

# FACT SHEET





## A perfect day no matter the weather

### A DEFINITION

Xenotes is a Tour where you will discover four different kinds of cenotes in natural surroundings, an oasis in the middle of the jungle where you enjoy nature at its grandest; a different activity in every Xenote (Kayak, Rappel, Snorkel, Zip-lines and Inner tubes) in an ambiance of fun where visitors learn about respect for the soil the ancient Maya once walked on and about legends and mysticism through the mythical guardians of the jungle.

### B OUR MISSION

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

### C OUR VISION

To be unique in sustainable tourist entertainment

### D OUR VALUES

Creativity  
Profitability  
Integrity

Congruence  
Honesty  
A Spirit of Service

Commitment  
Equality  
Social responsibility

### 1 GENERAL INFORMATION

<b>Opening date</b>	<b>July 1st, 2013</b>
<b>Location</b>	<b>Pto. Morelos-Leona Vicario Highway, 13.6 mi</b>
<b>Distance from Cancun</b>	<b>24.2 mi</b>
<b>Direct jobs</b>	<b>55</b>
<b>Indirect jobs</b>	<b>220</b>

### 2 TOUR FEATURES

- Transportation service with a specialized guide and an operator
- Welcome coffee, chocolate and sweet breads
- Non-alcoholic beverages (water and soft drinks) and seasonal fruits en route
- Glam Picnic: an energizing selection including fassili-vegetable soup, fresh bar with premium quality cheeses and deli meats, accompanied with a variety of rustic breads and dressings to prepare your own food sided with fresh salads. Assortment of water, coffee, chocolate, wine and beer.
- Equipment: life jacket, snorkel equipment, rappel gear, kayak and/ or inner tube.
- Restrooms, dressing rooms and a towel.

#### 2.1 VEHICLES

The transportation used will be a minibus with a capacity for 19 passengers.

#### 2.2 TIME AND PRICES

- The price of the Tour will be \$119 USD from Monday through Saturday. Prices are subject to change without notice.
- The pick-up at hotels in Cancun and Riviera Maya begin at 9:00 a.m.
- Duration of the Tour: about nine hours including transfers.



### 2.3 TIPS

- This tour is only for children 7 and older.
- Bring cash or a credit card to take home some souvenirs of an unforgettable day.
- We recommend that you bring aqua socks or water shoes and a towel.
- Don't litter, do take care of nature, enjoy it and learn from it.
- Avoid using makeup or chemical repellents that affect the ecosystem of the cenotes, use only chemical-free sunblock.
- Shower before entering the Xenote to protect the habitat.
- The use of life jackets is required for water activities.
- Avoid leaving the pre-established paths to avoid an incident with the fauna or flora of the place.
- If you see an animal avoid touching or feeding it, remember they are in their natural habitat.

#### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

- Children aged 7 and older.
- If you have heart or lung ailments, asthma, back problems, diabetes, hypertension or you are pregnant, we do not recommend activities in this tour for you.
- Children must be accompanied by an adult at all times.



### **XENOTES OASIS MAYA TOUR**

This adventure takes place in four different kinds of cenotes (sinkholes), protected by aluxes. It is a dream-like Mayan paradise where visitors can cool off in refreshing waters. In ancient times, cenotes represented the main source of water for the ancient rulers of the land.

Beyond extreme sports or picnics in nature, the Xenotes tour offers exclusive moments of interaction and personalized attention to groups of 19 adventurers who are led by experts on this virgin territory and are instructed on activities, history, anecdotes and legends of the region.

### **CENOTES (Sinkholes)**

The word cenote comes from the Mayan dzonot, meaning cave with water. There are semi-open, open, ancient and cavern cenotes. Their formation starts from underground chambers that appear when the limestone soil dissolves with rainwater and the water of underground rivers. Gradually the cavity increases exposing the cenote when the roof collapses.

### **ALUXES**

It is believed that the ancient Maya showed deep respect for some tiny, nimble and mischievous creatures, known as aluxes or guardians of the jungle that wander through fields and hills after sunset, and, through prayers and offerings, asked them for permission to walk on their land, and at the same time to take care of the crops. In this way, aluxes came to life in order to scare off intruders from the fields by throwing stones at them or simply by scaring them.

Stories about aluxes have always been a part of Mayan culture although it is unknown when they may have come about. Some people say they have seen them and they look like child-size adults. As the story goes, in order to live in harmony with them, it is necessary to show them respect by asking their permission to enter the land they are guarding or through food offerings. The only thing that can be done to please them and gain their trust is to offer them a gift and take care of their home, because they consider cenotes as sacred places that deserve great respect.



### Ka'áak' | Fire Xenote

**K'áak'** is an open Xenote that allows underground currents to communicate with the jungle and light. Among its great virtues are its vertical walls and exceptional landscapes. Large quantities of life can be found here and plants surround it; it is the perfect place to interact with nature and enjoy some healthy fun.

