



The Journey: **Cozumel STEM – 40-Foot Under!**
Marine Biology, Ocean Conservation, Coral Reef Ecology & SCUBA Diving. A complete training program for every first-time diver as well as pre-certified and advanced divers.

Duration: 10-days / 9-nights

Destination: Cozumel, Mexico



Have you ever wondered about the spectacular world under the water? If you have, Cozumel is the place you want to be. Continually named in one of the top 5 dive locations globally, Cozumel is the place that Jacques Cousteau called “**a diver’s paradise.**” With stunning water clarity of up to 200 feet, incredible wildlife, beautiful warm currents and a fabulous local culture, when you are ready to try diving, this is the place for you. Already an experienced diver? Then you probably already understand just how special Cozumel really is.

With an itinerary set up for new divers wanting to learn for the very first time, as well as experience divers wanting to dive these incredible reefs, our trip not only includes diving but also some great activities to sink your teeth into the culture and beauty of Mexico. From swimming in the cenotes and exploring Tulum, to a special Coral Reef conservation program, we’ve got you covered.

Our hotel sits directly on one of the most beautiful beaches and our dive site is located right on our beach. All meals and beverages are included in this fantastic all-inclusive hotel, and scuba rental equipment is as well. Our local instruction team is the best in the business so whether you’re an experienced diver or trying it for the very first time, relax and enjoy. Cozumel is a place of beauty and serenity. Let us carve out a picture-perfect experience for you!

For our STEM lovers, diving truly represents every aspect of STEM education with all its components. Science Technology, Engineering & Mathematics are all incorporated and needed for this incredible experience. The pool is open!

Cozumel STEM - Mexico - 40-Foot Under!

Day	Morning	Afternoon	Evening	
1	Fly to Cozumel, Mexico; transfer and check-in		Free Time	Dinner & Evening Entertainment at Resort
2	Scuba Registration - Pick-up Training Materials - Get Fitted for Gear	Classroom Theory / Confined Water Training	Free Time	Dinner & Evening Entertainment at Resort
3	Classroom Theory / Confined Water Training	<i>Classroom at Sea / Coral Reef Ecology & Sustainability (Snorkel Session)</i>		Dinner & Evening Entertainment at Resort
4	<i>Open Water Dives 1 & 2</i>	<i>Beach Time / Cozumel Town Trip / Shopping & Exploration</i>		Dinner in town at Senior Frogs / Pay on Own
5	Classroom Theory / Confined Water Training	Classroom Theory / Confined Water Training	Free Time	Dinner & Evening Entertainment at Resort
6	Ferry to Playa del Carmen	<i>Mayan Excursion Day in Playa Del Carmen - Tulum Jungle Maya</i>	Return to Island / Ferry	Dinner & Evening Entertainment at Resort
7	<i>Open Water Dives 3 & 4</i>	Beach Time	<i>Night Dive</i>	Dinner at Resort
8	<i>Coral Reef Conservation Training & Certification Testing</i>	<i>Coral Reef Conservation Dives 1 & 2</i>	Free Time	Dinner & Evening Entertainment at Resort
9	<i>Extra Dives 5 & 6 for pre-Certified Divers</i>	Beach Time	Certificate Presentation	Dinner & Evening Entertainment at Resort
10	Fly Home			



Day 1 - Dinner

Travel by air to Mexico, arriving gorgeous Cozumel and getting registered in the Occidental Grand Hotel located on the southwest side of this stunning island. The hotel is a beautiful all-inclusive resort so each guest may feel free to dine when they want, where they want. Enjoy 7 restaurants, 5 bars, 3 swimming pools plus a host of amenities. This fabulous property makes for the perfect island getaway!

Day 2 – Breakfast, lunch & dinner

Today's your day to start diving! New divers will embark on a training course with accomplished instructors to start earning your Open Water Diver certification. Pre-certified divers may be scheduled for a refresher course or simply dive right in, dependent upon personal needs and dive schedules.

Day 3 – Breakfast, lunch & dinner

Another great dive training day is scheduled for you today. Whether under instruction or just along for the dives, you'll enjoy fantastic turquoise waters with a backdrop like no other.

Ready to learn a bit more about Coral Reefs? In the afternoon we'll be picked up by private boat for a snorkeling tour of the fantastic coral reefs around Cozumel. Led by a naturalist, we'll not only get an educational lesson, but we'll add another brilliant day in the water to our accomplishments.

Day 4 – Breakfast, lunch & dinner (at resort)

Another great dive day and probably the first 'ocean dive day' for our new divers! We'll be celebrating as they earn the water wings! We'll have our morning for diving and training, then in the afternoon, join us for a hop into town for some shopping and great Mayan culture. Don't forget the tequila tasting! In the evening, some may wish to stay out and dine in town. If so, we recommend Senior Frogs for a great night out. If you miss the transfer back to the hotel, taxis are plentiful. Enjoy!

