



© Elisa Gran

Yucatan Peninsula

A journey with The Nature Conservancy is travel with a purpose. You will have behind-the-scenes access to TNC's work and scientists and will gain the unique opportunity to see local conservation in action, and to understand how local conservation aligns with The Nature Conservancy's global initiatives.

Come explore TNC's work in [Yucatan](#).

Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula separates the Caribbean from the Gulf of Mexico, and is particularly susceptible to hurricanes and natural disasters, which are being exacerbated by climate change. The Nature Conservancy is pioneering initiatives designed to reduce storm impact risks on people, infrastructure and the economy in the Mexican Caribbean by promoting conservation and restoration of reefs, dunes and wetlands.

TNC has been instrumental in safeguarding the

DATES

OCTOBER 25 - 31, 2020

PRICE

\$5,825 PER PERSON
DOUBLE OCCUPANCY

\$7,345 PER PERSON
SINGLE OCCUPANCY

Mesoamerican Reef, the largest barrier reef in the Western Hemisphere. Mexico recently tripled its marine protected areas, contributing significantly to TNC's global goal of protecting 400 million hectares of ocean. This journey through the Yucatan Peninsula gives you the opportunity to see the impact of TNC's global priorities on the ground and in the water and gain a greater understanding of TNC is using Mexico as a model for collective action between governments, corporations and private stakeholders, while providing an opportunity for both relaxation on the beach and for adventure in the Caribbean Sea and freshwater springs.



© Lorenzo Alvarez Filip



© Erich Schlegel

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

SIAN KA'AN BIOSPHERE RESERVE: Boat and swim through this UNESCO World Heritage Site. At 1.3 million acres, it's the largest protected area in Mexico, boasting more than 300 species of birds and 115 mammals, including manatees that gather in the lagoons and fresh water springs.

FAIRMONT MAYAKOBA: One of the Conservancy's lodging partners, the resort was built using an ancient Mayan technique called "socoleo," where more than 1,500 trees were rescued and relocated around the property.

MESOAMERICAN REEF RESTORATION: The Mesoamerican Reef is one of the largest reef systems in the world. The Conservancy is partnering with fishing communities and cooperatives that rely on the reef to reverse the decline in fishstocks by demonstrating sustainable practices and establishing fish replenishment zones.

TNC TRAVEL VALUES

KEY ACCESS:

Travel with renowned Conservancy experts and local partners for an exclusive, behind-the-scenes experience. You won't just see amazing places, you'll see how you are helping save them.

IMPACT:

See how your commitment to our planet and your passion for conservation are making a difference. You will see the wild places and the communities you are impacting.

KNOWLEDGE:

Learn how we are applying the latest cutting-edge science to affect global change and drive conservation.

INSPIRATION:

Immerse yourself in local cultures and awe-inspiring landscapes to foster your own connection to our world.

GLOBALLY MINDED:

Elevate your understanding of our work by seeing first-hand how TNC and our partners act locally and how we turn local results in to global impact by scaling solutions that work.

FOR BOOKING INFORMATION OR FOR JOURNEY QUESTIONS

PLEASE CONTACT:

travel@tnc.org

www.nature.org/insiderexperiences

Trip at a Glance



© Christiana Ferris/TNC

Itinerary Highlights

CANCUN
PUERTO MORELOS
TULUM
SIAN KA'AN
NOH BEC
RANCHO ENCANTADO

Arrive in Cancun and travel south to the coastal town of Puerto Morelos for a catamaran tour and snorkel adventure along the Mesoamerican reef. Here, the Conservancy is working with fishing communities to develop sustainable practices and has spearheaded a groundbreaking insurance program for the restoration of the reef. Enjoy plenty of downtime to explore the beach and your lodging for the evening, the lush Fairmount Mayakoba, an ecologically conscious resort. Continue south to Tulum to explore

private natural springs and limestone caves before learning about the ancient history and culture of the area at the Prehistory Museum. Further south, you'll explore the lagoons of Sian Ka'an, the largest protected area in Mexico, then transition from the coast to the forest to learn about sustainable harvesting practices. The trip will conclude with more opportunity to explore the beaches of Tulum before your departure home.



