



Custom Itinerary to Mexico

for Greg and Adrian

*A*UDLEY

TAILOR-MADE JOURNEYS FOR THE DISCERNING TRAVELER



Puebla, Mexico



We are very proud to have received a number of awards over recent years including Best Tour Operator in the latest Telegraph Travel Awards, as voted by their readers. We came joint top in the June 2014 Which? Holiday Companies survey and have also won awards in the Wanderlust Readers' Travel Awards, The Sunday Times Travel Magazine, Condé Nast Traveller and the Guardian and Observer in recent years

These awards are widely recognised as being the most respected in the travel industry as they are professional surveys of the publications' readerships. With over 500 travel companies for you to choose from in the UK alone, we hope you find these awards are an additional reassurance of the quality of service you can expect from Audley.



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Santo Domingo church, Oaxaca

CONTACT

Your plans are being co-ordinated by:



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Claire's passion for Latin America was sparked while studying geography at Cambridge. She was particularly intrigued by both Central America and the Andean countries, as they seemed to feature melting pot of diverse cultures, histories, natural wonders and environments.

After university she decided to explore this mysterious part of the world and has never looked back. She spent over half a year travelling around Latin America, where she fell head over heels in love with the place, the people and its wildlife. She has worked for Audley Travel for 4 years, first in the UK and now in the recently opened Boston office and has been back to Latin America at least once a year during this time.

Her personal highlights include revelling in the views of Machu Picchu from the sungate after a challenging but enjoyable 4-day Inca trail hike, splashing her way (extremely ungracefully) through the ATM cave in Belize, spotting her first kinkajou in Costa Rica's Gandoca-

Quality of Service



Most companies claim to offer first class service, but very few genuinely set out to achieve it. At Audley we are wholeheartedly devoted to offering you first class service from the moment we start planning your trip until after your return. If you feel that our standards at any time drop below your expectations or you have

any suggestions about how we could improve our service, then please contact the Latin America Manager, Carolyn Foreman on 1-855-838-8600 or email carolyn.foreman@audleytravel.com

We may record telephone calls to ensure quality of service and for training purposes.

Manzanillo National Park, learning the difference between llama, alpaca and vicuna on Peru's stunningly beautiful altiplana and boogying her way through Utila, Honduras on a float in the annual carnival dressed like an hibiscus flower.

Meet our Central America Specialists



Our 15 Central America specialists have travelled the length and breadth of this fascinating and relatively off-the-beaten track region, many having even lived and worked here prior to joining Audley. We are lucky enough to return regularly in the line of work, trying the very best excursions and staying in a wide range of hotels including jungle lodges, converted convents and beachfront hideaways.



Important information

FLIGHTS

The option on the flights we are holding for you expires on: Friday October 02, 2015

The flights that we have arranged for you are held on option for you in the following names. It is vital that the below names and spellings are exactly as shown on your passport, if they are not please contact me immediately so that I can amend the reservation. **Airlines can and will refuse boarding due to security reasons if your names are incorrectly spelled.**

Mr Greg Mella

Mr Adrian Collazo

VISAS

Mexico US citizens do not currently require a visa to visit Mexico, however evidence of return or onward travel and proof of sufficient funds to support yourself during your visit must be provided. As with most countries your passport must be valid for six months after the date of departure from Mexico and have a minimum of one unstamped double page free.

Citizens must also obtain a tourist card or FMM (Forma Migratoria Múltiple) which is normally given out on the plane shortly before arrival in Mexico. If you are not given one then please request one from the immigration area at the airport. The fee for the tourist card is generally included in the price of a plane ticket for travelers arriving by air. It is extremely important to keep this form in a safe location as you are required to present this form upon exiting the country. Travelers who lose their FMM can be significantly delayed and possibly fined upon departure.

**Please note this information is correct for flight arrivals into Mexico. If you are arriving by road there may be additional restrictions - please speak to your specialist for further information.

Nationalities of other countries should check their visa requirements - we recommend using our partner Visa Central. Please visit www.visacentral.com/audleytravel (residents of Canada visit www.visacentral.ca/audleytravel) to view up to date requirements and where you can apply for any visa that may be necessary.

The USA No visa required.

Important Note: We cannot under any circumstances guarantee that your visa application for any country will be accepted. However, in our experience refusals are extremely rare. Visa information is given in good faith and is accurate to the best of our knowledge.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Ana y Jose Hotel & Spa

Health and safety note

Some rooms at this hotel have balcony balustrades which do not meet the EU recommended height or have design features which could present a hazard to young children. Families with children will therefore be allocated alternative room types wherever possible. Adults should take care when using the balconies. If you are uncomfortable with this situation please talk to your specialist who will be able to advise on alternative accommodation options.

Day by day summary for Greg and Adrian

1	Tuesday January 12, 2016	<p>You will book your own flights to Oaxaca.</p> <p>On arrival you will be met for your private transfer to your hotel in the heart of the colonial city center.</p>	<p>Casa Oaxaca 1 x Standard Room for 2 (Double) - Breakfast is included</p>
2	Wednesday January 13, 2016	<p>Enjoy a guided tour of Oaxaca with your local expert guide - the highlights will include the cathedral with its stunning ceiling and the adjacent museum, but your guide will also introduce you other parts of the city and give you some pointers for the rest of your time here.</p> <p>You then have the afternoon free to explore the art galleries and of course sample plenty of that local mole!</p>	<p>Casa Oaxaca 1 x Standard Room for 2 (Double) - Breakfast is included</p>
3	Thursday January 14, 2016	<p>Further morning to explore Oaxaca (the morning is a good time for the markets) before you are met at your hotel for you afternoon transfer by coach to Puebla.</p> <p>On arrival in Puebla we will meet you at the coach station and take you the short drive to your hotel.</p>	<p>Meson de la Sacristia de la Compania, Puebla 1 x Junior suite for 2 (Double) - Breakfast is included</p>
4	Friday January 15, 2016	<p>Guided tour of Puebla this morning, exploring the pretty colonial architecture and perhaps visiting some of the tile painting factories/co-operatives.</p> <p>As in Oaxaca, your guide will also give you some insight into what's best to do this afternoon, when you have free time to explore at leisure.</p> <p>Again, just like in Oaxaca, your hotel is in easy walking distance of lots of great restaurants this evening so again you'll be able to sample some of the local delicacies.</p>	<p>Meson de la Sacristia de la Compania, Puebla 1 x Junior suite for 2 (Double) - Breakfast is included</p>
5	Saturday January 16, 2016	<p>Travel to Mexico City. We will drop you off at the terminal in Puebla and meet you at the terminal in Mexico City, but between times you'll get a great authentic Mexican experience by riding the longdistance coach!</p> <p>Here you have two options: I have included the Gran Hotel in your package price as it is in a great location right on the zocalo; alternatively you could upgrade to Las Alcobas so that you are in the right location for Mexico City's best restaurants, shops and museums.</p>	<p>The Gran Hotel, Mexico City 1 x Junior suite for 2 (Double) - Breakfast is included</p>
6	Sunday January 17, 2016	<p>Today is a Sunday so I have included the visit to the canals that we talked about. Sunday is the best day to do this, so it works wonderfully!</p> <p>Then, this afternoon you'll have a tour of the historical sights in Mexico City, including the presidential palace and the Aztec foundations.</p>	<p>The Gran Hotel, Mexico City 1 x Junior suite for 2 (Double) - Breakfast is included</p>
7	Monday January 18, 2016	<p>A real highlight today as you leave the city behind and take a trip to the impressive ruins of Teotihuacan.</p>	<p>The Gran Hotel, Mexico City 1 x Junior suite for 2 (Double) - Breakfast is included</p>

Day by day summary for Greg and Adrian

8	Tuesday January 19, 2016	<p>You have a free morning this morning to visit the anthropological museums (payable locally) and then this afternoon you will take a short flight down to Merida.</p> <p>You will be met on arrival for your transfer to Hacienda San Jose Cholul, where you have the choice of the junior suite or an upgrade to the Maya Villa.</p> <p>**Please note you'll arrive after dark, so if you'd prefer more time at the hacienda let me know and I'll move you to an earlier flight. However, I think you'll get more out of visiting the anthropological museum than you would a few extra hours at the hacienda.**</p>	Hacienda San Jose Cholul 1 x Junior suite for 2 (Double) - Breakfast is included
9	Wednesday January 20, 2016	<p>Free day! A well deserved day of rest at your hacienda. Enjoy a dip in the pool, explore the agave plantations and take a spa treatment. If you're feeling restless the hacienda also offers a variety of local tours.</p>	Hacienda San Jose Cholul 1 x Junior suite for 2 (Double) - Breakfast is included
10	Thursday January 21, 2016	<p>Adrian I know you love cities so on your transfer to Chichen Itza today I have included a stop at Izamal - a rather unique town that is famous for its bright yellow buildings and the Mayan temple foundations that can be seen below the modern buildings.</p> <p>You will arrive at Chichen Itza by mid-afternoon which is plenty of time to book your light-show tickets for tonight.</p>	Hacienda Chichen, Chichén Itzá 1 x Junior suite for 2 (Double) - Breakfast is included
11	Friday January 22, 2016	<p>Privately guided tour of the sprawling city of Chichen Itza this morning - we'll get you in there nice and early so you can avoid the crowds!</p> <p>You will then take a private transfer across to Tulum for the final leg of your adventure.</p>	Hip Hotel Tulum 1 x Superior Garden View Room for 2 (Double) - Breakfast is included
12	Saturday January 23, 2016	<p>Free day in Tulum - you can book trips to the cenotes and Mayan temples in the area through your lodge and they should include transportation for you too.</p>	Hip Hotel Tulum 1 x Superior Garden View Room for 2 (Double) - Breakfast is included
13	Sunday January 24, 2016	<p>Final day at leisure in Tulum.</p>	Hip Hotel Tulum 1 x Superior Garden View Room for 2 (Double) - Breakfast is included
14	Monday January 25, 2016	<p>One final leisurely breakfast at your hotel, before you are collected for you private transfer to the airport ready for your flight home.</p>	

Quote

Quote reference **CMCI97549-A** (All prices are per person based on 2 people traveling)

Per person package price including domestic flights _____ **US\$5,083**

Please note the following supplements and/or upgrade options per person:

Per person upgrade to Las Alcobas (total, not per night) _____ **US\$340**

Per person upgrade to Ana Y Jose in Tulum (total, not per night) _____ **US\$360**

Per person upgrade to a Maya Villa at the Hacienda (total, not per night) _____ **US\$85**

Per person deposit required to confirm these arrangements _____ **US\$762**

The above price is valid until **Friday October 02, 2015**

The deposit required is detailed above and relates to the itinerary detailed in this quotation. In most cases the deposit is 15% of the total cost or US\$500 per person (whichever is the greater), however in some instances a larger deposit is required in order to secure particular services. Please refer to the Terms and Conditions section at the back of this booklet. Please note if you confirm your booking within 60 days of your departure date full payment is required at the time of booking. By paying the deposit you are confirming you have read and agree to our Terms and Conditions on behalf of all persons named on the booking.

