

An aerial photograph of Niagara Falls, showing the massive waterfall cascading over a rocky cliff. The water is a vibrant turquoise color, and a thick mist rises from the base. In the foreground, a road is lined with cars and a large crowd of people. To the right, there are green lawns, trees, and some buildings. The sky is blue with scattered white clouds.

LuxuryTravelGuide

AN INSIGHT FOR THE AFFLUENT TRAVELLER

— The Americas Edition 2016 —

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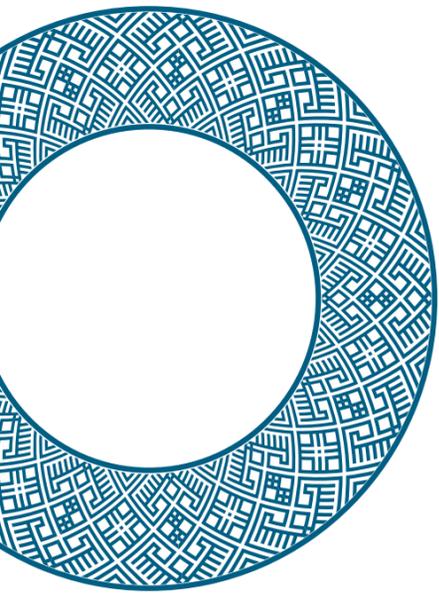
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The Riviera Maya: A Corridor of Diversity

Quintana Roo, Mexico

In Mexico's easternmost state of Quintana Roo lies the Riviera Maya – a corridor of Caribbean coastline home to spectacular diversity. Visitors to the area can expect chalky white beaches, lively resort towns, world renowned archaeological sites, and coral reefs that heave with marine life. The combination of breathtaking natural wonders and bewitching ancient ruins that scatter the Riviera Maya and the rest of the Yucatán Peninsula make this region a particular favourite with tourists.

Those interested in delving into Mexico's history may wish to visit one of a number of ancient Mayan ruins such as the UNESCO World Heritage site, Chichen Itza. The centuries' old archaeological sites peek through lush expanses of jungle, making for enchanting day trips which promise to transport visitors to a bygone era. Alternatively, the area's iconic cenotes – once used by the Mayan population for sacrificial offerings – plunge visitors into the Riviera Maya's underworld. The natural pools are most commonly associated with this region of Mexico, and their crystal clear waters welcome swimmers.

The shores of this coastal area are as diverse as the land. Visitors can enjoy diving or snorkelling trips in prismatic coral gardens, embark on a cruise to the powdery beaches of a nearby tropical island, or indulge in a spot of deep sea

fishing. The coastline is also home to upscale restaurants, resorts, nightlife and golf courses making it the ideal destination for the luxury traveller. The resort town of Playa del Carmen is famously popular with tourists and features a lively bar scene and exquisite beaches. It is also the location of the premium tour operator Kay Tours – a company which specialises in producing day trip packages for small groups or private excursions, with the intention of opening up the Riviera Maya and its surrounding area for exploration. Their guiding principle is to make guests day with them the best day of their vacation.



Ruinas de Tulum, Quintana Roo



Discover Eastern Mexico with Kay Tours

Kay [ˈkiː]: - from a Greek word meaning rejoice " and in Mayan language translates it as "fish"

Kay, the owner and manager of Kay Tours, was born and raised in Berlin before moving to Playa del Carmen after falling in love with the Riviera Maya. Growing up in Europe he was able to identify how to fine tune local adventures for foreign visitors to the region. His company grew out of the passion for the region and Kay devoted himself to providing greater care and attention in crafting memorable and personalised tours. Kay's experience working for a number of local tour operators, along with his passion for excellence, has ensured that his company is now one of the region's leading operators. The staff at Kay Tours are skilful, versatile and knowledgeable; each guide is at least bilingual and has many years of experience working in the Riviera Maya area, guaranteeing visitors receive the highest quality of service both during the planning stages of their day tour and during it.

Kay Tours offers an exciting and diverse array of packages which encompass some of the region's highlights. Visitors can delve into captivating ancient ruins, bask on the sun-soaked beaches of a desert island, or enjoy a thrilling outdoor adventure on land or in the water. Alongside the spectacular array of activities available, the company boasts an unparalleled commitment to providing guests with a smooth and relaxing day trip. The team offers hotel transportation from several destinations on the Riviera, including Cancun, for guest's ease and convenience, whilst visits to the region's most popular attractions embark early to avoid the mass of daily tourists, thus guaranteeing a stress-free trip. Kay Tours also provide unique private excursions with customised itineraries to suit the needs and desires of the particular group.





Explore Ancient Civilisations & Rare Natural Wonders

Whether visitors to the Riviera Maya are looking for a journey into the Mexican past, or a showcase of the region's most breathtaking natural landscapes, Kay Tours will offer the perfect package. Those who wish to meander among the ruins of ancient Mayan civilisations can depart on the Tulum day trip, which involves a tour of the cliff-side site, led by an archaeological guide. A morning uncovering one of the Riviera's most impressive ancient cities is followed by a spot of authentic souvenir shopping if desired and a trip to the watery underground world of the cenotes. Here guests will enjoy a cooling swim in the crystal clear waters of these spellbinding sinkholes. Adrenaline junkies may wish to combine their trip to Tulum with canoeing and zip-lining across the prehistoric cenotes in what proves a truly thrilling experience. Another of Kay Tours' popular packages begins with a trip to Coba – a centuries' old Mayan city nestled in dense jungle. Visitors can amble around the ruins of this civilisation before being transported to a natural aquarium, where fresh water from the Cenotes merges with salt water from the Ocean.

Aquatic adventure is also available with the Isla Mujeres package which whisks guests to a blissful Caribbean island of dense mangroves and quaint fishing villages. Here visitors spend the day exploring, sunbathing or snorkelling in kaleidoscopic coral reefs, before indulging in a beach-side lunch with food prepared in the traditional style of the island. For more enjoyment on the seas, Kay Tours run a deep sea fishing package giving guests the opportunities to sweep in a catch of red snapper, grouper or mackerel, or alternatively, visitors can book onto a whale shark tour and swim alongside the remarkably gentle and harmless creatures. The season for this once-in-a-lifetime experience starts mid-May and ends mid-September.



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PLAYA DEL CARMEN, MEXICO



The Riviera Maya is a culturally rich and scenically stunning stretch of Mexican coastline in the state of Quintana Roo. Situated on its shores is Playa del Carmen, a resort town renowned for its glistening white beaches and lively bar and restaurant scene. Operating out of Playa del Carmen is Kay Tours, an independent company which specialises in providing semi-private and private packages that open up this diverse region for exploration. Kay Tours offers a skilful and knowledgeable team of bilingual guides who care about each guest's experience and work hard to ensure excursions are unique to every group.

Alongside experienced and responsive staff, we were particularly impressed with Kay Tours' commitment to exclusivity. The team take visitors to the popular attractions early to avoid the mass of daily tourists, thus guaranteeing a relaxing and enjoyable trip. The variety of opportunities awaiting those who book with Kay Tours' is also notable. There is the option to visit Isla Mujeres and experience the delights of a Caribbean fishing island before indulging in a spot of snorkelling in the turquoise waters. Alternatively, the company offers tours to the Tulum and Coba ruins which allow visitors to delve into the ancient history of the Mayan civilisations.

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