

Travel to Cancun

Before Departure

- If you would like to complete and PRINT your customs forms beforehand, you can do so here: <https://www.mexicotouristcard.com>. If you don't fill this out in advance you can typically fill one out on the plane.
- I recommend **taking a picture of your passport** for easy access.
- Check your travel documents for flight check-in options.
- Be sure to arrive to the airport 3 hours before departure.

Landing at CUN

- When you land, you will go through immigration. Have your paperwork; the customs form, immigration form, and your passport open to your picture page.
- Make sure your immigration form is completed (including the bottom) or you could get moved back in the line. **Keep the portion they give back. You will need it for departure.**
- After immigration you will collect checked bags and pass through Customs.

Timeshares

- Once you leave the Customs area, proceed past the lineup of timeshare sales reps, and continue to the transportation pickup area. Offers of transportation INSIDE the airport are almost always connected to a timeshare sales presentation. While INSIDE the airport do not answer any questions like "What company are you looking for?" Ignore them and keep walking. Simply say no gracias and do not engage with them.
- Excursion sales at the airport are usually affiliated with timeshares as well and require a presentation.

Transfers

- After you walk outside you will find your pre-arranged transportation. Please refer to your travel documents on who to look for. I suggest having your printed documents or an easy to access digital copy to reference.
- Your transfer company may ask you to attend a meeting in order to confirm your return pick up. This is not required and is an opportunity to book excursions. If you do not wish to attend this meeting (sometimes referred to as an orientation) you can just confirm your pick up time the day before departure at the company's onsite desk at the resort, or by calling the number in your travel documents.

At The Resort

- Schedule your return COVID Test when you check in, for the day before departure. Ask the resort staff where to do this.
- Timeshare reps may also be present at your resort. Firmly decline any offers for a VIP tour, breakfast, Vacation Club or resort credit meeting. Giving a firm "no" in the beginning will prevent any additional requests. These presentations are high pressure and can last several hours.
- A credit card hold may be required at check in. Call your bank before departure to make sure your account isn't flagged. (AMEX is not always accepted abroad.)
- Many resorts have daily spa specials. If you want to book a treatment make sure you ask for the current specials.
- When ordering bar drinks at an all-inclusive resort make sure to ask for the type of liquor you want. Resorts that include top-shelf drinks will typically use well liquor to make cocktails unless you specify what you want.
- You may want to pack an insulated travel mug to keep your drinks cold.
- If you want to book excursions you can do so at the link provided by your travel advisor, or with the resort tour desk. We do not suggest booking excursions from beach vendors since they may not be licensed or insured.
- Parts of Mexico charge an eco tax at check out. This is a small fee, charged nightly and is in pesos. This is typically less than \$2USD per night.

Tipping Suggestions

*US dollars are accepted

Transfer Driver	Shared Transfer \$5-\$10PP Private Transfer \$15-\$20 Per Ride
Housekeeper	\$3-\$4 Each Day
Bartenders	\$1-\$2 per drink, or \$10 upfront if you'll be there a while
Restaurants	\$3-\$4PP for breakfast/lunch \$5-\$7PP dinner
Bellmen	\$2 Per Bag

Tipping at the resort is optional, but even when it's listed as included at the resort, the staff really appreciate it and most US travelers do tip.

Cancun Safety

Theft

- As with travel anywhere, tourists are sometimes targeted for items such as jewelry, electronics and cash. Make sure to keep valuables in your room safe and don't leave items on the beach or in the pool area unattended.
- If leaving the resort for excursions or exploration be mindful of your cash and leave valuable items in your room safe, including your passport.

Water

- Water from the faucet is not safe to drink in Mexico. Use bottled water for drinking and for brushing teeth.
- The water in the resort restaurants and bars is filtered, and ice is safe as well. However, if you leave resort for excursions or dining, it's recommended to only drink bottled water and avoid frozen drinks/ice when outside of tourist spots.

Drugs

- Purchasing and using drugs in Mexico is illegal and punishments are strict. Do not engage with beach vendors or anyone trying to sell illegal substances.
- If visiting a nightclub or bar make sure you take safety precautions. Don't leave drinks unattended, and stay with a group when possible.

Sun Protection

- Don't underestimate the power of the sun in Cancun! Sunburns can happen very quickly so it's recommended to apply sunscreen often.
- Reef Safe sunscreen is recommended to protect the coral reefs while in the ocean, and for snorkeling excursions it's required.
- In addition to protecting your skin, remember to hydrate throughout the day. Sun exposure, along with alcohol consumption can lead to heat stroke and illness.