Our unique and very complete Tour offers the fastest and most efficient transportation and an innovative All Inclusive concept that Includes:

- Round trip transportation with pickups and drop offs in your hotel.
- Visit to Tulum archaeological site.
- Specialized bilingual guide (Spanish-English) (Spanish-French).
- Arrival and departure train at the Archaeological Site.
- All Inclusive admission fee to Xel-Há Park.
- Delicious buffet lunch and unlimited drinks in Xel-Há Park.
- Deluxe panoramic bus equipped with 2 toilets, one for ladies and another for gentlemen or deluxe van.

A) Vehicles

The Tulum•Xel-Há Tour operates using the highest in internationally recognized quality and safety standards and guarantees all visitors a comfortable and safe journey on board first class vehicles. All of our motor coaches* are equipped with:

- 52 comfortable reclining seats, with 78 cm of space between seat backs.
- Two toilets, one for ladies and one for gentlemen.
- Refrigerator.
* Transportation may vary according to the operation.

We also offer a Transfer Terminal, located at La Voz de México (for departures from Cancun) and in Xel-Há (for departures from the Riviera Maya), which makes us the fastest and most efficient tour in the area.
The Tour comprises a visit to the amazing archaeological zone of Tulum, leaving from the Xel-Há transfer terminal.

The morning tours begin the day with this visit and continue with a refreshing afternoon in the natural wonder that is Xel-Há, where you can enjoy a refreshing dip in the river’s crystal clear water, snorkel and savor the food in the Park’s world class restaurants.

During the afternoon tour you can enjoy the Park in the morning hours and then venture into the ancient world of the Maya in the beautiful archaeological site of Tulum.

The Tour’s general itinerary is based on a 45 minute guided tour in Tulum followed by 45 minutes of free time in the site, whether you visit in the morning or the afternoon. Without a doubt, it is the best choice for a very complete day of culture and nature.

At 5:30 in the afternoon you will board the bus for a happy and relaxed return to your hotel.

### DEPARTURES AND RETURNS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DEPARTURE FROM XEL-HÁ TO TULUM</th>
<th>RETURN FROM TULUM TO XEL-HÁ</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>11:30 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>12:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00 p.m.</td>
<td>4:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:30 p.m.</td>
<td>5:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### SCHEDULE AND PRICES

The Tour is available from Monday to Sunday.

The stipulated price for adults is $149 USD and $74.50 USD for children from 5 to 11 years of age with I.D. Children under 5 years of age do not pay. Reservations are required for the Tour, for both adults and children.
• You can leave your belongings in the luggage compartment of the coach assigned for this purpose, following the guide’s instructions. We advise that you take your valuables with you.

• Due to the high temperatures and humidity in the area, we recommend the use of light, comfortable clothes, preferably made of cotton, a hat or cap for the sun, as well as chemical-free sun block.

• Bring a swimsuit to use in Xel-Há and a change of clothes to use after swimming or for the return trip to your hotel.

• Please remember there is an additional cost for using a video camera inside the archaeological zone; this is separate from the Tulum-Xel-Há tour and is charged by the site authorities.

• Do bring cash with you for optional shopping during the Tour.
The first Maya city discovered by the Spanish conquerors famous for its singular buildings and ancient frescos will dazzle your senses with beautiful views of the turquoise waters of the Caribbean Sea.

A) Brief History and Main Attractions
Tulum was the first urban center of the Mayan civilization to be discovered by the Spanish conquerors in the XVI Century and the only walled city constructed by the sea. It was built on a cliff top facing the second largest coral reef in the world. This archaeological site is famous for its unique buildings and ancient frescos. It was an important and prosperous seafaring haven that was fully developed during the Post Classic era, after the year 1,000 A.D.

Its original name was “Zamá”, which means “sunrise”. The Mayan name of Tulum means “City wall” or “Fortification”, surely referring to the enormous rampart that surrounds the whole site on three of its sides. It would appear that it was built for defensive purposes.

Some of its most representative buildings are:

1) The City Wall
Tulum is a city surrounded by an enormous wall on its north, south and west sides. The north and south sides of the wall measure 170 m., while the west side measures 380 m. It is 4 m. high and 6 m. thick, and has five entrances and two watch towers. There is also an inside wall surrounding “El Castillo”.

2) The Palace of Halach Uinic
Its name means “House of the Great Master”. Nowadays it does not have a roof, since it caved in. A group of circular columns typical of the East Coast building style can be seen inside. It used to have two rooms located at each end of a central area supported by columns.
3) The Temple of the Frescos
Its inside walls are decorated with paintings or frescos of deities framed by serpents, alligators, fish and other marine creatures, in what looks like a religious ceremony dedicated to Kukulcan. The predominant color is blue. There is also a painting where Chaac and Ixchel can be seen. There are scenes of offerings with fruit, flowers, and corn kernels, among intertwining designs.

4) The Temple of the Descending god
This construction is dedicated to the deity related to the setting sun, rain, lightning and also agriculture. This god is also known as Ah Mucen Cab or Bee God (bees are called “Xunan-Cab”). There are paintings inside this temple where the sun, Venus and the stars can be seen.

5) El Castillo (The Castle)
It was built almost on the edge of a cliff. It reaches a height of over 39 feet and was built during different periods. Two platforms, two galleries and a central staircase, which later served as a base for the upper temple, were built during the earlier period. It was used for religious ceremonies and could also have been a lighthouse, judging by its height and location. Upon seeing the Castle, the Spanish conqueror Juan de Grijalva referred to Tulum in 1518 as a town “as big as Seville” with a tower “taller than any I had seen before”.

