



# TOURS & SERVICES 2023



**Amy Jones & Angel Rodriguez**  
**Mérida Ambassadors**

*A trusted resource for visitors & residents  
of the beautiful city of Mérida, Yucatan, Mexico.*

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You are about to embark on an adventure filled time learning all about the magical city of Mérida. There's so much to see, do, and experience here - there's truly something for everyone. I started [LifeinMerida.com](http://LifeinMerida.com) to provide answers to all kinds of questions including helpful recommendations. I dedicated countless hours investigating, experiencing, and researching. I made it my mission to become an expert on Mérida & many people call me an Ambassador of Mérida. For your convenience, I've included clickable links where you can find more information.

After 30 years in Dallas, Texas, I moved to Mérida three months after my research trip. There's something about this magical city that's hard to describe. It's a feeling. It's an energy. It's a fusion of cultures, history, and surprises. People feel it, or they don't. They love it, or they don't. For those of us that feel it and love it, Mérida is enchanting. I find something new to fall in love with every single day.

My husband, Angel who has lived here since 1993, and I feel incredibly fortunate and grateful to be able to help others learn and experience the beauty, the magic, and the uniqueness of the city and country we call home.

Remember that our hot months are Mid-April through Mid-October. Hurricane season is May through September. In September we experience lots of rain, showers, thunderstorms, mosquitoes, & power outages. Take special care if you choose to visit at this time.

Good luck with your visit to Mérida!

*Amy Jones & Angel Rodriguez*





## Mérida Research Trip Tips

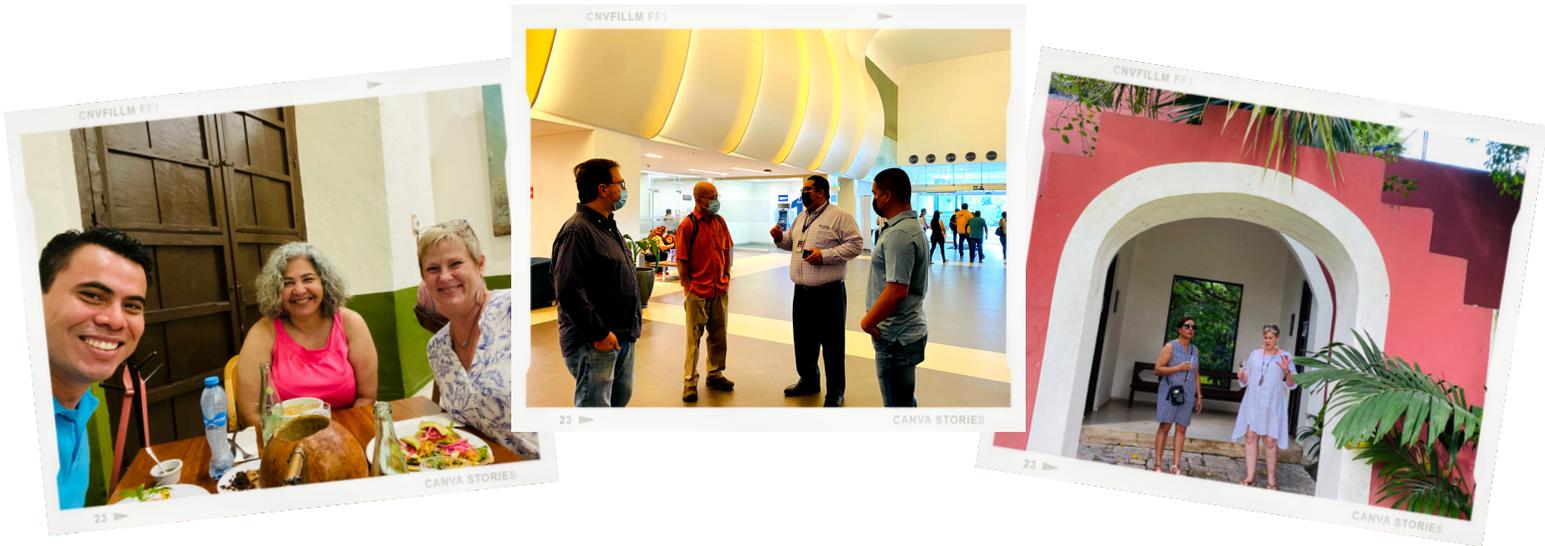
When coming for a research trip, it's best to remain completely focused and treat your time here as if you were already living here. While it may be tempting to visit tourism sites, do this as a secondary priority when there's extra time. Preparing a checklist of information beforehand will help keep you on track. I recommend keeping a journal, notebook, or notes on your phone for the duration of trip. You may even want to include preparation and a debrief once you return home. Log everything you learn, experience, love, like, and dislike. Keep it with you or accessible at all times! You never know when you have a thought or idea you need to jot down. It's a key element when you need to refer back to something. Don't rely solely on memory.