How to book

If you are happy with the arrangements outlined within this itinerary and would like to book, please forward your completed booking form and the deposit specified above. If you would like to revise the itinerary, feel free to contact me and I can prepare another version that will hopefully match your requirements. The deposit can be paid by check, bank transfer or credit / debit card. Please make checks payable to Audley Travel.

On occasion, we may be asked by suppliers to make payment to them earlier than normal. Such requests may, for example, be made in order to secure flights, accommodations and other services during periods of peak demand. While suppliers may have no contractual right to make such requests, failure to comply with them may result in the loss of confirmed arrangements. Where this situation arises, we reserve the right to ask you to make payment of the requested sum within a stipulated period and prior to balance due date. We will of course try to avoid doing so if we can. Any such part payment will be treated as part of your deposit for the purposes of our terms and conditions.

Audley price policy

We are confident that we offer excellent value and constantly monitor our prices to ensure we remain competitive. If another company quotes what appears to be a lower price then we are happy to review our price with you, however, in our experience when we examine alternative quotes we invariably find differences in the arrangements. These may be subtle or more fundamental, but the impact these can have on your enjoyment is considerable. If you are able to provide a copy of the other proposal (with the name of the tour operator omitted if you prefer) we will compare the arrangements and forward a detailed reply to you.

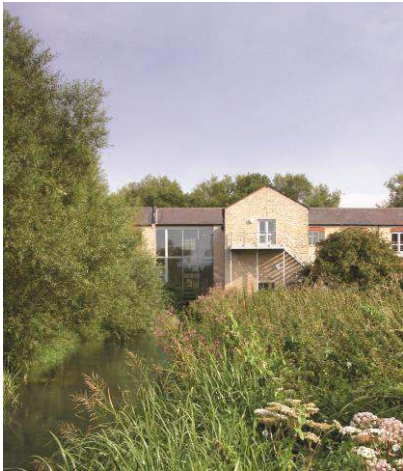
Availability of accommodations and services

Due to the complex nature of custom itineraries we do not check the availability of accommodations and services when initially planning your trip although we do avoid including properties we know are full. Once you have confirmed your wish to proceed with the travel arrangements by returning a completed booking form and deposit we immediately start to reserve your accommodations and services. If any accommodations or services are no longer available we will do our utmost to find a suitable alternative.

Not included in the price

- Meals not indicated within your itinerary.
- Where applicable, local airport departure taxes; payable locally on departure in some locations.
- Where applicable, locally payable car rental-related charges, including optional excess reduction.
- Items of a personal nature such as laundry, drinks, etc.
- Tips for your guide and driver (discretionary).
- Any camera or video fees at any sites.
- Entrance fees and other costs when on "free time".
- Travel insurance (see general information section).

Why travel with us?



The New Mill, our offices near Oxford

Reputation and quality

Well over 80% of our clients have traveled with us in the past or have had Audley recommended to them. When you book with us you are assured of quality arrangements if only for the fact that we simply cannot afford to risk our excellent reputation. Our service has been recognized by the readers of well-known publications including the Guardian & Observer, the Daily Telegraph and Wanderlust magazine, where we have consistently featured in their “best tour operator” awards for a number of years.

Personal service

We are committed to offering you a very personal service, with all your arrangements being handled by one country specialist. They will remain your one point of contact and will take responsibility for the smooth operation of your trip. They are supported by a team of specialists for that region and a professional administration and management team.

From the moment you contact us, we are here to answer your questions accurately and honestly, be they about specific arrangements or any more general queries you may have. We are experienced travelers with a thorough and in-depth knowledge of our specialist destinations, and you benefit from this experience. When we do not know the answer to a question we will try to find out and get back to you as soon as possible.

Quality service when you're traveling

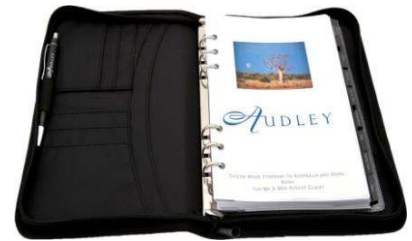
We take a good deal of care when choosing our travel partners overseas, taking into account their quality of service, guides and vehicles. We have built up many long-standing relationships, ensuring that they deliver the level of service demanded by Audley clients. Our local guides and drivers, where appropriate, are the people you will meet. In many cases we know them personally; in all cases we ensure that they are of the highest calibre. They are there to do much more than show you specific sights and provide factual information. They will be able to tell you about local life, culture, cuisines and customs, and, where applicable, act as translator. In certain parts of the world a specialist guide is more appropriate, for example, a wildlife expert.



First class guides

A smooth journey

We have procedures in place for dealing quickly and efficiently with mishaps from minor flight time alterations to more fundamental changes. If problems do occur we will rapidly rearrange your itinerary to make best use of your time given the changed circumstances, not simply cancel part of your trip or leave you sitting in an airport waiting for hours for a rescheduled flight. Importantly, in these situations we will do everything possible to minimize any extra costs involved – in the vast majority of cases no extra charges will be made. If a problem does occur while you are traveling you can contact us on our 24-hour number. We will do everything in our power to rectify the problem immediately rather than allow it to spoil your trip.



Detailed travel documents

Approximately two to three weeks before you travel we will send you all your travel documents presented in a convenient travel organizer. In addition to your full itinerary and airplane tickets, there will also be additional information such as recommended restaurants and practical tips. A few days before you travel your specialist will call you to have a final talk through your itinerary and answer any last-minute questions you may have.



Responsible travel

We have a firm commitment to minimizing the environmental and social impact of travel, and strive to ensure that a visit from an Audley client has a positive effect on the destination. We have a firm commitment to the principles of “responsible travel” and have been awarded AITO 5 star status (the highest achievable) for our policies and practices. We continue to work with AITO, and a number of other bodies, to improve our policies. For more details please refer to our website (www.audleytravel.com/us/rt) where you will find details of our responsible travel policy and also our Travelers' Code. If you are particularly interested in these issues, your country specialist will be able to tell you more.

Introduction to Mexico

Key facts:

Population: 109.96 million

Currency: Mexican Peso

Land area: 761.61 thousand square miles

Time difference: EST -1 hour

Major languages spoken: Spanish

Capital city: Mexico City

Introduction

Mexico is an immensely diverse country, with a rich cultural heritage and a fascinating history. Geographically, the country varies enormously; with scorching deserts, lush rainforests, rocky mountains, deep canyons, stunning beaches, and sparkling, turquoise seas. There are intriguing Aztec, Mayan, and Spanish Colonial cities to explore, and quaint, traditional highland villages, local markets and indigenous people to visit.

All this is enhanced by delicious food, and the sounds of traditional music throughout. The largest country in Central America, spanning a vast area of 761,606 square miles, with a population of over 106 million and 52 different spoken languages, it is also a land of contrasts; modern versus ancient, manic versus serene, and rich versus poor; a country that caters for all tastes that is not without its challenges.

Although the tourist infrastructure in parts of the country is well developed, with good service, good road networks, and hotel standards, in others it is the opposite. In the last few years, especially, Mexico has been dealing with a fluctuating level of foreign visitors, and although they do their best, it is worth noting that the hotels do not always deliver as high a standard of service as we would like. There are also frequent ad hoc demonstrations in the main cities, which can disrupt travel arrangements on occasion.

Our agents are always on hand, however, to ensure everything runs as smoothly as possible for you. If you approach Mexico with an open mind, a good sense of humor and a relaxed attitude, it really will go a long way to ensuring you make the most of this captivating country, and you will return, no doubt, with some fabulous stories, having gained a real insight in to Mexican lives.

Sadly crime is a fact of life both here and abroad and when traveling to Mexico it is important to be extra vigilant and to take precautions to protect yourself and your possessions.

We take a serious approach to our clients' health and safety and abide by the U.S Department of State guidelines. We do not send clients to places that the Department advise against; whether that is a whole country or part of a country, and minimize risk by designing itineraries that avoid regions or areas which pose significant safety concerns. You can stay fully informed of any political unrest, crime and health issues by visiting <http://travel.state.gov/> before traveling. Your country specialist will also be happy to offer personalized advice based on your trip and the areas you are visiting.

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Chichén Itzá Avg Max Day Temperature (°F)	86	88	91	95	95	93	93	93	91	90	88	84
Avg Min Night Temperature (°F)	61	63	64	68	70	72	72	72	72	68	64	61
Avg Hours of Sunshine	6	7	7	8	8	7	7	7	6	6	6	6
Monthly Rainfall (in)	1.5	1.5	1.3	1.8	4.3	7.1	6.9	6.5	7.9	5.7	2	1.9

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Merida Avg Max Day Temperature (°F)	84	86	91	95	97	95	93	93	91	88	86	84
Avg Min Night Temperature (°F)	63	64	68	70	73	73	73	73	73	70	66	64
Avg Hours of Sunshine	7	7	8	8	9	8	8	8	7	7	7	6
Monthly Rainfall (in)	1.4	1	0.8	1	2.9	5.7	5.7	6.6	7.3	4.3	1.4	1.3

12 Introduction to the region

Introduction to Mexico

Mexico City

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Avg Max Day Temperature (°F)	72	75	79	81	81	77	75	75	73	73	73	72
Avg Min Night Temperature (°F)	39	41	45	48	50	54	52	52	52	48	43	39
Avg Hours of Sunshine	6	7	7	6	6	5	5	5	4	5	6	5
Monthly Rainfall (in)	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.9	2	4.3	5.2	4.9	4.3	1.7	0.6	0.2





Top: Santo Domingo church, Oaxaca

Left: Oaxaca, Mexico

Lower left: Guelaguetza parades, Oaxaca





Top: Pueblan Dancers, Mexico

Left: Chichen Itza, Mexico

Right: Tulum, Mexico

Detailed itinerary for Greg and Adrian

Tuesday
January 12, 2016



Casa Oaxaca, Oaxaca
Breakfast is included



Oaxaca evening in the plaza

IAD to Houston

United Airlines - Flight No: UA 484 - Dep: 12:30 - Arr: 15:05 - (same day); Class: Economy Class; Non-stop flight

Please note: This arrangement has not been made by Audley Travel, details are for your information only.

