History

The history of Cozumel is linked to the Mayan civilization. Cozumel was a sacred Mayan shrine referred to as Ah-Cuzamil-Peten, or "Island of the Swallows."

In the 10th century, the Mayan civilization began to decline. The primary reason for the decline was the influence of more aggressive Toltecs. Many Mayans were killed in battle or sacrificed, while some were assimilated into the Toltec culture. By the 12th century, the Toltec cut off the god Quetzalcóatl, meaning "plumed serpent," dominated the Mayan culture. Fighting ended in 1540, when the Spanish captain, the Yucatan Peninsula. The last Mayan city, near Lake Peten in Guatemala, fell to the Spanish in 1657.

The Spanish first arrived on Cozumel in 1518, early in their conquest of the Americas. With Cortés' arrival, many of the Mayan temples were destroyed. When he left the island, not only did the native civilization lie in ruins, but an outbreak of smallpox swept the island. From the population of 40,000 that Cortés reported in 1519, the number was a mere 350 by 1570. And 30 years later, the island was completely abandoned.

Although pirates used Cozumel as a base in the 17th century, the island wasn't resettled until 1848, when a group sought refuge from the "War of the Castes" on the Mexican mainland. This period of time was often violent attempts by native Mayan ancestry to regain their lands, lasted until a surrender to government troops in 1961. Important land reforms and freedom for the Indians resulted from the Revolution of 1910-1917. By 1970, the population had reached 10,000, and today some 67,000 people inhabit this island paradise.

Local Flavors

Cozumel's famed Avenida Rafael Melgar and the connecting streets are filled with some of the world's best shopping. The streets flow with Mexican arts and crafts, the finest sterling silver, onyx carvings, leather goods, duty-free goods from around the world, and locally cultivated tequilas and vanillas. A walk down the avenue is made all the more pleasant by sampling the exotic drinks and tastes in the local shops along the way.

Discovery JEWELRY

Ammolite by Korite.......................................................... Diamonds International Watch & Design
Chanel........................................................................... Diamonds International Watch & Design
Crowns of Light......................................................... Diamonds International Watch & Design
Diva's............................................................................ Efry Jewelry
Edward Mirell............................................................. Goodmark Jewelry
The Eighty-Eight......................................................... Diamonds International Watch & Design
Firefly by Timothy Pasha........................................ Milano Diamond Gallery
Floating Fantasies by Asher....................................... Diamonds International Watch & Design
Hearts on Fire........................................................... Diamonds International Watch & Design
Hello Kitty.................................................................. Efry Jewelry
John Hardy...................................................................... Milano Diamond Gallery
Judith Ripka................................................................. Diamonds International
Kathy Ireland Jewelry................................................. Milano Diamond Gallery
Mark Henry Alexandrite............................................. Goodmark Jewelry
Rainbow Sapphire by Asher....................................... Diamonds International
Rosito............................................................................ Milano Diamond Gallery
Simmons Jewelry....................................................... Efry Jewelry
Sophia Fiori..................................................................... Efry Jewelry
Tanzanite Dreams by Timothy Pasha............................. Milano Diamond Gallery
Yvel................................................................................ Efry Jewelry

APPRECIATION

The capital of the Mexican state of Quintana Roo is Chetumal.

Location

Cozumel is 50 miles south of Cancun and about 10 miles from the coast of Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula.

Size

The island of Cozumel is approximately 30 miles long and 9 miles wide.

Population

There are approximately 67,000 people on the island.

Discounting/Refund

The ship will dock or tender into the International Pier, located 3 miles away from the downtown area. Taxis are readily available at the end of the pier. The ship will dock or tender into the International Pier, located 3 miles away from the downtown area.

Shore Excursions

Please check your tour ticket for the correct meeting time and location for your tour. Your cruise line representative will direct you to your transportation.

Transportation

The basic means of transportation are taxis. Rates are displayed on the outside of the vehicle and are fixed for any purchase.

How to get to town

The majority of Cozumel's popular shopping area is located downtown, located approximately 3 miles away. Taxis are readily available outside the International Pier area.

Shopping

Cozumel is the leading port in Mexico for Jewelry! In past years, you will find amazing bargains on such precious gemstones as emeralds, rubies, sapphires, not to mention diamonds and rare topaz. Check the deals on gold and sterling silver as well. The selection of jewelry is phenomenal. Don't leave this port without a view of the large selection of jewelry on display.

Guarantee

This guarantee ensures buyers that all recommended merchants will repair or replace any unsatisfactory item, excluding buyer's negligence, buyer's remorse and lost or stolen merchandise. For purposes of determining quality and value of jewelry related to a buyer's complaint, buyer's negligence or lost or stolen merchandise, for purposes of determining quality and value of jewelry related to a buyer's complaint, buyer's negligence or lost or stolen merchandise, for purposes of determining quality and value of jewelry related to a buyer's complaint, buyer's negligence or lost or stolen merchandise, for purposes of determining quality and value of jewelry related to a buyer's complaint, buyer's negligence or lost or stolen merchandise.

Customer Relations Department at Onboard Media, 1691 Michigan Ave. Suite 600, Miami Beach 33139, Phone: (800) 396-2999, Fax: (305) 473-2741, Email: shoppingoutboard.com, Hours: Monday through Friday 9:00 am to 5:30 pm EST (Eastern Standard Time)

Please send a letter and include the name of the ship, cruise date, store name and problem description. Also enclose a copy of the sales receipt and any relevant documents relating to the sale. Onboard Media will contact the recommended store on your behalf for repair or replacement, and you will be notified accordingly.

Due to the nature of the changes at the ports of call, all information is subject to change.

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