

Photo: Gerson Repreza/Unsplash



David Vives/Unsplash

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 hotspot. Caring for four million tourists every year, it's hard to understand how this beautiful resort was a sleepy fishing village just a few decades ago. Its colorful buzz and ancient traditions co-existing with ultra-modern developments enchant everyone, from backpackers to luxury travelers.



e X p o s e/Shutterstock.com



Joseph Barrientos/Unsplash

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atmosphere of Parque de las Palapas is worth a visit...



# Interactive Aquarium

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# **Rotating Scenic Tower**

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#### Aquaworld

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# Isla Mujeres

A 20-minute boat ride from Cancún lies the small island of Isla Mujeres with...



#### THE CITY



dronepicr/CC BY 2.0/Flickr (image cropped)

Today, Cancún is known worldwide for its turquoise-blue water beaches, luxurious resorts, and bustling nightlife. But before this Mexican city became a major tourist destination, the region, which was once home to the Mayan civilization, was mostly wetlands, mangroves, jungles, and untouched beaches.

After it was left abandoned for centuries, the Mexican government finally realized in 1968 its true potential as a holiday hotspot.

Currently, Cancún is divided into two distinctive districts, the famous Hotel Zone (Zona Hotelera), a beachfront strip of hotels, resorts, eateries, shops, bars, and nightclubs, and the actual city of Cancún, known as El Centro.

The Hotel Zone, which is surrounded by 25 kilometers of pure white sandy beach, is linked to the city via the four-lane Boulevard Kukulcán.

#### DO & SEE



Lev Levin/Shutterstock.com

Apart from its dreamy beaches and energetic nightlife, Cancún offers a myriad of activities to fill your day. From historical sites where you can learn more about Mexico's rich history and culture to breathtaking and unique natural spots to thrilling water sports and even the chance to swim with dolphins — or sharks for the courageous ones.

# **Mayan Ruins**



A visit to Cancún is not complete without a trip to the famous Mayan ruins. Chichen Itzá, one of the New Seven Wonders of the World, is an absolute

must. 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: Christina Abken/Unsplash



# Dolphinaris Cancún



Is swimming with dolphins a dream for you? Then make it a reality at the Dolphinaris Cancún. Here, you get to interact with these beautiful and

smart creatures, become a trainer for a day, and follow the daily routines of a dolphin's life. An unforgettable experience for both the kids and the grownups.

Photo: Andrea Izzotti/Shutterstock.com

Address: Boulevard Kukulcan Km. 25, Zona Hotelera, Cancún

Opening hours: Daily 9am-5pm Phone: +52 800 953 2174

Internet: cancun.dolphinaris.com/location/cancun

Email: contactus@dolphinaris.com

#### Cenotes



Cenotes (sinkholes) are deep wells with crystal clear water that can be accessed when the roof of a cave collapses. Fed by underground rivers, the

cenotes were the main source of freshwater for the Mayans and therefore are considered sacred. They are unique to the Yucatán peninsula, and still to this day, the underground cave system connecting all the cenotes remains largely unexplored.

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 snorkeling in the pool is an absolutely unforgettable experience. Some tour operators also offer cave diving excursions for very experienced divers.

Photo: Luis Miguel Bugallo Sánchez/CC BY-SA

3.0/Wikimedia(image cropped) Address: Chichen Itza, Yucatán

# **Hotel Zone**



Most hotels in the Hotel
Zone or Zona Hotelera
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 nightclubs draw both young and old crowds until the 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/CC BY-SA 2.0/Flickr(image

cropped)

Address: Zona Hotelera, Cancún

#### 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, and although the island is only 5 miles long and half a mile wide, it still offers plenty of things to do and see. Everything from a beautiful palm-fringed white beach on the north coast to a dramatic rocky shoreline on the eastern side to a sea turtle sanctuary and the remains of a Mayan temple at the southern tip. If you're into adventure, then you should visit the Garrafon Reef Park & Beach Club, where you can go



zip-lining, snorkeling, and kayaking. Lastly, a must-visit 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, Quintana Roo

