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Customer Information Manual 2025

Created by Paul Beddows Revision Aug 15, 2024, updated for 2025 trips

IMPORTANT

When you sign up for one of our tours, you must realize that Mexico is not the US or Canada. Even though we try to get this across, we always have people who tell us we did not warn them that they would have to do some dry camping, only have 15 amp hookups at times, and that sort of thing. So here it is laid out. Do not expect RV resorts. You may get one or 2, but RV park development in Mexico is in its early stages. There may be spots where you have issues getting into, especially if you are not that skilled at backing up trailers, for eg. Larger rigs are harder. If you are single with a large rig like a 5th wheel or a super C, or larger motorhome, you may find it difficult as you do not have a spotter. We occasionally have an ex semi driver or bus driver who has no issue at all, but many people are used to only having to park in drive through spots which are rare down here. You have to take courses to drive a bus or semi, but you can buy and operate an RV that is the same size with no training. You also have to be prepared to be on time. We depart at 8 AM on most segments for a reason, not because we are sadists. It allows us more time to deal with unexpected issues like flats. We cannot hold up an entire caravan if you break down or something like that, but we will arrange the Green Angels (Like AAA) or a tour guide to catch you up with your group. This will be at your expense. Or we can provide detailed instructions so you can catch up yourself, if you have the confidence to do that. We do not like breakdowns, so we ask you to take your rig to a mechanic and check it out. We have had flats, broken ball joints, suspension, brakes and other issues that could have all been avoided with proper pre-trip maintenance. We have several driving rules designed to hopefully avoid any accidents and we expect you to follow those.

Make sure you have your vehicle checked for mechanical issues and things like suspension wear, etc. Mexico has good mechanics, but parts may not be available, or hard to find. We have had people broken down waiting for replacements for issues that could have probably been prevented. Check tires including any spares, suspension components, brakes, hoses, belts, filters, etc before starting the trip. You cannot predict everything, but you can cut a lot of problems off at the pass. Repack trailer wheel bearings and visually inspect trailer spring shackles and maybe carry some spares, plus the bolts (Cheap at RV stores). Throw a couple of spare trailer springs in your pickup bed. As my father once told me, "The cheapskate pays more". Do fluid changes and **cross the border with a full tank of fuel.**

2025 Season Specific Information

Credit Cards

We are altering the 3.5% surcharge for credit card payments. Credit card payments cost us about 4%, so instead we are raising our prices about 2% and then providing a 2% discount for payments by cash, e-transfer, check or money order. Since about 50% of payments are by credit card, we figure that will be a wash, and less irritating. The discount is applied to the final payment. Here are the payment dates for 2025 trips.

Failure to pay by due dates can result in your spot being given away and forfeiture of deposit. (transferable to another trip still)

Please let Paul at beddows1@telus.net know if checks are in transit. They may be in either US or Canadian currency.

Information on mailing checks or using a credit card can be found at <https://www.mexicocaravans.com/payments.html>

Mar Esmeralda RV Park (Yucatan)

This park has degenerated so it is no longer one we wish to use. Disgusting showers, bad power, etc. We are going to try one 1.5 km north in 2025. We will replace the info in this manual if it works out.

Sola Basic 4000 Regulators

As described in the power section, these are the best thing to have and will run an A/C. Unfortunately during 2024, a parts shortage has made them next to unavailable, and any that can be sourced have more than doubled in price. We are hoping this will no longer be an issue in 2025 but we suspect it may.

Vehicle Parts:

We now have a contact in Nogales, Az who works on both sides of the border. He can receive parts and take them across and DHL them within Mexico so they do not get held up in Customs.

This page Reserved for updates

SECTION 1

Introduction

We have decided to produce this document, so every customer has most of the information they need at hand. Most of the info contained here can be found on the website, but not all in the same place. We suggest you print this out and have it with you. This manual is very extensive and may not be applicable to all. RVing in Mexico can present challenges and we encourage you to regard this as a Adventure, not a cruise. You will enjoy it far more. We endeavor to make it as easy and enjoyable as possible, but you must keep in mind that a lot of the infrastructure in Mexico is more primitive and more like RVing in the 50's rather than modern Parks designed for large rigs. Many RV parks in Mexico were developed before things like slides were common, for example, and when most RV's were designed for 15 Amp service. If you have been on a commercial caravan in the US or Canada, you have to realize that for your own safety, a caravan in Mexico has more rules and restrictions. This is not because of Cartels, it is because road conditions may be less developed and you are in a foreign language environment. Approach this with the right state of mind and I think we can assure you a great and unique experience. We have a high rate of repeat customers.

We value constructive criticism, but keep in mind we cannot always make things perfect.

SECTION 2

NOTE: You have to fill out a few forms found at <https://www.mexicocaravans.com/forms.html>

Code of Conduct

It is unfortunate we even have to implement this, but we have had some customers in the past who misbehave and damage the enjoyment of the trip for everyone else and even participate in risky behavior. Part of the issue is that people are in their own rigs (read house) and sometimes intentionally or unintentionally behave in a manner they never would on another type of tour such as a cruise. There are people out there who should never go on a caravan and you probably know who you are. A caravan, especially one in Mexico, is structured and has rules. That is the way it has to be both for the safety and enjoyment of everyone. If you feel you cannot follow any rules, then we prefer you do not sign up.

On nearly all caravans, people are reasonable and co-operative, so there is seldom an issue.

Rule #1: The Wagon Master is in charge. **Period !!** The Wagon Master makes all decisions and is the only one to deal with our tour contractors on the road. They are open to suggestions, not orders.

Rule #2: Trying to short circuit the Wagon Master, doing things such as trying to bribe contractors to alter itineraries, or bribing them to take your dog along, and those sort of things are grounds for expulsion from the caravan.

Rule #3: Keep drinking under control especially on evenings before a travel day.

Rule #4: Park in the RV park, in the spot the Wagon Master allocates

Rule #5: Retain your spot in the group on the road as much as possible. Do not try to take over control from the Wagon Master. It is not tolerated.

Rule #6: Do not bribe police. If stopped, let the Wagon Master or Green Angels deal with it.

Rule #7: If in an accident, do not move your rig. Follow the Wagon Masters instructions.

Rule #8: If you decide to go off on your own for a day trip, tell the Wagon Master where you intend to go and your estimated time of return. Have a cell phone.

Rule #9: Be ready to leave at the time scheduled the evening before. In most cases it is 8 AM.

Rule #10: You are expected to cross the border with a full tank of fuel, and top up at every fuel stop. There is a very good reason behind this rule, and if you need to make an unexpected fuel stop because you did not top up, it will be your responsibility to catch up with the group.

Rule #11: Do not wander off on a tour (go to an ATM for eg) without letting the tour guide or Wagon Master know.

Rule #12: Anyone caught with firearms or non prescription drugs (except over the counter) will be expelled immediately. This includes marijuana, which is in the process of becoming legal in Mexico, but can still cause issues with the police.

Rule #13: Everybody sticks together unless instructed otherwise by the Wagon Master. For example during a breakdown. We do not leave customers alone with no support.

Rule #14: A GPS can be notoriously inaccurate in Mexico and not RV friendly. They may be useful if you get separated or lost, but the Wagon Master knows the way, not your GPS

Rule #15: Votes on route or tour changes are not allowed, unless initiated by the Wagon Master. The Wagon Master makes all decisions on route or individual tour alterations

Very Important

This is related to Rule #8. Please be aware that if you leave the caravan without the express permission of the Wagon Master, you will be expelled from it, with no compensation. This is related to safety and stress on the Wagon Master worrying about the safety of someone who has departed on a temporary basis. This does not mean you have to ask permission to go for dinner at a restaurant, go to the store or laundry, and that sort of thing. It refers to heading off on your own to another RV park or location. As long as the Wagon Master has provided the OK, you may rejoin the caravan further on, but you have to be aware that while you are gone, you are 100% on your own. This is covered in the waiver you sign. You should inform the Wagon Master where and when you intend to rejoin so he can properly plan for tour numbers and RV spots. Keep in regular touch with him by cell.