6) The Temple of the Initial Series
It is located in front of the Castle, on the south side. Stela #1 can be found here with an engraving of the earliest date found in Tulum, corresponding to 564 A.D.

During this marvelous Tour, you will also visit Xel-Há where you can snorkel, swim or float on an inner tube along the cool waters of its river, relaxing and safely going through exotic tunnels of mangroves.
In this unique group of inlets, lagoons and sinkholes that emerge from the longest underground river system in the world, one can enjoy an incredible experience in contact with nature.

Xel-Há is located in the state of Quintana Roo, Mexico, 76 miles south of Cancun and 8 miles north of the Tulum archaeological site, in the Cancun-Tulum highway.

It covers an area of 84 hectares of which 14 are made up of bodies of water, 10 have buildings and 64 are jungle. The Park is a Natural Wonder with a series of attractions that make it unique. Due to its privileged position in pre-Hispanic times it was used as a port, a commercial center, a place of pilgrimage and a refuge for seafarers. It was also used for storing food in times of bad weather.

Legend has it that the Mayan Gods combined their wisdom, dreams and love for splendor to create a place that brings together the best in the natural beauty of the Caribbean in one place, which they called Xel-Há. Once created, the Gods were so happy with the result that they decided to allow all mortals to enter it. The Gods named three species of animals to guard the site: the Iguana, the Macaw and the Parrot Fish, who look after the earth, sky and water, making them “The Guardians” of Xel-Há.

A) Main Attractions
Xel-Há is a natural wonder where you can feel well-being, relaxation and good humor in the air. Its inlet, river, lagoons and caves are all unique attractions fascinating for nature lovers seeking to cool off in crystal clear waters and enjoy being in contact with the area’s sea life.
During your visit, you can profit from Xel-Há’s All Inclusive plan to enjoy the different restaurants and bars in this beautiful haven, cool off with a swim or snorkel in the river or take advantage of the multiple water and land activities offered by the Park for your enjoyment. Experience the good service and warmth of our guides who at all times offer personalized service and useful and complete information on the Park’s main attractions.

On the way down the river there are beautiful mangroves, an ecosystem that is home to a great variety of marine life, a Climbing Rock, the Trepachanga, (a bridge made of two ropes which is also a fun test of your balance), the exciting Cliff of Courage from where you can jump into the water, and the zip-lines with an always refreshing water landing.

You can discover the whole park by walking along the Jungle Paths where you can really feel a part of nature at every step, surrounded by birds, butterflies, iguanas, macaws and ducks. If you are looking for fun and movement you can also ride through these paths on a bicycle.

After a refreshing swim, an invigorating ride on a bicycle or a walk in the sun, the different restaurants and bars in the Park invite you to enjoy a delicious moment of relaxation and pleasure for the most demanding palates. Varied regional cuisine, delicious international dishes, light snacks and refreshing drinks and cocktails – you can find all of this in the restaurants, which are all included in the entrance fee.

A picturesque transportation system to the river (a perfect way to cross the jungle), comfortable hammocks that invite you to have a delicious siesta, floating bridges, shops and massages combine with the warm welcome, comfort and relaxation of a Park that offers you a pleasant surprise in every corner.

There is everything for young and not so young visitors, for all tastes and needs, in a natural paradise that reminds you of what nature can create when it is inspired.
Our complete and unbeatable tour offers the fastest and most efficient transfer in the destination and a novel concept for an All Inclusive Tour that comprises:

• Round trip transportation with the transfer from the comfort of the hotel
• Visit to the Cobá archaeological site and Xel-Há Park
• Specialized bilingual guide (Spanish-English)
• Breakfast on board the motor coach, consisting of a baguette, a muffin and fruit juice
• Bicycles or tricycles in the archaeological site
• Delicious buffet lunch and unlimited drinks in Xel-Há Park
• Deluxe panoramic bus equipped with 2 toilets, one for ladies and one for gentlemen (depending on amount of people in the tour, the transportation could be smaller and without a bathroom)
• Soft drinks, coffee and bottled water on board the motor coach and available for the tours

A) Vehicles
The Cobá-Xel-Há Tour operates using the highest internationally recognized quality and safety standards and guarantees a comfortable and safe journey on board first class vehicles. All of our motor coaches* are equipped with:

• 52 comfortable reclining seats, with 78 cm of space between seat backs.
• Two toilets, one for ladies and one for gentlemen.
• Refrigerator.

* Transportation may vary according to the operation.

We also offer a transfer terminal, located at La Voz de México (for departures from Cancun) and in Xel-Há (for departures from the Riviera Maya), which makes us the fastest and most efficient tour in the area.
The Cobá-Xel-Há Tour consists of a visit to the imposing Cobá archaeological site – an ancient Mayan urban centre hidden in the jungle and surrounded by lagoons – and continues with a stop over in Xel-Há where, as well as savoring a delicious and varied buffet lunch, you can cool off in the crystal clear waters, snorkel and enjoy the incredible water and land activities offered by this unbeatable Park.

The general itinerary comprises a guided tour in each of the attractions, so that you can fully enjoy an extraordinary and unforgettable experience.

