



# Riviera Maya

Photo: Riviera Maya/Riviera Maya Tourism Board



Few destinations on earth cause as much amazement as Riviera Maya. What makes this destination special is the privileged location on Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula, where the turquoise waters of the Caribbean Sea embrace the powdery white sand of the beaches that cover the coastline. The 120 km of Caribbean coast that stretches the length of Riviera Maya exudes the multifaceted spirit of the destination. Sun and Sand, Mayan Culture, zip lining, cenotes, diving and snorkeling, shopping and nightlife are just a few of the many exciting options.

MexicoTourismBoard



## QUIZ

*What Type of Traveller  
Are You Based on  
Your Travel IQ?*

**TAKE THE QUIZ**

### Top 5



**Tulum Archaeological Site**  
Information about the attraction: the only archaeological Maya site on the s...



**Community Tours**  
Walk, swim and have a great day trip that combine ancient and modern Mayan c...



**Río Secreto**  
Discover the amazing underground world at this unique semi-flooded system of...



**Coba Archaeological Site**  
This archaeological site was an important commercial and ceremonial city in ...



**Coba Maya Encounter**  
This excursion combines a visit to the archaeological site Coba with adventu...



## THE REGION



Riviera Maya Tourism Board

The main city of Riviera Maya is Playa del Carmen. Located in the heart of the destination, this once small fisherman's village has now grown to a city with all amenities a tourist could ask for. Playa del Carmen, simply called "Playa" by the locals, is a vibrant and lively city.

The main street is the famous 5th Avenue, or "La Quinta Avenida". This avenue with a length of more than 3 km, crosses the city and is completely pedestrian. Here you will find bars, nightclubs, shops. Handcraft stores, coffee houses and restaurants from every corner of the world and for every budget whether a taco at the taco stand or a romantic candle lit dinner on the beach, options are there for everyone.

Shopping is excellent and the variety is enormous. Souvenir shops and art galleries, silver stores and handcraft from the region mingle with hammocks, sombreros, tequila shops and designer stores. La Quinta starts at the outdoor shopping mall called "Paseo del Carmen" which is located in between Playa and the hotel zone Playacar.

In Playacar you will find beautiful all inclusive chain hotels in a private and elegant area. Resorts are located on the beach and surround the Playacar Golfcourse, an 18 hole golfcourse

designed by Robert von Hagge and a challenge according to the golfers as the greens are quite narrow. Meals and drinks are included in the greenfee and the golfclub also features a spa.

Amongst the all inclusive resorts you will find a small archaeological site called "Xaman-Ha". This was a ceremonial site where the ancient Mayas would practice purification ceremonies before they would make the crossing to the Island of Cozumel to worship Ixchel, Goddess of the moon and of fertility. During centuries the Mayas would challenge the Caribbean Sea to bring offers to Ixchel to favor fertility and to ask for blessings such as good health and abundant crops for their community. Xaman-Ha is also the name of the small bird sanctuary also located in Playacar. This is a cute little park with many species of birds from the region.

The nightlife of Playa has become famous in the region and guests from all over visit to have fun and dance the night away. The bars are located mainly in 12th Street and all within walking distance one from the other. As most of them are outdoors the street at night are as busy as during the day, and options range from dancing under the stars on the beach until watching the sunrise at the after hours club.

### Puerto Aventuras



Puerto Aventuras: Is a beautiful and exclusive tourism development, preferred by travelers seeking relaxation in comfortable tranquility.

Located at 24 km from Playa del Carmen.

One of the principal attractions at Puerto Aventuras is the "Marina" where many yachts are docked and abounding in restaurants and

cafes with a splendid view of the entire area. It is possible to charter boats by hour or for the whole day, for deep sea fishing or simply for cruising on tranquil turquoise waters of the Caribbean Sea.

It is also a dolphin facility, where visitors can experience the thrill of swimming with dolphins or manatees. They can also visit the CEDAM Museum where numerous objects rescued from shipwrecks are on exhibit; this is an enormous interest for those who love navigation.

The abundance of fish in this zone makes it one of the favorite places for big-game fishing, and there is an international fishing tournament during the spring.

Besides fishing, regattas are held in the marina during May and June. And another favorite activity in the area is Golf, with a scenic course inside the complex.

Photo: Puerto Aventuras Golf and Racquet Club  
Internet: [www.rivieramaya.com](http://www.rivieramaya.com)

## Akumal



About 30 km further south you find the village of Akumal. Akumal means "the place of the turtle" in the Maya Language and it was the first

settlement of what has become the Riviera Maya, founded 52 years ago.

In spite of tourist development the place has not lost its small village mentality and the atmosphere is laid back and friendly. Within the community you will find some hotels and guesthouses and many private villas and condominiums for rent. In the town there is a center on environmental issues created by the CEA (Centro Ecological Akumal) a nonprofit civil

organization, whose primary interest is to create environmental awareness to residents and visitors and to ensure the environmental quality of the village. The main attraction of the village is Half Moon Bay, the beach area in the center of the village. As the coral reef runs very close to the shore there are very little waves and almost no current, which makes this beach area ideal for family vacations.

Half Moon Bay is home to the amazingly beautiful sea turtles, an endangered species that until today comes to the shore of Riviera Maya to lay their eggs. By just swimming out for about 100 meters you will have the unique possibility to snorkel with those fabulous creatures, as well as with stingrays and other multicolored tropical fish. At the end of the village there is a beautiful inlet called Yalku. This is the outlet of an underground river that mixes with the sea, so its water is brackish (mixed fresh and salt water). Yalku is a fabulous place to go snorkeling. The place charges a small entrance fee and there is snorkel equipment and life jackets for rent. You can also rent a palapa and spend the entire day here.

In Akumal you will find many different restaurants with excellent food and even better service. There are also some souvenir shops and supermarkets.

Photo: Riviera Maya  
Internet: [www.rivieramaya.com](http://www.rivieramaya.com)

## Tulum



Tulum which original name is Zamá meaning “Sunrise” in the Mayan language is the best known and the most representative site of the

region. This majestic archeological zone preserves impressing views that inspire its visitors to be part of the mysticism that surround them.

There are over 60 structures all perfectly well preserved, amongst them “El Castillo” or “The Castle” , the highest construction of Tulum, which splendor and unique beauty are framed by the turquoise blue waters of the Caribbean Sea.