**Keeping a record of frustrations, challenges, wins, or lightbulb moments to remember details, big and small, helps tremendously.**

**This is one of the most important things you can do during this process.**

Count on seeing things you haven't seen before or are not ready to see. Remember, this is not your country; you are a guest. Please don't judge how people live and operate here. Mérida is a big city and can be a little dirty, just like any other big city. Finding trash on the street can be commonplace. Caring about the environment can be secondary to earning or finding enough money for a meal. Locals are fully aware of the many problems facing the city. Remember, this is their city, and, reasonably, don't appreciate foreigners offering solutions to all their issues. It's wonderful to want to help; tread lightly as it can offend locals. This is especially true if you are visiting for the first time or are not a resident. Certain cultures center around working and earning money. In the Mexican culture, there's an appreciation for the little things, having meals with family and friends, enjoying free time, and not stressing too much. All this contributes to an engaging and enjoyable lifestyle.





## The Importance of Hiring Expert Guides

When it comes to researching moving to Mérida, having a boots-on-the-ground guide is incredibly beneficial. Hiring a guide to help make the transition is one of the smartest decisions you could ever make. The benefits are enormous and go beyond just saving stress and hassle of navigating your way around a new city. A guide is well-informed about the local customs, language, and culture, and provides invaluable information and insights to help you integrate seamlessly into a new environment. There are two types of guides you'll find: (1) Local City/Neighborhood Guides and (2) A Local & An Expat Research Guides. ***This is what makes us different.***

Angel serves as your local guide and I serve as your expat guide. We are intent on equipping you with the knowledge of how things work, what to do and not do, and how to avoid potential and possibly costly mistakes. We'll give you insider tips on local neighborhoods, amenities, and essential services. I'll answer questions about banking and money laundering, using foreign insurance, and the best way to pay your rent. Angel will answer questions such as the value of using Oxxo, how to be culturally sensitive, and what is the best way to start learning and practicing Spanish. Making a small investment in a research tour will pay off in countless ways including financially, practically, logistically, and culturally.

Angel and I assist by giving you the confidence to fully immerse yourself. Having questions answered and concerns addressed is a game-changer. We'll ensure you'll have all the resources and insights so you can make educated decisions with correct and current information. We also have a plethora of professional referrals and recommendations. If we don't have the resource for you, we will research it until we have what you need.





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## Recommended Tours

### **Take our neighborhood and city tour.**

During tours, we answer all your questions about expat and local life, have lunch at a gastronomic destination, and show you why we love this city.

### **Visit a grocery store.**

Visit a grocery store with your list of commonly purchased items. Not everything available in your home country is available in Mérida. Your local brands are now considered imports.

### **Check to see if your medication is available.**

You may be searching for a name brand, but there's only a generic available. Each pharmacy manufactures its own brand of generics. This can be a good option and more cost-effective.

### **Take a tour of CHRISTUS MUGUERZA Hospital Faro del Mayab.**

Opened in 2019, this state-of-the-art hospital in north Mérida provides outstanding services to expats and locals. They also focus on medical tourism and work with AMEXCARE to validate foreign insurance coverage and benefits.

### **Save time and money with a custom itinerary.**

If you're on a budget, consider a custom itinerary to mitigate issues once you're here. Things take much, much longer here. Plan for things to take double the time or more than expected. Everything operates at a slower pace, lines are common, traffic can occur at any time. Don't run out of time on your research trip by not understanding how to plan for the best use of your time, energy, and money.