### ITINERARY FOR DEPARTURES FROM CANCÚN:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BEGINS</th>
<th>ENDS</th>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>DURATION</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:00 a.m.</td>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Transfer from hotels to transference center</td>
<td>60 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>10:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Transfer towards Cobá archaeological site</td>
<td>150 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30 a.m.</td>
<td>1:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Guided tour in the Cobá archaeological site</td>
<td>180 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30 p.m.</td>
<td>2:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Transfer from the archaeological site to Xel-Há</td>
<td>60 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:30 p.m.</td>
<td>3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Lunch in Xel-Há</td>
<td>60 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Guided tour at Xel-Há</td>
<td>120 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:45 p.m.</td>
<td>...</td>
<td>Departure toward hotels</td>
<td>...</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NB: The return to hotels is directly from Xel-Há in coaches and support vans depending on the number of hotels visitors are to be dropped off at.
## ITINERARY FOR DEPARTURES FROM THE RIVIERA MAYA:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BEGINS</th>
<th>ENDS</th>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>DURATION</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Transfer from hotels</td>
<td>60 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Transfer towards Cobá archaeological site</td>
<td>60 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Guided tour in the Cobá archaeological site</td>
<td>180 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>2:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Transfer from the archaeological site to Xel-Há</td>
<td>60 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00 p.m.</td>
<td>3:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Lunch in Xel-Há</td>
<td>60 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00 p.m.</td>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Guided tour at Xel-Há</td>
<td>120 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:45 p.m.</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>Departure toward hotels</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NB: Visitors from Hotels between the Iberostar Paraíso and the Moon Palace will be transferred to the Transfer Terminal in Cancun.

The first part of the Tour comprises a guided visit of Cobá, lasting a total of approximately 3 hrs. Once the Tour of the archaeological site has finished, we will transfer you to Xel-Há, where you will enjoy a varied and exquisite buffet lunch with the best in Mexican and international cuisine, as well as refreshing cocktails and drinks. All tour participants will eat together in a restaurant assigned to them depending on the number of people in the park that day. Later on, you can choose to swim or snorkel in the river accompanied by our expert guide and take part in the nearby activities (Climbing Rock, Cliff of Courage, Zip-lines, the Trepachanga), or use this time to dive into the crystal clear waters of natural wells, discover a Mayan cave, observe turtles or manatees, walk through the jungle, ride along jungle paths on a bicycle and admire the vegetation or rest in a hammock in the shade of palm trees.

You must return to the meeting point at 5:30 p.m. and be on board the bus by 5:45 for a happy and relaxing transfer to your hotel.
The Cobá•Xel-Há Tour is available from Cancun and the Riviera Maya on Tuesdays and Thursdays with an 8:00 a.m. departure time from the Transfer Terminal at La Voz de México for Cancun, and 9:00 a.m. from the Transfer Terminal in Xel-Há for the Riviera Maya. Transfers from the hotels will be done during the schedules set for the Xel-Há and Xichén-Valladolid Tours.

The price for adults is $129 USD and $64.50 USD for children (with ID) from 5 to 11 years of age. Children under 5 do not pay. Reservations are necessary for the Tour, both for adults and children.

SCHEDULE AND PRICES

- You can leave your belongings in the luggage compartment of the coach assigned for this purpose, following the guide’s instructions. We advise that you take your valuables with you.

- Due to region’s temperatures and humidity, we recommend that you use comfortable and light clothes, preferably made of cotton, a hat or cap for the sun, as well as sun block.

- Please remember there is an additional fee, separate from the Cobá•Xel-Há Tour, for using a video camera inside the archaeological site; site authorities will charge this federal tax of $45 pesos.

- Consider that the Tour involves strenuous physical activity and the archaeological site does not have the appropriate facilities or accesses for wheelchairs or strollers.

- We suggested that you bring cash for making optional purchases during the Tour and for discretionary tips.

RECOMMENDATIONS
Monumental constructions, an impressive network of roads, stelae and hieroglyphic texts are only some of the distinctive vestiges in this wonderful Mayan city.

A) Brief History

Cobá is located to the northeast of the Yucatan Peninsula, in northern Quintana Roo, and only 27 miles to the west of the Caribbean coast. It is considered to be the largest pre-Hispanic settlement of the Classic Period, covering an area of approximately 70 km² and with almost 6,500 structures spread around the whole archaeological site.

It was built in high and dense jungle around five lakes, giving us the origin of its name, which in Mayan means “Place of choppy water”. Although the history of its development is still subject to intense research and studies, it is believed that the lakes were a determining factor for settling there.

The earliest evidence of a settlement in Cobá dates from the Late Pre-classic Period from 1,200 BC to 300 AD and constitutes the centralization of economic and political power in the region during the Classic Period, through the construction of roads. The sacbeob, or white roads, made it easier to move people and products through the jungle and provided communication between the inhabitants of Cobá and neighboring sites and regions further afield.

This ancient Maya city experienced its heyday from 600 to 900 AD, although it remained occupied until 1450 AD. Cobá is believed to have maintained relations from 200 to 600 AD with other great Mayan cities in the Petén region, such as the powerful Tikal in Guatemala and other closer sites, such as Dzibanché (Quintana Roo) and Calakmul (Campeche).

By taking the unbeatable Cobá-Xel-Há Tour you can learn about the history and mysteries of this fascinating archaeological site and admire the five groups of constructions:
A) Brief History

1. Cobá Group: Located between the Cobá and Macanxoc lakes, this complex of 53 buildings is the oldest in the city. Its main attractions include:

   a) The Church: The tallest monumental temple of this group is 24 m high, and was built during the Early Preclassic Period. Originally it was decorated with multi-colored stucco reliefs.

   b) Ball Game: This is one of the Ball Game Courts in the city and is located to one side of the Acropolis. Semi-kneeling captive figures can be seen on its slopes’ built-in panels. Diverse offerings made of shell, conch, flint, jade and stone were found underneath the court.