For the many murals and other painting that were found in the buildings it is believed that Tulum was an important ceremonial site dedicated to the Descending God. The site is open daily from 08.00 - 17.00 hrs. A little train will bring you from the parking lot to the entrance of the site, if you prefer you can also walk, it will take around 15 minutes. There is a fun outdoor shopping mall to buy a cold drink or some souvenirs after your visit to this stunning site.

Photo: Riviera Maya Tourism Board

## Tulum Village



Tulum Village is located at 3 km south of the archeological site. This cute little town is certainly worth a visit.

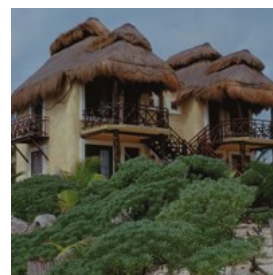
Tourists from all over the world travel to Tulum because of its laid back atmosphere. Tulum is very popular amongst

European backpackers who travel here to enjoy the beautiful beaches and the local ambience away from the crowd. There is a bus station for those who want to travel by bus. In the town you will find many different restaurants and bars as well as souvenir shops, Banks, internet cafes and supermarkets. Most of the tourists rent bicycles to move around but there is also taxi service available.

The Tulum area is also very famous for its cenotes. A cenote is a fresh water sinkhole connected to vast underground river systems that flow beneath the ground and connect several caves and caverns. The cenotes have provided fresh water to the locals for centuries and they were sacred for the Mayans as it represented the entrance to the Xibalba, the Mayan underworld. Nowadays they are a unique place to go snorkeling or scuba diving.

Photo: Riviera Maya

## Tulum Hotel Zone



The hotel strip of Tulum is without a doubt unique in the entire world. It is located on the coast just south of the archeological site and at 3 km distance

from the village of Tulum. The beaches along this 9 km long hotel zone are amongst the most beautiful beaches Riviera Maya has to offer. The sand is powdery and white and the beaches are endless. The hotels are small and constructed with materials from the region and with great precaution to protect the natural environment. It is probably best described as small palapa style bungalows in an unspoiled natural setting.

Most of the hotels depend on generators and

alternative sources such as solar panels for their electricity. Only a few will offer power 24 hours a day, more common is that the electricity gets shut off at 11.00 pm. The hotels will provide you with candles to illuminate, and of course there is the moon and the millions of stars that will for sure make your stay memorable.

The ambience in Tulum is best described as “Hippy Chic”. People come here to be away from the hustle and the bustle of the cities, to relax and to be close to nature. Many tourists will come to meditate and to practice yoga, giving this destination a unique spiritual touch.

Photo: Riviera Maya Tourism Board

### Sian Ka'an Biosphere Reserve



Sian Ka'an, means “where the sky is born” or “gift from heaven” in Mayan, is unique because of its diverse cultural and biological preservation.

The area has been declared a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve site and is home to more than 500 species of birds as well as the Muyil archaeological site. Funded as a non-profit Maya co-op program, the Community Tours Sian Ka'an offers visitors a myriad of experiences such as kayaking and visiting a local Maya community to learn how to make chewing gum.

Photo: Community Tours Sian Ka'an

Address: -103 miles south of Cancun International Airport

Internet: [www.rivieramaya.com](http://www.rivieramaya.com)

## TOP 10

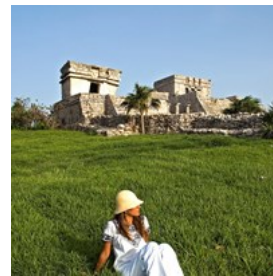


Riviera Maya Tourism Board

Here you will find the activities and attractions that you can not miss, once you are in this amazing destination.

Enjoy your stay at the paradise Riviera Maya!

### Tulum Archaeological Site



Information about the attraction: the only archaeological Maya site on the shore. This walled city dates from the post classic period and offers over 60 well preserved structures.

Photo: Riviera Maya

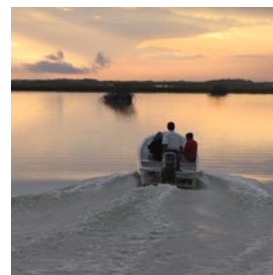
Address: Carretera Federal Chetumal - Pto Juarez just north of the village of Tulum.

Opening hours: 08:00 - 17:00 hrs

Internet:

<http://www.inah.gob.mx/index.php/zonas-arqueologicas>

### Community Tours



Walk, swim and have a great day trip that combine ancient and modern Mayan culture, Sian Ka'an flora and fauna.

Photo: Riviera Maya

Address: Tulum Avenue, between Beta Norte y Orion street,  
Tulum QROO  
Phone: +52 984 87 12202  
Internet: [www.siankaantours.org](http://www.siankaantours.org)

### Río Secreto



Discover the amazing underground world at this unique semi-flooded system of underground caves and caverns.

Photo: Riviera Maya  
Address: Carretera Federal Chetumal - Pto Juarez, KM 283.5,  
Playa del Carmen.  
Opening hours: 09:00 16:00 hrs  
Phone: Toll Free: 01 800 681 6713  
Internet: [www.riosecreto.com](http://www.riosecreto.com)

### Coba Archaeological Site



This archaeological site was an important commercial and ceremonial city in the pre classic period. Here you can climb the highest pyramid called the Nohoch Mul.

Photo: Riviera Maya  
Address: 47 KM west of Tulum Village (towards Valladolid)  
Opening hours: 08:00 - 17:00 hrs  
Internet: [www.inah.gob.mx/index.php/zonas-arqueologicas](http://www.inah.gob.mx/index.php/zonas-arqueologicas)

### Coba Maya Encounter

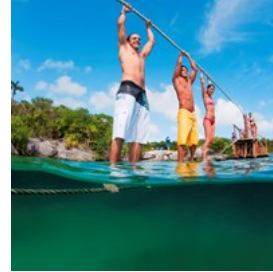


This excursion combines a visit to the archaeological site Coba with adventure activities in an authentic Maya village.

Photo: Riviera Maya  
Address: Alltournative, Carretera Federal Chetumal - Pto

Juarez, KM 287. Playa del Carmen  
Opening hours: 08:00 - 17:00 hrs  
Phone: +52 984 80 39999  
Internet: [www.alltournative.com](http://www.alltournative.com)

### Xel-Ha



A natural aquarium park considered the largest aquarium in the world, the perfect place to practice snorkeling and water activities.

