

MÉRIDA VISITOR'S GUIDE 2024



Everything you need to know when
visiting Mérida in one simple guide.

PLUS THE MOVE TO MÉRIDA GUIDE INFORMATION

[LIFEINMERIDA.COM](https://www.lifeinmerida.com)

MÉRIDA, YUCATAN MEXICO



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YOUR ADVENTURE STARTS HERE

CONGRATULATIONS

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](https://www.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

P.S. Check out our Facebook pages/groups for more info:

- [Life in Merida: Visitor & Resident Resources](#)
- [Mérida Retirement Tours](#)
- [Mérida Real Estate & Investment Information](#)

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A trusted resource for visitors & residents of the beautiful city of Mérida Mexico!

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CULTURAL SENSITIVITY

Recognizing the distinction between different cultures is critical to being culturally sensitive. It's essential to acknowledge that cultures differ in terms of the ways people communicate and interact with each other without placing any judgment. Being sensitive to a different culture means knowing not everyone is the same and recognizing your culture is not inherently superior. In this interconnected world, the importance of this understanding cannot be overstated. Unfortunately, some individuals disregard the value of being aware of cultural diversity. They operate as if the planet is their exclusive domain and only focus on what is in their bubble. Notably, this is the ONE THING that separates a successful integration into a new culture and life in a foreign country.

Cultural Customs: Social etiquette matters tremendously in Mérida. Be sure you respond kindly to greetings; always start a conversation or a message with a greeting. Please (por favor) and thank you (gracias) go a long way.

Greetings: It is normal for strangers on the street to tell you buenos dias (good morning), buenas tardes (good afternoon), or buenas noches (good evening). Etiquette is to respond in kind or to offer the greeting first. Always say goodbye to someone before leaving, especially at a gathering or dinner. Leaving without doing so can imply that you did not enjoy the gathering or their company.

Communication: It is polite to start with a greeting when sending messages. Most locals will wait for your response and then tell you what they want and vice versa.

Be Specific: Be specific with what you need and make no assumptions. If you ask for a glass of water, ask for natural water with or without ice. This culture does not assume anything. Therefore, you are responsible for asking for exactly what you need down to the most minor details, to avoid frustration on both sides.

Restaurants: You have to ask for your check at a restaurant as Mexican servers think it rude to rush you or bring your check to you. Additionally, you can sit and enjoy your conversation and companionship as long as you like. Please tip your waiter/waitress accordingly.

Mañana: The word mañana means morning, tomorrow, and never. At times, mañana is a polite way of saying no. It is considered rude to tell someone no, thus saying mañana.



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CULTURAL SENSITIVITY

Elderly: Show heightened respect to those who are noticeably older. Let them pass when in public. Allow them to take your seat on buses if the others are full.

Eating: Be aware of the spiciness of the food. If you do not have a good tolerance for spicy food, tell your Mexican counterpart or restaurant server. Many meals have multiple components with different levels of spicy heat.

Meals: Meals can last quite a long time, especially if there are multiple dishes and servings. Mexicans prefer socializing over meals and do not like being rushed when eating. Here, dining is an experience. It's not just about eating and trying to be finished as fast as possible. It's meant to be slower and more pleasurable. Everything takes time, including service and receiving your bill.

Food Modifications: Requesting alterations to traditional dishes and local cooking styles is insensitive. The exception is if you request modifications due to an allergy or dietary restriction. Most regular restaurants cannot accommodate special dietary restrictions. However, other specialty restaurants, such as vegan, vegetarian, and gluten-free, cater to dietary needs. The point is to find the restaurant that caters to your needs vs. asking a restaurant to change to your needs. Recently, I saw someone ask for a Thai restaurant to make a vegan dish by removing the fish sauce. Notably, this was impossible as the fish sauce was the prominent flavor of the dish.

Criticizing Food and/or Culture: Nothing positive comes from comparing everything you eat, see, and experience to how things are at home. Many comment that food, service, and other details are not up to their standards or not what they expected. Try to see this as a unique experience without judgment, expectations, or comparison.

Not Venturing Out of Centro: Centro is the comfort zone for many due to its familiarity. But seeing the other side of the coin is important, too. Witnessing how people live south of Centro and in The North is important. Don't limit your perspective to one area. Venture out to experience what the rest of the city is like and has to offer.

Hours of Operation: Hours of operation for merchants and restaurants are different here. Sometimes, you will find a shop closed when it is supposed to be open, and there is no explanation. Other times, restaurants stay open longer than posted hours. Be flexible in expectations as issues occur behind the scenes.



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NECESSITIES

Tipping Guide

Please be generous with your tipping. Many people in the service industry have 2 or 3 jobs to make ends meet.

Quick Tipping Guide:

- **Restaurant Servers*:** 15 - 20%
- **Hotel Housekeepers:** \$40 mxn (it is customary to tip in hotels)
- **Airport Transportation:** \$60 mxn
- **Hotel Bellboy:** \$40 mxn
- **Tour Guide / Driver:** \$80 mxn
- **Street Food Vendors:** \$1 - \$2 mxn
- **Grocery Stores:** \$15 - \$20 mxn for baggers, \$5 - \$10 mxn for parking lot attendants or men to help load your groceries

Carry Coins & Small Bills

When paying in cash, use a large bill & save smaller bills & coins for tips. Keep small denominations like \$20, \$50, & \$100 peso notes as well as \$1, \$2, \$5, & \$10 peso coins.

*PLEASE DO NOT ask for separate checks. This is absolutely impossible for servers to do on the system they use.

Communication & Apps

Communication

WhatsApp is the primary form of communication as well as Facebook Messenger. Download the WhatsApp app & be sure you enter the correct digits to contact someone locally from a foreign phone number. (Email is NOT widely used here.) IF you have emailed someone, you'll need to send them a message to check their email to make sure they received your message.

Apps

- WhatsApp - use for standard messaging
- Facebook Messenger - use for standard messaging
- Google Translate - helps with communication
- Uber, DiDi or InDriver - transportation
- Duo Lingo - for conversational Spanish
- Google Maps- for directions, road closures and up to date traffic info
- Wise - check daily exchange rates (also good for transferring money between banks)



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NECESSITIES

Grocery & Food Delivery

Download the [Rappi app](#) to order groceries, alcohol, food, household items, electronics, & more. Remember, all items are in Spanish so you may need to translate first before searching for something.

Grocery Stores

- [Walmart](#)
- [Chedraui Selecto Norte](#) - Many locals & expats shop here as it has a large variety of items.
- [Costco](#) - Everything you would expect including USDA choice & prime beef.
- [La Epicure](#) - Gourmet & imported items including cheeses & cured meats.
- [Slow Food Market](#) - Organic produce, pasta, cheeses, sauces, breads, sausage, & more.
- [Ya'axtal Market](#) - Imported items, juice bar, supplements, organic produce, & products.
- [Super Aki](#) - This location close to the Zoo is larger than the one at Santiago Park.



Ride Platforms

Uber is **NOT** available at the airport. PLEASE, PLEASE do not take advice from people on social media that recommend walking a few feet down the drive of the airport so an Uber driver can pick you up. This is very bad advice, especially after dark. Flex Shuttle is available at the airport & will cost \$180 mxn to \$220 mxn for locations in Centro. Locations outside of Centro will cost \$240 mxn to \$300 mxn. When traveling to the beach area, expect \$400+ mxn. You can pay by credit card or cash in pesos. Va-y-Ven Shuttle is available at the ADO Counter & has 5 drop-off locations in Centro costing \$45mxn.

vayven.yucatan.gob.mx/ If you need pesos, there's a bank of ATMs at the airport on the ground floor.

- **Uber:** The ride platform you are probably most familiar with.
- **DiDi:** Most similar to Uber, use a credit card or cash to pay. Note that many drivers, no matter what platform, don't carry a lot of change.
- **InDriver:** This is a cash-only bid type of system for fares. Look on DiDi or Uber to determine a reasonable fare, then make the offer on the InDriver app.

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IMPORTANT INFO

U.S. Embassy in Mérida

Calle 60 #338K x 29 y 31
Col. Alcala Martin Merida, Yucatan, Mexico 97050
From Mexico: + 52 999.942.5700
From the U.S.: 011 52 999.942.5700

- Hours: Monday through Friday - 7:30AM–4:30PM
- Hours: Saturday & Sunday - Closed

Website: <https://mx.usembassy.gov/visas/u-s-embassy-mexico-city/u-s-consulate-general-merida/>

Assistance for U.S. Citizens in Mexico
Have the U.S. citizen's name, date of birth, & passport number available.

- +52 558.526,2561 (from Mexico)
- +1 844.528.6611 (from the United States)
- Call 911 in the event of an accident, fire, or medical emergency
- [Emergency Passport Request Contact Form](#)
- [American Citizen Services Contact Form](#) (response within 3 business days)

Banks / ATM / \$ Exchange

You'll find many banks along the Paseo de Montejo including:

- Santander
- BBVA
- Citi/Banamex
- HSBC
- Intercam* (just past the Monumento a la Patria)

*If you're curious about or want to open a bank account, read this [ARTICLE](#) for all you need to know.

Local Tip: You'll be asked if you accept the bank's conversion rate. Always DECLINE this rate as it is lower than the normal conversion rate. You may also be asked if you want to insure your cash withdrawal. You can DECLINE this as well. These two items are just others ways for the bank to make a little more money. If you have a Charles Schwab account, all of your transaction fees are refunded for ATM withdrawals.

While exchanging money at a bank will get you a bit better exchange rate, it will take longer for the process - plan on 20 to 30 minutes. There's a great exchange location right next to La Tratto in Santa Lucia Park on Calle 60. It's easy & reputable. You'll be in & out in less than 5 minutes.



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DOCTORS & HOSPITALS

In a recent survey I conducted with 100 people, 100% of them preferred seeing a Mexican doctor vs. an America doctor. WHY?

- more time spent with patients
- personal care & attention
- follow up & detailed information supplied
- cost: average office visit is \$25 - \$30 U.S. or house call \$40 - \$50 U.S.

Dr. Jose Azcorra & MoviMed

Dr. Azcorra: +52 999.297.4394 (WhatsApp)

Location: Offers medical exams & service in the privacy & comfort of your home, hotel, or Airbnb.

