

## Guatemala & Honduras - Signature Guatemala

Trip Code  
GUCVGS  
Departure



### Introduction

Travel to Maya heartland on this Chimu Adventure's Signature Guatemala tour. You will start your journey in Antigua, Guatemala's colourful former capital and enjoy a tour of the city's outskirts as well as a taste of the local cuisine on a street eats' tour. As you make your way to explore three of the countries great Maya Ruins (Ixmxche, Yaxha and Tikal), you will visit a number of small towns such as Chichicastenago, Panajachel, San Juan La Laguna and Santiago Atitlan. Each of the town's visited will provide you with a unique perspective of the Chapines (Guatemalan people) way of life. Your tour will end in Guatemala City to allow you to explore this sprawling city that's rich with history.

**On this all-encompassing personalised itinerary, Chimu will provide travel logistics for your travel party for the duration of your journey, plus expert guides for all the major sightseeing as per itinerary. Each night you will stay in superior accommodation, handpicked by our experienced team for their creature comforts, convenient locations, and impeccable service.**

### Itinerary

#### DAY 1: Arrive & transfer to Antigua

You will arrive in the city of Antigua, the former capital of Guatemala. Three volcanos and coffee plantations provide a picturesque backdrop to this beautiful colonial city.

Many of the buildings, including the famous Santa Catalina Arch and La Merced Church, are prime examples of Spanish Colonial and Baroque architecture and their pastel facades help to create a wash of colour across the city. Today is an arrival day and you are free to explore.



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Duration

8 Days Antigua City Tour

Locations

Today you will enjoy a private tour of Antigua, first exploring the city outskirts with a visit to San Juan del Obispo and Santa Maria de Jesus before returning to the city centre. San Juan del Obispo is a small village that's home to the first catholic church in Guatemala while Santa Maria de Jesus sits under the slopes of Volcana Agua and has a central square with a 17th century temple at its centre. Back in Antigua City you will enjoy a street eats' tour tasting local foods such as shucos (Guatemalan hotdogs) and chuchitos (corn dough pastries stuffed with chicken or pork).



### DAY 3: Antigua-Panajachel via Iximche & Chichicastenango

Departing early, you will travel to the district of Tecpan, where you will find the pre-Columbian Maya ruins of Iximche. At the site, you can explore a number of pyramid-temples, palaces and two Mesoamerican ballcourts. From Iximche, you will continue to Chichicastenango. The town is home to one of the largest open markets in the Americas and you can wander the stalls to buy souvenirs. Before departing Chichicastenango, you will visit Santo Thomas Church. Enroute to Panajachel you will stop at a local cornfield to discover how corn is harvested and take part in a tortilla making workshop. Your final stop, Panajachel is located in the Guatemalan Highlands on the shores of Lake Atitlan.



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Enjoy a boat trip on Lake Atitlan to San Juan

La Laguna Village and Santiago Atitlan, two

Guatemalan villages located on the opposite shores

of the lake. San Juan La Laguna is home to

the Tzutujil people and the locals maintain

their ancestral traditions. In the village you

will visit a coffee plantation to learn more

about the process involved in producing

100% organic coffee. In Santiago Atitlan

you will take a guided walk through the

colourful alleys to the home of Maximon, a

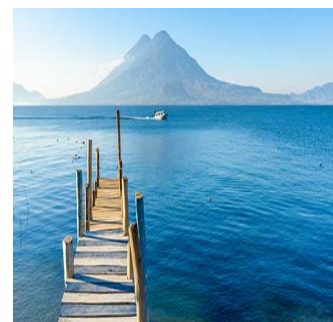
Maya God who represents the light and

dark. At the house, local shaman perform

rituals such as pouring liquor and burning

cigarettes as tourists and locals bring their

offerings to Maximon for his blessings.



### DAY 5: Fly to Flores & visit Laguna Yaxha

Departing early from Panajachel, you will

head to Guatemala City airport and to fly to

Flores. You will travel to Laguna Yaxha, the

site of an archaeological site with over five

hundred structures and forty carved

monuments, two ball courts and nine temple

pyramids. Yaxha means 'emerald-green

water,' an apt title due to the two lakes it's

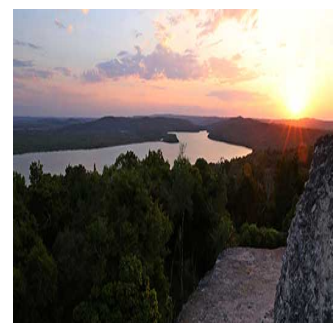
located between. The area is also abundant

with local flora and fauna, providing a

habitat to howler, spider monkeys and a

number of tropical birds. Your day will end

watching the sunset over Yaxha Lake.



### DAY 6: Tikal Archaeological Site Tour

Today you will visit Tikal National Park. The

park is home to several Maya ruins

including the Great Jaguar of Tikal, the

North Acropolis, The Lost World, the

Central Acropolis and Temples I, II and III.

While exploring the ruins with your own

private guide, be on the lookout for local

wildlife and birdlife. Tikal is also home to

hummingbirds, toucan, parrots, coatis,

howler monkeys, spider monkeys, crocodile,

snakes and even the occasional jaguar.



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Duration

8 Days Fly to Guatemala City

Locations

Guatemala  
 You will fly back to Guatemala City from Flores and the remainder of your day is free to explore the city. Perhaps take the time to visit Centro Historico at the heart of the city. Here you can see the National Palace of Culture, the Metropolitan Cathedral, the National Congress, the Presidential House, the National Library and Constitution Plaza.



DAY 8: Depart Guatemala City

You will be transferred to the airport to fly to your next destination.



### Inclusions & Details

Accommodation

Hotel

#### **Inclusions**

Private airport transfers

Accommodation with breakfast daily

Sightseeing with local English-speaking guide as detailed in itinerary

Other meals where stated

Return domestic flight from Guatemala City to Flores

#### **Exclusions**

International flights

Visa & reciprocity fees

Travel insurance

Beverages

Personal expenses

Gratuities for tour guides & drivers

Any items not mentioned as included

Inclusions

Difficulty Rating

1 (easy adventure)

Single Surcharge

A single supplement surcharge applies and is subject to availability. Please contact us for more information.

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Tuesdays & Fridays on Monday & Thursday with an extra night in Antigua. Due to the Christmas and New Year's only operating 2 days a week, this itinerary is designed

Duration to depart on Tuesdays & Fridays. Or Monday & Thursday with an extra night in Antigua.

& Days Prices are based on per person, twin share.

Notes Prices are correct at time of publishing but are subject to change at any time.

Locations All entrance fees are subject to change without prior notice.

Guatemala Price Dependent upon Seasonality and availability at time of booking.

Sustainability