



**COPPER MOON**  
**TRAVELS**

## **PILGRIMAGE TO EDEN LA HUASTECA POTOSINA**

### **EMERGENCY CONTACT INFO:**

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### **DAILY ITINERARY**

#### **DAY 1: THURSDAY NOVEMBER 26, 2026 – BIENVENIDOS HOTEL LOCATION: SAN MIGUEL DE ALLENDE, GUANAJUATO**

**EVENING:** Welcome to Copper Moon Travels! Once everyone has confirmed their reservation, we will send you the address for our hotel. We ask that everyone meet in the lobby by 6:30 PM so we can make introductions and head for dinner by 7:00 PM. If you live in San Miguel de Allende, please check the pricing, as we do not include hotels for you. We encourage you to join us for dinner regardless, as we will be doing introductions and paper work.

**MEALS:** *All meals are separate*

#### **DAY 2: FRIDAY NOVEMBER 27, 2026 – ALL THINGS QUESO HOTEL LOCATION: PEÑA DE BERNAL, QUERETARO**

**MORNING:** We will meet for breakfast at 8 AM. Please meet in the hotel lobby at 7:45 AM for our departure. If you live in San Miguel, please meet us at the restaurant (TBA) with your luggage. Tonya Harmon of The Empress of Cheese is a cheese expert and font of fascinating information on all things Queso. Her keen passion for artisan cheese led her on an exploratory mission to find rich and elegant cheeses sourced right here in El Bajio region of Mexico. Her inspiring events and tours are educational and delicious – we are looking forward to this event!

**AFTERNOON:** At around 2:30 PM, we will depart for the charming Pueblo Magico of Bernal, where we will enjoy a lovely wine tasting at San Juanito Winery. Peña de Bernal is a picturesque village famed for the world's largest monolith and fantastic textile collectives where wool is spun manually and woven on pedal looms.

**EVENING:** Dinner is scheduled for 7:00 PM

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

**DAY 3: SATURDAY NOVEMBER 28, 2026 – TERROIR DE QUERETARO  
HOTEL LOCATION: PEÑA DE BERNAL, QUERETARO**

**MORNING:** We will meet at 8:30 AM for a lovely and leisurely breakfast this morning, followed by our 10:00 AM departure for the Bodega Bothé Winery. Tucked behind a picturesque church with views of the vineyard, this enchanting artisan winery features reds, whites, rosé, cider and some regional wines only found here, including raspberry, garambullo and damiana.

**AFTERNOON:** At 12:00 PM, we head to Puerta del Lobo for lunch in a vineyard restaurant among the ruins of an old hacienda. They have a decadent lunch and lovely wine. We will then head to La Terquedad, renowned for their French oak-aged reds, which consistently rate higher than pricier reds in the region. This small, family run winery is a hidden gem and a great place to conclude our wine tour. We will head back to Peña de Bernal from here.

**EVENING:** We will have dinner at 7:00 PM and enjoy a relaxing evening.

**MEALS:** *Breakfast and wine tasting x 3 included. Lunch and Dinner are separate.*

**DAY 4: SUNDAY NOVEMBER 29, 2026 – TO THE SIERRA GORDA  
HOTEL LOCATION: JALPAN DE SERRA, QUERETARO**

**MORNING:** Please have your luggage in the lobby by 8:00 AM. Breakfast is scheduled for 8:30 AM with our departure time approximately 9:30 AM. We begin our commute into the Sierra Gorda, reaching Pinal de Amole at around 11:00 AM.

**AFTERNOON:** The picturesque mountain village of Pinal de Amole was founded in 1606 after the discovery of mineral deposits, which fed the markets with silver and mercury. In 1730, it was given the name Hacienda de San José Escanela, then to San José del Pinal in 1750. In 1770, it was changed yet again, combining two neighboring settlements of Real de San José del Pinal and

Puesto de los Amoles, eventually settling on Pinal de Amoles in December of 1894. Since the decline of mining operations in the area, the municipality has become one of the poorest in Mexico, despite recent efforts to promote ecotourism and restart mining. With many residents relocating to the United States for work, most of the income generated here comes from remittances. With her colonial roots and picturesque setting, we will enjoy browsing around the historical centre and will have lunch at Comedor Don Lalo, which is famed for their traditional hand-made corn tortillas with Cecina, which is Mexico's version of jerky. Cecina is a staple in the Sierra Gorda, where the dry mountain air is perfect for air-drying thinly sliced and heavily salted beef and pork. Generally served with tortillas, beans, fresh cheese and salsa, this is a regional dish you might consider trying. We will depart Pinal de Amole after lunch, making our way to our hotel in Jalpan de Serra.

