



## Tour Name

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Private Playa del Carmen: Mayan Underworld Explorer

## Tour City

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Playa del Carmen

## Tour Snapshot

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Descend into the ancient Maya underworld on your own private Playa del Carmen tour! You'll explore astonishing ancient underground rivers and caves, see otherworldly stalactites and stalagmites, swim in crystal-clear *cenotes*, and walk through the jungle! You'll also learn about local history and culture, finishing off with a traditional Maya ceremony.

*This tour is priced for a minimum group size of two travellers. A solo traveller may still book this private experience but will be charged the base rate for two travellers.*

### Highlights

- Go underground and explore the amazing labyrinths that hide beneath Playa del Carmen
- Swim through turquoise-coloured cenotes
- See stalactites and stalagmites and learn about these ancient formations
- Visit a protected area that is home to endangered jaguars

- Learn about ancient Maya traditions and how they honoured the Xibalba, or the underworld

Inclusions: Local English-speaking guide, transportation, helmet and lamp rental, park admission, one snack and one bottle of water.

Exclusions: Wetsuit/swimsuit, water shoes, additional food and drinks, souvenirs and items of a personal nature, travel insurance, tips/gratuities for your guide.

### **Schedule details**

- Duration: 5 hours
- Meeting point:  
Restaurante Ocho, at the corner of 4th Street and 15th Avenue (Calle 4 con Avenida 15).  
View on [Google Maps](#).
- Find the exact meeting point with what3words: <///unpinned.incited.yachts>
- Starting time: 8.00 AM
- Ending point:  
Restaurante Ocho.

**Please note: Starting Jan 1, the new ending point will be El Sangha-Rito**

### **Full Itinerary**

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Your adventure begins in the traditional setting of El Sangha-Rito. A place where you can grab some coffee or a snack to fuel up for the day. If you do fancy a coffee before the tour, please ensure you get here early because once all your fellow tour participants have arrived we'll depart for the jungle, where the fun starts...

After driving for a couple of minutes on the highway, we'll get off the beaten track and make our way past the entrances to cave systems, onwards into the jungle. Channel your inner Indiana Jones and imagine the treasure that awaits us as we ride through the jungle to our cave of choice.

Upon arrival at the cave, we will ensure that everyone is equipped with all the right equipment necessary for our trek. At the cave entrance, your guide will talk about the type of cave we'll be visiting and about how it was formed. A few health and safety guidelines will follow, including how the signal system works to get in and out of the cave.

Do not worry if you have never been caving before, your guide will be on hand to support you. While we will be underground for about 2 to 3 hours, the caves are fairly large and they aren't tight or closed-in. Even travellers with claustrophobia have happily taken part in all the activities without any problems. You won't be expected to swim underwater to reach any of the cave entrances, so you can leave the SCUBA gear at home and relax.

Once we are all ready for the adventure, we will get into the Xibalba (meaning 'underworld' in Mayan mythology). Once inside the vast cave, you'll see stalactites, stalagmites, limestone columns and astonishing sinkholes. It's like some beautiful alien world, it really is quite spectacular. Your guide, who has expert knowledge of these caves, will teach you about all the different types of incredible limestone formations.

Walking along beautiful subterranean streams and swimming across turquoise cenotes, we will reach passageways in the limestone that open into large caves along the AXL system. By the end of your caving experience, you will feel like a real 'goonie' (or explorer)!

Once we reach one of the many exits of the cave, we will have time to relax, enjoy the fresh jungle air and sunlight, and have a snack learning more about traditions, ancient Mayan rituals, legends of the Aluxes whom are the guardians of the Jungle in the Mayan mythology.

After the facts, science, and myths of the cave, we will head back to our starting point, where we will have an opportunity to purify our souls in sacred water that was really important to our ancestors.

Back on dry land, there will be facilities to dry yourself out. Your tour ends where it began but before you go, don't forget to ask your local expert guide for more tips on what else to see, do and eat while you're in town.

### **Additional information**

Inclusions: Local English-speaking guide, transportation, helmet and lamp rental, park admission, one snack and one bottle of water.

Exclusions: Wetsuit/swimsuit, water shoes, additional food and drinks, souvenirs and items of a personal nature, travel insurance, tips/gratuities for your guide.

Dress standard: Please bring a swimsuit (or wear one under your clothes), extra clothing to change into, and a towel.

Confirmation of booking: If you have your voucher, your booking is confirmed. We'll see you at the starting point. Get in touch if you have any concerns or require more information via the email address or phone number (business hours only) on your voucher.

Child Policy: Travellers under 12 years of age are not permitted to join this tour.

**Local contact**

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