



MEZZANOTTE LUXURY TOURS

**COLONIAL MEXICO ADVENTURE
OAXACA 2023**



JULY 7 – JULY 13, 2023

7 days – 6 nights

Our Trip

Join us in this Luxury Getaway - a great opportunity to experience the historical, cultural, artistic, and gastronomic aspects of the beautiful Colonial Region of Oaxaca in southwestern Mexico.

The main attraction is the visit of the colonial city of **Oaxaca**, with colorful façades representing over 400 years of art and history, bleached by the sun and a slew of fascinating sights that are more than worth visiting – not least for the world-class food on offer there which, for many, represent Mexico's finest food and cuisine.

Officially recognized by UNESCO in 1987, it is joined on the UNESCO list by the nearby archaeological settlement of Monte Alban, once the capital of the ancient Zapotec civilization. We will continue our travel in history visiting **Mitla**, which is another well preserved archeological site that was an important religious center for the Zapotecs.

Additionally, we will learn about the process to produce **Mezcal** (Tequila is a type of Mezcal) while enjoying Oaxaca's great gastronomy. To ensure our submersion into the local cuisine we will experience a fantastic **cooking class** that includes sourcing the ingredients at a local market. Some side trips will take us into small surrounding towns that specialize in crafts, pottery, and textiles.

Gerry & Adriana

ITINERARY

Day 1 – Welcome Dinner

After arriving to Oaxaca International Airport, Transportation will be waiting for you to transport you to our Hotel.

We will have a Group Welcome Dinner to start experiencing the great Oaxacan gastronomy.

5* HOTEL OAXACA

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Day 2- Walking tour of the city

We'll take a walking tour of the historical city center to learn about the history of the city, its architecture, and local customs. **Oaxaca is a UNESCO World Heritage** city and it has many beautiful colonial buildings that attest to its rich history. We will begin at **Santo Domingo church**, the best example of Mexican Baroque architecture, then stroll along some of the picturesque streets as we visit Oaxaca's most outstanding landmarks. We'll visit **the Benito Juarez and 20 de Noviembre markets** and stop at a chocolate factory to see the process of grinding cocoa beans to make Oaxacan chocolate.

Afternoon at leisure after our group Lunch

Dinner in one of the best restaurants in Oaxaca.

5* HOTEL OAXACA

BLD

Day 3 - Eastern valley

Heading east from Oaxaca city, we'll visit a few villages in the **Tlacolula valley**. Our first stop is **Mitla**, Oaxaca's second most important **archaeological site**, which is well-known for its stepped-fret mosaics composed of thousands of individual pieces of stone to create geometrical patterns without the use of mortar. Then we will head to **Santiago Matatlan** to visit a **mezcal distillery**. We'll learn about how mezcal is made in artisanal and ancestral methods, make a visit to an agave plantation and have lunch with the mezcal makers. Then we'll go to **Teotitlan del Valle** weaving village to meet a family of weavers and learn about the traditional dyeing and weaving processes. On the way back to the city, we'll make a stop at the **Tule tree** - an Ahuehuate Cypress over 2000 years old which is actually among the oldest living trees in the world. With a 33 feet diameter trunk it is also considered by many to be the broadest tree in the world. The circumference of the trunk is 178 feet, it is over 130 feet high
Dinner in one of the best restaurants in Oaxaca.

5* HOTEL OAXACA

BLD

Day 4

Cooking class with a market tour.

We will have an exciting day today, we will have a “hands on” **Oaxacan cuisine learning experience**, we will start with a visit to the market and continue with our cooking class. We may not become experts, but we will have a lot of fun trying to.

Afternoon at leisure

Dinner in one of the best restaurants in Oaxaca.

5* HOTEL OAXACA

BLD

Day 5 - Monte Alban and Cheese workshop

We'll visit **Monte Albán**, the ancient capital of the Zapotec civilization, with its impressive monumental architecture. This was one of the first urban centers of Mesoamerica, built on a mountaintop 1,600 feet above the Oaxaca valley, offering beautiful views of the valley below. During this tour, we'll discuss ancient Zapotec civilization and its advances in mathematics, astronomy, medicine, and architecture. Then we'll head to **Reyes Etna**, a town that is known for the production of local cheese. We'll meet a family of cheesemakers and make cheese and enjoy it with some freshly made salsa and tortillas. We will return to Oaxaca city after lunch
Dinner in one of the best restaurants in Oaxaca.

5* HOTEL OAXACA

BLD

Day 6 - South Valley

Our first stop is the village of **San Bartolo Coyotepec**, famous for its tradition of making **black pottery** in a technique preserved through generations. Then we'll continue to the village of **San Martin Tilcajete** to visit woodcarvers who create spectacular carvings in the shape of animals and mythical creatures. We will have lunch and then we'll make a stop in **Santo Tomas Jalieza**. The women of this village weave using the prehispanic backstrap loom to make placemats, table runners, handbags, and belts.

Dinner in one of the best restaurants in Oaxaca.

5* HOTEL OAXACA

BLD

Day 7 – Oaxaca - Houston

Transportation to Airport for the International flight back to USA

End of the tour

Price per Person: \$3,750 based on double occupancy

OUR PRICE INCLUDES:

All local transportation

Guided visits in English

Meals and wine with meals during the trip.

Lodging: 6 nights in 5* Hotel in Oaxaca

OUR PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE:

International roundtrip flight and any airport taxes

Personal expenses such as telephone bills, laundry expenses, beverages, etc.

Insurance against theft, loss, illness and/or accident etc.

Gratuities, baggage portorage and other extras not specified

Non-Refundable Deposit: \$750 per person.

Rest of the Payment (\$3,000) required by May 1, 2023

(Checks and credit card accepted)

GETTING THERE

United Airlines has a direct flight from IAH to Oaxaca International Airport (OAX)

Some other companies, like American Airlines, have one stop flights to Oaxaca from IAH.

CANCELLATIONS AND REFUNDS: In case of cancellation, the following fees will apply based on the date of the written cancellation Notice:

60-31 days prior to arrival: Non-refundable deposit + 50% of the Trip Cost

30 days or less prior to arrival: Non-refundable deposit + 100% of the entire trip cost

Minimum number of people for the trip **10 guests**

Group Limited to 14 guests

For additional information please contact:

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