

---

## GEEO ITINERARY

Mayan Mexico

### **Day 1: Playa del Carmen Arrive in Playa del Carmen by 5 PM. Enjoy dinner at a G Adventures-supported community restaurant with a youth-focused art program.**

Arrive in Playa del Carmen. Your group will meet in the lobby for an introduction meeting with your tour leader. Then around 6 PM your tour leader will take you over to El Hongo (a G Adventures-supported community restaurant with a youth-focused art program) for dinner. Those that don't arrive in time for the intro meeting will meet up with your tour leader in the morning. There will be a note at the front desk with when and where to meet in the morning (most likely the lobby).

### **Day 2: Playa del Carmen/Mérida Enjoy a guided tour of the Mayan ruins of Chichén Itzá and an orientation walk in Mérida.**

Spend the afternoon with a local expert and learn about the history of Chichén Itzá and the beliefs and rituals that defined this ancient Mayan civilization. This dramatic site includes a 30m (98 ft) high temple, known as the Pyramid of Kukulcan, famous for its balustrade of 91 stairs up each of the four sides, a ball court with a grandstand, and towering walls. Visit the highlights of the site including the famous Castillo, the ball court, the cenote, and the Nunnery. After our guided tour of Chichén Itzá, continue to Mérida by private vehicle and start with an orientation walk to get acquainted with the city. Approximate travel time: 2.5 hrs by private vehicle (Playa del Carmen – Chichén-Itzá); 2 hrs by private vehicle (Chichén-Itzá – Mérida)

### **Day 3: Mérida Free day in Mérida. Opt to visit the ruins of Uxmal or swim in cenotes (underground pools) in the Yucatán.**

Today is free for you to explore Mérida. Opt to visit ruins of Uxmal, ride the PUUC Route, go bird-watching in Celestún, hit the beach in Progreso, visit cenotes in the nearby town of Cuzamá, or walk around town and soak in all of the history this city has to offer.

### **Day 4: Mérida/Palenque Travel day to Palenque in the lush dense jungle of Chiapas.**

Travel day to Palenque in the lush dense jungle of Chiapas. We recommend bringing a sweater for the bus as they can be overly air-conditioned. There are toilets on the bus and the occasional stop to stretch your legs or pick up snacks. Approximate travel time: 9-10 hrs by first-class bus

### **Day 5: Palenque Enjoy a guided tour of the Mayan ruins of Palenque.**

Experience the elegant jungle site of Palenque on a guided tour. See the highlights: the Temple of the Cross Group, Temple of Inscriptions, and the Grand Palace. Howler monkeys sound in the distance as the fog rolls in and out of this mystical site, one of the most important centers for trade and culture during the end of the Classic Maya period. The afternoon is free for you to explore the area. We can arrange an optional jungle hike or a trip to the Roberto Barrios Waterfalls.

### **Day 6: Palenque/Tulum Transfer to Tulum and spend time on the beach looking out at the crystal-clear lake.**

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle. Transfer to Tulum and spend time on the beach looking out at the crystal-clear lake. The van is air-conditioned and will make stops along the way. Approximate travel time: 9-10 hrs by private vehicle

### **Day 7: Tulum Free day in Tulum. There are many different activities available.**

---

Free day in Tulum. Explore the nearby ruins, relax on the beach, visit a cenote or take a kayaking tour of the Sian Ka'an Biosphere Reserve.

**Day 8: Tulum/Playa del Carmen (D) Travel to Playa del Carmen to lounge on Mayan Riviera beaches.**

We spend the morning traveling back to Playa del Carmen, located on the beach just a 45-min drive south of Cancún. Enjoy some nightlife, buy last-minute souvenirs, and relax and swim in the Caribbean. There is the opportunity for snorkeling and diving, as well as long stretches of sandy beaches which are perfect for walking and relaxing after a hectic day. Just off the coast is the island of Cozumel, renowned for its world-class diving. Take the ferry from Playa del Carmen (30-75 minutes depending on the boat) across the turquoise waters and explore the town and the reefs of the island. Approximate travel time: 1-1.5 hrs hr by first-class bus

**Day 9: Playa del Carmen Depart at any time.**

Our program ends in Playa del Carmen this morning. Want more adventure? Book two or more GEE0 trips in the same year and receive a discount! GEE0 will give you 10% off of the lesser value program(s) (up to 3 programs). If you don't see a program that interests you that pairs with this trip, but still would like to extend your time abroad, let us know. We will work with you to find a non-teacher trip from our tour operator's much larger catalog. Even better, if you are an educator, we can still offer you a discounted price on the trip you choose!