2. Paintings Group: Here you will find remains of wall paintings that survived in two of their structures. Here you can admire:

   a) Frescos Temple: This is the tallest structure in the complex. Both the interior and the exterior were decorated with pictorial elements and with a series of glyphs depicting agricultural rites related to praying for rain.

   b) Xaibé: This construction is located at the crossroads of roads 1, 4, 6 and 8, giving it its name, which in Mayan means “crossroads”. Its apsidal shape (semicircular, with a domed roof) makes it one of the most singular Mayan buildings.

   c) Ball Game: Unlike the Ball Game at the Cobá Group, the rings are engraved with the symbol of Venus, the planet the Maya related with death, sacrifice and war. Markers can also be seen in the structure, one of which has a stone skull and also one of the disks at the ends. A beheaded jaguar can also be seen here.
3. **Nohoch Mul Group:** It is located approximately 2 km from the Cobá Group and is home to the tallest pyramid in the site, at 42 meters high, which has the same name. Among its main constructions you will find:

a) **Nohoch Mul Pyramid:** This construction, that in Mayan means “great mound”, has a base of seven bodies with rounded corners and reaches a height of 42 meters, making it the tallest in the north of Yucatan. On its façade you can still see the multi-colored figure of the descending God.

b) **Stela no. 20:** This is the best kept in the archaeological site. It is important due to the fact that it has the most recent inscription in Cobá, dating from 780 AC.

4. **Macanxoc Group:** This group has the largest number of stelae, among which the following stand out:

a) **Stela no. 1:** This is one of the few stelae sculpted on its four sides and it is of particular interest because it has inscriptions that talk about events from day 0, (May 13th, 3114 AD), according to the Mayan calendar, to the end of the third era or cycle of humanity, (December 21st, 2012). This date is associated with the beginning of a new era in which we have the opportunity to turn a new leaf in our lives, reflecting on what we have done and where we are going.

b) **Stela no. 6:** None of the already explored stelae had offerings as valuable as this one, in which graffiti of shells and conchs can be seen.
In this unique complex of inlets, lagoons and sinkholes created by the largest system of underground rivers in the world, visitors can enjoy an incredible experience by coming into contact with nature.

Xel-Há is located in the state of Quintana Roo, Mexico, 76 miles south of Cancun and 8 miles north of the ruins at Tulum, on the Cancun-Tulum highway. It is one hour away from Cobá. It covers an area of 84 hectares of which 14 are made up of bodies of water, 10 are covered by constructions and 64 are covered in jungle.

The park is a Natural Wonder with a series of attractions that make it unique. Due to its privileged position, in pre-Hispanic times it was used as a port, a commercial center, a place of pilgrimage and a refuge for seafarers. It was also used for storing food in times of bad weather.

Legend has it that the Mayan Gods combined their wisdom, illusions and love for beauty to create a place that brings together the best in the natural beauty of the Caribbean in one place, which they called Xel-Há. Once created, the Gods were so happy with the result that they decided to allow all mortals to enter it. The Gods named three species of animals to guard the site: the Iguana, the Macaw and the Parrot Fish, who look after the earth, sky and water, making them “The Guardians of Xel-Há”.

**A) Main Attractions**

Xel-Há is a Natural Wonder where you can feel well-being, relaxation and fun in the air. Its inlet, lagoons and caves are all unique attractions fascinating for nature lovers seeking to cool off in crystal clear waters and enjoy being in contact with the area’s sea life.
During the Tour you will enjoy Xel-Há, with its All Inclusive plan, so you can delight in the different restaurants and bars in this beautiful haven, cool off with a swim or snorkel in the river or take advantage of the multiple activities offered by nature for your enjoyment. You will experience the good service and warmth of our guides who at all times offer personalized service and useful and complete information on the Park’s main attractions.

On the way down the river there are beautiful mangroves, an ecosystem that is home to a great variety of marine life, a Climbing Rock, the Trepachanga, (a bridge made of two ropes which is also a fun test of your balance), the exciting Cliff of Courage from which you can jump into the water and the zip-lines with a refreshing water landing.

You can discover the whole Park by walking along the Jungle Paths where you can really feel a part of nature at every step, surrounded by birds, butterflies, iguanas, macaws and ducks. If you are looking for fun and movement, you can also ride through these paths on bicycles.

After a refreshing swim, an invigorating ride on a bicycle or a walk in the sun, the different restaurants and bars in the Park invite you to enjoy a delicious moment of relaxation and pleasure for the most demanding palates. You can find varied regional cuisine, delicious international dishes, light snacks and refreshing drinks and cocktails in the Park’s world-class restaurants and bars, all of which are included in the entrance fee.

A picturesque transportation system to the river; (a perfect way to cross the jungle), comfortable hammocks that invite you to have a delicious siesta, floating bridges, shops and massages combine with the welcoming warmth, comfort and relaxation of a Park that offers a pleasant surprise at every turn.

You have everything for young and not so young visitors, for all tastes and needs, in a snorkeling paradise that reminds you about what nature can achieve when it is inspired.
The Xichén Deluxe Tour is an exclusive, fascinating luxury-class guided tour to Chichén Itzá that includes a delicious variety of culinary specialties in Valladolid and free time for a leisurely stroll through this wonderful colonial city.

