



Photo: Aleksandar Todorovic/Shutterstock.com



Cancún's white sandy beaches and warm, crystal waters make it a paradise for all beach and water sports enthusiasts. Add a vibrant nightlife and the closeness to the breathtaking Mayan ruins and you have Mexico's most popular tourist hot spot. Caring for four million tourists yearly, it's hard to understand this beautiful resort was a sleepy fishing village just a few decades ago. Its colourful buzz and ancient traditions co-existing with ultra-modern developments enchant everyone, from backpackers to luxury travellers.



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TAKE THE OUIZ





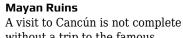
#### Hotel Zone

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Dolphinaris Cancún

Is swimming with dolphins a dream to you? Then you have come to the right pl...





without a trip to the famous Mayan ruins. ...

#### Cenotes

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#### Isla Mujeres

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# THE CITY



Avodrocc/Flickr.com (image cropped)

Cancún is naturally divided into two distinctive districts, the famous Hotel Zone (Zona Hoteléra) and the actual city of Cancún, known as Centró. The Hotel Zone, shaped like a narrow horseshoe and surrounded by 25 kilometers of pure white sandy beach, is linked to the city on the mainland via the four-lane Boulevard Kukulcán.

# DO & SEE



Lev Levin/Shutterstock.com

Caring for four million tourists yearly, it's hard to understand this beautiful resort was a sleepy fishing village just a few decades ago. Cancún is best known as a family, sporting and wedding resort where you can chose your own pace and lifestyle to suit your frame of mind.

#### **Hotel Zone**



Most hotels in the Hotel Zone are located directly on Cancún's beautiful beach. The Hotel Zone itself is divided into kilometer long sections

which make it easy to navigate. The heart of the area is undoubtedly Cancún's famous buzzing party zone (km 8) where the bars and night clubs draw both young and old crowds until early morning hours. The party also attracts performing and visiting celebrities so you'll never know who you might be rubbing shoulders with.

Photo: PriceTravel pictures/Flickr.com (image cropped) Address: Zona Hotelera, Cancún

# Dolphinaris Cancún



Is swimming with dolphins a dream to you? Then you have come to the right place. Make it a reality at Dolphinaris Cancún, go swimming

with the animals, become a trainer for a day or take a day to follow the daily routines in a dolphin's life.

Photo: Andrea Izzotti/Shutterstock.com Address: Boulevard Kukulkan Zona Hotelera, Cancún Opening hours: Every day 10am - 5pm Phone: +52 998 881 3033 Internet: www.dolphinaris.com/locations/cancun Email: contactus@dolphinaris.com

#### **Mayan Ruins**



A visit to Cancún is not complete without a trip to the famous Mayan ruins. Many of them have not yet been excavated and are waiting to be

explored. Chichen Itzá, one of the new seven wonders of the world, is an absolute must. Whilst you are there, don't miss out on the stunning light show that transports you back in time in a spectacular atmosphere. Equally stunning is Cobá, currently the only ruin that can still be climbed, offering a breathtaking view over the jungle and Tulúm, with its spectacular backdrop of the clear turquoise water of the ocean.

Photo: Leonardo Pallotta/Flickr.com (image cropped) Address: Cobá, Tulum, Mexico Opening hours: Every day 9am - 5pm

#### Cenotes



These magnificent cenotes (sinkholes) are unique to the Yucatán peninsula and many still remain undiscovered and unexplored to this day.

Witnessing the breathtaking beauty of the large clusters of stalactites and stalagmites being mirrored in the crystal clear cool waters is a unique experience. Every cenote has its own particular beauty and putting on a swimsuit and snorkel the pool is an absolutely unforgettable experience. Some tour operators also offer cave diving excursions for very experienced divers.

Photo: Alex James Bramwell/Shutterstock.com Address: Chichen Itza, Yucatán, Mexico

#### Isla Mujeres



A 20-minute boat ride from Cancún lies the small island of Isla Mujeres with its laid back Caribbean ambiance, tiny streets lined with stalls

and street cafés in pastel colored houses. Golf carts and mopeds dominate the streets. Although only 5 miles long and half a mile wide, the island offers everything from a beautiful palm fringed white beach on the north coast to a dramatic rocky shoreline on the eastern side. Visit the turtle farm, try one of the local fish restaurants on the beach or visit Garrafón Park at the south of the island with its spectacular view over Cancún's skyline. A must for nature and wildlife lovers is a tour to Isla Contoy, a nature reserve only inhabited by a few biologists and restricted to 200 visitors per day.

