



Guatemala

& Ambergris Caye beach extension

Guatemala boasts beautiful Spanish colonial towns, rainforests, renowned archaeological sites such as Tikal, serene lakes and a fascinating indigenous population. Traditional villages come alive with their colourful markets, and cloud-shrouded highland communities seem little changed in centuries. You can scale volcanic peaks, explore rainforests and ruins, soak up the culture or simply relax on the shores of a stunning lake.



At a glance

- The dry season is between mid-December and mid April. Although can be visited outside of this period
- World class archaeological sites in Peten region
- Charming Spanish colonial towns
- Indigenous Indian culture with traditional crafts and textiles
- Character upmarket hotels
- Beautiful and serene Lake Atitlan
- Vibrant and colourful fiestas
- Ambergris Caye beach extension (Belize) - excellent snorkelling and diving

Getting there

There are flights from London Heathrow to Guatemala with Iberia (via Madrid), American Airlines (via Miami) and United (via Houston or Newark).

Prices from **£2,779 per person** (2 sharing) for a 10 night trip

Combinations

Guatemala and Costa Rica provides a perfect mix. For those looking for a beach stay we can include the island of Ambergris Caye in Belize.

Antigua

Antigua is an attractive UNESCO colonial gem with a charming ambience and laid-back charm. Due to an 18th century earthquake, it now sits gracefully ruined with toppled church arches, courtyards, and flowers and fountains galore. It lies in the shadows of three volcanoes and million-dollar views. The main square attracts everyone from shoe-shiners to ice-cream vendors.



Meson Panza Verde

Antigua **BB**

Panza Verde is a charming colonial boutique hotel. It is a short distance from the main plaza and Cathedral. There are 12 en suite rooms (9 suites and 3 standard) decorated with antiques. There is an elegant restaurant with vaulted ceilings, plunge pool, garden and various seating areas. There is a large rooftop terrace with lovely views.

OUR TOP TIPS

Semana Santa (Easter) is a wonderful festival of religious ritual and flower carpets - We recommend a visit to the Valhalla Macadamia Nut farm just outside Antigua

Lake Atitlan

The focus of the Highland region is the beautiful deep-blue Lake Atitlan. Formed by an incredible explosion that blew the top of a volcanic mountain, leaving only the crater behind. Traditional villages inhabited by descendants of the Maya are dotted around the lake. There are several renowned markets and plenty of adventure activities on the lake shores - kayaking, trekking and biking are possible here.



Hotel Atitlan

Lake Atitlan **BB**

This property enjoys a wonderful location on the banks of the lake and has a relaxing and homely ambience. The beautifully maintained gardens are an abundance of colourful flowers and exotic birds. The 62 rooms are furnished with local fabrics and artwork and have a balcony and a view of the gardens or lake. The restaurant, pool and jacuzzi overlook the lake.

OUR TOP TIPS

A trip to nearby Santiago Atitlan and the wooden idol of Maximon is worth a visit - Chichicastenango is famous for its touristy market. However, with locals in traditional dress this is much more than just a shopping experience!



Suggested itineraries

Please find some suggested itineraries which can be tailored to suit individual requirements. They are simply examples of what is feasible within different timeframes. There are additional itineraries on our website or please speak to us for further guidance. They are aimed at individual travellers (NOT group escorted tours). Tours include an English speaking guide. Prices are a guideline only please contact us for an exact quote. Please note that we are able to quote for land only arrangements (no flights) but we require a minimum of 7 nights.

Peten - Tikal National Park

Deep in the lush lowland jungles of the Peten lie the lost worlds of Maya cities and pyramids. The mighty temples in the vast Tikal National Park poke through the top of the surrounding jungle canopy. On the northern shore of Lake Yaxha is the impressive site of Yaxha where it is possible to climb to the top of one of the temples and admire the wonderful sunset! The town of Flores is perched on a tiny island in Lake Peten-Itza.



Camino Real Tikal Lake Peten-Itza **BB**

This contemporary hotel is located on the shores of Lake Peten-Itza. All 72 thatched bungalow rooms have air-conditioning, safe-deposit box, mini-bar, TV and private balconies. There is a pool, gym, restaurant, bar and gardens.