Dogs

Many customers want to bring a dog. They are welcome on our caravans, but you have to realize there are restrictions.. We have had issues on some trips with them, or more precisely, their owners. In many cases problems can be resolved, but one or two incidents have meant we have to lay down guidelines. Also, the rules in Mexico regarding service dogs are narrower than in Canada or the US. Emotional support dogs are not recognized as service dogs for the most part.

Our General Guidelines on Dogs.

Below are our official guidelines regarding dogs. These rules have evolved due to some negative experiences with dogs on previous trips. The Wagon Master is the final decision maker on any of these guidelines. He is authorized by the company to make the decisions in special circumstances. He is responsible for the enjoyment of all other customers on a tour, without

disruption. Most dog issues are usually actually owner issues. A dog you consider a family member, can be a big irritant to the other customers in the caravan. **In all cases, the rights of other customers come before those of your dog.**

Dogs (except some service dogs - see next paragraph) **may not** accompany customers on tours without the **express permission of the Wagon Master and the agreement of all other customers.** We do arrange dog care for dogs at the place of parking where that is possible.

There are some who feel they cannot possibly leave Fido in somebody else's care, especially on longer tours (overnight tours involving a hotel stay for example). As long as you inform us **before final payment**, we can factor that particular tour out of your cost. We do not rebate for tours not taken, unless pre-arranged. You may factor out one half of a couple, so that one remains behind. This is not unusual. If you find you can take a tour you have opted out of after all, (example another customer agrees to watch your dog) and it is possible to arrange it, you may be able to take the tour a la carte or make a substitution arrangement with another customer who decides to opt out of a tour they have paid for. You **must** arrange that with the Wagon Master. Seeing Eye and physical support dogs (IE dogs to support movement) are the only service dogs recognized by Caravanas de Mexico, and they must be backed up with documentation. Those dogs require an approved harness.

Many RV parks where we base overnight tours out of, offer dog care at a cost. They are trustworthy enough to give keys to (so they can put the dog inside your rig overnight). This is the case for Copper Canyon, Mexico City and Hogar Orphanage.

Emotional support dogs are not recognized and are treated as any other dog on the caravan. An emotional support dog is not allowed to go into restaurants, museums, churches and archaeological sites. They are not officially recognized by the Mexican government. The only emotional support documentation we recognize is a signed and dated letter from a registered Mental Health professional (not an MD) containing his contact and license number. In that case we will do our best to accommodate with tours, but any service dog is still subject to our regulations, restrictions by our contractors, Mexican Law and Restaurants. Do not assume we can arrange it. If your emotional condition is such that you require an emotional support animal at all times, you may want to consider if a Mexican caravan is right for you.

If a tour is conducive with taking a dog, with the agreement of the Wagon Master and the transport company, a **small dog** under 20 lbs may be taken along on a tour **if** it is confined to a carrier on any transport and kept on the floor. If other customers have allergic reactions to animals, and separation is not feasible, they may not be taken along. The dog must not be disruptive to the enjoyment of the other customers. It is up to the customer to pay any extra fees required and pay the tour operator for care, if the dog is not allowed on any tour site. This **must** be pre arranged and approved by the tour operator and the wagon master. Any damage done to the means of transport will be charged back to the customer. All dogs must be kept on a leash, no longer than 5 feet in length. They may not enter most public buildings in

Mexico including museums, churches and archaeological sites. Most tours are not appropriate for dogs.

Anyone caught bribing a tour operator or otherwise circumventing the rules will be expelled from the caravan. Only the Wagon Master may deal directly with any tour operator. Customers trying to “short circuit” the Wagon master are subject to expulsion from the caravan.

There may be some tours where a customer may follow a tour bus in their own vehicle with their dog, and participate in the tour, if appropriate. They still have to follow the rules of any tour with regards to access to sites, dining spots, disruption, etc. and be in complete control of their animal. This means they may not be able to participate in all aspects of the tour including any included meal. They are free to pay someone to look after their dog if necessary. Dogs are usually barred from most of the higher class restaurants we use.

We find that frequently a customer will opt out of tour for various reasons and may be willing to watch out for your dog. Most dogs are OK being left in your RV with the windows open, if the RV is large enough. Even if the park has power, one window should still be left open, as power may not be reliable. Heat is usually only an issue in coastal locations. Dogs should not be left inside camperized vans and truck campers as heat in those units may be an issue. A day that starts out cloudy can easily turn sunny. Labor is cheap in Mexico. It does not cost much to pay a local to look after a dog outside your rig for a few hours.

Any dogs barking or otherwise disrupting a tour, will not be allowed on one in future

Dogs are not allowed in swimming pools in RV Parks.

In Mexico, dogs are sometimes allowed in restaurants, especially those on beaches and outside, however dogs are not allowed at meal venues paid for by the company, unless the entire group is in agreement.

It is your responsibility to keep your dog under control at all times on the caravan. Dogs are usually allowed on beaches and most RV parks have fairly lax rules, compared to those in the US. This does not mean you may allow your dog to be a nuisance, and you are expected to pick up after it.

Any dog related costs, e.g. dog sitting, damage caused to property, etc. are the responsibility of the owner

Copper Canyon & dogs

Dogs are not allowed on the Copper Canyon Train. We arrange dog care.

Service dogs are allowed, including emotional support dogs. However, the rules are strict and pre-arrangements must be made, and we have to check with hotels we use up there to ensure they are OK with your dog. This has to all be pre-arranged.

These are the rules SET OUT BY THE TRAIN COMPANY

A permit issued, signed and sealed by the Mexican Department of Tourism is required for service dogs to board the train.

This permit must be processed in advance by sending an email with proof of the need to travel with a service dog to atencionclientes.chepe@ferromex.mx

Service dogs are animals that are trained to assist a person with a disability or as emotional support. Service dogs travel for free, as long as they are accompanied by their owner and are correctly identified.

- • Only one dog is permitted per passenger.
- • Only one dog is permitted per car.
- • Animals under 4 months of age are not permitted, nor animals that are nursing, ill, dead, violent or pregnant.
- • There is no weight limit.
- • The dog must be with its owner at all times and will travel at the owner's feet.
- • The dog is not required to travel in a pet carrier, **provided the dog is leashed and muzzled** for the entire duration of travel. The leash cannot be retractable and must not be longer than 1.5 meters (5 feet), to aid the owner in controlling the animal at all times
- • The dog must be fed and watered in the restroom only. The dog will also relieve itself in the restroom, if necessary. The owner will clean the restroom to leave it in the same condition as found.

