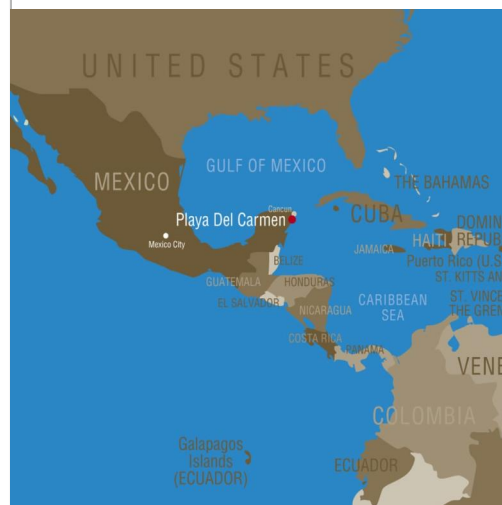


Playa Del Carmen, Riviera Maya, Mexico Caverns and reefs

The diving

Few places on our planet give you the contrast between two very different but equally inspiring underwater worlds. Mexico is an exception... One day you will be on a boat, gearing up for a dive on one of the biggest and most beautiful coral reefs in the world! The next day you will be on your way into the ancient Mayan Jungle in a jeep full of dive gear, on a mission to dive the enchanting cenotes. These two types of diving are so spectacular that you can't do one without doing the other!

The cenotes however, might be your new mistress in the world of diving. Each year many divers travel to the Riviera Maya to dive in the massive cave systems that once were sacred to the Mayans. And it is easy to understand why. Dropping into the crystal clear freshwater, you will find yourself floating through a silent world of "hallelujah". These dives are strictly done in the lightzone of the cenotes (cavern areas), meaning they are open for all level of divers. But regardless of your experience level, you should prepare yourself for an experience out of this world... Seeing the light piercing through little holes in the cave ceilings getting bend in water with a visibility easily exceeding 50 meters, makes you feel like an astronaut lost in space.



Area name / Island name

Playa Del Carmen, Riviera Maya, Mexico

Nearest airport

Cancun International Airport

Season

All year round

Center type

PADI & SSI Dive center.

Small groups.

More than 20 years of experience.

Good and well maintained equipment.

Professional and good fun.

Experience level

PADI Open water diver or equivalent

If you have been out of the water for more than 6 months and have less than 20 dives, a refresher dive is highly recommended

Minimum age for participation

12 Years

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Location

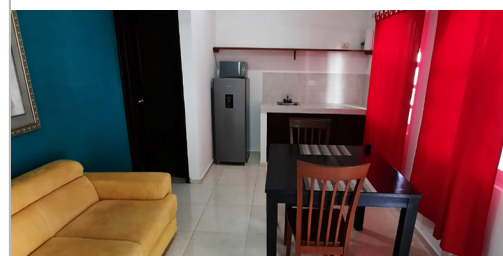
Situated between Cancun and Tulum on the Mayan Riviera, Playa, as locals call it, has grown to be the most frequented vacation destination in Mexico. You'll find miles of white sandy beaches and turquoise waters of the Caribbean Sea to the east, while lush green jungle parallels the town to the west. Here, beach bumming and visiting ancient Mayan ruins is almost as popular as the legendary nightlife.

Accommodation in Playa del Carmen

Finding accommodation that offers a relaxed atmosphere can be difficult, since the town and many hotel bars comes ALIVE at night. Since you will be diving, and therefore need your rest at night, you will be checking in at your very own quiet apartment. Within a mere 100 meters you will find the dive center, the beach and the main street where cafes and bars are only outnumbered by little art shops and Mexican market stands.

Your apartment in Playa Del Carmen

Your apartment is one out of 6 apartments that is rented out to divers at the dive center. With a little kitchen and living room area, you can cook meals and relax in a quiet atmosphere whenever needed. The apartment has Aircon, wifi and hot shower. The bedroom comes with a twin or double bed and fits 2 people comfortably.



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This is only a selection of the many dive sites represented on this particular destination. The diving is dictated by the safeness of the environment.

