

# CRIZMAC

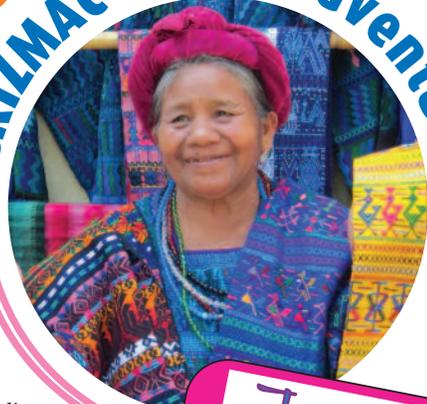
## Guatemalan Highlands: An Exploration of Art and Culture

Antigua, Panajachel, Guatemala City

February 20 - March 1, 2015 • 9 Days • 24 Meals

Join us for an immersion in the vibrant arts and culture of the magnificent Highlands. Guatemala is home to majestic volcanoes and Lake Atitlan, one of the most scenic lakes in the world. This trip offers you an opportunity to explore the natural beauty of the countryside and the vibrant artistic traditions of the Mayan people. You will enjoy meeting people from diverse indigenous groups, who speak their native languages and wear their village-specific clothing. Markets brimming with an array of fabulous hand-woven textiles, pottery, masks and more will tantalize your senses. The stately colonial architecture of Antigua, built in the 16th century, and the museums of Guatemala all await us. Your tour leaders are Stevie Mack, president of CRIZMAC Art and Cultural Marketplace, and Vivian Harvey, Educational Programs Coordinator for Cemanahuac Educational Community.

Guatemalan Highlands  
CRIZMAC Travel Adventures



### ► Daily Itinerary

Included meals in parentheses:

**B**=Breakfast, **L**=Lunch, **D**=Dinner

#### Friday, February 20

Arrive Guatemala City's airport, where you will be met by your tour leaders and escorted to your hotel in Antigua to check in and enjoy a group dinner. (**D**)

#### Saturday, February 21

After breakfast at the hotel we'll begin our tour with an orientation to the activities of the week. Our first excursion is to the remarkable *Ixchel* Museum in Guatemala City, dedicated to Mayan culture, with a particular emphasis on traditional weaving. Guided by a museum curator, we'll view stunning collections of hand-woven fabrics, including impressive examples of ceremonial costumes. Following a picnic lunch at the museum, we'll visit the famous topographical map of Guatemala, an engineering masterpiece, in Minerva Park. Upon our return to Antigua, we'll visit a local jade factory to learn about the religious, ceremonial, and economic role of jade in pre-Columbian history. After dinner, our guest presenter will share information about some successful health programs for indigenous women. (**B, L, D**)

#### Sunday, February 22

After enjoying breakfast we will take a walking tour of Antigua, a UNESCO World Heritage site and one of Central America's most enchanting colonial cities. Located in a sweeping highland valley, Antigua is known for its cobbled streets and grand Baroque-style colonial architecture. We'll learn about the city's history and many points of interest. Lunch is at a charming local restaurant overlooking the city. The remainder of the afternoon and evening you are free to enjoy the sites of Antigua. (**B, L**)

#### Monday, February 23

After breakfast we'll check out of our hotel and board the motor coach for our transfer to *Panajachel*. While driving along the scenic Panamerican Highway we'll visit one of the first capital cities of Guatemala, *Ciudad Vieja*, and have lunch. On route to our hotel, we'll stop in the lakeside village of *Solola* to visit the women's weaving cooperative, where over 180 women weave beautiful scarves and other textiles. After checking into our hotel in Panajachel we'll enjoy dinner at a family-owned restaurant by the lake. (**B, L, D**)

#### Tuesday, February 24

After breakfast we will board our boat for a trip across Lake Atitlan, an astonishingly beautiful body of water surrounded by hills and volcanoes. The strength of traditional Mayan culture is very evident in the lakeside villages, some of the very few places where the men still wear traditional clothing. Our destinations include the villages of *San Pedro*, where we'll visit the homes of two painters, Mariano and Vicenta Gonzales, and *San Juan*, noted for the women's use of natural vegetable dyes in their weaving. We'll also visit the larger village of *Santiago Atitlan*, where we'll see the home of Maximon, a revered figure in Mayan history, and the Church of Santiago. In the evening we'll have dinner at a local restaurant and learn more about the customs and clothing of the Mayan highlands. (**B, L, D**)

#### Wednesday, February 25

Following breakfast we'll walk to the *Panajachel* public market, followed by a tour of a social service program for Mayan families. We'll then take a private van to two villages: *San Antonio Polopo*, famous for handmade/handpainted pottery, and *Santa Catarina*, where the women wear distinctive headdresses and blue and purple *huipiles*. Lunch will be in *Santa Catarina*. We'll return to Panajachel and reassemble for a cooking class to prepare our dinner using local foods. (**B, L, D**)