Website: www.movimed.mx

Dr. Guillermo Trujillo & Whiteline Clinica Dental

Appointments: +52 999.135.4778 (WhatsApp)

Location: Calle 17 #69 x 12 y 14, Col. México 97125

Website: www.whiteline.com.mx

Mention Life in Mérida for an exam & cleaning special of \$1,000 mxn.

Christus Muguerza -Faro del Mayab (North)

Phone: +52 999.689.4500

Location: Calle 24 s/n x 7 y 7A – Col. Santa Gertrudis Copó (97115)

Website: www.hospitalfaro.com

State-of-the-art hospital focuses on medical tourism & assists in validating insurance policies & coverage of expats. Most similar to what we have in the U.S.

Clínica de Mérida

Phone: +52 999.942.1800

Location: Av. Itzáes #242 – Col. García Ginerés (97070)

Website: www.clinicadeMérida.com.mx

Centro de Especialidades Médicas or CEM Sureste

Phone: +52 999.920.4040

Location: Calle 60 #329-B x 35

Website: www.cemsureste.com

Conveniently located across the street from the Hyatt Regency & close to several other hotels including NH Collection & City Express Plus (both in Paseo 60), Fiesta Americana, & Villa Mercedes.

Local Tip: if you are ill, I recommend going to the emergency room & ask to speak to someone who speaks English. An emergency room visit will only cost \$35 - \$40 U.S. If you go to Hospital Faro, you can use this [special offer](#) to receive discounts (also included at the back of this guide).



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PHARMACIES & INSURANCE

Pharmacy Tips

1. Not all pharmacies are the same.
2. Some pharmacies will carry your medication, others will not.
3. You may find your medication at one pharmacy but the same brand pharmacy across town does not carry it.
4. There are times when I've not had my prescription but I did have the packaging or bottle the medication came in. This sufficed for a refill. While this worked for me, it may or may not work for you.
5. If you don't have your prescription, some pharmacies have a walk-in clinic on-site that can write one for you.
6. I stay away from the discount pharmacies like Farmacias Similares. I've not had a good experience with them even though the medication is extremely cheap.
7. Don't give up! If you can't find your medication, continue to search.

- [Farmacias del Ahorro](#) - Plaza Grande
- [Farmacias Guadalajara](#)
- [Walmart](#)
- [Farmacias YZA](#)
- [Farmacias Bazar](#)
- [Costco](#)

If you're concerned about traveling with certain medications, read this [ARTICLE](#) for more information.

HEALTH ITINERARY

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:

1. **Verification of Insurance Benefits:** yes, some foreign insurance is accepted here. Check your benefits/coverage BEFORE you travel in case of emergency.
2. **Medication Availability:** especially important if your bag is delayed or lost or have an unusual prescription
3. **Initial Doctor's Visit:** physical exam in the offices of Health Itinerary located at Calle 58 #307 x 25A y 27, Col. Itzimna, 97100
4. **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.



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IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Emergency Numbers

We recommend adding these emergency numbers to your phone BEFORE you need them. Planning in advance helps mitigate issues in times of stress and anxiety.

- **General Emergency Phone Numbers in Mérida**

- Emergencies: 911*
- Red Cross (Cruz Roja) Ambulance: +52 999.924.9813
- Ayuntamiento – Mérida Citizen’s Line: +52 999.924.4000 or 070
- Mérida Police Department (Centro): +52 999.942.0060
- Yucatan State Police (outside Centro: +52 999.930.3200
- Green Angels Roadside Assistance: +52 999.983.1184
- Mérida Fire Department: +52 999.924.9242 or +52 999.923.2971

*When calling 911, you can ask for someone who speaks English BUT there will be a long delay (sometimes 15 to 45 minutes). You may decide taking an Uber is faster. We have a special package with [Health Itinerary](#) - see above -we recommend utilizing their services in the event you need 911 or other services while you are here.

General Numbers

- CFE (Electricity): 071
- JAPAY (Water): +52 999.930.3450
- Federal Registry of Vehicles: +52 999.944.0156
- Mexican Immigration Office: +52 999.925.4553
- Secretary of Tourism: +52 999.930.3760
- Centro de Convenciones Siglo XXI: +52 999.928.6977
- Consumer Protection Agency (PROFECO): +52 999.923.2323
- Municipal Tourism Office: +52 999.924.8522

REMEMBER: The vast majority, if not all of the time, finding someone who speaks English at a government office is not a reasonable request. Please respect the language & the culture while you are a visitor in Mexico.



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BUDGET-FRIENDLY HOTELS

- **[Art 57](#)**

Phone: +52 999.761.3781
Address: Calle 57 #543 x 55 y 57
Website: art57hotel.com

- **[Hotel Zamna](#)**

Phone: +52 999.199.7952
Address: Calle 53 #547 x 70 y 72
Website: hotelzamna.com/en

- **[Hotel Casa Palomino](#)**

Phone: +52 999.920.0781
Address: Calle 60 #374 x 39
Website: www.hotelcasapalomino.com.mx

- **[Hotel Plaza by Kavia](#)**

Phone: +52 999.518.2260
Address: Av. Paseo de Montejo #481 x 39 y 41
Website: www.hotelplazakavia.com

- **[Maria Jose Hotels](#)**

Phone: +52 999.928.7037
Address: Calle 64 #456 x 53 y 55
Website: [Google Maps](#)

- **[Palacio Maya](#)**

Phone: +52 999.431.1588
Address: Calle 62 #327 x 37 y 39
Website: hotelpalaciomaya.com.mx

- **[Hotel Catrina & Diego](#)**

Phone: +52 999.292.8641
Address: C. 64 #534 y 69 Y 71
Website: catrinaydiego.com

- **[Hotel La Piazzetta](#)**

Phone: +52 999.923.3909
Address: Calle 50A #493A x 57 y 59
Website: hotel-la-piazzetta.negocio.site

- **[Gran Hotel de Mérida](#)**

Phone: +52 999.923.6963
Address: Calle 60 #496 x 59 y 61
Website: granhoteldemerida.com

- **[Hotelito Yum Kaax](#)**

Phone: +52 554.383.4080
Address: C. 62 575A x 73 y 75
Website: hotelitoyumkaax.com



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MID-RANGE HOTELS

- **[Hotel Casa Lucia](#)**

Phone: +52 999.928.0740

Address: Calle 60 #474A x 53 y 55

Website: casalucia.com.mx/en/

- **[Casa Italia](#)**

Phone: +52 999.286.5923

Address: Calle 52 #411D x 41 y 43

Website: casaitaliayucatan.com/

- **[Casa del Maya](#)**

Phone: +52 999.645.7115

Address: Calle 66 #410A x 45 y 47

Website: casadelmaya.com

- **[La Mision de Fray Diego](#)**

Phone: +52 999.924.1111

Address: Calle 61 #524 64 y 66

Website: lamisiondefraydiego.com

- **[Koox Art 64](#)**

Phone: +52 999.724.0059

Address: Calle 64 #446 x 49 y 53

Website: art64hotel.com

- **[Hotel Sureño](#)**

Phone: +52 999.542.2488

Address: Calle 62 #298 x 33A y 33

Website: surenohotel.com

- **[Viva Mérida](#)**

Phone: +52 999.923.1727

Address: Calle 59 #553 x 68

Website: vivameridahotel.com/en/

- **[Villa Orquídea](#)**

Phone: +52 999.924.2300

Address: Calle 52 #483 x 53 y 55

Website: villaorquidea.com/

- **[Casa Tavera](#)**

Phone: +52 999.432.0649

Address: Calle 49 #493 x 58 y 60

Website: casatavera.com

- **[Hotel Hacienda VIP](#)**

Phone: +52 999.924.5927

Address: Calle 62 #441A x 51

Website: hotelhaciendamerida.com



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LUXURY HOTELS

- **[Boutique by the Museo](#)**

Phone: +52 999.291.8252

Address: Calle 58 #481 y 43

Website: boutiquebythemuseo.com

- **[Treehouse Boutique](#)**

Phone: +52 999.268.1456

Address: Calle 43 #489 x 58 y 60

Website: treehouseboutiquehotel.com

- **[Casa Lecanda](#)**

Phone: +52 999.928.0111

Address: Calle 47 #471 x 54 y 56

Website: casalecanda.com

- **[Ya'ax Hotel Boutique](#)**

Phone: +52 999.923.0265

Address: Calle 57 #461 x 52 y 54

Website: yaaxmerida.com

- **[Cigno](#)**

Phone: +52 999.479.9724

Address: Calle 66 #593 x 73 y 75

Website: cignohotel.com

- **[Casona 66](#)**

Phone: +52 999.331.2745

Address: Calle 66 #494 y 59

Website: casona66merida.com

- **[The Diplomat](#)**

Phone: +52 999.117.2972

Address: Calle 78 #493A x 59A y 59

Website: thediplomatmerida.com

- **[Casa Azul](#)**

Phone: +52 999.925.5016

Address: Calle 60 #343 x 35 y 37

Website: casaazulhotel.com

- **[Coqui Coqui](#)**

Phone: +52 999.923.0216

Address: Calle 55 #516 x 62 y 64

Website: coquicoqui.com/merida

- **[Mansión Mérida Boutique Hotel](#)**

Phone: +52 999.924.4642

Address: Calle 59 #498 x 58 y 60

Website: mansionmerida.com/



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AIRBNB

Airbnbs - ALL conveniently located in Centro

[Casa Tho - A Tropical Oasis in the City](#): Casa Tho is a single story (no stairs!) 1,200 sq. ft. home with 2 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms, full kitchen, and living room. Soak in the bathtub while you listen to the tropical birds. Tastefully decorated w/art and furnishings.

[Casa Tho's Casita](#): The casita can be rented by itself or as a 3rd bedroom along with Casa Tho. The pool and beautiful gardens are the view from the patio doors. The covered patio is a great place to have a morning coffee.

[Casa Yolanda - Charming Private Casa](#): 2-bedroom home in a friendly and safe local neighbourhood. The house features a dedicated workspace, comfy beds, a cozy living room plus a well-equipped kitchen, screened-in dining area, private patio and pool.

[La Casa Rosa - Modern, bright 2-bedroom](#): Spacious, open concept home with great air flow and tons of natural light. Fully furnished with a well-equipped kitchen, comfy beds, private pool and patio in a safe and bustling local neighbourhood.

[Casa Novia - Bright space, private pool](#): Spacious and bright, fully furnished 2 bedroom home with a well-equipped kitchen, cozy living room, comfy beds and a private pool and patio in a friendly and safe local neighbourhood.