Houston to Oaxaca

United Airlines - Flight No: UA4477 - Dep: 17:55 - Arr: 20:29 - (same day); Class: Economy Class; Non-stop flight

Oaxaca introduction

Oaxaca, located in a valley at 1,550 metres above sea level and surrounded by the Sierra Madre del Sur, was once the centre of the Mixtec and Zapotec civilisations. Today's Oaxaca is a combination of pre-conquest, colonial and modern influences. The early Zapotecs developed a great civilisation at nearby Monte Alban, centuries before the birth of Christ. This is one of Mexico's most delightful and popular cities, easily reached by plane from Mexico City, and is surrounded by fascinating Zapotec ruins and traditional villages.

After the Spaniards conquered Oaxaca in 1533, the city quickly took on a Spanish flavour, with ornate buildings, churches, elegant archways, balconies, decorative grillwork and charming plazas. Despite its colonial heritage, the city remains basically Indian at heart; wherein lies its charm. You can admire the beautiful architecture of the buildings in the Centro Historico (Historic Centre), which was declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1987.

As you visit the main plaza, the numerous establishments surrounding the historic centre, and the traditional markets, you'll find all kinds of crafts that come from various regions of Oaxaca. Among the most popular are the colourful alebrijes, swords, wool garments and beautiful black pottery. At some of the more traditional places, you can try delicious local fare; such as tamales, mole dishes and Oaxaca cheese. Another favourite is Oaxaca's famous mescal; a regional alcoholic beverage made from the maguey plant.

The city is best explored on foot, as the main places of interest are all within walking distance of each other, along cobbled streets with charming little shops and restaurants. The museums here are plentiful and well renowned, with the impressive Santo Domingo convent, the cathedral, the plazas and Indian markets all making it an intriguing place to spend a few days. It's a fabulous spot to wander around, or simply sit in one of the outdoor cafes soaking up the atmosphere.

The surrounding area is also well worth discovering and can easily be visited on day trips; whether it be the nearby Zapotecan archaeological site of Monte Alban, spectacularly perched on a hilltop with stunning views of the valley below, or touring the many fascinating little Indian villages, each famous for particular skills in weaving, pottery or rug making.

It can get chilly at night during the winter months of December to March here.

Detailed itinerary for Greg and Adrian



Oaxaca, Mexico

Oaxaca airport to hotel

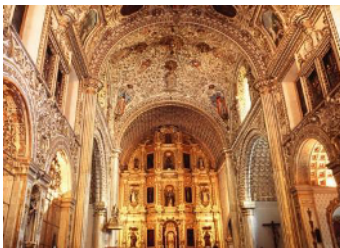
Private transfer, with chauffeur-guide.

Upon arrival, you will be met by your chauffeur-guide, and driven to your hotel in Oaxaca, which will take approximately 20 minutes.

Wednesday
January 13, 2016



Casa Oaxaca, Oaxaca
Breakfast is included



Cathedral, Oaxaca

Oaxaca Half-day City Tour

private excursion with your chauffeur-guide

Your guide will show you the highlights of this marvellous colonial city as you wander through its cobbled streets: the Zocalo, the cathedral, Santo Domingo church, the 'Benito Juarez' market that will awaken your senses with its maze of small stalls selling meat, jewellery, mezcal, cheese, clothing, leather goods, carvings, vegetables and fruit. You will also spend time in the magnificent 'Museo de las Culturas'. This museum is laid out in a series of galleries around the cloister of the labyrinthine Ex-Convento de Santo Domingo. On the ground floor are temporary exhibits and collections of antique books. On the second floor you'll find rooms dedicated to Oaxacan music, medicine, indigenous languages and pottery. More than a dozen other salons have been organised chronologically. Here you'll find such Monte Albán treasures as the stunning gold jewellery from Tomb 7 - among the greatest archaeological finds of all time. This tour is very flexible so please feel free to discuss with your guide if there is a part of the city you would particularly like to focus on.



Cactus garden, Santo Domingo Church, Oaxaca

Detailed itinerary for Greg and Adrian

Oaxaca at leisure

recommendations for your free time - not included

Oaxaca is a wonderful city to explore at your own pace. Start by heading to the Plaza de la Constitucion (main square), which is the heart of the city and dates back to 1529. The main sights here are the corridors lining the plaza and the art nouveau-style pavilion, which takes you back to the Porfirian era at the beginning of the 20th century. A number of cafés surround the square so stop for a coffee and absorb the surroundings: buskers, shoe-shine stalls, locals huddled together for their daily gossip, and 'coming of age' teenage girls having sweet fifteen commemorative photos in all their finery.

On the south side of the plaza is the state government building; in front is the shady Laurel Alemada de Leon Park and on the north side is the cathedral, which dates back to 1535, built as a headquarters for bishops. Colonial and 19th-century highlights in the city include: el Templo and ex Convento de Santo Domingo de Guzman (the Temple and Ex-Convent of Saint Domingo de Guzman), la Basilica de la Soledad (the Basilica of Solitude) and el Teatro Macedonio Alcala (the Macedonio Alcala Theatre). Both the Benito Juarez and 20 de Noviembre markets are a must-see - a maze of small stalls selling meat, jewellery, mescal, cheese, clothing, leather goods, carvings, vegetables and fruit. For cultural stimulus head to the magnificent 'Museo de las Culturas' - the 16th-century ex-convent houses an enormous collection of pre-Columbian and colonial artefacts, including treasures retrieved from Monte Albán, such as the stunning gold jewellery from Tomb 7.

Oaxaca is also a great place to try a cookery class - do speak to your specialist if this is of interest.

Thursday January 14, 2016



Meson de la Sacristia de la Compania, Puebla
Breakfast is included



Puebla, Mexico

Further morning in Oaxaca.

Oaxaca to Puebla by public bus

unaccompanied transfer by public bus

Today you will be taken to the public bus station, where you will pick up your comfortable bus service to the colonial city of Puebla. The journey will take approximately four and a half hours. Please note that as this is a public bus service Audley do not have any control over its schedule or service. Upon arrival you will be met and transferred to your hotel.

Puebla introduction

One of the oldest colonial cities on the continent, Puebla is located 110 kilometres from Mexico City in the Valley of Puebla, at an altitude of around 2,200 metres. It's surrounded by snowcapped mountains and volcanoes; such as the magnificent Volcano Popocatepetl, which, on a clear day, will be visible on your drive to the city.

It is an important industrial, cultural and educational centre for Mexico, with a fascinating history dating back to when it was founded on 16 April, 1531 by Spanish conquerors. To this day, you will find its original colonial and cultural charm proudly on display. A shining example of this is the Spanish style historic centre, which was designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1987.

Some of the more prominent and impressive of the architectural gems here are the Neoclassical style cathedral and the Mexican Baroque style Capilla del Rosario or Rosary Chapel. Puebla also has many other sites of interest that make it a wonderful place to visit; including museums, colonial houses and a good selection of restaurants and cafes.

The city is well known for its cuisine, known as *Cocina Poblana*, which is popular all over Mexico, and is considered to be the home of *mole poblano*; a wonderful rich,

Detailed itinerary for Greg and Adrian

spicy sauce often served with chicken, containing chocolate, cinnamon and nuts, as well as a variety of hot peppers.



Puebla, Mexico

Friday January 15, 2016



Meson de la Sacristia de
la Compania, Puebla
Breakfast is included



Mural, Puebla, Mexico

Half day excursion around Puebla

private excursion with your chauffeur-guide

Puebla was founded by Spanish settlers in 1531, quickly becoming an important Catholic centre, and the modern day city has retained much of its colonial charm. Your guided tour will take in some of its many highlights to enable you to experience an overall flavour of the city. You will visit the famous cathedral, which has been recognised by the central government, appearing on the Mexican 500 peso note, and which has been built on the south side of the charming central plaza. Building work started in 1550 but the most significant period of its construction occurred under the guidance of Bishop Juan de Palafox in the 1640s, and some of the paintings inside the cathedral are originals from the 17th century. You will also have the opportunity to visit the Santo Domingo Church built in 1611 and the Chapel of Rosaries, which was finished 80 years later in 1690 and which contains a beautifully ornate baroque proliferation of gilded plaster and carved stone. Please note that this tour is flexible and can be adapted to suit your preferences through discussions with your guide but while you explore Puebla's interesting street layout keep an eye out for the many iron balconies, which are typical of Puebla's architecture, as well as examples of the beautiful ornate tiles that adorn many buildings.



Government buildings, Puebla

Detailed itinerary for Greg and Adrian

At leisure in Puebla

recommendations for your free time - not included

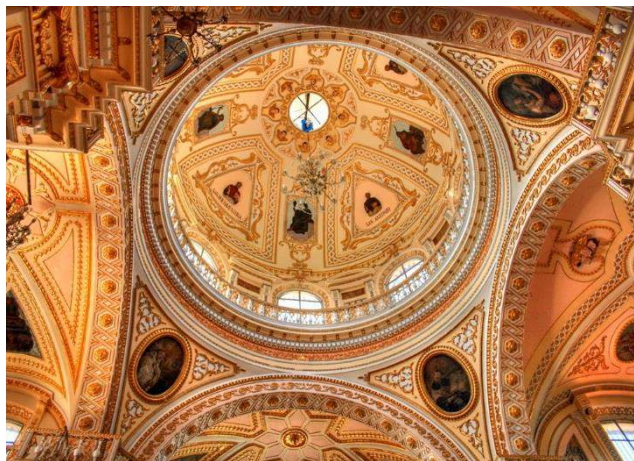
Puebla makes for the perfect place to wander around, soaking up the character and colonial charm of a traditional Mexican City. Most of the hotels, restaurants and sights of interest are within walking distance of the central plaza and historical centre, so exploring its museums, churches and colonial buildings could not be more convenient.

A good place to begin your walk tour is the former Palace of Bishop Juan de Palafox, which faces the south side of the Cathedral. Its a beautiful brick and tile building that houses the state tourist office, to help you with up-to-date advice as to what to see and do in the city. It also contains the Bibliotheca Palafoxina, or library, with thousands of rare books, including the 1493 Nuremberg Chronicle.

Historians will enjoy spending time in the excellent Amparo Museum, which is home to one of Mexico's best collections of pre-Hispanic artefacts, or for a very different experience, you could walk down to the Revolution Museum, which was the scene of the first battle of the 1910 revolution, where 500 soldiers eventually overwhelmed the Serdan family, and the force of 17 revolutionaries that fought from the house. The house retains the evidence of its bloody past as the original bullet holes still scar the outer walls.