Photo: holbox/Shutterstock.com Address: Isla Mujeres, Mexico Internet: www.isla-mujeres.net

# Eco Parks and Tours



If you are looking for a great family day out don't forget to visit the eco-parks of Xel Há or Xcarét. With shows and adventures set in

stunning lush tropical vegetation with exotic wildlife, these parks offer a truly wonderful entertaining, educational and fun day out for young and old alike. For the slightly more energetic and adventurous, try one of the exciting eco-tours which will make you feel like a true explorer.

Photo: devochka-vesna/Flickr.com (image cropped) Address: Carretera Chetúmal-Puerto Juárez Kilómetro 282,

Solidaridad, Playa del Carmen, Mexico Phone: +52 998 883 3143 Internet: www.xcaretexperiencias.com Email: customerservice@experienciasxcaret.com More Info: www.xcaret.com

# Parque de las Palapas



The lively, friendly atmosphere of Parque de las Palapas is worth a visit, especially in the weekend evenings. Watch a local performance or

just observe and soak in the atmosphere, browse around the artisan stalls or visit one of the bars and cafés dotted all around the park. Just across the adjacent car park, next to the church, you find the so-called 'Hippie Park' offering hand-made jewelry, lamps and tie-dyed clothing.

Photo: Shinya Suzuki/Flickr.com (image cropped) Address: Parque Las Palapas, SM 22, Cancún

# Puerto Cancún



One of the newest developments in Cancún, Puerto Cancún is a mixture of residential, commercial and tourist area. Featuring a large

marina, golf course, waterside promenade with a luxurious outdoor shopping complex and cafes, it will be another impressive landmark of Cancún.

Photo: Kirt Edblom/Flickr.com (image cropped) Address: Boulevard Kukulcán Zona Hotelera, Cancún

# **Rotating Scenic Tower**



To fully appreciate the beauty of Cancún and its surrounding area, do ride the 360° rotating scenic tower where you get a spectacular birds-eye

view of the entire Hotel Zone and surrounding area from the 100 m tall tower. A different experience during day and night time, the view is unsurpassed.

Photo: Dronepicr/Wikimedia Commons (image cropped) Address: La Torre Escénica, Cancún Opening hours: Every day 9am - 11pm Internet: www.xcaret.com/en/attractions/scenic-tower

# Cancún Theatre & Mexican Folk Art Museum



Mexican folklore dance shows and plays are advertised at the theatre and at hotel concierges, where you also buy tickets. Discover one of

Cancún's little treasures, the Mexican Folk Art Museum brimming with excellent examples of Mexican folk art and crafts.

You can experience the traditions and culture of Mexico at the Xcaret Park, who offers an incredible show with advanced technology, amazing costumes and an impeccable set design.

Photo: c&rdunn/Flickr.com (image cropped) Address: Xcaret Park, Cancún Phone: +52 998 849 4332 Internet: www.xcaret.com

# Cancun Golf Club at Pok Ta Pok



A paradise for golfing enthusiasts of all abilities, Cancún is a golfing Mecca. The 10 top quality 18 hole golf courses in the area are all created

by world class designers such as Jack Nicklaus, Greg Norman and P.B. Dye to name a few. The golf course Pok Ta Pok was the first one in Cancún. A sheer pleasure for golfers and spectators alike.

Photo: Mikael Damkier/Shutterstock.com Address: Boulevard Kukulcán Km 7.5, Casa Club De La Zona Hotelera, Cancún Opening hours: Every day 6.30am - 6pm Phone: +52 998 883 1230 Internet: www.cancungolfclub.com Email: teetimes@cancungolfclub.com

# Aquaworld



What better way to enjoy water sports than in the warm, crystal clear turquoise waters of Cancún? Whether you choose to go swimming,

sailing, kayaking, windsurfing, kite sailing, jet-skiing, parasailing, diving or snorkeling along the second largest reef in the world, you will not be disappointed. Maybe you prefer to stay on the surface and experience the thrill of deep sea fishing or just relax on a sunset cruise, there is literally no water sport imaginable that you won't find in Cancún. Aspiring and advanced divers should not miss a dive in the famous diving paradise of Cozumel. Another must is the popular jungle tour through the nature reserve of the Nichupte Lagoon where you can be a captain of your own boat. Address: Boulevard Kukulcán, HZ, KM 15.1, Cancún Opening hours: Every day 7am - 8pm Phone: +52 998 689 1013 Internet: www.aquaworld.com.mx

# **Interactive Aquarium**



At this aquarium, you will get up close and personal with the sea life in a way that is not possible anywhere else. Swim with the dolphins, touch a

stingray and feed a turtle, this is a great way to spend your day.

