



**COPPER MOON**  
**TRAVELS**

## **YUCATAN BIRDING EXPERIENCE LA RUTA DE LOS CHENES**

### **EMERGENCY CONTACT:**

Please leave contact information for your family or friends in case they need to reach you for an emergency.

**TOUR COORDINATOR:** Jennifer Bjarnason

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**DATES:** February 16-26, 2025

**NIGHTS/DAYS:** 10 Nights / 11 Days

**AIRPORTS:** Merida & Chetumal

**PRICE:** \$56,000 *MIN 10-14 GUESTS*

**SINGLE SUPPLEMENT:** \$14,300

## **DETAILED ITINERARY Day 1. Sunday February 16, 2025 – Bienvenidos**

### **Hotel Location: Merida, Yucatan Mexico**

Please arrive at the Merida airport by 4:30 PM to check in and meet our group for our welcome dinner. We will make introductions, go over our itinerary and answer any questions you may have.

*Commute Times: Around Town*

## **Day 2. Monday February 17, 2025 – Flamboyance of Flamingos**

### **Hotel Location: Outside of Merida, Yucatan Mexico**

This morning we will check out of the hotel by 6:30 AM for our 1 hour commute to Celestun. As the restaurants do not open early, we will pack a breakfast of yogurt, fruit and a pastry. We will organize coffee service with the hotel. Our commute will take about an hour, so please be downstairs with your suitcase by 6:10 so the driver can load the van, and everyone can get coffee. Out in Celestun, we will board a boat for a fantastic morning boat ride through the mangroves of Celestun, where we will see flamingos, herons, cormorants, roseate spoonbills and more. We will depart Celestun for a lovely spot outside of Merida, and an afternoon to cool off in a cenote.

*Commute Times: To Celestun: 1 Hour. To hotel: 2 Hours.*

## **Day 3. Tuesday February 18, 2025 – Puuc Hills**

## **Hotel Location: Outside of Merida, Yucacan Mexico**

This morning we will bird around the grounds of our hotel before breakfast (first light is around 6:30). After breakfast, we will continue birding until around 11:30 AM. Today we will explore a henequen plantation and swim in the cenote.

***Commute Times: N/A***

## **Day 4. Wednesday February 19, 2025 – The Cave Weavers**

### **Hotel Location: Campeche City, Campeche Mexico**

This morning we will do some more birding around the hotel, meeting for breakfast at 8:30 AM. We will depart for the small town of Ticul, where artists make lovely reproductions of ancient Maya ceramics. We will have lunch before visiting the Puuc-Chenes city of Uxmal. From Uxmal, we will depart for a small village where families weave exquisite hats from jipijapa, which is the same material used for weaving Panama hats. We will arrive in Campeche on time for dinner.

***Commute Times: 1 Hour to Ticul. 20 Mins to Uxmal. 1 Hour to Becal. 1 Hour to Campeche***

## **Day 5. Thursday February 20, 2025 – House of the Itzaes**

### **Hotel Location: Campeche City, Campeche Mexico**

This morning we are off on another morning adventure with a bag of breakfast in hand. We will depart by 5:30 AM for the ancient city of Edzna, so we can bird-watch in and around the parking lot before the

gates to the city open at 8 AM. Once Edzna opens, we will do more birding in the site, and archaeology enthusiasts can explore. Edzna is a fairly significant site with well-preserved plazas and temples. From Edzna, we will return to Campeche for lunch and to visit Fort San Miguel, which houses an extensive collection of ancient Maya ceramics, predominantly from Isla de Jaina.

***Commute Times:*** 1 hour to Edzna. 1 Hour to Campeche City

## **Day 6. Friday February 21, 2025 – Ancient Walls**

**Hotel Location: Xpuhil, Campeche Mexico**

We are up early again for a 5:30 AM check-out with yogurt, granola, fruit and coffee in hand. Our commute this morning will take about 2.5 hours, so guests can rest their eyes. We will arrive at the remote city of Santa Rosa Xtampak at around 8:00 AM, which gives us about 3 hours to do some bird watching while exploring this exquisite site. From Xtampak, we will make one short stop at an impressive but small site called Hochob, considered by many archaeologists to be one of the best examples of the Puuc-Chenes serpent temples. (The Museum of Anthropology in Mexico City built a facsimile of this temple in the museum). From Hochob, we will head south to our lodgings in Xpujil.

***Commute Times:*** 2.5 Hours to Xtampak. 2 Hours to Hochob. 2.5 Hours to Xpujil.

## **Day 7. Saturday February 22, 2025 – TBA**

**Hotel Location: Xpuhil, Campeche Mexico**

This morning we will do some birding around the lodge, stopping for breakfast at around 8:30 AM. We are still working on some plans for today, as there are several options in this region. We will take you to a remote archaeological site without tourists, for our chance to see a lot of birds and howler monkeys. Once we have logistics organized for today, we will email everyone to confirm our plans.

***Commute Times: TBA***

### **Day 8. Sunday February 23, 2025 – Turquoise Shores**

**Hotel Location: Bacalar, Quintana-Roo, Mexico**

This morning we will enjoy birding around the lodge, stopping for breakfast and some more birding. An early but relaxed morning. We will depart our lodge at 11:00 AM for Chetumal, where we will have lunch and visit the museum. From there, we conclude our day in the beautiful lagoon-side town of Bacalar.

***Commute Times: To Chetumal: 2+ hours. To Bacalar: 1 hour***

### **Day 9. Monday February 24, 2025 – A Secret Paradise**

**Hotel Location: Bacalar, Quintana-Roo, Mexico**

This morning we depart the shores by boat at 6:00 AM enroute for a secret birding place where we can also swim. We will return to the town for lunch, and spend the afternoon exploring the town and swimming. If anyone would like to visit a nearby archaeological site, please let us know in advance so we can make arrangements. This

option is not included. (Most guests will be rocked-out by this point, so this option is for those of you who are pre-jy crazy about archaeology).

***Commute Times: 1 Hour by boat (2 hours return)***

**Day 10. Tuesday February 25, 2025 – Sac-Ha Paradisimo**

**Hotel Location: Bacalar, Quintana-Roo, Mexico**

This morning we will head out to Sac-Ha for early morning birding and an afternoon to swim and eat seafood on the beach. We are leaving the afternoon free so guests can shop for gifts and re-pack luggage.

***Commute Times: N/A***

**DAY 11. Wednesday February 26, 2025 – Home Sweet Home**

This morning we will arrange for everyone to get to the airport. As we will no longer have a rental van, we will take taxis to the airport. We are not including the taxi fare in hopes that some of you can travel together, in which case the rates will be different.

**WE HOPE YOU HAVE A WONDERFUL TRIP AND WILL JOIN US AGAIN!**