



# *A Pilgrimage to Mexico* **'Our Lady of Guadalupe'**

***'Am I not here. I who am your Mother? Are you not under my shadow and protection?'*** So goes the famous words spoken by The Virgin Mary in Guadalupe Mexico during the 16th Century apparition. St Juan Diego was a man of humble origin that received the iconic image of the Virgin Mary, eventually leading to his canonisation by St John Paul II in 2002, thus becoming the first Saint of the Americas. Our pilgrimage is centred around the Marian Shrine in Guadalupe and other sites all over Mexico, giving you a true experience of Christian Latin America and a taste of Mesoamerican history.

Only **£1,609\***  
per person, HB

**15<sup>th</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> Oct 2019**

9 Days / 7 Nights

*Fly with British Airways - Heathrow*

***Spiritual Leader – to be confirmed***  
***For details contact All Saints tel. 01793 608844***



*\*Booking deadline at this price, 15<sup>th</sup> November 2018*



All Saints Travel



## DAILY ITINERARY

### Day 1: Tuesday, 15<sup>th</sup> October

#### UK/Mexico City

Depart London Heathrow to Mexico City (flight duration approximately 9 hours). Upon arrival transfer to our hotel.

### Day 2: Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> October

#### Full-day Tulpetlac and Teotihuacan Pyramids

Today we visit the town of Tulpetlac and its church built where Juan Diego was born. We then drive to the archaeological site of Teotihuacan, located 50km northeast of Mexico City. Teotihuacan is one of the most impressive cities of the ancient world, held sacred by the Aztecs. We will explore its temples, palaces and pyramids, including the Quetzalpapalotl Palace Complex, the Temple of the Feathered Conches, the Pyramid of the Moon, and the immense Pyramid of the Sun, ranked among the biggest in the world. Time for lunch before returning to Mexico City.

### Day 3: Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup> October

#### Xochimilco floating gardens and University City

We will then visit the beautiful floating gardens of Xochimilco, in the south of the city. On the way we make a stop at the Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico, Latin America's largest university, recently declared a World Heritage Site. We arrive at the floating gardens of Xochimilco, which were once connected to the Aztec capital of Tenochtitlan (now Mexico City) by a causeway, and where the Aztecs grew much of their food. We will navigate the canals on board a typical 'trajinera', a flower-decked punt, and will discover how Aztec life was before the conquest.

### Day 4: Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October

#### Full day in the Shrines of Our Lady of Guadalupe



Drive to the Basilica de Guadalupe, Latin America's most revered religious shrine. It is here where the Virgin of Guadalupe is said to have appeared before Juan Diego in 1531, and an image of her was miraculously emblazoned on his cloak. We will have time to explore the New Basilica de Guadalupe (the Old Basilica, built in 1700, is slowly sinking) and to see Juan Diego's cloak.

### Day 5: Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup> October

#### Mexico City tour - Churches and Anthropology museum

We will explore magnificent Mexico City, built on top of the ruins of the Aztec capital of Tenochtitlan. Our first stop is the Zocalo (main square), one of the biggest public squares in the world. We will visit the Cathedral

Metropolitana – the biggest church in Latin America, and the Palacio Nacional – which hosts Diego Rivera’s murals depicting the history of México. Your tour continues as you visit the Plaza of Santo Domingo. This plaza contains two Holy places that are architecturally exquisite; the Church of Santo Domingo, the first church built by the Dominicans in 1576, and the Shrine of Our Lady of the Rosary, the first Rosary Shrine in Mexico. You will also visit “La Enseñanza” Church, the Temple of San Felipe Neri “La Profesa” and Church of San Francisco. We then drive along the famous boulevard Paseo de la Reforma, built during the short-lived reign of Emperor Maximilian to connect the main square and his castle in Chapultepec. Our last stop is the Museum of Anthropology, where we will have some time to explore the treasures of the Aztec culture.

### **Day 6: Sunday, 20<sup>th</sup> October**

#### **Puebla Cholula Archaeological site and Tonantzintla (private service)**

We will drive to the World Heritage Site of Puebla, located 130km southeast of Mexico City. On the way we will make a stop in Tonantzintla, where we visit its exuberant church. Under its dome, the surface is covered with colourful stucco with saints, flowers, fruits, birds and more – a great example of indigenous artisanship applied to Christian themes. We continue to Cholula, where we will visit the Great Pyramid of Cholula, its remains measuring 450m along each side of the base and 65m high, making it larger in volume than Egypt’s pyramid of Cheops. Now overgrown and topped by a church, it is difficult to recognise this once magnificent pyramid. We arrive in Puebla in time for lunch. Mexico’s national dish, the ‘mole poblano’, originated here! We will explore the colonial centre, lined with churches and colonial mansions, many adorned with the beautiful hand-painted Talavera tiles for which Puebla is famous.

### **Day 7: Monday, 21<sup>st</sup> October**

#### **Tlaxcala: San Miguel del Milagro, Sanctuary of Ocotlán and San Francisco church**

Today we drive to Tlaxcala, upon arrival you will visit the Shrine of San Miguel Del Milagro, where St. Michael the Archangel appeared to Diego Lazaro in 1631. We visit the Grotto with its healing waters. You will have the opportunity to view these miraculous sites, as well as bring an empty bottle to collect the miraculous water. After viewing this exquisite site, you will enjoy lunch followed by a transfer to our next stop, the Church of St. Francisco.

### **Day 8: Tuesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> October**

#### **Our Lady of Guadalupe’s Shrine/Airport**

We travel back from Puebla to Mexico City and have free time at Our Lady of Guadalupe’s shrine before travelling to the airport for our flight back to the UK.

### **Day 9: Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October**

Arrive back in London.

*Please note - Itinerary may be subject to change to ensure the smooth running of the tour. E & OE.*

## PRICE INCLUDES

- Direct return flight from London Heathrow to Mexico City with British Airways
- 5 nights in 4\* accommodation in Mexico City
- 2 nights in 4\* accommodation in Puebla
- Professional local guides
- All entrance fees as per itinerary
- Transfers between airport and hotel
- Executive coach for touring
- Professional local guide
- Airport taxes and Government charges
- Personalised luggage label and badge
- Daily Masses at various Holy Sites + Hymn booklet
- ATOL Protection Contribution
- In-flight meals

## NOT INCLUDED

- Travel insurance, from £65
- Lunches or midday snacks
- Tips & Gratuities (compulsory), £20
- Single room (limited availability), £195 for 7 nights

## HOW TO BOOK

- Fill in our booking form which you can request from All Saints Travel.
- Deposit required to secure your place £350 (by card or cheque).
- Final balance to be paid 2 months prior to travel.
- Flexible monthly payments available. Contact us for details.

## ABOUT US



The air holidays we operate are ATOL Protected by the Civil Aviation Authority. This means that our license is a guarantee of the protection of all tour payments and repatriation back to the UK in the unlikely event of insolvency.



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### All Saints Travel

Basepoint Business Centre

Rivermead Drive, Swindon, Wiltshire SN5 7EX

Tel. 01793 608844 / 0800 612 7975

email: [info@allsaintstravel.co.uk](mailto:info@allsaintstravel.co.uk) web: [www.allsaintstravel.co.uk](http://www.allsaintstravel.co.uk)