

Sample Agenda:



KARA KLINGE

GUATEMALA ADVENTURE



7 NIGHTS / 8 DAYS GUATEMALA ADVENTURE

Guatemala City, Guatemala Depart

Fly to Guatemala City, Guatemala

Airport greeting and transfer to your hotel in Antigua.

HOTEL: Casa Santo Domingo, traditional deluxe rooms, 3 nights.

Meals: Welcome Dinner

Day 2 Antigua This morning enjoy a private historical walking tour of Antigua. This Spanish-Colonial city was the country's capital for more than 200 years, creating a wealth of historic architecture and gorgeous scenery.

In the afternoon, you have 2 options: A hike on Pacaya Volcano or a tour of a coffee plantation.

Experience the beauty of the country's most active volcano. Follow your expert local guide to the top of this fiery mountain and look out over stunning views of Guatemala countryside.

Learn the cultivation and processing of coffee on the Filadelfia Plantation. Walk through the nursery and plantation, continue on to the wet milling and drying patio and finish with sipping coffee in the "cupping lab."

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 3 Antigua Enjoy this morning at leisure in Antigua. Your guide will be available to assist you and recommend shopping areas. Guatemala produces beautiful fabrics and hand-crafted items.

After lunch, visit with the cultural center at Casa Pensativo. The center, opened in 1987, has made a name for itself as a progressive publishing house. The initial aim of the company was to provide the public with books that would allow a critical view of Guatemala, encourage creativity and open up new possibilities. It has also served as a meeting space to enable the exchange of ideas, the exhibition of works and various cultural activities. Today Librería del Pensativo plays host to a monthly calendar of cultural events and offers a thought-provoking selection of books.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 4 Lake Atitlan After breakfast, check out of your hotel and drive, with your private guide, to Lake Atitlan. Stop on the way at the Solola Indigenous Maya Market. Almost all the residents of Solola are Kaqchikel Maya. This is a very authentic market and several Mayan tribes travel here daily to trade goods.

In the afternoon, meet with Mayan priestesses and experience a Mayan ceremony called a "cemada" or burning in which a priest/priestess makes offerings to God.

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Ceremonies are held for many reasons such as your or someone else's health, or the success of a business. It's a good to have an idea of what you need before going to visit the priestesses.



HOTEL: Casa Palopo, 3 nights

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 5 Lake Atitlan Today, take a private boat day tour, with your private guide, to visit the most important communities on Lake Atitlan. During the water taxi ride, you will enjoy stunning views of the lake and its three volcanoes as well as learn about the culture, traditions, and costumes of the different villages. Start from Panajachel, and visit San Juan La Laguna. Here, you will find women's co-ops that make and sell beautiful authentic mayan textiles. This is a great place to shop because the co-ops make sure the women are fairly compensated for their amazing work.

Here, you will also be introduced to a Mayan indigenous healer. Visit a medicinal garden that is run by a local women's cooperative. You will have an opportunity to tour the garden, learn about the herbs and their uses, as well learn about their belief in caring for the land with love. .



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Continue to Santiago Atitlan, the capital of the Tzutujil Maya Group and the largest indigenous community on the

lake. Here you will visit Maximón (Rij Laj Mam) a postclassic Maya God. Thought to be a combination of Mayan gods and the biblical Judas, Maximón is an effigy that worshippers make offerings to and ask for blessings from. Every year, Maximón is paraded through town and ends up a new house, where visitors are welcomed to pay their respects.

Afternoon visit the village of San Antonio Palopo where you will visit a pottery factory and the weaving co-op (they use a foot loom..... demonstration)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 6 Chichicastenango This morning, travel a short 20 minutes to the renowned Maya market at Chichicastenango for shopping. This sprawling commercial center features local produce and a wealth of handmade goods for sale, including ceramics and woodcarvings. Bargaining is acceptable. Enjoy lunch at Hotel Santa Tomas (local entertainment too).

In the afternoon, drive back to your hotel in Lake Atitlan.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 7 Lake Atitlan / Guatemala City This morning, check out of your hotel and drive 2 hrs. to Guatemala City.

Visit Central Park, officially called Plaza de la Constitución. The park faces two prominent city buildings: the National Palace on the northern side and the Cathedral on the east. The stunning fountain was built in 1943 and designed by Guatemalan artist Rodolfo Galeotti Torres.

A two minute walk from the 'parque central' is the central market. Here you will find colorful Guatemalan handicrafts such as textiles, carved wood, metalwork, pottery, leather goods and basketry.

In the afternoon, we will meet with "Association Civil La Cuerda," an organization that produces the only feminist newspaper in the country. The publications provide the Guatemalan public with a feminist lens on current national problems. La Cuerda also reaches out to the public through regular conferences and workshops on topics such as feminism, social communication, gender, the importance of women in the media and women's rights.

HOTEL: Intercontinental, 1 night

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Farewell Dinner

Day 8 Departure Transfers to the airport and fly home

Meals: Breakfast