Photo: Riviera Maya  
Address: Carretera Federal Chetumal - Pto Juarez, KM 240  
Phone: Toll free: 01 800 212 8951  
Internet: [www.xelha.com](http://www.xelha.com)

### Maroma Adventures



Marina with snorkelling, diving, horseback riding, motorized watersports and catamaran tours.

Photo: Maroma Paradise  
Address: Carretera Federal Cancun - Chetumal KM. 55  
Opening hours: 09:00 15:00 hrs  
Phone: Toll Free: 01 800 00 56627  
Internet: <http://www.maromaadventures.com/>

### Xcaret



Xcaret is an eco-archaeological park with many different attractions like an aquarium, butterfly pavilion and their famous Mexico Spectacular Folklore Show at night.

Photo: Riviera Maya  
Address: Carretera Federal Chetumal - Pto Juarez, KM 282  
Opening hours: 09:00 - 21:00 hrs

Phone: Toll free: 01 800 212 8951

Internet: [www.xcaret.com.mx](http://www.xcaret.com.mx)

### Riviera Maya Jazz Festival



26-28 November 2015 .  
Jazz music festival celebrates another edition with top national and international artists at Mamitas Beach Club, organized by the Riviera Maya Destination Marketing Office.

See you in november, Enjoy it!

Photo: Gino Vannelli

Address: Mamita's Beach Club

Tickets: free entrance

Internet: [www.rivieramayajazzfestival.com](http://www.rivieramayajazzfestival.com)

More Info: <https://www.facebook.com/RMJazzFestival?fref=ts>

### WHAT TO DO?



*Riviera Maya Tourism Board*

What makes the Riviera Maya a great place to vacation?: The long list of fun activities to experience and incredible eco adventure parks to visit during your stay in this marvelous destination. There is something for everybody and for every age group, from exploring the Mesoamerican Reef diving amongst colorful fishes, to hiking in the jungle or ziplining through the treetops, fun is guaranteed for all!

### Akumal Monkey Sanctuary



It is very important for us at Riviera Maya to take care of our surroundings, and at Akumal Monkey Sanctuary and Rescued Animals we proudly do so. This is not a zoo, this is truly a sanctuary. You'll find locals from Mayan descent volunteering here to help preserve our fauna and natural heritage. Visit this Sanctuary to really witness rescued animals and thus contribute to our efforts in their preservation!

Photo: Riviera Maya

Address: Gonzalo Guerrero, 77780 Akumal, Q.R

Opening hours: 9:00 - 17:00 hrs

Phone: +529841600272

Internet: [www.akumalmonkeysanctuary.com](http://www.akumalmonkeysanctuary.com)

Email: [info@akumalmonkeysanctuary.com](mailto:info@akumalmonkeysanctuary.com)

### SFER IK



SFER IK's dome serves as a stage for exhibitions by visual artists coming from every part of the world. Located in the nearby city Tulum and resembling a tree house, it is made of cement and tree branches. Entry is free, and an upscale boutique is available nearby.

Photo: Pranav Kukreja/Shutterstock.com

Address: Carretera Tulum-Punta Allen KM 5, Tulum

Opening hours: Daily 12pm-8pm

Phone: +52 984 980 0640

Internet: [www.sferik.art](http://www.sferik.art)

Email: [info@sferik.art](mailto:info@sferik.art)

### Aktun Chen



Recommended by National Geographic as one of the best underground walks of the world, does this thrilling park needs another

introduction? Come and live all the adventures this park has available for you and explore Riviera Maya.

Photo: Riviera Maya

Address: Carretera federal Chetumal - Pto Juarez, KM 251

Opening hours: 09:00 - 17:00 hrs

Phone: +52 998 881 9413

Internet: [www.aktunchen.com](http://www.aktunchen.com)

### Alltournative



With Alltournative's Jungle Maya Expedition be prepared for an exciting day swimming in a Cenote, riding into the wilderness, having lunch in

the jungle Mayan style and touring in the unique archeological site of Tulum with a guide that will take you on this incredible adventure!

Photo: Riviera Maya

Address: Alltournative, Carretera Federal Chetumal - Pto Juarez, KM 287. Playa del Carmen

Opening hours: 08:00 - 16:00 hrs

Phone: 1-877-437-4990 (USA) 1-877-432-1569 (Rest of the world)

Internet: [www.alltournative.com](http://www.alltournative.com)

### Aventuras Mayas



Offers Tours that combine snorkeling, rappelling, zip lining and archaeological sites. 4 different excursions are available, and we recommend this

park for kids over 6 years old.

Photo: Riviera Maya

Address: Carretera Federal Chetumal - Pto Juarez, KM 286.5, Playa del Carmen

Opening hours: 08:00 - 17:00 hrs

Phone: +52 984 80 32551

Internet: [www.aventurasmayas.com](http://www.aventurasmayas.com)

### Chikin Ha



If you want to explore Riviera Maya with a thrilling yet slow paced excitement, come to Chikin Ha, an eco park where you can swim in cenotes with clear turquoise waters or take a bike ride into the quiet jungle. The park also has a Temazcal with is an ancient form of spa used by our ancestors that makes you release stress and toxins through steam. Come and live the experience at Chikin Ha!

Photo: Riviera Maya

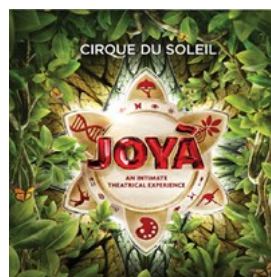
Address: Carretera Federal 307 Cancún Chetumal Km. 265 000, Puerto Aventura, 77782 Cancun, Q.R.

Opening hours: 9:00 hrs to 17:00 hrs

Phone: +529848077658

Internet: [www.chikinha.com.mx](http://www.chikinha.com.mx)

### Cirque du Soleil Joyà



The unique experience at this high-end, worldwide famous show enhances at Riviera Maya, Mexico. This amazing spectacle holds dear the Mexican traditions and stories and represents them in their theatrical performance, giving our visitors a taste of Mexico's mystic, magical and cultural past. Suited for all ages, Cirque du Soleil Joyà is an unforgettable experience you cannot miss!

Photo: Riviera Maya



Address: Carretera Federal Cancun - Playa del Carmen Km 48, Solidaridad, 77710 Playa del Carmen, Q.R.

Opening hours: Subject to availability

Phone: +528002477837

Internet: [www.cirquedusoleil.com/joya](http://www.cirquedusoleil.com/joya)

More Info: Includes different packages such as dinner and champagne.

