

Reservation and Information Form

Form Section II

In Case Of Emergency, Please Contact

Name: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Relationship: _____

Insurance

Travelers must be covered by a major medical policy. I certify that I am covered by such a policy:

☐ YES ☐ NO

Tia Stephanie Tours strongly recommends the purchase of travel protection insurance. This will protect your travel investment, personal assets and health during your trip. By doing so, you will eliminate financial risk and concern over matters beyond your control. We provide a recommended policy for your convenience.

I agree to obtain Travelers Insurance for this trip:

☐ YES ☐ NO

If no, please read and sign below:

I understand that Tia Stephanie Tours is not responsible for events such as theft, baggage loss, trip cancellation or interruption, emergency medical treatment or evacuation, flight delay or cancellation, airline or other service provider bankruptcy, jury duty, personal or family illness, U.S State Department Warnings or other risks covered in the insurance policy.

Trip insurance information will be mailed to you upon receipt of your reservation. Please contact Sarah Doody at CWRU for questions on trip insurance. Email: sxd618@case.edu , phone (904) 432-3141.

Travelers Signature: _____ Date: _____

Print Name: _____

Cancellation Policy

Cancellations received in writing 60 days prior to trip departure date will result in a cancellation fee of \$250. Cancellations after 60 days prior to the trip departure date, will not receive a refund. We strongly recommend travel cancellation and interruption insurance for this purpose. Should the trip be cancelled, payments will be fully refunded.

Terms and Conditions

TIA STEPHANIE TOURS

Travelers: Please Read Following Information Prior to Signing Up. In the Sign-Up Form, you will be asked if you have read and agree to the Terms and Conditions below. Thank you.

Cancellation Policy

Reservations are accepted and confirmed upon receipt of Trip Deposit of \$500 per traveler, payable by check in U.S. Dollars, money order, cashier's check, or Pay Pal, along with a completed and signed Form. Final Payment is due 60 days prior to departure. Payments not received within 30 days of travel will be considered notification of cancellation by default and will be subject to cancellation charges.

Cancellations and Refunds

Cancellations received in writing 60 days prior to trip departure date will result in a cancellation fee of \$250. Cancellations after 60 days prior to the trip departure date, will not receive a refund. We strongly recommend travel cancellation and interruption insurance for this purpose. Should a trip be cancelled, payments will be fully refunded.

Expenses Covered

- Airport Transfers, if arrivals/ departures are according to itinerary.
- Accommodations, according to trip duration.
- Local Tour Guides and Ground Transportation, according to itinerary.
- Entry fees to Museums, Parks, according to planned itinerary.
- All Breakfasts.
- Meals, according to itinerary.

Expenses not Covered

- Airfares: International/Domestic
- Meals not noted in itinerary
- Alcoholic Beverages
- Cab fares, laundry, or other personal items
- Travel Insurance
- Medical Expenses
- Airport Departure Taxes
- Passport Application Fee
- Costs associated with trip interruption or modification due to weather, travel conditions, political/civil disputes, medical emergencies or other causes beyond our control. Travel Insurance is recommended for this purpose.

Accommodations

Accommodations are based on double occupancy. If you are traveling alone, and would like to share a room, we will try to match you with a roommate. If we are unable to, or if you prefer a single room, a single supplement will be charged.

Responsibility

Jacksonville University, its agent Engaging Journeys, Inc, Tia Stephanie Tours, LLC, and its and their employees, shareholders, subsidiaries, officers, directors or successors (collectively Tia Stephanie Tours, LLC) gives notice that they act only as the agent for the owners, contractors, and suppliers providing travel services and accommodations, and assume no responsibility or liability for injury, loss or damage to person or property in connection with any service resulting directly or indirectly from any defect in any vehicle, or through neglect or default of any company or person engaged in carrying out the tour or other purpose. In the event it becomes necessary or advisable for the comfort or well-being of the passengers, for any reasons whatsoever, to alter the itinerary or arrangements, such alterations may be made without penalty to the tour operators. Additional expenses, if any, shall be borne by the passengers. Also, the operators are not responsible for strikes, thefts, medical problems encountered before, during or after the trip, force majeure, failure of any means for conveyance to arrive or depart as scheduled, civil disturbances, acts of terrorism, government restrictions or regulations, discrepancies or changes in transit or hotel or other services, over which it has no control. Baggage is at owners' risk at all times.

Certification

I have read and understand all the literature describing the program and am aware that no travel is without risk. In the event of illness or accident, I understand that Tia Stephanie Tours, LLC (TST) will make every effort to contact the person listed under Emergency Contact, but I give my permission for emergency medical treatment as required if such notification is impossible or impractical under the circumstances. I understand TST will make every effort to minimize the risks inherent, but that TST cannot guarantee against circumstances over which it has little or no control. I agree that upon advancement of deposit and completed/signed registration form to TST that I will be bound to the terms and conditions recited above and agree that TST will not be held responsible for accidental injury, death or other damage to anyone arising out of activities related to this trip. I understand that if I should not be able to complete the tour for any reason, that TST will not reimburse any fees, and that trip cancellation insurance is strongly advised.

Name: _____

Date: _____