Photo: legenda/Shutterstock.com Address: Boulevard Kukulcan Km. 12.5 Zona, Plaza La Isla, Cancún Opening hours: Every day 10.30am - 7.30pm Phone: +52 998 689 1013 Internet: www.aquariumcancun.com.mx Email: nfo@delphinus.com.mx

# Swim with Whale Sharks



Do you dare to swim with these ocean giants? From around May to September, the animals appear close enough to the coast of Cancún and

there are several tour operators enabling you to simply watch, or even swim and snorkel with them (all safety precautions, naturally, in place).

Photo: wildestanimal/Shutterstock.com Address: Av. Puerto Juárez Sm. 86, Cancún Internet: www.whalesharktourcancun.com/ Email: info@whalesharktourcancun.com More Info: Inside Restaurant El Puerto.

### Downtown



Downtown (El Centró) is the actual backbone of Cancún. What it lacks in history it makes up for through being a true melting pot - an exciting

mix of the old traditional Mexico and an ultra modern urban sprawl. Avenida Tulum, the main street, passing through the heart of the city, is easy to reach by public transport. The street is lined with shops, banks, internet cafes, bars and restaurants. Don't miss out on a weekend visit to Parque de las Palapas, on the market square, where locals come to chat and watch the entertainment provided by various local groups. The lively, happy atmosphere and the sound of the Mexican music is infectious and any worries will quickly be postponed to 'mañana'. Browse around the artisan stalls and try some of the local sweet delicacies or visit the 'hippie market' around the corner.

In the evenings, the place to be is Avenida Yaxchillan with its lively restaurants and bars, popular with locals and tourists alike.

Photo: PriceTravel pictures/Flickr.com (image cropped) Address: Parque Las Palapas, Cancún

# DINING



Krystal Hotels Timeshare M/Flickr.com (image cropped)

Mexican cuisine is very versatile and best known for its intense and varied flavours, colourful decoration and variety of spices. Tacos, nachos and guacamole are only a small part of Cancún's culinary repertoire beside the large palette of foreign cuisine. Whether you fancy a quick snack on the trot or a gourmet meal in stylish settings, Cancún has a fantastic selection of restaurants featuring dishes from all over the world.

# La Destileria



This is a dining experience within an old tequila distillery offering a truly Mexican atmosphere. The perfect place to sample excellent

traditional Mexican seafood, meat and vegetarian dishes. Visit the tequila museum within the restaurant and try some of Mexico's finest tequilas.

Photo: Brent Hofacker/Shutterstock.com Address: Boulevard Kukúlkan Zona Hotelera, Cancún Opening hours: Every day 1pm - 12am Phone: +52 998 885 1086 Internet: www.ladestileria.com.mx

### La Dolce Vita



This restaurant has a friendly Italian style ambiance and a view of the lagoon. La Dolce Vita offers a good range of meat and fish dishes. The

staff is attentive and helpful and will be happy to help you choose the perfect dish and wine.

Photo: photosmatic/Shutterstock.com Address: Avenida Coba 87 Zona Hotelera, Cancún Opening hours: Every day 8am - 11pm Phone: +52 998 884 3393 Internet: www.cancunitalianrestaurant.com Email: dolcevita@sybcom.com

# La Parrilla



La Parrilla is a Mexican style restaurant, popular with locals and tourists alike. It has a large selection of Mexican seafood and meat dishes

accompanied by Mariachis and skillful waiters.

Photo: Joshua Resnick/Shutterstock.com Address: Avenida Yaxchilán 51, Cancún Opening hours: Mon - Sat 12pm - 2am, Sun 12pm - 1am Phone: +52 998 287 8118 Internet: www.laparrilla.com.mx Email: grupos@laparrilla.com.mx

# La Palapa Belga



La Palapa Belga is an insider's tip with great European cuisine in a palapa style restaurant overlooking the lagoon and Hotel Zone.

Specialties include mussels served in a cooking pot.

Address: Quetzal 13, Cancún Opening hours: Mon - Sat 3pm - 10.30pm Phone: +52 998 883 5454 Internet: www.lapalapabelga.com More Info: In the garden of Hotel Imperial Laguna

#### La Troje



La Troje has great food, fast service and a nice ambiance. Popular with locals and an insider tip for tourists, the restaurant is famous for

its salads and filled pancakes.