#### **Eco Parks & Tours**



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

stunning lush tropical vegetation with exotic wildlife, these parks offer an entertaining, educational, and fun day out for the 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: Joaquin Moreno/CC BY 2.0/Flickr(image cropped) Address: Carretera Chetúmal-Puerto Juárez Km. 282,

Solidaridad, Playa del Carmen Phone: +52 998 883 3143

Internet: www.xcaretexperiencias.com

Email: servicioalcliente@experienciasxcaret.com.mx

# Parque de las Palapas



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

the open-air stage, browse around the artisan stalls, visit one of the bars and cafés around the park, or just come here to observe and soak in the atmosphere. Just across the adjacent car park, next to the church, you'll find the so-called "Hippie Park" offering hand-made jewelry,

lamps, and tie-dyed clothing.

Photo: Shinya Suzuki/CC BY 2.0/Flickr(image cropped) Address: Parque de las Palapas, Cancún

#### Puerto Cancún



Puerto Cancún is a mixture of residential, commercial, and tourist areas. An 800-acre upscale development next to the ocean featuring a

large marina, a golf course, a waterside promenade with a luxurious outdoor shopping complex, eateries, and cafés, as well as hotels.

Photo: Kirt Edblom/CC BY-SA 2.0/Flickr(image cropped) Address: Boulevard Kukulcan, Puerto Juarez, Zona Hotelera, Cancún

# Las Coloradas & Río Lagartos



Discover candy-colored lagoons and high salt hills and capture beautiful photos of the resident flamingos on this fun day trip from Cancún. First,

visit Las Coloradas, Yucatan's famous pink-algae salt lakes. Then, ride a boat through the Río Lagartos reserve, looking for local species including flamingos, pelicans, eagles, and crocodiles. Learn how salt is made, enjoy a Mayan mud bath, and feast on a seafood lunch prepared by local villagers.

Photo: Zyanya BMO/Unsplash



# **Rotating Scenic Tower**



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

view of the entire Hotel Zone and beyond from the 100-metre tall tower. A different experience during the day and night time, the view is unsurpassed.

Photo: dronepicr/CC BY 2.0/Wikimedia(image cropped) Address: Boulevard Kukulcan Km. 4.5, Zona Hotelera,

Cancún

Opening hours: Daily 9am-9pm Phone: +52 998 849 5582

Internet: www.xcaret.com/en/attractions/scenic-tower

#### Cancún Theatre & Mexican Folk Art Museum



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

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

Photo: Curtis & Renee/CC BY-SA 2.0/Flickr(image cropped) Address: Carretera Chetúmal Puerto Juárez Km. 282, Solidaridad, Playa del Carmen, Quintana Roo

Phone: +52 998 883 3143 Internet: www.xcaret.com

#### **Downtown**



Downtown (El Centro) is the actual backbone of Cancún. What it lacks in history, it makes up for 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, cafés, bars, and restaurants. Be sure to stop by Parque de las Palapas, on the market square, where locals come to chat and watch the entertainment provided by various local groups. The lively atmosphere and the sound of Mexican music are 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/CC BY-SA 2.0/Flickr(image cropped)

# 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'll 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 here. 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.

Photo: Patrick Jansen/Unsplash

Address: Boulevard Kukulcan, Zona Hotelera, Cancún

Opening hours: Daily 7am-5pm Phone: +52 55 4166 3092

Internet: www.aquaworld.com.mx Email: booking@aquaworld.com.mx

# **Interactive Aquarium**



Unlike most aquariums, at the Interactive Aquarium of Cancún, you'll get a chance to get up close to sea creatures and even interact with

some of them. Here, you can touch starfish and sea urchins, swim with dolphins, or watch them put on a show. There are over 140 species on display here and the Aquarium is open 365 days a year.

