



**JOURNEYMEXICO**

## Playa del Carmen

### INTRODUCTION

This city in the Mexican Caribbean, which until recently was a fishing village, is today a meeting place for young Europeans, South Americans and Mexicans looking for fun and relaxation. Here, there are many good restaurants and bars, and you can stay at design hotels and participate in diving and water sports, as well as play golf on professional courses.

Visit Quinta Avenida (Fifth Avenue). It is Playa del Carmen's most famous street. On this pedestrian street you will find souvenir shops, crafts and fine silver jewelry shops and stores offering luxury branded items. Playa del Carmen is one of the most important culinary destinations in the Riviera Maya. On the menu you will find from simple tacos and Yucatan specialties, to sophisticated lobster dinners and good vintage wines.

At night, Fifth Avenue resonates with echoes of reggae, rock and salsa, while dozens of feet prepare to hit the dance floor. The party ends very late at night. A modern ferry connects Playa del Carmen to the Island of Cozumel, where you will be able to go diving, snorkeling, or visit the archaeological sites, the ecological parks and the cenotes. /visitmexico.com



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Puerto Vallarta  
Mexico City  
Cancun

+52 (322) 225 9821  
1-800-513-1587  
info@journeymexico.com

## RESTAURANT RECOMMENDATIONS

### ALDEA CORAZON

Mexican Contemporary

**Location:** 5th Avenue, between 14th and 16th

**Phone:** 984/ 803 1942

**Reservations:** Recommended

**Credit Cards:** AE, MC, V

**Hours:** Daily 8:00 am-10:00 pm

This magical scenery of Mayan culture sets itself in a sacred garden located right on 5th avenue. Choose to enjoy the view of 5th avenue while savoring a frozen cocktail, be delighted by the greenery and hearts or find yourself in a magical environment surrounded by dream catchers, tropical greenery, old leaf trees and underground cenotes. Pamper the most discerning palate by enjoying mouth-watering dishes as fresh local fish with hibiscus flower sauce or a tender beef fillet, filled with huitlacoche (Mexican corn fungus) covered with spicy poblano chile sauce. Aldea Corazon serves a fusion of Mexican cuisine with a Mayan twist.



### ALMIRANTE PECH

Mexican Seafood

**Location:** 5th Avenue & 30th Street

**Phone:** 984/ 803 2912

**Reservations:** Recommended

**Credit Cards:** AE, MC, V

**Hours:** Sunday through Thursday 6:00 pm-1:00 am / Friday and Saturday closes at 2:00 am

Mexican Tropical Tavern, Almirante Pech, serves sophisticated and contemporary food imbued with Yucatecan influences. The specialty is Mexican seafood but they also serve regional dishes and international flavors to appeal to all palates. Although Almirante Pech may come off as a bar, its style is more elegant and with its long exterior facing the main avenue, it makes this place popular for delicious drinks. They guarantee every night an unforgettable mood at a spectacular location.



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## CASA DEL AGUA

International

**Location:** 5th Avenue & 2nd Street

**Phone:** 984/ 803 0232

**Reservations:** Recommended

**Credit Cards:** AE, MC, V

**Hours:** Daily 4:00 pm-11:00 pm

La Casa del Agua is a unique casual fine dining restaurant in the heart of Playa del Carmen, just a few steps from the crystal waters of the Mexican Caribbean Sea. Since opening its doors in 2001, the Spath family has created a dining atmosphere with a versatile menu of international cuisine, also offering an impressive wine collection with more than 300 labels. This restaurant has a beautiful Roof Garden to enjoy a relaxing and romantic open air area overlooking the ocean and Cozumel Island. Casa del Agua is a favorite among many and used often to celebrate special events.



