



## **Travel with Claudia Lopez**

# The Heart of the Mayan World,

An all-inclusive Tour to Guatemala & Tikal

April 9-19, 2024



## **About Guatemala**

### **Culture, Tradition, & Adventure**

Travel with Claudia López invites you to travel to Guatemala, known as the beating heart of the Mayan world and the country of the eternal spring! You will discover why National Geographic and thousands of travelers choose Guatemalan as a top travel destination.

The geography of Guatemala promises to entice the most capricious of traveler's taste – from being the home of the largest Mayan city in Latin America to squeezing two mountain ranges, three active volcanos, to being home of the largest Mayan market. But, there's so much more to experience like its gastronomy and the breath taking architecture of Antigua and Xela. Undoubtedly, Guatemala is a thriving city where in some places time has stopped and yet in others it is consistently evolving.

## **The Heart of the Mayan World Experience**

April 9-19, 2024

Claudia López, owner and curator of the Guatemalan Boutique will host this all-inclusive travel experience to her home country of Guatemala. Together we will explore Guatemala's Textiles, Gastronomy, Traditions, and Architecture.

In Guatemala City we will visit “*Museo Ixchel del Traje Indigena*”, a museum that highlights the history of Guatemalan textiles, this will provide you with an introduction of the Mayan world. We will also explore the National Palace and Popol Vuh Museum, which is home to the finest collection of Mayan royal pottery. Outside of the city, we will visit breath taking Lake Atitlan and the villages of Lake Santiago de Atitlan and San Juan La Laguna, where we will taste the best coffee Guatemala has to offer, we will participate in Huipil demonstrations and we will learn about the history of textiles and its intricate making.

Another exceptional highlight will be a visit to Chichicastenango, home of the largest Mayan market in all of Central America! We will visit the colonial city of La Antigua, UNESCO World Heritage Site. Our walking tour will include some of the most important sites of the city, including the city center, the central park, Parroquia La Merced, the famous Arch, and other places that you will forever remember.

The final leg of the tour will be held in Peten, Flores – home of Tikal, the Mayan heart. Our private transportation will take us to the airport where we will fly into the Flores airport. Our hotel accommodation at Flores will be a 3+ star experience. Our stay in Flores will consist of a tour of Yaxhá & Topoxte, a boat tour of the Ceibal and Tikal. We will spend three days in Tikal/Flores territory. Upon completion of our third day we will go back to Guatemala City to rest, pack our treasures, and say goodbye to Guate!

The Heart of the Mayan World Tour is 11 days long; the focus is to provide you with an authentic Mayan experience that you can't experience with a large group. The group is limited to 14 participants.

## SOFT ITINERARY

### Day 1 April 9, 2024 (3 nights)

- Arrive Guatemala City International Airport (La Aurora GUA) by 4pm – depart to La Antigua, UNESCO World Heritage Centre
- Welcome Dinner!

### Day 2 April 10, 2024

- Morning tour of La Antigua after breakfast – La Merced, Nim-Po't, Central Park, El Arco de Santa Catalina, etc.
- Afternoon tour of La Antigua after lunch – Las Capuchinas Ex-convent, Jade Museum, Chocolate Museum, and other interesting sites
- Cultural themed dinner

### Day 3 April 11, 2024

- Breakfast at our hotel
- Free day to explore the City of La Antigua at your own pace. Wandering the cobblestones of La Antigua is by far my favorite thing to do when visiting this UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- Lunch and dinner will be on your own today. Ask Claudia about all the best restaurants, bars, and markets!

#### **Day 4 April 12, 2024 (3 nights)**

- Depart to Lake Atitlan after breakfast (approx. 3 hours). We will be staying in the town of Panajachel, which is the gateway to all of the small villages that surround Lake Atitlan.....also known for its serene beauty and picture perfect sunsets!
- Visit the archeological site of Iximche in the department of Tecpan on our way to Panajachel
- Lunch in Tecpan
- Arrival in Panajachel (Pana)
- Let's get our bearings & free afternoon to explore the lake and Avenida Santander
- Cultural themed dinner. Open kitchen concept where my friend, Chef Israel and his wife will cook for our group.

