

MARELLA CRUISES

Cozumel, Mexico



Port information

Currency

Mexican Peso. The \$ sign is used to refer to pesos, so don't be shocked at the price tags. Any prices in US dollars are listed as US\$ or USD.

Language

Spanish but English is widely spoken.

Getting around

Distance to town

If we dock at Punta Langosta, downtown San Miguel is very easy to walk to. If we dock at the other two terminals then there are taxis just outside the port area, which will take you to downtown San Miguel, approximately 5 minutes taxi ride. If we dock at International Pier, downtown San Miguel is about a 30 - 45 minute walk. Since it can get very hot en route, most passengers opt to take a taxi into town. Most shops, bars and restaurants are around the waterfront.

Taxis

Taxis line up at the entrances to the pier and cost about 10USD per ride in to town.

Main highlights

Renowned for having the safest streets in the whole of Mexico, fantastic cuisine and family-oriented culture, a visit to San Miguel ensures a first class taster of a real Mexican / Mayan community.

Built to worship Ixchel, the fertility goddess, the San Gervasio ruins are the only fully excavated Mayan ruins on the entire island of Cozumel. During its heyday, San Gervasio served as a ceremonial centre. The oldest site is El Cedral, about 3 miles from San Miguel, though little remains there except a Mayan arch and a few small ruins. It is located approximately 7 miles from San Miguel. Open 08.00 - 16.00. Entrance fee approximately M\$98.

Main highlights

Chichén Itzá is a complex of Mayan ruins on Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula. A massive step pyramid, known as El Castillo or Temple of Kukulcan, dominates the ancient city, which thrived from around 600 A.D. to the 1200s. Graphic stone carvings survive at structures like the ball court, Temple of the Warriors and the Wall of the Skulls. See your Destination Services team regarding the excursions on offer here.

El Cielo Cozumel, known as "Heaven", is one of Cozumel's best-kept secrets. It is around 1 mile from Cozumel's shoreline. It is only accessible by boat and is approximately 25 minutes from the nearest cruise ship pier. It has shallow clear water as far as the eye can see which makes it a perfect place to relax and enjoy the Caribbean Sea. There are many starfish at El Cielo and you'll find stingrays gliding only yards from you.

Discover Mexico Cozumel Park is the newest and most visited park in Cozumel that offers a unique experience about Mexico. It collects all the Mexican wonders in one place and allows you to discover the most representative sites, styles and art crafts of Mexico. Open Mon – Sat 08.00 – 16.00.

Essential information

Tourist information

Located in the terminal at Punta Langosta pier.

Internet access

Restaurants all along the coastal road between the International Pier and San Miguel offer reliable Wi-Fi. There is an Internet cafe, Cafe Punta de Cielo, inside the complex at the International Pier. In addition, located between 10th Ave. North and Benito Juarez, you'll find Mexatel, which offers a handful of computers and Internet access.

Nearest beaches

The best beaches for swimming, snorkelling or lounging under the sun are on the western side of the island, where the winds are light and waters usually calm. The surf on the eastern side of the island tends to be much rougher.

The closest resort is Playa San Juan, north of San Miguel or Playa Corona, South of town. Paradise Beach and dive club tends to be a popular beach with tourists.

If you want a beach for snorkelling, head to Money Bar beach also known as Dzul-Ha. Rates to the beaches can cost approximately \$10 to \$20 be sure to settle on a fare before departing.

Shopping

PLEASE NOTE: As with all tourist destinations, please keep a close

eye on valuables

Cozumel's one and only "big" city (some refer to it as a large town) literally owes its economic well-being to the growth of the cruise industry which has transformed this once-sleepy fishing village into a tourist outpost, crammed with stores selling every imaginable souvenir as well as handicrafts and jewellery. While many restaurants offer Mexican fare, there are others geared toward American tastes, with several U.S. fast-food chains represented, along with such notable names as the Senior Frogs. Most shops stay open until 17.30 or 18.00 in the main town (or when the last cruise ship departs).

If we are docked at the TMM International pier, there is a small shopping mall, Hard Rock café and a few small cafés outside of the port.

Your Destination Services team would like to wish you an enjoyable day in Cozumel.