## PAYMENT POLICY

- Fees are listed in U.S. dollars
- Reservations are not guaranteed until payment in full is received.
- *Payment in full must be received a minimum of 7 days prior to the reservation date.*
- A link will be emailed to you for payment via Gumroad, our payment platform. Associated guides can be downloaded after your payment.

## CANCELLATION POLICY

- With a minimum of 14 days' advance notice, you will receive a full refund less a 10% credit card processing and return fee.
- OR your payment can be credited to another experience date in the future no longer than one year after your **original reservation date**.
- With less than 14 days advance notice up to 72 hours prior to your reservation date, your payment will be credited as outlined above.
- No credit is given for cancellations with less than 72 hours' notice or for "no-shows."

## INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

- At times, our weather can be very unpredictable, especially during May to October (hurricane season). We reserve the right to make a judgment call based on weather conditions to ensure everyone's safety. In the event we have to cancel due to inclement weather, you will receive a full refund OR we can reschedule if there is availability.
- Likewise, summers in Mérida can be brutal. There's no comparison to anywhere else due to the fact we are close to the Tropic of Cancer which makes the sun incredibly intense. Most locals do not go outside during the summer or spend much time outside during the hours between 11:00 am and 4:00 pm. We also reserve the right to limit tour days and times during the summer months. Hot season starts in April and continues through September.





## **TRAVEL INSURANCE**

We have a great relationship with [Health Itinerary](#) - more about their services at the end of this guide. They have a package for our guests for \$1,200 mxn:

- Verification of Insurance Benefits: yes, some foreign insurance is accepted here. Check your benefits/coverage BEFORE you travel in case of emergency.
- Medication Availability: especially important if your bag is delayed or lost or have an unusual prescription
- Initial Doctor's Visit: physical exam in the offices of Health Itinerary located at Calle 58 #307 x 25A y 27, Col. Itzimna, 97100
- Travel Insurance: FOR AN EXTRA COST, they will add travel insurance to your package based on your age, travel dates, etc. MUST be scheduled within 72 hours of your first day of travel.

## **IMPORTANT**

- IF YOU HAVE ANY PHYSICAL LIMITATIONS OR HEALTH ISSUES, LET US KNOW AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO DECLINE REQUESTS THAT MAY CHALLENGE YOUR HEALTH AND/OR SAFETY.
- TOURS ARE FOR ADULTS ONLY. IF YOU NEED ASSISTANCE WITH CHILDCARE, PLEASE LET US KNOW AND WE CAN ARRANGE THAT FOR YOUR FOR AN EXTRA COST, BASED ON AVAILABILITY.



## **FULL DAY RESEARCH TOURS**

- **First person:** \$225 U.S.
- **Each additional person up to 4 total:** \$125 U.S pp
- **Hours:** 10:00 am to 4:30 pm
- Pick up and drop off from your location in Mérida (inquire about outside the city)
- Bottled water and light snacks
- Lunch at a gastronomic destination (alcohol not included)
- Gift bag with mosquito spray, notebook, pen, hand sanitizer, kleenex
- Welcome gift box with artisanal products such as honey, mezcal, soap, *based on availability*
- Printed itinerary with highlights
- Digital guides: Learn About Mérida Guide (98 pages) and Mérida Visitor's Guide
- *This is a driving tour. We stop for bathroom breaks and photo ops.*

## **HALF DAY RESEARCH TOURS**

- **First person:** \$150 U.S.
- **Each additional person up to 4 total:** \$75 U.S pp
- **Hours:** 10:00 am to 1:30 pm **OR** 1:00 pm to 4:30 pm
- Pick up and drop off from your location in Mérida (inquire about outside the city)
- Bottled water and light snacks
- Printed itinerary with highlights
- Digital guides: Learn About Mérida Guide (98 pages) and Mérida Visitor's Guide
- *This is a driving tour. We stop for bathroom breaks and photo ops.*



