## greatcanadiantravel.com TOLL FREE 1 800 661.3830

# **Corporate Meetings and Incentive Travel**

Here is a selection of destinations that we've arranged Meetings and Incentive trips to for corporate clients and business organizations, as well as listing some destinations that consistently make it on to Top Pick lists. We will customize your company's Meeting or Incentive Travel program and design it to fit your specific, corporate needs.





# 3 days/2 nights

## ITINERARY

## **Incentive Travel**

*Incentive travel* is the best way to reward your employees for their commitment to your company and motivate them for future success and foster teamwork. Incentive travel arrangements include planning all of the trip details. We will do a site-inspection to ensure the destination and accommodations are suitable, custom-design a program for your company, co-ordinate promotion of the trip, facilitate registration of your participants and check that proper documentation is in place for travel to the chosen destination. We will provide a tour escort throughout, including an on-site hospitality desk.

## Costa Rica - Liberia, Tamarindo

## Sample Costa Rica itinerary:

Day 1: Departure from your home city as per your travel documents.

Day 2: Opening reception/cocktail party on the beach; day social project; dinner

Day 3: day social project; dinner

Day 4: free day to do an optional tour, relax on the beach or at the pool or visit Tamarindo; dinner

Day 5: free day to do an optional tour, relax on the beach or at the pool or visit Tamarindo

Day 6: free day to do an optional tour, relax on the beach or at the pool or visit Tamarindo

Day 7: free day to do an optional tour, relax on the beach or at the pool or visit Tamarindo; Farewell Dinner Day 8: Departure as per your travel itinerary. We will confirm your hotel lobby departure time with you the day prior to departure

## Location information:

**Tamarindo** is a town and district of the Santa Cruz canton, located on the Nicoya Peninsula on the Northern Pacific coast of Costa Rica in the Province of Guanacaste. The main attractions are surfing and eco-tourism. The beaches in the area are generally clean and recent efforts by the government and local business organizations are proving themselves. Common things to do in Tamarindo are: ATV Tours, Estuary Safari, Horseback Riding, Kayak Tours, Massages, White Water Rafting class or Tubing, Tours, Scuba Diving, Snorkeling, Spa & Beauty, Sport Fishing, Sailing, Sunset Sailing, Surfing Lessons, Tennis Classes, Turtle Nesting Tours and Zip Line / Canopy Tours.

## Accommodation:

The **Occidental Tamarindo** (4-star) hotel, the only All Inclusive in the area (belonging to the Barceló Hotel Group and formerly known as the Barceló Langosta Beach), is located in the northwest of Costa Rica, just over a mile from Tamarindo city center. Located on a stunning beach surrounded by exceptional natural beauty. The biodiversity of this magnificent country at your fingertips. It features 198 rooms that were renovated in 2010 and fully equipped with

everything you need to enjoy your stay, whether for business, pleasure, or with your family. In addition, you will enjoy stunning views of the beach and the beautiful sunsets. Recently renovated, the hotel offers a wide range of services, exquisite food and a wide variety of entertainment options. It is ideal for surfing and nature lovers, besides being the perfect place for family vacations or for those who want to spend their honeymoon in paradise.

With the Barceló All Inclusive program, it is possible to do all sorts of activities, with family or friends, and enjoy the hotel's restaurants without having to worry about anything. It has a fabulous spa that offers endless therapeutic and beauty treatments. It is the perfect plan if you wish to completely unwind and enjoy an unforgettable vacation. The Occidental Tamarindo is the perfect blend of relaxation and adventure, luxury and comfort, jungle and sea. A magical place worth discovering.

#### **Climate:**

In Liberia the climate is tropical, hot and humid all year round, with a rainy season from May to October, due to the African monsoon, and pretty frequent rains in other months, except in the short dry season that runs from December to February, which is more marked in the north.

#### Arts and Culture:

Costa Rican Culture, arts, and traditions have evolved from its rich history, with diverse ethnic and native influences. Famous for being the happiest country in the world, the people of Costa Rica are welcoming and friendly, yet sophisticated and proud. The priorities of the country are evident in its progressive social and environmental policies. Education and healthcare for all are fully supported. Costa Rica is a model of eco-stewardship with more than 25% of its territory preserved from development allowing it to conserve its incredible biodiversity for generations to come.

#### **Cuisinse:**

There are so many delicious dishes that are a must-try when visiting Costa Rica. Traditional Costa Rican food is definitely a blend of comfort food and grandma's home cooking with a flavor-bursting Latin flare. In Costa Rica, family-owned and operated small restaurants are called sodas. Sodas, which there are a countless number of throughout the country, is where you are likely to find some of the best varieties of traditional Costa Rican cuisine.

