Mexico’s Copper Canyon

featuring Two Scenic Rail Journeys

8 Days • 18 Meals Take an exciting journey through one of Mexico’s most remarkable natural landmarks, Copper Canyon. Enjoy glorious views during two scenic rail journeys through magnificent canyon landscapes.

Departure Date: September 9-16, 2016
DAY ONE – Arrive in El Paso, Texas
Welcome to El Paso, Texas, the town that hugs the Rio Grande River and serves as a natural border with Mexico. Upon arrival you will be transferred to your hotel. At 6:00 p.m. meet your Tour Manager for the transfer to Indian Cliffs Ranch and dinner at Cattleman’s Steak House.
(Dinner)

DAY TWO – El Paso to Creel, Mexico
Crossing the Rio Grande this morning, we enter Mexico at Juarez, a bustling border town. You will see the Samalayuca Sand Dunes and pass through huge expanses of rangeland with the occasional pecan tree orchard before arriving in Mennonite country. The hard-working Mennonites have transformed the desert into fertile farmland. Enjoy lunch at a Mennonite store. Later, we drive past apple orchards while en route to Creel, home to the statue of Christ the King. At 7,700 feet above sea level, Creel is the highest overnight on the tour. (Breakfast, lunch and dinner)

DAY THREE – Railroading in Mexico’s Copper Canyon
During your morning at leisure in Creel you can visit the Mission Store, a trading post which buys crafts from the Tarahumara Indians and resells them to raise money for the Indian hospital. Then, we board the train for a breathtaking journey into the Copper Canyon. Considered to be one of the top scenic rail journeys in the world, the descent into the canyon from the top of the Sierra Madre offers views of cascading waterfalls and sheer canyon walls, which give way to rolling hills and tropical farmlands. Palm, banana, papaya and mango trees dot the countryside. Have lunch in the dining car and make a brief stop in Divisadero to view the scenic overlook. Traveling west allows us to take in the beautiful Copper Canyon sunsets while having dinner aboard the train. Later, we arrive in the picturesque colonial town of El Fuerte, our home for the next two nights. (Breakfast, lunch and dinner)

DAY FOUR – River float trip and Mexican Ballet Folklorico
Today, enjoy a leisurely float trip to see the many parrots, woodpeckers, kingfishers, cormorants and other desert birds that inhabit the region. In some instances, the river conditions may not allow for the float trip, in which case a visit to a Mayo Indian village will be substituted. You will also enjoy a brief walking tour to the 17th century cathedral and government palace. After our included lunch, enjoy free time to stroll the quaint cobblestone streets of El Fuerte where you will see the charming plaza, the town’s center of social life. Tonight, we are joined by members of the fabulous Mexican Ballet Folklorico. This

The Mayflower Way
✓ 18 Meals (6 dinners, 5 lunches and 7 breakfasts)
✓ Round trip airport transfers
✓ Welcome dinner at Cattleman’s Steakhouse
✓ Visit the Mennonite community near Creel
✓ Be among Mexico’s Tarahumara Indians
✓ Travel by first-class rail through the awesome Copper Canyon from Creel to El Fuerte
✓ River float trip in El Fuerte to see the region’s abundant wildlife
✓ View a performance of Mexico’s Ballet Folklorico
✓ Travel by first-class rail back through the Copper Canyon to Posada Barrancas
✓ Stay on the rim of the Copper Canyon in Barrancas
✓ Tour the colonial city of Chihuahua, including the home of Pancho Villa and stay two nights
✓ $40 in Mayflower Money
group has performed throughout the world and will introduce us to the traditional regional dances of Mexico.

(Breakfast, lunch and dinner)

DAY FIVE – Copper Canyon Train to Barrancas
We board the train this morning for another thrilling ride through the canyon. Beginning at sea level, the train climbs to 8,000 feet while passing through the 86 tunnels and crossing 38 bridges in the more than 25,000 square miles of canyon in the Sierra Madre. The five major canyons in the area are collectively known as the Copper Canyon and are four times the size of the Grand Canyon. A stop in Temoris allows you to see the three ascending levels of the railroad. Later, we arrive in Barrancas and our hotel, which features terraces overlooking the Copper Canyon. Tonight, we enjoy Mexican serenades before dinner.

