

















# VAMOS A NUESTRA CABAÑA: GIRL SCOUTS DISCOVER MEXICO







# Vamos a Nuestra Cabaña: Girl Scouts Discover Mexico

Mexico





Number of overnight stays in parentheses. This tour may also be reversed.

# **Program Fee includes:**

- Round-trip airfare
- 6 overnight stays in hotels with private bathrooms; 2 overnight stays at Our Cabaña
- Breakfast and dinner daily: 2 lunches at Our Cabaña
- Full-time EF Tour Director
- 3 sightseeing tours led by licensed local guides:
   Mexico City Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe and Teotihuacán Pyramids • Taxco
- 6 visits to special attractions:
   Museum of Anthropology
   Chapultepec
   Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe
   Teotihuacán Pyramids
   Church of Santa Prisca
   Cliff-diving show
- Activities at Our Cabaña

# OPTIONAL:

Frida Kahlo Museum and Coyoacan Ballet Folklórico



Teotihuacán-the Aztec name meaning "birthplace of the gods"-once flourished as a religious center.

# **Day 1 Mexico City**

Flight to Mexico • Get ready for an exciting adventure as you fly south to Mexico's capital!

Arrival in Mexico City • After clearing customs, you are greeted by your bilingual EF Tour Director, who will remain with you throughout your stay.

# **Day 2 Mexico City**

Guided sightseeing of Mexico City • Delve into Mexico City's vibrant culture and storied past on this morning's guided tour. Begin in the Zócalo, Mexico City's main square and the heart of the Aztec empire before Cortés and his conquistadors leveled the area. Picking up the leftover pieces (including stones from the temples of Tenochtitlán and Montezuma's residence), the Spanish built the cathedral and royal palace (dating back to 1523). Enter the patio of the Palacio Nacional, where viceroys were once entertained by bullfights. Here you can admire Diego Rivera's renowned murals painted over the course of 22 years and covering 850 square feet, the murals chart Mexico's history throughout the ages. Then look for the Bell of Dolores, once rung to inspire the Mexican people to fight for their independence. Cross the square to North America's largest cathedral and step inside for a look at the Altar of the Kings. Back outside, see the Templo Mayor, a remarkable example of Aztec ruins. Continue on to Chapultepec Park.

#### Visit to the Museum of Anthropology •

Follow the course of Mexican history as you wander from one room to the next in the Museo Nacional de Antropología. View ancient archaeological artifacts and chart the progress and development of Mexico's great cultures through time. Finally, reach the Aztec exhibit, which features the Aztec Sun Stone, a 12-foot calendar stone discovered in the Zócalo in 1790 and now considered one of Mexico's national symbols.

Visit to Castillo de Chapultepec • Visit Chapultepec Castle, home to the Mexican president. Chapultepec, which means "hill of grasshoppers" in the Aztec language, was formerly the summer residence of Aztec nobles. Today, the town of Chapultepec includes the castle, Mexico's largest park, museums and a zoo. Marvel at panoramic views of Mexico City from the terraces of the castle and explore the National History Museum inside.

Optional visit to the Frida Kahlo Museum and Coyoacán • Opt to visit the eccentric Frida Kahlo Museum. Once the surrealist artist's home, the museum offers a personal look into not just her works but also her life as an affluent Mexican bohemian and wife of muralist Diego Rivera. Kahlo was born and lived her young life here. Later in life, she returned with her husband to spend her last seven years here. In addition to her paintings, the museum also contains costumes, her diaries, masks

and papier-mâché creations. You will also see some of the surrounding town, Coyoacán, commonly known as the southern end of Mexico City. Wander the tree-lined streets dotted with buildings from the 16th to 19th centuries, soaking up the bohemian atmosphere created by the local artist galleries, craft stalls and street performers.

#### **Day 3 Mexico City**

**Guided visit to the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe •** The first stop on today's excursion is the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe, whose construction was spurred by a miracle. According to legend, a peasant named Juan Diego saw a vision of the Virgin, who requested that a church be built in her honor.