### Kantun-Chi



Located 30 min away from Playa del Carmen, Kantun-Chi offers one of the best experiences for our guests to live Riviera Maya's wilderness. With subterranean caves and cenotes, you'll be thrilled to venture into this incredible ecopark.

Photo: Riviera Maya

Address: Carretera Federal Cancún-Tulum, km 1266.8,

Puerto Aventuras, 77734 Playa del Carmen, Q.R.

Opening hours: 9:00 hrs to 17:00 hrs

Phone: +529848030143

Internet: <http://www.kantunchi.com>

More Info: The park has amenities such as bathrooms, lockers, food and drink.

### L'Aquarium



One of the best aquariums of México, perfect for a rainy day! This aquarium, located in the Calle Corazón mall, has a variety of 200

species. It also contributes actively to the environment by farming corals, and then releases them to the sea. This important step for the conservation of our planet makes a significant difference for our battle against climate change. Visit L'Aquarium and learn everything there is to know about Riviera Maya's unique ecosystems and life.

Photo: Riviera Maya

Address: Calle 14 Nte 148, Gonzalo Guerrero, 77720 Playa del Carmen, Q.R.

Opening hours: 11:00 hrs to 21:00 hrs

Phone: +529848794462

Internet: [www.blaulife.com.mx/](http://www.blaulife.com.mx/)

### Punta Venado Eco Park

An amazing Eco Park located in one of the most privileged locations along the Riviera Maya. With a virgin beach as the stage, the various activities to jump into are horseback riding, ATV Tours, snorkelling on the reef or hang out at the Blue Venado Beach Club enjoying the view.



Photo: Riviera Maya

Address: Carretera Federal Chetumal - Pto Juarez, KM 278, Playa del Carmen.

Opening hours: 08:00 - 17:00 hrs

Phone: From US / Canada toll Free: 01 800 503 0046

Internet: [www.puntavenadoadventures.com/](http://www.puntavenadoadventures.com/)

### Río Secreto



The Mayan Underworld. If you are looking for a rainy day activity then Río Secreto is perfect. Since all the fun happens underground, you'll only have to worry about the incredible landscape and experience in the river!

Photo: Riviera Maya

Address: Carretera Federal Libre Chetumal - Puerto Juárez Km. 283.5, Ejido Sur, 77712 Playa del Carmen, QROO

Opening hours: 9:00 - 14:00 hrs

Phone: 01 800 935 8352

Internet: [www.riosecreto.com](http://www.riosecreto.com)

## Xcaret



The amazing Xcaret eco-archeological park offers unique attractions such as a butterfly pavillion in which they care for caterpillars, cocoons and butterflies to realease in the park; an aviarium with incredible mexican species of birds, helping to preserve the Guacamaya species and release it into the wild; and of course, their world famous show Xcaret Mexico Espectacular, in which you'll see mexican culture in all its might!

Photo: Riviera Maya  
Address: Chetumal-Puerto Juarez Federal Highway, Km. 282. Solidaridad, Quintana Roo, Mexico.  
Opening hours: 09:00 - 21:00 hrs  
Phone: Toll free: 01 800 212 8951  
Internet: [www.xcaret.com.mx](http://www.xcaret.com.mx)

## Xel Ha



The largest natural aquarium of the world is at Riviera Maya. Take a bike ride into the jungle, and swim into the natural rivers among mangroves

ending your tour at the sea, while you witness the mix of the fresh and salt waters in the creek. Admire the colorful Caribbean fishes underneath your feet while you take a refreshing ride. After an exciting tour, get some lunch in one of their amazing restaurants at hand inside the park. Swim with dolphins and jump from the Cliff of Courage to the water!

Xel Ha is a natural adventure awaiting to happen!

Photo: Riviera Maya  
Address: Carretera Chetumal-Puerto Juárez, Km. 282. Solidaridad, Quintana Roo, México

Internet: [www.xelha.com](http://www.xelha.com)

## Xenses



A unique experience awaits for you at Xenses. Awake your perception skills and venture into the marvelous park where you'll exploit all your potential to have fun. Ride a zipline, explore attractions and solve puzzles at Xenses Riviera Maya, an incredible park where fun awaits to be discovered!

Photo: Riviera Maya  
Address: Carretera Chetumal - Puerto Juárez km 282 Int. B Colonia Rancho Xcaret, Playa del Carmen, Quintana Roo, México.  
Opening hours: 8:30 hrs to 19:00 hrs  
Phone: +52 998 883 3143  
Internet: [www.parquexenses.com](http://www.parquexenses.com)

## Xplor



All Inclusive Adventure park with ziplining, swimming or rafting in underground rivers and amphibious vehicles. This park transforms at night to become Xplor Fire, an explosive experience.

Photo: Riviera Maya  
Address: Carretera Federal Chetumal - Pto Juarez, KM 282  
Opening hours: 09:00 - 17:00 hrs  
Phone: Toll free: 01 800 212 8951  
Internet: [www.xplor.travel](http://www.xplor.travel)

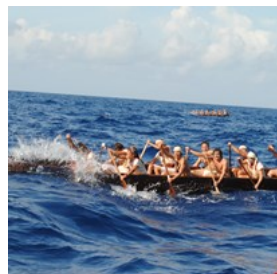
## EVENTS



Riviera Maya Tourism Board

Throughout the year there are many special events that take place in Riviera Maya. There are festivals that range all the way from the extraordinarily Riviera Maya Jazz Festival through international movie and food festivals to complement your vacations. More tips on [www.rivieramaya.com](http://www.rivieramaya.com)

### Sacred Mayan Journey



May 22 - 23 of 2015.  
Re-creation of the crossing made by the Mayans from Pole (Xcaret) to Cutzamil (Cozumel) to honor the goddess Ixchel, jointly organized by Xcaret and the municipalities of Solidaridad and Cozumel.

Photo: Experiencias Xcaret

Address: Xcaret Park and Cozumel

Internet: [www.travesiasagradamayacom.mx](http://www.travesiasagradamayacom.mx)

### Triathlon Xel-Ha



November (date to be confirmed). Each year, the beauty of a majestic natural inlet in the Caribbean Sea is the backdrop for the Xel-Ha Triathlon. This sport is becoming very popular

and the amount of triathletes in the country has shown tremendous growth in recent years. The competition takes place during the month of November at the park Xel-Ha and includes categories for all ages.