To guarantee the scope of Experiencias Xcaret Group by continually maximizing our value in the journey we are in.

To be unique in sustainable tourist entertainment.

- Creativity
- Profitability
- Integrity
- Congruency
- Honesty
- A Spirit of Service
- Commitment
- Equality
- Social responsibility
TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

Our unsurpassable and very complete Tour offers the fastest and most efficient transfers in Cancun and the Riviera Maya, and an innovative All-Inclusive Tour concept that includes:

• Round-trip transportation with pick-ups at the door of your hotel to the transference center in vehicles from our sister parks.
• Visit to Chichén Itzá, Valladolid and Zací Mayan sinkhole.
• Expert bilingual guide (Spanish-English) (Spanish-Portuguese) (Spanish-French)
• Radio Guide Device with earphones
• Light gourmet breakfast on board the sightseeing bus, consisting of a baguette, a muffin, and natural juice.
• Delicious buffet lunch and drinks at the exclusive “La Casona de Valladolid” restaurant.
• Deluxe panoramic bus, fully equipped with 2 bathrooms; one for ladies and one for gentlemen.
• Unlimited soft drinks, coffee, bottled water and beer while on board the bus.
• Refreshing facial towels.
A) Vehicles

The Xichén Tour operates under the highest international standards of quality and safety and guarantees a comfortable and safe trip aboard top quality vehicles, all of which are equipped with:

- 50 well-cushioned, reclining seats with a full 78 cm of space between seatbacks.
- Two bathrooms, one for ladies and one for gentlemen.
- On-board refrigerator.
- Four video screens.

In addition, this tour has a transfer base located in the Voz de México, Cancun, which gives us the advantage of offering the fastest and most efficient tour in the area.
The Xichén Tour includes a visit to the mystical archaeological site of Chichén Itzá, and continues with a tour of the colonial city of Valladolid. Besides enjoying a delicious variety of gastronomic specialties in this charming city, you will visit the Church of San Gervasio and the Historic town center, as well as the famous Zací, a natural Mayan sinkhole, renowned for its natural beauty. It should be pointed out that, due to time limitations, the recommendation to swim in the Sinkhole will be omitted.

The general itinerary of the Tour consists of a guided visit and free time at each of the sights so that you can make the most of this extraordinary, unforgettable experience.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>STARTS</th>
<th>ENDS</th>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>DURATION</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:00</td>
<td>8:00</td>
<td>Transfer from hotels to the transfer central</td>
<td>60 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30</td>
<td>11:00</td>
<td>Transfer to Chichén Itzá archaeological site</td>
<td>150 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00</td>
<td>12:45</td>
<td>Guided tour of the archaeological site</td>
<td>105 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:45</td>
<td>14:00</td>
<td>Free time in the archaeological site</td>
<td>75 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14:00</td>
<td>14:40</td>
<td>Transfer to Valladolid</td>
<td>40 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14:40</td>
<td>15:50</td>
<td>Lunch in La Casona de Valladolid</td>
<td>70 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15:50</td>
<td>16:20</td>
<td>Tour of the Historic Town Center</td>
<td>30 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16:20</td>
<td>16:50</td>
<td>Visit to Zací Mayan Sinkhole</td>
<td>30 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16:50</td>
<td>19:20</td>
<td>Departure to transfer central</td>
<td>150 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19:20</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>Departure to hotels</td>
<td>---</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
### TOUR ITINERARY DEPARTING FROM CANCUN:

#### 2nd Group

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STARTS</th>
<th>ENDS</th>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>30 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15:50</td>
<td>16:20</td>
<td>Lunch in La Casona de Valladolid</td>
<td>30 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16:20</td>
<td>16:50</td>
<td>Tour of the Historic Town Center</td>
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### TOUR ITINERARY DEPARTING FROM RIVIERA MAYA:

#### 1st Group

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<td>16:50</td>
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<tr>
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### TOUR ITINERARY DEPARTING FROM RIVIERA MAYA:

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<td>Departure to hotels</td>
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The first part of your itinerary consists of a guided tour at Chichén Itzá, having an approximate duration of 2 hours. Afterwards, you will have 1 hour 15 minutes of free time to enjoy the archaeological site on your own. After the tour of the archaeological site, you will be transferred to Valladolid, the ancient Mayan city known as Zací, and, even while still on board, you will come across remarkable spots of this old city. With the purpose of insuring you get the best service and truly enjoy the variety of dishes offered by La Casona to our visitors, we will divide the group into two and stagger lunch seatings depending on the days operation. The first group will go directly to La Casona where they will be treated to a delicious assortment of dishes. In these historical surroundings you will enjoy a delicious menu offering an exquisite, wide-ranging buffet featuring tempting examples of Yucatecan gastronomy and the best of Mexican and international cuisine. At “El Corazón de Zoila Rosa” (Zoila Rosa’s Heart), the shop located inside the restaurant, you can buy some beautiful regional and national handcrafts.

After more than an hour of culinary delights in this XVIII century mansion, you will visit the historical town center. This beautiful Main Plaza, rescued and revived in the past few years, will take you back to a past that boasted some lovely examples of architecture, from simple colonial façades to magnificent buildings of the city’s rich cultural history. Afterwards, you may continue on to the Mayan Sinkhole Zací, or opt for admiring the city on your own. The second group will be taken to visit the Zací Sinkhole first, next enjoy a delicious meal at La Casona and later delight in their visit to the historical town center to then join the first group and head back together.
The Xichén Deluxe Tour is available Monday to Saturday, with a departure time of 7:00 a.m.