Photo: Barbara Neveu/Shutterstock.com Address: Calle Acanceh 15, Cancún Opening hours: Mon - Sat 1.30pm - 11.30pm, Sun 1.30pm -9.30pm Phone: +52 998 887 9556 Email: aclatroje@gmail.com More Info: Next to Sport City opp. Plaza Las Americas shopping mall

# Du Mexique by Sonya Grimond



Du Mexique is an intimate restaurant with only seven available tables. This is truly a hidden gem amongst the crowded restaurants and

a place where you will relish in the exquisite menu.

Photo: rocharibeiro/Shutterstock.com Address: Bonampak 109, Cancún Opening hours: Mon - Sat 7pm - 11.30pm Phone: +52 998 884 5919 Internet: www.dumexique.com Email: grimond@dumexique.com

### Wazaaabi Sushi House



Wazaaabi Sushi House is one of the best sushi restaurants in town. Neither the appetizer, main course nor the dessert will disappoint

you. This is a place which you will, most definitely, re-visit.

Photo: KarepaStock/Shutterstock.com

Address: Plaza Peninsula Avenida Bonampak, Cancún Opening hours: Mon - Sat 1.30pm - 10.30pm, Sun 1.30pm -10pm Phone: +52 998 802 1844 Email: i.hazama@hotmail.com

# **Peter's Restaurante**



At Peter's Restaurante you will have a great dinner experience. The restaurant is small and intimate, providing the best service and an even

better menu. All food is freshly prepared and ending your dinner with the chocolate mousse is almost a must.

Photo: margo\_black/Shutterstock.com Address: Avenida Bonampak 72 Zona Hotelera, Cancún Opening hours: Tue - Sat 6pm - 10pm Phone: +52 998 251 9310 Email: petersrestaurante@yahoo.com

# Bovino's Churrascaria



Bovino's Churrascaria is a Brazilian-inspired restaurant and should be on your list while in Cancún. They have a delicious menu and a

extensive buffet with fresh seafood, grilled brazilian style meat and crisp salad.

Photo: ngoc tran/Shutterstock.com Address: Avenida Yaxchilán Manzana 2, Cancún Opening hours: Every day 12pm - 12.30am Phone: +52 998 898 0857

### **Puerto Madero**



At Puerto Madero you will find an Argentinian menu with delicious sea food and amazing steaks. The food presentation is wonderful and so is the

service and the lovely view.

Photo: SosnaRadosna/Shutterstock.com Address: Boulevard Kukulcán Zona Hotelera, Cancún Opening hours: Every day 1pm - 1am Phone: +52 998 885 2829 Internet: www.puertomaderorestaurantes.com

### Casa Tequila



Casa Tequila is a picturesque bar and restaurant that embodies a perfect Mexican style. In addition to a rustic and traditional menu, the bar

features an expansive assortment of tequilas and Mexican craft beers.

Photo: Playa del Carmen/Shutterstock.com Address: Boulevard Kukulcan Zona Hotelera, Cancún Opening hours: Every day 10am - 12am Phone: +52 998 883 0837 Internet: www.casatequilacancun.com

# Senor Frog's



Senor Frog's is both a fine dining destination and an upbeat bar, combining a family-friendly atmosphere with events

and parties that fear no rivals. Gratify your taste

buds with delicious Mexican specialties or pop in at night, when the dance-floor fills up with people, Senor Frog's is an unbeatable component of Cancún's nightlife.

Photo: Valentina\_G/Shutterstock.com Address: Boulevard Kukulcan Zona Hotelera, Cancún Opening hours: Every day 10am - 2am Phone: +52 998 883 3454 Internet: www.senorfrogs.com Email: ventas@andermail.com

# Thai



In this traditional Thai style establishment every table setting consists of an individual stylish palapa with its own unique table and sofa,

giving the restaurant a serene and elegant ambiance. Enhancing the experience is dolphins swimming gracefully on one side and a fantastic view over the lagoon on the other. Classic Thai specialties in an ultra-chic atmosphere.

Photo: martiapunts/Shutterstock.com

Address: Plaza La Isla Boulevard Kukúlkan Zona Hotelera, Cancún Opening hours: Every day 6pm - 11.30pm Phone: +52 998 176 8070 Internet: www.thai.com.mx Email: rp@thai.com.mx

# CAFES



Jeremy T. Hetzel/Flickr.com (image cropped)

Home to some of the best coffee worldwide, Cancún's café culture is somewhat different from that in most countries. Most people prefer to take their coffee inside with air conditioning rather than outdoors and because all bars double as cafés, 'European style' street cafés is a relatively new phenomenon but gaining fast in popularity.