Photo: Tim B Motivv/Unsplash

Address: Boulevard Kukulcan Km. 12.5, La Isla, Zona

Hotelera, Cancún

Opening hours: Daily 9am-8pm Phone: +52 998 883 1773

Internet: www.interactiveaquariumcancun.com/en

Email: info@delphinus.com.mx

# Swim with Whale Sharks



Do you dare to swim with these ocean giants? From around May to September, sharks appear close enough to the coast of Cancún, and several tour operators let you observe them and even swim and snorkel with them (all safety precautions, naturally, in place).

Photo: wildestanimal/Shutterstock.com
Internet: www.whalesharktourcancun.com
Email: info@whalesharktourcancun.com
More Info: Inside Restaurant El Puerto

#### DINING



Krystal Hotels Timeshare Mexico/cc by 2.0/Flickr (image cropped)

Mexican cuisine is very versatile and best known for its intense and varied flavors, colorful decoration, and variety of spices. Tacos, nachos, and guacamole are only a small part of Cancún's culinary repertoire. 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 Pizzarra



Come for the view, stay for the food! Right on the bayside at La Isla Cancun Shopping Village, La Pizzarra offers Neapolitan-style pizza,

wine, and pasta in a beautiful and romantic location that gets even more spectacular around sunset.



Photo: Pinar Kucuk/Unsplash

Address: Boulevard Kukulcan Km. 12.5, Zona Hotelera,

Cancún

Opening hours: Daily noon-10pm

Phone: +52 998 176 8277

Email: hotline@lapizzarra.com.mx

More Info: At La Isla Cancun Shopping Village

#### Umami



Located in the Hotel NYX, Unami is a Japanese-style restaurant with a hibachi table, where you share seating with other diners while a chef cooks right

in front of you. If you wish to have a more private dining experience, they also have separate dining tables.

The food here is rated among the best in Cancún, and to ensure you'll have a memorable night, the chefs at Umami put on a show, perform some tricks, and show off their amazing knife skills. On top of that, you've got a beautiful ocean view and impeccable service. So, be sure to book ahead!

Photo: Fadya Azhary/Unsplash

Address: Boulevard Kukulcan Km. 11.5, Zona Hotelera,

Cancún

Opening hours: Tue-Sun 6pm-11:30pm, Mon closed

Phone: +52 998 848 9311

Internet: www.nyxhotels.com/restaurante/umami

#### Casa Tequila



Picturesque bar and restaurant serving authentic Mexican dishes from around the country, especially the Maya area, as well as an expansive

assortment of tequilas and Mexican craft beers. Plus, a mariachi band brings the entire experience together.

Photo: Playa del Carmen/Shutterstock.com

Address: Boulevard Kukulcan Km. 8.5-local 2, Punta Cancún,

Zona Hotelera, Cancún

Opening hours: Daily 11am-11pm

Phone: +52 998 240 7850

Internet: casatequilacancun.com
Email: info@casatequilacancun.com

#### La Parrilla



Vibrant Mexican
restaurant in downtown
Cancún serving a large
selection of Mexican
seafood and meat dishes
accompanied by a

Mariachi band and skillful waiters — some of them can even carry stacked cocktails on their heads without dropping them.

The portions at La Parrilla are generous, and the food is quite tasty, but this place does tend to get busy and very loud, so if you're in the mood for a quiet evening dinner, consider going somewhere else.

Photo: Joshua Resnick/Shutterstock.com Address: Avenida Yaxchilán 51, Cancún Opening hours: Daily noon-midnight

Phone: +52 998 287 8118

Internet: laparrilla.com.mx/index.php Email: grupos@laparrilla.com.mx

#### La Palapa Belga



A hidden gem in Cancún's Hotel Zone, La Palapa Belga offers traditional French and Belgian specialties in a gorgeous and romantic location

overlooking the lagoon. Plus, friendly and welcoming staff and reasonable prices. The



mussels served in a cooking pot are highly recommended.