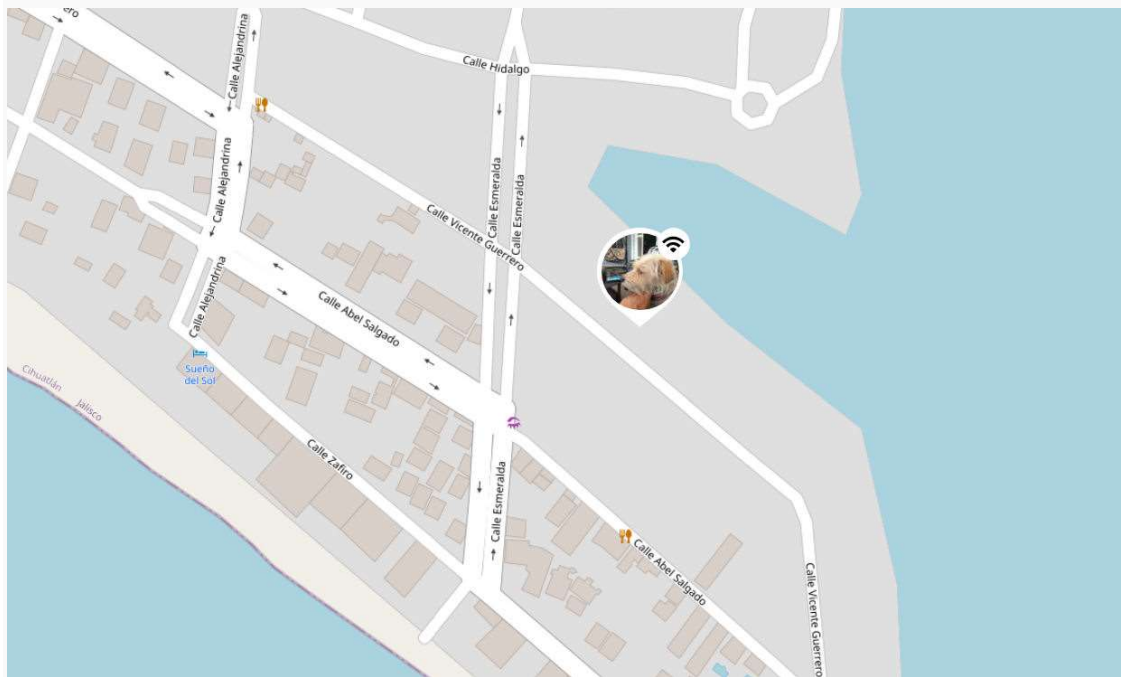
Tracking a lost dog

There are few things more distressing than losing a dog or cat, especially in a foreign country. Some dogs are apt to wander, terriers can go after small animals and that sort of thing. If this concerns you, consider getting a tracker. I have checked out several of these, and there are more, but I have determined the best one, IMO for Mexico and elsewhere

- 1) Apple Tags – good in urban areas but if they are not in Bluetooth range of someone with an I-Phone they will only tell you where your dog was, not where he is
- 2) Fi Tracke, pricey monthly plan, does not work with cats
- 3) Whistle – Good tracker, but from what I can determine, it only works on the AT&T network so may not work in Mexico.

- 4) Tractive – IMO this is the best one. The dog version fits dogs over about 10 lbs, Get the cat one for smaller dogs. I have tested this tracker in Canada, the US and Mexico. As long as you have access to **any cell network**, it will work, or if you are in blue tooth range. It costs about \$60 for the device and about \$70 a year for a subscription. You can tie it to a WiFi network like an RV park and the battery does not run down quickly and it will alert your cell phone (I use a who let the dogs out clip) if the animal wanders out of the WiFi range. It **cannot be purchased in Mexico**, you need to get it before crossing.

<https://www.mexicocaravans.com/tractive>



New CDC Dog Regulations (Cats OK)

On August 1, 2024, the CDC imposed draconian new regulations that would have prevented you from taking your dog into Mexico. Pressure from dog rescues, dog breeders, congressmen, etc caused them to modify these drastically, so there is no longer an issue. However, there are a few things you should do. This Applies to Americas and Canadians transiting the US, in other word everyone.

- 1) **If your dog is under 6 months you will not be able to take them.**
- 2) You need to have your dog vaccinated for rabies and ensure it will not expire while in Mexico
- 3) Your dog needs to be chipped with an ISO compliant chip. These are usually 15 digits long, not 9 and you should examine the record if your dog already has wone. If it is not ISO compliant you need to have your vet fix your dog up with a new one. The number should show on the dogs vaccination record.
- 4) Ensure your dog has not been in a high risk country in the last 6 months before entering the US. A list is found at [High-Risk Countries for Dog Rabies | Importation | CDC](#). Mexico and Canada are not high risk countries.
- 5) Shortly before entering Mexico fill out and print this form available on the CDC web site. [Animal Importation Form \(workflowcloud.com\)](#). Instructions: [CDC Dog Import Form and Instructions | Importation | CDC](#)
- 6) This form is good for 6 months and will allow you to bring your dog back into the US.

Copper Canyon Trips

Those on Copper Canyon trips southbound, need to be within **a few hours** of the rendezvous spot at least **3 days in advance**. Make sure you only pay for where you are by the night. You should also purchase your Mexican insurance so those 3 days are covered as well. The reason for this is we have been blindsided twice with a last minute change in the Copper Canyon Train Schedule. If you have to cross early, it will be at no additional charge to you, we will simply add some beach days. Make sure you have a small pack to last 4 days up there and remember it can be quite cold in the evenings. You **may not** take pets up there (except seeing eye dog). We provide pet care in El Fuerte and often one of the Wagon Master couple also remains behind. They are well taken care of.

Vehicles with liens & loans

You may not be permitted to bring a vehicle in that has a lien. If it shows on either the title or registration you will need a letter of permission from the lender. Check your contract and see if they prohibit you taking your vehicle into Mexico. If so you may want to change lenders. Another suggestion is to take out a line of credit against your house which most banks will do for free, and pay it off. Those usually have a low interest rate and it actually also provides some protection against house title theft which is becoming more common. If they do give permission you may have to prove you have Mexican insurance and you may have to make them the beneficiary.

Terms

Terms Updated for 2025 Trips.

Terms in this document are for 2025 trips. If you are on a 2024 trip the previous terms apply and may be viewed on the website at <https://www.mexicocaravans.com/terms2023.html>.

Note: Caravanas de Mexico, also known as Caramex, is wholly owned and operated by Gabriel Romero. Paul Beddows is contracted to maintain their web site and performs customer orientation on a volunteer basis. He is also a part time guide. He is not a paid employee, nor does he own any interest in the company. Any funds he accepts are on the behalf on the company and held in trust until the trip in question starts. Wagon Masters are also not employees, they are contracted tour guides. If you have a lien on your vehicle or it is in a company name or it is a pickup with a GVWR in excess of 3500 kg or 7710 lbs, please contact Paul directly for guidance at beddows1@telus.net.

We allow 1 day grace, or a couple more at our discretion, in every instance.

We require an approx 50% payment in March and a further 50% less \$1500-\$2000 in mid October, the calendar year before your trip. These payments are refundable (less service charge of 3% of the original trip price, minimum \$100 USD) up to 120 days before departure as outlined below. Initial deposits are \$1350 Canadian or \$1000 US depending on trip. A 2% discount is applicable to all non-credit card payments. We accept personal checks, cash, Canadian e-transfers and money orders.

It is UP TO THE CLIENT to purchase insurance to protect themselves against loss due to circumstances or events. See [Protect my Trip](#)

1) If you wish to buy cancellation insurance, upon request we will issue you a receipt upon your first payment, including whatever amount you paid as a deposit. Since we allow the final payment to be made upon departure, this may be all you need to insure. If you are concerned about trip interruption, then you may want to insure the entire amount. In that event we will show the amount still owing. Send requests to Paul at beddows1@telus.net

2) Since some payments are non-refundable we really advise taking out cancellation insurance

for your trip. Here are 2 options

Travelguard for Americans: 1-800-826-5248 or www.travelguard.com

Travelguard for Canadians: 1-866-878-0191 or www.travelguard.ca

3) You have to be careful as many companies will require you to purchase coverage within 48 hours or 7 days, or some other limitation period of paying the deposit. This is why we will include the deposit and first payment as a single amount dated for when you made first payment or we will date it a few days later if needed. If they demand a paypal receipt of something like that, you may not be able to include the deposit. We will just label both as "Payment" collectively.

4) Trip cancellation is often cheaper when purchased in conjunction with Travel Medical Insurance.

5) A couple of other trip cancellation insurance web sites to check out

<http://www.securiglobe.com/en/Trip-Cancellation-and-Interruption-Insurance/>

<https://www.insuremytrip.com/>

REFUNDS

Refunds are based on what you have paid by the date of your cancellation, less any non refundable payments made. Refunds are not based on a percentage of the full trip price, unless you have paid that. Once the official final payment date has past (Oct 15), refunds are reduced by any amount still owing. In many cases this means no refund after Oct 15th unless you have paid in full.