Other central sites of interest that you can visit during your time in Puebla include the Casa del Alfenique, a museum exhibiting artefacts typical of a traditional 18th and 19th century household, the 16th-century San Francisco Church, and the Barrio del Artista, where local artists can be found in their studios painting. Puebla is a magnificent place to people watch, and to simply relax in one of the street cafés or restaurants, especially around the central plaza, admiring your surroundings is a real highlight.

If you are looking to get out of the centre, you may wish to take a taxi, or walk to Cerro de Guadalupe, a hilltop park - two kilometres from the central plaza. From the summit of the hill, you will be able to enjoy views back down over the city, as well as have the opportunity to visit a couple of museums relating to the French occupation of Puebla, and the forts of Loreto and Guadalupe.



Puebla Cathedral, Puebla

Detailed itinerary for Greg and Adrian

Saturday
January 16, 2016



The Gran Hotel, Mexico City
Breakfast is included



Craft market, Puebla, Mexico

Puebla to Mexico City by public bus

unaccompanied transfer by public bus

This morning you will be taken to the bus station and helped on to the bus back to Mexico City (tickets included). The journey will take approximately two hours. On arrival you will be met by a transfer guide and driven to your hotel.

Mexico City introduction

Located in a valley in Mexico's central region, 2,250 metres above sea level, with a magnificent backdrop of the Popocatepetl and Iztaccihuatl volcanoes, the nation's capital has a pleasant climate. One of the world's largest metropolises, Mexico City is also the oldest urban centre in the western hemisphere; founded by the Aztecs in the 14th century, when it was called Tenochtitlán.

The Spanish conqueror, Hernan Cortés, and his men were awestruck by the sight of the imposing temples of the Aztecs. Reporting back to King Carlos V, Cortés was struggling to convey the majesty of what he saw. Imagine the King's surprise at learning that 'one of the plazas is twice the size of that of Salamanca', and 'the principal pyramid is taller than the tower of the cathedral at Seville', or that the stone and wood craftsmanship that adorned these monuments 'could nowhere be bettered'.

After the Spanish conquest of the Aztecs, many of the city's original buildings were built over; and are only now being rediscovered. Today, the city is a mix of ancient ruins, colonial buildings and modern high rises. Its soul is overwhelmingly centred round its vast Zócalo (main square), and nowhere is Mexico's explosive past better depicted than here.

Surrounded by some of the finest buildings of the colonial era lie the remnants of one of the Aztecs' principal monuments, the Templo Mayor. Its mysterious shapes stand as a haunting tribute to the pre-Hispanic civilisation that flourished here long ago. Here, the Mexican flag has flown proudly for centuries, with crowds gathering in celebration or in demonstration at every opportunity.

Mexico City has two areas that were declared World Heritage sites by UNESCO. The first, the Centro Historico, has beautiful historic and religious buildings; such as the Catedral Metropolitana (Metropolitan Cathedral), the Palacio Nacional (National Palace) with spectacular Diego Rivera murals chronicling Mexico's history, and Palacio de Bellas Artes (Palace of Fine Arts) which hosts the city's most important cultural events. The other World Heritage site, Xochimilco Ecological Park, is often called the Venice of Mexico due to its beautiful canals.

What's more, Mexico City is very cosmopolitan; you can shop at bazaars and craft markets in the Coyoacan and San Angel neighbourhoods, or you can go to exclusive boutiques and shopping centres in the upmarket communities of Santa Fe and Polanco, where you'll be surrounded by the comfort of top hotels and restaurants.

The world renowned Anthropological Museum, the beautiful house of Frida Kahlo, the unique market Bazar del Sabado, the Basilica de Guadalupe; where the Virgin is said to have appeared, and Teotihuacán; the largest city in the ancient world, with pyramids rivalling those of Giza in Egypt; all contribute to making this a fascinating capital.

Although a large, busy and industrial city, it is certainly not without its charms, and is well worth a few days' exploration. The traffic in Mexico City can be a challenge - you may need to be very patient when driving from place to place. It can be chilly in the capital, especially in the evenings, so we recommend you bring a warm sweater.

Detailed itinerary for Greg and Adrian



Tranjeiras at Xochimilco, Mexico City, Mexico

Sunday
January 17, 2016



The Gran Hotel, Mexico
City
Breakfast is included



Xochimilco, Mexico City

Half day Tour to Xochimilco Floating Gardens Tour

private excursion with your chauffeur-guide

Today your guide will take you to visit the beautiful Floating Gardens of Xochimilco in the south of the city. On the way you will stop at the Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico, Latin America's largest university, recently declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site. According to UNESCO, the university campus constitutes a unique example of 20th-century modernism integrating urbanism, architecture, engineering, landscape design and fine arts with references to local traditions, especially to Mexico's pre-Hispanic past. Continuing on to arrive at the famous Xochimilco Floating Gardens. This area is a large system of canals based on the original make-up of the city of Tenochitlan, as Mexico City was called before the arrival of the Spanish. When the first nomadic settlers arrived in the Valley of Mexico they found an enormous lake. As the years went by and their population grew, the land could no longer satisfy their agricultural needs. They solved the problem by devising a system of chinampas (floating gardens), rectangular structures akin to barges, which they filled with reeds, branches and mud. They planted the barges with willows, whose roots anchored the floating gardens to the lake bed, making a labyrinth of small islands and canals on which vendors carried flowers and produce grown on the chinampas to market. Today Xochimilco is the only place in Mexico where the gardens still exist. You will take a pleasant voyage through the canals in a colourfully painted traditional trajinera boat.

This is a very popular activity with the locals at the weekend when floating mariachis and food vendors punt alongside extended families and tourists out to enjoy an afternoon in this ancient manner.

Mexico City tour

Private excursion with your chauffeur-guide

This morning your guide will take you on a tour of the historic downtown to visit the most famous sights in this incredible city. Your local guide will focus on the Centro Histórico (historic centre). Nowhere is Mexico's explosive past better depicted than at its central plaza, the Zócalo, which is the second-largest in the world. Surrounded by some of the finest buildings of the colonial era lie the remnants of one of the Aztecs' principal monuments, the Templo Mayor. Its mysterious shapes stand as a haunting tribute to the pre-Hispanic civilisation that flourished here long ago. You will also visit the murals in the Palacio Nacional, which were painted by the famous Mexican artist and husband of Frida Kahlo, Diego Rivera. The tour will take approximately three hours.

Detailed itinerary for Greg and Adrian

Monday
January 18, 2016



The Gran Hotel, Mexico
City
Breakfast is included



Teotihuacan, Mexico City

Tour to Teotihuacan and the Shrine of Guadalupe

private excursion with your chauffeur-guide

Your driver will pick you up from your hotel this morning and take you to the pre-Aztec city of Teotihuacan, visiting both the Pyramids of the Sun and the Moon and the Calle de los Muertos. Although its incipient period (the first two centuries B.C.) is poorly understood, archaeological data show that the next two centuries were characterized by monumental construction during which Teotihuacan quickly became the largest and most populous urban centre in the New World. The city seems to have functioned for centuries until its rather sudden collapse, possibly in the seventh century. The place was called Teotihuacan, by Nahuatl speakers, several centuries after the city's fall but its original name, the language or languages spoken there, and the ethnic groups who built the city are still a mystery.

The pyramids of the sun and moon here are said to rival those of Giza in Egypt and at the city's peak of power between AD350-650, it had many influences over other now ancient sites throughout Mexico and Guatemala especially in relation to the pottery, sculpture and architecture. Your guide will discuss the history and achievements of this pre hispanic civilization bringing this ancient metropolis to life once again. You may have time to climb part or all of the Moon and Sun Temples should you wish to; the steps are quite steep, but the view over the site from the sun temple in particular is well worth the climb.

After visiting the pyramids, your guide will suggest a suitable place for lunch - generally a Mexican Buffet, at a local restaurant (pay locally).

On the way back into the capital you can stop at the infamous Shrine of Guadalupe, Mexico's holiest shrine. Its importance derives from the miracle that the devout believe occurred here in December 1531 when an Aztec named Juan Diego was approached by the Virgin Mary while walking in the local area. This happened three times and each time the Virgin Mary implored Diego to convince the local Bishop to build a church on the site but the Bishop did not believe Diego until he returned with a divine impression of the Virgin Mary imprinted on his cloak. Following this the Bishop set to work and within the next 6 years over 6 million Aztecs converted to the Christian faith. The remnants of Saint Juan Diego's famous cloak now remain in the Cathedral of Guadalupe encased high up above its altar and can be viewed from a moving sidewalk that passes below. This is such a holy site that millions of pilgrims visit each year so please do dress appropriately.

You're likely to be returning to Mexico City at approximately 3 o'clock. However, the total duration of the tour will depend largely on factors such as traffic and how much time you spend climbing the temples, so do be prepared that you could arrive back at your hotel slightly earlier or later than this.

Detailed itinerary for Greg and Adrian



Teotihuacan, Mexico

Tuesday
January 19, 2016



Hacienda San Jose Cholul,
Hacienda San Jose Cholul
Breakfast is included



Colonial Architecture, Merida

Free morning to see the anthropological museum (best if you are staying at Alcobas)

Hotel to Mexico City Airport

private transfer with your chauffeur-guide

You will be collected from your hotel and taken by private transfer to the airport in plenty of time for your onward flight. Depending on the traffic, this may take anywhere between half an hour and two hours, but your guide will judge this and advise on the time that you will be collected from the hotel.

Mexico City to Merida

Aeromexico - Flight No: AM 527 - Dep: 15:30 - Arr: 17:20 - (same day); Class: Economy Class; Non-stop flight

Yucatán introduction

The Mexican state of the Yucatán is rich in culture, history and natural scenery. From the well-known archaeological sites of Chichén Itzá and Uxmal to the lesser visited ruins, such as Kabáh and Etzna along the Puuc route, you can take a step back in time and discover the ancient Mayan culture and traditions that were once such an integral part of this fascinating land. Chichén Itzá is the most famous of the Mayan archaeological sites in the Yucatán, and the best restored, providing a vivid insight in to how the city would have looked at its peak. Both the main cities in the region, Merida and Campeche, include some impressive colonial buildings and make good spots to stay with easy access to the main sights in the surrounding area.

Merida introduction

Merida was built more than 450 years ago on the site of T'ho; an ancient Mayan city, and is the social and economic centre, as well as the capital, of the Yucatán state. It is also known as the 'White City' because of the white limestone and white paint used for the buildings in its old centre. It is an ever expanding, sprawling, bustling city of nearly one million inhabitants, but it retains its traditions and has a rich cultural life; reflected in its diversity and many free concerts, performances and other events which are held daily.