Admire the exotic flora that surrounds this Xenote; enjoy the physical activity and share a moment of fun with your companion adventurers, you only need the right attitude and the desire to enjoy nature to the fullest.

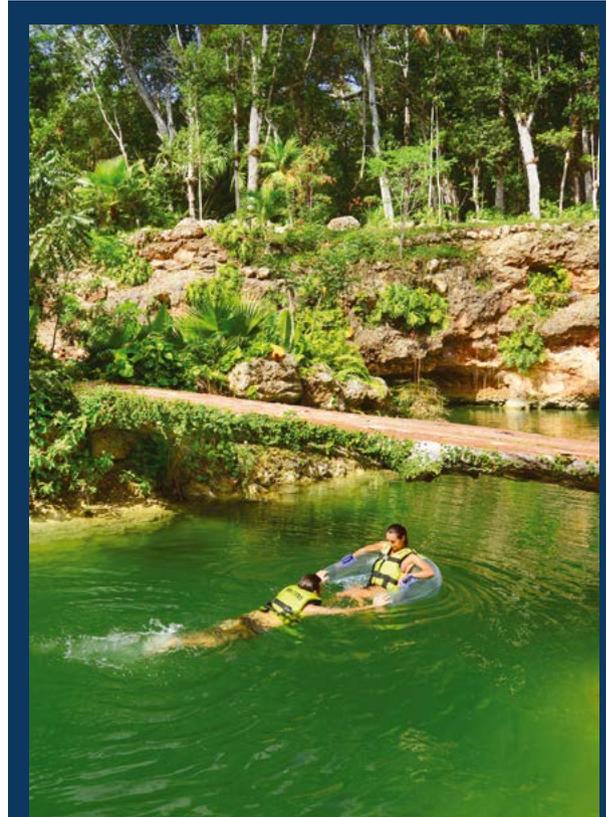
K'áak' the alux of the Fire Xenote is energetic and full of life. He likes teamwork, to wrestle against wind and tides, and considers himself the best guardian of the jungle; he is always prepared to defend his land. His temper is strong and passionate. His rules are easy to follow: live in the moment, do everything with passion, energy and vitality, so you know what you have to do to make him happy

### Ha' | Water Xenote

**Ha'** is a cavern Xenote, home to beautiful aquatic fauna and where you will find beautiful rock formations. Here you will be able to enjoy the unique landscape of the underwater world, surrounded by jungle and peace.

What could be better than to enjoy a day of nature, water and fun? While snorkeling in this Xenote you will be able to do this and so much more; the flora and fauna are surrounded by rock formations that are in themselves a sight worth admiring, and where the life giving liquid flows calm and unrushed, allowing for great visibility and relaxation. Let yourself be surprised by the underwater gardens of water lilies just like the Maya did hundreds of years ago.

Ha', the alux of the Water Xenote, is the most transparent of the bunch, the most harmonious and well behaved; he likes peace and sincerity. He knows that water represents the source of life; the origin of all living beings. He will always be peaceful and kind but we recommend that you take care of water because for him it is most sacred. Don't litter and do use the appropriate sun block, as we don't want to upset him in his own home.





### lik' | Wind Xenote

**lik'** is an advanced age cenote known as ancient cenote. This type of Xenote is blocked from the water table due to the collapsed roof or walls and sediments, which make the exchange with underground currents restricted and the flow of water a lot slower.

Here you will be able to experience the tranquility of the jungle; fill your lungs with oxygen and feel free, now is the time.

lik' the alux of the Wind Xenote is the most unpredictable of them all, you never know what mood he will be in. Just as his namesake, he is volatile, never stable and always changing direction. He is continuously on the move, looking over and admiring his territory; contemplating nature from up high and feeling the breeze on his face. Follow his lead, fly high, relax and enjoy.

### Lu'um | Earth Xenote

**Lu'um** is a semi-open Xenote. It connects to the aquifer through tunnels and caves. The flow of water is horizontal and the amount of time the water stays put is usually short. The Xenote is still semi-closed, thus it is considered young.

If you have experienced rappelling before, you will love this activity, however if this is your first time, this is the perfect moment to do it, you will not regret it. There will be no location or surroundings that can compare to the rock formations found in this unparalleled Xenote. It is a unique adventure that you will not want to miss: scream, laugh, enjoy... let loose and experience the excitement of this thrilling adventure.

Lu'um, the Earth Xenote alux is the most mischievous and cunning of all. He has an extremely playful personality and is always looking for ways to have fun. He likes to laugh and enjoy the land he guards, which is the connection between him and Mother Nature. His child soul will always make him act a bit crazy, so please just help him take care of his home and don't litter as this bothers and hurts him.



**[www.xenotes.com](http://www.xenotes.com)**

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