Cenote Dos Ojos

Dos Ojos is in the middle of the Mexican jungle. Two huge Cenotes of clear and crystalline waters open to the tropical sky, like two big eyes looking out from the underground. This is exactly the reason why the Mayan named this cenote Dos Ojos (two eyes). These two openings create a unique light effect, so extraordinary that any diver will be amazed by the holy appearance of the massive cavern. The cenote Dos Ojos is the most spacious cenote and the longest in the world running 61 meters of different series of galleries and connecting wide rooms, impressively furnished with stalactites and stalagmites several meters high. You will love it!

Taj Mahal

This cenote might be just as beautiful and mysterious as its namesake the grand Taj Mahal in India. The most breathtaking part of this cavern is the massive room with huge airspace allowing 3 beams of daylight to penetrate into the water. This room is called the Points of Light, and you understand why, when you dive into a bowl of beaming fluorescent blue light. The second cavern area beyond Cenote Sugarbowl leads past a third small opening. During the dive you will see the many fossils buried in limestone.

The access is very easy thanks to a cement walkway and platform from parking area to the water.

Blue Maomao Arch

Some claim Mayan Riviera to be paradise on earth for divers. The coral reefs that run along the 4 bays of Akumal are considered to be the longest of the western hemisphere, offering a great variety of underwater sceneries. They range from enormous 10-12 meters coral sprawls to smaller canyons with deeper immersion points. The current can sometimes grow to moderate providing excellent drift dives. All the dive sites are located next to the coast and are therefore reachable by boat within a few minutes.



Conditions:

Visibility

Cenotes: 25m - 50m
Ocean: 10m – 30m

Temperature

Cenotes: 24C - 25C
Ocean: 26C – 29C

Current

None to moderate
The best site is chosen according to the experience of the group

Special marine life

Turtles, Barracuda & Nurse Shark

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Itinerary

On the day of arrival you will be greeted in the dynamic dive shop by friendly staff, fill in the paperwork and have a chance to say hello. The next morning the crew will pack your equipment so for now you can check in at your hotel and relax. The following days will consist of 2 dives a day with snacks and water served during the surface interval. There will be no refund on dives not used. Check out is on the last day at lunchtime.

DIVE PACKAGE 1: 3 days/2 nights

Fundiving Playa Del Carmen

The short option with 4 dives spread out on 2 days of diving. 1 day diving the reef and 1 day diving in a cenote. The first day is left for you to settle in and get your bearings. 2 nights of accommodation is included. the dive sites will vary depending on weather and experience level.

DIVE PACKAGE 2: 5 days/4 nights

Fundiving Playa Del Carmen

The longer option with 8 dives spread out on 4 days of diving. 2 days diving the reef and 2 days diving in cenotes. The first day is left for you to settle in and get your bearings. 4 nights of accommodation is included. The dive sites will vary depending on weather and experience level.

If you want a longer itinerary, you can add extra days of diving and accommodation upon booking.

Please note

Due to ocean and weather conditions, the itinerary can be subject to change.



Activity starts
8 am

Activity starts from
The Dive Centre in Playa del Carmen
just around the corner from your
accommodation

Group Size
Max 6 per DM/Instructor

Language
English

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Transfer Information from Cancun airport:

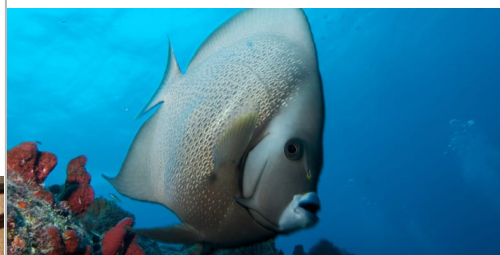
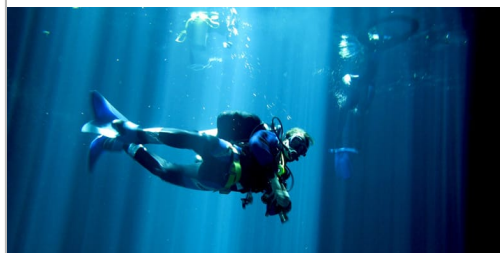
Taxi - Grab an authorized airport taxi. It's a 45 minute ride to Playa del Carmen. A union controls who are allowed to carry tourists from the airport and what they charge. Taxis originating in Playa del Carmen are not actually authorized to take people to Playa, but you may end up with a driver that doesn't find his way around Playa very well.