FEATURED EXPERT:

JEFF WEIGEL, DIRECTOR OF STRATEGIC INITIATIVES, THE NATURE CONSERVANCY

A native of Minnesota, Jeff has devoted his career to the conservation of wildlife and natural habitats in ecosystems across the hemisphere in the United States and Latin America, including grasslands, forests, deserts, freshwater and marine environments. He began his conservation career as a field biologist in Minnesota, has spent over thirty years working in Texas, and worked for a decade focused on Mexico and central America. In his current position he works on project and partner development, government affairs and fundraising in Texas. Jeff is the founding President of Friends of Friederich Wilderness Park in San Antonio and is the former Board Chair of the Texas Land Trust Council. Mr. Weigel earned a Master of Science degree in Range Management from Texas Tech University and a Bachelor of Art in Biology from St. Cloud State (Minnesota).

Schedule

DAY 1 – October 25

Arrive in Cancun and travel south to your hotel in Tulum, Los Lirios.

OVERNIGHT AT LOS LIRIOS, TULUM

DAY 2 – October 26

Take a guided tour of the Tulum Ruins before heading south to Sijil Noh Ha where you'll get an introduction to local, sustainable tourism strategies and settle into your accommodations at Rancho Encantado.

OVERNIGHT AT RANCHO ENCANTADO

DAY 3 – October 27

This morning you'll have the opportunity to meet the people of Noh-Bec, a local community which is part of a seven-community alliance that TNC works with. There we will see their forest management work, talk about the new Center for Landscape Innovation (CITER) they are leading and learn about the reduced-impact logging techniques the community has adopted. Enjoy lunch with the group before returning to the lodge for some free time to enjoy the surroundings.

OVERNIGHT AT RANCHO ENCANTADO

DAY 4 – October 28

Today you will head back to the coastal region and visit the Sian Ka'an Biosphere Reserve for a scenic float with TNC partners down the canal and an opportunity to discuss the connections between local communities, coastal ecosystems and restoration. We'll have a picnic lunch and return to our seaside hotel at Los Lirios.

OVERNIGHT AT LOS LIRIOS, TULUM

DAY 5 – October 29

You'll have more time to explore Tulum in the morning, perhaps swimming in a cenote. After lunch in town, you'll transfer to Playa del Carmen and check into the Fairmont Mayakoba.

OVERNIGHT AT FAIRMONT MAYAKOBA

DAY 6 – October 30

Get in the water today and snorkel the reefs as you learn about the work that TNC is doing to restore coral reefs and what this means for coastal communities. Enjoy a picnic lunch and some free time to explore in the afternoon before a farewell dinner with a final presentation.

OVERNIGHT AT FAIRMONT MAYAKOBA

DAY 7 – October 31

Drive to Cancun for final departures.



© Different World Travel

THE FAIRMONT MAYAKOBA is Puerto Morelos Is rainforest certified and sits with 240 acres privately protected tropical forest.



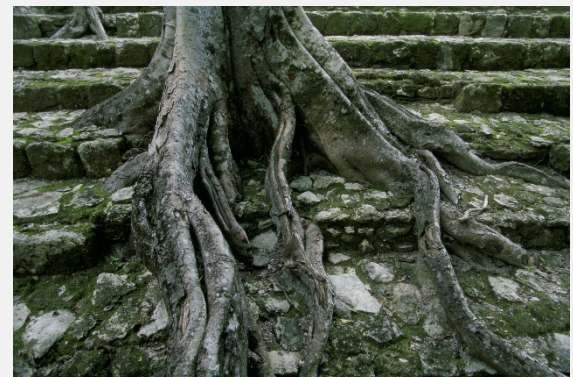
© Arminas Travel

LOS LIRIOS CABINS, sitting on the white sand beaches of Tulum, has its own water purifying plant and its own electric power plant.



© Rancho Encantado

RANCHO ENCANTADO sits on the shores of the pristine Laguna Bacalar, known as the lake of the "Seven Colors."



© Mark Godfrey/TNC