Initial deposit is non-refundable unless we cancel. May be transferred to another trip same season at our discretion. **

ALL REFUNDS ARE SUBJECT TO 3% US per rig SERVICE CHARGE (max \$200 US). This covers our losses due to credit card / pay pal / exchange commission, plus services we have prepaid. This is only on 100% refund amounts (prior to 120 days). On lessor amounts, the percentage may be less, or waived.

Over 120 days before departure 100% refund, less any non refundable payments made and a 3% service charge

Between 90 - 120 days before departure 60% refund, less any non refundable payments made (2% service charge)

Between 60 - 90 days before departure 40% refund, less any non refundable payments made

(1% service charge)

Between 30-60 days before departure 25% refund less any non refundable payments & less the outstanding balance on the full trip price still owed. (no service charge), 60 days is considered last final payment date, so if you still owe money at this point, it is deducted from any refund.

Less than 30 days before departure 10% refund less any non refundable payments & less any outstanding balance on the full trip price still owed (no service charge)

****** If no other trip vacancies are available in the same season we will allow a deposit shift to the following season at our discretion. In many cases we allow shifting all payments to the following season (sometimes beyond) which means no loss on your part.

We allow, and in fact, encourage payment of the final payment at the border in cash. US funds only (unless we advise otherwise). This helps us with Wagon Master operating funds at the start of the trip. This may mean less penalty for you if you drop out during the last 60 days as well. (we can't force you pay money you haven't paid) We will let you know how much we will allow for each trip before requesting final payment .

THE FINE DETAILS

If you have to leave the trip en-route for reasons beyond your control, we MAY refund any non pre-paid fees for items such as RV parks, hotels, etc. & some service fees at our discretion. However, this is what trip cancellation & interruption insurance is supposed to protect you against. You will not receive a refund for any deposits we have paid on your behalf.

Please note that in some cases we may be forced to alter the announced RV Park, due to circumstances beyond our control. This is rare and we will substitute the best alternative we can locate.

If for any reason you decide to leave the caravan to travel and stay on your own and do not re-join the caravan again, NO FEES ARE REFUNDABLE. There are instances where this may be done with the permission of the Wagon Master. In that instant you may rejoin the group later. If you leave against the instructions of the Wagon Master, you are on your own, with no monies refundable. In that case it will be up to the Wagon Master as to whether you may rejoin or not. Refusal to follow Wagon Master instructions is grounds for expulsion without compensation. Caravanas de Mexico is not responsible for the safety of a customer if they have left the caravan.

Cancellation of the trip by Caravanas de Mexico before departure, will result in a full refund.

We have been very generous in the past in accommodating people who have to cancel. We

allow the initial deposit to be transferred to another trip the same season, without penalty. That will NOT change. We usually allow shifting deposits and payments ahead a season depending on circumstances. If there is a wait list we almost certainly do. You may also find someone on your own to take over your payments and substitute, but you have to arrange that yourself and then inform us. Protecting your payments is what cancellation insurance is for. Please note that if you request to shift your payments ahead, if you do this close to departure when we have prepaid for services with amounts we cannot recover, you may be penalized. We do not do that unless we have to.

We have set the first payment dates and deposits for most trips for next season. They vary depending on trip, whether it is full or almost full, etc.

There is a first payment due on a date we set (in March). We will invoice you or give you a link to the payment page. This is refundable up until 120 days before departure. Final payments are due by Oct 15th the year preceding your trip. After 120 days before departure the money paid (less the initial deposit) are refundable in the decreasing amounts outlined below. We allow final cash payments at the border of \$1500 USD for shorter trips or \$2000 for longer.

Failure to pay before or on the due dates could result in losing your spot to someone on the wait list, if one is in place. Your deposit will be forfeit, but applicable to another trip the same season or following season. If you cannot make a payment due to extenuating circumstances, contact us with the reason. We are not unreasonable. You do have to realize that by the second payment due date, we are having to lay out money for reservations, so that one is tighter.

Cancellation by the client for any reason, will receive a refund of monies according to our refund criteria on this page. We usually offer the option to delay at a preferential rate or switch trips..

Initial deposit is not refundable. Substitutions are not allowed, but we sometimes allow it at our discretion in exceptional circumstances, or if it's a friend or family taking your place. If we do allow it, be aware there will be a service charge involved. Usually \$200 USD.

Any requests to opt out of tours must be made in writing 60 days before departure and emailed to paul@mexicocaravans.com. Opting out is at our discretion, but we will consider it for tours that involve hotels for those that have pets (they do not wish to be left in care we arrange) or in some cases where extreme high altitudes are involved and a customer is on oxygen. Generally speaking, however, this is sold as a package.

Single discounts are \$750 US for trips of over 60 days, \$500 for 37-59 days, \$250 for short trips.

Amounts calculated in the currency you are paying with (US or Can) but based on USD.

Participants will be required to sign a standard waiver of liability before departure, which will also outline our responsibilities to you. You may download a copy of this [HERE](#).

Participants will be required to fill out a medical form and give it to the wagon master in a sealed envelope with their name. This will only be opened in an emergency and will be returned to you after the caravan. You may download a copy of this [HERE](#). Sometimes, Paul assists.

IT IS UP TO YOU TO INSURE YOURSELF. IT IS YOUR CHOICE.

Why do we like some cash at the border?

We use it to pay our Wagon Masters and cover a lot of the operating expenses on route. Mexico is still largely a cash society. We only accept USD or Pesos. We may ask you to pay after we cross the broider to avoid the 10K restriction.

Payment Options

We use Stripe for Credit card payments, but we also can take PayPal if needed. We accept both US and Canadian Checks and Canadian e-transfers. Use 2 stamps if mailing from the US . Checks should be certified and mailed to:

France Chouinard

313 Rue Morin

Riviere du Loup

Quebec, Canada

G5R 3R2

For e-transfer use francechouinard_14@hotmail.com Question “whoi is your spouse” answer is “Gabriel”

Paul Beddows no longer accepts payments except in exceptional circumstances.

Send an email to Paul Beddows as he does not see these. **beddows1@telus.net**

SECTION 3

Stuff to Bring:

Note to those with allergies to perfume:

Mexicans love perfume. This can cause problems for some. It shows up with laundry detergent and toilet paper. The reason toilet paper is perfumed is because you do not flush it down toilets in Mexico, it goes in the garbage. This can cause severe rashes on the butts of some people, so bring plenty from home. The same is true with detergent. If you are sensitive bring those pods from home and provide them to the laundry. They are available in strips on Amazon which is very convenient. Example: https://www.amazon.com/Earth-Breeze-Fragrance-Laundry-Sheets/dp/B0875PHPRQ/ref=sr_1_6 If you are sensitive to fabric softener, print this phrase out on strips to hand to them: **Soy alérgico a los suavizantes de ropa. Por favor usar solo el detergente provisto y no usar ningún suavizante. Gracias.**

Motor Home/Truck Items-Spare Air Filter

- Spare Oil Filter
- Spare Fuel Filter
- Spare Serpentine belt may not be a bad idea or change and bring old one
- Spare tire off rim if possible. **Trailer tires are tough to find. Mercado Libre sells some.** Paul is able to order from them if you get stuck and need another spare to be delivered ahead.
- Spare sewer hose & fittings or means to repair hose. You will need at least a 25 ft sewer hose.
- any special fuel or oil additives you use. Concentrated coolant is a good idea.
- Heavy extension cord, plus a 30 amp to 15 amp converter or plus & a 15 amp to 30 amp converter plug
- Make sure your fresh water hose is extra long
- Distilled water for batteries
- Spare cheap RV water pump can be useful (about \$55 at Camping World). Hard to live without one.
- 2 blue inline water filters available at Camping World or Canadian Tire. If you have an Atwood/Dometic water heater buy a spare ECO kit and thermal fuse. (off Amazon). They are prone to failure, and cheap to purchase. Contact Paul on how to test if yours won't start.
- Any other spare RV parts you cannot live without
- Power Surge protector (Surge Guard or Progressive) or a regulator (available in Mexico)
- 5 Gallon water jug with screw cap (can also find in Mexico)
- Bleach or Hydrogen Peroxide for water sterilization (Bleach easily obtainable in Mexico)
- Ant traps & Ant powder, see RV Park procedures, Section 7.
- Holding tank sanitizer, we recommend 5 star happy camper, it works well in heat and is in powder form. US supplier or Canada Supplier. Links further on in this document.
- A pair of FRS/GMRS walkie talkies (cheap ones OK). Used on tours and for parking assistance in RV parks on arrival)
- GRMS base unit.
- A cheap dash cam is advised or a GPS with one built in.

