

Hey Tom,

Thanks so much for the use of your place. Of all the places I drove by or saw on my walks around town, I think you have an ideal location. I spoke with some at Pickelball that looked at Cosmos, but couldn't get in and said the the price has gone way up. Congrats. Here's just a list of learnings and observations.

Emilio who reached out ahead of time was very nice in writing and in person. He's looking forward to meeting with you.

I had read through all on your site which is great, printed and took copies to read on the plane.

It's a little different than other parts of Mexico as the airport is small and there is less distraction when trying to get a cab. Plus, love that the rates are all regulated and low. Although you had recommended "just grab a cab" I did reserve through Cosmos at a much higher price, but did have a sign with my name and a large air conditioned van. When I'm there again, I'll just grab a cab - but wasn't sure where to even ask to go.

From then on, catching a cab was easy, they were all nice, and all responded to "Cosmos Playa Arrecito, por favor" so around town and elsewhere great they know the place. Front gate was great also in radio'ing a cab immediately.

Anyone interested in Pickelball have them join "[Bahias de Huatulco Pickleball](#)" on Facebook. Most ex-pats - Americans and Canadians and a couple tourists. They play in two locations both 7-8 blocks from the center square in the city (but cabs will take you right there). I played 4 days (2 hours each day) - courts were marked for pickleball and under a large metal cover (so no direct sun) and we used portable nets. Great unexpected pleasure. I walked around town after each session so saw a lot.

Your place is great, very spacious and had most of the amenities. I did pre-order some food and water for the place as I again wasn't sure of the shopping - but next time, I'll have just water there and then go right into town for supplies. I could only find one paper towel roll - but that's all that's needed and there was plenty of toilet paper reserves in the bathrooms. I bought salt and left it (there was pepper in the shaker). I washed dishes in the sink, didn't want to risk using dishwasher - didn't see any powder. But all good. Same with the laundry, wasn't familiar with the detergent so did internet searching but wasn't a problem. There were no dry sheets (if you wanted). The only negative was no hot water in the showers. I WhatsApp Emilio and he responded quickly:

*Hello Gary, I hope you are enjoying!*

*Hey I just wanted to let you know that after asking with my maintenance guys, Eleven's administration just advised us the water pressure is very low right now and even the pool is not running well, They are working on it and my*

*maintenance team went to check the condo's water tank and it is fine, however due to the low pressure supplied, it just does not work, so we are expecting Eleven's maintenance team to get that fixed soon.*

*I'll keep you updated Gary*

Actually, the cooler shower felt better as the days went on – just fyi. I would check both showers on the ability to switch from the overhead to the handheld jet, I couldn't switch them by pulling out or pushing in the pin. No shampoo or soap – other than at the sink. I bought some there. May want to think of those liquid dispensers in the showers, that the maids could fill as needed upon clean-up.

I did the Friday night Taste Dinner with Chiles 'n Chocolate. Jane Bauer (owner) is a legend around there, everyone knows of her and I also went to her restaurant in the town over one afternoon – she was there.

Otherwise ate lunches most often downtown or at the beach. At night I went to Ocean when hungry. I'm sure it's just the season, but I had planned to go to dinners downtown a couple days before I left – upon checking = a lot of the better restaurants aren't open the Monday/Tuesday...so missed out on them waiting too long. Ate at Terra Cotta twice.

The beach ended up being great food, but probably the most expensive of the places – Ocean was great.

The water/bay was fairly rough most days, but good to go in and it was nice the sand dropped quickly so not a lot of wading. On one of the first days I met "Eddie" he mentioned his boat and what he does and said if I wanted to go out sailfishing or seeing the area, to let him know – he quoted me a price and he gave his card. Hoping the seas would calm, we settled on Tuesday – 9am. Still fairly rough, but great couple of hours of seeing the bay and stopping for some snorkeling – only me in the boat – so private. I didn't negotiate but saw later some group charters out for 1/3 price – but not private. I guess the water is rough like that a couple times a year and helps "clean out the bays". Great snorkeling in one of the bays past Santa Cruz...used your snorkel gear – thanks.

I made the rookie mistake of exchanging a lot of dollars at the airport at eh exchange center – taking a big hit, where I would/should get just a bit for a cab and then go right to an ATM in Mexico... next time.

I wouldn't get a scooter and certainly not one for random visitors, the road down off the main road has some rough roads that would be tough (uphill and down) with scooter rookies. Liability. And cabs are so nice and locked in on pricing if you can show them or tell them where to go.

I didn't shop for anything souvenir-wise. Walked through the mercado. I'll make an album of all the photos, don't think I have anything you don't already have.

Great trip, first trip I've done alone (other than business) and wouldn't do that again – but allowed me to be on my time schedule and do what I wanted or didn't want to do. Flights were non-stop, on-time and less than 3 hours from Dallas.

Also Playa Escondido – a guy at Pickelball said the way to go was by a bus – one that is non-stop and “nice” vs. driving...he was thinking of buying a place in either, but Huatulco was a better choice (better internet and services).

Let me know what type/example of any endorsement you want/need.

Think you have a great place, I'll come down again!

Gary