

# Mexican Fiesta



## Highlights

- Mexico City Tour
- Chapultepec Park
- Museum of Anthropology
- Full Day Shrine of Guadalupe and Teotihuacan Pyramids
- Mitla
- Monte Alban
- Oaxaca Crafts Workshop
- Puebla City Tour
- Cholula

## Itinerary Mexico City (3), Oaxaca (3), Puebla (1)

**DAY 1 MEXICO CITY** Fly to Mexico City, the oldest and highest capital city in North America. Your private bus and driver will transfer you to your hotel.

**DAY 2 MEXICO CITY** Discover the heart of México City on a City Tour. You'll see the Zócalo, the main plaza which was the former site of the Aztec capital; the National Palace, built by Hernan Cortes in 1523 and home of the President; and the Grand Courtyard with the fabulous frescoes painted by Diego Rivera. These murals depict scenes from Mexican history and cover over 4,850 square feet. Then on to Chapultepec Park to see Chapultepec Castle and the botanical gardens. Later, visit the Museum of Anthropology to view its treasures of Indian art.

**DAY 3 MEXICO CITY** Climb to the top of the Pyramid of the Sun and see the Temple of Quetzalcoatl, then stroll along the Avenue of the Dead to the Pyramid of the Moon at the awe-inspiring city of Teotihuacán. Also, visit the Shrine of the Virgin of Guadalupe, where the Virgin Mary is said to have appeared before a young boy in 1531.

**DAY 4 OAXACA** Travel through tropical green scenery to Oaxaca, a beautiful colonial city that is the fold art capital of Mexico. Oaxaca has preserved its native craft traditions like no other region. Its fiestas and mercados compel with dazzling color, clamor and exotic sights.

**DAY 5 OAXACA** This area is "The Land of Mixtecs and Zapotecs," and the pre-Columbian archaeological

sites around the Oaxaca are spectacular! Visit Mitla, noted for its intricate geometric designs and stone mosaics. An interesting Spanish church was built literally on top of the ruins. Continue to Monte Alban, a city where the Zapotecas and Mixtecos worshipped. These ruins consist of a great plaza made up of four ceremonial platforms and more than 200 tombs.

**DAY 6 OAXACA** The city and its surrounding villages offer the visitor a vast expression of art. Attend a craft workshop and learn how to throw a pot, paint a gourd, weave a belt or another of the native crafts. This afternoon is free to explore the phenomenal variety of locally produced goods for sale in the sprawling, bazaar-type markets or in the fascinating craft villages.

**DAY 7 PUEBLA** Transfer through the pine forests to Puebla, situated in a fertile valley surrounded by volcanic mountains, and famous for its delectable cuisine such as mole poblano. This old town has an abundance of colonial architecture, including no fewer than sixty churches. Arrive for a guided Puebla City Tour to see all the highlights and visit the Cholula archaeological zone, site of the Great Pyramid, the largest pyramid ever built.

**DAY 8 DEPART** Return to Mexico City to board your flight home, with a new knowledge and an appreciation for the arts and culture of Mexico.