- Any vehicle additives especially DEF (You may need more than the normal amount).
- Notarized letter showing permission to take any leased vehicle or vehicle not in your name into Mexico, especially if it shows on registration. See section earlier on in this document.
- Hair-band ties to tie cupboard knobs together so they don't open on road.

Pet Items

- Pet vaccination certificate (rabies) & recent certificate of health showing vets license number & address. Is no longer compulsory, but useful. The rabies certificate is needed.
- Revolution or similar for dogs or cats (good for fleas & ticks). Heartworm is a risk.
- Dog waste bags, leash & maybe a chain, carrier for small dogs and maybe an outside pen.

Personal items

- Passports -Original registration **and/or** titles for vehicles
- Charge card or 2.
- At least 2 debit cards, preferably on different banks
- 2 Xerox copies of all paperwork
- Take any sort of paperwork you can think of plus copies. Even your marriage cert if you have one
- Driver's license. An additional convincing phony copy could be useful if stopped and they want to take it. If they suspect it is fake, say it is a copy, and produce original.
- At least 3000 pesos
- Warm clothing for Copper Canyon
- Pack or small suitcase for Copper Canyon trip

Medical

- All drugs in original bottles especially prescriptions. No medical marijuana, cannibas oil. (even prescription)
- commercial vitamins and things like that in original bottles are OK.
- Insect repellant (expensive in Mexico)
- After bite and/or Calamine lotion
- Suntan lotion (expensive in Mexico)
- Imodium, ask your doctor for a prescription for Ciproflaxin 500 mg (Good for diarrhea or bladder infections)
- If you wish to protect against Malaria, Chloroquine is effective. Not a big risk.

Food

- Any diet soda you like besides Coke or Squirt-liquorice Is not available
- You cannot take beef, pork or chicken in, you will likely get away with it, but they may take it away

- Wine (choices can be limited)
- Up to three liters of liquor and six liters of wine (if bringing more than allowed, you must declare it and pay duties).
- Liquor allowances are similar to the US & Canada but not strictly enforced.
- Viva brand paper towel (US version). These stick to themselves and will not unravel when you hit topes.
- If you need unscented toilet paper, get it in the US. Unscented anything, for that matter. Wal Mart does sell one unscented brand.
- Hypoallergenic laundry detergent if you need it

Guns: Carrying a gun is a serious offense in Mexico and we will expel anyone caught with one. This also applies to ammo. There is no second amendment in Mexico.

Cooking Classes;

On many caravans we arrange free Mexican Cooking classes.

Rig Heights:

Please measure your rig height from its highest point (usually the A/C) to the ground in Metric and inches and give it to the wagon master. Add an inch or 2. He will use this to place rigs in the best order to avoid any overhead hazards and give higher rigs the time to react to warnings. Rigs over 13.5 feet have to exercise more caution

Rendezvous Spots

These vary by trip. Baja caravans usually meet at Potrero County Park, just north of Tecate. We pay for 2 nights at this park, although you have to make and pay for your own reservation and we reduce the price by that amount. Coordinates are **N 32.615126 W 116.598199**

Copper Canyon and Colonial trips cross at Nogales, AZ. Sometimes we use the Desert Diamond Casino at Ext 80 off I-19 south of Tucson, sometimes we use the Walmart in Nogales. We will

Advise. The coordinates are **N 32.006576 W 110.9925127**.



Yucatan trips rendezvous at Mission West RV Park in Palmview, Texas. We cover 2 nights here. Coordinates are **N 26.220909 W 98.367198**

Radios:

You need a GRMS radio, either a Midland MXT 115 or MXT 275. These can be ordered from [midlandusa.com](https://www.midlandusa.com) or US Amazon. <https://www.midlandusa.com>, or do a search on Amazon for Midland MXT115. For those on Yucatan trips, we can have them available at the departure park. **They cannot be ordered to Canada.** Canadians on other trips need to contact us to arrange things. You should also have a pair of FRS/GRMS handhelds available at Walmart, Canada Tire, etc. They are cheap and are compatible with the base units. The base units are easy to install. The antenna wire is small and so is the antenna. Getting it through the firewall is the hard part, but you can try to fit the antenna wire outside under the rubber moulding. See https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fwFhj_SIIe8. We use the handhelds on shopping stops and city tours so you don't lose your group.

Radio legalities

The radios we use are not technically legal in Mexico. Channels 1 to 7 are, so we will use those in more built up areas. Channels 15-22, we will only use in remote areas. They have more power. Please turn off when approaching and checkpoints or police stops. Channels 8-14 are very low power.



Cell Phones:

All customers should have a cell phone that works in Mexico. We can arrange Mexican SIM cards if you have an unlocked phone. All customers should exchange numbers at trip start.

A +1 (US or Canada) or +52 (Mexico) may have to put in front of the number. Hold the zero key down to produce a +

To dial the US or Canada from a US or Mexican cell, dial +1 (or 011) plus the 10 digits (same to dial a US cell)

To dial a US/Canada 1-800 number dial +1-880 instead. For 1-888, it's +1-881. For 1-877, it's +1-882. For 1-866, it's +1-883. For 1-855, it's +1-884. For 1-844, it's +1-855. For 1-833, it's +1-886

To dial a Mexican cell within Mexico from either a US or Mexican cell, just dial the 10 digits or you may have to put a +52 in front

To call a Mexican cell from the US or Canada, use +52 or 011 52 in front of the 10 digits

Vehicle Prep

Ensure your vehicle is in good condition before starting. We advise an extra tire (off rim) if possible. Especially trailer tire if you are towing. Also, if you are towing, consider picking up a couple of extra springs. They are cheap and you can chuck them in the truck bed. I would carry an extra oil, fuel and air filter and maybe a serpentine belt. An extra sewer hose or joiner plus maybe a replacement bayonet fitting is a good idea. You cannot find a replacement in Mexico.

Trailer Springs

We have had people break these, especially on longer trips. They are cheap and easy to chuck in the PU bed. I advise 3+ on the Yucatan loop. One breaking can stress the one next to it. Also a

set of replacement shackles, preferably the lubricated type and the bolts that go with them. See [MORryde, RV Suspensions, TV Mounts, Sliding Trays](#).

Diesel trucks with particle filters.

Slow speed in a caravan can cause these to plug up. It is expedient to gear down and run for 20 min at over 2000 RPM on the toll highway every few days to keep them clean.

Late model Diesel parts

This can be an issue. They do not sell diesel pick ups in Mexico, except Ford is starting to do so. This can cause a problem if one of the plethora of additional items found on newer diesels goes bad. Finding a mechanic who can work on them can also be an issue. In 2024 we had a 2019 Chev that developed a bad injector. Fortunately, we do have someone near the border in Arizona who can transport parts into Nogales, Mexico and DHL them, bypassing customs. Hopefully GM and Dodge will soon start to import Diesel Pickups and have an associated service network. It is not a bad idea to invest in a programmer that can read and reset codes if you have a late model truck. While ULSD diesel is now available over all of Mexico, some later model trucks that are still 6 or 7 years old can start to develop problems with things like DEF injectors and emission sensors that are simply due to aging. If you do have a post 2007 diesel, please have it checked out thoroughly and maybe carry things like spare sensors that are inexpensive but crucial. Either way an analyser will help identify what the problem may be and at least indicate the part that may be at fault, so we can arrange for a replacement to be shipped. For couple hundred dollars they are a good investment. Ancel makes a good one. DEF can still be hard to find. Autozones sell it, but it is smart to carry some.