Colectivo - A colectivo is (usually) a van that will take up to 10 people. They don't leave at any specific time, but you will have to wait until it's full enough to justify the trip. You may have to make stops at other resorts and hotels along the way, which can easily double the time it will take you to get to Playa del Carmen. To take one of these authorized taxis, go to any of the TTC kiosks located around the terminal and buy a ticket, or just step out of the arrival hall and you will get many offers.

Direct bus - Mexican bus company Riviera operates a direct bus service between Cancun airport and Playa del Carmen. Tickets are 65 pesos (about 7 usd) each way, either way. It leaves from outside the main arrival hall at the airport. Just before you exit the terminal, there is a Riviera counter where you buy the ticket. In Playa del Carmen the bus works out of the main bus terminal on 5th Avenue and Juarez.

When you arrive at the bus station in Playa, there will be many taxis to take you to the hotel.

You need to let the dive center know your arrival at least one week in advance. You will find the details for the dive center on your voucher.



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Prices below are based on 2 persons sharing accommodation, unless stated otherwise.

FUNDIVING	
Days / Nights	3/2
Amount of dives	4
Price (incl. accommodation)	292 EUR

Supplements	
Extra 2 dives (Caverns/cenotes)	97 EUR
Extra 2 dives (reef dives)	75 EUR
Extra night (after)	37 EUR
Extra night (before)	37 EUR
Extra person in room	36 EUR
First aid course + 1 night	135 EUR
Full refresher course	52 EUR

Prices for supplementary accommodation are based on 2 persons sharing accommodation, unless stated otherwise.

Supplements

A supplement can be chosen to add on your package. All supplements can also be booked on site. In high season, bungalows and boats get filled fast - you might find trouble getting an extra night in your resort or an extra day of diving. If you are booking a course, it is recommended to book an extra night of accommodation prior your course, to get settled and get up front on the studying.



Included

All dive equipment
Guide/instructor
Drinks & snacks in surface interval
Accommodation
Cenote entrance fees

Not included

All meals
Transfers

Also available on site

Extra days of diving
Extra days of accommodation

Continuing education

All continuing courses available at location

Cancellation

Read terms and conditions

Dive insurance

Basic dive travel insurance required

General terms and conditions

GENERAL CONDITIONS

CHANGES OF BOOKINGS:

You can change your booking request or start date free of charge.

If you need to change your booking you must contact the **dive center** directly by e-mail or phone. You will find the contact details on your voucher. For verification purpose, please remember to mention your name and booking ID.

If you want to change your start date, we recommend that you do so minimum 10 days before the beginning of your dive package. Later than this, might cause the accommodation to be fully booked for alternative dates. During high seasons, 10 days might not be sufficient time, please allow extra time for changes in the high season. As a reminder, you will receive an email with general information and contact information of your dive center 10 days prior to your start date.

CANCELLATION RULES:

Any customer has the right to cancel their booking with Blue Venture Diving. In order to do so, you must contact your selling agent. The cancellation fees and rules of your selling agent will apply for your cancellation.

Blue Venture is not liable for any cancellations done by the customer of personal reason such as/or in the same category as sickness, family, missed flights etc, or other circumstances that is beyond reasonable control such as force majeure.

Blue Venture booking cancellation

In the unlikely event that Blue Venture is forced to cancel a booking, the customer will get direct notice. A cancellation will only happen if Blue Venture finds that the contracted dive center can't perform the needed service of the booked package or if the dive standards can't be fulfilled accordingly. Minor changes in the itinerary will not be defined as a valid cancellation reason, as diving is dictated by the environment and the people enrolled in the activity.