Photo: Riviera Maya

Address: Xel-Ha Park

Internet: <http://en.triatlonxelha.com/>

### Winterbeach



December 2015 (Date to be confirmed),

Winterbeach is an event that brings music, fashion and entertainment to say goodbye to the old year

and welcome the new one. National and International talent get together at Mamita's Beach Club for an ongoing series of events including concerts, catwalks from recognized Latin designers, DJ's and other parties to receive the new year's eve.

Photo: Riviera Maya

Address: Mamita's Beach Club

Internet: <http://winterbeach.mx>

More Info: <https://www.facebook.com/winterbeachmx>

### Cancun - Riviera Maya Wine & Food Festival



From 12 - 15 March, 2015 The fourth edition of the Wine & Food Festival Cancun-Riviera Maya will be celebrated from March 12th to 15th,

2015 bringing once again the best chefs and wines of the world to Cancun.

Adding to an extensive list of honoree guests like Ferran Adriá, Massimo Bottura & Daniel Boulud, the 2015 edition of the festival will host

the legendary Spanish chefs Joan Roca and Juan Mari Arzak who will cook alongside Spanish star chefs living in Mexico Bruno Oteiza, Mikel Alonso and Rafael Zafra.

This year, the Wine & Food Festival will also have the privilege of paying tribute to the female culinary talents of Mexican cuisine. The gala dinner "Divas de la cocina mexicana" brings together ten of the best female chefs of the country in an exquisite 5-course dinner that enhances Mexico's culture and tradition worldwide in a single event.

Photo: Wine & Food

Opening hours: Events during the day & night.

Internet: [www.wineandfoodfest.com](http://www.wineandfoodfest.com)

### Riviera Maya Film Festival



EL CINE SOMOS TODOS.  
LA RIVIERA MAYA TAMBIEN.

April 23-29, 2015 Riviera Maya once again will be the main venue for the fourth edition of the Riviera Maya Film Festival, an event that is

achieving to unite the greatness of Quintana Roo, its people, its natural beauty and its ancient culture with the universal contemporary art: movies. During the six days of the festival, a variety of Mexican and foreign films will be broadcasted in natural settings both in Playa del Carmen and in Tulum.

Photo: Riviera Maya

Address: Playa del Carmen, Tulum, Holbox y Puerto Morelos

Internet: <http://rmff.mx/>

### Turtle Festival



October 2015 (date to be confirmed). It was founded in 2003 to raise awareness among residents of Tulum on the importance of conserving sea turtles. Many different activities for children, teenagers and adults invite the community to participate actively within the celebration of this festival.

Photo: Festival de la Tortuga Marina

Address: Akumal & Tulum

Internet: <http://www.festivaltortugamarinatulum.com/>

### PGA Mayakoba Golf Classic



November 09-15 The OHL Classic at Mayakoba made golf history in 2007 when it became the first PGA TOUR event to ever be contested outside of the United States and Canada. Today, the OHL Classic at Mayakoba, remains México's only PGA TOUR event and it is regarded as one of the finest on the PGA TOUR by professional players and spectators, alike.

The OHL Classic at Mayakoba, scheduled for November 9 -15, 2015, will feature 132 professional golfers participating in four rounds of stroke play competition at the Greg Norman-designed El Camaleón Golf Club at Mayakoba in the Riviera Maya area of México.

Photo: Riviera Maya

Address: Mayakoba

Phone: +52 984 206 3088

Internet: <http://www.ohlclassic.com/english/>

### Life & Death Traditions Festival



October 30 to November 2, 2015. At the Day of the Dead Festival in Xcaret, visitors sample the traditional food, art and culture of this celebration

of Mexico.

Photo: festivaldeidaymuerte

Address: Xcaret Park

Opening hours: 30 October - 2 November 2014

Internet: <http://www.festivaldeidaymuerte.com>

### XPLOR BRAVEST RACE UNDERGROUND



September 13, 2015, Xplor will receive around 3 000 competitors who will test their courage with strength-, skill- and resistance tests on a 5 km

route, in which they will also face human obstacles -fear hunters- representing their fears and who will try to steal their courage during this challenge.

The aim is to finish the course and keeping the bravery flags, making the competitors one of "the bravest".

[www.xplorbravestrace.com](http://www.xplorbravestrace.com)

Photo: Xplor

Internet: [www.xplorbravestrace.com](http://www.xplorbravestrace.com)

### Tulum Vegan Fest



The beautiful beach and the mystical jungle of Tulum will be the setting for this gastronomic celebration where you can enjoy delicious vegan

food, find valuable information about the protection of animals, the environment and your

health.

Presenters will inspire you with its conference area "fast" vegan food, live music, yoga classes (Jivamukti, Ashtanga, Vinyasa) with internationally renowned teachers, meditation with Tibetan bowls, temazcal, amazing raffles and exhibitors vegan products.

Enjoy the Tulum Vegan Fest in January 27th, 28th and 29th, or June 14th, 15th and 16th of 2017.

Photo: Riviera Maya

Internet: [www.tulumveganfest.com](http://www.tulumveganfest.com)

### Arena Festival



Arena is Mexico's biggest gay and lesbian dance music festival, and celebrates its blow-out fifth edition in Playa del Carmen right on the

Riviera Maya, from February 1st to February the 6th, 2016

Photo: Riviera Maya

Internet: [www.arena.mx](http://www.arena.mx)

### DINING



Riviera Maya Tourism Board

Riviera Maya is an incredible destination for all, it suits the highest expectations and has the most beautiful landscapes, also unique experiences for you to live, but how about food? As you may

know, Mexican Cuisine is known for its strong, colorful and ancient flavors, from a wide variety of spices and ingredients to choose from, you'll experience food unlike any other.

Our cuisine is so special that UNESCO decided to declare the Mexican Gastronomy as an Intangible Cultural Heritage in 2010. Many of these dishes and recipes are ancient, and are still prepared in the traditional way they were conceived, making the process of cooking, a pure ritual of artistry. Food plays an important role in the Mexican society and every meal is a feast, and many of the recipes are based on a tradition that goes back thousands of years ago and were passed on from generation to generation. The preparation is a ritual by itself and it is not uncommon that half a day is spent in the kitchen to create these exquisite dishes.

The Mexican Cuisine is known for its varied flavours and the great variety of spices and ingredients that are used, most of which are native to the country. It is for that reason that the UNESCO declared the Mexican Gastronomy an intangible Cultural Heritage in 2010.