COMING SOON:

- Casa Perro Verde
- Casa JAAR

Local Tip: Be sure to read all the recent reviews of the Airbnb you are considering. Don't get stuck somewhere that you are uncomfortable. Also, many people want to be withing walking distance of a local market or grocery store.

Walking distance to a foreigner visiting Mérida is MUCH different than walking distance to a local, especially in the heat of the summer (April through October). Read this in-depth article [5 Secrets to the Best Airbnb Stay in Mérida](#) for more information.



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KIDS - MÉRIDA INDOORS

Mérida English Library Story Time (event calendar): With a wide selection of books for children, the library hosts many events too. Check out their website for a list of what is going on.

Address: Calle 53 #524 x 66 y 68, Centro

Website: meridaenglishlibrary.com

El Gran Museo del Mundo Maya (Mayan World Museum): This is a wonderful museum for kids and adults alike. The museum's design is based on Maya cosmogony and is structured on three levels: the sky, the earth, and the underworld. From textiles to religious objects to pre-Hispanic stelae to bas-reliefs, the museum is one of our favorites in the city. Entrance fees vary – plan on 2 to 3 hours)

Address: Calle 60 #299E, Unidad Revolucion 97110

La Isla Mall: The newest mall in Mérida, La Isla, has it all. From restaurants to shopping to kid's activities to a large man-made lake, you'll be entertained at the largest mall in Southeast Mexico. La Isla has a small train to take kids around the mall, an arcade, and a play area inside and outside. Near the lake, find an area with fair-type rides, bounce houses, and other activities.

Address: Calle 24 #608, Santa Gertrudis Copo 97305

Ice skating at Galerías Mall: There is nothing better to cool off during hot days than ice skating. This is our favorite mall to visit during Christmastime because they go all out on decorating for the holiday.

Address: Calle 3 #300 x 24 y 60, Zona Industrial - Unidad Revolucion 97110

Flip Out Mérida Plaza Akropolis: Because this place is so popular, it can be very crowded on Saturdays. Recommended days to go are Monday through Friday to enjoy trampolines and simple obstacle courses.

Address: Calle 61 #400, Fracc. Las Americas 97302

Wild Place Macroplaza: A variety of activities for kids of all ages, from obstacle courses to trampolines to zip lines. Located inside the Macroplaza Mall.

Address: Calle 44 #601, Itzimna 97138

Recorcholis Altabrisa: Recorcholis is an arcade similar to Dave & Buster's in the U.S. Located inside Altabrisa Mall.

Address: Calle 7 #222, Col. Altabrisa 97133

GoKartMania Mérida Altabrisa: Located inside Altabrisa mall shopping area.

Address: Calle 7 #452, Col. Altabrisa 97133



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KIDS - MÉRIDA OUTDOORS

Paseo de Montejo: With ice cream shops, restaurants, shopping, museums, & more, this is an excellent place to people-watch. Horse-drawn or electric carriage rides are available for approximately \$400 pesos, a great way to see part of the city. Vendors set up evenings & weekends to sell a variety of handmade items, art, and jewelry.

Parque Zoológico del Centenario: A popular attraction, the zoo was built in 1910 to commemorate the centennial of Mexico's independence. Ride the cute little train around the zoo for only \$1 peso per person. Entrance is free.

Location: Av. Itzaes S/N x 59, Centro

Garcia Rejon Market: Our favorite market is where you'll find local products from guayaberas to huipils to jipijapa hats to shoes. There's something for everyone in this quaint market just one block from Plaza Grande.

Location: Calle 60 #501A y 65, Centro 97000

Parque de Las Americas: This park has four parts: Kukulcan Fountain, Library, Kid's Area, & Amphitheater. The kid's area is great because it is completely fenced off. It has a play area, slides, & seasonal activities. This is a great place to visit during the day or the evenings.

Location: Av. Colón x Calle 20 y 23, Garcia Gineres 97070

Parque Aleman: This neighborhood is very family-centric, characterized by a large area with a plethora of activities for kids of all ages.

Location: Calle 21 #281F, Miguel Aleman 97148

Parque Kalia: This park has trees, grassy green spaces, & playground equipment across the street from Starbucks, Super Chedraui Selecto, & Sonora Grill.

Location: Calle 22 #280B, Monterreal 97133

Parque Tabentha: This is an incredible park with areas for dogs, exercise, & children. At night, it's well-lit for playing soccer or basketball.

Location: Av. Camara de Comercio, Residencial Montecristo 97130

Area de Juegos: Extending for approximately 20 blocks, this park is the perfect place to ride bikes, roller skate, walk, or enjoy a variety of playground equipment.

Location: Calle 60 x 45A, Francisco de Montejo II 97203



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KIDS - OUTSIDE MÉRIDA

Parque Zoológico Animaya: In association with El Centenario Zoo, Animaya is a safari park. Located in the suburban city of Caucel, it is a 15-minute drive from Centenario.

Location: Calle 60 #866, Caucel 97314

Hacienda Sotuta de Peon & Cenote Tour: Learn how a traditional hacienda operated back in the 1800's. The Hacienda Sotuta De Peon tour includes a cart ride pulled by mules & a visit to the cenotes on the property.

Location: Carretera Federal 261, Calle 21 #500-Kilómetro 220, Yaxcopoil 97396

Mucuyche Hacienda & Cenotes: The guided tour includes visiting the remains of the 1700s hacienda and plantation. Experience beautiful vegetation & three different kinds of cenotes—a great place to eat lunch. Don't forget to stop by the gift shop, with an interesting selection of artisanal products.

Location: Mucuyche 97825

Museo del Meteorito: Journey through 14 billion years of the planet's history to learn about the Chicxulub Meteorite. This impact caused the extinction of the dinosaurs, among other catastrophic planetary events, 66 million years ago. The museum also has a large section dedicated to dinosaurs.

Location: Calle 19 #142, Boulevard Turistico Malecon, Progreso 97320

Progreso Malecon: Take a walk down the Malecon & find attractions great for everyone, typical of what you'd expect to find on other Malecons. Eat at Eladio's, famous for free botanas, live music, great atmosphere (aka people watching), & an extensive menu. See RESOURCES for links with cruise ship arrivals. With this in mind, you may want to avoid the Malecon on those particular days.

Location: Progreso

Reserva Ecológica El Corchito: Known for the plethora of critters such as raccoons, coatis, & freshwater turtles, the entrance fee includes cenotes & a boat ride. Be sure to bring plenty of eco-friendly mosquito spray and sunscreen.

Location: Libramiento S/N, Progreso

El Mirador de Muna: On the way to Uxmal via the toll road, stop at this eco-adventure park with different activities for children & adults. The Grotto of the Alux is quite charming. The Mirador overlooks Ruta Puuc & gives a sense of what the Maya saw as they traveled the area.

Location: Hopelchen-Uman 760, Abala 97840



YOUR ADVENTURE STARTS HERE

KIDS - OUTSIDE MÉRIDA

Sendero Jurásico: This one-kilometer path lined with large dinosaur figures is in Chicxulub Puerto - see below.

Location: 79 QW + 8M, Chicxulub Puerto 97326

Choco-Story Museum: This museum is located next to Uxmal & contains historical information about how the Maya discovered cocoa. An eco-park also takes you into the jungle, where you'll see open-air huts connected by trails. Wander outside the grounds of the Uxmal site, as there are some fantastic displays.

Location: Uxmal 97899

Celestún: Known for its beautiful beaches & mangroves, it's more famous for its large population of pink flamingos. The best time to see the flamingos is from November to April.

Location: Celestún 97367

Xcambo: Located on the coast near the salt flats, it's no surprise that Xcambo exported salt. Translating as "Celestial Crocodile" or "Place Where Barter is Carried Out," these quiet ruins still offer the chance to climb & explore. There's a little hut to pay your entry fee, purchase cold water, or buy simple souvenirs.

Location: 97405

Mayapan: With more than 4,000 structures within its city walls, Mayapan played an important role during the Late Post-Classic period from the 1220s until the 1440s. Like Xcambo, you can still climb & explore at your leisure.

Location: Carretera Mérida - Chetumal Telchaquillo, Tecoh 97824

GO EXPERIENCE MEXICO

This project by William Eakins contains an extensive list of beaches, ruins, cenotes, & Pueblos Magicos across Mexico that is updated frequently.



YOUR ADVENTURE STARTS HERE

BREAKFAST

Sempere: A speakeasy-type literary cafe in Centro with a cool vibe & yummy food.

Address: Calle 62 #479 X 57 (second floor)

Cafe Montejo: Enjoy a traditional Yucatecan breakfast in the courtyard of a colonial mansion.

Address: Calle 59 #584 x 72 y 74

Maiz, Canela y Cilantro:

Each table has a view of the kitchen where you can see the owner Chef Ana & her team create dishes with love. Check hours of operation.

Address: Calle 70 #464 x 55A y 55

Kibum Cafetería: Small quaint cafe with patio, healthy options, pastries, & great coffee.

Address: Calle 59 #515 x 64 y 62

Pan & Køf.feé: Beautiful setting with vegetarian options, pastries, coffee, & outstanding service.

Address: Calle 43 #485 x 58 y 60

Casa San Angel: Located inside the beautiful hotel, find outstanding local menu items & delicious pastries. Check out the gift shop before you leave.

Address: Remate de Paseo de Montejo

Cigno Hotel: Located inside the hotel, this is a delightful & beautiful location for breakfast & brunch, poolside.

Address: Calle 66 #593 x 73 y 75

Kii'wik Cafe Boutique: Located in North Mérida, this bustling local spot has flavorful authentic dishes & outstanding pastries.

Address: Av. García Lavín #313, San Ramon Norte 97117

Petit Délice: Authentic French-inspired bakery with freshly baked breads, pastries, specialty coffees, & more. Located in North Mérida.

Address: Av. Garcia Lavin #352 (Victory Plaza), San Ramon Norte 97117

Bachour Cafe: Inside the City 32 center, find delicious pastries, macaroons, chocolates, freshly baked bread, & more.

Address: Av. Andrés García Lavín #298 (City 32), Montebello 97113



YOUR ADVENTURE STARTS HERE

LUNCH

Avec Amor: Yucatecan & French fusion in a beautiful atmosphere in Santa Lucia Park - located in the corner.

Address: Calle 60 x 53 y 55

Chooj: Located in the exquisite boutique hotel Ya'ax, Chooj is intimate & delicious.