Adults pay US $109 and children ages between 5 and 11 with ID pay US $54.50. Children under 5 with ID do not pay for a ticket. The Tour is subject to reservation for adults and for children alike.

Quintana Roo residents showing proof of residence may take the tour for a special price of $699 pesos.

An additional 10% discount over the regular adult rate (US $109) applies to one person accompanying a paid Quintana Roo resident ticket. Children under 3 traveling on an adult’s lap do not pay for a ticket (applicable to one child per paid adult ticket.) The tour is subject to reservation for both adults and minors and will be valid during dates or seasons previously arranged.
You may leave your belongings on the bus as long as they are stored in the place that is designated for such purposes, as per the guide’s instructions. We recommend that you take your valuables with you.

Please remember that climbing the pyramids is not allowed in order to avoid the deterioration of the archaeological site of Chichén Itzá.

Due to the area’s high temperatures and humidity, we advise that you wear light, comfortable clothes, preferably cotton blends, also a hat or cap, and sun block.

There is an extra fee (in addition to the Xichén-Valladolid Tour cost) for the use of video cameras inside the archaeological site. This fee should be paid to site authorities.

This tour involves a high level of physical activity and the archaeological site does not have adequate facilities or access for wheelchairs or strollers.

Do take cash or a credit card with you to pay for any optional purchases you may make on the tour.

Authorized local vendors will sell products related to the tour and its many attractions on board the bus.
A) Brief History

“La Casona” can be found only a few steps away from where some very important historical events took place. This traditional colonial house was home to the illustrious General Jose Iturralde y Traconis, a native of Valladolid who later would become state governor. Iturralde lived in “La Casona” for decades. The land later passed into the hands of the Alcocer-Arceo family. This family turned the house into an emblematic landmark of the city where parties were held in the beautiful central patio by members of Valladolid’s high society. When the heads of the Alcocer-Arceo family died, the site was inherited by their two daughters, Zoila and Rosa, which is why, to this day, the building is known as “The Zoila Rosa” in honor of these two women.

The original inhabitants of this beautiful city were very familiar with the anecdotes and stories of these characters who were a family of trades-people during the 50’s and who for many years held dances, carnival festivities and magnificent events in this beautiful colonial construction.

Experiencias Xcaret, the current owner of this historic plantation house, made the wise decision to remodel it, while respecting the original structure to the last detail. Thus “La Casona” can be enjoyed by all visitors who can take a look into the past from the moment they arrive in the entrance hall and walk under its imposing central arch, created more than 100 years ago to allow horse drawn carriages to pass through.

The French floors were rescued and restored to their former beauty and the balconies of the main facade are the perfect place for enjoying parades or religious processions.

At “La Casona” you can enjoy the past while in the present, as well as an exquisite culinary experience. This beautiful site offers the best of Yucatecan food, either in a buffet or a la carte format, and has special prices for visitors from the states of Yucatan and Quintana Roo.

“El Corazón de Zoila Rosa” (“The Heart of Zoila Rosa”) can be found inside this traditional site; it is a picturesque shop, where you can find different craftwork products from all over Mexico to take home as a souvenir of our magical country.
LA CASONA DE VALLADOLID

B) Menu

This beautiful enclosed restaurant with a capacity for 306 persons offers an outstanding array of 75 dishes, including:

- **SOUPS**
  - Lime.
  - Strained beans with coriander.
  - Beans with noodles.
  - Mushrooms.

- **SALADS**
  - Tricolor cold cactus leaf.
  - Selection of fresh lettuce.
  - Tomato, panela cheese, vinaigrette and epazote.
  - Chaya, jicama, cucumber and citrics.
  - Cold shredded beef.
  - Green ‘ceviche’.

- **DRESSING**
  - Hibiscus flower.
  - Epazote vinaigrette.
  - Virgin olive oil.
  - Diced fresh cheese.
  - Tamarind.
  - Peanut.
  - Seeds: pumpkin, olive, sesame, sunflower, raisins, green onions, coconut and sweet corn.

- **SALSAS**
  - Xnipec (Habanero “Dog Nose”).
  - Xcatic chili.
  - Chipotle.
  - Guacamole.
  - Green and red.
  - Red, made from grilled tomatoes (for Poc chuc).

- **MEXICAN SNACKS**
  - Papadzules.
  - Panuchos.
  - Salbutes.
  - Pasties.
  - Queen’s arm tamale (boiled egg and chaya).
  - Quesadillas / burritos / gringas (turnovers).
  - Polcanes.
  - Mini fried tacos.

- **CHEESES**
  - Farmer’s and white.
  - Oaxaca cheese.
  - Cheddar cheese.
  - Panela cheese.
  - Gouda cheese.
  - Manchego cheese.
  - House cheese.
  - Cheese Cubes.
**BREAD**
- Country-style French bread.
- Home-made bread pudding.
- Ham and cheese in puff pastry.
- Caramel spread.
- Sweet potato pastry sticks.
- Flaky butter cake.
- Cinnamon stars.
- Cinnamon-sugar donuts.
- Berlins (Cream-Filled Donuts).
- Ladyfingers.
- Flaky pastries.
- Coconut sweet rolls.
- “Slice of Heaven” (A Mixture of 3 Cheeses).
- Dutch edam cheesecake.
- Pastry balls of three cheeses.
- Milk bread.