Waivers

We will send a link to print these out and fill out and also have them available before crossing the border.

Here is the link: <https://www.mexicocaravans.com/disclaimer.pdf>

SECTION 4

Insurance

This section contains a lot of information. Insurance is a minefield at the best of times, and that minefield often contains sharks. We have attempted to break out as much information as possible to assist you in making decisions. We hope this steers you in the right direction, but you do need to check things out closely. A medical condition or a traffic accident or breakdown can cost a considerable amount, not to mention the stress of dealing with it. It is however, your choice on what to protect yourself against if unexpected or unfortunate circumstances occur. Many do not think of trip interruption insurance, for example, or assume that is included in other policies, which it usually is not. People who would never dream of going on an international trip without coverage may never consider it for a driving vacation. Maybe they should.

Note: We are not in the insurance business. Whom you use is 100% up to you. Please be aware that settlement of accident claims is very slow in Mexico. It can take several months. If it is body damage to a truck, chances are you can have that fixed in Mexico for less than the deductible. You may just have to book ahead at a location you will be camped for a few days. We know of good body men in both Melaque and Lo de Marcos. If you are involved in an accident it is very important to notify the insurance company right away and get an adjuster on scene. If necessary one of the Wagon Master couple or a Green Angel will remain with, you while the remainder of the caravan moves on. If there is time, the whole caravan will remain.

Auto Insurance

Note: New limits placed by the government in 2013 on maximum liability have increased considerably. \$500k liability is the minimum you must have in many Mexican states. 750K is even better

Your US or Canadian insurance **is usually not valid** in Mexico. You do not have to buy Mexican Collision Insurance (you must have liability), but it would be extremely foolish not to do so. You must use a Mexican insurance company to purchase liability insurance, even if your own insurance covers you for collision. When you take your vehicle to Mexico, you need to keep enough insurance coverage in place to maintain the vehicle's legal registration in your home country. This document (<https://www.mexperience.com/transport/auto-insurance/>) published by a Mexican insurance Company contains a lot of useful information. A 3 or 6 month policy is usually the most economical. Expect to pay about \$120 - \$135 for each \$10K insured (6

month policies). It is important to note that when you are buying Mexican Insurance, you are not dealing with the actual Insurance company, you are dealing with a US based agent. How reliable that agent is, and whether or not they will look after your interests or the companies interests, in a claim situation is very important. I have only witnessed dealings with 3 companies in this regard and that is Lewis & Lewis, Mexpro & Sanborns. All represented the clients interests, but that does not mean they are the only ones that do so. This is also why it is important you have an English speaking person in the US who is accessible should you be involved in an accident. Claims will take longer to settle in many instances.

Important: Please ensure you are covered for all the Mexican States you will traveling in. If you are not sure, ask us. For example Lewis & Lewis have 2 different rate territories. One for all of Mexico, and one for a restricted number of States. This may or may not be the case with some others.

US labor rates for RV's are around \$125 an hour. Some companies only cover \$75 or even \$35 an hour so be aware. Some companies may require you to have active valid insurance in the US or Canada, others do not (Lewis & Lewis do not, for example. You may wonder how this situation could arise; possibly your RV is being stored in Mexico in off season. **Please be aware that Mexican Insurance policies do not necessarily start at midnight of the first day insured.** They are more likely to start at noon.

Saving money if you are American

I have heard for years that Progressive covers Mexico, but investigation indicates all they are doing is selling you an add-on provided by a Mexican Insurance company. Other companies like Allstate also do this. You may want to check with your provider if it is cheaper to have them do this. They may however be simply getting a commission for themselves. On the other hand if they will suspend premiums on their coverage in the US and Canada for the same period, they may well be cheaper overall. Check the labor rate coverage especially.

Saving money if you are Canadian

Some Canadian Insurance companies will rebate you for the time your vehicle is out of Canada or the US, so you can in many cases, end up breaking even. This is certainly the case with ICBC in BC. (download Refund request at <https://www.mexicocaravans.com/icbcrefund.pdf> make sure you keep receipts which prove when you were in Mexico and that you were continuously down there for that period. Remember you may not be able to cancel your insurance back

home and still be eligible to purchase Mexican Insurance. This is not a problem with ICBC since it is an "after-the-fact" rebate.

Vehicle Insurance Companies

IMPORTANT NOTE: I have recently been made aware that some policies do not cover RV's that are parked inside an RV park and/or disconnected from the vehicle. I am aware of 2 RV's that caught fire in RV parks in 2022 and would not be covered under policies that exclude this. Neither were our customers. Please make sure that any policy you buy, includes loss or accidents while inside an RV Park, disconnected or not. Both Sanborns and Lewis & Lewis cover for this.

First of all, we are not in the insurance business. As of Sept 2022, it is now company policy not to endorse or recommend any particular auto insurance companies. We do not take commissions from any company. Some offer our customers discounts, but that does not mean we endorse them. That could create a minefield for us if anyone had a settlement issue. It is up to you to do the research and look on the web for experiences of others, etc. I have used 2 or 3, I have had one claim which was with Lewis & Lewis (Qualitus) that was settled, but it was a minor one. I have heard both good and bad stories about most of the companies. I have heard bad ones regarding ANA and GNP, and one involving Qualitus, which we have recommended in the past. This is why we do not want to pin ourselves down. I can tell you that most of our French Canadian Caravan customers use <https://www.sanborns.com> which is pricier, but I have heard no complaints about them. For our Yucatan caravans, they **may** send an agent to the departure RV park, the day before departure to write policies for those who are interested. Lewis and Lewis represent Qualitus and they will give our customers 10% discount, but the choice is still yours. (<https://www.mexicanautoinsurance.com/>). Another agent that represents 3 different Mexican insurance companies and has a decent reputation is Charles Lundy (<https://www.mexinsurance.com>). Other companies represent Chubb, HDI, and others. Search under Mexican insurance company reviews and find one you like, then look for the American companies who are agents for them.. The choice is yours. Keep in mind that settlements in Mexico take a lot more time. Often it comes down to how hard the American agent works for you if you have a claim.

Evacuation Insurance SkyMed



Some Auto policies provide medical evacuation services. Check where they evacuate you to, especially if you are Canadian. You do not want to be evacuated to a US hospital, unless you have good travel insurance.

Another excellent option is Skymed. I recommend joining this if you plan to spend a lot of time abroad, or become a regular Mexican Snowbird. Many people self insure themselves in Mexico where medical care is certainly a lot cheaper than in the US, for sure, but it can be pricey, especially if you end up in some private hospitals. If you are a legal Mexican resident like myself, this is a good adjunct for Mexican Medicare, but I still insure myself for about 75K (see link graphic at bottom of page for information on an inexpensive option). This can be a lot cheaper if over 70 when you compare to normal travel insurance. If something serious happens, you can pay to be stabilized, then get air evacuated back home to the airport of your choice. I chose to join **Sky Med**. For myself, this fits all my needs and it costs my wife & I about \$500 - \$600 US a year to cover both of us. I am happy with them and have met 2 couples who have used them. They cover us for 6 months in Mexico, and we choose if we should be med-evaced if it is a serious condition. You are covered year round in your home country. They will also return your pets. I like this one over a couple of other air evac options, as I am guaranteed being able to renew at the same rate with no age restrictions, forever. Most travel insurance policies do include evacuation, but they are only going to do it, if it is in their best interest to do so, and they may only medivac you to the closest hospital you can get good treatment. That can be pricey if it is in the US and you have no insurance there. You are just dollars & cents to a lot of travel insurance companies. They may look at your situation, figure it is cheaper to have you treated in Mexico, and leave you there. Skymed seems to treat you with a bit more compassion. I liked the fact this company does not cut me off when I reach 75.