Photo: saltmedia/Shutterstock.com

Address: Quetzal 13, Zona Hotelera, Cancún

Opening hours: Daily 2pm-11pm Phone: +52 998 883 5454 Internet: lapalapabelga.com.mx

More Info: In the garden of Hotel Imperial Laguna

#### La Troje



Tucked away from the busy streets of Cancún, La Troje is a quaint restaurant with outdoor seating specializing in Italian cuisine. On the

menu you have homemade pasta, pizzas, and crepes, as well as meat and fish dishes, and an extensive and quite popular salad menu. Plus, substantial dessert offerings with many homemade classics like tiramisu.

Photo: Barbara Neveu/Shutterstock.com Address: Calle Acanceh 15, Cancún

Opening hours: Mon-Sat 1:30pm-10pm, Sun 1:30pm-9pm

Phone: +52 998 887 9556

#### La Dolce Vita



Consistently rated as one of the top restaurants in Cancún, La Dolce Vita serves fresh seafood, homemade pasta, pizza, and Italian desserts in a

warm and welcoming setting with a garden terrace. The food here is outstanding, the wine list exquisite, and the service impeccable.

Photo: photosmatic/Shutterstock.com Address: Avenida Coba 87, Cancún

Opening hours: Mon-Sat noon-10:30pm, Sun closed

Phone: +52 998 884 3393 Internet: ladolcevitacancun.com Email: dolcevita@sybcom.com

#### Peter's Restaurante



Small and intimate restaurant serving fresh, flavorful, and creative seafood, steaks, and international dishes in a low-lit setting. Do not

leave without trying the chef's coffee and their signature key lime pie.

Photo: margo\_black/Shutterstock.com Address: Avenida Bonampak 11, Cancún

Opening hours: Tue-Sat 6pm-10pm, Sun & Mon closed

Phone: +52 998 251 9310

Email: petersrestaurante@yahoo.com

#### **Bovinos**



Bovinos is a high-end all-you-can-eat Brazilian-inspired steak house serving Brazillian barbeque on skewers that is carved tableside, as

well as an extensive buffet of side dishes and salads — a true meat lovers paradise.

Photo: ngoc tran/Shutterstock.com Address: Avenida Yaxchilán 17, Cancún Opening hours: Daily noon-midnight

Phone: +52 998 294 0220 Internet: bovinos.restaurant

#### **Puerto Madero**



Spacious Argentinean restaurant serving prime quality cuts, seafood dishes, and a great selection of wines in a beautiful setting. At

Puerto Madero, the food presentation is wonderful, and so are the service and the lovely



waterfront views. Be sure to save some room for their mouth-watering desserts.

Photo: Bao Menglong/Unsplash

Address: Boulevard Kukulcan Km. 14.1, Zona Hotelera,

Cancún

Opening hours: Daily 1pm-1am Phone: +52 998 885 2829

Internet: www.puertomaderorestaurantes.com/en/welcome

Email: contacto@puertomaderorestaurantes.com

#### Elefanthai



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 and Indian cuisine in an ultra-chic atmosphere.

Photo: martiapunts/Shutterstock.com

Address: La Isla Cancún Shopping Village, Boulevard

Kukulcan, Zona Hotelera, Cancún Opening hours: Daily 5pm-11pm Phone: +52 998 144 0364

Internet: www.asiagourmetcancun.com/elefanthai

#### Señor Frog's



Señor Frog's is both a restaurant 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, Señor Frog's is an unbeatable component of Cancún's nightlife.

