



COPPER MOON
TRAVELS

SACRED MIGRATION

Wings Over the Meseta

EMERGENCY CONTACT:

Jennifer Bjarnason - +52 443 639 2782

Email: coppermoontravels@protonmail.com

TOUR ITINERARY

DATES: February 16-27, 2027

NIGHTS/DAYS: 11 Nights / 12 Days

DAY ONE: MONDAY FEBRUARY 16, 2027 - BIENVENIDOS

HOTEL LOCATION: TLAQUEPAQUE, JALISCO

MORNING:

Once our tour is confirmed, we will send everyone a meeting place that is convenient for our driver, as we will need to park to load the luggage. We will meet at 7:45, departing by 8:00. The commute to Tlaquepaque takes approximately 5 hours (including ½ hour between 2 pit stops). Please bring some nuts or a granola bar, dried fruit etc, as we will not arrive at the restaurant until around 1:00 PM.

AFTERNOON:

We will have lunch at 1:00 PM at El Patio Restaurant, which is in the heart of Tlaquepaque's hip arts promenade. Following lunch, guests can either head to the hotel to check-in, or continue exploring the boutique galleries and market stands, where you will find a plethora of Wixarika (Huichol) beadwork and yarn paintings, among other wonderful and collectible treasures.

As we will arrive before check-in, we will have some time to explore the boutique galleries and market stands before checking in at 3 PM. The hotel is within walking distance of the promenade, so you can also return after check-in to further explore.

EVENING: We will meet for a Happy Hour and a short presentation at 5:00 PM. We have a fabulous dinner planned for 7:00 PM on the promenade, so we can walk to dinner and back.

MEALS: Dinner is included. Drinks and desserts are separate. Happy Hour includes one drink ticket.

DAY TWO: TUESDAY FEBRUARY 17, 2027 – BURNISHED CLAY

HOTEL LOCATION: TLAQUEPAQUE, JALISCO

MORNING & AFTERNOON:

We will meet in the hotel restaurant for breakfast at 8:00 AM, departing by 9:00 AM for a tour of Tonalá. We will meet 2 master ceramicists today and will also visit Bernabe Studio to see some of the most extraordinarily collectible ceramics of Mexico, whose works have been collected by political leads of Japan, the Obama's and more.

EVENING:

This evening, we will meet for Happy Hour at 5 PM, followed by our dinner reservation for 6:30 PM.

MEALS:

Breakfast is included. All other meals are separate. Happy Hour includes one drink ticket.

DAY THREE: WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 18, 2027 – GATEWAY TO THE MESETA

HOTEL LOCATION: URUAPAN, MICHOACAN

MORNING:

Please bring your luggage down to the lobby by 7:45 AM so we can get the van loaded. We will have breakfast and aim to depart by 9:00 AM. Our commute to the first stop will take approximately 3 hours, including pit stops. We are bound for a small village called San Jose de Gracia, where iconic ceramic pine-cone vessels evolved into pineapples over time.

AFTERNOON:

We will have lunch at the ceramic museum in San Jose de Gracia, enjoying homemade tortillas cooked over open fire on a comal, stuffed with potatoes and served with whatever other comida the family is eating that day. "Comida Economica" is a long-standing tradition in Michoacan, and part of what helped inscribe Mexican Cuisine in UNESCO as a tangible cultural heritage.

After lunch, we visit a ceramics town that was influenced by Asian ceramic styles, in large part due to a Japanese ceramicist who worked with the artisans here and built a kiln for high-fired dishes that are sturdy enough for the dishwasher. Next, we visit Ocumicho, where the Devil was molded from Clay. The whimsical ceramics of this village are a testament to the irreverent sense of humor the P'urepehca of Ocumicho are so loved for. Last, we make a short stop at the village of Cucucho, where artisans use coil technique to sculpt massive vessels that are sought after by collectors, far and wide. We then make a bee-line to Uruapan to check into our hotel.

EVENING:

We will have dinner tonight at 7:00 PM, followed by an evening of relaxation.

MEALS:

Breakfast and lunch are included. Dinner is separate.