Despite its modernity, Merida has also managed to retain its colonial charm in its small historic centre, which despite undergoing constant restoration, has a charming laid back tempo and is a great place to experience Mexican culture. You can admire the cathedral, old mansions and elegant buildings built in the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries, which are now used as public office buildings, museums and

Detailed itinerary for Greg and Adrian

hotels. Its central area features a large tree-shaded central square, with a market and numerous small shops surrounding it.

Jarana is the principal dance in Mexico's Yucatán state; an illustration of the fusion of old and new world culture, it enchants viewers with the elegance of its steps. The music is typically provided by a jarana orchestra comprised of two clarinets, two trombones, kettledrums and güiro. If you are in the city on a Sunday, half the main avenue is closed to traffic, and there is often music and dancing in the street.

Merida also makes a good base from which to explore the Mayan archaeological sites of Chichén-Itzá and Uxmal. Pink flamingo sanctuaries and swimmable crystal clear cenotes (sinkholes) are some of the natural attractions of the Yucatán Peninsula, and they are also easily accessible from the city.

Museums are closed on Sundays and Mondays.



Merida, Mexico

Airport to Hacienda San Jose

Private transfer, with chauffeur-guide.

Upon arrival in Merida, you will be met by your driver, and driven out of the city to your hacienda. The journey should take approximately an hour.

Hacienda San Jose Cholul introduction


Staying at one of the Yucatán's restored haciendas is a wonderfully authentic way to experience and appreciate the region's rich history. Dating from the 17th century, the haciendas have been passed on from generation to generation. Built upon the vast profits amassed from the production of sisal, a fibre that became known as 'green gold', the haciendas give a glimpse of an opulent and privileged past. Today these intimate and historic haciendas, located in the middle of the Mayan archaeological zones, have been restored to exquisite period detail.

Detailed itinerary for Greg and Adrian




Hacienda San Jose Cholul, Mexico

Wednesday
January 20, 2016

 Hacienda San Jose Cholul,
Hacienda San Jose Cholul
Breakfast is included

Thursday
January 21, 2016

 Hacienda Chichen,
Chichén Itzá
Breakfast is included

NOTE

**There will be time
to see the lights show
this evening!**



The Colonnade at Izamal

Free time at the hacienda

Hacienda San Jose Cholul to Chichén Itzá via Izamal

private vehicle with your chauffeur-guide

You may stop on the way to the Maya ruins of Chichén Itzá at the colonial city of Izamal - one of the oldest cities in the Yucatán, called the City of Hills and located right in the middle of the peninsula. Izamal was conquered by the Spaniards, and the monks in their eagerness to convert the Indians to Catholicism gave the city its religious distinction. To this day, Izamal's people are very devoted to the Immaculate Virgin. Head to the Government Palace to see the large model in the outdoor corridor. It shows the entire town and the tremendous number of Maya pyramids that are scattered about. To the north are the Maya ruins of Kinich Kakmó, the most important. This is a largely unrestored pyramid that looks like a symmetrical hill. A climb to the top will reward you with a beautiful view; perhaps even do as the locals do and take a horse and trap ride around the town square. Continue on to Chichén Itzá and your hotel within the archaeological zone.



Izamal

Detailed itinerary for Greg and Adrian

Chichén Itzá introduction

The ruins at Chichén Itzá have been voted one of the New Seven Wonders of the World. The ancient Mayan capital is the most famous archaeological zone in the Yucatan, and lies 120 kilometres east of Merida, in the direction of Cancun. Declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO, Chichén Itzá will take you back in time to the pre-Hispanic era, allowing you to discover what life was like during those days.


Each year during the spring equinox, a natural phenomenon occurs at El Castillo (also known as the Pyramid of Kukulcan) - the sunlight creates a shadow image of a plumed serpent descending down the pyramid's stairs. This unique experience draws hundreds of tourists from all over the world. Although it is one of the most visited ruins in Mexico, it remains a spectacular unique site; an ideal destination, not only for those who enjoy archaeology, but also for those who like history and the charming allure of ancient civilizations.

Due to the visitor numbers, Audley recommends visiting the ruins as early in the day as is possible to avoid the crowds of day trippers that arrive from Cancun.




El Castillo, Chichen Itza, Yucatan

Friday January 22, 2016

 Ana y Jose Hotel & Spa,
Tulum

Breakfast is included

 Hip Hotel Tulum, Tulum

Breakfast is included



Chak the Mayan God of rain, Chichen Itza

Chichén Itzá Private Tour (half day including lunch)

Private excursion with your chauffeur-guide

An early start is recommended today to avoid the crowds. The famous Maya pyramids of Chichén Itzá are over 1,500 years old; the name Chichén Itzá is a Mayan word: CHI (mouth) CHEN (well) and ITZA (of the witch water). Some say this is because people were often thrown in to the nearby cenote as sacrifices and those who survived were believed to be seers. The site is divided in to three sections. The northern group of structures is distinctly Toltec in style, the central group appears to be from the early period, and the southern group is known as 'The Old Chichén'.

You will find the largest ball court in Mesoamerica, measuring 168 metres in length and 70 metres in width, where Maya men played a game called pok ta pok. Anthropologists believe that the object of the game was to hurl a ball through a ring that was mounted on a wall seven metres above the ground. Each team had six field players who would attempt to pass the ball - using any body part except their hands - to their captain, who would attempt the shot using a racket of sorts. Some believe that the captain of the team that made the first successful shot was then decapitated as a sacrifice to the gods. This was seen as an honour and guaranteed entrance in to heaven, although this theory has been much debated by historians. At Chichén Itzá you can also visit the spectacular Cenote Sagrado, a large sinkhole that measures 60 metres in diameter. All sorts of treasures have been found here

Detailed itinerary for Greg and Adrian

including rings, necklaces, gold and jade objects, as well as the bones of young women who were thrown in to the water as an offering to Chaac, the Maya rain god. The tour includes lunch.



Chichen Itza, Mexico

Chichén Itzá to Tulum

Transfer by private vehicle, with driver only.

You will be picked up from your hotel, and driven to your hotel in Tulum. This journey will take approximately three hours.

Quintana Roo introduction

Quintana Roo is the state in Mexico that includes the whole Cancun and Mayan Riviera area, including Playa del Carmen, Tulum, Cozumel and Isla Mujeres. Its beaches are amongst the most beautiful in the world, surrounded by the sparkling clear turquoise waters of the Caribbean Sea. Having natural landscapes, history and culture, it is also a wonderful place for those who like fishing and aquatic sports. The whole region can be affected by severe hurricanes, due to its exposed location, generally from July to October.

Tulum introduction

Tulum lies at the southern end of the Mayan Riviera. It is a small town that has sprung up gradually over the years, and which continues to grow in response to the popularity of its idyllic beach and its ruins. These ruins, well worth a visit, once served as a point of defence against invaders from both land and sea, and also as a port of call for the maritime commerce that thrived along the coast.

Tulum is the only walled city the Maya built, and the only one by the edge of the Caribbean. When the Spanish first came upon the site in 1518, they recorded that it was as large as Seville. The major construction is the Castle; a handsome pyramid perched on the edge of a cliff, high above the pearly white beaches below. From here, you can see most of the ancient city, as well as a spectacular view of the coastline.

The town itself doesn't hold much for the visitor, and most of the hotels are situated down the Boca Paila road, fronting the beautiful stretch of sandy beach and turquoise sea. This is simply a wonderful place to relax in informal surroundings, with the fabulous warm Caribbean waters and white sand under foot. The hotels here are not as luxurious as some of those further up the coast as they are more isolated and have to provide their own electricity, waste disposal and water.

As they are not connected to the main public utilities, this does mean that systems

Detailed itinerary for Greg and Adrian


and power failures can be common. The accommodation here is similar to the comfortable cabañas and charming ecohotels type, but what it lacks can be forgiven for its absolutely stunning location, sprinkled along this beautiful stretch of beach.

It can often be pretty windy along the peninsula, especially from December to March.




Tulum beach

Saturday January 23, 2016

 Ana y Jose Hotel & Spa,
Tulum

Breakfast is included

 Hip Hotel Tulum, Tulum

Breakfast is included



Tulum, Mexico

At leisure in Tulum

recommendations for your free time - not included


Most people come to Tulum to relax for a few days at the end of their trip on a delightful white sandy beach but there are plenty of other activities to get involved in should you wish to. You can discover ancient Mayan cities such as Coba and Tulum. Or you may choose to venture to Sian Ka'an - an incredible ecological reserve which has been declared a World Heritage site by UNESCO. Here there are various eco-excursions on offer - sailfish and marlin fishing, and other outdoor activities such as long walks or horseback riding, while enjoying the beautiful backdrop of the Caribbean Sea. Sailing, snorkelling and deep-sea fishing can all be arranged easily throughout the Mayan Riviera too. You are likely to catch marlin, tuna, amber jack, barracuda, wahoo, snapper, grouper and dorado.


There is also the opportunity to explore a unique system of extraordinary underground rivers and sinkholes (cenotes). Early Mayans believed cenotes were sacred wells of the gods. They are still a fresh water source for communities. Today, visitors visit cenotes to bathe in the cool, refreshing waters, worship the sun, and explore hidden caves. You can swim, snorkel or scuba dive observing a wide variety of marine species and incredible stalactites. Xcaret and Xel-Há are both excellent eco-parks that are good for snorkelling in these unusual environments and provide natural aquariums surrounded by thick jungle. The best scuba-diving can be found over in the island of Cozumel but for a more unique experience try diving in the cenotes. Cenote diving is considered one of the most spectacular adventures that a diver can experience. Our local agent's Cancun team will be more than happy to give you advice or arrange any of these trips for you. The hotels also offer a wide range of tours for you to book locally but should you particularly wish to pre-book something before you travel please ask me.

Detailed itinerary for Greg and Adrian

Sunday
January 24, 2016

Further day at leisure to organize activities locally

 Ana y Jose Hotel & Spa,
Tulum
Breakfast is included

 Hip Hotel Tulum, Tulum
Breakfast is included

Monday
January 25, 2016

Tulum to Cancun airport

Transfer by private vehicle, with driver only.

You will be transferred up the coast to Cancun airport, in plenty of time for your departing flight. The transfer will take approximately two hours.

Cancun International airport to IAD

United Airlines - Flight No: UAI 133 - Dep: 16:50 - Arr: 20:07 - (same day); Class: Economy Class; Non-stop flight

Please note: This arrangement has not been made by Audley Travel, details are for your information only.

Important Notes

- Flight times and the daily order of sightseeing are subject to change.
- Transfer times are approximate and subject to local conditions at the time of travel.
- All flight times are local.