Photo: Valentina\_G/Shutterstock.com

Address: Boulevard Kukulcan Km. 9.5, Punta Cancún, Zona

Hotelera, Cancún

Opening hours: Daily 11am-1am Phone: +52 998 883 1862

Internet: senorfrogs.com/what-to-do-in-cancun

# Hard Rock Cafe Cancún



Nestled amongst the shops at Forum By The Sea is Hard Rock Café, a perfect place to stop for lunch, dinner, a cold beer, or listen to live

music. There is a bar and tables outside on a patio overlooking the beach and, of course, a chance to buy memorabilia from their collection.

Photo: Brent Hofacker/Shutterstock.com

Address: Boulevard Kukulkan Km. 14.5, Zona Hotelera,

Cancún

Opening hours: Daily noon-midnight

Phone: +52 998 688 5491

Internet: www.hardrockhotels.com/cancun

# **CAFÉS**



Thomas Vimare/Unsplash

From quaint local coffee shops to international chains, Cancún's coffee culture offers a diverse range of brews, from traditional Mexican coffee with hints of cinnamon and chocolate to specialty espresso-based creations.



#### **Cafe Antoinette**



Cafe Antoinette will charm you with its cozy French atmosphere, freshly baked baguettes, homemade quiches, and exquisite macarons. All

their products are prepared according to traditional practices and guarantee authentic flavors and a real feel of timeless Paris.

Photo: JpegPhotographer/Shutterstock.com

Address: Avenida Xpuhil 19, Cancún Opening hours: Daily 7am-11pm Phone: +52 998 884 6128

Email: info@cafe-antoinette.com More Info: Next to Pabellon Caribe

#### Rooster



A cute little coffee shop in downtown Cancún dishing up morning staples, like waffles, omelets, and avocado toast, plus paninis,

salads, and bagels at lunchtime. The eggs Benedict with smoked salmon comes highly recommended.

Photo: John Baker/Unsplash

Address: Avenida Sunyaxchen 41, Kaan-chac, 24, Cancún

Opening hours: Daily 7am-10pm Phone: +52 998 310 4692

Internet: www.roostermexico.mx More Info: At Plaza Sunyaxchen

# Café Nader



Café Nader feels like the Mexican version of an American diner. So expect hearty meals such as enfrijoladas, tacos de barbacoa, and parrillada. It's a bit fancier than a regular café and therefore a bit more expensive. They serve breakfast, lunch, and dinner and is a popular brunch place on Sundays.

Café Nader is also famous for its sweet bread, which is baked every 30 minutes in front of the customers, and as soon as they're ready, they'll let you know by ringing a bell.

Photo: hsunny/Shutterstock.com

Address: Avenida Carlos Nader 10, Cancún

Opening hours: Mon-Sat 7am-10:30pm, Sun 7am-6pm

Phone: +52 998 892 4743 Internet: www.cafenader.com Email: cblanco@cafenader.com

More Info: 2nd location: Avenida Nichupté, 16, Cancún

#### Café con Gracia



Providing a lovely and welcoming outdoor seating area and cozy interiors, Café con Gracia is a perfect gathering point for a cup of coffee,

tea, a frappe, or some homemade baked goods. On the menu: bagels, paninis, waffles, desserts, and "cuernitos" — the Mexican version of a croissant.

Photo: Maram/Shutterstock.com Address: Tankah 69, Cancún Opening hours: Daily 8am-11pm Phone: +52 998 884 9850 Internet: cafecongracia.com

Email: cafecongracia@hotmail.com



# **BARS & NIGHTLIFE**



jthetzel/CC BY 2.0/Flickr (image cropped)

Whatever you're in the mood for, you'll 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 — Cancún has developed around tourism and won't fail to fulfill your expectations.

#### Cuncrawl



Let some experienced guides take you to the hippest Cancún bars and nightclubs and enjoy yourself with an open bar tab — you'll 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

Internet: www.cuncrawl.com
Email: partyinfo@cuncrawl.com

# **Monkey Business**



Informal bar and restaurant in the middle of the Hotel Zone offering a great selection of drinks, burgers, and quesadillas, as well as

live music and shisha. Great spot to drop by before hitting Cancún's nightclubs.

