Mexico City Travel Itinerary
September 7-12, 2022

Travel Coordination Vendor:
Gil Travel Group

Wednesday, September 7th, 2022
- U.S. to Mexico City
- 1:08 pm – arrive in Mexico
- Check in to your hotel and freshen up.
- Meet your fellow travelers in the lobby and visit Chapultepec Castle
  - Chapultepec is one of the largest city parks in the Western Hemisphere, and the oldest and largest urban parks in all of Latin America. Once located on the outskirts of the city, today this large over 686 hectares park is surrounded by the urban center of the city.
- Check in and relax before departing for dinner
- Dinner at Guzina Oaxaca with mezcal tasting

Thursday, September 8th, 2022
- Breakfast at the hotel
- Drive towards downtown to learn about Mexico City’s history as you pass through the Paseo de la Reforma and view some of the iconic monuments like Diana the Huntress and the Angel of Independence.
- Upon arrival to the Zócalo your guide will have an explanation of the Metropolitan Cathedral.
  - This beautiful, imposing cathedral dominates the vast expanse of Mexico City’s central square, or zócalo. The Metropolitan Cathedral is not only one of Mexico’s most treasured architectural masterpieces; it is also Latin America’s largest and oldest cathedral. The National Palace is also located on Mexico City’s main square, and its home to the offices of the Mexican President, the Federal Treasury, and the National Archives. Templo Mayor will be our next stop. This temple is thought to be on the exact spot where the Aztecs saw their symbolic eagle perching on a cactus with a snake in its beak – the symbol of Mexico today.
- You will be guided through a tour of two prominent Synagogues in Mexico City, the Justo Sierra
and the Mount Sinai Synagogue. Mount Sinai Synagogue was built in 1918 by Jews arriving from the Middle East while the Justo Sierra Synagogue was formed in 1941 for Orthodox Jews coming from Poland, Russia, Hungary, Germany, Czechoslovakia, and Austria during the Second World War.

• 12:00 lunch at Café de Tacuba with Moishe House guests
• Visit the Memoria y Tolerancia Museum. You will study the importance of tolerance, nonviolence, memory, and Human Rights. Time to explore the museum with your own headsets.
• Free time in the afternoon
• Walking tour of Roma neighborhood
• Dinner at Rosetta

Friday, September 9th, 2022
• 8:00am Depart hotel
• Visit Olami ORT. Share Shabbat services with the Kindergarten students, tour the facilities and meet the Director of Jewish Studies, Jackie Constant
• Lunch at Contramar with JDC guests
• 2:30pm Inside the park enjoy a visit to the famous Museo Nacional de Antropologia or National Museum of Anthropology. This museum contains the world’s largest collection of ancient Mexican art and exhibits about Mexico’s present day indigenous groups. The museum is fascinating and always a favorite of locals and tourists.
• 5:00pm Arrive to the hotel for relaxation time before Shabbat services
• Shabbat services at: Bet El Synagogue, with members of the Ashkenazi Community
  o In 1961, the Bet El Congregation of Mexico was officially constituted, culminating the desire of a group of families, mostly first generation born in Mexico, of Ashkenazi parents, to maintain their Jewish identity by living the traditions and customs in a more dynamic way. Bet El was the second congregation in Mexico supported by the Conservative Movement, With the accelerated growth of the community, it was decided to build its own headquarters, and on 1966, the building that currently houses the Bet El Community of Mexico was inaugurated in Polanco.
  • Enjoy a catered Shabbat dinner at the synagogue with members of the local community
  • Return to the hotel.

Saturday September 10, 2022
• Drive to Xochimilco “Mexico’s Venice” for a ride on a Trajinera boat
• Head to Frida Kahlo’s Blue House.
Also known as La Casa Azul, this is where Kahlo was born, grew up, and lived with her husband, Diego Rivera, for a number of years. It is a treasure trove of Frida’s artifacts and belongings, from personal letters to the corset she wore due to her disability. In 1958, Diego Rivera donated the home and its contents in order to turn it into a museum in Frida’s honor. The Frida-Diego house is located in the charming Coyoacán neighborhood, once a village of cobblestone streets and pre-colonial architecture that has now been absorbed into the city.

- Lunch at Los Danzantes
- Enjoy some free time in Coyoacán
- Proceed to the Saturday Bazar
- Return to the hotel. Rest of the evening on own

**Sunday September 11, 2022**
- 8:00am Depart hotel
- 9:30-11:30am Depart this morning on a drive north-east of Mexico City to visit the amazing site of **Teotihuacan** whose name means “the place where the gods were created”. This vast archaeological complex is a UNESCO World Heritage site and was once a flourishing pre-Colombian city and a center of culture and artistic influence. The site was built between the 1st and 7th centuries A.D and is characterized by its vast monuments – most notably the Pyramids of the Sun and the Moon, the Temple of Quetzalcoatl, and the Avenue of the Dead that run down the middle and links the major monuments. Return to Mexico City in time for lunch.
- 12:00pm Lunch at **Aguamiel**
- Return for the hotel and afternoon on own
- Modern Art Museum and Tamayo Museum
- Reflection Session
- Farewell dinner at **Hacienda de los Morales** with open bar

**Monday September 12, 2022**
- Arrive at the CDI- Centro Deportivo Israelita (Israeli Sport Center) premises. Enjoy a morning at the CDI – hosted by The Jewish Agency including a tour of the facility guided by members of the Board.
- Drive to the airport for your return flight