Blue Venture will always do their best to find another operator of same or higher standard, but it is up to the customer to decide whether they want to accept the change or get a refund.

INSURANCE:

A cancellation insurance is not included. It is highly advised recommended that you obtain adequate travel insurance prior to your departure from your home country.

REFUNDS:

Medical Statement

To enroll in an Open Water Course, all students **MUST** fill in the Medical Statement. Please ensure that you have received the medical statement from your travel agent. If any questions are replied with a "Yes", the medical statement must be signed by a doctor. Failing the medical statement at the destination, and therefore not being able to enroll in the diving course, you will not be entitled to a refund.

If you have not received your Medical Statement, please make sure to print it from this link.

<https://blueventure.net/files/information/12.pdf>

Medical statements, specifically for courses in Cairns (Australia)

Entry level (E.g. Open Water course)

<https://blueventure.net/files/required/138.pdf>

Continuing education (e.g. advanced course)

<https://blueventure.net/files/required/139.pdf>

Restricted dives

Diving is dictated by the environment and the people enrolled in the activity. All diving is performance based. It is up to the discretion of the dive guide/instructor to restrict divers from entering activities that goes beyond their experience level. All guides strive to reach the expectations of the customers. However, if they find that the safety of the group or an individual is jeopardized or at risk by one or several individuals, it is up to the dive guide/instructor to restrict any divers from entering the water.

In this event the dive center or Blue Venture is not obliged to give a refund.

Dives not completed

There is no refund for dives not carried out.

Refund for dives not done for any reason is up to the discretion of the dive center. Most dive centers do not give refunds for dives not done with personal causes such as seasickness, low on air situations or a failure in mastering the equipment etc. All log books will be checked prior to the dive and the dive sites will be chosen accordingly to the experience level. It is however expected that certified divers keep within their limits and do not cross their comfort zone. Blue Venture and your travel agent is never responsible to pay a refund for dives not done.

Courses not completed

There is no refund for courses not completed! All courses are performance based, but it is up to the instructor to pass the student. If a customer can not complete a course with success they will receive their course documents for an optional referral, but the contracted dive center, your travel agent and Blue Venture is not responsible to pay a refund.

Boats or dives not departing

If boats or dives are cancelled due to bad weather or sea conditions, it is up to the dive center to re-schedule and compensate with a similar dive trip when conditions allow. If the customer does not have adequate time to enroll in another trip/course it is up to the customer to make sure the dive center notify Blue Venture of this in order to secure a refund via the sales agent who completed the sale with the customer. There will only be refund on the diving and not the accommodation.

ACCOMMODATION:

Unless mentioned in the destination information folder the accommodation is always part of the package.

If the dive center by any means can't deliver the agreed accommodation, it is up to their discretion to supply immediate accommodation of the same or higher standard. (the destination information folder is found on the Blue Venture website.)

If the accommodation somehow does not live up to satisfactory standards of the customer, the customer must contact Blue Venture by phone or email as soon as possible (preferably while still on site) in order to solve the problem.

DIVE INSTRUCTORS & DIVE GUIDES:

All contracted dive centers has been handpicked based on their level of professionalism and expertise. Blue Venture ensures that all guides and instructors have the correct education and experience. In the unlikely event that a customer suffers a bad experience with any guide, instructor or dive center facilities, Blue Venture is entitled to know, but can't by any means be held liable.

At the end of you dive experience as questionnaire will be sent out to you, that we would like you to answer. By doing this, you help securing a high level of professionalism towards all customers.

MEDICAL STATEMENT & LOGBOOK:

If you are about to enroll in a dive course (entry level only), you must fill out the RSTC Medical Statement before you leave your home country. Please make sure your agent has provided you with the RSTC Medical Statement. You can also print the medical statement from the link, further up on this page. If you need the medical statement reviewed by a doctor, you have 10 days from the date of the booking with the option of cancelling for free.

If you are already certified as a diver and about to go fundiving, you must remember your current dive certificate and your personal logbook or dive computer.