

Local Cultures & Responsible Tourism

Sample Itinerary

1 Week



	Activity
Day 1 Bienvenidos	
1:00 PM	Arrivals and transportation to hotel. Depending on arrival times we can provide a light lunch.
2:00 PM	Trip to the grocery store to buy snacks and use ATMs
4:00 PM	Explore downtown Bucerias before a short orientation about local health and safety norms
5:00 PM	Visit Teresa, a local jewelry maker in Bucerías, who has a stand in the central plaza
7:00 PM	Welcome Dinner
8:30 PM	Return to hotel and settle in for the night
Day 2 Impact of Tourism on Local Communities	
7:30 - 8:30 AM	Breakfast available at hotel
9:00 AM	Presentation in HC's office about the area and our clients.. We will discuss expectations and plans for the week ahead.
9:45 AM	Head out on a typical Human Connections Tour: We'll explore the relationship between tourism and the local community, and hear stories of migration due to the growth of the tourism industry.
12:00 PM	Lunch at a local restaurant as final stop on the tour
1:30 PM	Free time to return to the hotel to relax and freshen up or explore Bucerias
3:30 PM	Depart for the colonial city of Puerto Vallarta
4:30 PM	Tour of the historic Church of the Lady of Guadalupe
5:15 PM	Time to explore Puerto Vallarta and stroll the famous <i>malecón</i>
7:00 PM	Dinner at a local restaurant with a beautiful ocean view
8:30 PM	Depart for Bucerias
9:15 PM	Arrive at the hotel
Day 3 Social Entrepreneurship in a Mexican context	
7:30 - 8:30 AM	Breakfast available at Hotel
9:00 AM	Depart for Sayulita

9:30 AM	Free time to explore this beautiful surfer town
11:00 AM	Meet with an American anthropologist who created the Huichol Center for Cultural Survival. This organization works to protect the Huichol culture through social programming that is funded by the sale of Huichol jewelry so remarkable that it has been featured on the cover of Vogue magazine.
12:30 PM	Enjoy a lunch prepared at a socially responsible restaurant
1:45 PM	Depart for San Pancho
2:00 PM	Take a guided tour of Entreamigos, an innovative, environmentally-friendly community center that has been transformative for the local community. Take a tour to learn about their philosophy of education as the cornerstone of sustainable community development and cultural understanding.
3:00 PM	Free time to explore San Pancho, a laidback but vibrant beach town.
5:00 PM	Return to Bucerias
5:30 PM	Free time to freshen up at the hotel
6:30 PM	Dinner at a local restaurant
8:00 PM	Return to the hotel
Day 4 Learning from Locals	
7:30 - 8:30 AM	Breakfast available at hotel
9:00 AM	Visit with two of HC's clients to learn more about their indigenous culture which plays a pivotal role in the fabric of Bucerias' complex cultural environment
1:00 PM	For lunch, head to Boca de Tomates to enjoy pescado zarandeado, a Nayarit specialty, on the beach. We'll see various local businesses and ecosystems, juxtaposed against Nuevo Vallarta's thriving tourist sector and large hotels in the distance.
3:30 PM	Experience the beautiful beaches of Bucerias where you can swim, enjoy the sun, or even take a horseback ride along the beach
5:30 PM	Dinner at a popular local taco restaurant
7:00 PM	Take a rest and freshen up at the hotel.
9:00 PM	Optional stroll to the central plaza for a small community festival with live music, traditional dancing and plenty of tasty street food options
11:00 PM	Return to the hotel
Day 5 Local History	
7:30 - 9:00 AM	Breakfast available at hotel
9:30 AM	Depart for San Sebastian, a 17th century mining town deep in the heart of the Sierra Madre Mountains. Despite its seclusion, this town played a key role in the initial influx of people and jobs to Puerto Vallarta.

10:30 AM	Stop in Lomas del Valle on the way to meet with the founders of Fundacion ATD, a group of Mexican women who have pioneered environmentally sustainable community building projects.
11:30 AM	Depart for San Sebastian
12:15 PM	Lunch at local restaurant in San Sebastian
1:30 PM	Explore the natural beauty that the area has to offer through a brief hiking experience
3:00 PM	Meet with a local silversmith to learn how he makes his beautiful creations
4:00 PM	Free time to explore the town of San Sebastian
5:30 PM	Depart for Bucerias
7:00 PM	Dinner at a traditional local restaurant
9:30 PM	Arrive at the hotel
Day 6	Historical Context
7:30 - 8:30 AM	Breakfast available at hotel
9:00 AM	Depart for the Petroglyphs Hike, an exciting cultural and historical experience in Riviera Nayarit. With over 2,000 stone carvings, these petroglyphs were carved by indigenous groups and are thought to express their religious and cultural beliefs. Snacks will be provided.
2:00 PM	Stop for lunch in Chacala, a beautiful beach town
5:00 PM	Arrive back in Bucerias and freshen up in the hotel
6:00 PM	Dinner at a traditional local restaurant and time to reflect on the relationships between local cultures and responsible tourism
7:30 PM	Optional Salsa Class
9:00 PM	Return to the hotel
Day 7	Migration & Tourism
7:30 - 9:30 AM	Breakfast available at hotel
10:00 AM	Meet Leonarda, a mother of 3 who comes from the Huichol culture, and who supports her family by making and selling traditional jewelry. By standing in the shoes of entrepreneurs like Leo, we can understand local goal-setting mechanisms and appreciate the cultural diversity of the town.
11:00 AM	Depart for Punta de Mita
11:30 AM	Arrive at the home of Doña Elvira, a migrant from Chiapas, who will share with us the secret to her delicious, handmade tamales
1:00 PM	Brief tour of Punta de Mita to explore the impacts of tourism on the local community
2:00 PM	Free time in Punta de Mita to explore, relax on the beach, or rent a paddleboard
5:30 PM	Farewell rooftop dinner at a local beach restaurant

Day 8 Hasta Luego	
7:30 - 9:00 AM	Breakfast at the hotel
Early Afternoon	Transportation to the airport and departures from PVR