

Itinerary

Monday 19

- 8:00 a.m. Meet at San Miguel for trip to Mexico City
- 12:00 p.m. Arrive at Hotel Emporio Reforma
- 1:00 p.m. Lunch at Hotel café (*baguettes or salads*)
- 2:00 p.m. After lunch, we'll continue to UNAM Botanical Garden
- 3:00 - 5:00 p.m. **Guided tour at Botanical Garden**
- 6:00 p.m. Arrive at Hotel Emporio Reforma

Tuesday 20

- 6:15 a.m. Meet at Hotel restaurant for buffet breakfast
- 7:00 a.m. After breakfast, we'll visit Desierto de los Leones
- 8:00 a.m. **Birding at Desierto de los Leones**
- 11:30 a.m. After birding, the bus will drive us to Xochimilco.
- 12:30 p.m. **Tour and Lunch at Canals and Gardens of Xochimilco**
- 3:30 p.m. Visit the Cuemanco Flower and Plant Market which is the 3rd largest market in the world (*Lots of Orchids available*)
- 5:00 p.m. The bus will drive us to the Hotel
- 6:00 p.m. Arrive at Hotel Emporio Reforma

Wednesday 21

- 6:15 a.m. Meet at Hotel restaurant for buffet breakfast
- 7:00 a.m. Departure for Xochicalco, Morelos (Arqueological site)
- 9:00 a.m. **Birding at Xochicalco**
- 12:30 p.m. After birding, the bus will drive us to Coatetelco lake
- 1:00 p.m. **Lunch at Coatetelco Lake**
- 2:00 p.m. The bus will drive us to the Hotel
- 4:15 p.m. Arrive at Hotel Emporio Reforma
- 7:00 p.m. **Farewell dinner at *El Bajío* restaurant**

Thursday 22

- 8:00 a.m. Meet at Hotel restaurant for buffet breakfast
- 10:30 a.m. Load bus for our trip home
- 11:00 a.m. **Departure for San Miguel de Allende**
- 3:00 p.m. Arrival to San Miguel de Allende



Notes

- **Financial arrangements:** The fee is USD\$480.08 per person in double occupancy. This includes all meals (except Monday 19th and Tuesday 20th dinners) ground transportation during the tour, tips for bell boys and chambermaids and guide services provided by the tour leaders. Fees do not include alcoholic beverages, special gratuities, phone calls, laundry or items of personal nature. Rates are based upon group tariffs; if the tour does not have sufficient registration, a small party supplement may have to be charged. The single supplement for the tour is USD\$100.81. You will be charged a single supplement if you desire single accommodations, or if you prefer to share but have no roommate and we cannot provide one for you.
- **Extra arrangements:** Should you wish to make arrangements to arrive early or extend your stay, please contact us. We can make hotel arrangements and often at our group rate, if we receive your request with enough advance time.
- **Medical Insurance:** We recommend that you purchase trip insurance, reliable companies offering this insurance are: AIG Travel Guard www.asegurativiaje.com.mx/travelguard/index.php or Travel Insured International www.travelinsured.com
- **Climate, and trip difficulty:** We will move at a leisurely pace, with most walks covering short distances on roads or trails. The weather should be clear and sunny for most of the tour, though unseasonable rains are a possibility. Mexico City will be 50° F to 72° F, Xochicalco area 60° F to 80° F.
- **Clothing:** Light-weight field clothing and casual attire are appropriate for this tour. Muted brown and green clothing are less likely to scare skulking birds. Sunscreen and a hat are recommended for protection. Be sure to have a comfortable pair of tennis shoes or hiking boots. Bring a sweater and/or light jacket for cool, damp mornings in the mountains. You might want to bring a pair of gloves as well.
- **Health:** If you are taking prescription medication or over-the-counter medicine, be sure to bring enough supply that will allow you to get through the tour safely. Please consult your physician as necessary. Remember to pack all medication in your carry-on baggage, preferably in original containers or packaging.
- **Insect protection:** Mosquitoes, chiggers and other biting insects will be rarely encountered, if at all. However, we recommend bringing some insect repellent such as *Cutter's* or *Off*.
- **Items to bring:** You will want to bring your camera (with extra batteries), sunglasses, sunscreen and ear plugs for noisy nights.
- **Suggested reading:** Howell, S. N.G. and Sophie Webb. *A Guide to the Birds of Mexico and Northern Central America*. Oxford University Press, 1996.