## EL MUELLE

Seafood

**Location:** 5th Avenue & 32nd Street

**Phone:** 984/ 803 00 73

**Reservations:** Recommended

**Credit Cards:** AE, MC, V

**Hours:** Monday through Saturday 5:00 pm-11:00 pm / Closed on Wednesday / Sunday 9:00 am-5:00 pm

El Muelle is a small and cozy restaurant built on the values of freshness and to provide honesty and simplicity in every dish, using only the highest quality products, culinary ethics, and fair prices. In upholding their values, local fishermen visit El Muelle daily to supply the catch of the day where Chef Charly Parks selects only the best for his customers. It's decoration reflects style, care and dedication in every nook. El Muelle's concept is to preserve and build upon Playa del Carmen's essence.



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## IMPREVIST

International

**Location:** 1st Avenue between 14th and 16th

**Phone:** 984/ 168 70 25

**Reservations:** Recommended

**Credit Cards:** AE, MC, V

**Hours:** Monday through Saturday 7:00 am-2:00 pm & 6:00 pm-11:00 pm / Closed on Sunday

Imprevist, a Catalan word meaning “the unexpected” is a place where creativity and love combine to bring you something truly amazing. Imprevist features an International and Asian Fusion gourmet menu. They serve a causal Sunday style breakfast and brunch daily in their comfy home-style setting with a choice of seating in the dining room or out on the open-air patio, overlooking a quiet cobblestone street. At night they turn down the lights and set the scene for a cozy and intimate dining experience. Enjoy a relaxing evening out with friends, an elegant family dinner or a romantic night out as a couple.



## LA CUEVA DEL CHANGO

Mexican Traditional

**Location:** 38th North Street, between 5th Avenue and beach

**Phone:** 984/ 147 0271

**Reservations:** Not necessary

**Credit Cards:** AE, MC, V

**Hours:** Monday through Saturday 8:00 am-11:00 pm / Sunday 8:00 am-2:00 pm

La Cueva del Chango is a truly unique restaurant-bar, not only in the concept but also for the natural setting amongst abundant and wonderful vegetation and trees. The culinary concept is natural Mexican food, they serve breakfast, lunch and dinner. All the juices are made with only fresh fruit and they also have an awesome bar with an ample assortment of premium brands. The wines they serve are Mexican, thus offering an ample selection. In La Cueva del Chango they believe in the Mexican cuisine and offer a high quality product at a reasonable price. This is the best place to enjoy a relaxed casual environment.



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## OH LALA!

International

**Location:** 14th Street, between 10th Street & 5th Avenue

**Phone:** 984/ 127 4844

**Reservations:** Recommended

**Credit Cards:** AE, MC, V

**Hours:** Monday through Saturday 6:30 pm-11:30 pm / Closed on Sunday

The cuisine at Oh Lala! is a refreshing change from that of other, more conventional restaurants. Guests are treated like good old friends in a relaxing atmosphere coupled with personalized service and good food. Opened in January, 2011, by co-owners George and Mikaela, Oh Lala! offers personalized experiences for its guests, ranging from a laidback sampling of hors d'oeuvres and wines, to a leisurely look at the full menu. With a total of 9 tables and an open kitchen, Chef George, Mikaela, and their staff, make sure that every visit to Oh Lala, International Cuisine by George, Is a unique and a delicious one.



## PLANK

International

**Location:** 16th Street between 1st. & 5th Avenue

**Phone:** 984/ 803 0108

**Reservations:** Mandatory. One month prior arrival.

**Credit Cards:** AE, MC, V

**Hours:** Daily 6:00 pm-11:00 pm / Saturday & Sunday opened for breakfast 9:00 am-2:00 pm

Traditional plank and smoked cooking meet the Chef's gourmet style in this restaurant, creating a delightful gastronomic experience never seen before in the Riviera Maya. Using the highest quality of meats, prime seafood, fresh vegetables and herbs, a special twist is given by cooking and serving every dish on Himalayan Salt Blocks, Cedar, Maple, Hickory and Mesquite wood planks to infuse each meal with its intricate flavors. After a day of exploring, head over to the bar and enjoy unique drinks the Mixologist has created to quench your thirst and delight your senses.



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