# **Cafe Andrade**



Cafe Andrade is a Mexican diner with excellent coffee and a Veracruz inspired menu. This is a great place for breakfast or brunch with

good prices and fast service.

Photo: StudioByTheSea/Shutterstock.com Address: Plaza Las Avenidas Avenida Coba, Cancún Opening hours: Every day 7am - 12am Phone: +52 229 921 7333 Internet: www.cafeandrade.com.mx Email: micafecito@cafeandrade.com

# **Cafe Antoinette**



Cafe Antoinette will charm you with its cozy French atmosphere, freshly baked baguettes, and delicious macarons. All their products are

prepared according to traditonal practices and guarantee authentic flavours and a real feel of timeless Paris.

Photo: JpegPhotographer/Shutterstock.com Address: Avenida Xpuhil, Cancún Opening hours: Daily 7am-11pm Phone: +52 998 884 6128 Internet: www.cafe-antoinette.com Email: info@cafe-antoinette.com More Info: Next to Pabellon Caribe

# **Cafe Nader**



Cafe Nader serves traditional meals but is a bit fancier than a regular café and therefore a bit more expensive. It is however a popular

brunch place on Sundays.

Photo: hsunny/Shutterstock.com Address: Avenida Carlos J. Nader 5, Cancún Opening hours: Mon-Sat 7am-11pm, Sun 7am-6pm Phone: +52 998 892 4743 Internet: www.cafenader.com Email: cblanco@cafenader.com

# Cafe Con Gracia



Providing an outdoor seating area and fashionable interiors, Cafe Con Gracia is a perfect gathering point for a coffee, a frappe or

mouth-watering baked goods that will certainly satisfy your sweet tooth.

Photo: Maram/Shutterstock.com Address: Tankah 69, Cancún Opening hours: Every day 8am - 11pm Phone: +52 998 252 9232 Email: cafecongracia@hotmail.com

# Ah Cacao Chocolate Café



Ah Cacao Chocolate Café wins its guests' hearts with its delicious milk-shakes and refreshing iced-coffee. Indulge in homemade

baked goods or cacao chocolates - this intimate café located at La Isla Shopping Village is the perfect destination to regain strength after an intensive day of shopping.

Photo: pilipphoto/Shutterstock.com Address: La Isla Shopping Village, Cancún Opening hours: Every day 8am - 11.30pm Internet: www.ahcacao.com

# **BARS & NIGHTLIFE**



jthetzel/Flickr.com (image cropped)

Whatever you are in the mood for, you will find it in Cancún. Shake your hips to Latin music, break it down to hip hop, pump it up to club music or enjoy an extraordinary cabaret show -Cancun has developed around tourism and won't fail to fulfill your expectations.

# The City Nightclub Cancun



Mega Night Club with 1,000,000-watt sound system, 650 sq.ft. of video screens, super stage, shows, world class acts, themed nights, foam

parties and a private beach club. You name it -The City's got it.

Photo: MIXTRIBE (image cropped) Address: Boulevard Kukulcán, Cancún Opening hours: Fri 10pm - 4am Phone: +52 998 883 3333 Internet: www.thecitycancun.com Email: sales@thecitycancun.com

# Coco Bongo



Fantastic shows, brilliant entertainment, an absolute must. Coco Bongo combines music from different time periods into a fabulous

all-night mix. You can also catch live salsa music performances.

Photo: Hugo Cadavez/Flickr.com (image cropped) Address: Boulevard Kukulcan Plaza Forum Be The Sea, Cancún Opening hours: Every day 10.30pm - 7am Phone: +52 800 841 4636 Internet: www.cocobongo.com Email: mkt@cocobongo.com

# Mambo Café



Caribbean themed nightclub with live Latin music. Get your dancing shoes ready, the upbeat music and hip vibes of Mambo Cafe create a

most-loved destination of Cancún's club scene, where to mingle and have fun.

Photo: ARENA Creative/Shutterstock.com Address: Avenida Xcaret Benito Juárez, Cancún Phone: +52 998 884 4536 Internet: www.mambocafe.com.mx Email: cancunmambocafe@yahoo.com.mx

### Cuncrawl



Let some experienced guides take you to the hippest Cancún's bars and nightclubs and enjoy yourself with an open bar tab - you will have the

chance to meet new people and discover new places from the viewpoint of a local.

