

Чичен-Ица (Chichen Itza)



- Chichen Itza is one of the largest, most majestic and most well-restored Mayan monuments.

The famous pyramids and temples of Chichen Itza - the most famous of the ancient monuments of the Yucatan Peninsula. Walking through the stone platforms, pyramids and ceremonial halls, you begin to better understand and appreciate the high civilization of distant antiquity.

The city of Chichen Itza was once an important trading and ceremonial center. It is believed that it was built between 600 and the end of the first millennium of our era. The Mayans were good mathematicians, engineers and astronomers, as evidenced by the buildings preserved here. If you want to see as much as possible, we advise you to arrive early - at 11.00, crowds are already gathering here. Remember that it will become unbearably hot at noon, and there is practically no shadow here



- You can explore the El Castillo temple, built in the shape of a pyramid and dedicated to the god Kukulcan (Quetzalcoatl), depicted as a feathered serpent with a human head. It is claimed that this snake, slipping from the pyramid, can be seen twice a year - at the spring and autumn equinox (September 21 and March 21). At three o'clock in the afternoon, the sun's rays illuminate the western balustrade of the main staircase of the pyramid in such a way that the light and shade form an image of seven isosceles triangles, which, in turn, form the body of a thirty-seven-meter snake, "crawling" as the sun moves to its own head, carved at the base of the staircase . The phenomenal performance lasts about 3.5 hours and gathers a mass of people. In ancient times, the appearance of the snake served as signals to the beginning of the sowing of crops or harvest.



- Do not miss the opportunity to explore the preserved fragments of a large ball game field, Juego de Pelota; it was bigger than modern football fields, and the balls flew into the air to a height of 6 m! Here were forced to play captives captured in wars; it is not known who was then sacrificed - winners or losers, but it is known for certain that their heads, along with many others, were exhibited on peaks on the Wall with a picture of skulls, Tzompantli.



- However, not all the remains of the sacred sacrifices were here. Cenote Sogrado, a sacred cenote, is an impressive natural well, 90 meters in diameter, in which the researchers found not only gold ingots and jadeite ornaments, but also children's skeletons. Looking into the abyss depth of 20 m, you can imagine the horror that sentenced experienced before being sacrificed to the rain gods, and 170 km (about 3 hours) from Cancun on the way to Merida. 8.00-17.00 daily. Buses often run from Cancun and other resorts of the Riviera Maya. Usually they carry guided tours. With Cozumel and the island of Mujeres, many tourists arrive directly with their luggage to go home on the same day - it's cheaper and not so tiring.



