

SOUL OF MEXICO TOURS

LA PUERTA DEL CAMINO REAL

The Door to Mexico's Silver Road

OVERVIEW

La Puerta del Camino Real is the Door to the Royal Road - in reference to the Royal Interior road that stretched for literally thousands of miles to the northern US. Today, this region is scattered with opulent cities and crumbling villages, archaeology sites, and artisan food markets.

Please Note: Travel can come with hiccups along the way - such as flat tires, engine failure, inclement weather etc. While we certainly don't plan on such obstacles, we ask our guests to remain flexible and positive if we are presented with such challenges. This may include waiting by the roadside for help, or having to change itinerary plans for vehicle repairs. This is not a common issue, but please keep in mind that accidents, flat tires, and rainfall can occur at any time.

TRIP ITINERARY MARCH 1-16, 2020

DAY ONE

Welcome to the City of Zacatecas! Your guide will pick you up at the airport and transport you to the hotel. Once we have everyone's flight details, we can work out our activities and meals for this day. **Please Note:** If you would like assistance finding flights to Zacatecas, please [contact us](#) for help!

Accommodations:

Hotel in Zacatecas TBA

Meals Included:

Welcome Dinner (*Alcoholic beverages not included*)

DAY TWO

Meet for breakfast at 8 AM and head for the ancient silver mine of Zacatecas. At the end of the mine museum, is an elevator that will deliver us near the gondola to La Bufa. We will head to La Lleyenda Restaurant for lunch before heading to the Rafael Coronel Museum.

Accommodations:

Hotel in Zacatecas TBA

Meals Included:

Meals are not included

DAY THREE

This morning, we will meet for breakfast at 8AM before heading to the ancient Toltec city ruins of La Quemada. This fantastic site is desolate and void of crowds, making it an exceptional site to visit. From La Quemada, we will return to Zacatecas for free time.

Accommodations:

Hotel in Zacatecas TBA

Meals Included:

Meals are not included

DAY FOUR

Today is a free day to enjoy in Zacatecas. You may like to visit neighbouring town Guadalupe, or simply browse through the shops, relax, or curl up with a good book.

Accommodations:

Hotel in Zacatecas TBA

Meals Included:

Meals are not included

DAY FIVE

Following breakfast, we will check out of our hotel and head down the highway to the intriguing Pueblo Magico Real de Catorce. We will check into our hotel and enjoy a walking tour of this intriguing ghost town.

Accommodations:

Amor Y Paz

Meals Included:

Dinner

DAY SIX

Today there are optional tours to horseback ride to El Quemada or Pueblo Fantasma, or for the truly ambitious – both! If you are not an experienced rider, please be aware that the journey to El Quemada takes about 1 full hour on horseback, each way, over tricky ground. The journey to Pueblo Fantasma is about 30 mins each way, on switchbacks that take you up quite high. Your horse will move slowly, at a walking pace.

Accommodations:

Amor Y Paz

Meals Included:

Breakfast

DAY SEVEN

This morning, our optional tour to Wirkuta and MIIna el Sacabon will start after breakfast. This journey is not for the faint of heart - as we will descend a narrow road on the edge of a ravine in a 1950's Jeep Willy. Wirkuta is the dessert where the indigenous Wixaritari (Huichol) harvest peyote. The Wixaritari believe Wirkuta is where the sun was born. We will depart early for a lunch-time arrival and an afternoon of free time.

Accommodations:

Amor Y Paz

Meals Included:

Breakfast

DAY EIGHT

This morning we will depart Real de Catorce following an 8 AM breakfast. We will bring a picnic lunch, as our next stop will be in the famous weaving town of Santa Maria del Rio. From here, we will travel to Cuna de Tierra Winery for wine tasting and beautiful charcuterie platter. We will arrive in the Pueblo Magico Mineral de Pozos on time for dinner.

Accommodations:

Hotel in Mineral de Pozos TBA

Meals Included:

Breakfast

DAY NINE

This morning we will meet for breakfast at 8 AM before our adventure around Mineral de Pozos begins. We will start with the Mina San Rafael, where visitors can enter the mine. From here, we will stop at Luis Cruz' Casa del Venado Azul to see his incredible collection of pre-Columbian instruments. Following lunch, we will spend the afternoon exploring the picturesque ruins of the Santa Brigida mine.

Accommodations:

Hotel in Mineral de Pozos TBA

Meals Included:

Meals are not included

DAY TEN

This morning we will meet for breakfast, then head for the Pueblo Magico town of Dolores Hidalgo, famed for Father Hidalgo's "Cry of Dolores," which sparked the fight for Mexico's Independence from Spain. Following lunch and a shopping spree through Dolores Hidalgo's talavera shops, we will make our way to Atotonilco to see one of Mexico's most famous, UNESCO protected churches. If our group is interested, there are hot springs at Atotonilco! We will head to San Miguel de Allende and check in.

Accommodations:

Hotel in San Miguel de Allende TBA

Meals Included:

Meals are not included

DAY ELEVEN

Today is for free time in the Pueblo Magico San Miguel de Allende. If you would

like us to arrange a cooking class or walking tour, please let us know in advance. We can let other guests know your plans and see if we can put together a small group for cost sharing.

Accommodations:

Hotel in San Miguel de Allende TBA

Meals Included:

Meals are not included

DAY TWELVE

This morning, we will visit Dr. Rossana Quizo Ennis' Museum of prehispanic astronomy. Following lunch, we will make our way with Dr. Quizo Ennis to the ancient ruins of Canada de la Virgen for a guided tour based on her astronomical studies at this intriguing site. We will then head for the city of Guanajuato for dinner.

Accommodations:

Hotel in Guanajuato City TBA

Meals Included:

Lunch

DAY THIRTEEN

Later this morning we will enjoy a guided food tour of Guanajuato City. By evening, we will meet for the pilgrimage to the Alley of the Kiss.

Accommodations:

Hotel in Guanajuato City TBA

Meals Included:

Lunch (As part of the food tour)

DAY FOURTEEN

We will head to the Mummy Museum this morning. If you are troubled by sinister subject material, please ask us for more information on this exhibit, as some who are sensitive may find this museum troubling. Upon returning to the main core of downtown, we will enjoy our last day of free time.

Accommodations:

Hotel in Guanajuato City TBA

Meals Included:

Meals are not included

DAY FIFTEEN

We will depart Guanajuato City after breakfast for the bustling centre of Leon. Stopping first at La Libertad Brewery seems like a good way to get our last day started! We will browse through the fascinating leather supply market, and enjoy a tour of Claudio's shoe shop (shoe-lovers take note - you can order a pair of tailor made leather shoes here). Finally, we will end our tour with a wonderful dinner party at Israel Salazar's El Arrecife Restaurant!

Accommodations:

Hotel in Leon TBA

Meals Included:

Dinner

DAY SIXTEEN

Once we have information for everyone's flight home, we can make arrangements for this day. We hope you have all thoroughly enjoyed this two week exploration of Mexico's silver road and beyond.

Accommodations:

N/A

Meals Included:

Meals are not included