

Daily Itinerary

Tuesday	9/16	<p>Fly to Guatemala City and after clearing customs be sure to exchange some US dollars for Guatemalan <i>Quetzales</i> before exiting the terminal. Your driver from Tours and Travel will be waiting just outside to take you to Antigua, a city that has stood still in time for over 300 years.</p> <p>Those going billfishing (billfishing option) will be transported from the airport to the world famous fishing lodge, Fins ‘n Feathers in Iztapa. (D)</p> <p>Those traveling to Tikal (Tikal option) will go upstairs to board another short flight to Flores where you will be met and taken to Hotel Esplendido. (D)</p>
Tikal Departure	5:00	
Wednesday	9/17	<p>Antigua: This morning explore the Casa de Artes, see textiles and ceremonial dance masks made by the Maya of today crafted in the tradition of centuries past. Then enjoy a free afternoon of shopping and exploring. Half the fun in Antigua is just walking around on your own and discovering every little nook and cranny along with the great restaurants located in lovely old homes. (B)</p> <p>Billfishing: Fish the hottest of all the new “hot spots”, the world’s best bet for Pacific sailfish and afterwards you will join the rest of your group in Antigua. (B,L)</p> <p>Tikal: Spend the day in the ruins of Tikal, once inhabited by the ancient Maya civilization more than two thousand years ago. You will travel directly from the park back to the airport for your return flight to Guatemala City and your transfer to colonial Antigua. (B,L)</p>
Casa de Artes Departure	9:30	
Fishing Departure	7:00	
Tikal Tour Departure	8:00	
Thursday	9/18	<p>This morning, after breakfast in a local café, you will take a very informative walking tour of the romantic colonial city of Antigua. After the tour there will be free time for lunch and more exploring, be sure to explore your hotel, the Casa Santo Domingo, a Monastery built in the XVII century. The Casa, beautifully restored, includes an extensive collection of Guatemalan Colonial religious works of art and is the most complete archeological monument in the Americas. You will find that every corner has a special detail or treasure.</p> <p>Leave your bags packed and ready to go in your room and the bellboy will deliver them to your coach and in the afternoon you will travel by coach to Lake Atitlán. (B,D)</p>
Depart Lobby	8:00	
Hotel Checkout	1:00	
Depart Hotel	3:00	

Friday	9/19	This morning you will wake up to one of the most breathtaking views in the world, Lake Atitlán. Today you will take a leisurely half-day boat excursion around the edge of the lake that will include a village stop where you will have the opportunity to explore and to do a little shopping directly with the local artisans. After lunch you will have free time for exploring the nearby nature-walk, go into town or just sit and relax. Strolling the Hotel Atitlán botanical gardens with plants from all over the world is not to be missed. This evening Sumrall and Associates, Inc. will host a reception and typical Maya buffet dinner in the Ranchito overlooking the lake. (B,L,D)
Boat Departure	9:00	
Reception Dinner	6:30 7:30	
Saturday	9/20	After breakfast you will cross the lake to San Lucas then take a short ride to Finca Los Tarrales – a natural private reserve with many thousands of acres of virgin forest. This is a coffee plantation, and tropical flowers are also grown for export. Travel back to Hotel Atitlán by coach and stop along the way to view some of the beautiful scenery hundreds of feet above the lake. (B,L,D)
Boat Departure	9:00	
Sunday	9/21	Today you need to have your bags packed and ready to go because after breakfast you will depart for the world famous market of Chichicastenango. Here you will first visit the Santo Tomas Church where you will witness the convergence of the Catholic religion with the ancient Maya rituals. Then on to the market brimming with arts and crafts as well as everything imaginable for, of and by the local Maya Indians. It is a little overwhelming and will probably seem like you are lost but not to worry, you really are not. After lunch at the Mayan Inn you will travel by coach back to Guatemala City and the Hotel Camino Real. (B,L)
Depart Hotel	8:30	
Lunch	12:30	
Depart Chichi	2:30	
Monday	9/22	After breakfast, be ready to leave for your return flight home. (B)

* **B** = Breakfast, **L** = Lunch, **D** = Dinner

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Round trip airfare from major gateway cities
- 7 days 6 nights at unique four and five star hotels
- Meals where indicated including gratuities
- Hotel baggage handling gratuity
- All ground and boat transportation
- Excursions listed in itinerary

NOT INCLUDED

- \$30.00 Guatemala departure tax
- Tikal option
- Billfishing option

Tikal, A Timeless Adventure...

Let the raucous call of the macaw and howler monkey transport you back to a time of kings and many gods... Discover a world once inhabited by the ancient Maya more than two thousand years ago, a world that has slumbered remarkably intact under a mantle of thick vegetation for nine centuries. Surrounded by exotic scenery you will spend the day viewing temples based on pyramids, palaces, ball courts, burial chambers, and stalae. If you feel up to it you may climb Temple IV for a spectacular view of nothing but green jungle and the towering temples of Tikal that push through the tree canopy. After lunch in the park you will visit the small museum housing some of the many pre-Columbian art treasures found during the excavation of the site. Considered by many to be the most impressive Maya ruins anywhere, Tikal's origins are barely discernable with pottery findings dating from a few hundred years before Christ until its eventual decline and abandonment in the 10th century. It is a site wrapped in a mystical shroud, where battles and burials are recorded in intricately carved stone; where jade carvings resemble the filigree work of fine jewelry and the ceramics and textiles capture the color of the lush vegetation around them. The Maya created one of the most refined civilizations in the history of the world and Tikal is the legacy to this civilization, now declared by UNESCO as a Natural and Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

Tikal Option Includes:

Round-trip airfare from Guatemala City to Flores, one night stay at Hotel Esplendido, 3 meals (D,B,L), ground transportation, guide, park entrance, tips, and airport taxes.

Price: \$290.00 per person double occupancy

Billfishing Adventure...

A complete fishing adventure! Fins 'n Feathers Inn is a full service facility specifically built to accommodate their fishing customers. The Inn has a waterfront location in full view of the game boats. Since 1993 Fins 'n Feathers boats have averaged raising more than 20 billfish per day, per boat; undoubtedly the finest sail fishing in the world. The bill fishing productivity is literally unbeatable. The average sailfish raises in September per day per boat is 11. This year (Feb 19) one of the boats broke a world record for number of bites and number of sailfish caught and released in one day. One hundred sixteen bites resulted in 80 sailfish caught by just two fishermen, a rare phenomenon of nature for sure but a testimony to the action on the waters off Guatemala's coast. If you wish to view their web-site the address is www.artmarina.com.

Billfishing Option Includes:

Roundtrip transportation to the Pacific Coast (90 minutes), overnight stay at the Fins 'n Feathers Inn, dinner, breakfast, boat, Captain, tips, lunch, drinks on board and fishing gear.

Price: \$395.00 per person