

# YOLO

**The journey of your life.**

## **Blue caribbean kicks**

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13 Tage Mexiko & Guatemala & Belize

[yolo-reisen.de/amerika/mexiko-guatemala-belize/blue-caribbean-kicks](https://yolo-reisen.de/amerika/mexiko-guatemala-belize/blue-caribbean-kicks)



## Mexiko & Guatemala & Belize **Blue caribbean kicks**

Geschichte – Strand – Geschichte – Strand – Geschichte – Strand. Das ist der Rhythmus, bei dem du mitmusst. Und der ist nicht zufällig gewählt, denn was die Kolonialherrscher stehen ließen und sich fast 2.000 Jahre zuvor die Maya ausdachten, geht an die Nieren. Da brauchst du nach jedem Ohnmachtsanfall eine Portion Karibik, um wieder normal zu werden.



## Included services:

- Abenteuerreise mit maximal 16 Teilnehmern
- Jede Reise findet statt
- Englisch sprechender, einheimischer Guide in internationaler Reisegruppe
- Unterkunft: 11 x Hotel
- Transport: Boot, Bus, Privater Reiseminibus, Fähre
- Mahlzeiten: 9 x Frühstück
- Aktivitäten laut Tagesprogramm
- 100 m<sup>2</sup> Regenwald 4 you (Jedem Gast schenken wir im Regenwald von Ecuador ein Grundstück, das Jahr für Jahr den CO<sub>2</sub>-Ausstoß seiner Reise kompensiert. Eingetragen auf seinen Namen und auf ewig seins.)
- Highlights: Lebendige und abwechslungsreiche Landschaften Mittelamerikas. Bewundere den Dschungel von den Ruinen Tikals aus. Maya-Ruinen von Tulum. Kühle Margarita an der Playa del Carmen.
- Rail&Fly inkludiert bei allen Buchungen mit Flug

## Day-to-day-Itinerary:

### Day 1

#### Antigua

Hola! Welcome to Antigua. Surrounded by three volcanoes dominating the skyline, it wasn't until the late 20th century that the city became the tourism hub of Guatemala. Today, the city is filled with coffee shops and international restaurants and is always buzzing with live music and salsa classes. Your adventure begins with a welcome meeting at 6 pm where you'll meet your tour leader and travel group. If you arrive with time to spare, why not get a taste of local tradition with a chocolate-making workshop in the ChocoMuseo, or perhaps tour some of the coffee or macadamia nut plantations tucked into the hills that surround the city.

#### **The Welcome Meeting will take place at 6 pm.**

**Accommodation:** Casa Florencia Hotel / 7A Avendia North #100 / Antigua

For trips departing on 06 Feb 2020, 13 Feb 2020, 15 Feb 2020, 20 Feb 2020, 27 Feb 2020, 05 Mar 2020, 07 Mar 2020 the accommodation will be Hotel Posada Los Bucaros/#94,7a North Avenue/ Antigua / Guatemala  
For trips departing on 04 Apr 2020 the accommodation will be Hotel Casa Florencia / 7A Avendia North #100 / Antigua / Guatemala

Please look for a note in the hotel lobby or ask the hotel reception where it will take place. If you can't arrange a flight that will arrive in time, you may wish to arrive a day early so you're able to attend. We'll be happy to book additional accommodation for you (subject to availability). If you're going to be late, please inform the hotel reception. We'll be collecting your insurance details and next of kin information at this meeting, so please ensure you have all these details to provide to your leader.

Some departures of this trip are part of a combination trip. As such, some of your fellow travellers may have started their trip already.

#### **Optional Activities**



- Antigua - Chocolate-making workshop - GTQ130
- Antigua - Coffee/Macadamia nut plantation tour - GTQ240
- Antigua - Salsa lesson (per hour) - GTQ35

## Day 2

### Antigua

As the seat of the Spanish colonial government, Antigua was once the most important cities in Central America. The city was destroyed by an earthquake in 1773, but many of the colonial-era buildings have been carefully restored so the architecture matches the city's historical significance. Enjoy a wander around the city with your leader in the morning, learning some key Spanish phrases to make interacting with the locals a breeze. Walk through the quiet cobblestone streets past heavy, carved-wood entrances, and explore are many fascinating markets and museums. The afternoon is free for yours to explore the city and its surrounds, or to just grab a coffee from one of the many cafes in central park and sit back and enjoy the beauty of this city. You won't want to miss trying tamales: a local dish usually prepared on the weekend and served in a corn leaf. Also worth a try is Pepian: a dish of three meats (chicken, beef and pork) in a rich dark sauce. You'll find the best value food next to the artisan markets, close to the bus station.