Photo: Pressmaster/Shutterstock.com Address: Boulevard Kukulcan Zona Hotelera, Cancún Phone: +52 984 165 0699 Internet: www.cuncrawl.com Email: partyinfo@cuncrawl.com

### Dady'O



Dady O's experienced DJs spin a mash-up of 80s, 90s, hip-hop and dance tunes, paying homage to all styles and tastes. Boasting trendy interiors

and showcasing laser effects, the nightclub is a major draw for tourists.

Photo: Pressmaster/Shutterstock.com Address: Boulevard Kukulcan Zona Hotelera, Cancún Opening hours: Thu - Sat 10.30pm - 5am Phone: +52 998 883 3333 Email: bookings@mandalatickets.com

# Mandala



Mandala features an intimate venue and full-on entertainment. The exotic setting and the hip ambiance contribute in creating a vibrant

atmosphere, enhanced by a young and cosmopolitan crowd that fill the dance-floor till the early hours.

Photo: Maxim Blinkov/Shutterstock.com Address: Boulevard Kukulcán Zona Hotelera, Cancún Opening hours: Every day 10.30pm - 5.30am Phone: +52 998 883 3333 Email: bookings@mandalatickets.com

# Casa Tequila



Casa Tequila is a picturesque bar and restaurant that embodies a perfect Mexican style. In addition to a rustic and traditional menu, the bar

features an expansive assortment of tequilas and Mexican craft beers.

Photo: Africa Studio/Shutterstock.com Address: Boulevard Kukulcan Zona Hotelera, Cancún Opening hours: Every day 10am - 12am Phone: +52 998 883 0837 Internet: www.casatequilacancun.com

# Senor Frog's



Senor Frog's is both a fine dining destination and an upbeat bar, combining a family-friendly atmosphere with events

and parties that fear no rivals. Gratify your taste buds with delicious Mexican specialties or pop in at night, when the dance-floor fills up with people, Senor Frog's is an unbeatable component of Cancún's nightlife.

Photo: Abir Anwar/Flickr.com (image cropped) Address: Boulevard Kukulcan Zona Hotelera, Cancún Opening hours: Every day 10am - 2am Phone: +52 998 883 5644 Internet: www.senorfrogs.com Email: ventas@andermail.com

# Congo Bar



Congo Bar has certainly grown in popularity, tending to get crowded over the weekend. The venue is intimate and decorated bizarrely,

offering cocktails or drinks of any sort at reasonable fares. Join the conga line and get ready to socialize with tourists and locals.

Photo: PriceTravel pictures/Flickr.com (image cropped) Address: Boulevard Kukulcan, Cancún, Mexico Opening hours: Every day 8pm - 4am Phone: +52 998 287 8208 Internet: www.cocobongo.com/congobar

# **Crazy Hot Coyote**



Crazy Hot Coyote offers entertainment with a twist. Differing from the long list of Cancún's nightclubs, this hotspot boasts talented artists

performing dance shows and singing, in an hour long cabaret show that lifts up the city nightlife.

Photo: Roxana Gonzalez/Shutterstock.com Address: Quintana Roo, Cancún Opening hours: Every day 8am - 6pm Phone: +52 998 848 8600

# SHOPPING



KKulikov/Shutterstock.com

Amidst the beaches, jungle and culture, Cancún also provides its visitors with every shopping experience imaginable, from flying salesmen and market stalls to boutiques and modern indoor and outdoor shopping malls. Cancún's shops are as versatile and creative as its people and the privileged tax status of Cancún (10%) makes it popular for buying luxury items. You can still practice your bartering skills at the markets, although most shops have fixed prices. Mexico is the world's number one exporter of cowboy boots and is also famous for its silverware, tequila, hot chili sauces and handcrafted pottery. Other popular souvenirs are vanilla essence, Aloe Vera products, blankets, and of course the famous Mexican sombreros.

### **Down Town**



For the slightly more adventurous, Cancún City offers all shopping amenities imaginable, from street vendors selling chewing gum and

well-equipped supermarkets to luxury shopping plazas with bowling alleys, cinemas, amusement arcades and much more.

The three major Plazas are Plaza Las Americas, El Paseo and Gran Plaza, all of which can be

# easily reached by taxi from Avenida Tulúm.

Photo: Chad McDermott/Shutterstock.com Address: Plaza Las Americas, Cancún

# La Isla Shopping Village



La Isla Shopping Village features shady alleys and pretty canals, showcasing a wide array of shops, restaurants, and attractions of any sort

along with a cinema. Take a stroll down the quaint streets, browse at shops renowned worldwide or grab a bite to eat, La Isla is a pleasant shopper's paradise.