DAY FOUR: THURSDAY FEBRUARY 19, 2027 – TEXTILES AND LAVA FIELDS

HOTEL LOCATION: URUAPAN, MICHOACAN

MORNING:

This morning we will meet for breakfast at 7:30 AM, departing at 8:00 AM for a small village called Angahuan. We will mount horses or walk to the ruins of a church that was nearly devoured by Paricutin Volcano, with a lava flow that miraculously stopped right before reaching the altar.

AFTERNOON:

We will have Comida Economica with a local family of P'urepehca women who weave fabulous rebozos and ponchos. Their garments are made from cotton, for warm weather, and wool, for the frigid nights so common here over the winter and rainy season. Departing after lunch, we will visit a lovely family in San Felipe de los Herreros who make exquisite, museum quality clothing using a process called Deshilados, which loosely translates as "unravelling." Designing these garments is a meticulous and time-consuming endeavour. The process involves cutting weft-threads out of fine cotton, creating a grid of holes. The fabric is then placed in an embroidery hoop so the holes can be embroidered over, using the same colour of thread as the cloth. The result is a lace-like treasure featuring intricate flowers, birds, Our Lady of Guadalupe and other thoughtfully placed motifs. From there, we will return to Uruapan to visit her most important treasure, the National Park. The Cupatitzio River springs from the ground right behind our hotel, fueling an enchanting and mystical series of water-installations throughout this lush, sub-tropical park featuring cobblestone paths and arched bridges that feel like a children's storybook.

EVENING:

We will have dinner at 7 PM.

MEALS:

Breakfast and lunch are included. Dinner is separate.

DAY FIVE: FRIDAY FEBRUARY 20, 2027 – WISDOM OF THE ELDERS

HOTEL LOCATION: URUAPAN, MICHOACAN

MORNING:

This morning we will meet for breakfast at 7:30 AM, departing for the small village of Turicuaro, where P'urepecha women weave lovely rebozos on back-strap looms. They are preparing a demonstration for us today, to teach us about the natural pigments that are utilized from mother earth, for dying their cotton. Shop for lovely shawls and enjoy spending time with these wonderful women who guard the wisdom of their ancestors.

AFTERNOON:

We will have Comida Economica with the women in Turicuaro before departing for a small village where lives a lovely mask carver. These traditional masks are not made for the tourist market, but in fact, for the traditional dancers who live in our state. We will then drive to Aranza to visit a weaver who uses a technique known as Patakua. Unique from the other rebozos we've seen, these rebozos are made in the Deshilados style, woven like lace with patterns counted into them. Our last stop is in the village of Ahuiran to meet an award-winning weaver who's family evolved their signature to include extravagant plume-fringes on their rebozos. Celebrities such as Lila Downs adorn themselves with these rich pieces, and we can never stop thinking about how much Frida Kahlo would have loved them, or how many she might have had in her collection.

EVENING:

We will have dinner at 7 PM.

MEALS:

Breakfast included and lunch included. Dinner is separate.

DAY SIX: SATURDAY FEBRUARY 21, 2027 – THE MYSTICAL GARDEN OF JAVIER SERVIN

HOTEL LOCATION: ZITACUARO, MICHOACAN

MORNING:

Please have your luggage ready by 7:15 AM so we can load the van before breakfast. We will depart Uruapan at 8:00 AM, embarking on a 3 hour commute to reach the pottery studio of Javier Servin. Javier Servin Cerámica was founded in 1982 by ceramist F. Javier Servin and his wife Eloisa Castro Soto,. His workshop produces exquisite collections ranging from functional tableware to exhibition pieces that have been shown in galleries across Mexico, the United States, and Europe, employing more than 30 ceramicists in the community. The pieces here range from affordable to collectible.

AFTERNOON:

One of the charms of visiting Javier Servin's studio, besides meeting Carmen and Luis who manage the gallery, is the mystical garden that has been ornamented by thousands of mosaic tiles from flawed pieces that have been smashed. We will enjoy a lovely picnic in the garden this afternoon, before departing for Tlalpujahua.

Tlalpujahua is about 1 hour from Servin's studio. In spite of a horrific tragedy in 1937 that struck the town, it has arisen as an enchanting village of artisans due to Joaquín Muñoz Orta. After the town's industry died, following a massive landslide, Orta traveled to Chicago to learn glass ornament-making, then returned to open a small factory called Adornos Navideños, hiring local residents to craft hand-blown spheres. The ornament business quickly became the focus of the town's entire economy, with other factories and cottage industries following, and by the late 1980s Tlalpujahua was producing over 100 million ornaments a year.