**EVENING:** Dinner is scheduled for 7:00 PM at Comedor Meztli.

**MEALS:** *Breakfast is included. All other meals are separate.*

## **DAY 5: MONDAY NOVEMBER 30, 2026 – FRANCISCAN MISSION TOUR HOTEL LOCATION: JALPAN DE SERRA, QUERETARO**

**MORNING:** We will have breakfast at Topanco's Restaurant from 8:00-9:00 AM. We will depart for Tancoyol to visit La Nuestra Señora de la Luz de Tancoyol, which is dedicated to Our Lady of Light. With profuse vegetative ornamentations and prominent ears of corn, this is considered the most elaborate and finest of the Franciscan missions. This church also features a rhomboid window surrounded by a representation of the cord Franciscans used to tie their habits.

From there, we will commute to Tilaco to visit San Francisco de Asis del Valle de Tilaco. Constructed between 1754 and 1762, this mission is dedicated to Francis of Assisi. Aside from the ears of corn and small angels, one distinctive indigenous representation of this mission is the presence of four mermaids. The Tilaco mission has the best conserved atrium corner chapels called "capillas posas," which are used for processions.

**AFTERNOON:** We will enjoy a lovely picnic while in Tilaco before spending the afternoon in Landa de Matamoros to visit the Mision de Santa Maria del Agua de Landa, the most syncretic of the five Missions, featuring Mesoamerican and Catholic elements on its impressive facade. If time allows, we will also visit the Museo Historico de la Sierra Gorda before returning to Jalpan.

**EVENING:** This evening we will have dinner at Restaurante Tequila

**MEALS:** *Breakfast and Picnic Included.*

**DAY 6: TUESDAY DECEMBER 1, 2026 – ARBOL MILENARIO HOTEL  
LOCATION: JALPAN DE SERRA, QUERETARO**

**MORNING:** This morning we will have breakfast at Casita de Alex at 9:00 AM, departing at approximately 10:00 AM for the Mision de San Miguel Arcangel de Conca, which is dedicated to the Archangel Michael. The smallest of the five mission churches, this church was likely finished in 1754. The ornamentation features flowers and foliage, with indigenous-styled figures. It features a rabbit and a double-headed eagle. The rabbit is a pre-Hispanic Pame indigenous motif, which is a striking example of the blending of two world-views.

**AFTERNOON:** The Arbol Milenario is a colossal Montezuma Cypress believed to be more than one thousand years old. It is the second-widest tree in Mexico, at 22 meters in diameter, and sits in a natural spring. With crystal clear, tepid water and a warm November day, we will stay here for a few hours to enjoy soaking in these lovely waters. We will have lunch at La Ccasa del Gigante at 2 PM.

**EVENING:** Free

**MEALS:** *Breakfast included. All other meals are separate.*

**DAY 7: WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 2, 2026 – HILL OF FIRE HOTEL  
LOCATION: XILITLA, SAN LUIS POTOSI**

**MORNING:** This morning we will meet in the hotel lobby by 8:45 to load the van before heading to La Casita de Alex for breakfast. We will enjoy a walking tour of Jalpan de Serro downtown to visit the Mision de Santiago de Jalpan, which was the first mission built here. The largest of the five churches, it is considered the most historically important, as it laid the groundwork for the other missions and was the first to incorporate syncretic “Mestizo Baroque” architecture, which all the missions feature.

**AFTERNOON:** We will have lunch in Jalpan at 1:00 PM before departing for the ancient site of Tancama, which means “Hill of Fire.” Though unexcavated, this site is interesting due to the unique circular and semi-circular platforms and astronomical relation. From here, we will depart at 3:30 PM for the commute to Xilitla.

**EVENING:** Dinner is scheduled for 6:30 PM at El Papan Huasteco Xilitla

**MEALS:** *Breakfast included. All other meals are separate.*

**DAY 8: THURSDAY DECEMBER 3, 2026 – THE SURREAL GARDEN  
HOTEL LOCATION: XILITLA, SAN LUIS POTOSI**

**MORNING:** This morning we will have breakfast at Mama Huastequita at 8:00 AM, departing for the Surreal Garden of Edward James by 9:00 AM. We will explore the gardens in the morning to avoid the high afternoon heat.