Address: Calle 57 #461 x 52 y 54

Manjar Blanco: Authentic & delicious Yucatecan food. Take a small taste of their housemade habenero sauce!

Address: Calle 47 #496 x 58 y 60

Hogsons Steak & Smokehouse: For something out of the ordinary, get some tasty BBQ that tastes like it came from Texas.

Address: Calle 13 #108, Itzimna 97100

Tatemar: Sister restaurant of Apoala in Santa Lucia Park overlooking the lake at La Isla.

Address: Calle 88 #608, San Vicente Oriente 97133 (La Isla Mall)

Asai: Delicious menu with a variety of Asian fare including sushi, ramen, tonkatsu, & more.

Address: Av. Colón #500 x 60 (Inside Villa Mercedes Hotel)

Matilda Salón Mexicano: Outstanding restaurant with Mexico City influence by award-winning Chef Christian Bravo.

Address: Calle 63 #516 x 62 y 64

Maya de Asia: In North Mérida, try Asian-Yucatecan fusion in a beautiful location.

Address: Calle 60, Zona Industrial 97204 (Inside The Harbor Mall)

Wayane: **The next tacos in the city. 2 of the taqueros have been at this location for 24 years! Location in Itzmina is our favorite.**

Address: Calle 15 X 18A y 20, Itzimna 97100

Holoch: Celebrating corn that was so important to the Mayans, Holoch has a fascinating story as well as a lovely atmosphere inside & out.

Address: Calle 64# 472 x 55 y 57



YOUR ADVENTURE STARTS HERE

DINNER

Micaela Mar y Lena: In our opinion, this is the BEST restaurant in the city - without exception. But what we we love is the story behind the Micaela concept which you can read [HERE](#).
Address: Calle 47 #458 x 52

Casa Yucatan: Outstanding traditional Yucatecan food by award-winning Chef Ernesto Cab.
Address: Calle 60 #445 x 49 y 51

Paseo 60: A variety of restaurants, a food court, 2 hotels, shopping, personal care, ADO station, tours, & the Armando Manzanero museum. Great indoor & outdoor dining with nightly music.
Address: Calle 60 #346 x 33A y 35

Bloom Martini Garden: Beautiful design, delicious menu, outstanding service, & relaxing atmosphere. Located in North Mérida.
Address: Calle 32 #334 x 41 y 43, Col. San Antonio Cucul 97116

Arcano: Set in a colonial home with outdoor seating area, beautifully decorated, delicious menu, & chill vibe.
Address: Calle 20 #104 x 21A y 21, Itzimna 97100

Cienfuegos: Gorgeous decor, delicious everything, great mixology, & wonderful service. Be sure to order dessert!
Address: Av. García Lavín at the Periferico, Montebello 97305

Habibi: Inside the City 32 center, unique Lebanese-inspired Yucatecan-fusion complete with Hookah lounge. Sexy atmosphere & incredible service.
Address: Av. Andrés García Lavín #298 (City 32), Montebello 97113

Hasal: Great spot for couples or dinner parties located in North Mérida.
Address: Calle 39 x 36A (Town Square), San Ramon 97117

Emplumado: Sexy new restaurant offers a variety of dining spots including a terrace overlooking the Monument a la Bandera.
Address: Paseo Montejo at Monumento a la Patria

Osteria Piccoli: Authentic Italian restaurant with discounted menu every Wednesday.
Address: Calle 30 #112 x 23 y 25, Col. Yucatan 97125



YOUR ADVENTURE STARTS HERE

SHOPPING

- [SoHo Galleries](#)

Address: Calle 60 #400A x 41 y 43

Representing National & International artists, SoHo creates community connections through events & artist promotion.

- [Posheria](#)

Address: Paseo Montejo #486 x 41 y 43

Local, artisanal gifts - sample local Pox & Xtabentun liquors.

- [Tejon Rojo](#)

Address: Paseo Montejo #496 x 43 y 45

Campy shop with a great selection of t-shirts, cards, jewelry, & more.

- [Casa Tho](#)

Address: Paseo Montejo #498 x 43 y 45

Concept house & cafe features local artisans, fashion, jewelry & art..

- [Casta Artesana](#)

Address: Calle 70 #490E x 57 & 59

Mexican craft boutique with a variety of baskets, jewelry, housewares, & more.

- [Tseebal](#)

Address: Paseo 60 - Calle 60 #346A x 33A y 35

Baskets, jewelry, art, housewares, & handcrafts, all locally made.

- [Paloma Van Den Akker](#)

Address: Paseo de Montejo #498A x 45 y 47

Custom handbags, shoes, beautiful dresses, & shirts in a delightful boutique.

- [Maria Santana](#)

Address: Av. Campestre 8A, entre 1E y 1F, Campestre, 97120

Fine jewelry in a gorgeous showroom in North Mérida.

- [Fiesta Americana](#)

Address: Paseo Montejo #451 x Av. Colon

Fom cigars to souvenirs to swimwear, find something for everyone here.

- [Casa Consciente](#)

Address: Calle 7 #278F x 7 y 9, Col. Campestre 97120

A collection of small shops featuring clothing, jewelry, books, & more along with a small cafe.

- [Garcia Rejon](#)

Address: Calle 60 #501A x 65

Quaint market with a variety of local, artisanal products. A great spot for souvenirs.

- [Artesanaria](#)

Address: Calle 60 #480 x 55

Find artisanal products from all over Mexico at affordable prices.



YOUR ADVENTURE STARTS HERE

NIGHTLIFE

Dzalbay Cantina: THE House of Jazz in Mérida with craft beers, mezcal, signature cocktails, & the best live music in the city.
Address: Calle 64 x 53

Bird: Taproom & concept bar by the owners of Dzalbay.
Address: Calle 56 #463 x 55 y 53

Murciélago Mezcaleria: The first mezcalería in Mérida dedicated exclusively to the rescue & promotion of Mezcal in the region.
Address: Calle 57 x 58 y 60

Hennessy's Irish Pub: A local & expat favorite with traditional pub fare, draft beer, sports matches on big screen TVs, & live music.
Address: Paseo de Montejo #482 x 43 y 41

Mayan Pub: Outdoor garden & ice cold beer, this pub is a service industry favorite with a variety of music including rock, salsa, cumbia, ska, & reggae.
Address: Calle 62 #473 x 55 y 57

La Bierhaus: An authentic German-style pub, experience typical food & a wide selection of imported beers.
Address: Calle 62 #487 x 57 y 59

Mercado 60: A variety of different restaurants, live music daily, street art, pop up stores, live shows, performances, & more.
Address: Calle 60 #461 x 53 y 51

El Cardenal: A true cantina with cold beer, bar food, & music - a local & traveler favorite.
Address: Calle 63 #527 x 70 y 72

Tropico56: Fun place for food, drinks, live music, & dancing including dance lessons.
Address: Calle 56a #425a (Remate)

La Bianca Tropical: Something fun every night including live music, salsa lessons, & much more.
Address: Calle 55 #497B x 58 y 60



YOUR ADVENTURE STARTS HERE

FAMILY FRIENDLY EVENTS

Sunday

Mérida BiciRuta – Paseo de Montejo

Time: 8:00 am to 12:30 pm

Participate in or watch cyclists on the Paseo de Montejo (one side is closed off). Bike rentals available at BiciMaya - Paseo de Montejo x 45 y 47.

Artists on the Paseo – Paseo de Montejo

Time: 10:00 am to 2:00 pm / 5:00 pm to 11:00 pm

Local art, jewelry, sculpture, artisanal products, & more.

Mérida en Domingo – Plaza Grande

Time: 10:00 am to 2:00 pm

Hand-crafts, street food, live music, traditional dance exhibitions, & assorted local vendors.

Monday

Vaqueria Dancing – Palacio Municipal – Plaza Grande

Time: 9:00 pm - 10:00 pm

Ballet Folklorico performs this colorful dance in beautiful traditional costumes originating from the colonial days in Yucatan.

Tuesday

Remembranzas Musicales – Calle 59 y 70 - Santiago Park

Time: 8:30 pm

Dance under the stars to the cha-cha, the mambo, salsa, & other Latin dances.

Trova Music – Centro Cultural Olimpo - Plaza Grande

Time: 8:00 pm

Trova is a style of Cuban music originating in the 19th century which is also the traditional music of Yucatan.

Wednesday

Romantic Night – Museo de la Cancion Yucateca, Calle 57 #464

Time: 8:30 pm

Enjoy a variety of Trova music from local & national musicians.

Video Mapping Projections – Casa Montejo - Plaza Grande

Time: 8:00 pm - 9:00 pm

High-tech, light, & sound show depicting the history & culture of the region.



YOUR ADVENTURE STARTS HERE

FAMILY FRIENDLY EVENTS

Thursday

Yucatecan Serenade – Calle 60 y 55 - Santa Lucia Park

Time: 9:00 pm - 10:00 pm

Since 1965, this open-air event features live music & local history with traditional costumes & dancing from Ballet Folklorico.

Friday

Video Mapping Projections – Catedral de San Ildefonso - Plaza Grande

Time: 8:00 pm - 8:30 pm

High-tech, light, & sound show depicting the region's history & culture.

Saturday

Original Slow Food Market – Calle 33^D #498, Colonia Reparto Dolores Patrón - Garcia Gineres 97070

Time: 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Regional, organic produce, baked goods, cheeses, herbs, sausages, & more. Bring your own shopping bags & arrive early.

North Location – Parque Piste Roja x 71 y 75 Calle 46, Cordemex 97115

Time: 8:30 am to 1:00 pm

There are different vendors at each Slow Foods location. In the North Location, find cookies, ice creams & sorbets, vegan products, & more.

Noches Mexicana – Calle 56A #485 y Paseo de Montejo - Remate

Time: 9:00 pm - 11:00 pm

Different states & regions of Mexico are represented through dance, music, & other art forms with food & handcraft vendors.

Fiesta Saturdays – Calle 59 x 60 - Parque Hidalgo

Time: Around Dusk Daily

Vendors set up to sell handmade crafts, hammocks, jewelry, clothing, shoes, & more.

Pok Ta Pok Ball Game – Catedral de San Ildefonso - Plaza Grande

Time: 8:00 pm - 9:00 pm

A kind of football, Pok Ta Pok, was played with great ceremony for centuries & is steeped in mysticism.

