



Columbus Luxury Travel  
Travel Specialist



COLUMBUS  
LUXURY TRAVEL

*Guatemala*

+1 (352) 668-8668

info@ColumbusLuxuryTravel.com

## The Best of Everything - Antigua

369.99 PER PERSON

The city has so much to offer to visitors, as it was once the country's capital and adorned with several must-see landmarks and historical gems. Some of Guatemala's best sight-seeing adventures can start in Antigua with stops like Santa Catalina Arch; Volcán de Agua; Volcán de Fuego; San Francisco church and ruins; Santo Domingo ruins; La Merced church and ruins; and of course Antigua's weekly market days.

## Day 1 - Explore Antigua and its Local Villages



### Explore Antigua and its Local Villages

#### PRICE

\$188.00 USD

Immerse yourself in the diversity of local Antigua culture. The nearly 500-year-old city is cradled by three volcanoes and accented with colorful facades of 16th century mansions, churches and convents. Enjoy hands-on experiences with a series of incredible workshops designed to integrate you into the Maya culture.

**Places to visit:** San Francisco church and ruins, Santo Domingo ruins, La Merced church and ruins, Arch of Santa Catalina (Municipal building, Palace, Cathedral).

**Villages to visit:** Pastores (leather workshop), San Juan del Obispo (chocolate workshop), San Pedro las huertas (Jade workshop), Ciudad Vieja (coffee workshop), San Antonio Aguas Calientes (textiles workshop), and Santa María de Jesús (Santa María de Jesús has special events only on Sunday).



#### Antigua Guatemala

Antigua Guatemala, Sacatepéquez, GT

**Population:** At Antigua's peak in the mid 18th century, prior to moving the capital, Antigua was home to 60,000; now 45,669

**Location:** Central Highlands of Guatemala; departmental capital of Sacatepéquez Department; approximately 24 miles from Guatemala City

**Elevation:** 5,029 feet

**Significance:** Served as the capital of the Kingdom of Guatemala prior to moving the capital in 1773 to Guatemala City, due to the constant tremors and damaging earthquakes in September and December of that year. La Antigua has been named by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site and is a central location for many visitors.

**What you will see:** Santa Catalina Arch; Volcán de Agua; Volcán de Fuego; Acatenango Volcano; San Francisco church and ruins; Santo Domingo ruins; La Merced church and ruins; Antigua's market days.

**Fun Facts:** Panza Verde, or green belly was the name given to those that remained in Antigua after the capital was moved to Guatemala City. It is said that the people received this name because of their reliance on avocados for a food source after the damage to the city from earthquakes. Founded in 1542, Antigua was the first planned city in the Americas, structured on a rigid grid pattern, and is easily recognized by its cobblestone

streets.



### **Arco de Santa Catalina**

5a Avenida Norte, Antigua Guatemala, Sacatepéquez, GT, 03-001



### **Iglesia de San Francisco el Grande**

7a. Calle Oriente, La Antigua Guatemala, Sacatepéquez, GT



### **La Merced**

6a. avenida norte, La Antigua Guatemala, Sacatepéquez, GT



### **Casa del Jade**

Antigua Guatemala, Sacatepéquez, GT, 03001



### **Iglesia del Carmen**

Small but exciting ruins lining a popular street in Antigua, Guatemala

## **Day 2 - Market Day (select from Chichi, Comalapa, or Antigua Market)**



### **Antigua Market Day**

Within Antigua's market days you will find an assortment of aromatic spices, herbs, and alternative and natural medicines. Make sure to begin your tour walking through the parking lot full of Chicken Buses as they drop off those that are bringing their goods to sell and trade, it is a truly unique experience. (Mondays and Saturdays)



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## Chichicastenango Market

Our market days have been vibrant and colorful since more than 4,000 years ago. These are the best places to experience our rich culture. Chichicastenango: (Sundays and Thursdays 94km away from Antigua), This is one of the biggest markets in Guatemala. It is full of textiles, vegetables, fruits, and handcrafts. You also will visit the mask factory and Santo Thomas church, where you can see the Guatemalan syncretism. Have a day full of fun and enjoyment in this traditional Mayan market. This city has a lot of tradition. Enjoy lunch at Moreria Sto. Tomas and observe how traditional dresses are made.



### Chichicastenango

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## Comalapa Market

The town of San Juan Comalapa is famous in Guatemala for its painters, musicians, and their artwork, especially the primitive folk paintings. As with most areas in Guatemala the woman are responsible for weaving the textile products, but the folk paintings are considered men's work. Household galleries are spread throughout the town and local artists will open their doors and display their colorful artwork for



the visitors to see. On your tour, you will visit an art gallery and a music museum.



### **Comalapa**

Comalapa, Chimaltenango, GT

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