# Guided visit to the Teotihuacán Pyramids

• Continue on to the awe-inspiring pyramids at Teotihuacán, mysteriously abandoned over a millennium ago. Built more than 2,000 years ago by a people we know very little about, the complex was later appropriated by the Aztecs, who gave the area its name (meaning "Place of the Gods"). Traverse the Avenue of the Dead and climb the Pyramids of the Sun and Moon, architectural feats complemented by the surrounding mountains. You will also visit an obsidian shop and watch a demonstration of how the volcanic glass, formed when lava freezes and then cools before crystals have a chance to grow, is used to make decorative art and jewelry.

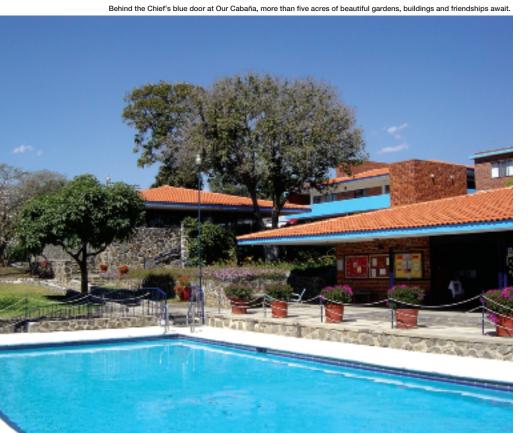
**Optional Ballet Folklórico Evening** • Choose to attend the Ballet Folklórico, Mexico's premier art festival. Witness professional dance troupes accompanied by *mariachi* bands! (Due to performance scheduling, this optional is offered on Wednesdays and Sundays.)

#### **Day 4 Cuernayaca**

## Transfer to Cuernavaca and Our Cabaña •

This morning, transfer to Cuernavaca, home of Our Cabaña, one of the four world centers owned by the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS). This center first opened in 1957 and has since welcomed more than 70,000 Girl Guides and Girl Scouts from around the world. Your adventure begins as you step through the Chief's door upon your arrival.

**Afternoon at Our Cabaña** • After introductions and a tour of the facilities, take part in an afternoon filled with activities, which may include crafts, swimming or tennis. Tonight, gather with your friends and enjoy an evening activity—possibly a long-standing Girl Scouts tradition at an Our Cabaña campfire.



#### Day 5 Cuernavaca

Full day at Our Cabaña • Enjoy a full day participating in fun and rewarding activities with other Girl Scouts! This morning, activities may include a service project, such as working with the elderly or helping to build a local school. After lunch, embark on an excursion to local pyramids or a nearby volcano. Then have fun with your friends—both old and new—at tonight's activity, which might feature karaoke or salsa lessons!

#### Day 6 Taxco

**Closing ceremony at Our Cabaña •** Bid a fond farewell to the new friends and memories you've made at Our Cabaña during this morning's closing ceremony.

**Transfer to Taxco •** Today's destination is Taxco, a town explored by Cortés and known for its silversmithing. The first silver to be exported to Spain was from Taxco.

**Guided sightseeing of Taxco •** Your guided tour takes you to the Church of Santa Prisca. This luminous structure of pink stone and blue tiles was commissioned by Don José de la Borda, an 18th-century resident who struck it rich in Taxco's silver mines after 27 years of effort.

# Day 7 Acapulco

**Transfer to Acapulco •** Ascend through the heart of the Sierra Madre del Sur en route to Acapulco.

## **Day 8 Acapulco**

Free time in Acapulco • Reflect on your stay at Our Cabaña and the friendships you have made while you relax in the warm Acapulco sun and explore its famous Pacific beaches. During the 16th century, Acapulco served as a major port for Spanish ships along the trade routes to Asia.

**Cliff-diving show** • As divers plunge 130 feet into the surf below, your heart will probably do the same. These high divers exhibit their bravado during one of five daily shows at La Quebrada Beach.

#### Day 9 Home

**Return home** • Your tour director assists with the transfer to the airport, where you'll check in for your return flight home.

For complete financial and registration details, please refer to the Booking Conditions.