Mérida BiciRuta Nocturna – Paseo de Montejo

Time: 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm

Participate in or watch cyclists on the Paseo de Montejo (one side is closed off). Bike rentals available at BiciMaya - Paseo de Montejo x 45 y 47. ONLY the first Saturday of the month.



YOUR ADVENTURE STARTS HERE

MUSEUMS*

Mérida City Museum: View a wonderful collection of Mayan pottery, tools, jewelry, & gifts as well as post-colonization paintings, altarpieces, clothing, & weapons.

Location: Calle 56 #529A x 65 y 65A

Hours: Tuesday – Friday 9:00 am to 6:00 pm

Hours: Saturday – Sunday 9:00 am to 2:00 pm

Admission: Free

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.

Location: Calle 63 x Calle 60 y 62 - Plaza Grande

Hours: Tuesday – Saturday 10:00 am to 7:00 pm

Hours: Sunday 10:00 am to 2:00 pm

Admission: Free

Governors Palace: Artwork by local artist Fernando Castro Pacheco depicts the history of the Maya, Jacinto Canek, & battles between the Maya & Spanish conquistadors.

Location: Calle 61 between Calle 60 and 62 - Plaza Grande

Hours: Monday – Friday 9:00 am to early evening

Admission: Free

Quinta Montes Molina: Admire European furniture, Carrara marble floors, Baccarat & Murano chandeliers, chime clocks, Art Deco pieces, & fine sculptures.

Location: Paseo de Montejo #469 x 33 y 35

Hours: Monday – Friday 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

Hours: Saturday 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

Admission: \$80 pesos (approx)

Palacio Canton Anthropology Museum: One of the rejuvenated palace-style mansions on Paseo de Montejo will also give you a peek into the lavishness prevalent during the henequen heyday.

Location: Paseo de Montejo #485 x 41 y 43

Hours: Tuesday – Sunday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm

Admission: \$60 pesos (approx)



YOUR ADVENTURE STARTS HERE

MUSEUMS*

El Gran Museo del Mundo Maya: Extensive collection includes ancient engravings, books, historical documents, art, & religious works from the colonial era.

Location: Calle 60 Norte No. 299E

Hours: Wednesday – Monday 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

Admission: \$150 pesos (approx)

Palacio de la Música: All forms of music from folk, phonograph, concert, big band, cantina, & current music presented in interesting, interactive settings.

Location: Calle 58 x 59

Hours: Daily 10:00 am to 6:00 pm

Admission: \$150 pesos (approx)

El Minaret: A beautiful display of period furniture, art, tapestries, & artifacts. A restaurant is found on the upper floor. Select weekends feature an artisan fair with handcrafts, food, clothing, & more.

Location: Paseo de Montejo #473 x 35 y 37

Hours: Monday – Friday 4:00 pm to 8:30 pm

Hours: Saturday – Sunday 10:00 am to 10:00 pm

Admission: \$80 pesos

Montejo 495 - Casas Gimelas: Learn about the local culture & lifestyle of the elite class in this lavish house with rich exhibitions of artifacts from Europe & Asia.

Location: Paseo de Montejo #495 x 43 y 45

Hours: Tuesday – Sunday 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

Admission: \$250 pesos + \$50 pesos for photography (approx)

Museo del Meteorito: The museum, equipped with virtual & augmented reality technology, allows visitors to experience prehistoric episodes such as the meteorite that caused the extinction of the dinosaurs 66 million years ago & created thousands of cenotes found in the Yucatan Peninsula.

Location: Boulevard Turístico Malecón - Calle 19 x 66 y 68 - Progreso (97320)

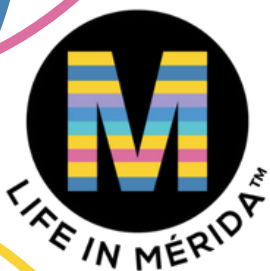
Hours: Tuesday – Sunday 11:00 am to 6:30 pm

Admission: \$150 pesos (approx)

Learn more about other cultural destinations in Yucatan here:

<https://www.culturyucatan.com/>

*ALWAYS check opening days/times/fees in advance as these things change frequently here. Some places accept credit cards while others only accept cash.



YOUR ADVENTURE STARTS HERE

HACIENDAS & CENOTES

Hacienda Yaxcopoil: Experience the splendor & grandeur of one of the most important & authentic haciendas during its time. This hacienda is also the location for many movie sets.

Location: Carretera Federal 261, Calle 21 #500-Kilómetro 220 - Yaxcopoil (97396)

Hours: Monday – Saturday 8:00 am to 6:00 pm

Hours: Sunday 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Admission: \$100 pesos (approx)

Hacienda Santa Cruz: Travel back in time & immerse yourself in colonial opulence.

Location: Calle 86 S/N - Santa Cruz Palomeque (97315)

Hours: Daily 7:00 am to 10:00 pm

Admission: Free but it is suggested to purchase a drink or a meal.

Hacienda Sotuta de Peon & Cenote: One of the last few working haciendas in the area. Restaurant on-site, guest rooms, cenote, spa, & gift shop. A highly recommended tour.

Location: Carretera Federal 261, Calle 21 #500-Kilómetro 220 - Yaxcopoil (97396)

Hours: Monday – Sunday Tours at 9:00 am, 10:00 am & 1:00 pm

Must make advance reservations, private tours also available.

Admission: \$850 pesos (approx)

Cenotes Hacienda Mucuyche: Dating to the XVIIth Century, the hacienda has been preserved almost in its original state, with very few restorations. Wonderful day trip to experience cenotes, an authentic hacienda, lunch, & more.

Location: Mucuyché - Abalá (97825)

Hours: Monday – Sunday 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

Admission: \$590 pesos (approx)

Hacienda Xcanatun: The first restored hacienda in the area features elegant grounds, an exceptional restaurant, & day passes to use the pool.

Location: Calle 20 S/N x 19 y 19A - Comisaría Xcanatún (97302)

Hours: 8:00 am – 11:00 pm

Admission: Free but it is suggested to purchase a drink or a meal.

Hacienda Ya'axka: An exceptional restaurant with outstanding ambiance & attentive service.

Location: Carretera Dzitya - Dzitya (97302)

Hours: Tuesday – Saturday 1:00 pm to 11:00 pm

Hours: Sunday 1:00 pm to 7:00 pm



YOUR ADVENTURE STARTS HERE

DAY TRIPS

Izamal: One of the Pueblos Magicos (Magic Towns) noted for its yellow buildings & 16th century convent. Explore Kinich Kakmó, Taller Maya, & Kinich restaurant.

Valladolid: Another Pueblo Magico noted for its colonial buildings, 16th-century convent & Cenote Zací. Visit Casa de los Venados with Mexican folk art & furnishings.

Uxmal: Uxmal, the ancient Maya city of the classical period, is considered one of the most important archaeological sites of Maya culture.

Chichén Itzá: Chichén Itzá is a complex of Mayan ruins. 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.

Ruta Puuc: Puuc means “mounds” or “mountain range” in Mayan. The Puuc route is a tour of archaeological sites that has undoubtedly become one of the favorite tours for Yucatecans and visitors who come to the region.

Dzibilchaltun: Dzibilchaltun is the nearest Mayan ruin to Mérida and can easily be visited within a half day. Dzibilchaltun is most famous for the sunrise during the equinox (March 21 or September 22).

Santa Elena: Santa Elena, the headquarters of Uxmal, is one of the largest and most important Maya sites in the Yucatan Peninsula & has one of the highest points on the peninsula.

Muna: One of our favorite stops in Muna is the gift shop at Chun Yaax-Che restaurant. Seeing replicas of the Maya Codices is quite impactful along with artisanal products.

Uman: In the Mayan language, the name of Umán in Yucatan means "your purchase", but it also has other meanings such as "the path" or "the way." Today, Uman has about 40,000 residents.

Campeche: Campeche is a stunning seaside city with colorful architecture and fascinating history. The historic city is a designated UNESCO heritage site, only about a two-hour drive from Merida.



YOUR ADVENTURE STARTS HERE

BEACHES

Not only is Mérida near the beach but beaches in the Yucatan Peninsula are some of the most unspoiled and beautiful beaches in Mexico. Actually, there are quite a few beaches to visit within a short drive from Mérida. Some of these beaches are also known by locals and tourists alike. Others are best-kept secrets by the locals to ensure the pristine nature of the sand, the water, and the experience.

Progreso: The most popular beach destination among locals and tourists alike is Progreso. Only 27 miles from Mérida, Progreso is the number one choice for a quick and easy day trip. Progreso is accessible by bus, Uber, taxi or car. It takes about 25 minutes from North Mérida or 40 minutes to 1 hour from Mérida Centro.

Chelem: A little diamond in the rough, Chelem will give you local flavor while helping you feel at ease with the Mexican culture. Many expats frequent Chelem for the sand, the sun, the quaint local restaurants, and easy access. Chelem truly provides the feel of a beach town with small markets for fruits, vegetables, bread, staples, and, of course, tortillas.

Chuburna: A popular location for locals who escape the heat of Mérida in the summer. Chuburna has many choices of restaurants with fresh fish as the main course. Like Chelem, you will also find small markets for fruits, vegetables, bread, etc.

Chicxulub: Famous for being the epicenter of the crater is due to a meteorite resulting in many cenotes in the area. In 1663, Chicxulub Puerto defended the north coast from the incursion of pirates.

Celestun: Celestun is located in a biosphere reserve and is most familiar for the flamingos that inhabit its clear waters and mangroves. The best times to see these intriguing birds are in the fall and winter.

Sisal: The Port of Santa Maria de Sisal opened in 1810 to unload ships from Havana and then export goods from Yucatan. It was the first and one of the most important ports for the exportation of henequen fiber familiar as sisal.

Rental Car

If you need a rental car, contact [Mayan Drive Rental Car](#) via WhatsApp (English spoken): +52 999.134.6263. If you are staying at the beach, ask about their special offers for qualifying rentals.



YOUR ADVENTURE STARTS HERE

THE MOVE TO MÉRIDA GUIDE

All moves are stressful, especially when there are a plethora of unknowns. You don't know what you don't know, especially when moving to another country.

The Move to Mérida Guide answers all of your questions and maybe some you haven't thought of. Find step-by-step instructions on preparation and integration so you can thrive. With these tools and insights, you'll be equipped to face challenges with awareness and cultural sensitivity.

