



COPPER MOON
TRAVELS

BIRD WATCHING TOUR

SKY GUARDIANS OF MAYAB

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

EMAIL: coppermoontravels@protonmail.com

WHATSAPP / CELL: +52 443 639 2782

DATES: March 16 – 23, 2025

NIGHTS/DAYS: 7 Nights / 8 Days

AIRPORT: Merida, Yucatan Mexico

PRICE: \$40,000 MXN (10-14 Guests)

SINGLE SUPPLEMENT: \$14,200 MXN

DETAILED ITINERARY

Day 1. Sunday March 16, 2025 - Bienvenidos

Hotel Location: Merida Historical Centro, Yucatan Mexico

Welcome to our Birds of Yucatan tour! Please be in Merida by 4 PM so we can get you checked-in before our dinner reservation. If you are arriving early, please confirm your time so we can greet you at the hotel.

***Commute Times:** Airport to City Centro approximately 30 Mins by Taxi*

Day 2. Monday March 17, 2025 – Flamboyance of Flamingos

Hotel Location: Merida Historical Centro, Yucatan Mexico

This morning we will depart Merida by 7:00 AM for the seashore village of Celestun. Located in the Gulf of Mexico, this special eco-system features a petrified mangrove that is home to the American Flamingo. We will also see Roseate Spoonbills, various Herons, Neo-Tropical Cormorants, Pelicans and more. We will have a simple breakfast with yogurt, fruit and pastry for our commute, and recommend that everyone bring a coffee mug and water bottle for the commute.

After our boat ride, we will have lunch and head to the special ancient city of Dzibilchaltun, which was still inhabited by the Maya during the conquest. There is a special observatory here, along with an abandoned Church, Cenote Xlapak and other interesting temples. The cenote at this site is closed for swimming, but we will have a pool at the hotel for cooling off when we return to the city.

Commute Times: Approximately 2.5 hours total

Day 3. Tuesday March 18, 2025 – The Yellow City

Hotel Location: Izamal, Yucatan Mexico

This morning we will depart by 7 AM to reach a bird reserve by 9 AM. We will bring yogurt, fruit and pastry, and ask guests to bring your coffee mug and water bottle. We will be enjoying some birding and cultural activities today, including lunch. We will depart at about 1 PM for the iconic, criticized but magnificent ancient city of Chichen-Itza. We will be in the site for approximately 3 hours to see the main structures here, including the largest known ball court of the Maya culture, the Temple of Kukulcan, the Sacred Cenote, Star Observatory and the Nunnery Annex & Iglesia. We will depart at 5 PM for the yellow city of Izamal, which is one of Mexico's Pueblo Magico's. Check into our hotel and have dinner and an early night.

Commute Times: Approximately 3.5 hours total

Day 4. Wednesday March 19, 2025, 2025 – Swimming & Birding

Hotel Location: Izamal, Yucatan Mexico

Our morning will begin at the small archaeological site of Kiniche, where we will be focused on birding. The sites in Izamal are small, but what is interesting is the fact that the area was still inhabited during the conquest, so the neighbourhoods are literally built around Maya temples in the town. A bewildering site – and if you have sturdy shoes and good balance, a climb to the top of the temple will give you a lovely

panoramic view of the village. We will have lunch and spend our afternoon relaxing in a nearby cenote to cool off!

Commute Time: TBA

Day 5. Thursday March 20, 2025 – Artisans of the Maya

Hotel Location: Ticul, Yucatan Mexico

This morning we will depart at 8:30 AM for our commute to Ticul, which is well known for shoemaking, but is also home to skilled potters who create reproductions of ancient Maya pottery. After lunch, we will head down to a small community known for being the only place outside of Ecuador where one can procure a handwoven Panama hat. Woven from the same Jipijapa fibre as the iconic hats, the weavers of Becal work in caves where the climate is humid enough to keep the plant material from drying out. We will retreat to our lodgings to unwind and rest. Enthusiasts may also want to bring their binoculars and explore the property.

Commute Times: Approximately 4 hours total

Day 6. Friday March 21, 2025 – Thrice Built

Hotel Location: Ticul, Yucatan Mexico

This morning we are southbound at 7:00 AM for the majestic desert oasis of Uxmal, which is a wonderful companion to Chichen-Itza, given the different architectural style and exquisite Puuc-Chen veneers. We need to get here early because the region is particularly sweltering by noon, which gives us the morning to visit the Magicians Temple,

Governors Palace, Nunnery and House of Pigeons. From Uxmal, we will bee-line for lunch and a nearby cenote to cool off before retreating back to our lodgings. Guests may choose to do some birding in the afternoon around the property.

Commute Times: *Approximately 2 Hours*

Day 7. Saturday March 22, 2025 – A Day of Rest

Hotel Location: Ticul, Yucatan Mexico

This morning we have the option of sleeping in! Enthusiasts can meet the ornithologist at the break of dawn, and anyone in need of a lie-in can wake up for a leisurely breakfast.

Today we will enjoy birding around the property and resting.

Commute Times: *2.5 hours total*

Day 8. Sunday March 23, 2025 – Home Sweet Home

This morning we will commute to Merida Airport for our flights home. Please do not book your flight before 1 PM, so we have time to eat and commute to the airport. Alternately, you may wish to stay in Merida a few more days to soak up the wonderful culture and history there!

Commute Times: *Approximately 1.5 hours.*

WE HOPE YOU HAVE ENJOYED THIS TOUR AND WILL JOIN US AGAIN!