

Guatemala

Culture & Community in the Land of Eternal Spring

February 21 - March 1, 2027

TOUR ITINERARY

Day 1: Arrival - Sunday, February 21

Arrive in Guatemala City and transfer to your hotel. Enjoy a group welcome dinner with your guide.

OVERNIGHT: *Hotel Santander Plaza, Guatemala City*

MEALS: *Dinner Included*

Day 2: The Capital - Monday, February 22

Spend the day exploring Guatemala City, a vibrant metropolis that acts as the political and historical hub of the country, often overlooked by tourists. Highlights include a walk through the Plaza de la Constitución to visit the impressive Metropolitan Cathedral and the National Palace of Culture. After lunch at a local restaurant, engage in a candid discussion with a local journalist or political analyst about Guatemala's current events, focusing on social issues such as migration, structural inequality, and indigenous rights. In the late afternoon, drive to the charming colonial town of Antigua, check in, and enjoy a warm dinner hosted by a local family to learn about daily life in the highlands.

1 hour *Spanish language instruction today*

OVERNIGHT: *Hotel Las Camelias, Antigua*

MEALS: *Breakfast and Dinner included*





CRLC TOUR ITINERARY

Day 3: Antigua Sites & Sounds - Tuesday, February 23

Spend the morning with an expert guide walking through the cobblestone streets of Antigua, a UNESCO World Heritage site, focusing on iconic landmarks like the Santa Catalina Arch, the Antigua Central Park, and the ruins of the San Jose Cathedral. Learn about the town's colonial history and its resilience in the face of devastating earthquakes. The afternoon is free for you to explore the local craft markets, coffee shops, or the ruins of the Convento Capuchinas at your own leisure.

1.5 hours *Spanish language instruction today*

OVERNIGHT: *Hotel Las Camelias, Antigua*

MEALS: *Breakfast included*

Day 4: Pacaya National Park - Wednesday, February 24

Begin the morning with an informative session with a volcanologist to learn about the fascinating, yet challenging, impact of nearby active volcanoes on communal infrastructure and the local psyche. In the afternoon, transfer to Pacaya National Park for a light hike through lush forests that quickly transition to volcanic terrain, witnessing the dramatic scenery of previous eruptions. Reach the volcanic fields where you can roast marshmallows over active geothermal vents and take in sweeping views of the surrounding volcanoes (Volcán de Agua, Fuego, and Acatenango) before returning to Antigua for the evening.

OVERNIGHT: *Hotel Las Camelias, Antigua*

MEALS: *Breakfast and Lunch included*





CRLC TOUR ITINERARY

Day 5: Coffee and Community in Tecpán - Thursday, February 25

Depart Antigua, stopping in Tecpán for a visit with local coffee producers to explore this industry, its harvest process, and importance for community livelihood. Continue to Atitlan Lake, boarding a water boat for a short journey to reach your accommodation. Enjoy a group dinner featuring local cuisine.

1 hour *Spanish language instruction today*

OVERNIGHT: Socialtel Atitlan, Panajachel

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner included

Day 6: San Juan La Laguna – Cooperatives & Creatives - Friday, February 26

Explore Mayan culture through visits to several cooperatives, traveling via boat to San Juan La Laguna, a vibrant town known for artists and craftspeople. Visit the women-led organization, Q'omaneel, for a discussion of medicinal plants and traditional Mayan folkwear, then learn about native and endangered bee species at Mundo de Abejas Mayas. Check out the cotton-weaving cooperative of Casa Flor Ixcaco and conclude the day with a bean-to-bar chocolate experience at Xocolatl San Juan La Laguna.

2 hours *Spanish language instruction over group dinner excursion (meal cost not included)*

OVERNIGHT: Socialtel Atitlan, Panajachel

MEALS: Breakfast and Lunch included





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Day 7: Santiago Atitlán – Tradition, Faith & Community - Saturday, February 27

Travel by boat to Santiago Atitlán, one of the traditional communities on the lake for a walking orientation through town, then meet a local educator, cultural mediator, or community leader for a conversation on identity, faith, history, and modern adaptation. Return to Panajachel mid-afternoon for time at leisure and group reflection.

1.5 hours Spanish language instruction today

OVERNIGHT: Socialtel Atitlan, Panajachel

MEALS: Breakfast included

Day 8: Volunteerism & Conclusions - Sunday, February 28

Drive from Atitlan back to Guatemala City (or Antigua, depending on volunteer activity) for an afternoon of giving back through a volunteer opportunity organized with a leading organization. Enjoy a festive farewell dinner with your group.

OVERNIGHT: Hotel Santander Plaza, Guatemala City

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner included

Day 9: Departure - Monday, March 1 [Transfer only]

Transfer to the airport for your departing flights.

OVERNIGHT: N.A

MEALS: Breakfast included

