

# CANCUN OR RIVIERA MAYA & MERIDA

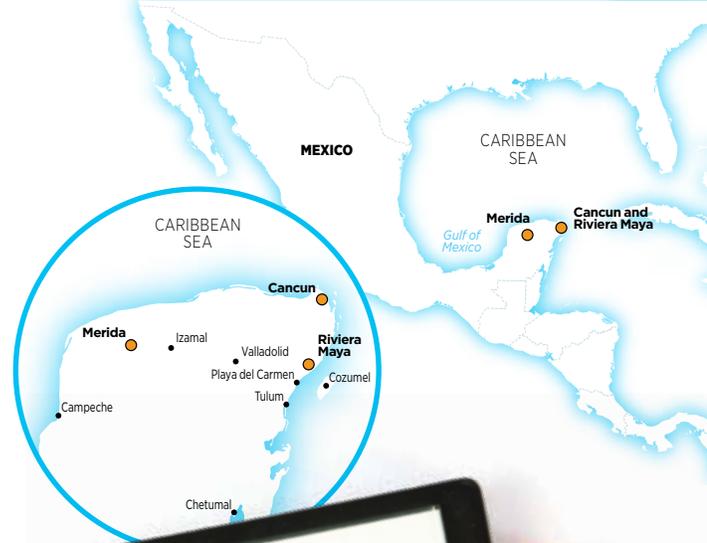


Welcome  
Καλώς ήρθατε Bienvenido Bienvenue Bem-vindo  
Bem-vindo Welcome Willkommen  
Welkom Willkommen Bienvenido Benvenuto  
Hoş geldiniz Bienvenue Welkom  
Benvenuto

# Experience Collection Duo

## Cancun or Riviera Maya & Merida Mexico

You're about to live two unique experiences on one trip: get ready for a beach vacation in Cancun or Riviera Maya and a chance to experience the colourful splendour of Merida's historic past and thriving culture! You'll get to soak up the sun on pearly white sand, immerse yourself in the local customs and traditions, and venture into a world of unsolved mystery. Discover the best of Cancun or Riviera Maya and Merida all in a week's time!



Be sure to attend the briefing held at the beginning of your trip, as your representative will confirm the meeting point and departure time for your transfer to Merida, along with destination information. Note that roundtrip transfers are included and accompanied by an English-speaking guide.

**Travel documents** The date of departure for Merida will be indicated on your e-ticket.

**Baggage** Be sure to pack comfortable walking shoes, sunscreen, insect repellent, sunglasses, a hat, a camera and cash for meals, drinks, visits and souvenir shopping. **Please ensure you have your luggage when departing from you hotel in Cancun or Riviera Maya.**

**Tipping** Tips are at your discretion and are very much appreciated by the cleaning ladies, bellboys, guides and chauffeurs, as well as the waiters and bartenders.

**Currency** During business hours, money can be exchanged at the local banks. ATM machines can also be found in downtown Cancun, Riviera Maya and Merida.

**Transportation** Travelling by bus is very affordable and will allow you to discover the area from a new perspective. Simply flag down the driver to board the bus. If you take a taxi, be sure to agree on the price with the driver before getting into the car. Many hotels display fixed rates between taxi zones for the more popular sites.



### About Mexico

#### Currency

Peso

#### Official language

Espagnol

#### Local expressions

!Qué padre! (Cool!)

#### Traditional music

Jarana, Vaqueria Regional





## About Cancun & Riviera Maya

### Population

745,000

### Local dishes

**Pescado à la Tikin-Xic** grilled fish bathed in beer and olive oil, prepared with annatto, sour orange, peppers, tomatoes, red onions and spices

**Quibe** baked balls of wheat stuffed with cheese or meat, as well as chopped onion, habanero chili and sour orange

**Cochinita pibil** slow-roasted pork with achiote and sour orange, accompanied by red onions and black beans

### Local drink

Chaya-flavoured water

## Cancun

Welcome to a vibrant, modern city known for its upscale boutiques, lively bars, extravagant nightclubs, glitzy casinos and live entertainment venues. With a social scene as hot as the sunset, there's no shortage of fun in Cancun! Once the party's over, escape the hustle and bustle, and step back into time by incorporating archaeological discoveries in your trip.

## Riviera Maya

Splendid beaches, Mayan ruins, beautiful coral reefs and a scintillating nightlife are just some of the attractions that draw visitors to this tropical slice of paradise. Uncover hidden treasures of the ancient world, go snorkelling in Cozumel or enjoy the laid-back luxury of Playa del Carmen, in addition to the three S's: sun, sand and sea!

## Things to see & do

### Isla Mujeres

sailing, snorkelling and the Cancun Underwater Museum

### Xcaret

underground rivers, flora and fauna, and the *Xcaret México Espectacular* show

### Mayan ruins of Tulum, Chichen Itza and Coba

### Swimming with whale sharks

(mid-May to mid-September)



## Excursions

Be sure to attend the orientation briefing as the representative will give you details on available excursions, and suggestions of what to see and do during your stay.



## About Merida

### Population

717 000

### Local dishes

#### Lime soup

**Papadzules** tortillas stuffed with hard-boiled eggs and topped with a pumpkin seed sauce

**Motul-style eggs** corn tortillas with egg, peas, grated cheese, ham, refried beans, corn oil and charred habanero

**Panuchos** tortillas with black beans, meat, tomato, pickled red onion and avocado

**Dzotobichay** chaya-stuffed tamales

**Pollo pibil** barbecued chicken topped with pickled onions

**Poc chuc** pork served with achiote and onions

### Local drinks

**Michelada** beer with lime juice and spicy seasoning

**Xtabentun** a liqueur made from anise and honey from the nectar of xtabentun flowers

## Merida

The cultural capital of the Yucatan peninsula serves up an authentic taste of Mexican life and history sprinkled with a dash of cosmopolitan flare. Expect stunning colonial architecture, ancient Mayan wonders, fascinating museums and thriving markets – all bearing the stamp of the city's unique charm!



## Hotel Casa del Balam

One of the oldest, as well as one of the few original Mexican Art Deco houses remaining in Merida, the Casa del Balam's tranquil elegance will welcome you. Close to Merida's Plaza Grande, this charming hotel offers spacious rooms in a traditional hacienda setting.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE - PLEASE READ CAREFULLY** Tours, transfers, excursions or activities proposed by TRANSAT HOLIDAYS are provided and operated by local service providers, which are independent entities over whom TRANSAT HOLIDAYS does not have control (the "Suppliers"). Some tours, transfers, excursions or activities may not be suitable for everyone. TRANSAT HOLIDAYS makes no representation as to the quality or safety of any tour, transfer, excursion or activity operated by Suppliers who may have different security standards than those in your own country. Furthermore, TRANSAT HOLIDAYS shall not be liable for any cancellation, delay, loss, damage, accident or injury, nor for any representation made by the Suppliers. TRANSAT HOLIDAYS shall not be liable in any manner for any complaints or claims that may arise as a result of participation in any such tours, transfers, excursions or activities.

## Things to see & do

### Recommended restaurants:

La Tradición, Pancho's, Café Peon Contreras, Park Bistro (Mansión Mérida), café/bar at the Piedra de Agua boutique hotel

### Free shows in the historic centre

walking distance from the hotel

- **Mondays** regional dances
- **Tuesdays** folklore

### City tour

### Visit to the government palace

### Tour of the Uxmal ruins

not recommended for people with restricted mobility

### Visit to Hacienda Sotuta de Peon and leisure time at a cenote

### Visit to Santa Ana Cathedral and Park

### Visit to Merida's downtown cathedral

### Visit to the Maya World Museum