(Breakfast, lunch and dinner)

DAY SIX – Barrancas to Chihuahua
The morning is at leisure. Sit back, relax and enjoy the fabulous views of the Copper Canyon from your hotel. You may wish to walk to see the Tarahumara Indians who live in the canyon caves below or mingle with the Tarahumara artisan vendors who gather selling their wares. After our included lunch, we say adios to the beauty of the Copper Canyon and depart for Chihuahua. We’ll drive past the old Bocoyna mission, which was built by the Jesuits in 1692 before continuing on to our hotel.

(Breakfast and lunch)

DAY SEVEN – Chihuahua Sightseeing
Today, enjoy a sightseeing tour of Chihuahua. More than three-centuries old, Chihuahua was once the capital city of Mexico. You will visit the government palace, home to a series of magnificent murals depicting Mexican history and visit the baroque cathedral dedicated to St. Francis of Assisi. See the 18th century colonial aqueduct and drive by beautifully restored colonial homes. Visit the Museum of the Revolution, former home of Pancho Villa, hero of the Revolution and learn the story of Mexico’s fight for freedom. Later, visit Casas Grandes Trading Post for a demonstration of Paquimé pottery making. The remainder of the day is at leisure for shopping and sightseeing on your own. Tonight, we gather to share memories at a farewell dinner hosted by our Tour Manager.

(Breakfast and dinner)

DAY EIGHT – Chihuahua to El Paso and Home
After breakfast, our group transfer takes us to the El Paso, Texas airport for flights out after 3:00 p.m. (Breakfast)
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2016 DEPARTURE

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<td>$2,748</td>
<td>add $599</td>
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Pricing includes round trip airfare from VPS. Air itineraries may not be available until documents are received. Air seats are assigned by the airline for the entire group. Seat changes can only be attempted upon receipt of tickets and documents at which time availability may be limited. If specific seat assignments are vital to your reservation, we recommend individual air reservations rather than booking air with the group.

FOR RESERVATIONS OR INFORMATION CONTACT:

Tammy McDaniel
Tammy’s Journeys
(850) 243-3809
tammy@tammysjourneys.com

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS
Day One – Radisson Hotel, El Paso, Texas
Day Two – Best Western Lodge at Creel, Creel, Mexico
Days Three and Four – Hotel Posada Del Hidalgo, El Fuerte, Mexico
Day Five – Hotel Mirador, Barrancas, Mexico
Days Six and Seven – Ramada Encore Hotel, Chihuahua, Mexico

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL

Travelers Protection Plan (TPP) – $150
This nonrefundable fee waives all cancellation fees when we are notified of cancellation one day before the tour departs. If you must leave the tour early due to personal illness, illness or death of a member of your immediate family, TPP guarantees full refund for any unused services after the departure of the tour. Other benefits include medical expenses for illness and injury, emergency transportation, 24 hour hot line, and lost or stolen baggage assistance. Return air transportation is included ONLY if your air tickets were provided by Mayflower Tours. If you purchase the optional Travelers Protection Plan (TPP), you will be refunded all payments, including deposit amount, less the TPP premium amount.

Without Travelers Protection Plan (TPP)
• 61 days and more - deposit amount
• 60 – 31 days – 20% of the tour cost
• 30 – 15 days – 30% of the tour cost
• 14 – 1 day prior – 40% of the tour cost
• Day of departure or early departure from tour – 100% of the tour cost
No refund on unused portion

Exclusions: Mayflower Tours reserves the right to alter its refund and cancellation policy when a substantial amount of cancellation or postponement of travel is attributable to conditions resulting from an act of God, natural or man-made disaster, fire, government action, civil disorder, war, or hostilities between nations, or unavailability of transportation through no fault of Mayflower Tours.

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National Tour Association

PASSPORT REQUIRED

FAIR TRADE

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