Accommodations



OUR ACCOMMODATIONS GRADING SYSTEM

Your accommodations are described on the following pages. Please do not hesitate to call us if you require any further information about any of the properties. We classify accommodations into the following categories. These are for your guidance only; they are based on the opinions of our staff and are therefore quite subjective.

Basic: Very primitive accommodations where we are not aware of anything better in the region.

Simple: Clean and simple but limited facilities.

Medium: Good quality accommodations, reasonable range of facilities.

First Class: High-quality accommodations with a wide range of facilities.

Deluxe: Superb accommodations with facilities and service to match.

Opulent: The world's most unashamedly luxurious hotels, resorts and lodges.

Accommodations

CASA OAXACA, OAXACA

Medium

Casa Oaxaca is a beautiful boutique hotel with just seven rooms, located in the heart of Oaxaca. Internal whitewashed courtyards and rooms are furnished in a traditional style of local fabrics, terracotta tiles and are decorated with contemporary Mexican modern art. The in-house restaurant is a highlight, serving breakfast and dinner in the central courtyard (the hotel also has a second restaurant next to San Domingo Cathedral.)

Our opinion:

A wonderful boutique property that combines European service levels with local style and flare in its design and cuisine.



MESON DE LA SACRISTIA DE LA COMPANIA, PUEBLA

Medium

Mesón Sacristía de la Compañía is, from the exterior, a colourful colonial building, with typical Spanish terraces and heavy wooden doors. Inside, you will find that each room is completely different, and uniquely decorated in antiques, with almost everything in the rooms up for sale.

Guests can also enjoy an antiques gallery that features furniture, tapestries, figurines and religious art for sale. The hotel's award-winning cuisine of traditional Pueblan dishes is served in the small courtyard, with patio-style seating, and live music daily.

Our opinion:

This is a quirky hotel, located on a beautiful, traditional street, filled with little antiques shops. The restaurant serves excellent traditional food, and



we recommend trying the mole poblano. There can be a little background noise during the day, as the restaurant does play music, which echoes around the courtyard, but this is turned off at night.

Accommodations

THE GRAN HOTEL, MEXICO CITY

Medium

The Gran Hotel is located right in the heart of the historical centre of Mexico City, steps from the Main Square, the National Palace of Government and the Metropolitan Cathedral. It features original art nouveau decoration, a tiffany stained glass ceiling from 1908 and panoramic elevators from the beginning of the 20th century. It is a little jaded around the edges but full of charm with 60 comfortable rooms, high-speed Internet connection, TV, high ceilings and handmade furniture. The Gran Hotel Ciudad de Mexico also has a Mexican gourmet restaurant, the Terraza, on the roof with marvellous views down to the Zocalo. This hotel is the perfect starting point for discovering the historical part of Mexico City.

Our opinion:



Full of character and the nicest of the historical hotels situated around the Zocalo. However, the traffic in the Centro Historico area is exceptionally busy, so expect noise and delays.

HOTEL LAS ALCOBAS, MEXICO CITY

First Class (Upgrade Option)

The Hotel Las Alcobas is a new boutique hotel located in the chic Polanco area of Mexico City, close to restaurants, boutiques and museums. The hotel has just 35 rooms that are tastefully decorated with custom-made furniture and a remote control for everything! There are two in-house restaurants (one formal and one more casual). There is a small onsite spa if you feel in need of pampering after exploring the bustling city.

Our opinion:

Las Alcobas offers all the facilities and standards of a big international hotel while maintaining the feel and service of a boutique option. The rooms are not particularly large but all are furnished to high specifications and each boasts a complimentary non-alcoholic minibar with an intriguing



selection of Mexican sweets to try. The staff are extremely helpful and friendly, making this a wonderful place to base yourself to explore Mexico City. It is the best-located hotel for enjoying the restaurants of Polanco.

Accommodations

HACIENDA SAN JOSE CHOLUL

Medium

The Hacienda San Jose Cholul is situated in the little town of Tixkokob, 45 minutes from Merida. Once a working hacienda, it has now been renovated in to a luxury hotel. The owner of the haciendas originally began renovating haciendas in the Yucatan, as a social project in order to train the local people, and provide them with jobs and a means to support their families.

The Hacienda San Jose also offers tours to explore the local area, that can be arranged upon arrival. The 15 rooms and suites are all spacious and air-conditioned, with beautiful decor. The hacienda also has a huge swimming pool, stunning gardens and delicious food.

Our opinion:

A wonderful opportunity to step in to



the past and stay in an authentic Mexican hacienda. Take a stroll through the shady walkways, and spot some of the prolific local birdlife.

HACIENDA CHICHEN, CHICHÉN ITZÁ

Medium

As one of the oldest hotels in Chichén Itzá, Hacienda Chichen has been a focus of activity in the Yucatan since the Spaniards founded it in 1523. Now, this historical site has been turned into a simple but charming, characterful hotel and resort, where guests are just steps from the Chichén Itzá ruins.

It is surrounded by a massive subtropical forest, and is home to over 150 known species of birds. Its 30 individually styled rooms are set throughout the gardens in blocks of cottage-style rooms, simply but comfortably decorated with en suite and air-conditioning.

There is also a pool and restaurant, but no room service offered here. Check-out time is at 12 noon, after which you can leave luggage with the concierge.



Our opinion:

This hotel is set in the perfect location to visit the ruins. We particularly love the lush gardens; perfect for a wander in the afternoon.

Accommodations



HIP HOTEL TULUM, TULUM

Simple

The Hip Hotel Tulum has a wonderful beachfront location, perfect for those seeking a relaxing break on one of Mexico's most beautiful stretches of beach.

The hotel is a simple, small and charming property, with 24 double bedrooms, all located in two-storey blocks within walking distance of the beach and Caribbean Sea, and set around peaceful, coconut palm-fringed gardens.

All the ground floor rooms have hammocks on their porch. Children over three years old are accepted. There is 24-hour electricity, but no air-conditioning, just a fan in the rooms and plenty of cooling sea breezes.

The hotel has a beachfront restaurant and bar, serving Mexican-Gourmet fusion cuisine, or alternatively, you are in walking distance of other hotels and

restaurants.

Although there is no pool here, you are able to walk up the beach (about 15 minutes), and use their sister hotel, Ana y Jose's, pool if you wish, but few feel the need, as the sea is so turquoise and appealing here.

Our opinion:

A rustic and well-located beachfront property. This is a hotel designed for those looking to avoid some of the more developed areas of this coastline.

As the Hip Hotel aims to keep to a simple, ecologically friendly aesthetic, the rooms do not have air-conditioning (ceiling fans only) and the hotel does not have a pool.



Accommodations

ANA Y JOSE HOTEL & SPA, TULUM Medium

Ana y Jose is a laid-back beach hotel, situated on a beautiful stretch of golden sandy beach and warm caribbean sea. It is a long standing favourite for visitors to Tulum and was one of the first hotels to be built down here. As such, each of the 23 rooms are different and all have their quirks. Located in two-storey thatched buildings fronting the garden and pool, all rooms are tastefully decorated in a contemporary style and feature air-conditioning and private bathrooms. There are only five rooms with twin beds and these can never be guaranteed, the rest are king beds. As with all hotels in Tulum, electricity is off grid meaning power and hot water can occasionally be temperamental, but the hotel has back-up generator to ensure any outages are short-lived. Facilities at the hotel include a small swimming pool, WiFi, a

spa with an extensive menu and an excellent restaurant specialising in Mexican cuisine and ceviche.

Our opinion:

A wonderfully located hotel, in a fantastic spot, facing the beach and within walking distance of several restaurants. Please be aware that rooms with balconies have balcony balustrades of a construction that could present a hazard to children. Families will be accommodated in ground-floor rooms.



Charity support

Audley has been supporting carbon reduction projects through Friends of Conservation since 2005 and in addition to this each individual department also supports charities of their choice with a yearly financial donation. These charities are ones that are close to their hearts and the team often chooses to fundraise to add to this amount. Here in the Latin America department we have chosen to support Amigos de Santa Cruz and Suma Qamaña.

Amigos De Santa Cruz

Santa Cruz La Laguna is a small Mayan community on the shores of Lake Atitlan in Guatemala. It has no road access and is surrounded by jagged mountains; the only way to get there is by boat from the lake. The community is believed by the Guatemalan government to be one of the 45 poorest townships in all of Guatemala with illiteracy and malnutrition among the highest in the country.

Amigos de Santa Cruz, is a small charity established by a small group of foreign residents in 1998. The main focus of the charity is on education, both Primary and Secondary, in order to help develop a literate community who are better educated and able to improve their own lifestyles and future.

The education projects provide books and other supplies for the Primary school along with a daily nutritional snack for the 400 children. They also run after school programmes for children with special needs. There is a computer education centre which provides access to educational resources and opens up communication with students from other cultures and parts of the world. The health projects provide the local community with clinical care and an immunization programme for the children. The volunteers give talks in the school on hygiene and work alongside their sister organisation "Feed The Dream" in supplying a nutritional snack, daily vitamins, daily tooth brushing and hand washing for the children. They have built two new bathrooms for the school of 400 pupils.



Amigos also helps to distribute water filters to the community as a whole. These are easy to use and cheap to run and provide families with clean drinking water. Since the start of this in 2006 the number of intestinal illnesses such as diarrhoea and parasites has reduced dramatically.

The isolation of the community combined with poor agricultural land, lack of waste management, shortage of drinking water and firewood are some of the problems faced by Santa Cruz's residents. Amigos de Santa Cruz aim to help find sustainable solutions to these problems.

For further information please refer to www.amigosdesantacruz.org

Suma Qamaña

San Pedro prison in La Paz, Bolivia's de facto capital city, is estimated to be home to around 1,500 inmates, as well as some of the men's wives and children who would not be able to live outside of the prison without the husband's income. The prison is renowned for the unusual set up of being a society within the city, with varying standards of accommodation. Around 200-250 children and adolescents live within the prison walls and although there is basic childcare and education these children are often living in poor conditions and subjected to violence, as well as discrimination outside of the prison walls. Suma Qamaña is a small charity that was set up by a paediatrician to support these children (and those in other prisons), giving them a safe, quiet environment where they can receive education, healthcare and support outside of the prison. The main objective is to give the children the prospect of a better life, promoting education and study as well as vocational skills - the name translates as 'living well' or 'good life'.

Charity support

The Suma Qamaña house is set up in Achocalla in the city's southern outskirts, around 30 minutes from San Pedro in picturesque surroundings and daily transport is provided from the prison. The children can play in and outside here without the dangers of city traffic and without the pollution, helping to cultivate vegetables, look after the resident farm animals, read and play. Other facilities include a playground and sports field. Since setting up the charity the staff have been able to expand the project to assist more and more children, recently buying sewing machines and materials to be able to teach vocational skills to some of the older children.