#### Included Activities

- Informal Spanish Lesson
- Antigua - Leader-led walking tour

**Accommodation:** Hotel

## Day 3

### Rio Dulce

It's a long day of travel as you make your way to Rio Dulce by private vehicle. Depart early for the 8-hour journey, arriving mid-afternoon. Rio Dulce, which means 'Sweet River' in Spanish, refers to both the Guatemalan river that flows from Lago de Izabal (Lake Izabal) to the Caribbean Sea and the town of Fronteras, which sits at the east end of the lake. Upon arrival, the rest of the day is free to enjoy at your leisure. Maybe stretch your legs on a jungle walk, rent a kayak for a bit of exploration or just laze in a hammock and enjoy the tropical surrounds.

**Travel time:** approx. 8 hours.

**Accommodation:** Hotel



## Day 4

### Rio Dulce

Use your leisure day in Rio Dulce to take advantage of some of the activities on offer. Join your group on a boat ride down the river to Livingston: a laidback, Afro-Caribbean town that offers a unique taste of Garifuna culture on the shoulder of Guatemala. Located 30 kilometres (18 miles) from Rio Dulce, the boat ride is quite scenic, taking you through waters laden with water lilies, and past tropical forests and a spectacular canyon. The Garifuna population in Livingston are descendants of a community forcibly removed from the Caribbean by the British in the late 18th century. Livingston was one of the towns the displaced Garifuna settled in, and its relative isolation means the culture has remained undiluted by Guatemalan norms. Spend a little time here and perhaps grab a Garifuna meal like tapou: a creamy soup made with fish.

#### Included Activities

- Livingston - River boat trip to Garifuna town

**Included meals:** breakfast

**Accommodation:** Hotel

## Day 5

### Flores

Travel for about 4 hours to the delightful township of Flores on Lago Peten Itza. Upon arrival, take an orientation walk with your group leader and enjoy a free afternoon to explore the tiny island centre that juts into the lake. Flores had a long history before it was colonised by the Spanish in 1697, most significantly as the capital of the Itza people after the fall of Chichen Itza. Sometime during the day, you'll have the chance to partake in a traditional tortilla making workshop, before using your free afternoon to wander the town's cobblestone streets, taking in its pastel-coloured buildings or shop for local handicrafts. It's a small island and walking the whole thing will take less than an hour. At around 4 pm, the lakefront starts to hum with street food vendors, making it a good place to grab a bite and interact with the locals.

#### Included Activities

- Flores - Leader-led orientation walk
- Flores - Tortilla making demonstration

**Included meals:** breakfast

**Travel time:** approx 4 hrs

**Accommodation:** Hotel



## Day 6

### Tikal Ruins/San Ignacio

Embrace an early start for a guided exploration of Tikal National Park. Among the thick, evergreen jungle are some of the most significant remnants of the ancient Maya civilisation. Wonder at the towering granite temples and other monuments set among lush jungle while pondering the mystery of the ancient city's demise. Spend a few hours playing archaeologist, and afterwards, say goodbye to Guatemala and head across the border to Belize. As the only English-speaking country in Central America, Belize is a great place to get chatting with locals. You'll reach San Ignacio after a 3-hour drive.

#### Included Activities

- Tikal National Park - Archaeological site (Entrance fee, Guide & Transport)

**Included meals:** breakfast

**Travel time:** to San Ignacio approx 3 hrs

**Accommodation:** Hotel

All guests at our hotel in San Ignacio are required to pay an additional charge of USD20 per night if they choose to use the air conditioner in their room. Electricity in Belize is incredibly expensive so most hotels charge an extra rate to use the air conditioning - and USD20 per night is pretty standard. We could include this extra charge in the trip price but then all of our travellers would have to pay whether they want to use it or not. We believe giving our travellers the option is a fairer way to manage this situation.