Photo: Visual Stories || Micheile/Unsplash

Address: Boulevard Kukulcan Km. 9, Punta Cancún, Zona

Hotelera, Cancún

Opening hours: Daily 1pm-3am Phone: +52 998 392 9343

Internet: www.monkeybusiness.fun Email: cancun@monkeybusiness.fun

#### Coco Bongo



Coco Bongo is not your typical nightclub. Instead of a dance floor and DJ acts, the venue, which is "a combination of Cirque du Soleil, a concert, a

theater, and a disco," hosts musical performances by local artists impersonating famous singers and actors. Plus, dancers, trapeze artists, and gymnasts, all work to create an atmosphere of fun and enjoyment that audiences will remember for the rest of their lives.

Photo: Vidar Nordli-Mathisen/Unsplash

Address: Boulevard Kukulcan 30, Zona Hotelera, Cancún

Opening hours: Daily 8pm-3am
Phone: +52 998 126 9260
Internet: www.cocobongo.com
Email: mkt@cocobongo.com
More Info: At Forum By The Sea

# Señor Frog's



Señor Frog's is both a restaurant 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, Señor Frog's is an unbeatable component of Cancún's nightlife.

Photo: Natasha Bhogal/Unsplash



Address: Boulevard Kukulcan Km. 9.5, Punta Cancún, Zona

Hotelera, Cancún

Opening hours: Daily 11am-1am Phone: +52 998 883 1862

Internet: senorfrogs.com/what-to-do-in-cancun

# The City Nightclub Cancun



The City is not only the largest but also one of the best nightclubs in Latin America. Boasting three levels that gather up to 6 thousand people, a

1,000,000-watt sound system, 650 sq. ft. of video screens, world-class acts, themed nights, foam parties, and a private beach club, The City is a quaranteed unforgettable night.

Photo: Colin Lloyd/Unsplash

Address: Boulevard Kukulcan Km. 9.5, Zona Hotelera,

Cancún

Opening hours: Fri 9pm-3am Phone: +52 998 883 3333

Internet: mandalatickets.com/en/cancun/disco/the-city

#### Casa Tequila



Picturesque bar and restaurant serving authentic Mexican dishes from around the country, especially the Maya area, as well as an expansive

assortment of tequilas and Mexican craft beers. Plus, a mariachi band brings the entire experience together.

Photo: Francisco Galarza/Unsplash

Address: Boulevard Kukulcan Km. 8.5, Punta Cancún, Zona

Hotelera, Cancún

Opening hours: Daily 11am-11pm

Phone: +52 998 240 7850

Internet: casatequilacancun.com
Email: info@casatequilacancun.com

# Forum By The Sea



In the heart of Cancun's Hotel Zone, Forum By The Sea offers visitors a little bit of everything, ranging from small shops with souvenirs and

Mexican handicrafts to many restaurants and the best nightlife options in Cancún. In the surroundings of Plaza Forum, you'll find the most popular bars and nightclubs in the city, such as Coco Bongo, Mandala, Hard Rock Café, and Señor Frog's.

Photo: dronepicr/CC BY 2.0/Flickr(image cropped)

Address: Boulevard Kukulcan, Punta Cancun, Zona Hotelera,
Cancún

#### D'Cave



D'Cave'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 in Cancún.

Photo: Pressmaster/Shutterstock.com

Address: Boulevard Kukulcan Km. 9.5, Zona Hotelera,

Cancún

Opening hours: Sat 9:30pm-3am Phone: +52 998 883 3333

#### Mandala



Upscale spot for nightlife in Cancún, Mandala features great music (mostly electronic), bottle service, and an open-air, vibrant atmosphere,

which is enhanced by a young and cosmopolitan crowd that fills the dance floor till the early



hours.