**Click on the description to see what's included.**

<b><u>SERVICE</u></b>	<b><u>DESCRIPTION</u></b>	<b><u>U.S. \$</u></b>
<b>Consultations</b>	<a href="#"><u>20 Minutes</u></a>	\$15
	<a href="#"><u>2 Hours via Zoom</u></a>	\$75
	<a href="#"><u>2 Hours in Person</u></a>	\$100
<b>Research</b>	Per Hour	\$40
<b>Custom Itinerary</b>	By Request	\$50+
<b>Translation or Personal Assistance</b>	Per Hour	\$40
<b>Tours</b>	<a href="#"><u>1/2 Day - 1 Person</u></a>	\$150
	<a href="#"><u>Each Additional Person</u></a>	\$75
	<a href="#"><u>Full Day - 1 Person</u></a>	\$225
	<a href="#"><u>Each Additional Person</u></a>	\$125
<b>Airport Transfers</b>	<a href="#"><u>Mérida Centro &amp; North</u></a>	\$25
	<a href="#"><u>Progreso</u></a>	\$40
	<a href="#"><u>Other Beach Areas</u></a>	\$50



**Click on the description to see what's included.**

<b><u>SERVICE</u></b>	<b><u>DESCRIPTION</u></b>	<b><u>U.S. \$</u></b>
<b>Private Driving</b>	Hourly` (2 hr min)	\$25
	1/2 day (4 hr max)	\$90
	Full day (8 hr max)	\$160
<b>Driving Lessons</b>	<a href="#"><u>Per Hour</u></a>	\$50
<b>Driver's License</b>	<a href="#"><u>Single Application</u></a>	\$140*
	<a href="#"><u>Additional Person</u></a>	\$60*
<b>Address Update</b>	<a href="#"><u>Single Application</u></a>	\$85*
	<a href="#"><u>Couples Application</u></a>	\$150*
<b>Residency Actualization</b>	<a href="#"><u>Single Application</u></a>	\$150*
	<a href="#"><u>Couples Application</u></a>	\$225*
<b>Residency Extension</b>	<a href="#"><u>Single Application</u></a>	\$125*
	<a href="#"><u>Couples Application</u></a>	\$175*
<b>Yucatan Driver's License</b>	<a href="#"><u>Step-by-Step DIY</u></a>	\$50



**Click on the description to see what's included.**

<b><u>SERVICE</u></b>	<b><u>DESCRIPTION</u></b>	<b><u>U.S. \$</u></b>
<b>Real Estate Consult</b>	<a href="#">Half Day</a>	\$100
<b>Real Estate Consult</b>	<a href="#">Full Day</a>	\$175
<b><u>GUIDES</u></b>		
<b>Essential Packing List</b>	<a href="#">PLUS Bonus Items</a>	\$2
<b>Learn About Mérida</b>	<a href="#">98 Page Guide</a>	\$12
<b>Mérida Driving Guide</b>	<a href="#">16 Page Guide</a>	\$5
<b>Working in Mérida</b>	<a href="#">Includes Business Plan</a>	\$12
<b>Calle 60 Walking Tour</b>	<a href="#">42 Page Guide</a>	\$35
<b>Mérida Neighborhoods</b>	Coming Soon	\$35
<b>Uxmal Self-Guided Tour</b>	<a href="#">Includes Day Trips</a>	\$35
<b>Organizing 101</b>	<a href="#">44 Page Guide</a>	\$12
<b>Write Your Story Course</b>	<a href="#">35 Page Guide w/Video &amp; Instructions</a>	\$25
<b>Donation</b>	<a href="#">Help Local Organizations in Need</a>	\$5





## **CITY / NEIGHBORHOODS TOURS**

Undoubtedly, one of the most enchanting things about this magical city is the neighborhoods. Each neighborhood has a distinctive feeling, flavor, and flair. You will find there are no definitive lines between these colorful Colonias. However, the people who live in them will surely assist you with the boundaries and the colorful stories that make each of them special. Neighborhoods in Mérida radiate from the center of the city called “The Downtown” and Plaza Grande. This historic city center features an elegant park and the breathtaking Catedral San Ildefonso.