Ambergris Caye

Ambergris Caye is the largest of some 200 islands that dot the coastline of Belize. Sun drenched and fringed with coconut palms, stretching alongside the second largest barrier reef in the world. An excellent location for diving, snorkelling or simply lying in a hammock between the coconut trees and sipping a cocktail. The laid-back town of San Pedro has a good choice of restaurants and bars. The warm waters are a paradise for water-sport enthusiasts with a multitude of activities on offer such as sea kayaking and windsurfing.



Victoria House Ambergris Caye **BB**

Victoria House is an elegant yet informal resort hotel located on a sandy beach. This plantation-style property is set amongst mature gardens planted with coconut trees and bougainvillea. The 42 en suite rooms include the standard state rooms, palm-thatched casitas, luxury suites and private villas. There is also a cocktail bar, two pools, spa, gym and a jetty. A long-standing Sunvil favourite.

NOTES

Take a short flight from Flores (Guatemala) to Belize city and then an onward flight to San Pedro (Ambergris Caye) • Entry from the shore is often not possible due to sea-grass. We recommend swimming from the piers instead

Guide prices include

- International economy return flights from the UK (see the itinerary for specific airline details)
- Accommodation - standard room unless stated otherwise
- Private transfers and tours (unless indicated otherwise)
- Internal flights (as featured in the itinerary)
- Meals (as outlined in the itinerary)

Board basis key

- BB** Bed and Breakfast
- HB** Half-Board
- FB** Full Board
- AI** All inclusive

Highlights of Guatemala - 10 nights

Based on Iberia (via Madrid)
Guide price per person (2 sharing) £2,779

- Antigua 3 nights **BB**
- Lake Atitlan 3 nights **BB**
- Peten 3 nights **BB**
- Guatemala 1 night **BB**

Day 1 Upon arrival in Guatemala city transfer to hotel in Antigua. Meson Panza Verde hotel (junior suite) for 3 nights. **BB**

Day 2 Half day guided walking tour in Antigua.

Day 3 At leisure.

Day 4 Transfer to Lake Atitlan, stopping en-route at an indigenous market. Hotel Atitlan for 3 nights. **BB**

Day 5 Enjoy a day tour of this stunning lake and visit the villages of San Juan La Laguna and Santiago Atitlán. Lunch included.

Day 6 Day at leisure.

Day 7 Return to Guatemala City for your flight to Flores, transfer to the hotel Villa Maya for 3 nights. **BB**

Day 8 Full day guided tour of the Mayan site of Tikal, lunch included.

Day 9 Day at leisure.

Day 10 Transfer to Flores, fly to Guatemala City, transfer to Biltmore Hotel for 1 night. **BB**

Day 11 Transfer to the airport.

Guatemala & Belize Unwind - 12 nights

Based on American Airlines (via Miami)
Guide price per person (2 sharing) £3,316

- Antigua 3 nights **BB**
- Lake Atitlan 3 nights **BB**
- Peten 2 nights **BB**
- Ambergris Caye 4 nights **BB**

Day 1 Upon arrival in Guatemala City transfer to your hotel in Antigua, Meson Panza Verde hotel (junior suite) for 3 nights. **BB**

Day 2 Explore the highlights of Antigua on a guided walking tour.

Day 3 Day at leisure.

Day 4 Transfer to the stunning Lake Atitlán with its volcano backdrop, Hotel Atitlán for 3 nights. **BB**

Day 5 Full day guided tour of the lake, including villages of Santiago Atitlán and San Juan La Laguna. Lunch included.

Day 6 Day at leisure.

Day 7 Transfer to Guatemala City for your flight to Flores. Transfer to Villa Maya hotel for 2 nights. **BB**

Day 8 Full day guided tour of the Mayan site of Tikal.

Day 9 Transfer to Flores. Fly to Belize city and connect with a flight to San Pedro (Ambergris Caye) for a 4 night stay at Victoria House (state room). **BB**

Days 10-12 Days at leisure.

Day 13 Fly to Belize City and connect with your onward return flight.



For additional lodges, itineraries and general information on Guatemala please visit www.sunvil.co.uk