We will spend about an hour in Tlalpujahua, just long enough to stretch our legs, explore the glass factories and visit her opulent church, with her intricate, pastel-coloured interior. The commute to Zitacuaro is about 2 hours.

EVENING:

We will have dinner at 7:00 PM followed by rest.

MEALS:

Breakfast and lunch included. Dinner is separate.

DAY SEVEN: SUNDAY FEBRUARY 22, 2027 – MEXICO'S ROYAL FAMILY**HOTEL LOCATION: ZITACUARO, MICHOACAN****MORNING:**

We will meet at 8:00 AM for breakfast, departing by 9:00 AM for a fun adventure. Please bring a day-bag today, as you will want to pack a warm jacket, toque, mittens plus sunglasses and sunscreen – because the weather at this altitude is unpredictable, changeable and can range from frigid to hot. We will commute to a small village to meet our Mazahua guides, who are the caretakers of the ejido (communal land) where these monarch butterflies started roosting about three years ago. This reserve is not set-up for tourism, so we will ride in pick-up trucks up a rugged mountain road. Guests can fit 4 per truck inside the cab, and your guides and willing enthusiasts can ride in the back of the pick-up truck for a bit of added adventure. The drive up the mountain takes about 1 hour, depending on where the colony is roosting (they move throughout the season).

AFTERNOON:

Everyone will receive a bag-lunch this morning, so please bring that in your day-bag. We will spend about 2.5-3 hours in the reserve to observe the monarchs through the changing temperatures of the day. Monarch butterflies only fly when temperatures surpass 13°C (55°F), so

we want to give the weather a chance to warm-up. Depending on where the monarchs are, we may be required to walk down a somewhat steep hill to better-observe them. Please talk to us if you have any concerns with mobility. You can bring a walking stick to help, or you can observe from the path, rather than hiking down the hill. You will still see the monarchs from a much closer stand-point than you would see at the public reserves, but please be prepared to wait for the guests who are able to venture further.

We will descend the mountain for a lovely cultural centre where the local Mazahua women will cook us a delicious and varied feast, to sample traditional Mazahua cuisine. The collective is also well-stocked with gorgeous wool-embroidered textiles that are anthropomorphic and zoomorphic in motif, representing the cosmology and world-view of the Mazahua.

EVENING:

This evening we return to the ranch and will enjoy a fascinating lecture by Dr. Jaramilly Lopez. As we will have eaten at the Cultural Centre, we will ask the restaurant to prepare some appetizers to snack on. We will also pre-order drinks before the lecture begins.

MEALS:

All meals are included. Drinks during the lecture are separate.

**DAY EIGHT: MONDAY FEBRUARY 23, 2027 – QUEST FOR THE SKY
HOTEL LOCATION: ZITACUARO, MICHOACAN**

MORNING:

We will follow the same format this morning, with breakfast scheduled for 8:00 AM, departure at 9:00 AM and an adventure into yet another private reserve with our Mazahua guides. There is a possibility that the monarchs will not roost there, as they only arrived last year. In the case that they do not come, we will head to one of the public reserves.

AFTERNOON:

We will bring a box lunch today, and please remember to bring your day-bag, as the weather can change from day to day. One of the reasons we prefer offering two reserves during our tours is because it increases your chances of seeing them fly.

EVENING:

We will have dinner this evening at 7 PM and enjoy an evening of rest.

MEALS:

Breakfast, lunch and Dinner Included. Drinks are separate.

DAY EIGHT: TUESDAY FEBRUARY 24, 2027 – FOUR TOLTEC WARRIORS

HOTEL LOCATION: TOLANTONGO, HIDALGO

MORNING:

Please have your luggage outside the lobby at 7:45 AM so we can get your bags loaded before breakfast. We will depart the hotel at 8:30 AM, moving into the state of Hidalgo to visit the “Atlantean Warriors,” which are truly Toltec Warriors, guarding the iconic Toltec Capital of Tollan-Xicocotitlan, which means “Place of the cattails” or “Place of the Bullrushes.”

