



COPPER MOON
TRAVELS

A CULTURAL ODYSSEY ANIMECHERA K'UINCHEKUA

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DAILY ITINERARY

DAY 1: THURSDAY OCTOBER 22, 2026 – BIENVENIDOS

HOTEL LOCATION: MEXICO CITY, MEXICO

AFTERNOON: Land in Mexico City Benito Juarez International Airport by 4:00 PM. The airport offers secure Radio Taxi services, which you may pay for in advance at a ticket booth using a credit card. We will meet at the hotel by 6:30 PM with transport to the restaurant, where we will make introductions and sign necessary forms. Please bring emergency contact information and contact information for your medical insurance provider, in the case that you are unable to communicate with us. Please make sure you leave a copy of our itinerary (which includes our emergency contact) with a trust family member or friend in case they need to reach you.

MEALS: *All meals are separate.*

DAY 2: FRIDAY OCTOBER 23, 2026 – TRAJINERAS AND CHINAMPAS

HOTEL LOCATION: MEXICO CITY, MEXICO

MORNING: Please meet in the hotel lobby by 9:00 AM. We will commute to El Comal y la Olla for breakfast before departing for Coyoacan to visit Frida Kahlo's home, Casa Azul and Museo Salon Posada, which houses the largest collection of Jose Guadalupe Posada's lithographs and other works.

AFTERNOON: At 2:00 PM, we will board a wooden trajinera with a lovely picnic to enjoy as we drift through the canals of Xochimilco to visit the Island of Creepy Dolls, which National Geographic lists as one of the worlds creepiest places. We will have a cooler with ice for guests who would like to bring beer, wine or cold juices during our boat ride.

EVENING: Dinner is scheduled for 6:30 PM at Blanco Colima, where we will enjoy a short presentation about the evolution of La Catrina from her inception by Jose Guadalupe Posada to her indictment as the main icon of Dia de Muertos celebrations.

MEALS: *Breakfast and Lunch Included. Dinner is separate.*

DAY 3: SATURDAY OCTOBER 24, 2026 – SATURDAY MARKET

HOTEL LOCATION: MEXICO CITY, MEXICO

MORNING: Please meet in the hotel lobby by 8:40 AM for our commute to Cuina restaurant for breakfast. Today we will transfer to the San Angel neighbourhood to enjoy Mexico City's famous Bazaar Sabado, which is held each Saturday.

AFTERNOON: We are leaving the afternoon free, so guests can explore on your own or rest. We highly recommend the Museum of Anthropology, the Zocalo, the Basilica of Our Lady Guadalupe, Chapultepec Castle and adjacent park. If you are a Frida and Diego enthusiast, or have an interest in Juan O'Gorman, the San Angel neighbourhood is home to Casa Estudio Diego Rivera y Frida Kahlo. Designed by Juan O'Gorman in 1931-32, the home consists of two houses that are connected by a rooftop bridge. The grounds are restful and offer sitting areas in the garden. The buildings include the two house-studio and a photographic laboratory, which was also designed by O'Gorman. The site is considered the most important surviving example of functionalist architecture in Mexico. It houses works by both artists, plus handicrafts, vintage furniture and stunning architectural interiors. Once your tour is confirmed, we will send you a questionnaire so you can let us know what you'd like to see this afternoon. Mexico City has a great Uber service and we will help you with logistics and information about entrance fees etc.

EVENING: This evening we return to the San Angel neighbourhood for a 7:00 PM reservation at the San Angel Inn, a historical convent. Built in 1616 as a hacienda, this property was later converted into a Carmelite monastery and hotel before opening as a restaurant in 1963, hosting luminaries from RFK to Brigitte Bardot. The restaurant is considered a top eating experience in the city and we will enjoy a set menu of traditional courses at a slow and comfortable pace.

MEALS: *Breakfast and Dinner are included. Drinks are separate. Please bring cash for your drinks, as the restaurant will only submit one bill.*

DAY 4: SUNDAY OCTOBER 25, 2026 – PLACE OF THE CATTAILS

HOTEL LOCATION: PATZCUARO, MEXICO

MORNING: Please have your luggage in the lobby by 6:45 AM so we can load the van before departing for breakfast. We will make a short stop at Panaderia Rosetta to pick-up lunch before bringing you to Fonda Margarita, which was featured on one of Anthony Bourdain's documentaries as a city favourite and local experience. We will then commute to Tula, Hidalgo to visit the ancient Toltec Capital, called Tollan-Xicocotitlan. The site features the famous Atlantean Toltec Warriors and an important history, plus a small museum. We will visit the site first, to avoid the heat of the day.

