



# Colonial Discovery Adventure

10 days / 9 nights

**Departs from:** Brownsville, TX. on Friday, February 22, 2013

**Returns to:** Brownsville, TX. on Sunday, March 03, 2013

## Overview

Join us in this fascinating adventure into colonial history. Explore Puebla, a UNESCO world heritage site and home to the famous "Talavera" pottery then prepare to pamper yourself in a restored hacienda, built in 1529, where you can relax and see how the Spanish Conquistadores lived. Visit the mining town of Taxco where local artisans make some of worlds most beautiful silver jewelry. Next, visit Oaxaca and the famous Monte Alban archeological site located on a mountain top.

## Navigation Information



Brownsville to Puebla	409 NM
Puebla to Cuernavaca	71 NM
Cuernavaca to Oaxaca	188 NM
Oaxaca to Veracruz	189 NM
Veracruz to Brownsville	429 NM
Total distance:	1,286 NM

Airports of landing	Identifier	Elevation	Runway length
Brownsville	KBRO	22	7,399 FT
Puebla	MMPB	7,361	11,811 FT
Cuernavaca	MMCB	4,277	9,094 FT
Oaxaca	MMOX	4,989	8,038 FT
Veracruz	MMVR	90	7,874 FT

## Itinerary

### Day 1, Friday, Feb 22

Leave from Brownsville, TX to Puebla International Airport. Refuel, clear customs and immigration, process entry permits. Transfer to Hotel Colonial in downtown Puebla -a World Heritage Site since 1987- and check in. After freshening up, we will meet for dinner at the hotel's restaurant

### Day 2 Saturday, Feb 23

After breakfast we will depart in bus or vans to Atlixco where we will meet with the representatives of the Puebla Avocado Council. We will initiate our guided tour to nearby avocado plantations and sample different types of avocado grown in the region. The tour will end at nearby Atlimeyaya known for its trout farming. Lunch will be in one of the local restaurants serving fresh trout, the local specialty. Upon returning to Puebla you may want to explore the city center on your own, do some shopping or have dinner at one of the many restaurants populating the inner city area.



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## Day 3 Sunday, Feb 24

After breakfast we will meet our guide and take the trolley ride around some of the city's many historic site, followed by a walking tour to some of the most important city landmarks as well as a tour of one of the most traditional Talavera factories (Talavera is the distinctive Puebla pottery dating back to the 16<sup>th</sup> century). We will gather in the evening for a pre-flight briefing to review the short flight to Cuernavaca followed by dinner at the hotel.



## Day 4 Monday, Feb 25

After breakfast we will check out and transfer to the Puebla airport. Our flying route will take us around the Popocatepetl volcano to Cuernavaca. After securing the aircraft we will transfer to Hacienda San Gabriel, (built in 1529) our exclusive home for the next few days. After checking in, we will gather for a welcome reception at the hotel. Enjoy the rest of the day exploring the surroundings of this 16th century hacienda, learn about its history and admire the beautiful pieces of art and antiquities that tastefully decorate and furnish this hidden treasure. You may also choose to pamper yourself at the Spa or relax by the pool. We will reconvene for dinner at the Hacienda's Restaurant.



## Day 5 Tuesday, Feb 26

After a delicious breakfast we will start our tour towards Especiamia, where we will tour the installations and plantations of this spice producing facility. In the afternoon we will have a walking tour of the Hacienda orchard and plant nursery. We will reconvene in the evening for a group dinner at the hotel.



## Day 6 Wednesday, Feb 27

After breakfast we start our tour to the Magic Village of Taxco, a silver mining town since colonial times. Although silver mines are not in production anymore, the wonderful silver craftsmanship of the locals has won them international fame. Our first stop will be at a jewelry factory, then we will proceed to the picturesque town center where we can admire the elegant and very unique Santa Prisca Church. Lunch is planned at one of Taxco's landmark lookout Restaurants at the Hotel Posada de la Mision, where we can enjoy a wonderful view of the city while having lunch. After lunch we will return to Hacienda San Gabriel. A pre-flight briefing will be held before dinner to review the flight to Oaxaca followed by dinner at the hotel restaurant.



## Day 7 Thursday, Feb 28

We will depart San Gabriel after breakfast and transfer back to the Cuernavaca airport to start our journey to historic colonial Oaxaca. Upon arriving at the Oaxaca City airport we will transfer to our hotel in the city center Hotel Casa del Sotano. After checking in we will have a chance to relax and explore the surrounding area before meeting for dinner at one of the Oaxaca's traditional restaurants.



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## Day 8 Friday, March 1

After breakfast we will start our guided tour to the archaeological sites of Montealbán and Mitla. We will have lunch before returning to the city. Dinner will be on your own. Enjoy walking the city's center at night.



## Day 9 Saturday, March 2

We will have breakfast at the hotel and start our tour to a Mezcal Factory, a typical and very traditional Mexican alcoholic beverage that originated in this state and that is made from distilled maguey juice. In the afternoon you will have time to take a city tour by trolley or visit some of its historic sites or museums on your own. We will meet at the hotel for our pre-flight briefing to review the flight back to Brownsville. After the briefing we will walk to Casa Oaxaca Restaurant for a special farewell dinner.



## Day 10 Sunday, March 3

We will transfer to the Oaxaca airport after breakfast and initiate our journey back to Brownsville via a refueling stop in Veracruz.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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