



Explore, Experience, Enrich™

“Yucatan Explorer” - 15 days

Volunteer Projects:



Your volunteer project is with **City of Joy** in Cancun Mexico. **City of Joy** helps out in several houses such as the Home for Children, the Bread & Blanket Shelter, the Women’s Shelter, and the Home for the Elderly and Cafarnaum Hospice.

You can help out with tasks such as preparing and serving meals, accompanying elderly people and enabling them to be more active, teaching English and helping out with maintenance work such as gardening, cleaning and painting.

Trip Highlights:

- Volunteering at the City of Joy
- Mayan sites: Chichen Itza, Uxmal, Kohunlich, Tulum, Calakmul
- Protected areas: Calakmul Biosphere Reserve, Rio Lagartos, Sian Ka’an
- Adventure activities: biking, snorkelling, kayaking, hiking
- The charming colonial city of Merida

Day by Day Itinerary:

Day 1: Arrive Cancun, transfer to Puerto Morelos	(D)
Day 2: Chichen Itza, Mayan Ruins; Rio Lagartos	(B,L,D)
Day 3: Rio Lagartos – boat trip; transfer to Merida	(B,L,D)
Day 4: Merida tour	(B,L,D)
Day 5: Loltun Caverns, Uxmal and archaeological site	(B,L)
Day 6: Biosphere Reserve, Calakmul	(B,L,D)
Day 7: Bird watching hike; Kohunlich, Transfer to Bacalar	(B,L,D)
Day 8: Snorkelling, Tulum archaeological site	(B,D)
Day 9: Biking, snorkelling, kayaking in Siankaan	(B,L,D)
Day 10: Transfer to Cancun; Volunteering begins at City of Joy	(B,L,D)
Day 11-12: Volunteering continues	(B,L,D)
Day 13: Volunteering in morning; transfer to Caracol Village	(B,L,D)
Day 14: Caracol Village – Relaxing	(B,L,D)
Day 15: Caracol Village; transfer back to Cancun – Trip ends	(B)



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UK: 0800 783 3554; NZ: 0800 426 3787; US 201 984 5372 ; RoW: +44 207 193 1062

Bookings@handsupholidays.com

NB: B= Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner

Trip Description:

From Cancun we go to nearby Puerto Morelos, where you have the rest of the day at your leisure. We depart the following day for the incredible Mayan archaeological site, Chichen Itza, and on to Rio Lagartos for the night. Here, we will have a boat trip where you can spot flamingos and other birds, before transferring to the delightful colonial city of Merida, where we have a tour the next day.

The wonders of Uxmal archaeological site are our next stop, as well as the famed Loltun Caverns. We then experience the biosphere reserve in Calakmul, with howler monkeys and other indigenous flora and fauna, and we stay at Chicanna Ecovillage.

There is an optional bird watching hike the next day, as well as Kohunlich archaeological site, before moving to Bacalar, with its "seven colour" lagoon. Biking, snorkelling and kayaking is on offer in Siankaan, our next stop, which is the most important protected reserve in Mexico, before hitting beautiful Cancun, the site of our Community Development project.

At City of Joy houses you will assist with painting, renovating, and other odd-jobs that are required. We spend the final two days of the trip unwinding at Caracol Village in Playa del Carmen, where you can enjoy the all inclusive activities by the beach. Your trip ends back in Cancun, with transfers to the airport.



Trip Description:

Day 1

Arrival to Cancun and transfer to Puerto Morelos.

Day 2

Depart towards Chichen Itza. Visit the impressive Mayan archeological site. Follow to Rio Lagartos.



Day 3

Enjoy a boat trip to see flamingos and other birds of the area. Follow to Merida.



Day 4

Enjoy the colonial city of Merida (Government palace, market, cathedral, etc).

Day 5

Depart towards Uxmal. Visit the archeological site. We then visit the amazing Loltun caverns. We go on to Campeche.

Day 6

Depart towards Calakmul. Visit the archeological site and the biosphere reserve to see howler monkeys and other indigenous fauna and flora. Just before dark, we take in the wonder of 25 million bats leaving their cave.



Day 7

Optional early birdwatching hike before visiting Kohunlich archeological site. We then transfer to Bacalar.



Day 8

Snorkel in the amazing blue *cenote* (a type of sinkhole containing groundwater). Our next stop is Tulum archeological site. We also get to snorkel in a crystal clear cenote.

Day 9

Multisports trip in Sian ka'an. You can choose from biking, kayaking and snorkeling in the area as well as visit in the Sian ka'an visitor center museum.



Day 10

Depart to Cancun to start the volunteer work. Check in the City of Joy and start working on the several projects needed on site.

Day 11-12

Volunteer work in the City of Joy.



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Day 13

Enjoy last morning of volunteer work. After saying sad farewells to our new friends, we transfer to Caracol Village to enjoy an all inclusive hotel by the beach.

Day 14

Relaxing – free day.

Day 15

Depart to the airport for your flight home.

Comfort Level: 4/5

(Upmarket)

Accommodation is in upmarket and centrally located 4* resorts (8 nights) and 3* hotels (6 nights)

Activity Level: 3/5

Min. Travellers per Group: 2

Max. Travellers per Group: 12

Police Check Required? Yes



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