Day 5 – Breakfast, lunch & dinner

Dive day! For those not diving, enjoy the fantastic resort with all the amenities. Perhaps a Spanish class or a cooking class? Or maybe it's a day for a volleyball competition? This is the life! In the afternoon, why not try sailing or sea kayaking? It's complimentary for you and instruction is included.

Day 6 – Breakfast, lunch & dinner

Today is a day to understand the incredible history of the Maya. After an early start and a ferry over to the mainland, we'll embark on a special tour. Exploring the Maya Jungle, guests will visit the impressive Tulum archaeological site on the Riviera Maya. Snorkel surrounded by awesome rock formations, ride through the jungle on all-terrain Mercedes Benz Unimogs, rappel down into an underground cave and swim in a natural pool. Enjoy nature while flying over the jungle's foliage on ziplines and participate in a traditional Maya purification ceremony. And after all this, we'll make it back to our hotel for a late dinner.

Day 7 – Breakfast, lunch & dinner

Enjoy world class diving to Cozumel's top sites with your dive days. Today our beginners will embark on their 2nd day of ocean dives; our certified divers will probably be enjoying the turquoise blue waters as well! In the afternoon, set some time aside for rest and relaxation because this evening, we'll be embarking on a group **Night Dive!** Watch as night creatures – octopus, squid and other fabulous swimmers - come alive in the moonlight. This totally awesome experience is one you will never forget!

Day 8 – Breakfast, lunch & dinner

Today is a day to tackle a fabulous learning objective. We'll get special training this morning on Coral Reef Ecology & Conservation. In the afternoon, we'll put our training to the test and after earning our course certification, we'll dive to identify and see these incredible corals up close and in person. Cozumel's corals are absolutely glorious!

Day 9 – Breakfast, lunch & dinner

Are you ready for some island rest and relaxation? For new divers, enjoy a day with absolutely no plans. Sleep late, stroll along the beach, snorkel, play a game of tennis, build a sandcastle! Perhaps grab a taxi to town and just explore. Want to rent a bicycle? No problem! Just a short 5-minute bike road down the road are some pretty awesome cultural activities! There's so much to do here if you want to be active.

For our pre-certified divers, today will be our last dive day. Enjoy!

In the evening, we'll take a bit of time to issue our awards and diving accomplishment certifications!

Day 10 – Breakfast (lunch may be available at the hotel, dependent upon your departure time)

Depart to the airport and return home today.

Trip Inclusions

Cozumel STEM – 40-Foot Under!

- Round-trip flights to/from Mexico
- Transportation to/from the Occidental Cozumel Resort
- 9-nights' accommodation
- All meals, snacks and beverages starting with arrival in hotel and ending with departure from hotel; based on meal service times
- Day and evening resort activities including organized activities as well as individual activities
 - ✚ Jacuzzi, Sauna & Fitness center room

- ✚ Two Tennis Courts, Volleyball, Water Aerobics
- ✚ Babysitting & Childcare Services (extra fees may apply)
- ✚ Kayaking, Windsurfing, Snorkeling & Sailing (instruction & equipment included – one hour per day per guest)
- ✚ Daily activities by the pool and beach areas (Spanish Cooking Class, Spanish Language Class, Water Aerobics Class, Pool Volleyball, etc)
- ✚ Nightly shows & entertainment
- ✚ Chaise lounges & towel service at the pool & beach areas
- **PADI certification program** (one program per participant):
 - ✚ PADI Open Water Diver certification
 - ✚ OR PADI Adventure Diver with 3-days of 2-tank dives
 - ✚ OR PADI Advanced Open Water Diver with 3-days of 2-tank dives
 - ✚ OR PADI Skin Diver (Snorkel) with 3-afternoons of boat snorkels
 - ✚ OR 4-days of 2-tank dives for pre-certified divers that are not participating in a certification program
- Full instruction & certification in **Coral Reef Conservation** program, including **2 additional dives** after certification achievement
- **Night Dive** with light & blinker once everyone has earned their certification
- All training orchestrated and executed by certified PADI experts
- All training materials including FULL study manuals
- Dive Log for initial 'Open Water Diver' program participants
- Multilevel Recreational Dive Planner (Dive Calculator) for initial 'Open Water Diver' program participants
- All equipment provided while in resort:
 - ✚ Fins
 - ✚ Mask
 - ✚ Wetsuit (shorty or long)
 - ✚ Regulator
 - ✚ BCD (Buoyancy Control Device)
 - ✚ Weight System
 - ✚ Submersible Pressure Gauge
 - ✚ Air Tanks
- **'Marine Biology' Pre-Tour Webinar** with Cozumel focus
- **'Oceanography' Pre-Tour Webinar** with Cozumel & Mesoamerican Reef focus
- **'Conservation & Protection' Pre-Tour Webinar** with Shark focus and worldwide application
- **'Shark Awareness Education & Certification Course'** (online self-study)
 - ✚ Identify basic concepts of shark classification
 - ✚ Identify components of shark anatomy
 - ✚ Identify basic concepts of shark physiology
 - ✚ Identify different forms of shark behavior
 - ✚ Identify components of shark interactions
 - ✚ Identify different species of sharks
 - ✚ Identify importance of shark conservation
 - ✚ Identify research practices used to study sharks
- **'Classroom at Sea'** excursion includes snorkeling and Master Class on **Coral Reef Ecology & Conservation**
- **Maya Excursion Day – choice of Tulum Jungle Maya OR Coba Maya Encounter**
 - ✓ **Maya Jungle Tour** - Explore the impressive Tulum archaeological site in a Riviera Maya excursion with stunning views of the Caribbean Sea. Enter into the amazing Sac-Actun system, the world's longest underground river of this Tulum excursion, explored and recommended by National