Photo: Maxim Blinkov/Shutterstock.com

Address: Boulevard Kukulcan Km. 9.5, Zona Hotelera,

Cancún

Opening hours: Daily 8:30pm-3am

Phone: +52 998 883 3333

Internet: mandalatickets.com/en/cancun/disco/mandala

Email: reservations@mandalaticket.com

# Congo Bar



Lively, multi-level venue playing all sorts of music and offering live DJs, lots of dancing, and drinks at reasonable prices. Join the conga line and get

ready to socialize with tourists and locals alike.

Photo: Colin Lloyd/Unsplash

Address: Boulevard Kukulcan Km. 9.5, Zona Hotelera,

Cancún

Opening hours: Daily 8:30pm-3am

Phone: +52 998 126 9260

# **SHOPPING**



KKulikov/Shutterstock.com

Amidst the beaches, jungle, and culture, Cancún also provides its visitors with every shopping experience imaginable. From traditional market stalls selling local handicrafts to 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 a

popular destination for buying luxury items.

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.

# La Isla Paradise Experience



La Isla is a lively, open-air shopping complex featuring shady alleys and pretty canals, showcasing a wide array of shops, restaurants, and

attractions, including a Ferris wheel. Take a stroll down the quaint streets, browse at the shops renowned worldwide, or grab a bite to eat — La Isla is a pleasant shopper's paradise.

Photo: Artificial Photography/Unsplash

Address: Boulevard Kukulcan Km. 12.5, Zona Hotelera,

Cancún

Opening hours: Daily 11am-midnight

Phone: +52 998 883 5025 Internet: islacancun.mx

#### Kukulcan Plaza



Kukulcan Plaza is a beautiful and modern mall right on the main street of the Hotel Zone. It is renowned for its assortment of luxury

shops and international names. Here you'll also find some souvenir shops, local brands, and a few eateries. The mall boasts stunning architecture, including an elaborate Mayan stained-glass dome. It's here where the Luxury Avenue Boutique Mall is located, offering the most famous — and expensive — brands.



Photo: michaeljung/Shutterstock.com

Address: Boulevard Kukulcan Km. 13, Zona Hotelera, Cancún

Opening hours: Daily 7am-11pm Phone: +52 998 193 0160 Internet: kukulcanplaza.mx

#### **Plaza Las Americas**



Plaza Las Americas is a huge shopping center in downtown Cancún, boasting a diverse assortment of shops, eateries, and cafés.

Connected to another big shopping mall, the whole complex features both large international brands as well as small shops owned by locals. Plus, a casino, a pharmacy, a cinema, and a few hotels.

Photo: Sara Kurfeß/Unsplash Address: Avenida Tulum 7, Cancún Opening hours: Daily 10am-10pm

Internet: www.lasamericascentrocomercial.com.mx

# Mercado 28



Mercado 28 is the perfect destination to browse 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: Joaquin Alcaraz/Unsplash Address: Xel-ha Mz 13, Cancún Opening hours: Daily 9am-7pm Phone: +52 998 892 4303

# **Luxury Avenue Mall**



With its touch of luxury shopping, Cancún turned into a most coveted holiday resort. The Luxury Avenue Mall boasts the most

prestigious brands in beauty, fashion, jewelry, and watches in a luxurious environment and exclusive service.

Photo: Brooks Leibee/Unsplash

Address: Boulevard Kukulcan Km. 13, Zona Hotelera, Cancún

Opening hours: Daily 10am-9pm Phone: +52 998 147 3137

Internet: en.luxuryavenue.com Email: info@luxuryavenue.com

# Las Plazas Outlet



Located 12 km from the Hotel Zone, Las Plazas Outlet is a partly outdoor and indoor shopping mall housing a cinema, lots of eateries, as well as

several shops of internationally famous brands, such as Puma, Nike, Adidas, Lacoste, Hugo Boss, Guess, Calvin Klein, among others.