#### Shopping:

All along the main street of Tamarindo you will find a large number of boutiques and gift shops. Tamarindo does not have chain retail stores, and the shops are small and personally owned which makes for an eclectic assortment of goods. From custom made bikinis, to Costa Rican puzzle boxes, to used books, to beach toys, you will be able to shop to your hearts desire. Most shops accept dollars, however you are best off exchanging your dollars for colones at a bank to avoid surprises with the exchange rates.

#### Tours:

Our representative at the hospitality desk can book local tours for you every morning (from 9:00am to noon). Below is a sample of the tours they offer:

Aquatic Excursion Cenote Maya Dolphin Swim Ek-Balam cenote Maya Luxury Sailing **Rio Secreto** Sail to Isla Mujeres Tulum Jungle Maya XCaret Plus Tour Xel-Ha All inclusive tour Chichen Itza Tulum and Xel-Ha **Entertainment Excursions** The Pirate Show Coba Mayan Encounter Jungle Maya Whale Shark Experience

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## Mexico - Playa del Carmen

Location information:

The *Riviera Maya* is a 130 kilometre stretch of Caribbean coastline between the resort city of Cancun in the north and the Mayan ruins of Tulum in the south. Other communities and towns that are part of this famous Mexican beach

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vacation destination include Puerto Morelos, Playa del Carmen, Cozumel Island, Puerto Aventuras, and Akumal. Being a part of the Yucatan Peninsula, the Riviera Maya has more to offer than its beaches. There is a rich history with many cultural influences and a diverse population. This combination has developed a cosmopolitan feel to the area with a focus on food, activities, shopping and of course, the beach life.

#### Accommodation:

The Ocean Coral & Turquesa Hotel in Riviera Maya is directly on a white-sand beach in Puerto Morelos, approximately 35 km from Playa del Carmen and 18 km from the Cancun airport. A modern spa offers beauty and massage treatments, plus an indoor pool, hot tubs, steam rooms and a gym. There are also 4 outdoor pools. All 591 rooms at the hotel include bathrobes and slippers in room (upon arrival), concierge service, turn-down service, a Resort Credit of US\$250 in discount coupons to be used towards the cost of various services and products and a bottle of wine in room upon arrival. There are elevators on site. Ocean Coral & Turquesa boasts theme restaurants, meeting rooms, Despacio Spa Centre, the Dive It! Diving Centre and a wide variety of entertainment and sports. Meals are served in 9 refined restaurants, including Italian, Asian and Caribbean options. There are also poolside snack bars and a lobby cocktail bar.

#### **Climate:**

The Riviera Maya, which begins just south of Cancun, enjoys a warm tropical climate year-round. The average Riviera Maya, Mexico temperature is around 27 degrees Celsius (80 degrees Fahrenheit), with seasonal fluctuations of 4 to 6 degrees.

### Arts and Culture:

The Riviera Maya is one of the world's top destinations for scuba diving and snorkeling. An expansive coral reef system extending just off the coast is home to a dizzying array of marine life including colorful tropical fish, manta rays, dolphins and whale sharks. Scuba diving and snorkeling in the Riviera Maya are not limited to the ocean. You can also go snorkeling and cave diving in the many cenotes (underground sink holes) that are unique to this Yucatan Peninsula. Adventurous travelers should venture off the beaten path to visit traditional Maya villages where you will witness the traditions and culture of this fascinating region and sample the local cuisine. A few hours inland, the Mayan ruins at Chichen Itza are arguably the best restored and most impressive of the Yucatán Maya archaeological sites.Consider a day trip via ferry from Playa del Carmen to the Caribbean island of Cozumel where you will enjoy world-class scuba diving, snorkeling and aquatic sports, or, simply spend the day relaxing on the beach.

#### **Cuisine:**

Most of us are familiar with Mexican food such as tacos, quesadillas, tamales and borittos. but there are many other options. Mexican cuisine relies heavily on corn and chili peppers, but savour the variety of spices, fresh ingredients and delicious, fresh-from-the-sea fish and shellfish used.

#### Shopping:

In the Riviera Maya, there are plenty of places to hunt out a bargain or two. From cloth paintings to coral jewellrey, semi-precious stones to delicate wood carvings, you are bound to return home with lots of little treasures to remind you of your time spent in the Riviera Maya. As well as local markets, however, there are also plenty of shopping malls selling designer and luxury brands to keep the big spenders at bay.