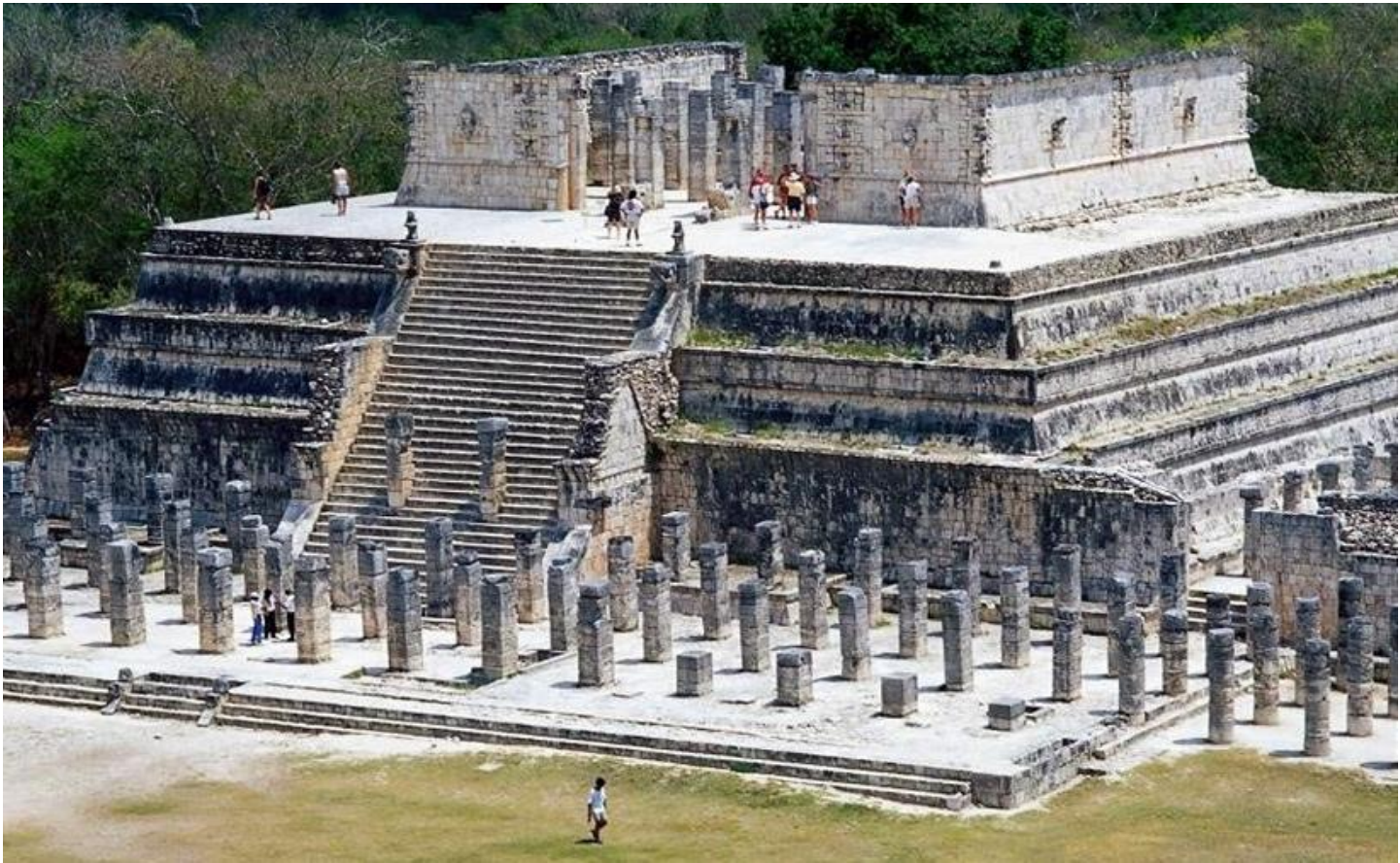




"Temple of Kukulkan" - a 9-step pyramid (height of 24 meters) with wide staircases on each side.



"Temple of the Warriors in Chichen Itza" on a low 4-step pyramid and "Temple of the Jaguars"



"Temple of the Warriors in Chichen Itza" on a low 4-step pyramid and "Temple of the Jaguars"



Temple of the Jaguars



Observatory "Karakol"



7 "stadiums" for ball games



7 "stadiums" for ball games



Ruins of 4 colonnades forming a giant rectangle



Also preserved are statues of deities with a characteristic stylization of plastic forms, reliefs rich in plant and geometric ornamentation, works of small plastics and art crafts, etc.



- You can get to the ancient city of Chichen Itza by bus, rented car or with a tour group. ADO buses run from Cancun and Merida. The journey time from Cancun is from 3 to 4 hours, the cost of tickets is from 120 pesos(400 pyб). (it all depends on the class of the bus). Travel time from Merida from 2 to 2.5 hours, fare from 60 pesos. Excursion to the pyramids of Chichen Itza, you can buy at any hotel in Cancun. You can purchase a group and individual excursion, agreeing in advance with a guide. But the most convenient way to get to the pyramids is through a rented car. So you can see other attractions that you will encounter on the way. Renting a car in Cancun is not a problem.



- The ancient city of Chichen Itza is a very interesting place that you must visit, you will get tremendous pleasure. Be sure to check the bus schedule before you pack up and travel prices. It may happen that it is more convenient and cheaper to visit the pyramids as part of the excursion group. On the road, take with you water and comfortable clothes and shoes, will have to walk a lot.







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