#### **Day 5 April 13, 2024**

- Explore the villages of Lake Atitlan. \*the boat ride is a bit rough
- Board a private boat from Lake Atitlan to the village of San Juan La Laguna, worldwide known for its coffee beans.
- Visit the women's textile cooperative to see hand weaving and the natural dye process to make textiles
- COFFE BREAK! Taste the best of Guatemala's finest coffee; they also have great hot chocolate if coffee is not your thing.
- Lunch
- Continue to Santiago de Atitlan, where most indigenous habitants still adhere to the traditional lifestyle of the Tz'utuhil Maya. Home of hundreds of painters/artist who collaborate with each other, filling galleries with their oil paintings, which depict market scenes and typical life in the highlands
- Dinner in Panajachel

#### **Day 6 April 14, 2024**

- Early departure to Chichistenango market: Chichi is a Mayan community with a world famous handicraft market. This is the one place to observe the mix of traditional Mayan rituals inside the Catholic church
- Visit to the beautiful Santo Tomas Hotel in Chichicastenango
- Shop and explore the market at your own pace – Lunch on your own
- Return to Panajachel to relax for the rest of the afternoon
- Dinner on your own

#### **Day 7 April 15, 2024 (1 night)**

- Departure to Guatemala City after breakfast. (Approximately 3hrs)
- Visit Museo Ixchel del Traje Indigena – Traditional Mayan Textile Museum
- Guatemala's National Palace Tour \*The palace may be closed to visit inside but we will still tour the surroundings
- Lunch
- Visit to Mercado Central for some last minute shopping!
- Sightseeing some of the most famous buildings in Guatemala from the comfort of our private sprinter van on our way to our hotel
- Traditional Guatemalan Dinner

### Day 8 April 16, 2024 (2 nights)

- Box Breakfast
- Early morning departure to La Aurora International airport to catch our flight to Flores, Peten, Guatemala
- Lunch in Flores Island followed by a visit to an animal sanctuary \*boat ride
- Mayan Dinner at Enrico's Restaurant

### Day 9 April 17, 2024

- Breakfast at our hotel
- Tour of Tikal - The heart of the Mayan World awaits us. An unforgettable experience in the middle of the jungle. Let's hope to see and hear some wild animals.
- Lunch in Tikal
- Return to Flores for some time to relax before dinner
- Evening boat ride to our dinner destination in a private island

### Day 10 April 18, 2024 (1 night)

- Early Breakfast followed by half day tour of Yaxhá & Topoxte
- Box lunch and Fly back to Guatemala City for dinner
- Pack your treasures and get a good night sleep

### Day 11 April 19, 2024 (1 night)

- Goodbye breakfast (depending on your departure time)
- Farewell Guatemala!
- Transport to the airport. Claudia will make all the proper arrangements for you

#### **ALL INCLUSIVE TOUR INCLUDES:**

10 breakfasts / 7 lunches / 8 dinners

Transportation in Guatemala / Round trip air ticket from Guatemala to Flores

Entrance to all activities / Lodging at 4+ hotels in Guatemala City, Panajachel & Antigua

3+ star lodging in Flores / Private bilingual tour guide certified with the Guatemalan Office of Tourism / Gratuities for driver & guide

All meals include **One entrée and One Non-alcoholic beverage**

**SINGLE OCCUPANCY \$3250.00**

**DOUBLE OCCUPANCY \$2780.00**

**\$100.00 OFF FOR REPEAT CLIENTS (ENDS JANUARY 30, 2024)**

**\$50 OFF YOUR FEE WHEN YOU REFER A FRIEND AND IT RESULTS IN A BOOKING**

Form of Payment: Check, Venmo, & Zelle are preferred

Credit card payment will incur a 3% convenience fee imposed by the bank

(EXCLUDED from the pricing are **Alcoholic beverages, round trip airfare from the USA to Guatemala, travel insurance, activities not included in the itinerary & additional tips**)

\*This itinerary is subject to change \*We will be flying into La Aurora International Airport in Guatemala (GUA)

For more information please visit:  
travelwithclaudialopez.com or email Claudia [info@travelwithclaudialopez.com](mailto:info@travelwithclaudialopez.com) or you can also  
call or text Claudia at 408-644-3557