If you are feeling homesick you can count on Riviera Maya's international diversity to find the perfect restaurant for you. Playa del Carmen, the heart of the Riviera Maya is a vibrant city with its own style and flavor. Serving as a hub for Riviera Maya's nightlife, shopping and dining scene, Playa del Carmen is a cosmopolitan city with its own style and flavor where you'll find any kind of international restaurant available, from luxurious to rustic chic. For a more low-key atmosphere, Tulum, known primarily as the site of ancient archeological sites built by the Mayan people, serves as a relaxing district for authentic

local culinary offerings. With an array of fine dining options, experiential culinary lessons and opportunities to explore the art of wine and spirit tastings visitors are sure to find something to satisfy their palate.

### Oh lala



The cuisine at Oh lala is a refreshing change from that of other, more conventional restaurants. Guests are treated like good old friends in a

relaxing atmosphere coupled with personalized service and good food.

Photo: Riviera Maya

Address: Calle 14 Nte Bis 147-MZA 147, Centro, Playa del Carmen

Opening hours: 18:30 - 23:00 hrs

Phone: +00521 984 127 4844

Internet: <http://www.ohlalabygeorge.com/>

### La Cueva del Chango



Serves natural Mexican food from breakfast to dinner and all juices are made from fresh fruits.

The restaurant is located in a tropical garden with abundant vegetation and trees.

Photo: Riviera Maya

Address: 38 Street Between Fifth Avenue and the Beach

Opening hours: 08:00- 23:00 hrs.

Phone: +52 (1) 984 147 0271

Internet: [www.lacuevadelchango.com](http://www.lacuevadelchango.com)

### La Zebra



This restaurant is in the 10 ten of most romantic restaurants of the world. They serve excellent Mexican food and great cocktails with fresh

juices.

Photo: Riviera Maya

Address: Carr. Tulum-Boca Paila Km 8.2, Tulum Beach, Zona Costera

Phone: +52 1 984 115 4726

Internet: [www.lazebratulum.com](http://www.lazebratulum.com)

### Aldea Corazón



This magical piece of Mayan culture sets itself in a sacred garden located right on the 5th Avenue yet invisible from the outside. Whether you

would like to enjoy the view at 5th Avenue while savoring a frozen cocktail, or be delighted by the reenery and hearts with air conditioning area or you would like to find yourself in a magical environment surrounded by dream catchers, tropical greenery, old leaf trees and underground cenotes. Pamper the most discerning palate by enjoying mouth-watering dishes as fresh local fish with hibiscus flower sauce or a tender beef fillet, filled with huitlacoche (Mexican corn fungus) covered with spicy poblano chile sauce. Aldea Corazon serves a fusion of Mexican cuisine with a Mayan twist.

Photo: Riviera Maya

Address: 5ta Avenida entre Calles 14 & 16

Opening hours: 8 am—12 am, Mon—Sun.

Phone: 01 984 803 1942

More Info: [facebook.com/aldeacorazon](https://facebook.com/aldeacorazon)

### Alux Restaurant Bar and Lounge



Prehispanic and Mexican food served in an amazingly beautiful underground cenote.

Photo: Riviera Maya

Address: Avenida Av Benito Juárez Mz 217 Lt2, Ejidal, Playa del Carmen

Internet: [www.aluxrestaurant.com](http://www.aluxrestaurant.com)

### Posada Margherita



Delicious Italian Food, try the homemade pasta with lobster!!

Photo: Riviera Maya

Address: Km. 4.5, Carretera Tulum-Boca Paila, Tulum

Internet: [www.posadamargherita.com](http://www.posadamargherita.com)

### El Tábano



Traditional Mexican food prepared in an innovative way. A really beautiful place with excellent service.

Photo: Riviera Maya

Address: Carretera Tulum-Boca Paila Km. 7, Tulum Beach, Zona Hotelera

### Mezzanine Hotel Tulum



Exquisite beach cuisine with a Thai twist overlooking the Caribbean Sea.

Photo: Riviera Maya

Address: Carretera Tulum-Bocapaila, Zona Hotelera Tulum

Phone: +52 1 984 131 1596

### La Nave

Traditional Italian food in the centre of town and very decently priced.

Address: Avenida Tulum MZA 3 LTE 7, Tulum Centro

## CAFES



Riviera Maya Tourism Board

Mexico produces coffee of an excellent quality as its topography, altitude, climate and soil allow growing and producing varieties that are classified amongst the best of the world. As a coffee producer, Mexico ranks fifth and is the leading producer of organic coffee. It is for that reason that you will always be able to find an excellent cup of coffee in the Riviera Maya, whether it is to wake you up in the morning or to enjoy with a slice of cake in the afternoon or after an exquisite dinner in one of the many restaurants in town. Options are many and the coffee is always hot and fresh!

### Ah Cacao Chocolate Café



The best coffees and chocolates made with Mexican Cacao. Their Mayan Chocolate ice cream and their brownies are the best you have ever tasted.

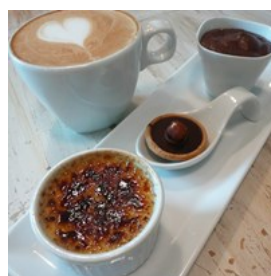
Photo: Riviera Maya

Address: Avenida Constituyentes x, Quinta Avenida Nte., Playa del Carmen

Opening hours: 07 :15 - 23 :30 hrs

Internet: [www.ahcacao.com](http://www.ahcacao.com)

### Chez Céline



Homemade French baguettes, delicious food and coffees.

Photo: Riviera Maya

Address: Calle 34 Norte, Solidaridad, Playa del Carmen

Opening hours: 08:00- 23:00 hrs.

Phone: +52 984 80 33480

Internet: [www.chezceline.com.mx](http://www.chezceline.com.mx)



## BARS & NIGHTLIFE



Riviera Maya Tourism Board

Playa del Carmen comes alive again at night with vibrant bars and clubs that range from casual beach hangouts with beers on tap to swanky nightclubs serving sophisticated cocktails. The famous Quinta Avenida in the heart of downtown Playa is lined with chic nightclubs, sports bars, exotic hookah houses, open-air beach clubs with live music, rooftop patios with picturesque vistas and lively pubs and mezcaterias, which – staying true to Mexico's roots – feature a limitless selection of made-to-order mezcal drinks using liquor from the native agave plant.

### Tequila Barrel

Tequila Barrel is a sports bar, great spot to drink a margarita and watch the daily parade of tourists. Or the perfect place to taste 70 different kinds of tequila and get the party started. It's a really lively place, popular with tourists, and has authentic Mexican décor.