Geographic Snorkeler specialized cave divers. Snorkel surrounded by awesome rock formations, ride through the jungle on all-terrain Mercedes Benz Unimogs, rappel down into a cenote (underground cave) and swim in a unique natural pool. Enjoy nature flying over the jungle's foliage on exciting zip-lines and participate in a traditional Maya purification ceremony.

- ✓ **Coba Maya Encounter** - Visit the impressive archaeological site of Coba and discover the amazing Nohoch Mul, the tallest temple in the Yucatan Peninsula. Visit a secluded Mayan village and enjoy its well preserved natural beauties, lagoons, cenotes (underground river), jungle paths, and the natural reserve that protects the local flora and fauna. Rappel down thrilling cenotes and soar the canopy in breathtaking zip lines, swim in hidden caves and walk through the jungle learning about the environment.
- **Cozumel excursion time** (transportation) for shopping and exploration
- Beach / Pool Towel for resort use
- Crew for Ocean dives (**gratuities not included**; gratuities are completely discretionary, ask us about suggested amounts)
- Baggage handling at hotel
- Gratuities for hotel staff (bellmen, housekeepers, restaurant / bar staff)
- Muse Journeys Ambassador
- Basic Travel Insurance Policy, per passenger
- 24-hour emergency cover

Not Included

- Please bring your own fins/mask/snorkel for your Classroom at Sea day
- Airline baggage fees (paid direct at airport at check-in)
- Gratuities for Dive instructors, boat crew, Ambassador & Mayan history guide
- Any meals while not on resort property
- Fees for dive refresher course, if necessary, for anyone who is a certified diver but has not dived within the past 12-calendar month period (approx. \$50 USD pp)
- Cost of visas, full or collective passports
- Cost of inoculations or medication required for travel
- Additional Sightseeing / Entertainment Options
- Hotel incidental bills – gift shop, spa services, internet service fees, etc
- Additional taxes, fuel surcharges or service charges levied by the governments or our suppliers
- Baggage handling during transit (hotel baggage handling included)

Important Notes

- 7-day packages are also available focusing on the scuba dive portion only without the added excursions. If you have an interest in this program, simply let us know.
- All guests are quoted on double occupancy in the hotel property. If single occupancy is required, please understand that a supplemental fee will be required.
- Should the numbers in your group change, please contact us directly for potential cost revisions.
- A 'Release of Liability' waiver is required from all participants, including those organizing the trip, prior to travel. Additionally, the dive shop also requires a signed waiver upon arrival.
- A medical questionnaire is required by each passenger in order to participate in diving activities. If any element is ticked as positive, a physician's statement will be required stating that the participant is healthy for diving activities. Guests may elect to seek a physician's approval prior to travel, or seek a physician once in Mexico (at independent costs). For certain health issues, guests must seek a physician certified in sports medicine or specifically for diving activities, to gain the required authorization. Please ask us if you have any questions on this bullet.

- If any participant initially signs up for diving but decides to refrain from the diving activities once initiated, please note that monetary refunds will not be available for loss of activities.
- Each person registering is supplied with a basic travel insurance policy that meets minimum standards, specifically for this trip. If you wish to expand your coverage, you may wish to add a private, supplemental policy.
- Due to fluctuation in air rates, please understand that the initial quote issued is based on a credible assumption, however it may vary at the actual time of booking. Flights will be reserved once first deposits have been received and are generally available approximately 11-months prior to departure. If at that time flight rates exceed the assumption and it increases the cost of the trip, the organizational lead will have an option to decline the booking at no penalty to your group.
- Each guest should be prepared to present a credit card at check-in for security deposit holds and in-room charging.
- Each guest should ensure they are aware of international passport and Visa requirements.

