Magical Places Tours

'Flavors of Oaxaca' Culinary Tour

February 3- 10, 2027

` with optional stopover in **Mexico City (February 1 - 3, 2027)**



Colorful street scene in lively Oaxaca City, capital of the State of Oaxaca.

The State of Oaxaca is one of the most magical places in Mexico, with a cultural richness drawn from its 15 distinct ethnic groups and languages. Walking the streets of the state capital, Oaxaca de Juarez, one begins to experience the local spirit and artistic creativity, including its live music and dance, great restaurants, colonial architecture like the Santo Domingo de Guzmán Church, vibrant marketplaces, as well as Monte Alban (a UNESCO World Heritage archeological site) and the Sierra Norte mountains with its beautiful nature retreats and hiking trails.

Below you will find the Tour Itinerary, which begins with an optional 2-day stopover in Mexico City.

A. TOUR ITINERARY.

Mexico City Stopover - February 1 - 3, 2027 [Optional] Mexico City has so much to offer. Even those who have visited many times love to return. Since there are few direct flights to Oaxaca (OAX), most of us fly to Mexico City (MEX) as the 'gateway city'. Using the opportunity, we offer a fun 2-day stopover package with group activities to enjoy one of the world's great cities. Then, on the afternoon of February 11th, we fly together to Oaxaca.

Oaxaca - Culinary & Cultural experiences

Day 1 - Wednesday, February 3 – Arrival in Oaxaca (OAX)

Mid-afternoon. Reception at airport / Hotel transfer / Check-in.
Evening. Optional dinner.
Leisurely neighborhood walk afterwards.

Day 2 - Thursday, February 4. Walking Tour of Oaxaca's Historic Center Breakfast - included all 7 days

- **Walking tour** - We begin at the Santo Domingo Church and make our way to the Cathedral, Oaxaca Painters Gallery, and the main plaza (Zócalo).
- **Marketplace visits –** to the lively 'Benito Juarez' and '20 de Noviembre' markets.
- **Welcome Luncheon** @ *Las Quinze Letras Restaurant* – famous for its mole dishes ***

Day 3 - Friday, February 5. Day Trip to traditional villages

Meet craftsmen at nearby *pueblos* (towns) renown for their handicrafts.

- *Alebrijes* – intricately carved & painted wooden animals / Chat with artisans
- *Barro negro* – Black clay pottery atelier (Village of San Bartolo Coyotepec)
- Stop to see the 'Tule tree', reported to be the world's largest tree (in diameter)
  Lunch break at Santa Maria del Tule
- *Mezcal* distillery
- Weaving artesans - beautiful *handcrafted rugs* (Village of Teotitlan)

Evening: free

Day 4 - Saturday, February 6. MONTE ALBÁN Tour & Gold Exhibit

8:30 am - Tour of world-famous Monte Alban archeological site led by our local guide. Return to hotel
1:30 pm – Main meal ('*La Comida*') at Restaurante Tierra del Sol ***
3:00 pm - **Santo Domingo Cultural Center**, including Monte Alban gold exhibit (led by WD)
Evening: free

Day 5 - Sunday, February 7. FLEX DAY / Cooking class & other options

- Optional *cooking class* that includes (i) a market visit to shop for fresh ingredients; (ii) food preparation & cooking, and (iii) a meal together.
- Spa option

Day 6 - Monday, February 8. All-day EXCURSION TO SIERRA NORTE including:

(a) Stop at Mirador observation point with a panoramic view of the valley,
(b) Guided hike in the forest with nature interpretation, and
(c) Visit to local indigenous village / Home-cooked meal (*'La comida'*)

Day 7 - Tuesday, February 9. FREE DAY – Optional activities

. Botanic Garden tour
. Lithographic arts tour
. Shopping at markets
. Spa option

3:00 pm Farewell Meal together at Restaurante 'Casa Oaxaca' ***

February10 - **DEPARTURE** Check-out / Transfer to Airport (morning flights)

- *** **Culinary experiences** at Oaxaca's Best Restaurants & beyond

Magical Places Tours - Oaxaca

B. PHOTO GALLERY.



Santo Domingo de Guzman Church



Oaxaca Cathedral

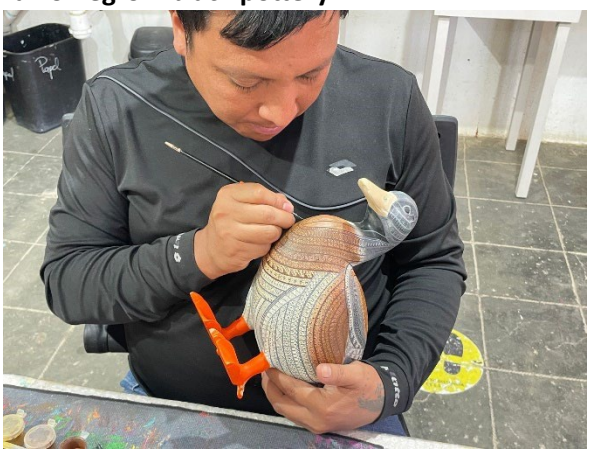
ARTS & HANDICRAFTS



Barro negro – black pottery



Alebrije figures





Magical Places Tours - Oaxaca

Handcrafted rugs & weaving loom





Artisan Breads & Pasties

Magical Places Tours - Oaxaca





Dancing in the streets – on stilts!

Magical Places Tours - Oaxaca



Street flowers



Monte Alban - UNESCO World Heritage Site dating back almost 2,000 years

Magical Places Tours - Oaxaca

C. PRICING / Terms & Conditions.

Mexico City Stopover (Optional – February 1 - 3, 2027).

To make it easy for those wishing to make the stopover, we are offering a simplified package that includes:

- **Reception** at MEX Airport & **Transfer** to our Hotel at coordinated times
- **Hotel** room (Two nights / double occupancy)
- **Breakfast** (Two mornings)
- **Walking tour** of Alameda Park & Palacio Bellas Artes (Diego Rivera)
- **Chapultepec Park and National Museum** (Former Presidential Palace)
- **Transfer** from Hotel to Airport (MEX) for flight to Oaxaca (Feb. 3)

Stopover package price: US$590 pp / US$160 Single supplement

Other costs (like lunch, dinner, and museum visits) will be "pay as you go" for each person's account.

7-Day Oaxaca Land Package (February 3 - 10, 2027).

Our land package for your 7 days in Oaxaca, Mexico, includes:

- **Transfers** from Airport to Hotel (first day) and back to Airport (departure day)
- **Hotel room** (double occupancy) for 7 nights
- **Breakfast daily**, **Welcome dinner and Farewell dinner**
- **Bilingual guide**
- **Van transportation** for in-town and day-trip itineraries
- **Admissions** to most attractions

Not included: Airfare, additional meals, drinks, tips or any other services.

See the 'General Information' page on the website for terms & conditions.

Oaxaca Package Price: US$2,495 pp (Double-occup.) / Single supplement: US$500

Deposit: US$500. To hold your place you can either:

(a) Send a check payable to Natural Partners at
Attn: William Dent
4740 Connecticut Ave NW #1012
Washington, DC 20008-5637 OR
(b) Make a Zelle transfer to Natural Partners using *wdent@npartners.org* as the identifier

Terms & Conditions: See T&C web page at www.magicalplacestours.com

For more information, contact William Dent at williamdentjr@gmail.com
or text (202) 487-5343.