**AFTERNOON:** We will have lunch in the gardens before enjoying some relaxation time to cool off in Las Pozas. The property features 2 areas for swimming, one of which features a waterfall and the other that has architectural structures.

**EVENING:** At 4 PM, we will depart for the Sotano de las Golondrinas. The commute takes about one hour, then we will hike up to the edge of a massive 376 meter deep sinkhole before thousands of birds begin dive-bombing into the cave at sunset. We will stop in the small town of Aquismón for dinner at Restaurante el Bohio before returning to Xilitla.

**MEALS:** *Breakfast is included. All other meals are separate.*

**DAY 9: FRIDAY DECEMBER 4, 2026 – A CAVE OF PARAKEETS HOTEL  
LOCATION: XILITLA, SAN LUIS POTOSI**

**MORNING:** This morning we will depart our hotel at 4:00 AM for Sotano de las Huahuas. The commute takes about one hour, then we will hike through the dark to reach a sink hole famous for green parakeets and white collared swifts. As the jungle awakens, these royal birds catch the wind currents, slowly circling up through the cave and into the sky. This is a similar experience as the Golondrinas Sinkhole, except the ascent of the parakeets and swifts in the morning is slow and magical. We will have breakfast at 9 AM, then return to Xilitla.

**AFTERNOON:** We will visit the Leonora Carrington Museum this afternoon, before enjoying free time to enjoy Xilitla. We will help organize whatever everyone wants to do, from hanging around the centro or swimming in one of the nearby swim-holes.

**EVENING:** We will have dinner at 7 PM

**MEALS:** *Breakfast included. All other meals are separate. We will pack yogurt and granola bars for the early commute but also include breakfast after our morning excursion.*

**DAY 10: SATURDAY DECEMBER 5, 2026 – CUEVA DEL AGUA HOTEL  
LOCATION: TAMASOPO, SAN LUIS POTOSI**

**MORNING:** Please have your luggage in the lobby by 7:45 so we can depart early for breakfast. We will commute to meet our tour guide for an excursion to the Tamul Waterfall. The Tamul Waterfall experience includes travelling by boat up the turquoise Tumpaón River to reach the 105 meters (344 feet) towering crystalline cascade that is fed by the Gallinas River.

**AFTERNOON:** After viewing the spectacular waterfall, we will paddle to Cueva del Agua (Cave of Water) to swim in a sunning natural pool, nestled in a limestone cave with mesmerizing limestone formations and crystal-clear blue waters. The pool reaches a depth of 45 meters (147 feet) of sapphire blue beauty.

**EVENING:** We will commute to Tamasopo to check into our hotel and head for dinner by 7 PM.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:** The Tamul Waterfall has typically dried-up by April, for the past three years. In 2026, efforts were made to bring the river back to life; alas, the water sunk into the riverbed before reaching the waterfall that is so famous here. Work is being done, so we are confident these efforts combined with the upcoming rainy season will bring the splendour of this place back to life. If the Gallinas River is still dry by the commencement of our tour, we will visit another site today.

**MEALS:** *Breakfast included. All other meals are separate.*

**DAY 11: SUNDAY DECEMBER 6, 2026 – PUENTE DE DIOS HOTEL**  
**LOCATION: TAMASOPO, SAN LUIS POTOSI**

**MORNING:** This morning we will meet in the hotel lobby at 8:45 AM, with breakfast scheduled for 9:00 AM. The Puente de Dios (Bridge of God) is a stunning natural pool and waterfall formed by the Gallinas River. The river has carved out a natural arch and several underwater caves of porous limestone, creating the appearance of a bridge with a series of breathtaking pools. We will need to wear a life-jacket inside the cave.

**AFTERNOON:** We will have a relaxed approach to the day, departing Puente de Dios to swim at Cascadas Tamasopo for the afternoon.

**EVENING:** This evening, we will have our last supper at 7 PM.

**MEALS:** *Breakfast is included. All other meals are separate.*

**DAY 12: MONDAY DECEMBER 7, 2026 – HOMEWARD BOUND HOTEL**  
**LOCATION: N/A**

**MORNING:** Please have your luggage in the lobby by 7:30 AM. We will have breakfast and hit the road for San Miguel de Allende

**AFTERNOON:** As our commute today is approximately 6 hours, we will make a stop at the half-way mark to have lunch.

**EVENING:** We should reach San Miguel de Allende by 4:30 PM. If you are commuting with us to Morelia or Patzcuaro, we will reach our destinations between 7:30 and 8:30 PM.

**MEALS:** *Breakfast is included. All other meals are separate.*

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