Photo: PriceTravel pictures/Flickr.com (image cropped) Address: Boulevard Kukulcan Hotel Zone, Cancún Opening hours: Every day 10am - 11pm Phone: +52 998 883 5025

### Kukulcan Plaza



Kukulcan Plaza is renowned for its assortment of luxury shops and international names. Along with eateries, you will find

shops like Forever 21, Hugo Boss and Burberry, including souvenir shops and local brands.

Photo: PriceTravel pictures/Flickr.com (image cropped) Address: Boulevard Kukulcan Zona Hotelera, Cancún Opening hours: Every day 10am - 10pm Phone: +52 998 193 0161 Internet: www.kukulcanplaza.mx Email: gerencia@kukulcanplaza.mx

# Mercado 28



Mercado 28 is the perfect destination to browse at the colorful stalls and get a glimpse of Mexican souvenirs and handicrafts. Vendors tend

to be pushy but, with good haggling skills, you can find a comprehensive variety of products at reasonable prices, including pottery, clothes and knickknacks.

Photo: PROKirt Edblom/Flickr.com (image cropped) Address: Calle Xel Ha, Cancún Opening hours: Every day 8am - 7pm

# Luxury Avenue



With its touch of luxury shopping, Cancún turns into a most coveted holiday resort. Luxury Avenue, as the name suggests, offers an ample

variety of upscale boutiques, jewelries and art venues where the trendiest and fashionable items can be found.

Photo: PriceTravel pictures/Flickr.com (image cropped) Address: Boulevard Kukulcan Hotel Zone, Cancún Opening hours: Every day 10am - 10pm Phone: +52 998 848 7300 Internet: www.luxuryavenue.com

### **Plaza Las Americas**



Plaza Las Americas has a diverse assortment of shops, restaurants and cafeterias. Connected to another big shopping mall, the whole complex

features international and national brands as well as a casino, a pharmacy and department stores. Photo: Blend Images/Shutterstock.com Address: Avenida Tulum, Cancún Opening hours: Every day 10am - 10pm Phone: +52 998 887 3863

# Forum By The Sea



Forum By The Sea is located nearby the major Cancún attractions, lining up close to the Hard Rock Cafe, the happening Coco Bongo and the Rainforest

Cafe. It is a draw for tourists as it showcases a great assortment of souvenirs and Mexican handicrafts.

Photo: Helge V. Keitel/Flickr.com (image cropped) Address: Paseo Kukulcán Zona Hotelera, Cancún Phone: +52 998 883 4425

# Las Plazas Outlet



Las Plazas Outlet is partly outdoor and indoor shopping mall that treats their guests with shops and eateries of any sort. Browse at the store

windows, get the latest trends or just stroll around, Las Plazas Outlet is the ultimate shopping destination.

Photo: svatiska/Shutterstock.com Address: Avenida Andrés Quintana Roo, Cancún Opening hours: Every day 10am - 10pm Phone: +52 998 872 3735

# **TOURIST INFORMATION**



photopixel/Shutterstock.com

### **Best Time To Visit**



If you are looking to avoid holiday crowds and high prices, visit Cancún anytime from May to November, particularly in September and October.

However, these two are also the rainiest months. If you prefer escaping the cold winter to relax in the sun, book your trip in December or January, the high season in Cancún.

Photo: VectorA/Shutterstock.com

### **Tourist Tax**



Nearly every commercial airline flying into Mexico now includes the Tourism Tax (known as DNI – Derecho No Inmigrante) in the price of each flight

ticket. Request an itemised receipt from your tour agent or airline, where the DNI charge is normally listed, and present it at check-in and/or immigration in order to avoid double payment.

If, however, your airfare does not include this tax, or if you've been travelling by land, the tax

will need to be paid separately. If you're leaving Mexico by air, the easiest way to pay this tax will be at the check-in counter for your departing flight/the airport immigration office. Note that the tax can only be paid in cash, in USD, Mexican pesos or Sterling. The exact fee is subject to change; at the time of writing, it amounts to just under \$30 per person.

If you are departing by land, you are still required to pay this tax, which can also be done at a bank. Note that those arriving by land and departing from Mexico within 7 days are exempt from paying the fee.

The DNI tax is not to be confused with the Mexican Airport Departure Tax, which will be automatically included with any flight ticket purchase, and will also appear on the itemised receipt.

Make sure to hold on to any receipts, slips or documents issued to you by Mexican immigration authorities throughout the entire trip.

