



Monarch Butterflies in Mexico

Every year, after traveling more than 5,000 kilometers from Canada to México, the weary Monarchs descend upon the same Oyamel Woods located in the highest part of the Michoacán Mountains. This remote portion of México has become a sanctuary for the majestic Monarch which hibernates here before traveling north to the United States and Canada. No other place in the world hosts these amazing and wonderful creatures.

DAY 1 • Friday, Feb. 18, 2022

Arrive at México City and transfer to hotel. Enjoy a Welcome cocktail and overnight in México City.

DAY 2 • Saturday, Feb. 19, 2022

This morning you will watch the city awaken over breakfast at the hotel. After breakfast, we will visit two charming suburbs, San Angel and Coyoacan, with many quiet streets and lined with old and expensive mansions. Our first stop will be at the Bazaar del Sabado, a market with a festive atmosphere showcasing a great display of arts and crafts. Then to Coyoacan, a place with a great identity of narrow, colonial-era streets and plazas with a lively quality. Here we will visit the home of Frida Kahlo, now an art museum. Lunch in Coyoacan and then return to the hotel. Welcome dinner with the group in Mexico City. **(B,L,D)**

DAY 3 • Sunday, Feb. 20, 2022

Today we travel to Michoacán, a state

where one can admire many native traditions as well as arts and crafts; a state full of natural beauty and our destination for the Monarch Butterflies. Our first stop will be the city of Toluca, capital of the State of Mexico. Toluca has the attributes of a large modern city, and yet, still maintains an element of colonial splendor. We will visit the botanical garden that contains thousands of different species of native plants and flowers. Besides being a former marketplace, the garden is located in a 19th century building with magnificent stained glass panels. You will also have the opportunity to walk to the Portales (arches) where you will find vendors selling the popular local candies and liquors. Plenty of time for lunch on your own. This afternoon we will visit the city hall, known by the locals as the “white house” and the Theater Juarez with a beautiful French Neoclassic style. This afternoon, continue to our hotel, Mision de San Antonio, near the town of Tlalpujahua in the State of Michoacán. Dinner and overnight. **(B,D)**

7 days, 6 nights

From \$1,495

Per person, double occupancy

Single \$1,995

Deposit: \$200 per person due at time of booking, non-refundable – final payment due 45 days prior to departure

Cancellation policy: Cancellations between 45 days prior and 72 hours prior to departure date will be assessed 50% cancellation fee. Cancellations less than 72 hours before departure are fully non-refundable.

TOUR INCLUSIONS:

- ★ Deluxe round trip transportation
- ★ 3 nights hotel México City
- ★ 3 nights hotel in Tlalpujahua
- ★ Meals as per itinerary (B) = Breakfast, (L) = Lunch, (D) = Dinner
- ★ All sightseeing as per itinerary
- ★ All taxes and entry fees
- ★ Gratuities for bag handlers, servers and room attendants
- ★ Tour Manager and step-on guides

NOTES ABOUT ACCESSIBILITY:

- ★ Tour operates with 10 passengers minimum
- ★ Tour includes strenuous hiking at 8,000 feet altitude
- ★ Horseback riding is not required, but is recommended
- ★ Tour is not recommended to those with walking difficulties
- ★ Cold mountain temperatures – dress appropriately



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DAY 4 • Monday, Feb. 21, 2022

Breakfast at the hotel and then visit the El Rosario Sanctuary for our first Monarch experience. Today we discover and experience the enchanting beauty and grace of the small but approachable Monarchs as they winter in the Oyamel forest courting and breeding. We will traverse mountain trails by foot and possibly horseback to witness the exposition in all of its grandeur among the forest streams, clouds, and fog of these mountain peaks which provide the ideal micro-climate and ecosystem to sustain

these fascinating insects. We will picnic in the reserve. Then, we return to the hotel for a relaxing evening evaluating the local Mescal. **(B,L,D)**

DAY 5 • Tuesday, Feb. 22, 2022

Breakfast at the hotel and then depart for the El Rosario Sanctuary for our second Monarch experience. Picnic lunch at the park and then visit the town of Tlalpujahua to learn about its historical mining industry and its world famous Christmas ornaments sold across the globe. Return to hotel for dinner and overnight. **(B,L,D)**

DAY 6 • Wed., Feb. 23, 2022

Travel back to México City for a city tour of the historical district with visits to the Cathedral and the National Palace. We have a farewell Dinner at the beautiful landmark Hacienda de Los Morales. Return to hotel **(B,D)**

DAY 7 • Thurs., Feb. 24, 2022

Breakfast at hotel and transfer to airport. **(B)**

Hotels and itinerary subject to change (of equal or greater value), not affecting the cost of the tour. Airfare not included.

Pyramids of Teotihuacan



Historic church in Cholula Puebla



**Optional Pre-Tour: The Place of the Gods
(Teotihuacan and Basilica of
Our Lady of Guadalupe)**

COST PER PERSON (minimum 2): \$75 USD

*Additional hotel room night not included
(\$220 per room night)

The City of Teotihuacan was built between 100 BC and 700 AD housing over 200,000 people making this one of the most impressive archaeological sites in Mesoamerica. The city was abandoned when the Aztecs arrived in 1200 AD and according to Aztec legend, the sun, moon and entire universe were created there. We view the Citadel, the Temple of Quetzalcoatl, the pyramid of the Sun, the pyramid of the Moon, and other monuments along the Avenue of the Dead.

Later, visit the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe, known as the holiest place in Mexico and one of the most important pilgrimage sites of Catholicism. This national shrine holds the cloak containing the image of the Virgin.

Includes:

- Tour of the archaeological site of Teotihuacan
- Visit the Basilica of Our Lady Guadalupe
- Lunch
- Transportation
- Tour Manager
- All taxes and entry fees

Optional Post-Tour: Cholula and Puebla

COST PER PERSON (minimum 2): \$90 USD

*Additional hotel room night not included
(\$220 per room night)

Located about 78 miles from Mexico City are the cities of Puebla and Cholula. In Cholula, visit the largest pre-Hispanic structure on the continent. The towering great pyramid of Tepanampa is topped by a Spanish church, in addition to a subterranean maze on the grounds to explore. We also visit the town of Tonantzintla, well-known for its pottery. This is a great place to admire the view of the volcanoes, Popocatepetl and Ixtaccihualt.

Adjacent to Cholula, lies the City of Puebla de Los Angeles which was founded in 1531 and is the capital city of the state of Puebla. The city has a collection of rich colonial church structures and ornate buildings of magnificent stonework, adorned with gold leaf and the famous Talavera tiles that cover the church domes, fountains, and also kitchens.

Includes:

- Transportation
- Visit Puebla, Cholula, and Tonantzintla
- Lunch
- Tour Manager
- All taxes and entry fees