- **The Zocalo (buildings surrounding the plaza)** - Catedral San Ildefonso, Governor’s Palace, Casa Montejo, MACAY Museum, Olimpo Cultural Center, and City Hall.
- **Centro Neighborhoods** - Ermita, García Ginerés, Mejorada, San Juan, Santa Ana, Santa Lucia, and Santiago.
- **Markets** - Lucas de Galvez, San Benito, Garcia Rejon, Santiago, and Santa Ana.
- **North Neighborhoods** - Montes de Ame, San Ramón Norte, Montebello, Montecristo, Altabrisa, City Center, and Temozon Norte (La Isla).

**Note:** *This is a driving tour only. While we stop for lunch at a gastronomic destination, we suggest the market tour if you'd like to explore them more.*



## **CALLE 60 WALKING TOUR**

Your tour for Calle 60 begins at Plaza Grande, the heartbeat of Mérida. The public square called a “Zocalo” features government buildings situated around a central plaza or park.

First, we’ll take a walk around the Zocalo beginning at Cathedral San Ildelfonso. Then, we’ll head north for art galleries, shopping, gastronomic destinations, & more. You’ll learn the fascinating history of the longest street in Mérida.

Surprisingly, there are more than 100 places of interest on Calle 60. With the digital guide included with this tour, you'll have access to 60 of these places of interest where you can enjoy the variety of colors, sounds, smells, tastes, & sights. We've included only a portion of what you can do & see - things of significant interest, our choices for gastronomic destinations, & historical anecdotes.

You'll also see selected restaurants as GASTRONOMY STOP. We've selected gastronomic destinations that offer something special and/or unique in the areas of: food, service, cocktails, and ambiance. Some are simple, while others are more elaborate.

This expert guided tour is ONLY available during the months of November through February. For months outside this range, you can purchase the self-guided itinerary [HERE](#).

Note: There are a few places slightly off of Calle 60 that are definitely worth stopping by. Additionally in your digital guide, hyperlinks in blue are included. However, some of the links supplied have better information that I found in Spanish on Spanish websites. You can use a Google Translate extension added to your browser to translate the webpages.





## **ART GALLERIES**

Gallery owners, when available, are present to provide a unique & special experience for you.

- **SoHo Galleries** - where artists, creatives, & members of the community meet and inspire one another.
- **Centro Cultural La Cúpula** - promotes artists from around the world including a residence for visiting artists.
- **Nahualli** - located in a restored ancient manor from the 17th century, is one of the most important cultural centers.
- **La Casa Azul** - Rosy Peraza Rios is a well-loved local artists who embodies Frida Kahlo, evident in many of her works.
- **60 Gallery** - a collection of art, sculpture, & mixed media featuring local, national, & international artists.
- **Afremov** - Leonid Afremeov (1955-2019), a Mexican-Israeli modern impressionistic artist, used a palette knife and oils.
- **Galeria Le Cirque** - presents art involving new forms, trends & knowledge, giving way to artists with global thinking.
- **Aguro Art Gallery** - contemporary art gallery featuring national & international artists - located in North Mérida.
- **Casa Gemela** - art exhibitions, concerts, & unique presentations from renowned musicians & artists.
- **Eliza Art Gallery** - features a variety of block prints, handcrafts, & more - focused on emerging artists.



## **MUSEUMS**

- **Museo Casa Montejo** - Built in the 16th century by Don Francisco de Montejo, conqueror of the Yucatan Peninsula, the home exhibits intricate artistry in the Spanish Plateresque style.
- **Governor's Palace** - Artwork by local artist Fernando Castro Pacheco depicts the history of the Maya, Jacinto Canek & battles with Spanish conquistadors.
- **Quinta Montes Molina** - Admire European furniture, Carrara marble floors, Baccarat & Murano chandeliers, chime clocks, Art Deco pieces, & fine sculptures.
- **El Gran Museo del Mundo Maya** - Extensive collection includes ancient engravings, books, historical documents, artistic & religious works from the colonial era.
- **Palacio de la Música** - All forms of music from folk, phonograph, concert, big band, cantina, & current music presented in interesting, interactive settings.
- **El Minaret** - A beautiful collection of European furniture, marble floors, tapestries, chime clocks, Art Deco pieces, & fine sculptures.
- **Montejo 495 (Casas Gimelas)** - A good place to learn local culture & lifestyle of the elite class during Mérida's heyday. Lavish house with rich exhibition of artifacts from Europe & Asia.