Photo: svatiska/Shutterstock.com

Address: Avenida Andres Quintana Roo 39, Cancún

Opening hours: Daily 11am-10pm

Phone: +52 998 872 3735

Internet: www.instagram.com/outletcancun

# Forum By The Sea



In the heart of Cancun's Hotel Zone, Forum By The Sea offers visitors a little bit of everything, ranging from small shops with souvenirs and

Mexican handicrafts to many restaurants and the



best nightlife options in Cancún. In the surroundings of Plaza Forum, you'll find the most popular bars and nightclubs in the city, such as Coco Bongo, Mandala, Hard Rock Cafe, and Señor Frog's.

Photo: dronepicr/CC BY 2.0/Flickr(image cropped)

Address: Boulevard Kukulcan Km. 9.5, Punta Cancún, Zona

Hotelera, Cancún

# **TOURIST INFORMATION**



photopixel/Shutterstock.com

# **Best Time To Visit**



If you want to avoid holiday crowds and high prices, the best time to visit Cancún is 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: Public Domain/Pxfuel

# 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 authorization (SAE) is required, which then grants travelers 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.

Photo: mana5280/Unsplash

Internet: www.mexicotouristcard.com

# **Cancún Airport International (CUN)**



Cancún Airport
International (CUN)
offers travelers two
distinct transfer options
to reach the Hotel Zone.
Opting for an airport taxi

shuttle is the quickest and most convenient choice, ensuring a swift 30-minute journey directly to your hotel. For budget-conscious travelers, the ADO bus to Cancún's city center provides a more economical option. However, from the city center, you'll still need to take a taxi to the Hotel Zone or switch to the local R-1 or R-2 public bus, which runs to the Hotel Zone every few minutes. The total journey time will be around 1 hour and 20 minutes depending on traffic.

Photo: Eduardo Velazco Guart/Unsplash

Address: Aeropuerto Internacional de Cancún, Cancún



Internet: www.airportcancun.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 Cancún (R-1 or R-2 buses) is quite efficient, although old, and runs 24 hours.

Buses stop on hand signal and will 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: Ant Rozetsky/Unsplash

# Taxi



Taxis are a common mode of transport in Cancún.

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. A couple of alternatives are the Taxi Cancun taxi service that serves all over Cancún and runs 24 hours and reserving a ride

with Uber.

Taxi Cancun +52 998 148 9592

Photo: Nijwam Swargiary/Unsplash

Internet: taxiscancun.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; mailboxes are red and easy to recognize.

Photo: Ali Bakhtiari/Unsplash

Address: Avenida Sunyaxchen and Avenida Xel-Ha, Cancún Opening hours: Mon-Fri 8am-4pm, Sat 9am-noon, Sun

closed

Phone: +52 800 701 7000

More Info: At Mercado 28, on 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 non-branded medicines. 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 offer a delivery service for a small surcharge.

Photo: Diana Polekhina/Unsplash



# **Telephone**



Country code: +52 Area code for Cancún: 998

Photo: Rohit Tandon/Unsplash

# **Electricity**



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

Photo: mk. s/Unsplash

#### Timezone



The time zone in Cancún and Quintana Roo is Eastern Standard Time (EST), which is UTC-5. Since 2022, Mexico does not observe daylight

saving time.

Photo: Alexander Schimmeck/unsplash

#### **Population**

1,023,000 (2023)

#### Currency

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

# Opening hours

Downtown 9am–9pm. Hotel Zone 10am–10pm. Shops & malls are usually open 7 days a week. Small shops may close for siesta between 2pm and 4pm.

#### Newspapers

Cancun Herald: cancunherald.com Riviera Maya News: riviera-maya-news.com

# **Emergency numbers**

911

#### **Tourist information**

Cancún Convention & Visitors Bureau Boulevard Kukulcan Km. 9, Punta Cancun, Zona Hotelera, Cancún +52 998 881 0400 Open daily 9am–6pm