Learn how to move to the beautiful city of Mérida, Yucatán, Mexico and all the culture, history, and magic it has to offer!

Enjoy!



Life in Mérida™ and Mérida Retirement Tours™

A trusted resource for visitors and residents of the beautiful city of Mérida, Yucatán.

This 388-page guide walks you through every single detail you need to begin your new life in Mérida.

- One-time purchase includes lifetime access to the guide, which is updated and published every January. You'll automatically receive an email with subsequent guides when they are ready.
- You'll also have **FIRST NOTIFICATION** of our monthly offers, specials, and events!
- Purchase with or without consultation.

[CLICK HERE FOR LIMITED TIME OFFER](#)

- **COST: \$100** - includes a 30-minute consultation call
- *Calls MUST BE BOOKED within 30 days of purchase, no exceptions.*
- If limited time offer has expired, please see below.

[CLICK HERE TO PURCHASE GUIDE ONLY](#)

- **Cost: \$125**

[CLICK HERE TO PURCHASE GUIDE WITH 50-MINUTE CONSULTATION](#)

- **Cost: \$150**
- You'll receive an email notification within 72 hours of your purchase. IF you have not received an email, contact me at:
amy@lifeinmerida.com

YOUR ADVENTURE STARTS HERE

THE MOVE TO MÉRIDA GUIDE - FOREWORD

Here's what I know about Amy Jones. She's the one you want in your corner if you're considering a new life in Mérida. Amy is personable, filled with joy, and a font of knowledge about Yucatán and its capital city. And now she's written this book.

She's a natural to write this guidebook. As a native Texan, Amy understands the perspective and concerns of newcomers from north of the border. She's compiled her knowledge and insight to prepare you for your move here — and to think through all your obligations and potential pitfalls.

Now, you might think an old-fashioned ink-on-paper book is obsolete when there's so much information for free on social media. But anyone who's dared to ask an innocent question on one of Yucatán's numerous Facebook groups learns quickly how confusing and dispiriting online forums can be. Who among these strangers are you to believe? Worse, the level of snark and sarcasm is astounding. It's amazing how an innocent question can go south. Well, here's your judgment-free zone right here in these pages.

Amy comes here with not just an open heart but the credentials to supply good hard information. She's lived and worked on the Peninsula for years. Her locally-born husband Angel is a huge asset, as well, when it comes to the insider knowledge that helps her followers thrive in this beautiful but often bewildering place.

What is insider knowledge? It's an understanding of the nuts and bolts required to be here legally, control your finances, and function as well as you can. Then thrive. It's also an appreciation of the culture and traditions that still exist in this place. It's up to you how much you want to try replicating the life you're used to. Frankly, it's easier now than it used to be. But if you ever plan to walk out your front door, it's good to know a little about the people you'll encounter. Believe me, as a foreigner, you don't want to rub people the wrong way.

The Move to Mérida Guide could change your life. It will help you make this leap with your eyes wide open. Does this move really add up for you? Or is Mérida just a romantic flash-in-the-pan? A lot of people who move here end up moving on because — let's face it — life here isn't for everybody. Others stay here for decades, often never returning “home.” Home is here.

This is a book that didn't exist when my partner and I began property hunting. Wow, do I wish it did. Luckily for you, here's the kind of resource that every expat community should have: honest, independent, and comprehensive.

Lee Steele - Publisher, Yucatán Magazine



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INTRODUCTION

After you arrive, you'll learn that information changes frequently in Mérida. Therefore, I'm not printing contact information for vendors, service providers, or other helpful resources. Instead, my website has a corresponding page for all this information. You'll also have access to this information featured in The All About Mérida Guide. The Move to Mérida Guide and The All About Mérida Guide will be updated and published every January. The website page is updated as we receive new information or contact details.

Chapter 1 CONSIDERING MÉRIDA?WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW FIRST

From Forbes to Conde Nast to Travel+Leisure to bloggers worldwide, Mérida is touted as a destination for people looking to move to Mexico. Experience culture, history, music, gastronomy, and hospitality in the Yucatán Peninsula. This introductory chapter gives you a birds-eye view of what you need to know if Mérida is on your radar. I'll go into more detail in the corresponding chapters.

Chapter 2 MOVING TO MÉRIDA – IS IT RIGHT FOR YOU?

Many people become enamored with Mérida before they move. It's easy to romanticize a location from photos and videos. However, using common sense and having a clear plan of action on the how, what, when, where, etc., to get you from where you are to here is critical. If you've never lived in another country or only visited resorts, you may need to plan a longer research trip or even live here for a few months to try it out. Nothing says you have to move permanently.

Chapter 3 EXPAT LIFE – 14 SIGNS YOU ARE READY

Almost everything has the potential to change once you move to Mérida. Your commitment to wanting change is critical. Remember that old saying, "The only constant in life is change?" Well, get ready . . . Moving to a new country with a new culture and a new language can either be a source of frustration, or it can be an adventure. Everything is new – learning, exploring, and creating a new life with new friends. So, be honest with yourself before committing to moving to Mérida.

Chapter 4 ABOUT MÉRIDA – HISTORY, CULTURE, DEMOGRAPHICS, and MORE

Considered one of the most conservative cities in Mexico, Mérida is the biggest city in the state of Yucatán and the capital. CEOWORLD reports Mérida as the second safest city in the American continent. Moreover, it ranked #21 as the safest city worldwide. Mérida has twice received the prestigious "Cultural Capital of the Americas" award, making it the only city to receive it twice. Rich in culture, history, and folklore, Mérida is called The White City.

Chapter 5 RESEARCH TRIP – BROADEN YOUR PERSPECTIVE

Before you get on the super-excited emotional roller coaster, it's best to be practical first. Being practical means coming to Mérida on a research trip armed with all the information you need beforehand for due diligence while you are here. I recommend keeping a journal, notebook, or notes on your phone for your research trip.



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Chapter 6 CULTURAL SENSITIVITY – RESPECTING LOCAL ETIQUETTE

Recognizing the distinction between different cultures is critical to being culturally sensitive. It's essential to acknowledge that cultures differ in terms of the ways people communicate and interact with each other without placing any judgment. Being sensitive to a different culture means knowing not everyone is the same and recognizing your culture is not inherently superior.

Chapter 7 CITY LAYOUT – EXPLORE THE STREETS

Whether you are a history buff, foodie, lover of the arts, hand-made crafts collector, or looking for a relaxing vacation experience, Mérida has it all. As the capital of the state of Yucatán, it serves as an important city attracting a wide variety of people from all walks of life. Yes, at first, Mérida will seem complicated to navigate. However, once you understand how the streets run and the layout of the diverse and different neighborhoods called colonias, you'll gain more confidence over time.

Chapter 8 CENTRO – THE HEARTBEAT OF THE CITY

Ultimately, neighborhoods in Mérida radiate from Plaza Grande in the center of the city. This historic center, with its UNESCO* makeover, features an elegant park and breathtaking Cathedral San Ildefonso. Plaza Grande is a beautiful place to experience the heartbeat of Mérida. Newsstands, coffee shops, restaurants, and various retail establishments exist. It's a great place to people-watch and immerse yourself in the culture. *The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) is a dedicated branch of the United Nations, with a focus on fostering global peace and security by promoting international collaboration in the realms of education, arts, science, and culture.

Chapter 9 THE NORTH and SUBURBS – LOCAL CHARM and LUXURY LIVING

North Mérida is a vibrant and dynamic area with many distinct neighborhoods offering various lifestyle options. These neighborhoods have something for everyone, from bustling plazas to quiet residential streets. Because most people moving to Mérida are interested in Centro, there's little information about the northern part of the city. So, let's look at The North, as locals call it, with its unique qualities and a different look and feel. While you'll find some areas modern and sleek, others feel more local, characteristic of what comes to mind when people think about Mérida.

Chapter 10 TRANSPORTATION – PUBLIC and PRIVATE

Mérida offers many ways to get from here to there: ride platforms, public transportation, and private drivers, to name a few. However, the public transportation system can be confusing. It can be frustrating when trying to find routes, fares, and times. Don't worry! It takes time to learn to navigate in and around the neighborhoods. But it's well worth your time, energy, and effort for budgeting purposes.



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Chapter 11 RENT A CAR or HIRE A DRIVER – WHICH IS BETTER?

Renting a car is an excellent way to see the sights and experience the city's unique culture. It also allows you to explore independently, navigate the streets, and learn the layout of Mérida and the surrounding areas. Renting a car is helpful for exploring areas outside the city center or venture into neighboring states. However, it is essential to carefully consider the details of the rental process, rules, and guidelines.

If you are new to Mérida, you may not be familiar with the roads, traffic rules, and driving conditions. Hiring a private driver is better if driving around the city feels stressful. They know how to navigate the city's streets, have knowledge of traffic patterns, and are familiar with the laws. This a very popular choice with numerous private driving services available.

Chapter 12 GASTRONOMY – RESTAURANTS, GROCERY STORES, and MORE

Mérida is one of the most gastronomically diverse cities you will ever visit. Limitless variety can be found, from traditional Yucatecan dishes to ancient Mayan recipes and from regional to cosmopolitan cuisine. Therefore, it's beneficial to experience all the distinct kinds of food in Mérida. Wikipedia states: "The food of the Yucatán peninsula is distinct from the rest of the country. It is based primarily on Mayan food with influences from the Caribbean, Central Mexican, European (especially French), and Middle Eastern cultures."

Chapter 13 MARKETS – A LIST OF FAVORITES

There's no doubt about it. Local markets are part of the charm of Mérida. Notably, they offer a unique perspective and an authentic experience of this enchanting city. Markets and tianguis, open-air flea markets or bazaars, offer a variety of handmade items, food, flowers, artisanal products, and more. They are also a place to socialize, integrate, and experience culture.

Chapter 14 TIPPING CULTURE – HOW? WHERE? WHAT? WHEN?

How, where, what, and when to tip is such a confusing subject that it gets a whole chapter. The task of tipping in Mérida is complicated, at best. Ask ten people about tipping, and you'll get ten different answers. This is another situation where understanding cultural differences and economic aspects provides insight and respect for hard-working locals.

Chapter 15 NEWS – INFORMATION SOURCES

Excellent sources of information for both locals and visitors are found in Mérida. The Yucatán Peninsula is rich in history and tradition. Learning about this beautiful culture is just part of the wonder of discovering Mérida.