Photo: Jambronk/Shutterstock.com

#### Passport/Visa



Visa exemption applies to citizens of all EU countries, most countries in the Americas, Australia, New Zealand, Japan, South Korea, and

more. Both tourists and business visitors from these countries may stay in Mexico for up to 180 days. For Russian, Turkish and Ukrainian passport holders, electronic authorisation (SAE) is required, which then grants travellers from these countries the right of a single entry followed by a stay of up to 30 days. Please consult an official source/consulate in your home country for the latest information on visa requirements.

When travelling to Mexico, you will need to fill out a Forma Migratoria Múltiple (FMM), which is essentially a visitor's permit for Mexico. All travellers are encouraged to do so online prior to travel, and present the printed out document upon entering the country.

Photo: TukTukDesign/Shutterstock.com Internet: www.mexicotouristcard.com

# **Cancún Airport International**



Cancún Airport International (CUN) is Latin America's 4th busiest airport. Located outside the city of Cancún at KM 22 of the

Cancún-Chetumal highway, the approximate transfer times to Cancún's City or Hotel Zone is 20-30 mins. Buses, shuttles, private transfers, VIP vehicles, and Limousines are available for pickup and every terminal has a designated taxi service available. A public modern air-conditioned bus service to Cancún's central bus station is available outside Terminal 2.

Photo: Juan Garces

Address: Cancún Airport International, Cancún Internet: www.cancun-airport.com Email: information@cancun-airport.com

# **Public Transport**



Cancún's central bus station is located at the corner of Avenidas Tulum and Uxmal, offering excellent and regular connections to most

touristic destinations. A regular shuttle transfer to Playa del Carmen leaves every 15-30 minutes. The frequent local bus service between the Hotel Zone and downtown (R-1 or R-2 buses) is quite efficient and runs 24 hours.

Buses stop on hand signal and would often leave before everyone is seated ; bus stops are marked with a blue and black sign with a picture of a bus.

You can buy tickets on board but don't forget to check your change before taking your seat.

Photo: Pierre-Luc Auclair

#### Taxi



Taxis are a common mode of transport in Cancún and Mexico. Despite warnings to agree on a price before getting in, one should know that all

taxi drivers belong to a syndicate and there is an official fixed price list split into various zones that all taxi drivers must carry (also available in all hotels). Taxis in the Hotel Zone are more expensive than downtown and a standing taxi always costs slightly more than one flagged down from the curb. One alternative is the Cancun Cab that serves all over Cancún.

Photo: ArrivalGuides Phone: +52 998 840 0321 Internet: www.cancun-cab.com

#### Post



The postal service in Mexico is very slow and often not very reliable. Sending anything of importance or value is usually safer by courier

service.

Cancún's main post office is located in the city center where stamps or postcards can be found; mail boxes are red and easy to recognize.

Photo: Andy Fuchs Address: Sunyaxchen and Ave. Xel-Ha, Cancún Phone: +52 998 884 1418 More Info: On Mercado 28, at the corner of the Avenue

### Pharmacy



There are two types of pharmacies in Mexico, the regular Farmacia and the Farmacia Similares. The former sells well-known brand

medications whilst the latter sells cheaper, not-branded medicines. Prescriptions are generally not required for anything and most medicines are widely available. You can find a Farmacia on almost every corner within Cancún's downtown, with several located in the Hotel Zone. Many Farmacias are open 24 hours and have also a delivery service for a small surcharge.

Photo: Gemma Garner Address: Boulevard Kukulkan 8, Zona Hotelera, Cancún Opening hours: 24 hours Phone: +52 998 883 0923

# Telephone



Country code: +52 Area code for Cancún: 01998 Please note that not all international mobile phones will work in Mexico and it is therefore

best to check with respective providers beforehand to ensure service.

Electricity



110 Volt. Hotels usually offer voltage converters for 220 Volt devices.

Photo: Stirling Tschan

# Population 725,000

Currency

Mexican Peso 1 \$ = 100 Centavos USD are widely accepted in tourist areas. Prices may be in USD or MX pesos.

#### **Opening hours**

Hours are guidelines: 09.00 – 21.00 downtown 10.00 – 22.00 Hotel Zone Shops & malls are usually open 7 days a week. Small shops may close for siesta between 14.00 – 16.00

#### Newspapers

Novedades de Quintana Roo (Spanish) Miami Herald Cancún Edition (English)

**Emergency numbers** General Emergency No 066

#### **Tourist information**

Cancún Convention Centre Cancún center, First floor Boulevard Kukulcan, Hotel Zone, KM 8

Phone: +52 998 881 2745 E-Mail: info@cancuncenter.com

Opening Hours: Daily from 10am

Photo: Jardson Almeida