Address: 5th Avenue between 10th and 12th Street, Playa del Carmen

Internet: [www.tequilabarrel.com](http://www.tequilabarrel.com)

### Coco Maya

On an oceanfront location, guests will enjoy dancing on the beach where renowned local DJs mix hip hop and Latin music or live music from 6pm until 5am.

Address: 12 Nte. & Beach Front Playa del Carmen

Phone: +52 984 803 5687

Email: [info@cocomayaplaya.com](mailto:info@cocomayaplaya.com)

### Mandala



Decorated in an attractive Asian style, Mandala is a popular bar which offers an area to dance on the ground floor and the mezzanine, where there are DJs mixing the latest pop and techno tunes, and also there is an open-air terrace on the top floor where you can enjoy a drink and chill out for a while.

Photo: Mandala

Address: 12th Street between 5th and 1st Avenue, Playa del Carmen

Phone: +52 984 87 94189

Internet:

[www.mandalanightclub.com/mandala-playa/index.html](http://www.mandalanightclub.com/mandala-playa/index.html)

### Coco Bongo



The best in show production, an excellent selection of music, and the latest technology, making it the best choice for a night full of entertainment. With impressive acrobatics, excellent impersonations of celebrities.

Photo: Cocobongo

Address: 10th Avenue corner 12th street Playa del Carmen

Phone: +52 984 803 3232

Internet: [www.cocobongo.com.mx](http://www.cocobongo.com.mx)

### La Bodeguita del Medio

Indoor Cuban dance club with live dance bands. Free Salsa lessons on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 7 PM.

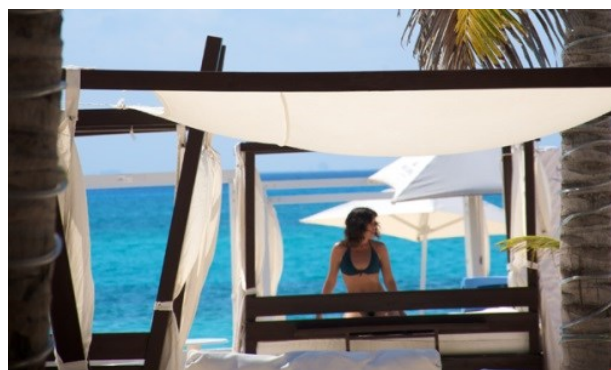
La Bodeguita del Medio is a Cuban bar on the

Northern end of 5th Ave that serves up live music and the best Mojito in Playa.

Take a free salsa lesson and sign your name with thousands of others on the walls, ceilings or light fixtures. (located at 5th Ave and Calle 34.

Address: 5ta Avenida Calle 34 Norte Esq, Gonzalo Guerrero, Playa del Carmen  
Internet: [www.labodeguitadelmedio.com.mx](http://www.labodeguitadelmedio.com.mx)

## SHOPPING



Riviera Maya Tourism Board

La Quinta is bursting with shops that offer visitors marvelous opportunities for shopping. There are very upscale prestigious brand boutiques reminiscent of Rodeo Drive in Beverly Hills. There also are stores featuring the designs and creations of local tailors and dressmakers utilizing an amazing palette of colors and cloths. Some of the shops specialize in the regional dresses that the women of the Yucatan wear, the huipil, as well as the cool guayaberas or shirt-jacs that the men use others feature regional dresses from all over Mexico.

There is a plethora of jewelry stores on La Quinta, some featuring the lines of internationally renowned designers and others specializing in creations in Mexican silver and gold. It is important that you purchase such items from the reputable stores on La Quinta rather than from street vendors and others who

often foist off ersatz jewelry on unsuspecting tourists. Quite often, you can bargain with the jewelry shop owners in order to get better prices on the items you wish to purchase.

The same thing goes with the myriad number of shops featuring creations by local artisans, beautiful arts and crafts that will lend an air of color and sophistication to your home. Bargaining usually is a given with these shop owners. Shops are open 7 days a week generally from 10.00 am - 22.00 pm. Many shops will accept credit cards as payment but there are shops that only accept cash as a payment method.

### Paseo del Carmen



Paseo del Carmen Shopping Mall, next to the pier to Cozumel is one of the best shopping malls in Playa del Carmen. You can find the

best brands and the most diverse products, such as clothing, perfumery, accessories and decoration, also find the best choices of restaurants and cafes.

It offers something special beside shopping, that's the magic of Playa.

Photo: Riviera Maya

Address: 10 avenue with 1st. street (south) Playa del Carmen.

Opening hours: 09.00 to 22:00 hrs.

Phone: 984 803 3789

Internet: <http://paseodelcarmen.com>

## TOURIST INFORMATION



Riviera Maya Tourism Board

### Cancún International Airport

Cancún International Airport is the main airport to reach the Riviera Maya.

Cancun is the second-largest airport in Mexico and it serves more than 10 million passengers per year. The airport is located 50 km from Playa del Carmen and 112 km from Tulum.

Address: 50 km from Playa del Carmen & 112 km from Tulum.

Phone: +52 99 8848 7200

Internet: <http://www.asur.com.mx/asur/español/aeropuertos/cancun/cancun.asp>

### Transfer from Cancun Airport to Riviera Maya

There are several options available for ground transportation. Some properties might include the transportation in the package.

Car rental is available and gives you the liberty to move around freely, all mayor car rental companies are represented.

Upon arrival you can also hire a shared shuttle service at around 18 USD per person or get a private taxi.

The most economic option is the ADO bus with

services from Cancun Airport to Playa del Carmen with a brief stop at Puerto Morelos. Buses run from 10.00 am to 22.00 pm every hour and the rate is \$116 pesos (around 10 USD)

The terminal is located at the southeast corner of terminal 2. A shuttle service runs every 10 minutes between terminal 2 and 3. Payment is accepted in mexican pesos and US Dollars. (Euro is NOT accepted)

ATM machines are available inside the terminals 2 and 3.

Buses are painted red and they will be marked with Playa del Carmen.

The ADO airport bus will take you to the bus station on 5th Avenue in downtown Playa del Carmen. There is a taxi stand located in front of the bus terminal for transportation to your hotel.