Paul Beddows, Caravanas de Mexico customer representative

Contact Christine Laberge. This is the rep I work with. appreciate you mentioning my name (Paul Beddows). If you sign up, I believe we both get extra months of coverage for free.

Contact Christine below and quote my member number which is **703790767** Email: christine-laberge@skymed.com

+52 333-661-3402 Phone or What's App

+1 713-805-1703

Note: There is a 90 day exemption on pre existing conditions you are on medication for, so you want to sign up at least 90 days before traveling. After that, no restrictions. You can also buy a shorter term policy that has no restrictions. In practice, I have heard it is not enforced, but that is only hearsay, do not take my word on it.

Some people say why this when my travel insurance includes evacuation? There are horror stories of people being denied a travel insurance claims some times due to an innocent mistake. It cost one Canadian couple 400K in 2023 because of a drug dosage error.

Extending existing car insurance policies

On some of our shorter tours that run concurrent with longer ones, we allow customers to change their mind and pay the difference for the longer tour. If you are potentially in this situation, check with the insurer to make sure you can extend your policy to cover the extra time, hopefully without penalty.

More Info on liability and accidents

Recent changes to Mexican law means everyone should carry \$500,000 in liability.

If you are in accident, the first call should be to your broker as you wait for the police. A good reason to have a cell phone. If you are shopping around for insurance, their availability is a consideration in your decision. You also want to check how many adjusters each company has in Mexico, do they speak English or provide an interpreter and how fast will they respond.

If you are in an accident, **do not move the vehicle until the police attend**. It is illegal and you will be fined (about \$100), it does not matter how much traffic you are blocking.

Quite frankly your chances of an accident in Mexico are not that high if you are in a caravan. Most people tend to drive much more defensively, especially in an RV. In a caravan I think you are even safer. Using toll roads also cuts your risk down. From my observations, most accidents involve passing on blind corners, either you or the guy coming the other way. This is far too common in Mexico. You can cut your risk considerably by being aware this can occur every time you approach a blind corner and planning out your response or escape route. I even use my horn on some roads to make oncoming cars aware I am there. Most of our accidents have been fender benders in RV parks as people get impatient to get settled.

Please be aware the claim settlement is slow in Mexico. Sometimes it can take 2-4 months or even longer. You may have to pay for repairs, then be reimbursed, or wait.

A dash cam is a great idea. They are cheap and many Garmin GPS's now have them built in. I have one of those. They can be invaluable in an accident that is not your fault. If it is your fault, you may want to hide it quick (I did not just say that).

Trip Cancellation Insurance **Keep in mind** that it has traditionally been our company policy to allow people to push ahead a season if for some reason they have to cancel. That includes the deposit. We may charge a minor service fee to do this, but our philosophy is we get you sooner or later, LOL. In many cases you may have to cancel, but it will not stop you from the following season. For example we had one customer whose son overdosed and had to go into rehab. In another case a customers wife needed cancer treatment. We were happy to push the payments into the next season. The only exception may be if you have to cancel fairly close to

departure and we have already put out money for hotels, trains or whatever. Even in that case we will still credit you with the balance for the following season. This is one service we offer that I believe none of our competitors do.

Note: If you need a dated receipt from us. Contact paul@mexicocaravans.com

Many credit cards offer cancellation insurance if you pay for the entire trip on your credit card. Check with them first. It is UP TO THE CLIENT to purchase cancellation Insurance if they wish. Considering most cancellations we receive are medically based, due to the demographics of our customer base, it can be advisable.

1) You can buy insurance from Travelguard on line. Upon request we will issue you a receipt upon your first payment, including whatever amount you paid as a deposit. Since we allow the final payment to be made upon departure, this may be all you need to insure. If you are concerned about trip interruption, then you may want to insure the entire amount. In that event we will show the amount still owing. Send requests to Paul at beddows1@telus.net

2) Since some payments are non-refundable we really advise taking out cancellation insurance for your trip.

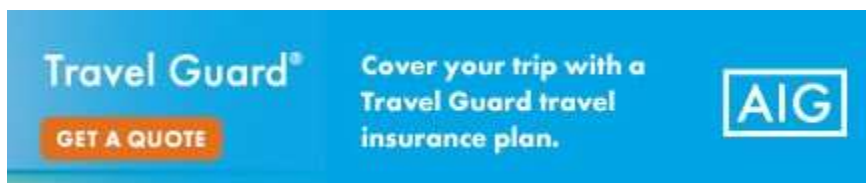
3) You have to be careful as many companies will require you to purchase coverage within 48 hours or 7 days, or some other limitation period of paying the deposit. This is why we will include the deposit and first payment as a single amount dated for when you made first payment or we will date it a few days later if needed. If they demand a paypal receipt of something like that, you may not be able to include the deposit. We will just label both as "Payment" collectively.

4) Trip cancellation is often cheaper when purchased in conjunction with Travel Medical Insurance.

5) Some options

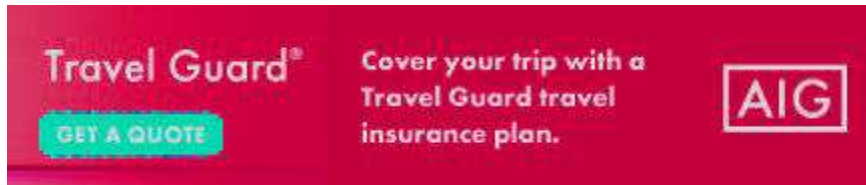
NOTE: Travelguard also covers Trip interruption, see the information in the Trip Interruption section further below.:

For Americans: 1-800-826-5248



<https://www.travelguard.com>

For Canadians: 1-866-878-0191



<https://www.travelguard.ca>

You can also check this company out <https://www.insuremytrip.com> or for Canadians <https://www.insuremytrip.ca>

Trip Interruption Insurance

This may be more important than you think This is often part of a Cancellation Insurance package, but it may not be. Although we had never previously had an accident on the road beyond a minor fender bender, on a recent trip there was an accident (on the first day) that was serious enough that the rig needed extensive repairs and they could not continue. This of course had expenses beyond the vehicle itself, hotels etc, plus any loss from what they pre-paid for the trip itself. They did not have trip interruption insurance. Based on that experience, you should try to cover yourself for this eventuality. We suggest you discuss this with your insurance agent. It may be a bit different from a fly-in all inclusive type vacation.

Americans: You may find some options by clicking the graphic at the bottom of this page and selecting "Trip Insurance" at the bottom right of the page that opens. Most, if not all, require you to be an American resident or citizen. See also the description for Travelguard under Canadians. There is an American equivalent product.

Canadians: I have been researching options. So far I have found TourMed and BCAA will sell something as an add on. You are best to call them and talk to an actual agent. I imagine other provincial auto associations offer similar products to BCAA. Now I have found that Travelguard (see the 2 links above this section) sells what seems like a good product. Let's say, for example you have a traffic accident and your rig is not drivable. Maybe it needs 2 or 3 weeks of repairs and you have to use a hotel in the interim. Besides being rebated for trip cost you have all those expenses as well. Here is their wording:

If the traveler has purchased the Silver Deluxe Cancellation/Interruption coverage and his trip is interrupted due to and automobile accident but not a medical condition there is a benefit for that.