Chapter 16 COST OF LIVING – UNDERSTANDING BUDGETS

Budgets are VERY difficult to calculate until you live here. Your particular lifestyle dictates expenses, fixed costs, and flexible costs. Does affordability for you depend upon a good exchange rate? When it takes a nose dive, can you bridge the gap? Run through different scenarios to determine the cost of living in Mérida. Yes, there is something for everyone. But the question is, "How do YOU want to live?" Most people are hard-pressed to change their lifestyle and living preferences.



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Chapter 17 MEDICINE and SUPPLEMENTS – PHARMACIES and NUTRITIONAL STORES

While the FDA oversees the U.S. drug industry, prescription drugs in Mexico are not as heavily regulated. Only purchase medication from a legitimate pharmacy. Be sure to inspect the packaging thoroughly. Don't accept it if you have second thoughts. You may also wonder if supplement and vitamin stores are in Mérida. Yes, they are, but you'll have to research if they carry what you are looking for.

Chapter 18 DOCTORS and DENTISTS – TIPS and RECOMMENDATIONS

Mérida boasts some of the finest medical services and physicians in the region. The city is home to an array of hospitals, clinics, and healthcare providers dedicated to delivering exceptional medical care to patients worldwide. With a wealth of experience and a commitment to excellence, Mérida's doctors are renowned for their skills, compassion, and commitment to patient-centered care. Whether you're looking for routine check-ups, specialist consultations, or emergency care, Mérida has a wealth of resources.

Chapter 19 HOSPITALS and CLINICS – TOP THINGS TO KNOW

Mérida offers world-class medical services because of its superior infrastructure of facilities and professionals. Hospitals and clinics provide a range of specialties where you'll find affordable doctors, consultants, highly trained staff, surgery facilities, recovery rooms, and clinical analysis laboratories. More and more people are finding it increasingly difficult to afford healthcare due to rising costs, decreased insurance coverage, and economic factors. Mexican Nationals and foreigners travel to Mérida for medical tourism due to the quality of service and state-of-the-art equipment to treat various health issues.

Chapter 20 SPANISH – KEY PHRASES and RESOURCES

Learning a few words and phrases in countries where English is not the first language is respectful. Therefore, it's essential to take the time to learn a few key terms in Spanish. Yes, learning a new language IS challenging. The good news is that you'll find many people who want to help. When people speak Spanish around you, listen instead of tuning them out. Over time, words' intonation, inflection, and flow help you understand better. It's easier to learn once you're here and immersed.

Chapter 21 KIDS and TEENS – SCHOOLS and FUN ACTIVITIES

Both public and private schools are available in Mérida. However, public schools do not provide support for a non-native-speaking child. It's essential to know between the ages of three and seven, language acquisition is more accessible with less academic stress. Children of this age seem to be quite adaptable. Middle school-aged children or teens may or may not be as flexible. From the feedback I've received, most teens adapt beautifully.

While Mérida is a mecca of culture, arts, and history, there's also a lot of fun and cool stuff to do for kids AND adults! This list scratches the surface of the exploration one can do around the city and nearby.



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Chapter 22 SCAMS - SPOTTING & AVOIDING DECEIT

It's important to stay vigilant and aware of common scams. Unfortunately, foreigners unfamiliar with the area's customs and practices can be exploited. Though it may be surprising, it's not only tourists who experience scams. Visiting Mexican nationals and locals Mérida are just as susceptible. For this reason, it is vital to learn how to equip yourself with the necessary knowledge and skills to avoid being scammed.

Chapter 23 POST-RESEARCH TRIP DEBRIEF – REFLECTIONS and OBSERVATIONS

Once the research trip is complete, it's time for the debrief. This chapter focuses on disseminating the information gathered. Grab your journal or log, pencil, calculator, and other notes, and let's go down the list item by item.

Chapter 24 RESIDENCY – BREAKING DOWN THE PROCESS

Embarking on the residency process can be both exciting and overwhelming. Several residency options cater to different needs, each with its specific requirements. As a foreigner living in Mexico, acquiring residency is non-negotiable. It is something you MUST have to remain in the country legally. Not only is this entire process confusing, but rules and regulations change without notice.

Chapter 25 PETS – FURRY FAMILY POINTERS

If you're planning to move with your pet, there are a few things to keep in mind to ensure a smooth and stress-free relocation. This comprehensive checklist will help you prepare for the move and ensure you have everything you need to keep your pet safe and comfortable during the journey. Like anything else, regulations and requirements change, sometimes without advance notice. Be sure to check frequently before finalizing travel plans.

Chapter 26 AUTOMOBILES – PROS and CONS OF BRINGING A CAR

Before importing a foreign car into Mexico, it's essential to understand the requirements and restrictions the Mexican government sets. Depending upon the age and type of vehicle, it may not be eligible for importation. Bringing your car may seem simple, but it can be more complicated and expensive than expected. While this chapter provides information and answers to frequently asked questions, it's recommended, and in some cases mandatory, to hire a professional customs broker or import agency to assist with importing a car. One small mistake can jeopardize the entire application.

Chapter 27 PERSONAL ITEMS – SHIP, FLY, DRIVE, or LEAVE BEHIND

Many people want personal items and don't want to replace them, no matter the cost. However, bringing too much stuff can be cost-prohibitive for those on a budget. Fortunately, many things can be replaced, some at a lower cost. On the positive side, most housing comes fully furnished and equipped.

Chapter 28 LEGAL DOCUMENTS - BIRTH CERTIFICATES, WILLS, and MORE

As a foreigner living in Mexico, it is crucial to be aware of necessary legal documents to help ensure that your rights and possessions are safeguarded. Notably, having these documents provides peace of mind in unforeseen circumstances. It is equally important to have legal documents apostilled and translated, when applicable.



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Chapter 29 BANKING – BENEFITS OF A LOCAL BANK ACCOUNT

While having a local bank is more than important, it's necessary. Everyone has their own needs and requirements, especially regarding banking. For me, the most important thing about a local bank is having a personal relationship with my banker. If ANYTHING goes wrong, then my banker can assist.

Chapter 30 ORGANIZING PLAN – FROM A TO Z

Getting organized for your move is a process: physical, emotional, mental, and a vast array of logistics. Only YOU can make critical decisions about what to take, what to leave for a later decision, and things you can let go of. To begin taking steps to make your move, it's better to start slowly with a plan and a system.

Chapter 31 MOVING TIMELINE – WHEN and HOW TO START

In this chapter, I've provided all the logistics of what, when, and how to organize your timeline. With many years as a professional organizer and stager, I'll share all my tips, tricks, and advice, and then you can adjust as needed. I promise things will take much longer than you anticipated, think double or triple the time.

Chapter 32 OVERCOMING OBSTACLES – MOVING DESPITE NEGATIVE FEEDBACK

This PERSPECTIVE chapter covers all the comments and unsolicited feedback I received once I decided to move. Sharing this information provides some insight into what you may experience and how to handle delicate situations.

Chapter 33 INTEGRATION – WHAT TO DO and NOT DO AS AN EXPAT

Both Angel and I gathered information for this chapter from news articles, client feedback, business professionals, and interviews with expats, locals, and service providers. The information is intended for people considering moving to Mérida because this city is very special, unique, and conservative. Like anything else, you can take it or leave it. However, it's very valuable advice, in my opinion, and good to know upfront.

Chapter 34 FIRST MONTH – SETTLING INTO A NEW LIFE

This chapter is all about little tips and tricks that I wish someone told me. While these may seem logical, I promise you'll forget some of them due to the sheer excitement of being here. Allowing yourself time to process the huge step you've just made is beneficial. Take your first days in stride, enjoy, take it slow, and revel in the start of your new life.

Chapter 35 MISTAKES – HARD LESSONS I LEARNED AFTER MOVING

Interestingly, as I wrote this chapter, I realized I was trying to prove something to myself. Hindsight is 20/20, and hopefully, I can help you make some good decisions by learning from my mistakes. As you know, this is not an easy process, and to be completely transparent . . . this is what really happened my first year in Mérida.



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Chapter 36 SHORT-TERM RENTALS – AFTER THE MOVE

You'll find several choices of platforms for short-term rentals after you move. I highly recommend beginning in Centro to take full advantage of all the activities, culture, events, and meet others. You may be tempted to rent short-term through Facebook Marketplace or by finding a recommendation on one of the expat groups. Not knowing the language, the customs, and the process creates more headaches. It's not worth saving a few dollars if there is a problem. Get a few months under your belt, then branch out.

Chapter 37 AVOIDING BOREDOM – A LIST OF THINGS TO DO

Once the initial excitement wears off, some expats struggle with boredom and loneliness. This is especially true for those who have moved alone. However, even couples experience a sense of isolation. The problem with boredom and loneliness is that it can lead to unhealthy habits and addictions. It's not uncommon for people to turn to alcohol or social media to fill the void.

Chapter 38 SUMMING IT UP – FINAL INSTRUCTIONS and INFORMATION

After arriving, you realize what you learned may be wrong or information is missing. What was true three months ago has already changed. Now you have to deal with all the hard stuff and experience challenges and surprises. I mention all these things as words of caution. My intent is to provide enough information, resources, perspective, and instructions to equip you to make educated decisions.



REAL ESTATE INFORMATION

Interested in real estate (renting or buying) but don't want to make a commitment? Previewing properties is important when creating a budget and learning what is available and not available. With over 35 years of combined experience, we understand expectations and challenges in the real estate market. We can schedule appointments to show you a variety of houses, apartments, condos, and townhouses in neighborhoods or areas of interest.

Understanding the real estate market for budgeting purposes is critical. It's important to know the pricing whether you want to rent or buy. We've created a half-day and a full-day for real estate consultations and tours. This no-commitment process helps give you a feel for the real estate market and the valuable services, follow-up, and client care we provide.

Real Estate Consulting

- Viewing various parts of the city to determine your areas of interest
- Locating grocery stores, hospitals, pharmacies, and other important services in your areas of interest
- Property showings (must be booked in advance and each takes approx one hour for transportation time and showing time)

[CLICK HERE FOR Half Day \(3 hours\): \\$100\(3-4 showings\)](#)

[CLICK HERE FOR Full Day \(6 hours\): \\$175 \(5-7 showings\)](#)

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THE ALL ABOUT MÉRIDA GUIDE - FOREWORD

I will never forget the day I met Amy Jones for the first time in 2017. It was in a little boutique in Tulum. We were both trying on outfits and started a conversation complimenting each other on our choices. She shared with me that she wanted to move to Mexico. I had recently moved from Los Angeles to Playa del Carmen myself, so we exchanged phone numbers and decided to stay in touch.