*MOST museums are closed on Mondays and some on Tuesdays. Some museums are free, others have a fee.*





## **GASTRONOMY TOUR**

Mérida is a member city of the French-based Délice Network. Délice Network lists cities “whose culinary heritage and gastronomic expertise play a major role in defining them as the greatest food destinations in the world.” The vote was unanimous to include Mérida among the most recognized cities for its gastronomy. For us, gastronomy is not just about the food but the entire experience. Engaging your five senses, we take you on a gastronomic journey to some of our favorite places. Each and every one of them has a story. After all, it's the story that captures you, pulls you in, and creates the setting for the flavors, the smells, the sights, and the sounds. Each gastronomy stop includes a printed card with applicable history, stories, and interesting details. All these things create a feeling resulting in a memorable experience.

### **Regional Cuisine Includes:**

- Poc Chuc & Cochinita Pibil
- Relleno Negro & Escabeche
- Sopa de Lima
- Queso Relleno
- Tikinxic
- Panuchos & Salbutes
- Mole & Tamales
- Pastor & Longaniza
- Kibis
- Sikil Pak
- Lechon
- Ceviche & Pulpo
- Drinks: tepache, chaya, Pox, Xtabentun, etc.
- Desserts: Dulce de Papaya, Marquesita, specialty ice creams, sorbets, popsicles and much, much more!!!



## **HACIENDAS**

Begun in the 16th century to reward conquistadors and Spanish nobles for their loyalty to the king, haciendas were part of an ambitious land-grant scheme by the Spanish crown. They were operated like small city-states by a powerful hacendado who had both economic and political clout. Haciendas are similar to southern plantations in the United States. Based on time of year and preferences, we make recommendations.

The Spanish noblemen known as the "Divine Caste" were also the reason why Mérida is called the White City - for their white or light skin and the pure blood of the Spanish. For centuries, haciendas dominated the economic and political landscape of Mexico. They typically focused on a single agricultural product.

In the Yucatan, haciendas began with corn or livestock. Then, as henequen became more popular, hacendados changed to the more lucrative fiber rope. The fiber was also resistant to pests and decay making it the perfect fiber to use in shipping, the main form of export at the time.

An expanding global market in the second half of the 19th century created a surge in demand for the rope. Prices soared, and the profits that poured into Mérida created the most millionaires in the world at that time.

Henequen would become known as oro verde or "green gold." It was at this moment that the hacienda enjoyed its golden age. The haciendas were self-sufficient communities with churches, general stores, hospitals, and schools. As many as 1,000 people might have lived on a single estate. Residents included administrators and foremen, priests and clerks and schoolteachers.



## **CENOTES**

Cenotes were created over 66 million years ago when an asteroid crashed into Chicxulub on the coast of the Yucatan Peninsula causing both the extinction of the dinosaurs as well as thousands of limestone pits or sinkholes. Cenotes served two purposes for the Maya: providing fresh water and an important role in their religious belief system as they were thought to be sacred. Using sacred cenotes in their rites, the Mayan believed these pools were gateways to the afterlife. Gold, jade, pottery, and human remains consistent with human sacrifice have been unearthed. The pronunciation of Cenote is SEH-NO-TAY derived from Mayan dzonot meaning "well." Some cenotes are deep water-filled shafts with vertical walls. Likewise, others are shallow and wide. While others are semi-open where a portion of the water is hidden inside a cavern. Still, others are entirely cavernous. Based on time of year and preferences, we make recommendations.

### **The most common types of cenotes:**

- Cave
- Semi-open
- Open

### **What to bring when visiting a cenote:**

- Swimwear
- Eco-friendly sunscreen
- Bottled water
- Sandals, flip flops, or swim shoes
- Towels
- Change of clothes
- Plastic bag (for wet clothes)
- Pesos



## **MAYA RUINS**

The Maya began as hunter-gatherers and migrated into the Yucatán around 2500 B.C. The Maya are considered one of the most advanced civilizations of its time. Maya city of Thó was a center of Maya culture for centuries and because of this, some historians consider Mérida the oldest continually occupied city in the Americas. Based on time of year and preferences, we make recommendations.