For more information please see the websites below:

[www.ado.com.mx](http://www.ado.com.mx)

Internet: [www.ado.com.mx](http://www.ado.com.mx)

### Public Transportation

There are several ways to travel in Riviera Maya:

The ADO bus runs between the main cities and according to a timetable. The buses have air conditioning and video on board and offer services throughout the Mexican Republic. Buses to Cancun run every 15 minutes and to Tulum every 30 minutes.

For actual rates and schedules check the local bus station at 5th Avenue Corner Juarez Avenue in Playa del Carmen or click : [www.ado.com.mx](http://www.ado.com.mx)

Another option is the “colectivos” a shuttle-type service that runs between Tulum and Cancun.

They run all day long and can be stopped at the side of the Highway 307. There is no timetable so some patience is requested. In Playa del Carmen you catch it at the “colectivo” stand located at 2nd Street between 15th and 20th Avenue. (Calle 2 Norte entre 15 y 20 Avenida).

Car Rental Agencies are located at the airport, in Playa del Carmen and in all the hotels in Riviera Maya. Rates may vary according to the season. A credit card and a valid driver’s license are requested and the minimum age to rent a car in Riviera Maya is 21 years.

The Highway 307 is a modern 4-lane divided highway in excellent condition that connects Cancun with Tulum. From Tulum 2 lanes continue to Chetumal in the south of the state of Quintana Roo.

### **Taxi**

Taxis are available 24 hours a day. Rates are per taxi and a maximum of 4 people per taxi is allowed. There are taxi stands at strategic places in the mayor towns or simply stop any taxi on the street. Taxis have fixed rates and all taxi drivers should have a rate chart available. It is recommended to make out the price before boarding. Make sure you carry small bills or the correct amount as change is difficult sometimes. Most taxi drivers will speak little english so it is recommended to have the address written down on paper and remember the taxi number written on the door for eventual forgotten items. The current average cost for a taxi within Playa del Carmen is 25 pesos.

### **Health Care**

You can find pharmacies in all villages and cities in the Riviera Maya, most of them are open 24 hours and some of them offer delivery service.

Please note that laws have changed in Mexico and that a prescription is required to purchase medication.

### **Farmacias Yza**

Playa del Carmen, Quintana Roo Constituyentes  
Cruce con Av. 30 Col. Gonzalo Guerrero +52 984  
873 0597

### **Farmacias del Ahorro**

Playa del Carmen, Quintana Roo Av  
Constituyentes It 1, Gonzalo Guerrero c.p. 77720  
Toll free: 01 800 711 2222

Medical Assistance is excellent in the Riviera Maya. Doctors are professional and speak fluent English. Hospitals and Private Clinics are available for the unfortunate case you need one.

### **HOSPITEN**

Medical Service in Playa del Carmen Full hospital with all medical and emergency services.  
Tel. +52 984 803-1002, +52 984 803-1002  
Location: Hwy 307 on the North bound side near the Playacar entrance Accepts Credit Cards.  
Open 24 hrs, daily

### **PLAYAMED**

Medical Service in Playa del Carmen Hospital and emergency room services.  
Tel. +52 984 879-3114, +52 984 879-3114  
Location: Hwy 307 and Calle 28, on the west side of the highway.  
Open 24 hrs, daily

### Telephone Code

The Riviera Maya offers several communications options. From phone booths to Internet cafes located in shopping malls and restaurants, most of them with Wi-Fi service. Also most of the Hotels offer Internet service.

Country code: +52 Area code: 984

To call from México to USA you have to dial 001+ telephone number

To call from México to other countries dial 00+ country code+ telephone number

### Electricity

110 Volt. Hotels usually offer voltage converters for 220 Volt devices.

### Drinking Water

The water out of the tap is not drinking water. Please use bottled water instead. Ice cubes are made out of bottled water and are perfectly safe.

### Weather

Riviera Maya has a subtropical climate with warm and sunny weather all year around.

The average daily temperature is 28°C / 85F with higher peaks in the summer months when temperatures can reach 32°C, 90 °F.

The climate is predominated by a rainy season from June until November. Generally this means some showers in the early evening or during the night.

It is recommended to bring a sweater or a light jacket in the wintermonths as temperatures may drop due to north wind influence.

### Tourist Tax

Nearly every commercial airline flying into

Mexico now includes the Tourism Tax (known as DNI - Derecho No Inmigrante) in the price of each flight ticket. Request an itemised receipt from your tour agent or airline, where the DNI charge is normally listed, and present it at check-in and/or immigration in order to avoid double payment.

If, however, your airfare does not include this tax, or if you've been travelling by land, the tax will need to be paid separately. If you're leaving Mexico by air, the easiest way to pay this tax will be at the check-in counter for your departing flight/the airport immigration office. Note that the tax can only be paid in cash, in USD, Mexican pesos or Sterling. The exact fee is subject to change; at the time of writing, it amounts to just under \$30 per person.

If you are departing by land, you are still required to pay this tax, which can also be done at a bank. Note that those arriving by land and departing from Mexico within 7 days are exempt from paying the fee.

The DNI tax is not to be confused with the Mexican Airport Departure Tax, which will be automatically included with any flight ticket purchase, and will also appear on the itemised receipt.

Make sure to hold on to any receipts, slips or documents issued to you by Mexican immigration authorities throughout the entire trip.

### Population

Playa del Carmen 150.000 habitants.  
Tulum 30.000 habitants.

### Currency

The main currency is the Mexican peso, but the US Dollar is accepted everywhere. Euros are not accepted and need to be exchanged beforehand.

### Opening hours

Banks are open Monday-Friday from 09.00-17.00 hrs.  
Shops are open from Monday-Sunday from 10.00-22.00 hrs.

Supermarkets open from Monday-Sunday from 08.00-23.00 hrs.

**Internet**

[www.rivieramaya.com](http://www.rivieramaya.com)  
[www.instagram.com/rivieramayamx](https://www.instagram.com/rivieramayamx)  
[www.facebook.com/RivieraMaya](https://www.facebook.com/RivieraMaya)  
[www.twitter.com/rivieramaya](https://www.twitter.com/rivieramaya)

**Emergency numbers**

Police, ambulance, or fire fighters: 911  
Hyperbaric Chamber: +52 984 87 31365

**Tourist information**

Riviera Maya Tourism Board  
Address: Plaza Paseo Coba, Mza. 29, Lote 3, Fraccionamiento Playacar Fase II  
Playa del Carmen, QROO, C.P. 77710  
Tel: +52 984 20 63150, Monday-Friday 09.00-17.00 hrs.  
[www.rivieramaya.com](http://www.rivieramaya.com)