#### Tours:

Our representative at the hospitality desk can book local tours for you every morning (from 9:00am to noon). Below is a sample of the tours they offer: Aquatic Excursion Cenote Maya **Dolphin Swim** Ek-Balam cenote Maya Luxury Sailing **Rio Secreto** Sail to Isla Mujeres Tulum Jungle Maya XCaret Plus Tour Xel-Ha All inclusive tour Chichen Itza Tulum and Xel-Ha **Entertainment Excursions** The Pirate Show Coba Mayan Encounter

Jungle Maya Whale Shark Experience Please <u>ask us</u> to design the perfect, corporate Meeting and Incentive program for your company. Leave the planning and details to us!

#### Columbia

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#### Panama

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### **Dominican Republic**

1. Orlando, FL

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## USA - Top 25 Cities for Meetings and Incentive Travel, 2017

- 2. Las Vegas, NV 3. Chicago, IL 4. Atlanta, GA 5. San Diego, CA 6. Washington, DC 7. Nashville, TN 8. Dallas, TX 9. New York, NY 10. Phoenix, AZ 11. New Orleans, LA 12. Denver, CO 13. Austin, TX 14. San Francisco, CA 15. Miami, FL 16. Houston, TX 17. San Antonio, TX 18. Los Angeles, CA 19. Scottsdale, AZ 20. Boston, MA 21. Seattle, WA 22. Philadelphia, PA
- 23. Grapevine, TX
- 24. Anaheim, CA
- 25. Indianapolis, IN

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## Europe - Top 25 Cities for Meetings and Incentive Travel, 2017

- 1. London, UK
- 2. Barcelona, Spain
- 3. Berlin, Germany
- 4. Amsterdam, Netherlands
- 5. Paris, France
- 6. Madrid, Spain
- 7. Frankfurt, Germany
- 8. Rome, Italy
- 9. Munich, Germany
- 10. Prague, Czech Republic
- 11. Lisbon, Portugal
- 12. Vienna, Austria
- 13. Dublin, Ireland
- 14. Brussels, Belgium
- 15. Athens, Greece

- 16. Budapest, Hungary
- 17. Copenhagen, Denmark
- 18. Birmingham, UK
- 19. Milan, Italy
- 20. Manchester, UK
- 21. Stockholm, Sweden
- 22. Belfast, Northern Ireland
- 23. Hamburg, Germany
- 24. Reykjavik, Iceland
- 25. Edinburgh/Glasgow, Scotland

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## Asia Pacific - Top 25 Cities for Meetings and Incentive Travel, 2017

- 1. Singapore
- 2. Sydney, Australia
- 3. Bangkok, Thailand
- 4. Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 5. Hong Kong
- 6. Shanghai, China
- 7. Melbourne, Australia
- 8. Tokyo, Japan
- 9. Mumbai, India
- 10. Seoul, South Korea
- 11. Bali, Indonesia
- 12. New Delhi, India
- 13. Beijing, China
- 14. Phuket, Thailand
- 15. Manila, Philippines
- 16. Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam
- 17. Brisbane, Australia
- 18. Auckland, New Zealand
- 19. Macau
- 20. Makati, Philippines
- 21. Taipei, Taiwan
- 22. Cebu, Philippines
- 23. Gold Coast, Australia
- 24. Osake, Japann
- 25. Bengaluru, India

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## Canada - Top Locations for Meetings and Incentive Travel, 2017

- 1. Alberta: Banff, & Lake Louise; Calgary, Edmonton, Jasper
- 2. British Columbia: Vancouver, Whistler, Victoria, Tofino, Kelowna
- 3. Manitoba: Winnipeg, Churchill
- 4. New Brunswick: Saint John, Fredericton
- 5. Newfoundland & Labrador: St. John's, Fogo Island
- 6. Northwest Territories: Yellowknife
- 7. Nova Scotia: Halifax
- 8. Nunavut: Iqaluit
- 9. Ontario: Toronto, Niagara Falls, Ottawa, Muskoka, Waterloo
- 10. PEI: Charlottetown
- 11. Quebec: Quebec City, Montreal, Montebello, Tremblant
- 12. Saskatchewan: Saskatoon, Regina
- 13. Yukon: Whitehorse

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## Caribbean - Top 15 Locations for Meetings and Incentive Travel, 2017

1. Punta Cana, Dominican Republic

- 2. Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands
- 3. Nassau, Bahamas
- 4. Puerto Rico
- 5. St. Kitts
- 6. Bermuda
- 7. Trinidad
- 8. Riviera Maya, Mexico
- 9. Aruba
- 10. Barbados
- 11. Virgin Islands US and British
- 12. Jamaica
- 13. St. Maarten
- 14. Dominica
- 15. Curacao