- **Uxmal** - The ancient Mayan pyramids of Uxmal are some of the most critical pre-Columbian structures in the world. Out of all the pyramids that were recovered from the jungle, the Uxmal pyramids were, by far, found in the best condition.
- **Ruta Puuc** - Named Puuc (Cerro or hill in Mayan) due to the type of architecture that predominates in this area and includes the archeological sites of: Kabah, Labná, Oxkintok, Sayil, Uxmal, Xlapak, Calcehtok Caves, and Loltún Caves (currently closed).
- **Chichen Itza** - A massive step pyramid, known as El Castillo or Temple of Kukulcan, dominates the ancient city, which thrived from around 600 A.D. to the 1200s. Graphic stone carvings survive at structures like the ball court, Temple of the Warriors and the Wall of the Skulls.
- **Dzibilchaltun** - A popular place to view the the vernal [equinox](#); observing the sunrise through the temple's doorways. Cenote Xlakah is currently closed.
- **Mayapan** - The Temple of Kukulcan is a radial four-staircase temple with nine terraces; it is generally similar to the Temple of Kukulcan of [Chichen Itza](#).
- **Kinich Kakmó** - This temple is dedicated to the sun god and, according to one school of thought, is the reason the city was painted yellow.



## UXMAL

Uxmal was the greatest metropolitan and religious center in the Puuc hills of Yucatan during the late Classical period. Flourishing between the 7th and 10th centuries A.D., peak population has been estimated at around 25,000 inhabitants. Uxmal displays numerous building phases reflected in a variety of architectural styles. The city was abandoned in the 10th century after apparently coming under Toltec influence. It has been noted in Spanish colonial documents that Uxmal was one of the few inhabited ruin sites at the time of the Conquest.

Uxmal consists of several groups of structures including:

- Pyramid of the Magician
- Nunnery Quadrangle
- Pok-ta-Pok Ball Court
- Governor's Palace
- House of Turtles
  
- **Mirador de Muna** - An open-air botanical garden showcases many types of plants and species that are part of an ecosystem typical of the region. One of the main attractions of the park is the "Grotto of the Alux".
  
- **Lunch at Hacienda Temozon** - Set in a stately hacienda, this refined, Spanish Colonial-style hotel, restaurant, and spa was, at the beginning of the 20th century, one of the most important haciendas in Yucatán.
  
- **Hacienda Yaxkopoil** - The splendor of the house is felt throughout the large spaces and beautiful pasta tile floors. The dining room and kitchen contain more fine furniture reflecting both domestic and country life of the era.



## **IZAMAL**

The Yellow City has only been yellow since 1993. Much speculation has occurred in regards to why the city is painted yellow. The most common and verifiable one is that the town was painted yellow to spruce up the town for a visit by Pope John Paul II, who came here in 1993. According to another version of the story, it was painted to honor an aspect of the Maya sun god known as Kinich Kakmó, also the name of the ruins found just behind Kinich Restaurant.

- **Convent of San Antonio de Padua** - Built in 1553 by Fray Diego de Landa was also the site where all the Maya books, pottery, & history was destroyed. It is the largest closed atrium of the Americas and the second largest closed atrium after the St. Peter's square, in the Vatican.
- **Taller Maya Museum** - Showcases artisanal products from all the states in Mexico. They also do fair trade with more than 200 artisans from 40 communities in the Yucatan peninsula in their boutique store.
- **Kinich Kakmó Temple** - The third tallest pre-Hispanic building in the country, surpassed only by the Pyramid of the Sun in Teotihuacan, State of Mexico and the Cholula Pyramid in Puebla.
- **Kimbila** - Well-known for its embroidered huipiles and guayaberas, both traditional Yucatecan dress. We visit 3 shops to view the variety and handiwork.