### Thursday, February 26

After breakfast our visit to *Chichicastenango* takes us to one of Guatemala's most popular destinations, the scene of a vast market and a pivotal center of Mayan religion. *Santo Tomas Church*, located on the plaza, was built in 1540 on the site of a Mayan altar and rebuilt in the 18th century. The indigenous people set up their own altars inside the church and today practice a unique hybrid of Mayan and Catholic worship. During our visit, you will find the market stalls brimming with textiles, masks, pottery and more. After a magnificent buffet lunch at the famous Hotel Santo Tomas, you will have free time to enjoy the sites and sounds of *Chichicastenango* and shop the market for treasures. We will return to *Panajachel* for dinner on your own. (B, L)

### Friday, February 27

After breakfast we'll leave for an all-day excursion farther into the highlands, to visit several villages known for their excellent weaving. Just off the Panamerican highway, we'll visit the fanciful yellow church of *San Andres Xecol*, known for the animals painted on the exterior (much like the women's *huipiles* from this village). We'll continue on for lunch in *Quetzaltenango*, the second largest city in Guatemala, and center of the coffee trade in the previous century. After lunch we'll visit a home "factory" where fibers are dyed using the *jaspe* or *ikat* processes and woven on huge floor looms. On our return to *Panajachel* we'll enjoy dinner at our hotel. (B, L, D)

### Saturday, February 28

After breakfast at the hotel you will have a free morning to visit the many shops in *Panajachel*, or to walk through the Nature Reserve on the outskirts of the village. We'll gather for lunch at the famous Hotel Atitlan and stroll through the magnificent gardens on the shore of the lake. Following lunch we'll travel back to Guatemala City for a farewell dinner at our hotel. (B, L, D)

### Sunday, March 1

Depart from the hotel with many new friends, photographs, special memories, and your bags brimming with treasures from Guatemala. (B, flight time permitting)

## ▶ Your Journey Includes

- Hotels, double rooms, 9 nights (single occupancy available): 3 nights in Antigua, 5 nights in Panajachel, 1 night in Guatemala City
- Airport transfers, by bus or airport vans, for those arriving on February 20 and leaving on March 1, 2015
- Boat transportation on Lake Atitlan trips
- All land transportation to tour sites
- Entrance fees for museums
- Meals including hot coffee or tea—all breakfasts and lunches; seven dinners
- All tips, including baggage in airports and hotels, maids, and bus drivers
- Speakers fees and donations
- Bibliography and suggested readings
- Tour handout
- Cost based on double occupancy rooms, single rooms available for an additional fee
- AIRFARE NOT INCLUDED

## Guatemalan Highlands CRIZMAC Travel Adventures



## ▶ Important Information

Not included in the tour fee are flights to Guatemala City, extra nights in hotels, transportation on days other than the scheduled days (February 20 and March 1, 2015), beverages other than coffee or hot tea with meals, personal expenses (laundry, etc.)

Every effort will be made to carry out all activities as planned and advertised, however, CRIZMAC and the seminar leaders reserve the right to make any alterations, deletions or modifications to the itinerary and/or accommodations deemed necessary due to circumstances beyond their control.

### Registration and Payment

Enrollment will be made on a "first-come, first-served" basis. A \$500 deposit is required to guarantee your space. Registration and payments may be made by phone, mail, online at [www.crizmac.com](http://www.crizmac.com) or in person at the CRIZMAC Marketplace. Final payment is due on or before December 20, 2014. Registrations will be accepted until the trip fills.

### Cancellations and Refunds

Cancellations must be received in writing. Participants who cancel on or before December 1 will receive a full refund less a \$300 processing fee. No refund is given for cancellations made after December 1, 2014. CRIZMAC will make every effort to operate the tour as advertised. In the event CRIZMAC must cancel a tour, participants will receive a full refund of all monies paid to CRIZMAC. However, CRIZMAC is not responsible for losses due to non-refundable airline tickets or other travel costs. Travel insurance is highly recommended.

### Professional Development

Educators receive a certificate for 56 hours of professional development credit.

### Additional Travel Opportunities

If you want to extend your visit to include a trip to the magnificent archeological site of Tikal, information is available. Trips are arranged by a reputable Guatemalan travel agency and include roundtrip flights to Flores (Tikal airport).



**\$2096**  
Per Person

▶ Register Today: [www.crizmac.com](http://www.crizmac.com)  
1-800-913-8555 or (520) 323-8555

### ▶ Price

\$2,096 per person, double occupancy.  
Single supplement: \$270.

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