AFTERNOON: We would like to depart Tula by 1:00 PM for our 4 hour commute to Patzcuaro, so we will have lunch in the van. Panaderia Rosetta makes lovely baguette sandwiches. We will include options on our questionnaire so we can order them ahead of time.

EVENING: We will arrive in Patzcuaro at around 5 PM and will help you get settled into your accommodations. Our dinner reservation is for 7:00 PM at Al Forno Restaurant, which is our most popular place in Mexico featuring Italian homemade pastas and unusual Naples style pizza.

MEALS: *Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner Included. Drinks are separate.*

DAY 5: MONDAY OCTOBER 26, 2026 – EL LAGO PATZCUARO

HOTEL LOCATION: PATZCUARO, MEXICO

MORNING: Please meet at Obsidiana Restaurant by 9:00 AM. Obsidiana is located at Portal de Matamoros 35, which is right on Plaza Grande. We will have breakfast, then depart for Sanabria to visit our friend Teofila Servin, who is an internationally recognized embroidery artist. Her story cloths depict charming village scenes, religious observations and more. From there, we will visit Santa Fe de la Laguna to meet with ceramicist Nicolas Fabian, who crafts beautiful earthenware, some in pre-Hispanic anthropomorphic shapes.

AFTERNOON: A Traditional Cociñera is a respected indigenous woman known for pre-Hispanic culinary knowledge, including the harvest and preparation of ingredients from their raw form. This afternoon, we will have lunch with Rosalba Morales of San Jeronimo Parenchecuaro, who is internationally recognized for her culinary cognizance and expertise. We will make a short stop to purchase candles from a local workshop for our ofrenda projects. Please bring some pesos with you. Following lunch, we will visit the charming village of Capula to visit the mesmerizing estate of local maestro Juan Torres, who was the first to create La Catrina from clay. From there, we will spend some time at the annual Catrina Festival, which is a street market lined with thousands of Catrina dolls and artisans selling earthenware and other art mediums.

EVENING: We will return to Patzcuaro at around 6:00 PM. We will have a list of restaurant recommendations for your arrival, so you can choose where you'd like to eat tonight.

MEALS: *Breakfast and Lunch Included.*

**DAY 6: TUESDAY OCTOBER 27, 2026 – HISTORICAL CENTRO
HOTEL LOCATION: PATZCUARO, MEXICO**

MORNING: This morning we will meet at Once Patios by 9:00 AM for a lovely breakfast. Following breakfast, we will enjoy a fascinating walking tour of Patzcuaro's historical centre, which includes colonial history and an exceptional mural by Juan O'Gorman.

AFTERNOON: At 2:00 PM, we will enjoy a charcuterie lunch by yours truly and a mezcal tasting at El Carajo Mezcaleria. We will then have an interesting presentation by Jesus Alexandre about the arts of Michoacan and his Calaveritas del Mundo project. Our presentation should wrap-up by around 4:00 PM.

EVENING: Free

MEALS: *Breakfast and lunch are included. One mezcal is included. All other drinks are separate.*

**DAY 7: WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 28, 2026 – A PATH OF MARIGOLDS
HOTEL LOCATION: PATZCUARO, MEXICO**

MORNING: Please meet us at 8:30 AM in front of El Carajo Mezcaleria, as we will be shopping for marigolds in the adjacent flower market this morning. By 8:50 AM, we will depart for breakfast at Casa Werma Buddhist Meditation Centre. We will depart by 10:00 AM for the boat docks in Ucazanastacua with a short commute to a tranquil, traditional island. Here, we will meet the local community and enjoy learning about the reed weaving of our friend Floriberta, who is preparing your baskets for your ofrenda project.

AFTERNOON: We will have lunch in the community kitchen today, with traditional fare including quesedillas, guacamole and agua fresca. From there, we will spend the afternoon making marigold crosses by the lakeside.

