

<b>Cultural Trip Itinerary</b>	
<b>"Cañada de la Virgen" archaeological site and the historical city of San Miguel de Allende</b>	
<b>08:30</b>	Pick up and departure from hotels to "Cañada de la Virgen"
<b>10:00- 12:00</b>	Arrival and visit to <b>"Cañada de la Virgen"</b> archaeological site
<b>12:00 - 13:00</b>	Transfer to San Miguel de Allende
<b>13:00 - 14:30</b>	<b>Lunch</b>
<b>14:30- 16:00</b>	Walking tour of the Historic district
<b>16:00-17:00</b>	Guided Visit to <b>San Miguel de Allende Historical Museum</b>
<b>17:15 - 18:45</b>	<b>"Tranvía"</b> City tour
<b>19:00</b>	Departure to Guanajuato
<b>20:30</b>	Arrival and drop off to Hotels
	End of the tour

**The tour includes:**

Transportation Guanajuato-Cañada de la Virgen-San Miguel de Allende - Guanajuato

Admission to Cañada de la Virgen and SMA Historical Museum

Local transfers and Tranvía city tour

Tourist guide

**Comida Buffett \* por confirmar**

## Cultural Trip to “Cañada de la Virgen” Archeological Site and the Historical City of San Miguel de Allende



[www.Coyotecanyonadventures.com](http://www.Coyotecanyonadventures.com)

Cañada de la Virgen is located just 25 kilometers West of San Miguel de Allende. Occupied between 540 and 1050 a.d., it is perched upon a small mesa surrounded by canyons and is made up of four patio/pyramid complexes, an ancient artificial pond and a ceremonial causeway covering the 16 hectares that is now government property.

One might think that this archeological site was once occupied by Nahuatl tribes during the pre-Hispanic era, judging from the architectural design of its structures, but in view of archeo-astronomic findings, it has since been discovered

that Otomí communities settled here. The site is composed of five architectural complexes, three of which can be visited. The first is the House of the Thirteen Heavens, or Complex A. This pyramidal base stands 16 meters tall, and is equipped with a sunken patio and three platforms, which represent the spring equinox, commerce and the winter solstice. This complex is thought to have served primarily as an observatory, hence its name, given that during the rainy season, when the patio filled with water, you had the sensation of the sky on earth, due to its reflection on the water. The House of the Longest Night, or Complex B is the second. This complex is also made up of various structures: the pyramidal base, sunken patio and a series of platforms of differing forms, from which we can deduce that this complex served multiple purposes. It is also believed to be astronomically linked to the winter solstice. The House of the Wind, or Complex D is the third and this circular structure was built in three stages, during which the access ramp was remodeled each time. In the upper section, we find a temple, with two entrances: one facing east and one facing west. The temple is in the form of a bullpen and its interior was painted red.

Source: INAH

**Items to bring:** hat; sunblock; bottled water; comfortable, well padded walking shoes or sneakers.

**\*IMPORTANT NOTE:** *Pyramid Tours require participants to leisurely walk a total of approximately 3-4 kilometers (2 to 2.5 miles) within approximately 2 hours in order for your tour to encompass all of the archaeological site.*



## **San Miguel de Allende**

The town of San Miguel de Allende in the state of Guanajuato is nestled on a hillside in the central highlands of Mexico 177 miles northwest of Mexico City.

Established by Franciscan monks in 1542, this cosmopolitan and picturesque colonial city is a designated UNESCO World Heritage site, internationally renowned for its colorful historic buildings, colonial architecture and a

particular appreciation of the arts.

As San Miguel's streets are cobblestoned, visitors are encouraged to bring comfortable walking shoes.

Throughout history, the city has been recognized as the birthplace of Ignacio Allende, one of the leaders of the insurgent army during Mexico's War of Independence. And given that this municipality was the first to be declared independent from Spanish rule owing to his heroic efforts, "Allende" was attached to the city's name in 1826.

During and after the war, however, the city itself was in a state of decline and at the outset of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, it was on the verge of becoming a virtual ghost town. The city's colonial architecture, based on baroque and neo-classical designs, were "discovered" by foreign artists who began to permeate the scene and forge cultural centers, including the Allende Institute and School of Fine Arts, bestowing on the city a reputation that would attract artists, including the great master in painting, David Alfaro Siqueiros.

This soon attracted art students from abroad, particularly American veteran soldiers, who came to study under the G.I. Bill after the Second World War. Since then, the city has caught the eye of numerous artists, writers, foreign pensioners and tourists, completely transforming the local economy, agriculture and industry, to meet the demands of foreign travelers and residents.

### **The cost includes:**

**Transportation Guanajuato-Cañada de la Virgen-San Miguel de Allende -Guanajuato**

**Admission to Cañada de la Virgen and SMA Historical Museum**

**Local transfers and Tranvia city tour**

**Tourist guide, English spoken**