## Day 7

### San Ignacio

This morning, you can choose whether you would like to relax in San Ignacio or take part in some of the other optional activities on offer, like a visit to the caves of Actun Tunichil Muknal (ATM caves). A living museum of Maya relics, the ATM cave system is home to ceramic pots and crystallised skeletons, preserved by the natural processes of the cave for over 1400 years. If you choose to explore the cave system (and it is highly recommended), you'll spend most of the day there. If not, nature lovers may be interested in a trip to the Green Iguana Conservation Project, where the scaly beasts are protected. Or perhaps stretch your legs with a short walk to the ruins of Cahal Pech, which was once the residence of a wealthy Maya family.

**Included meals:** breakfast

**Travel time:** approx. 3 hours, Water Taxi approx 1 hour

**Accommodation:** Hotel

#### Optional Activities

- San Ignacio - (ATM Caves) Actun Tunichil Muknal (Entrance fee, Guide, Transport & Lunch) - BZD190
- San Ignacio - Iguana Conservation Project (Entrance fee) - BZD20



- San Ignacio - Cahal Pech Ruins (Entrance fee) - BZD10

## Day 8

### Bacalar

Hop on a public bus and head for the Mexico border, a journey that will take about four hours. Deal with formalities at the border and then continue to Chetumal, where you will swap buses and hit the road again for Bacalar (1 hour). A long day of travel will see you arriving in the afternoon with some daylight to spare.

**Included meals:** breakfast

**Accommodation:** Hotel

#### Optional Activities

- Cenote Azul - Natural rock pool with option to swim (Entrance fee & Transport) - MXN120

## Day 9

### Tulum

Today, head up the Yucatan peninsula to beachy Tulum – well-known for its laidback vibes and stunning stretches of coastline. You'll be staying in the centre of Tulum, which is a little while from the beach, however easily accessible by a short taxi ride, or by bike, as roads around here are mostly flat. In the afternoon, head to one of the beaches! Paradise beach is the famous one, however Las Palmas Public Beach is just as beautiful, but with far fewer people. Better yet, head to the south-side of Tulum beach and park yourself in one of the many beach clubs on offer. A spend of about MXN200 gets you a couple of drinks, and a chance to laze on a private beach with the comforts of possibly a sun-lounge.

**Included meals:** breakfast

**Accommodation:** Hotel

#### Optional Activities:

- Tulum - Archaeological site visit - MXN75
- Tulum - Bicycle rental (per day) - MXN150



## Day 10

### Tulum

Enjoy a free day on the picturesque Caribbean coast. Perhaps visit the Tulum archaeological site, famous for sitting on a clifftop plateau that overlooks the glistening water below. Choose whether you'd like to explore the small archaeological site, or once again find a spot on one of the white-sand beaches and chill out. This cruisy resort town is stuffed with cafes and restaurants serving up seafood-heavy Mexican fare, as well as many vegetarian and vegan options, so you'll be able to eat well while you catch those sea breezes.

**Included meals:** breakfast

**Accommodation:** Hotel

#### Optional Activities:

- Chichen Itza Ruins - Entrance Fee - MXN481

## Day 11

### Playa del Carmen

This leg of your journey is a short one. Hop on a local bus and travel for about 1.5 hours to Playa del Carmen. With azure waters, powdery beaches and a European feel, Playa del Carmen is a resort city similar to Cancun, but with a less intense party atmosphere. Take a brief orientation stroll with your leader to get your bearings, then take your pick of a bunch of optional activities. Maybe go for a snorkel in the fresh waters of Dos Ojos Cenote – a flooded cave system. Or perhaps head further afield on a ferry ride to Cozumel, where the colourful reefs are seen with great visibility. If you'd prefer to stay where the margaritas are cold and close by, you might want to rent a bike to explore Playa on two wheels.