SPECIAL EVENT: Uruapan artist Jesus Alexandre has been exploring La Catrina and her iconic role in Mexican culture, innovating a unique modern response through the use of live subjects. His body of work, entitled "Las Calaveritas del Mundo" bridges cultures from around the world in fantastic theatrical installations, which are photographs to become part of his permanent international collection. Alexandre has travelled beyond Mexico's borders to bring Las Calaveritas del Mundo to Spain, Germany, The Netherlands, Austria, Belgium, Latvia and Estonia. During our visit to the island, Alexandre will create an installation using face-paint and our marigold

crosses, offering you a rare and wonderful opportunity to be part of his international collection. Alexandre will also give each of you a print from this experience, as a keepsake to frame and enjoy.

EVENING: We will return to Patzcuaro at around 6:30 PM today.

MEALS: *Breakfast and lunch included*

DAY 8: THURSDAY OCTOBER 29, 2026 – FORGED IN FIRE

HOTEL LOCATION: PATZCUARO, MEXICO

MORNING: Please meet at El Carajo by 8:45 AM. We will have breakfast at Vista del Rey before whisking you off to the Pueblo Magico of Santa Clara del Cobre, where you will spend the morning and early afternoon forging your own little copper salt dish in the fire. Using traditional tools and old techniques, this fun project will be held in the workshops of award winning artists Napoleon Perez and Sergio Velasquez.

AFTERNOON: Aside from your workshop, guests will also have free time to browse through the galleries, watch a copper demonstration and shop for gifts. We will have lunch at 2:00 PM with our friend Patricia, who will make us a traditional lunch and aquafresca. Beer is available, but not included.

EVENING: This evening we will meet at 6:30 PM at Bistro Monarca Restaurant for our Altar Party. Our friend Yaya is making us a set menu this evening, and we will be putting together a traditional altar and discussing the different elements involved. Please bring a 4x6 (or smaller) photograph of a deceased loved one you'd like to honour this year. We ask you to bring a copy, rather than an original, as you may not be able to retrieve it before leaving. Guests have also brought non-perishable candies that were favourites of their loved one, to leave out for them. We have also had guests purchase spirits from the restaurant, to leave in a shot glass. These are all traditions of this region. Our evening will conclude with dessert and a presentation by our guide Jaime, which will go through the symbolisms behind various aspects of Dia de Muertos, including which are pre-Hispanic and syncretic, in keeping with Catholic influences.

MEALS: *Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner Included. Drinks are separate.*

DAY 9: FRIDAY OCTOBER 30, 2026 – FIESTA DE LAS CATRINAS

HOTEL LOCATION: PATZCUARO, MEXICO

MORNING: Free

AFTERNOON: Free until 4:00 PM

EVENING: Please meet us at El Carajo by 4:00 PM for La Fiesta de las Catrinas. We recommend dressing-up, as we are heading to an extravagant experience in an old-world location for what could be one of the most memorable costume parties of the year. There will be live entertainment, a fantastic meal and make-up artists to transform you into a traditional Posada-style Catrina. Gents in top hats and women with feather boas (or perhaps a special rebozo you've collected on your journey here) would make great accessories. We will be outside, so please bring a warm coat or wrap. If you can incorporate something warm into your costume, this will be ideal. The hacienda does have some outdoor heating and we will be under cover. Last call is at 10:15 PM. The van returns to Patzcuaro by 11:30 PM. There will be 3 vendors selling your choice of craft beer, artisanal mezcal and small batch, artisanal wine, the latter two which can be purchased by the bottle or by the glass.

MEALS: *Dinner at La Fiesta de las Catrinas includes 1 Mezcal + 1 Beer or Wine. All other drinks are separate.*

DAY 10: SATURDAY OCTOBER 31, 2026 – ANGEL WINGS & HORSES

HOTEL LOCATION: PATZCUARO, MEXICO

MORNING: Please meet us at El Carajo by 8:45 AM. We will have breakfast in the lovely garden of Tiendita Verde, then head to the boat docks for a ride to Lake Patzcuaro's most famous Island of Janitzio. Please be prepared for a lot of stairs, as the island is a maze of winding steps lined with souvenir shops and restaurants. You will visit the cemetery to observe large marigold crosses and decorations being installed, as the community begins their preparations for the busiest night of the year.

AFTERNOON: We will meet for lunch at Monarca Restaurant at 1:00 PM. From there, we will depart the island for the boat docks. If you are having fun and want to stay, please let us know and one of the guides can stay with you if you are nervous going back alone.

EVENING: We will meet for dinner at Cerveceria Maestro by 6:00 PM. Our friends Aldo and Bruno make delicious craft beer and unique pizzas that have quickly become a local favourite. We will order a variety of pizzas to share while our guide offers some important insights about what we are about to experience.

