



6 Days of El Mirador

Have you ever wanted to go on an expedition off the beaten track? Wanted to search out hidden ruins or discover lost ancient civilizations? Well this is your chance. The lost Mayan city of El Mirador is a place hidden and reserved from most travelers. Only now being excavated and explored you have a chance to experience this lost ancient city before it becomes well known to the world. First discovered in the 1920's the city dates back to the 3rd century BCE. El Mirador houses one of the largest pyramids in the world measuring 236 feet to the pinnacle as well as several smaller ones. But on the 6 day trek El Mirador will not be your only place of exploration! You will also be able to see La Florida, El Tintal , La Muerta, and Nabke. All of these are archaeologically significant sites along the route to and from El Mirador.

The trek will not be easy averaging 5-8 hours of trekking every day. You will need to carry your own personal equipment and be comfortable going in basic conditions for 6 days. The cost will include an English speaking guide.. The total price will be subject to the price of flights at the time of booking as well as the number of people in the party.



Inclusions

Included in the cost of the trek is:

- Transportation to and from a Flores hotel
- 5 nights of lodging at camp sites along the trek
- Meals along the trek
- English speaking guide
- Mules to carry non personal equipment
- First aid kit

COST:

As of 11/29/17 the flight from DIA for April 15-22 2018 is \$750* and averages 9 hours (these are same day flights to avoid losing a day you may be able to get a better rate if you are willing to travel over night on either end). These flights should be booked via Southwest and Tropic Air for the best rates.

6 Day trek prices are as follows:

- 3 persons \$711
- 4 persons \$655
- 5 persons \$604

Hotels in Flores average around \$50 a night based on double occupancy.

You will also need money for meals the day of arrival and the last day as well as tips for the porters, cooks, and guides (probably around \$100 total for tips)

Entry Requirements

Guatemala does not require citizens of the United States to acquire a visa in advance of their visit. Upon arrival a single entry visa can be purchased for \$25 USD.

A passport valid for at least 6 more months is required for citizens of the United States.

A Few Notes from Martsam Travel

As part of our economic, social and environmental policies, we support some communitarian projects on the destinations we offer. El Mirador, is one of those projects, which is operated by Carmelita Community; all people involved, specially the guides, has been trained to get the license of specialized guided on these hikes as a mandatory requirement of the Tourism Board.

As Martsam Travel, we have agreements of **marketing and sales** of this hike to El Mirador; however, the responsibility and operations are managed by the community 100%, who follow, among others, the following security policies:

Meals

The community guarantees transportation and supply of all meals and water during the hike. In case of meal restrictions, we require to the hiker, in advance, to let us know about any special need or diet.

Camping equipment

Camping tents, sleeping bags and mattress are provided to settle at established campsites.

* This flight leaves early both days and arrives after 11pm when returning to Denver. Flight prices change on a daily basis so the information here may not be current or accurate. At the time of booking a flight recommendation will be made and may be more or less than the number here.

First Aid

Guides have received a mandatory training on First Aid, and they always are carrying a first aid kit.

Guides have been trained to know the flora and fauna that can cause danger during the route and take precautions to avoid the contact with them.

Hikes

Hikes are made on marked and well-maintained trails, just during daylight hours.

Hikes are about from 6 to 7 hours daily

During dry season (March – June) temperatures are between 30°C to 35°C and humidity is of approximately of 85%, trails are dry and dusty.

During the rest of the year, there are sporadic rains and the temperature is almost the same, trails are muddy causing to put more effort

Guides are expert on these trails, since they were born, raised and have lived at this place, so they have all the knowledge and experience needed

Communication system

On route, mobile devices don't work, the only places where communication devices work are at Carmelita and El Mirador campsites.

Hiker

Should be on great physical and emotional conditions, which are necessary to do these hikes

Must have a travel insurance which covers these type of hikes

Should inform to the touristic operator, about the medic and meal restrictions, and any other to consider for your own safe

It is mandatory to fill out, sign and seal the liability form before any hike

Emergency

Mules that are used to carry all the meals and equipment, are used in case of emergency for evacuation

Itinerary

April 15

10:35 hrs Fly to Flores Leave DIA at 10:45pm arrive in Flores at 17:25

1 Night of hotel in Flores

April 16 –

05:00 hrs. Departure to Carmelita Community, we pick you at your hotel in Flores Island

08:00 hrs. Approximately arrival to Carmelita, located about 82 kms away from Flores

12:00 hrs. Our first stop is at La Florida archaeological Site where you will take lunch