**COOKED DISHES**
- Shredded turkey in black sauce.
- Pickled chicken.
- Beans with pork.
- Valladolid-style pork loins.
- Pork loin in annatto seed sauce.
- Spicy pork sausage and egg.
- Stuffed cheese.
- Shredded chicken.
- Spaghetti in coriander sauce.
- Fried plantains.
- White rice.
- Mexican rice.
- Refried beans

**DESSERTS**
- Neapolitan cheese.
- “Poor gentleman”.
- Coconut creams.
- Rice pudding.
- Papaya and cheese.
- Tropical fruits.
- Regional fruit sorbets.

This tempting buffet-style gastronomic sampling is available for all national and international tourists at a price of $290 pesos p/p. Residents of the city of Valladolid are offered a special price of $195 pesos p/p. Children between 5 and 11 with an ID pay half the adult price; Children under 5 with an ID will not be charged.

La Casona opens its doors from Monday to Saturday, from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., ready to conquer its visitors with the great taste of its Yucatecan delicacies, the warmth of its people and the uniqueness of the colonial city of Valladolid.
A) Brief history and Main Attractions

Hidden deep in the jungles of Mexico and Guatemala and perched on rocky sandstone platforms in the Yucatan Peninsula are the mysterious temples and pyramids of the Mayas. While Europe was still plodding through the Middle Ages, this amazing culture had already traced a map of the heavens, developed a unique system of writing and created an uncannily precise calendar. What’s more, this highly developed civilization was able to erect—with an astounding degree of architectural perfection—grandiose cities nestled among vast, impenetrable jungle landscapes. Amazingly, in places like Chichén Itzá, this civilization’s legacy in stone has survived even to the present.

Chichén Itzá, “at the mouth of the Itzáes’ well” in the Mayan language, is one of the main archaeological sites of the Yucatan Peninsula and one of the most representative and renowned vestiges of the Mayan culture.

This majestic city was founded in the year 525 A.D. Since then, the city’s development has undergone different stages of construction, influenced by the different peoples who have occupied it through its many years of existence. Even though Chichén Itzá’s architecture shows some localized variations, its nature and style are unique. The site’s imposing structures are characterized by refined features and delicate, ornately carved figures decorated in brilliant colors.

By the end of the Late Classic period, between 600 and 900 AD, Chichén Itzá had become one of the primary political centers of the Mayab* region, becoming consolidated as the most important center of power in the Yucatan Peninsula.

The Maya managed to forge widespread dominion and a unified culture with its center in Chichén Itzá. However, around 1250, for reasons still unknown today, the city was inexplicably abandoned.

In 1988, the United Nations’ Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) recognized Chichén Itzá as a World Heritage Site; nine years later, in 2007, it obtained recognition from millions of people around the world as one of the Seven New Wonders of the World.

*“Mayab” that in Mayan language means “few” or “not many” (“ma” means “not” and “ya’ab,” “many”) was the original name of the area nowadays known as Yucatan. As per its etymology, it was considered “the place only for a few chosen ones.”
Through the unrivaled Xichén Tour, you are able to learn about the history and mystique of this fascinating archaeological site and admire its most significant attractions:

1) **The Castle, or Kukulcan Pyramid:** This monumental structure of over 78 feet has a total of 365 stair steps (in keeping with the cosmic order) and is flanked by two colossal serpent heads (effigies of the god Kukulcan). The building has become an icon of Mayan architecture. It is in this perfect architectural gem that—as the sun slowly sets over the pyramid during the Spring Equinox—visitors may witness the descent of the undulating body of the serpent Kukulcan. For the ancient Maya, this splendid spectacle, steeped as it was in mysticism, symbolized the divine mandate to begin agricultural labors due to the imminent arrival of the region’s planting season.

2) **The Great Ball Game:** Measuring 168 meters in length, the Great Ball Court is the biggest—also the most elegant and well known—of all the pre-Columbian ball courts in Mesoamerica. It is noted for the stone rings with carvings of intertwining serpents found on each wall flanking the ball court. The Mayas used the ball contest to symbolize the confrontation between the mythic brothers, Hunahpú and Ixbalanqué, in a re-creation of the eternal struggle between light and darkness, and ultimately, the eternal balance between opposite forces of the Universe.

3) **Temple of the Warriors:** A temple with two vast halls set atop steep steps supported by powerful columns in the shape of a serpent. Also known as the “Group of a Thousand Columns”, this temple features a delicate combination of panels, columns and pilasters, all finely sculptured with animals and deities that attest to the Mayan civilization’s emphasis on military elements.

4) **Sacred Sinkhole:** This mysterious, open-air natural water well, 196 feet wide and 43 feet deep, was used by the Mayas to offer sacrifices as a tribute to Chaac, the rain god. Remains of bones, along with precious stones, gold, silver and copper objects, obsidian knives, jade pieces, mother of pearl, amber and ceramics, all of which were offered to the rain god in exchange for good harvests, have been recovered from the sinkhole.

5) **Observatory:** Also known as El Caracol, the Observatory is one of the most impressive buildings in Chichén Itzá. No doubt its remarkable circular construction, sitting over two stairways guarded by plumed serpents, was used by the ancient Mayas to study the precision of celestial bodies and changes of the season.

