



Dear friends,

Here is the program of the **Mayan Earth Tour**.

For any further information, please contact us: contact@mayaexplor.com

Best regards.

Mayaexplor team



20 days/19 night's trip

You will discover the highlands, populated by indigenous villages, where colored markets and richly embroidered clothing mix, and the old majestic colonial capital of Antigua. You will meet and share experiences with a Mayan family in the community of Tonicapán.

On your way to the quiet and friendly Caribbean region, you will discover the site of Copan (in Honduras), the majestic and ceremonial center of Tikal, Aguateca and natural spots in the region of Verapaces: Semuc Champey, Candelaria and Quetzal biotope.



THE PROGRAM

D1 sat

Arrival

Reception at the airport. Travel to Antigua (45 minutes) Spend the night in Antigua.



D2 sun

Antigua

A visit to this splendid colonial jewel, former capital of Guatemala during the Spanish era. In this once-flourishing capital, although victim of devastating earthquakes, feel the ambiance of its colonial architecture. Side-streets are enlivened by the interaction of indigenous people, "Ladinos" and tourists. Night in Antigua.



D3 mon

Pacaya volcano

Departure in the early morning to the village of San Francisco De Sales and the Pacaya volcano (2580 mts). After a short one hour ascent, depending on the activity of this "strombolian" volcano, we observe eruptions or approach Pacaya's main crater. Transfer to Panajachel (Lake Atitlan).



D4 tue

Atitlán and its villages

A local guide will come with you to the village of San Juan La Laguna. By boat we reach Santa Cruz La Laguna. Then, we circle the lake by small trails, passing through the villages of Jaibalito, Tzununá, San Marcos. During the hike, we see the daily life of the Cakchiquel and Tzutujil people. Spend the night in San Juan. You have the choice between hiking from Santa Cruz to San Juan La Laguna with a local guide or to go directly to San Juan La Laguna by boat if you don't want to walk.



D5 wed

Santiago Atitlán

Take a boat to Santiago Atitlán, a village rich in handicraft and traditional fabrics. There we witness the ceremony of those who revere Maximón, a contemporary Mayan god.

We cross Lake Atitlán to Panajachel and leave for Chichicastenango.



D6 thur

Chichicastenango's market

We visit one of the most beautiful Indian markets in Guatemala with its multi-colored Mayan textiles, flowers and fruits. Mayan shamans perform millenary rituals on the steps of the Catholic church. In the afternoon, we will travel to Tonicapán and spend the night with a Mayan family.



D7 fri

San Francisco El Alto

Visit of the market of San Francisco El Alto, the largest Indian market of Central America. Near the market of San Francisco El Alto, we will attend Mayan ceremonies in their spectacular natural setting.

In the afternoon, we will travel to nearby city of Quetzaltenango and spend the night there.



D8 sat

Fuentes Georginas

Have a rest in hot springs and natural baths. In the afternoon, transfer to the capital. Night in the capital.



D9 sun

Copán

Departure to Copán (Honduras). Visit one of the most important archeological site of the Mayan era and its museum "Las Esculturas". Overnight in Copán.



D10 mon

Quiriguá and Livingston

Travel to Puerto Barrios. At the archeological site of Quiriguá. You will admire the highest "stones" of the ancient Mayan culture that have been so far discovered. From Puerto Barrios, travel by boat to Livingston. We will spend the night in a hotel facing the Caribbean sea.



D11 tue

Livingston

Free day in Livingston (optional excursions to the beach of Playa Blanca and on the Cocoli river). Spend the night in Livingston



D12 wed

Livingston - Río Dulce

On a boat trip on the Río Dulce from Livingston to Castillo San Felipe, we will enjoy tropical fauna and flora. Bus transfer to Flores. Overnight on the island of Flores.



D13 thur

Yaxhá

Early in the morning, transfer to Yaxhá Nakum Naranjo national Park.

Visit of to this superb archaeological site, which is, although not yet very well known, the best restaured one in all of Guatemala (after Tikal). Transfer to Tikal and night in a lodge, on the site of Tikal.



D14 fri

Tikal

Visit this incredible ceremonial center and pyramid located in the heart of the tropical forest. Of all the Mayan sites, Tikal is certainly the most impressive one for visitors: the verticality of its structures, the peaks of which emerge through the crown of the jungle. The magic of the sounds emanating from the forest, allow us to understand why Tikal continues to be the principal sacred place of the Mayan priests. Transfer to Flores. Overnight on the island.



D15 sat

Aguateca

Traveling by road and then by boat on the river Río Petexbatún, we discover the tropical forest in the mysterious site of Aguateca. Night in bungalows in the rainforest.



D16 sun

Candelaria

We return to Sayaxché by boat and travel to the National Park of Candelaria, worth visiting for its natural beauty and ritual atmosphere.



D17 mon

Lanquín

Transfer to Cobán and then Lanquín. Visit the market of Tactic, a Mayan kekchi village (market, church). Night in Lanquin.



D18 tue

Semuc Champey

Visit the national park of Semuc Champey: natural pools of crystal clear water from emerald green to turquoise to dark sapphire blue. Transfer to Coban.



D19 wed

Biotopo del Quetzal

Visit to the biotope in a 1-2 hours walk and enjoy the exuberant vegetation, ancient trees, magnificent orchids, ferns, mosses, flowering bromelias and many other plants that thrive only in the special environment of a tropical cloud forest. Transfer to the capital.



D20 thur

Flight back

Transfer to the international airport for the return flight.



For your convenience, this tour can be adapted in accordance with current traditional festivals



PROGRAM SUMMARY

D1	sat	Arrival
D2	sun	Antigua
D3	mon	Pacaya Volcano
D4	tue	Atitlán and its villages
D5	wed	Santiago Atitlán - Chichicastenango
D6	thur	Market of Chichicastenango - Totonicapán
D7	fri	Market of San Francisco El Alto
D8	sat	Fuentes Georginas
D9	sun	Archaeological site of Copan
D10	mon	Archaeological site of Quirigua
D11	tue	Livingston
D12	wed	Livingston - Rio Dulce
D13	thur	Archaeological site of Yaxhá
D14	fri	Archaeological site of Tikal
D15	sat	Archaeological site of Aguateca
D16	sun	Candelaria
D17	mon	Lanquín
D18	tue	Semuc Champey
D19	wed	Biotopo of Quetzal
D20	thur	Flight back

Prices (2012) in US \$, per person, double room accommodation, for groups of:

Economical

2	3	4
1,780	1,520	1,400

Comfort

2	3	4	5	6	7
2,375	1,875	1,625	1,625	1,500	1,500

N.B.: prices are based on adults. Reduction for children under 12.

➤ **Prices include:**

- 19 nights in 1/2/3* star hotels (according to option), accommodation in double room with "American breakfast";
- transportation in shuttles (economical) and private transfers (comfort);
- local guides for walks (Pacaya and Atitlan);
- boat transfers on the Río Petexbatún to the site of Aguateca (D15) ;
- boat transfers on Lake Atitlán (D4 and D5) and Caribbean regions (D10 and D12);
- picnic during visit to Aguateca and dinner (D15);
- dinner in Tonicapan the D6;
- excursions mentioned.

➤ **Prices do not include:**

- international flights;
- other meals;
- airport taxes;
- drinks and personal expenses;
- others guide services;
- entrance fees;
- taxes at the Honduran and Nicaraguan borders;
- insurance.

➤ Additional costs, in US \$ for a single room: US \$330 per person

➤ Specialized English speaking guide in Copán, Yaxhá, Tikal et Aguateca : US \$ 480 for the group (optional)