12:30 hrs. Departure to El Tintal Archaeological Site

14:00 hrs. Arrival to the site

19:00 – 20:00 hrs. Dinner at the site

April 17 –

06:00 hrs. Breakfast

07:00 hrs. Departure from El Tintal

10:00 hrs. Arrival to “El Zompopero” to rest awhile

13:30 hrs. Lunch and visit of “La Muerta” Archaeological Site

15:00 hrs. Arrival to the majestic El Mirador Archaeological Site and set the campsites

17:00 to 18:00 hrs. Watch the sunset (when there is a clear sky)

18:00 -19:00 hrs. Dinner

April 18 –

05:00 - 06:00 hrs. Watch the sunrise (when there is a clear sky)

07:00 hrs. Breakfast

08:00 hrs. Tour through the amazing El Mirador

10:00 hrs. Snack

12:00 hrs. Lunch

13:00 hrs. Continue with the tour

15:00 a 16:00 hrs. Enjoy the sunset when the sky is clear

19:00 hrs. Dinner

April 19 –

07:00 hrs. Breakfast

08:00 hrs. Departure to Nakbé Archaeological Site

10.00 hrs. Rest point and snack

12:00 hrs. Arrival to Nabke Archaeological Site

13:00 hrs. Lunch and tour around the archaeological site

18:00 - 19:00 hrs. Dinner served at Nakbé campsite

April 20 –

06:00 hrs. Breakfast at NAKBE

07:00 hrs. Departure to “La Florida” Archaeological Site
10:00 hrs. Rest a while at “El Güiro” campsite and enjoy a snack
13:00 hrs. Lunch on route
14:00 hrs. Arrival to “La Florida” Archaeological Site
17:00 hrs. Tour around the site
19:00 hrs. Dinner

April 21 –

07:00 am. Breakfast at “La Florida”
08:00 am. Departure to Carmelita
11:00 – 12:00 hrs. Arrival to the Community of Carmelita, then we will aboard our minibus and head back to your hotels in Flores or Santa Elena.
1 night of hotel in Flores

April 22 –

0830 hrs Flight out back to DIA arrive at 18:10

How to book your trip to El Mirador

Air Travel

Flights should be booked separately at southwest.com and tropicair.com

Airline	Flight #	Date	Departure time	Arrival Time	Travel time
Southwest	288 to BZE	04/15/18	10:35	14:50	04:15
Tropic Air	9N 4400 to FRS	04/15/08	16:40	17:25	00:45
Tropic Air	9N 4401 to BZE	04/22/18	08:30	0915	00:45
Southwest	289 to DEN	04/22/18	13:30	18:10	04:40

Trek

The company accepts credit card payments via PayPal. It is strongly advisable to use a good travel card in order to provide travel insurance as well as reimbursement should something go wrong. If your card doesn't provide travel insurance you can purchase it individually and is recommended.

Payments should be made to info@martsam.com on PayPal and should be made payable to Myan World Corporation.

Hotel

Hotels in Flores are fairly inexpensive. Far From Local is recommending Hotel Casona de La Isla, Flores or Hotel Casa Amelia, Flores. At \$50-\$70 a night these hotels are a steal in a good location. Both have airport shuttles and bag checks.

Optional Excursion

As with all trips there are more opportunities for adventure than are being covered in our itinerary. Here are a few options for you:

Option 1:

Extend your stay in Guatemala by flying through Guatemala city on your return trip and staying a day or two. Total flight costs for a 3 day trip tack on will be approximately \$230 additional plus hotel and excursions. Just book a flight to Guatemala city from Flores and then from Guatemala City to Denver instead of the flights back to Belize and Denver.

Option 2:

Extend your trip to include time in Belize. Your flight itinerary already takes you though Belize City. For only about \$30 more you can extend your layover in Belize on either side to include 6 days in Belize. The nonstop flights on Southwest are only available on weekends though. You would need to find hotels and transportation while in Belize. If you need help with this please contact us.

Please have your travel booked by the end of January

Brought to you by FarFromLocal.com

El Mirador Trek Cost:

Item	Cost
Southwest Flight (4/15 – 4/22)	\$452.81
Tropic Air Flight (4/15 – 4/22)	\$333.50
Trek	\$655.00
Hotel (2 nights 4/15 and 4/22)	\$120.00
Total up front cost:	\$1561.31

Additional costs (numbers are an estimate and should be brought in cash):

Tips	\$100
Meals not included in the Trek	\$50
Drinks not included in the Trek	\$25
Souvenirs	\$50

Total Cost: \$1786.31