6) **The Nunnery:** This somber complex of superimposed buildings, also called the Casa de las Monjas, features characteristics and decorations that are typical of the Mayan culture, including lintels, glyphs, also stairway and wall borders carved with floral elements. The Spaniards thought the structure looked like a monastery since they found a large quantity of rooms and artifacts used to perform Mayan religious rituals. However, this space was actually used as a governmental palace.
A) Brief History and Main Attractions

Valladolid, with its architectural wealth, its cultural traditions inspired by its indigenous and Spanish roots and a history spanning more than 400 years, is a city of great interest to tourists due to its historic wealth and colonial beauty, as well as its famous gastronomy and proximity to the main archaeological sites in the Yucatan Peninsula.

The peninsula’s highway infrastructure links it conveniently to Cancun, as well as to Chichén Itzá (31 miles), Cobá (19 miles) and Tulum (96 miles).

The beauty of its colonial architecture, its mansions, squares and churches, is made even more charming by the warmth of the people, giving it just the right feel of a city made to be toured and discovered.

In 1543, Francisco de Montejo, “The Nephew” founded the city of Valladolid where the ancient Mayan city of Zací used to be, to be used as a strategic point for embarking on the campaign to conquer and pacify the native tribes of eastern Yucatan. The Spaniards gave this beautiful city its name in remembrance of the Spanish city by the same name. Renowned for its luxuriant vegetation and beautiful natural sinkholes, Valladolid became an important site for the development of the Yucatan Peninsula during the colonial era, which is why it was called the “Sultaness of the East”.

Currently, this picturesque little town has around 65,000 inhabitants, the third largest population in the state of Yucatan, after Merida and Tizimin.

Today, Valladolid is one of the region’s main tourist attractions due to its rich historical heritage and colonial appeal.

Among some of the unique little hideaways that can be enjoyed in this lovely colonial city, you will find:

1) The Main Plaza: A pleasant meeting place for locals, surrounded by pretty flowers and grand houses painted in vivid colors—ideal for relaxing and soaking in the beauty of this charming spot. Sit back and observe the local women dressed in their traditional hand-embroidered dresses, called hipiles, and native men clothed in comfortable cotton-woven shirt and pants with straw hats.

Just off this important plaza is the Francisco Canton Park, along with the main architectural attractions of the city, such as San Gervasio’s Church. As you stroll along the cobblestone streets, real-life images of colorful colonial homes will take you on a journey through the history of Mexico that you will not soon forget.
2) **San Gervasio Church:** Located in the Main Square, San Gervasio Church is the most important religious construction in the city. Originally built during the 16th Century, it was the scene of gruesome battles during the 18th Century, which of necessity led to its reconstruction and so the church's main entrance now faces north. The historical church interior holds beautiful altarpieces and antique sculptures in niches.

3) **Mayan Sinkhole:** The Zací Mayan Cenote is located only blocks from the main square, and is renowned for its natural beauty and crystal-clear waters. You will be able to admire this partially open-air natural well crowned by million-year-old stalactite and stalagmite formations. While savoring the lovely scenery, you will enjoy hearing the native legend about Hul-Kin and Zac-Nicté, two star-crossed lovers who were cruelly separated by the rivalry between their families—and whose souls, since time immemorial, have lain joined at the bottom of the sinkhole.

4) **Ex Convent of San Bernardino de Siena:** Located in the Sisal neighborhood, was the first ecclesiastical supplier of the city, headed up by Franciscan missionary Juan de Mérida and the Fathers Hernando de Guevara and Francisco de la Torre. From the very beginning it was characterized by being a financially independent construction where the missionaries grew their own seeds, vegetables and food. Behind the altar you can appreciate some original altarpieces, and on the indoor area there’s a genuine selection of sculptures and plant motif niches, as well as diverse objects, pictures, paintings, pots and rifles recovered from the Sis-Há sinkhole.

5) **Handcrafts Market:** The city of Valladolid becomes a lively marketplace for many of the natives from neighboring villages, and it is famous for its handicrafts, made by the Mayan descendants who live nearby. Wandering the stalls of the market, you will discover a colorful assortment of traditional Mayan products such as homemade candies, clothes and hand-embroidered goods from the region, also jewelry, stone-carved objects and an endless supply of other local handcrafts.

**Services**

The city of Valladolid has the services and infrastructure needed to guarantee a superb tour experience. ATM machines and long-distance phone booths are within easy walking distance; restroom facilities are available inside La Casona de Valladolid restaurant and the Zací Mayan Sinkhole.
US Business Development
Office: +52 1 (998) 8819700 Ext 5026
Rodrigo Motavelazco:
Email: rmotavelazco@experienciasxcaret.com.mx
Cell in US: +1 832 846 51 37
Cell in Mex: +52 1 998 845 09 18

Walfred Villaseñor:
Email: wvillasenor@experienciasxcaret.com.mx
Cell in Mex: +52 1 998 147 66 47

Alfonso De La Peña
Email: adelapena@experienciasxcaret.com.mx
Cell in US: +1 832 879 81 63
Cell in Mex: +52 1 984 188 62 62

Xcaret Sales Network
Toll Free:
USA: 01 844 249 87 80
CANADA: 01 844 422 49 28

Groups & Conventions
Ph.: (998) 849 52 59
amaristany@experienciasxcaret.com.mx
grupos@experienciasxcaret.com.mx
www.experienciasxcaret.com/grupos

Weddings
Tel. & Fax: (984) 871-5385
grodarte@xcaret.com
www.xcaretweddings.com