VIGIL DE LOS ANGELITOS: We will depart Cerveceria Maestro by 7:30 PM for a nearby village where the community commences their rituals and observations for the Souls of the Innocents. Most commonly described as a vigil for children, this also includes adults if they were unmarried, as they are considered innocent (virgins). Please bring around 100 Pesos for our ofrenda project, as we will be purchasing flowers, fruit and bread to create traditional ofrendas, which we will then bring to the homes of our hosts. It is important for guests to listen to our guide regarding local customs and protocols, as we are invited to observe these rituals and want to show respect for our hosts.

MEALS: *Breakfast and Dinner are included. 1 Pint of beer is included with your meal. All other drinks are separate.*

DAY 11: SUNDAY NOVEMBER 1, 2026 – PILGRIMAGE DEL PANTEONS
HOTEL LOCATION: PATZCUARO, MEXICO

MORNING: This morning we will have a lazy morning to rest before our longest day begins. Please meet us at Casa Werma Buddhist meditation Centre by 11:00 AM. Our pilgrimage around the Lake Patzcuaro region begins.

AFTERNOON: At 12:00 PM, we are booked into Las Yacatas Restaurant for lunch. We are very fortunate to have this annual reservation, as they no longer offer reservations during this holiday. We will enjoy a traditional lunch before setting you loose in the enchanting Pueblo Magico of Tzintzuntzan. Please let us know ahead of time if you are interested in visiting the archaeological site. Entrance fee is not included, as some guests prefer to wander through the cemetery and enjoy the art market and convent. There will be colourful processions, as the locals begin to dance their altars into the cemeteries. The start of Noche de Animas is overwhelming and exciting, so despite this being a long day, the time will pass quickly.

EVENING: We will depart Tzintzuntzan at 5 PM, making our way to various communities around the Lake Patzcuaro area. We will have a traditional dinner in a community kitchen, enjoy some authentic dances by local P'urepecha children and attend some vigils in private homes. You will see plenty of candle-lit cemeteries and an abundance of scenes to forever cherish. We do not announce our route, as we are pleased to have personal invitations to local communities and homes where there are few tourists and very little traffic. This is one of the most authentic tours on offer in our area. We should return to Patzcuaro at around 3:00 AM.

WHAT TO BRING: Please pack yourself a comfort bag including an umbrella, warm coat, snacks, water, toque for the boat ride (if you get cold easily), chapstick, a power bank for your smart phone, a small toilet roll for bathroom breaks, hand wipes – anything you think will be of comfort on a long journey. Some guests also bring a change of shoes for better foot comfort. If you have trouble with balance or hills, we also recommend a collapsible walking stick. You can leave your bag in the van while we explore the lake by boat, so you don't need to carry it.

MEALS: *Lunch and Dinner are included. Drinks with lunch are separate. Please bring pesos to pay for drinks, as the restaurant will only issue one bill.*

DAY 12: MONDAY NOVEMBER 2, 2026 – LAST COMMUNION
HOTEL LOCATION: PATZCUARO, MEXICO

MORNING: Free Time

AFTERNOON: We will meet at El Carajo at 11:45 AM and head to Tiendita Verde for lunch. From there, we will visit two small cemeteries to witness the conclusion of Dia de Muertos, which is when the families break open their ofrenda baskets and feast. This is an especially beautiful way to conclude the vigils.

EVENING: We are available to meet you for dinner, though generally most guests want to pack and rest without a time schedule.

MEALS: *Lunch is included. Drinks are separate.*

**DAY 13: TUESDAY NOVEMBER 3, 2026 – THE DEARLY DEPARTING
HOTEL LOCATION: N/A**

MORNING: Please meet your driver at 6:30 AM at El Carajo with your luggage. If you are not within walking distance, we will call you a taxi in the AM. The driver will bring everyone to the Mexico City Airport directly, so please do not book your international flight until 4 PM or later. If you are flying within Mexico, you should be able to book a flight for 3 PM.

MEALS: *All meals are separate. We recommend picking up some yogurt, a pastry and granola bars for the road trip. The driver will make pit-stops along the way.*

**WE HOPE YOU ENJOY THIS MEMORABLE AND SACRED OBSERVATION AND
WILL JOIN US FOR SOME OF OUR OTHER ADVENTURES!**