If you would like more information about either of these charities please ask your specialist, who will be happy to tell you a bit more about the projects.

General information

Travel insurance

It is advisable to take out your travel insurance at the time of booking your trip, since coverage will begin for pre-departure cancellation from the policy issue date. This will, therefore, provide coverage should you have to cancel your trip for an insured (covered) reason

We strongly recommend that you and all members of your party are adequately insured, protecting against unforeseen circumstances that could otherwise spoil your travels. Coverage should include medical expenses and repatriation in the event of accident or illness. In addition, we also strongly recommend that you have coverage for personal belongings, delay at your outward or homeward point of departure, personal liability, overseas legal expenses and cancellation. If you are undertaking any sports or adventurous activities, including trekking, on your trip you should also make sure that your policy covers these. Please also ensure you read the policy conditions and exclusions.

Health

It is essential that you see your physician before booking your trip and before traveling to make sure that you have taken all the necessary health precautions. Some vaccinations require more than one visit with a period of weeks between injections. You should visit your doctor at least six weeks before departure. For up to date medical advice you may wish to use the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). It maintains a travelers' health page: wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destination.

Deep vein thrombosis (DVT)

The majority of international airlines now issue advice on how to lessen the risk of DVT; however, if you have any concerns, we recommend you consult your physician.

Pre-existing medical conditions/Disabled passengers

It is essential that you advise us before booking if you have any disability or pre-existing medical condition which may affect your vacation or any special requirements as a result of any disability or medical condition (including any which affect the booking process) so that we can assist you in considering the suitability of the arrangements and/or making the booking. It will also enable us to make sure you receive the relevant level of assistance when you fly.

Full details must be confirmed in writing at the time of booking and whenever any change in the condition or disability occurs. You must also promptly advise us of any medical condition or disability which may affect your trip and which develops after your booking has been confirmed. The nature of many of the destinations featured within our brochures means that in the majority of cases they are unsuitable for those who are wheelchair bound or have a lack of mobility. We will be delighted to discuss the feasibility of creating a custom itinerary for you that takes into consideration your level of mobility.

On our escorted group tours the leader is, unfortunately, unable to offer additional assistance to passengers with limited mobility and all such assistance will need to be provided by whoever the passenger is traveling with. We may request that you provide a letter from your doctor confirming your fitness to travel.

High altitude

Your itinerary may include sections where the altitude exceeds 10,000 feet (3,048 metres). We advise that you consult with your physician before confirming your booking.

Smoking

Airlines do not permit smoking on the aircraft. At the request of the majority of our clients we do not allow smoking on any form of transportation used for our escorted group tours. Stops are regularly made where you will be able to smoke. For smokers traveling on a custom tour we request that you check with your driver or guide whether smoking is permitted in the vehicle.

Hotel information

There is frequent confusion over the terminology used for bed arrangements in hotel rooms. A "double" is recognized as meaning a room with a double bed, which may be two single beds pushed together. A "twin" is a room with two single beds. Please note that all rooms are allocated at the discretion of the hotel and cannot be guaranteed.

Single rooms

Single rooms tend to be smaller than double or twin rooms, however, many hotels do not have single rooms, in which case you will be allocated a twin or double room.

Flights and airlines

The difference between a direct flight and a non-stop flight can cause confusion. To clarify, on a direct flight no change of aircraft is scheduled but stops may be made en route either to refuel or to board or disembark passengers. On non-stop flights no change of aircraft is required and no stops are made en route. Exact details will be given with your itinerary.

Premium Economy, Business and First Class

If you require business or first class flights these can be arranged on most airlines at very competitive rates. Premium economy can be arranged on certain airlines, please call us for details.

Specific seat requests

We will do all we can to try to reserve a specific seat for you, if you have a preference. However, while airlines may allow us to request seats, they will not guarantee any specific seat reservation. If this is important to you, it is always best to arrive for your flight early, regardless of having made this request in advance. Please make it clear on your booking form if you have a specific request.

Flight amendments

We generally use special "inclusive tour" fares when we purchase your air tickets from the airline. While these fares are very good value they are inflexible in terms of changes and offer no refunds once the tickets are issued. Once your flight is confirmed the airlines will charge an amendment fee or insist on the purchase of a completely new ticket if you make changes.

Internal flights

Smaller local airlines are often more likely to change their schedule at short notice. We will try to inform you of any changes in advance of traveling but this may not always be possible.

Frequent Flyer Clubs

If you collect points through any of the airline frequent flyer clubs please provide your membership details on the booking form and we will ensure that these are recorded against your flight reservation. Please note that on some of our specially negotiated "inclusive tour" fares points are not always awarded

General information

Special dietary requirements

Special diets should be requested on the booking form; however, it is unrealistic to expect special diets to be catered to in some of the destinations we feature. We will advise the hotels and airlines of your request but we cannot guarantee their availability.

Travel in the developing world

Many of our destinations are in the developing world where attitudes, infrastructure, priorities, lifestyles and cultures are very different from our own. This is often the very reason to visit the destination but certain aspects may be frustrating. We always advise that the first thing you should pack is your sense of humour. This can prove invaluable when traveling over rougher roads, waiting for a delayed aircraft and communicating with hotel staff whose first language is not English.

Health and safety standards

Each country has its own regulations and enforcement levels relating to health and safety standards. These do not always match the very high standards you are used to in the US. We therefore recommend that you follow a few precautionary safety procedures. Always check where the nearest fire exit is and how to raise the fire alarm. Do not enter a swimming pool before checking the water depth first. For more suggestions please see the Important Information section in your Travel Organizer.

Passport and visa information for US Citizens

Travelers must hold a passport which is valid for at least six months following the return date of your vacation. US citizens currently require visas, in advance of travel, for a number of countries featured in our programs. For up to date visa requirements visit www.travel.state.gov. Citizens of other countries should check with the relevant embassy in their own country.

Travel advice

The Bureau of Consular Affairs monitors all overseas destinations and offers safety advice to US citizens traveling overseas. For up-to-date information please visit www.travel.state.gov

Catalog and itinerary accuracy

We thoroughly check all the information that is included within our catalogs and individual tour itineraries, however, changes do occur and errors are occasionally made. Airlines may change their schedules, roads may close and government regulations may change. Should there be any changes to the travel arrangements you have booked we will do our best to keep you informed prior to departure.

Data Protection

We will hold your name, address and any other details you supply us with on our database. This information will be used to make your travel arrangements and to send you information about Audley Travel. In order to make your travel arrangements we may need to pass your details to companies and individuals in countries where less stringent data protection controls may be in place. We will not pass on your details to third parties for any other purposes.

Release, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Agreement

Please read the following conditions carefully. All trips are sold by us subject to these conditions and the other general information in this booklet, and in our brochures.

Audley Travel US Inc (whose headquarters are at 77 North Washington Street, 6th Floor, Boston, MA, 02114, United States), its subsidiaries, owners, directors, officers, employees and affiliates, (collectively "Audley Travel"), does not own or operate any entity which is to or does provide goods or services for your trip including, for example, ownership or control over hotels or other lodging facilities, airlines, vessels, buses, vans or other transportation companies, local ground operators, providers or organizers of optional excursions or equipment used thereon, food service or entertainment providers, etc. All such persons and entities are independent contractors. As a result, Audley Travel is not liable for any negligent or willful act or failure to act of any such person or entity, or of any other third party. Without limitation, Audley Travel is not responsible for any injury, loss, or damage to person, property or luggage, death, delay or inconvenience in connection with the provision of any goods or services occasioned by or resulting from, but not limited to, acts of God, acts of government, force majeure, acts of war or civil unrest, insurrection or revolt, strikes or other labor activities, criminal or terrorist activities of any kind, or the threat thereof, overbooking or downgrading of accommodations, structural or other defective conditions in hotels or other lodging facilities, mechanical or other failure of airplanes or other means of transportation or for any failure of any transportation mechanism to arrive or depart timely or safely, dangers associated with or bites from animals, pests or insects, marine life or vegetation of any sort, dangers incident to recreational activities such as scuba diving, zip lining, snorkeling, paddle boarding, swimming, kayaking, sailing, canoeing, rafting, hiking, bicycling, rock climbing, etc., sanitation problems, food poisoning, lack of access to or quality of medical care, difficulty in evacuation in case of a medical or other emergency, illness, epidemics or the threat thereof or for any other cause beyond the direct control of Audley Travel.

In addition, I release Audley Travel from its own negligence and assume all risk thereof.

Audley Travel may take photographs or video of its trips and trip participants. I grant Audley Travel permission to do so and for it to use same for promotional or commercial use without payment of any compensation to participant.

Assumption of Risk

I am aware that adventure travel such as that I am undertaking involves hazardous activities, some in remote areas of the world, with a risk of illness, injury or death which may be caused by forces of nature, animals, insects or flora, the negligence of Audley Travel, or other persons and companies known or unknown, or of willful or criminal conduct of third parties. I am aware that weather conditions may be severe, adverse and/or unpleasant. I am also aware that medical services or facilities may not be readily available or accessible during some or all of the time during which I am participating on the trip. In order to partake of the enjoyment and excitement of this adventure travel trip I am willing to accept the risks and uncertainty involved as being an integral part of my adventure. I hereby accept and assume full responsibility for any and all risks of illness, injury or death and of the negligence of Audley Travel or of any third parties.

Voluntary Participation

I acknowledge that I have voluntarily applied to participate on the trip designated on this application (or a trip which I may change to) and that I have read the description of the trip as it appears in the current Audley Travel catalog and supplements or brochures relating to the trip, together with all information contained in this application. I am voluntarily participating in this trip with knowledge of the hazards involved. I am also aware that additional waivers may be required by local tour providers in order to participate in certain activities during my trip.

Binding Arbitration

I agree that any dispute concerning, relating, or referring to this contract, the brochure, or any other literature concerning my trip, or the trip itself shall be resolved exclusively by binding arbitration in Massachusetts, according to the then existing commercial rules of the American Arbitration Association. Such proceedings will be governed by substantive (but not procedural) Massachusetts law.

The arbitrator and not any federal, state, or local court or agency shall have exclusive authority to resolve any dispute relating to the interpretation, applicability, enforceability, conscionability, or formation of this contract, including but not limited to any claim that all or any part of this contract is void or voidable.

Knowing and Voluntary Execution

I have carefully read this Agreement and the General Information document, and fully understand its contents. I am aware that this is a release of liability and a contract between myself and Audley Travel and/or its affiliated organizations and sign it of my own free will.

