



JOURNEYMEXICO

Cancun

INTRODUCTION

You might think you know Cancun – 14 miles of pristine white beaches shaped like a number “7”, crystalline waters and sultry nights sipping on the perfect margarita, right? Well, you’re both right and wrong. If this is your idea of what Cancun is all about, read on. There’s so much more.

The history of Cancun dates back to 1967 when the Mexican government, recognizing the importance of tourism to the country’s economic future, began a detailed search to pinpoint ideal sites for tourism development. Resting on the northeast corner of the Yucatan Peninsula in the state of Quintana Roo (keen-tah-nah-ROW), Cancun was a part of the ancient Mayan civilization and is still considered the gateway to El Mundo Maya (the Mayan World).

Cancun has the distinction of being the one Caribbean destination with the infrastructure, modern amenities (spruced up in 2006) and service philosophy to rival leisure destinations worldwide. Unlike many other parts of the Caribbean and Mexico, Cancun was built for tourism, and continues to meet the needs of its over 3.3 million annual visitors. Cancun delivers to travelers the best of many worlds: the Caribbean and Mexico; modern and ancient; action packed and laid back. Cancun is unequalled in its ability to offer cultural treasures, natural beauty, infinite activities and North American-style conveniences.

The landscape of Cancun encourages the growth of many exotic flowers, such as flamboyances (named for the dazzling orange-red splash they make lining sidewalks and plazas) and fascinating fauna, like the prehistoric-looking iguanas. If you are a sports enthusiast, Cancun will not disappoint. It boasts great five golf courses, incredible coral reefs for snorkeling and scuba diving, sport-fishing and jungle tours. And if lying on a white-sand beach with the clear blue Caribbean lapping at your suntanned toes is what you long for then Cancun delivers. Some of the most beautiful beaches in the world are in and around Cancun making it Latin American’s most important leisure destination. /visitmexico.com



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RESTAURANT RECOMMENDATIONS

LA HABICHUELA

Mexican Traditional

Location: Margaritas 25, Las Palapas

Phone: 998/ 884 3158

Reservations: Recommended

Credit Cards: AE, MC, V

Hours: Daily 1:00 pm-12:00 am

The fame acquired by this gorgeous restaurant has not solely been for its amazing atmosphere. It combines superb cuisine, eclectic surprising design and splendid service with a menu composed of original and personal creations, emphasizing on Caribbean traditional seafood, Mexican cuisine and excellent top choice cuts of the best beef. All this details are part of La Habichuela's undeniable success. Mixed along with the courteous and professional service where every detail is taken care of, are the reasons, why, not having visited La Habichuela is like never having been in Cancun.



FANTINO

Mediterranean

Location: Ritz Carlton Hotel, Retorno del Rey 36, Zona Hotelera **Phone:** 998/ 881 0808

Reservations: Recommended

Credit Cards: AE, MC, V

Hours: Daily 6:30 pm-12:00 am

The earthy, rich-in-flavor ingredients of the Mediterranean Coast are masterfully presented with a contemporary touch, in Fantino. La Carte proposes an exquisite epicurean journey that's evocative to the fascinating regions of the old-country. In Fantino, every dish is beautifully-executed, almost artistically, and when one dines at this romantic venue, culinary excellence is attained with each and every bite. The praised menu features exhilarating food, such as Short Rib with squash Gnocchi and violet mustard- that adds allure to the tantalizing gourmet-affair.



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PETER'S

Mexican Contemporary

Location: Bonampak 71, Zona Hotelera

Phone: 998/ 251 9310

Reservations: Recommended

Credit Cards: AE, MC, V

Hours: Tuesday through Saturday 6:00 pm-10:00pm

Peter's is a small, cozy restaurant where one feels at home while enjoying an excellent lunch or dinner. It is a place where flavors & feelings meet. The personal service by Chef Peter, his wife Claudia and son Eder makes the experience truly authentic. Chef Peter Houben, originally Dutch traveled through several countries before he settled down 22 years ago in Mexico. The menu is very interesting with a different flair in dishes and preparations that make hard to make your choice as all looks great. Peter's has an exclusive Wine list too.



LES CEPAGES

French

Location: Nichupte 15, Super Manzana 16

Phone: 998/ 802 1093

Reservations: Recommended

Credit Cards: AE, MC, V

Hours: Monday through Saturday 2:00 pm-10:00 pm / Closed on Sunday

The philosophy of Les Cépages is to offer a vast culinary experience through dishes prepared with care and imagination and, above all, made from fresh ingredients of the highest quality, resulting in a broad and subtle range of flavors and textures. They are always looking for that your visit to Les Cépages is a complete and pleasant gastronomic moment. Les Cépages, diversity of grapes as there is in taste. Variety of clusters as there is in flavors. Constellation regions as there is in textures. Countless wines as there is in emotions. To you to enjoy with all your senses. Fall in love with this amazing offering of French contemporary cuisine.



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PORFIRIO'S

Mexican Contemporary

Location: Blv. Kukulcan KM 14.2, Zona Hotelera

Phone: 998/ 840 6040

Reservations: Recommended

Credit Cards: AE, MC, V

Hours: Daily 1:00 pm-1:00 am

It is the contemporary Mexican restaurant that took Mexico City by storm since it opened its doors in 2012. They've perfected the iconic Mexican cuisine with an exquisite, contemporary and inspirational touch that coupled with the amazing presentations and tasteful, distinguished service will redefine everything you knew about high end Mexican cuisine. They also offer over 100 different labels of Tequilas and Mescals. Porfirio's complete dedication to true Mexican ingredients and tireless exploration for re-imagined flavors have resulted, in an extraordinary dining experience and a censorial exhilarating adventure.



DU MEXIQUE

French-Mayan Fusion

Location: Bonampak 109, Centro

Phone: 998/ 884 5919

Reservations: Recommended

Credit Cards: AE, MC, V

Hours: Daily 7:00 pm-11:00 pm

Located in what used to be a house, the ambiance, service and food make this restaurant stand out on the endless list of Cancun restaurants. Chef Alain Grimond and his wife Sonya prepare and serve the food themselves. The cuisine is an interesting combination of Mayan and French. Have an appetizer in the lounge or "sala", move to the 20-seat dining room for dinner, and have dessert on the patio. If you would like something special that you don't see on the menu, ask and if it's possible, they will prepare it for you. Du Mexique kitchen has been valued over time for each of its guests who have given them the star of trust.



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