#### Included Activities

- Playa del Carmen - Orientation walk

**Included meals:** breakfast

**Travel time:** approx. 1.5 hours

**Accommodation:** Hotel / SC Hotel Playa del Carmen / Hotel / #3 Avenida 20 between 2nd & 4th streets / Centro / Playa del Carmen / MEXICO

For trips departing on the following dates, use this finish point.

26 Mar 2020, 02 Apr 2020, 04 Apr 2020, 09 Apr 2020, 16 Apr 2020, 30 Apr 2020, 07 May 2020, 09 May 2020, 14 May 2020, 21 May 2020

Hotel One Playa del Carmen / 25 Avenida Norte, Manzana 97 Lote 1 / Between Av. 12 Norte y 12 Bis / Playa del Carmen 77710 / MEXICO





### Optional Activities:

- Dos Ojos Cenote - Fresh water rock pool (Entrance fee with snorkelling gear included) - MXN350
- Playa del Carmen - Bicycle rental (per day) - MXN250
- Playa del Carmen - Ferry to Cozumel (Round-trip) - MXN326

### Day 12

#### Playa del Carmen

With no activities planned for today, you are welcome to leave the accommodation at any time. If you would like to spend some more time in Playa del Carmen, we'll be happy to book additional accommodation for you (subject to availability). Now, just pull up a towel and laze on the sandy shores of the playa (beach); you deserve it.

**Included meals:** breakfast



## Accommodation on your trip:

During the trip you might stay in the following accommodation. Please note that, depending on availabilities, these may vary from departure to departure.

- Day 1 Casa Florencia Hotel
- Day 2 Casa Florencia Hotel
- Day 3 Tortugal ([www.tortugal.com](http://www.tortugal.com))
- Day 4 Tortugal
- Day 5 Hotel Casona de la Isla
- Day 6 Hotel Rolson
- Day 7 Hotel Rolson
- Day 8 Hotel Aires de Balacar
- Day 9 Jarro Cafe
- Day 10 Jarro Cafe
- Day 11 SC Hotel Playa del Carmen

## Important Notes

- The tropical climate of Central America means conditions can be really hot and humid. Always carry plenty



of water with you and stay hydrated, especially on walking tours.

- Try to learn as many Spanish words as you can. Locals are very friendly, but also shy, so you'll need to make plenty of effort to break the ice. Attempting to communicate in Spanish is a great way of showing you care.
- We recommend 355 € for meals not included during the trip.

- Visas are the responsibility of the individual traveller. Entry requirements can change at any time, so it's important that you check for the latest information. Please visit the relevant consular website of the country or countries you're visiting for detailed and up-to-date visa information specific to your nationality. Visas can take several weeks to process, so familiarise yourself with any requirements as soon as you have booked your trip to allow for processing time and costs.

- This is a shared tour. That means that tour operators from all over the world book their guests onto this tour. So you will be travelling in an international group.

## Preishinweise:

- Einzelzimmerzuschlag: 369 €
- Langstreckenflug ab Frankfurt nach Guatemala City zurück ab Cancun: zum Beispiel mit Air France, Iberia, Delta Airlines, American Airlines, Air Canada, United Airlines ab 899 €
- Rail & Fly innerhalb Deutschlands (2. Klasse): inkludiert bei Flugbuchung über YOLO
- Flughafentransfers im Zielland: Hintransfer vom Flughafen Guatemala City zum Starthotel 55 € pro Auto (bis zu 2 Personen), Rücktransfer vom letzten Rundreisehotel zum Flughafen Cancun 52 € pro Auto (bis zu 2 Personen)
- Vorübernachtung im Tourhotel in Antigua Preis pro Nacht und Person (exkl. Frühstück): 50 € im EZ, 25 € p. P. im DZ
- Anschlussübernachtung im Tourhotel in Cancun Preis pro Nacht und Person (exkl. Frühstück): 105 € im EZ, 55 € im DZ
- Bitte beachten: Bei Vor- und Anschlussübernachtung ist ein halbes Doppelzimmer nicht buchbar



# Wohin geht die Reise? Immer ins Herz.

**YOLO**

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Änderungen und Irrtümer vorbehalten

Stand: 24.04.2025