MÉRIDA, SOUTHERN CULTURAL AND CULINARY CAPITAL

The capital city of Yucatán is the starting point for travel south to the Mayan ruins of Caracol, Xunantunich, and Pasion. The interior cities are a blend of Quintana Roo’s cosmopolitan culture and Yucatán’s traditionalマテバル。The city center is the heart of Yucatán’s cultural scene, with a variety of museums, art galleries, and restaurants. Mérida is also known for its traditional markets and Sunday morning soundscapes of mariachi bands playing in the streets.

Must-visit places
- Merida Cathedral
- Museo Regional de Cultura
- The Parque de la Aduana
- The Mercado de San Francisco
- The Parque de las Artes

CULTURE AND CUISINE

The Mayan culture and history of the Yucatán Peninsula are highlighted by the rich cultural aspects of the region. From the traditional Mayan dances to the vibrant markets and restaurants, Mérida offers a unique blend of traditional and modern experiences. The city is known for its delicious tacos and the famous Yucatán-style tamales made with pineapple, chilis, and spices.

Enclosed cerneotes
- Cenote Samula
- Cenote Santa María
- Cenote Sac Yaxibe
- Cenote San Francisco
- Cenote Ojo de Agua

Open cenotes
- Cenote Ocotal
- Cenote Obidio
- Cenote Uxmal
- Cenote Bacalar
- Cenote Tulum

CENOTES

From the most visited to the most hidden, these cenotes offer a unique experience of the Yucatán’s underground world. The water is crystal clear, and the surrounding landscape is breathtaking. These natural swimming holes are a must-visit for any traveler to the Yucatán.

HACIENDAS

During the 19th century, the haciendas in Yucatán were centers of wealth and power. Today, many of these historic buildings have been transformed into luxury hotels or restaurants, offering a glimpse into the region’s rich history. Some haciendas have even been turned into art spaces, providing a unique experience of the region’s art and culture.

Must-visit haciendas
- Hacienda Temozon
- Hacienda Yaxcopoil
- Hacienda Chichén Itzá
- Hacienda Tres Ríos
- Hacienda El Jardín

ADVENTURE AND NATURE

For an active lifestyle, there are numerous outdoor activities such as hiking, biking, and kayaking. The Yucatán’s beaches are perfect for snorkeling and diving, with vibrant coral reefs and a variety of marine life. The region also offers plenty of opportunities for birdwatching, with over 400 species of birds spotted in the area.

Must-visit places
- Celestún Biosphere Reserve
- Sian Ka’an Biosphere Reserve
- Parque Nacional Xakatán
- Parque Nacional Ichamal
- Parque Nacional Tinum

ARCHEOLOGY

Yucatán has an extensive pre-Columbian legacy, with a rich heritage that dates back to the Mayan civilization. The region is home to numerous archaeological sites and important carvings with buildings constructed from stone, and a wealth of art and culture.

Unique experiences
- Visit the pre-Columbian sites, built in different periods and styles, under the watchful gaze of the gods, and learn about the history of one of the greatest empires in the world, the great Mayan Civilization.

MANI

Most of the buttons from Maní are located in the southern part of the state. It is a region that is characterized by its unique landscape, including mountains, valleys, and forests. The region is also known for its traditional food, such as the famous ‘tamales de queso’ and ‘mole’.

Must-see places
- San Miguel Arroyo Church and Monastery, with an elaborately decorated façade.
- San Juan, a village with stone houses and small shops.
- The church in San Miguel.
- The ‘Casa de los Azulejos’.

Valladolid

It is called both the oldest and the most beautiful town in Mexico. It is known for its cobblestone streets and beautiful colonial buildings. The town is also known for its delicious food, especially the famous ‘tamales de mole’.

Must-see places
- Casas Caro Aguas Dulces, Hacienda Suárez, Hacienda San José, Hacienda San Antonio, Hacienda Chichén Itzá.
- La Florida, a colonial town.
- The San José de las Artes.
- The El Carmen of Valladolid.
- The Valladolid ruins.

IZAMAL

The town is also known for its beautiful colonial architecture, with buildings and churches decorated with colorful tiles and stained glass windows.

Must-see places
- Des Anglais and other Mexican-Armenian restaurants.
- The colonial village of Izamal.
- The hacienda of San José de las Artes.
- The colonial San José de las Artes.
- The ‘Hacienda de San José de las Artes’.

SIASIL

Sisal is located on the southeast coast of Yucatan, adjacent to the Yucatán Peninsula. The town is known for its beautiful beaches, crystal-clear waters, and a rich history of sugarcane production. It is also home to the famous ‘Sisal Canyon’, a natural waterway that runs through the town.

Must-see places
- The Sisal Canyon, a natural waterway.
- The ‘Casa de los Azulejos’.
- The ‘Casa de los Azulejos’.
- The ‘Casa de los Azulejos’.
- The ‘Casa de los Azulejos’.

Salt in the form of the Sisal town, the town of Sisal is known for its rich history of sugarcane production, beautiful beaches, and cultural events. It is also home to the famous ‘Sisal Canyon’, a natural waterway that runs through the town.

Must-see places
- Los Azulejos
- The ‘Casa de los Azulejos’.
- The ‘Casa de los Azulejos’.
- The ‘Casa de los Azulejos’.
- The ‘Casa de los Azulejos’.

TRAVEL TIPS

- Wear comfortable shoes and clothing.
- Always check the weather forecast before planning your trip.
- Stay hydrated and protected from the sun.
- Be aware of the local customs and traditions.
- Respect the local culture and environment.

Safetips
- Keep your valuables safe.
- Be aware of your surroundings.
- Avoid traveling alone at night.
- Always have a map and directions.
- Be open to new experiences and cultures.

Suggested reads
- ‘Maya Route’ by Alastair Hamilton
- ‘Maya Cities’ by Jennifer M. Willcox
- ‘Maya’ by John Parnell
- ‘Maya World’ by Michael D. Coe
- ‘Maya Civilization’ by Kristina G. Geyh