Two years later Amy called me unexpectedly because she had a few questions. During our conversation, I asked her about when was the big day. March 2020, she blurted out with conviction. I was stunned at such a precise date. When I inquired about it, she told me that this was when her car lease was up. So, I threw out a pretty loaded question, “Are you really going to let the most important decision of your life be determined by a car lease?” There was radio silence on the other end of the line... Then she burst out laughing and with her warm signature Texan twang. “Of course, not. That is silly.” Amy moved to Mérida a few months later on December 25th and the rest is history.

As a new immigrant she firsthand experienced the ups and downs of getting settled and finding her way in a new country and has since turned her journey into a flourishing business: Life in Mérida™. Connecting expats and those who are thinking about moving to or retiring in Mérida with trusted local service providers. A match made in heaven.

I venture to say that Amy in her short few years in Mérida has positively impacted thousands of lives who have benefited from her expertise and knowledge, retirement tours and guidebooks. Most recently “The Move to Mérida Guide” and its companion “The All About Mérida Guide” for folks who already live here.

Amy has packed a plethora of knowledge into this guide. Twenty-seven chapters on everything and anything you would want to know from delivery services, long-term rentals, buying real estate, insurance, utilities, taxes, becoming a citizen, to working in Mexico, starting your own business, tourism, day trips, and challenging yet very real topics like expat depression plus so much more...

The All About Mérida Guide is an encyclopedia intent on making life in Mérida easier to navigate by answering most questions residents will come across. What sets this guide apart is not only its exhaustive content but also the philanthropic spirit woven into its fabric. One of the many things I love about my dear friend Amy Jones is her generosity and desire to give back to the community. As such a percentage of the proceeds from this wonderful guidebook are being donated to support locals in need. Enjoy these pages and the extraordinary adventure that is Mérida!

Simona Ksoll - Business Consultant & Mentor for Women 40+ who are reinventing themselves in their next chapter.



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SERVICES & GUIDES

Click LINKS for details and pricing - all in USD.

CONSULTATIONS	Short - 20 mins	\$15
	2 Hours - Zoom Video	\$75
	2 Hours in Mérida	\$100
REAL ESTATE	1/2 Day in Mérida	\$125
	Full Day in Mérida	\$175
GUIDES	Real Estate	FREE
	Welcome to Mérida Kit	\$25
	Learn About Mérida	\$12
	Packing List	\$2
	Working in Mérida	\$12
	Driving in Mérida	\$12
	Organizing 101	\$10
	Write Your Story	\$25
SUPPORT LOCAL	Donate Here	\$5



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SERVICES & GUIDES

Click LINKS for details and pricing - all in USD.

EXPERT-GUIDED TOURS	1/2 Day - 1 Person	\$150
	Each Additional Person	\$75
	Full Day - 1 Person	\$225
	Each Additional Person	\$125
SELF-GUIDED TOURS	Mérida Neighborhoods	\$35
	Calle 60	\$35
	Uxmal	\$35
AIRPORT TRANSFERS	Mérida Centro & North	\$25
	Progreso	\$40
	Other Beach Areas	\$50
PRIVATE DRIVING	2 Hours	\$50
	4 Hours - 1/2 Day	\$90
	8 Hours - Full Day	\$180



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SERVICES

Click LINKS for details and pricing - all in USD.

Driving Lessons	Per Hour	\$50
Driving License	Single Application	\$140*
	Additional Person	\$60*
Address Update	Single Application	\$85*
	Couples Application	\$150*
Residency Actualization	Single Application	\$150*
	Couples Application	\$225*
Residency Extension	Single Application	\$125*
	Couples Application	\$175*
Yucatan Driving License	Step-by-Step DIY	\$50

*PLUS government fees - provided at the time of inquiry.



Lázaro Cárdenas 2321, Col. Real de San Agustín,
San Pedro Garza García, Nuevo León, C.P. 66278
www.christusmuguerza.com.mx

Clients of Amy Jones - Life in Mérida

OFFER A - General Discounts

- \$350 ER Consultation - Adults
- \$450 ER Consultation - Pediatric
- 35% Discount on laboratory and imaging service (applicable only to outpatients, does not apply to contrast or sedation, special or surrogate studies)
- 15% Discount on hospitalization and emergency services
- 15% discount on stress test and electrocardiogram (by appointment only, stress test directly in check up area)
- No charge for blood pressure checks or injections

To obtain the benefits and discounts above, it is an essential requirement to present the digital membership that is obtained by registering in the following link or QR code:

<https://www.christusmuguerza.com.mx/activa-socio-christus?pin=4699>



OFFER B - Benefits for preferred patients with a minimum hospital stay of 1 night

- Upgrade to master suite room (subject to availability).
- One meal a day at no charge for a companion.
- Family kit at no charge for a companion during the stay.
- Admission one night earlier for scheduled surgeries before 7am the next day at no charge (subject to availability).

To obtain the benefits described in section B it is necessary to send an email to: enrique.ceballos@christus.mx or flor.shiels@christus.mx to request “benefits for preferred patients” - please state this in the subject line of the email.

If you have any other questions about this special offer, please contact me:
amy@lifeinmerida.com or WhatsApp +52 999.192.6197 (Mexico) or +1 901.257.9209 (U.S.)



WELCOME TO HEALTH NET CONNECT!

Now that you are a member of **HealthNet Connect** you have access to the best **Health Services**, assistance that are available here in Yucatan.











We invite you to use the membership as many times as possible, benefiting from using the services available to receive the best treatments, and save you money.








Here is the list of benefits and contact information for each of the service providers and the special offers they have for you.

Please remember that if you have any doubts or questions you can always contact us at our customer service line 9993-68-72-89.

We can make the appointment for you, an even pick you up at your house if needed, take you to your consultation, help you with the translations and take you back home for an extra cost if that is the case.

HealthNet Connect Benefits:

-  Emergency Assistance Line: **24/7 phone line** with an english speaking operator in case of eventuality **9991-93-81-57**.
-  INSURANCE: Health insurance, house, and car insurance, get a **5% reimbursement** the first year with the **Expatinsurance.mx Company**, contact info@expatinsurance.mx or **Patricia Sales** 9997- 40-58-19.
-  IMSS Registration and renewal services: We assist a provide assistance with IMSS renewal and registration. ***Service Included in the membership***
-  Medical Companion, Translation Service and Transportation Service for Scheduled Appointments: Service offered by **Healthitinerary.mx**
-  Patient information management: A **free health check-up** at the beginning of your stay or at the start of your membership.
-  Free consultations with our **Healthitinerary** doctors through all the year (Office hours 9:00 hrs to 18:00 hrs, Monday through Friday. For Free.)
-  Doctor consultation at home (cost depending on the day and place).
-  Amexcare Assessment: A free option to find out if **American insurance** could be effective in **México**.
-  Free direction and support for your communication with your private **health insurance company plus cost and benefits**.
-  10% Discount on Labs Works. (Delivery Services available, charges may apply).

-  Special rates on eye exams and eye glasses at **Videre Eye Clinic**
(Address: Millenium Building, C. 15 #491, Office 101 x C. 22, Col. Altabrisa, CP 97130)
 - 20% on consultations
 - 10% on studies
 - 10% on eye glasses
-  10% Discount on Rental and Purchase of Medical Equipment at **Mundo Médico**.
-  Discounts on cardiology, imaging and gynecology consultations and exams at **Vita Centro Médico**. (Av. Cupúles #105 x C. 22, Col. Yucatán, CP 97050).
-  Free teeth cleaning and check up at **The Happy Tooth** (Address: C. 22 #250b x , C. 67 & C. 69, Col. Montes de Ame, CP 97115)
-  Free direction and support for your communication with your private **health insurance company**.
-  Private Physical Therapy Sessions: The Private Therapy Sessions are available at the **Universidad Marista**. (Address: Periférico Norte Tablaje Catastral 13941, Ejido de Chuburná, 97300 / Phone: (999) 942 9700 ext: 1344). (Address: *Therapy Session Times: Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 11:00 am and 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm. Cost \$50 pesos per session. Home visits are available by arrangement, cost quoted separately. This service is available at Progreso.
-  Discount on funeral services with **Funerarias Poveda**.

Office hours: Monday through Friday from 9:00 hrs to 18:00 hrs.



AMY JONES & ANGEL RODRIGUEZ

Lifestyle Writer, Author, Mérida Ambassadors

After spending countless hours speaking to locals, expats, travelers, and business owners and scouring Facebook groups, I started compiling all the information on my website blog, other guides I've published and videos we make. My husband, Angel Rodriguez, has lived in Mérida since 1993. He's an exceptional resource to obtain and verify information; chatting with other locals and other expats and learning all he can about the magical city we live in. As a waiter at La Tratto in Santa Lucia Park for many years, he had the great opportunity to receive feedback from a variety of people. When I wasn't sure about something, Angel would take the driver's seat to research more thoroughly. His wisdom, dedication, and persistence is much appreciated. If you know him or have the chance to get to know him, you'll quickly understand what I'm talking about. His contribution and participation in this project is evident in the information you'll find here.

CONTACT

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☎ US: +1 901.257.9209

☎ MX: +52 999.192.6197

🌐 lifeinmerida.com

PUBLICATIONS

- The Move to Mérida Guide
- The All About Mérida Guide
- Learn About Mérida
- Mérida Driving Guide
- FREE Real Estate Guide
- Working in Mérida
- Self-Guided Tour: 60 on Calle 60
- Self-Guided Tour: Neighborhoods
- Self-Guided Tour: Uxmal
- Course: Write Your Story
- Essential Packing List
- Welcome to Mérida Kit

SERVICES

- Research & Retirement Tours
- Consultations
- Airport Transfers
- Driving Lessons & State of Yucatan Driving License
- Real Estate - Renting, Buying, & Selling
- Residency Actualization & Extensions
- Change of Address
- Custom Itineraries

SOCIAL MEDIA

- FB: Mérida Retirement Tours
- FB: Mérida Real Estate & Investment Information
- FB: Life in Mérida: Visitor & Resident Resources (Private Group)
- YT: Life in Mérida

AS RECOGNIZED EXPERTS ON MOVING TO MÉRIDA. WE'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
- mexicorelocationguide.com

LEARN MORE

- 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.