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## Mexico and Central America - Top Locations for Meetings and Incentive Travel, 2017

- 1. Cancun, Mexico
- 2. Guatemala City, Guatemal
- 3. Mexico City, Mexico
- 4. Panama City, Panama
- 5. San Jose, Costa Rica
- 6. San Salvador, El Salvador
- 7. Tegucigalpa, Honduras

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## South America - Top Locations for Meetings and Incentive Travel, 2017

- 1. Chile: Santiago
- 2. Bolivia: La Paz
- 3. Paraguay
- 4. Peru
- 5. Suriname
- 6. Venezuela
- 7. Columbia: Bogota, Cartegena
- 8. Ecuador: Quito, Guayaquil
- 9. Brazil: Brasilia, Rio de Janeiro, Sao Paulo
- 10. Argentina: Buenos Aires
- 11. Uruguay: Montevideo
- 12. Guyana: Georgetown

#### Meetings

Meeting arrangements can be as basic as reserving a block of rooms at a chosen hotel, perhaps including some catering and audio-visual equipment, right up to complete meeting planning including airfare to the chosen destination, transportation on site, accommodation, catering, meeting rooms, audio-visual equipment and team building events.

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#### **USA - Las Vegas**

**Las Vegas**, where business leaders from around the world meet, think and exchange ideas. It might sound like hype to call Vegas a global crossroads, but it's not hype if you can back it up! And Vegas can certainly do that, hosting thousands of meetings and conventions every year, almost 20,000 in 2017. Their convention center is one of the busiest in the world and sits within 100,000 guest rooms making a meeting or convention of any size easy. As well, many hotels offer excellent meeting and conference rooms and catering to suit your company's needs.

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### USA - Greater Palm Springs

With more than 300 days of sunshine each year, it's no wonder attendees love meeting in **Greater Palm Springs**. Renowned for sunny days and moonlit nights, Southern California's oasis, Greater Palm Springs, offers a "chill culture" second to none. Within its nine resort cities – Desert Hot Springs, Palm Springs, Cathedral City, Rancho Mirage, Palm Desert, Indian Wells, La Quinta, Indio and Coachella – companies can choose from a wide array of accommodations including luxurious resorts, trendy hotels and intimate boutique inns and a variety of meeting venues.

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## USA - San Diego

There's nothing more rewarding than planning a meeting that people want to attend. With legendary weather, beautiful beaches and friendly, laid-back vibe, **San Diego** is a destination that draws big crowds and big thinking. See what San Diego is all about... San Diego earned a Top 5 spot on the Cvent 2017 Top 50 Meeting Destinations list! This industry-specific ranking is based off of many factors including meeting and event booking activity as well as the number of unique venues in the destination. San Diego continued to hold its place in the Top 5 with new inventory coming online in the coming months. Considering San Diego has significantly less meeting space at its primary convention center compared to other top destinations, it's rewarding to see San Diego rank so highly-in part, due to its diverse offerings of meeting and conference hotels, award-winning convention center, unique regions, and exceptional attractions and third party venues.

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## Details

Group Size: as requested

2019 Dates & Pricing: per group request

#### Trip Code:

## INCLUDED

- Inclusions are determined by the needs of your group and may include any of the following:
- Airfare home city to destination and return
- All taxes
- English speaking tour manager throughout the program
- Transportation by private, deluxe motorcoach, with professional driver per the itinerary
- Accommodation as outlined in itinerary
- Meals as specified in itinerary, per day
- English speaking professional local guides for sightseeing, per itinerary
- Sightseeing and admissions as outlined
- Free of charge escort for your group, based on your needs and number of participants
- Documents package

## NOT INCLUDED

- Inclusions not requested
- Items of a personal nature
- Visa and/or passport fees, as required by individual participants
- Travel insurance

## TOUR NOTES

Disclaimer: We do our utmost to ensure that information posted on our website is correct at the time of publication, however trip details are subject to change without notice by the suppliers and operators involved. We update the information as soon as possible when changes are advised to us, however, we cannot assume responsibility for such changes made by the suppliers and operators.

## ROUTE MAP



#### Contact

#### Winnipeg

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Prices listed on our website are stated in Canadian Dollars unless otherwise indicated. Tour details, inclusions and prices were valid at the time of publication but are subject to change without notice due to currency fluctuations, tax increases and at the discretion of the supplier(s). Current prices will be re-quoted for you at the time of booking. By air, land or sea, we can take you anywhere – contact us for your quote today!