Paying for your trip

(i) The procedure for making a booking is shown in your itinerary quotation and on our website. All bookings are subject to these terms and conditions and by asking us to confirm your booking, the person who makes the booking accepts these booking conditions on behalf of all persons named on the booking. Once we have received the applicable payment(s) due at the time of booking (see below), we will, subject to availability of the requested arrangements, send you your invoice. It is at the point when we issue this to you that a valid contract will come into existence between us. Please check your confirmation/invoice and all tickets/documents carefully as soon as you receive them and contact us immediately if you think any details are incorrect. We regret we cannot accept any liability if we are not notified of any inaccuracies (for which we are responsible) in any document within ten days of our sending it out (five days for tickets). We will do our best to rectify any mistake notified to us outside these time limits but you must meet any costs involved in doing so.

(ii) The deposit is part payment for your trip. The deposit required will be shown on the quotation page of your itinerary. In addition to the deposit, full or part payment of certain elements of your trip (such as flights) may be required at the time of booking or at some point between booking and balance due date. Also see clause (iv). The deposit and all such additional payments are non-refundable unless we cancel your trip. The balance must be paid not later than the date specified on the invoice. This is normally no less than 8 weeks before the departure date.

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However, there are a few destinations or trip components that require payment no less than 90 days before the departure date which will be specified on your invoice and quotation.

Please note if we do not receive all payments due (including any surcharge where applicable) in full and on time, we are entitled to assume that you wish to cancel your booking. In this case, we will be entitled to keep all amounts paid or due at that date. If we do not cancel immediately because you have promised to make payment, you must pay the cancellation charges shown in the clause 'If you cancel your trip' depending on the date we reasonably treat your booking as cancelled.

(iii) Full payment is required at the time of booking for all bookings made after balance due date as above.

(iv) On occasions, we may be asked by suppliers to make payment to them earlier than normal. Such requests may, for example, be made in order to secure accommodation and other services during periods of peak demand. Failure to comply with these requests may result in the loss of confirmed arrangements. Where this situation arises, we reserve the right to ask you to make payment of the requested sum within a stipulated period and prior to balance due date. We will of course endeavour to avoid doing so if we can. Any such early payment will be non-refundable.

If you change your trip

If, after the contract between us has come into existence, you want to change your itinerary we will do our best to pass your request to the relevant supplier, however we cannot guarantee that such changes can be made. Where a change can be made, we will charge for any additional costs incurred including any costs imposed or incurred by any of our suppliers, and including for example cancellation charges that may be incurred for sectors cancelled. You should note, for example, that a change of name on or other alteration to an airline ticket will usually incur a 100% cancellation charge and full rebooking fee.

If you cancel your trip

If you have to cancel part of the booking or cancel the entire booking once it has been confirmed by us, written notification must be sent to us by certified mail or by email.

As proof of receipt by email of your notification to cancel you must receive and retain written acknowledgement from Audley Travel. Charges will be applied from the date the letter is received, or the email is acknowledged by Audley Travel, according to the scale below. The charges are applied as a percentage of the total trip cost excluding any amendment charges and any amounts paid in addition to the deposit at the time of booking or before balance due date.

The following cancellation charges apply if your final balance due date is 8 weeks prior to departure. Please note, different cancellation charges apply in relation to certain products – please see your quote for details.

Period before departure date within which written notification is received at our offices	Cancellation Charge Per Person
Up to Balance Due Date	Deposit Only
Balance Due Date - 43 days	30%
42-29 days	60%
28-3 days	90%
Within 2 days	100%

Alterations or cancellations by you after commencement of travel and unused services

We will do our best to implement any changes to your arrangements you request once they have commenced, but we cannot guarantee this will be possible. In the event of such amendments being made you will be liable for any cancellation charges that may be levied for the services originally booked, and for the cost of booking the revised arrangements and the arrangements themselves. As a basic principle, no refunds will be paid to clients who do not complete a tour. However where we ourselves are able to obtain a refund from hotels or principals for services not used, we will pass this on to you, less any reasonable administration charges.

The importance of travel insurance

If you have taken out travel insurance you may, depending on the detail of your policy, be able to recover the cancellation charges, check your policy for details. Never travel without insurance, the unexpected can always happen. It is your responsibility to ensure you are adequately covered by insurance. Please read your policy and take it away with you.

If we change your trip

We start planning the trips we offer many months in advance. Occasionally, we have to make changes to itineraries, hotels and other details both before and after bookings have been confirmed. While we always endeavour to avoid changes and cancellations, we must reserve the right to do so. However, we will only cancel your confirmed booking after balance due date where you have failed to comply with any requirement of these booking conditions entitling us to cancel (such as paying on time) or where we are forced to do so as a result of 'force majeure' as defined herein. We will not cancel after this date for any other reason.

Force majeure

We cannot accept liability or pay any compensation where the performance or prompt performance of our contractual obligations is prevented or affected, or you otherwise suffer any loss, injury, death, inconvenience or damage as a result of circumstances amounting to 'force majeure'. In these terms and conditions 'force majeure' means any event or circumstances which we or the supplier of the services in question could not foresee or avoid. Such events and circumstances may include, actual or threatened, war, insurrection, riots, strikes, civil action, decisions by governments or governing authority, technical or maintenance problems with transport, changes of schedules or operational decisions of air carriers, terrorist activity or the threat thereof, industrial action, natural or nuclear activity, epidemics/pandemics or the threat thereof, adverse weather conditions, fire and all similar events outside our control.

Surcharges

Significant increases in aviation fuel and other energy prices as well as fluctuations in exchange rates and other factors may necessitate an increase in trip prices before or after you book. If you purchase interstate or international air through Audley Travel as part of the trip, no surcharges will be imposed (except in the unlikely event of an increase in governmental taxes) after final payment. Surcharges, however, may be imposed at any time up to final payment. If, however, you purchase a land-only package (no interstate or international air), Audley Travel reserves the right to surcharge for these increased costs even after final payment.

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We reserve the right to make changes to and correct errors in quoted prices at any time before your trip is confirmed. We will advise you of any error of which we are aware and of the then applicable price at the time of booking.

Flights and your responsibility

The flight details shown in your itinerary quotation are for guidance only and are subject to change. Final details will be confirmed on your travel documentation, sent approximately 14 days prior to departure.

The times shown on all tickets are local times and check in for both outward and return flights is at least 3 hours prior to the departure times on the travel documents. It is possible that flight times may be changed even after tickets have been issued - we will contact you as soon as possible if this occurs.

We can accept no responsibility if you arrive late for the check in and miss your flight as a result nor can we accept responsibility for any loss by you of your trip/flight travel tickets, vouchers or coupons.

Air travel is subject to operational decisions of carriers and airports which may result in delays and diversions. Please note that carriers sometimes change the departure time of short-haul or domestic flights at short notice, and in some instances, schedules shown in the computers of intercontinental carriers differ from those actually flown by smaller local carriers. We advise you that it is your responsibility to be meticulous in locally reconfirming directly with the carrier operating the flight. We accept no liability for the consequences of flights missed owing to the passenger's failure to reconfirm.

We and our local ground-handlers reserve the right to remove you from any trip if you endanger yourself or others or disrupt the general well-being of the trip itself. In any such case, there will be no refund.

When you book with us, you accept responsibility for any damage or loss caused by you. Full payment for any such damage or loss (reasonably estimated if not precisely known) must be paid direct at the time to the accommodation owner or manager or other supplier.

You must ensure that all your travel documents, full passports, visas, vaccination certificates, currency and travelers cheques are in order and valid for travel.

All costs incurred in obtaining such documentation must be paid by you. We cannot accept liability if you are refused entry onto any transport or into any country due to failure on your part to carry correct documentation. For up to date visa requirements visit www.travel.state.gov.

The name on your airline tickets must be identical to the name that appears on your passport.

Complaints

Should you have any complaints about any aspect of your travel arrangements, you must inform our local representative or tour leader immediately and the supplier of the arrangements concerned. Problems can most easily be dealt with on the spot. Please note, if you do not report a problem or complaint which, if it had been reported at the time it occurred could have been resolved there and then we cannot accept any liability in respect of that problem or complaint. It is sensible to expect a client traveling in the developing world to be reasonably resourceful if things go wrong. If you experience any difficulties, contact us on our 24 hour emergency telephone service. The number will be found on your pre-departure information and with your tickets. In the unlikely event that an acceptable solution cannot be found, you should then write to us within 28 days of your return with full details of your complaint.

The brochure and quotation

We have taken every care in ensuring that the information in the brochure and given in itineraries is correct at the time of publication. However we are sure you will appreciate that subsequently alterations may arise. We reserve the right to change any of the prices, services or other particulars contained in this brochure, itinerary or any quotation at any time before we enter into a contract with you. If there is any change we will notify you before we enter into such contract. Where we state that additional information, a fact sheet or a dossier is available on a particular itinerary or program, this information should be regarded as a term of the contract.

The hotel classifications given in our brochure, quotations and dossiers and fact sheets are for guidance only. They are not based on any national or international

classification system, they are the opinions of our staff and are quite subjective.

Special requests

If you have any special request, you must advise us in writing at the time of booking. Although we will endeavour to pass any reasonable requests on to the relevant supplier, we regret we cannot guarantee any request will be met unless we have specifically confirmed this. For your own protection, you should obtain confirmation in writing from us that your request will be complied with (where it is possible for us to give this) if your request is important to you.

Confirmation that a special request has been noted or passed on to the supplier or the inclusion of the special request on your confirmation invoice or any other documentation is not confirmation that the request will be met. Unless and until specifically confirmed, all special requests are subject to availability.

Excursions

Please note that we do not provide or arrange excursions other than those listed in your itinerary.. Our local representatives or guides may put you in touch with local organisers of excursions if you request but we can have no liability for such excursions, as your contract for such excursions will be with a local company providing the services and not with us.

Prices and brochure accuracy

Please note, the information and prices shown in our brochures and/or quotations may have changed by the time you come to book your trip. While every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the brochures, quotations and prices at the time of printing or when they are given to you, regrettably errors and/or changes do occasionally occur. You must therefore ensure you check all details of your chosen trip (including the price) with us at the time of booking.

Honeymoon Gift Service

All honeymoon bookings and use of Audley's Honeymoon Gift Service are subject to the terms of this Agreement. It is important to note that in the unfortunate event of the cancellation of your booking you will be responsible for all cancellation charges as detailed in this Agreement. Audley Travel also reserves the right to charge a \$225 administration fee to cover refunding all monies to your guests. These refunds will only be made once all cancellation charges have been paid.

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