

Oaxaca Day of the Dead Itinerary – October 30th – November 3rd

This itinerary may be subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances/delays.

Day 1 (October 30th): Travel to Oaxaca

Flights from Puerto Vallarta, Manzanillo or Guadalajara to Oaxaca (via Mexico City), depending on your departure location, OR meet group in Oaxaca City. Welcome/orientation and introduction to Day of the Dead. *Flight times will be confirmed upon booking flights.*

Day 2 (October 31st): Teotitlán del Valle

7 am: Breakfast in hotel. 8 am departure to the indigenous town of Teotitlán del Valle (approx. 1 hour transfer time): browse the day of the dead market (filled with all the items used in these celebrations), followed by a visit to a family home to hear about the significance of this celebration and the traditions they follow, as well as learning how they make traditional Zapotec rugs, and a day-time visit to the town's cemetery to see the preparations.

Afternoon visit to the famous 'Arbol del Tule', the widest tree in the world. Time for lunch, before returning to Oaxaca's historic centre for some down-time and free time for dinner.

8 pm: Departure to the town of Santa Cruz Xoxocotlán (approx. ½ hour transfer time) to see their cemetery decorated with candles and flowers. Approximate return time: 11.30 pm.

Day 3 (November 1st): Artisan crafts, and night-time parade

8 am: Breakfast in hotel. 9 am departure the towns of Coyotepec and San Martin Tilcajete (approx. 1 hour transfer time) to learn about two of Oaxaca's most famous artisan crafts, black pottery and alebrijes. Time for lunch, followed by Mezcal tasting in Santa Catarina Minas (approx. 20 mins transfer time). **4 pm** return to hotel for down-time.

8.30 pm: Transfer to Villa de Etla (approx. 45 mins transfer time), to see the towns fiestas, where locals dress-up and walk the towns' main streets in celebration of their faithful dead. Approximate return time: 11.30 pm.

Day 4 (November 2nd): Monte Alban (optional) & Hierve el Agua

7 am – 8 am: Breakfast in hotel. 8 am (optional) departure to the impressive Zapotec ruins of Monte Albán, one of the earliest cities in Mesoamerica (approx. ½ hour transfer time), followed by return to hotel. **1 pm:** departure to Hierve el Agua, where the minerals in the water springs have created an interesting rock formation resembling water boiling over the cliff edge, making for a breathtaking landscape (approx. 1 ½ hrs transfer time). Approximate return time: 6 pm.

Day 5 (November 3rd): Return travel

Free time in Oaxaca's historic centre, followed by transfer to airport and flights back to Puerto Vallarta, Manzanillo or Guadalajara (via Mexico City). *Flight times will be confirmed upon booking flights.*