## **VALLADOLID**

Founded in 1543, the city was originally located in the Mayan town of Chauac-Há. However in 1545, the town was relocated to Zací due to an outbreak of yellow fever. In 1848, the city and its haciendas were invaded by Mayan Indians during the Caste War. In 1910, the city was the scene of one of the first antecedents of the Mexican Revolution known as the Valladolid Rebellion. Finally in 2012, the city was added to the list of Magical Towns of Mexico. The first thread and fabric factory in Mexico to use the force of steam was established in Valladolid called "The dawn of the Yucatecan industry"; predecessor of the current textile factories.

- **Casa de los Venados** - Private home/museum with a fantastic collection of fabulous pieces of Mexican folk art
- **Convent of San Bernardino de Siena** - The second largest in Yucatan (the Convent of Izamal is the largest).
- **Calzada de los Frailes** - Cobbled street with pastel colored houses, art galleries, artisanal items, & a restored Maya house.

## **OTHER TOURS AND SPECIALTY SERVICES**

- **Beaches** - Celestun, Sisal, Progreso Area, Telchac Puerto, Chelem, etc.
- **Church Tours**
- **Shopping Excursions**
- **Ghost Tours**
- **Artisanal Brewery Tours**
- **Mexican Wine Dinner Pairings**
- **Professional Appointments** - banking, real estate, insurance, legal, medical, etc.





# AMY JONES

Lifestyle Writer, Author, Mérida Ambassador

After 30 years in Dallas, Texas, I moved to Mérida three months after my research trip. There's something about this magical city that's hard to describe. It's a feeling. It's an energy. It's a fusion of cultures, history, and surprises. People feel it, or they don't. They love it, or they don't. For those of us that feel it and love it, Mérida is enchanting.

I find something new to fall in love with every single day. I feel incredibly fortunate and grateful to be able to help others learn and experience the beauty, the magic, and the uniqueness of the city and country I now call home.

For Angel and I, Life in Mérida™ is a labor of love. We've accomplished our goal if we've helped one person. We are here to help you through challenges.

## CONTACT

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🌐 [lifeinmerida.com](http://lifeinmerida.com)

## PUBLICATIONS

- Learn About Mérida Guide
- Welcome to Mérida Kit
- Real Estate Kit
- Working in Mérida Guide
- Essential Packing Items List
- Mérida Driving Guide
- Yucatan Driver's License Study Guide: English
- Self-Guided Tour: 60 on Calle 60
- Self-Guided Tour: Mérida Neighborhoods
- Self-Guided Tour: Uxmal
- Write Your Story Course
- Organizing 101

## SERVICES

- Mérida Consultations
- Real Estate Consultations
- Housing Rentals & Purchases
- Moving to Mérida Tours
- Driving Lessons
- Yucatan Driver's License
- Used Car Purchase
- Personalized Itineraries
- Translation Assistance

## BOOKS

- Better for Being Broken

## AS A RECOGNIZED EXPERT ON MOVING TO MÉRIDA. I'VE BEEN FEATURED IN:

- bekins.world
- believebeyondyou.com
- choosingmexico.com
- dallasnews.com
- df-institute.com
- elephantjournal.com
- fiftyplusnomad.com
- 50plus-today.com
- findglocal.com
- IN Riviera Maya Magazine
- jobhuntley.com
- journeywoman.com
- medium.com
- magnifica-merida.com
- medicaltourismco.com
- meridaenglishlibrary.com
- meridasold.com
- mexicodailypost.com
- mexicotoday.com
- mexicotravelblog.com
- naturalawakenings.com
- retirementrovers.com
- savoteur.com
- scubaboard.com
- selfgrowth.com
- thefriendlyhands.com
- theyucatanpost.com
- wanderlog.com
- yucatanmagazine.com
- yunglava.com

## COMING FALL 2023

- The Move to Mérida Guide
- All About Mérida Guide
- The BIG BOOK of Mérida: both guides in one big book

These Guides walk you through the essential steps of how to move and start your Life in Mérida. From your initial research trip, residency, long-term leasing, purchasing a property, and even planning for the end of life, you'll find everything you need to know to integrate and thrive. Updated annually, they will be available in both digital and print versions via Amazon and local retail establishments in Mérida.