AFTERNOON:

We will visit the museum at the site before departing for Tolantongo at around 1:30 PM. We will pack a bag lunch today to enjoy in the car, making our arrival at the oasis of Tolantongo a little earlier. Once we have checked-in, we will unwind in the pretty, turquoise spring-fed pool balconies that sit hunched up the canyon wall beside our hotel. Please Note: Please be patient when we arrive today. Tolantongo is strictly controlled, so we will not be allowed into the lower parking lot until we have checked-in and can submit a ticket to the parking-lot staff. This will take your hosts about 20-30 mins. We apologize for this inconvenience, but the only other option is for us to stay in the hotel at the top of the hill, which means you will have a lot more stairs to climb each day.

EVENING:

We will discuss what time everyone wants to have dinner, which is at a restaurant next to our hotel. This evening is for resting and relaxing in the pools or on your balcony. The pools stay open until 11:00 PM.

MEALS:

Breakfast and Lunch are included. Dinner is separate.

DAY NINE: WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 25, 2027 – CAVE OF PARADISE

HOTEL LOCATION: TOLANTONGO, HIDALGO

MORNING:

We will meet at 8:00 AM for breakfast, departing the hotel by 9:00 AM for a beautiful day at a mystical cave that features a thermal waterfall inside that fills a lovely pool. We will spend the morning here, soaking in pristine waters and enjoying the sensational experience and view.

AFTERNOON:

This afternoon features a picnic lunch beside the river. We will rent tables and chairs, and guests can swim while your hosts prepare the food. From here, we will head back to the hotel and enjoy free time for the rest of the day.

There is a bar in front of the hotel that sells hotdogs, hamburgers, pineapples filled with pina-colada, and more. There are a few convenience stores that sell beer and pop. If you prefer wine, please bring it with you.

EVENING:

We are not scheduling dinner tonight, as we want you to enjoy life on your own terms here.

MEALS:

Breakfast and lunch included. Dinner is separate.

DAY TEN: THURSDAY FEBRUARY 26, 2027 – CARNE ASADA TRADITION**HOTEL LOCATION: TOLANGONGO, HIDALGO****MORNING:**

This morning we will meet for breakfast at 8:00 AM, departing by 9:00 AM for another Ejido called La Gloria. We will cross the river on a suspension bridge and climb a few steps to a beautiful waterfall that cascades into a tepid pool, perfect for soaking. La Gloria requires a lot of climbing, so if you are not interested in going all the way up, you can hang out by the waterfall or return to the river, where there are lots of designated swimming areas. For those who don't mind climbing, this is one of the most pristine parts of the park.

AFTERNOON:

Our driver will be available to take guests back to the hotel in the afternoon, returning for those who prefer to stay, as the commute only takes about 10-15 mins each way. The afternoon is for relaxing on your own terms.

EVENING:

This evening, your team leaders are cooking a Carne Asada feast by the river, followed by an evening bonfire & marshmallow roast for our last night together.

MEALS:

Breakfast and Dinner Included. Lunch is separate.

DAY ELEVEN: FRIDAY FEBRUARY 27, 2027 – IT'S HARD TO SAY GOODBYE**HOTEL LOCATION: SAN MIGUEL DE ALLENDE, GUANAJUATO****MORNING:**

Please have your luggage packed and ready to go before breakfast. We will need to have a luggage cart transport our luggage up the canyon hills to our van, to save guests from shlepping heavy bags up a bunch of stairs. Departure today requires the same patience as our arrival.

AFTERNOON:

We will stop at an amazing winery for a tour and extravagant lunch with a set-menu this afternoon. From there, we will head back to San Miguel de Allende. We will bring everyone to

a central area where there are taxis, so you will be able to get home. We should arrive in San Miguel de Allende at around 5:00 PM. For guests who do not live in San Miguel de Allende, we will check into our hotel and figure out a plan for dinner. Please Note: The hotel in San Miguel is NOT INCLUDED in the price of this tour.

MEALS:

Breakfast, Lunch and Wine Tasting included.

WE HOPE YOU ENJOY THIS JOURNEY AND WILL JOIN US AGAIN!