Covered Risk 24. Transportation Delay – 1. You miss a connection or interrupt Your Trip because of the delay of a private automobile resulting from the mechanical failure of that automobile, weather conditions, a traffic Accident, or an emergency police-directed road closure, causing You to miss a ferry, Cruise ship, bus, limousine, taxi, or train, when the delay is caused by the mechanical failure of the vehicle

Benefits for Covered Risks 23 and 24: If You suffer Trip interruption due to one (1) or more of Covered Risks 23 and 24, occurring while You are on a Trip, We cover: 1. the non-refundable unused Trip arrangements for which You have already paid and additional travel transportation expenses via the most cost effective itinerary to return You to Your next destination (in or outbound) of the Insured Trip, less Your prepaid unused return transportation; 2. a Subsistence Allowance for Your commercial accommodations and meals, essential telephone calls and taxi fares, up to a daily maximum of \$250, to a maximum of \$500 (original receipts must be submitted for all eligible expenses).

Whether or not that would cover transport of a disabled vehicle back into the US or not, I do not know, but at least you are covered for a lot of other stuff.

You can also check this company out <https://www.insuremytrip.com> or for Canadians <https://www.insuremytrip.ca>

Medical (Travel) Insurance

Many companies will sell you medical insurance. This often includes evacuation insurance. You need to shop around, and it is different for Canadians and Americans. Canadians need to insure they have sufficient coverage for US transit. Most Canadian companies require you to buy coverage from the time you leave home then stick you with rates for the US for the time you are in Mexico. If you do want to use a Canadian Company, I personally recommend TourMed.

Another alternative for Americans and Canadians

Click the graphic below. They offer a few alternatives once you fill in your info. However, look at Visitors Secure. Their rates are really good. They will cover for 75K or 100K US depending on

age, which should cover most emergencies in Mexico. The one fly in the ointment is they do not cover pre-existing conditions if over 70, however if you have never had a heart attack or stroke that may not matter. Most other conditions you can hop a plane home before it kills you. It gives the impression that Canadians and Australians cannot use it, but it actually means you can't sign up for it, if you are physically located in one of those 2 countries, when you apply. In other words you have to wait until you arrive in Mexico or the US to sign up.. They also do not do medivac if over 70. For myself that does not matter as I belong to Skymed. Click the graphic below.

Note to Canadians: You **cannot** purchase this if you are PHYSICALLY in Canada. You have to do it as soon as you leave the country. You may purchase one or two days insurance to cover the transit from <https://www.gooseinsurance.com> . You will likely need 2 days as you will not be able to start coverage until the day after you arrive. I did this myself this season and it worked well. I am 74 and it cost me about \$650 US for 6 months coverage.



<https://www.visitorscoverage.com/?affid=99ad9006875b8>

Medical Forms

We will send a link to print this out and bring with you. We also have them available before crossing the border. The medical form should be in a sealed envelope and we will return unopened unless it has to be opened in an emergency.

Here is the link:

<https://www.mexicocaravans.com/medform.pdf>

There are good hospitals in Mexico and not so good ones. If we have to take you to hospital we will find the most decent ones available that will not break the bank. You should let us know what sort of travel medical coverage you have. Maybe add it into the medical form you provide us with. Doctor visits are very reasonable. English speaking doctors may be easily found. Doctors are in most Farmacia Familiar's and a consultation (usually only in Spanish, but we can

send a tour guide along) is only about 40 pesos. They are good if you need a quick prescription. It is up to you to arrange any medical travel insurance before you leave. Medical costs in Mexico are similar or a bit cheaper than Canada, much cheaper than the US. If you are Canadian check your coverage with your own Medicare, It varies from province to province. You may want to consider evacuation insurance, but Lewis & Lewis includes a form of that in their auto policy. They will fly you to some US Cities and Vancouver, BC. Some others will fly only to US cities.

Vaccinations and disease concerns

This information is not to make anyone paranoid, but to make sure you are aware of what disease risks there are in Mexico or any other tropical country, for that matter. Nobody wants to get sick, but you can reduce the odds by being aware.

Covid and Flu:

Caravanas de Mexico can no longer put restrictions on customers vaccination status regarding Covid 19, but we sure prefer that you are vaccinated and up to date.

There are still some locations in Mexico that are requiring masks, so bring them along, and they are advisable regardless in stores.

We do **strongly advise** that you are vaccinated against covid 19 and up to date on boosters for the protection of yourself, and our other customers. Even though we can no longer enforce it, becoming seriously ill in a foreign country is no fun. We will have you attest that you have protected yourself with some sort of travel medical coverage. Whether you actually do or not is up to you, but it releases us against liability. You should put information on any travel coverage you have (or evac insurance) in the sealed medical envelope. We request you also provide your Covid vaccination info in that envelope and let the Wagon Master know, in confidence, your status for now. If you find travel Insurance too expensive, I suggest looking at Visitors Secure which you can access by clicking the graphic at the bottom of <https://www.mexicocaravans.com/insurance.html> . It about the 3rd choice down and will cover you for 75K to 100K US. It is very reasonable. Canadians cannot purchase it until physically in the US or Mexico. I use it myself. I am also a member of Skymed evacuation service which my wife and I buy in 5 year blocks. Contact me for a reference to sign up for that. It was about 3K US for 5 years and never goes up if you keep it up to date.

I would also advise you get the annual flu shot.

Ocean Nasties:

Apart from sharks and gators, which are avoidable, there may be jellyfish at some beaches, especially in the Caribbean. If stung by one, having someone pee on the area is the best action, believe it or not. Rays can also be an issue, so you should shuffle your feet in shallow fairly calm

water so they avoid you and you do not step on one. Be careful swimming where there is a potential of a rip tide. If caught in one do not panic but swim parallel to the beach until you can easily make it to shore. I once experienced this in Panama and it is hard not to panic. Pools are safer. Avoid swimming in the ocean at Laguna del Tule in Melaque. The waves break close to shore and it is a rapid drop off. Unless you are a strong swimmer, use the pool.

Moctezuma's Revenge:

Famous in Mexico but actually not that common in caravans as much of your food and drink is self contained. We only use safe restaurants and in fact most are. Sometimes it is street food that will do it. Most doctors will tell you to let it run its course while drinking a lot of water. Use Imodium if you have to. Ciproflaxin is effective and you may want to ask your doctor for a prescription. You can get it on prescription in Mexico. Many women are susceptible to bladder infections and it is also very effective for that.

Malaria and Dengue:

Malaria and Dengue are present in parts of Mexico but we have never had anyone come down with either. We urge you to take precautions against being bit especially in the hot and humid coastal areas. Mosquitos only seem to be a problem in the 2 hours on either side of sunset. Repellent is pricey in Mexico so bring plenty. Chloroquine is still effective against Malaria here if you do want to take something. Larium (mefloquine) is not advised, it can cause psychological problems and Doxycycline will make you sun sensitive. Only area there is even a slight risk is Chiapas in remote areas and to be frank I would not be concerned about it. Dengue comes on like a bad flu and is often associated with joint pain. If you get these symptoms, you should be tested. There is no vaccine as yet. Please note that the mosquito responsible for Dengue is a day biting species, so in remotes areas like archaeological sites, spray yourself.

Check your dogs for ticks regularly and make sure they are on a program against them. If you do get a tick bite, do not discard the tick if it is still there. They can be tested for Lyme disease. If you do get a tick bite we can take you to a doctor who can put you on antibiotics for 30 days which will prevent you from getting Lyme if the tick was carrying it. My wife learned this a few years ago. A tick bite if no tick is still there will usually look like a bullseye rash around the area. Very common symptom of it and you should go on antibiotics just in case. Usually Doxycycline, so you have to protect yourself against sunburn while on it.

Other biting insects are common and you should bring afterbite, which for some reason is hard to find in Mexico.

It is good to be up date on Typhoid & Typhus shots, I do not believe yellow fever is a risk.

Dental care is cheap in Mexico. You may be at least be able to squeeze in a cleaning. I can arrange that in Melaque for tours stopping there or in Boca Beach.

SECTION 5

Border Procedures

Preparation

It is possible to obtain permits on line ahead of time. However, we had uneven experiences with this, so **we will ask everyone to do them at the border instead. It is not unusual to have a screw up that can cause you grief when you attempt to cross. Do not do it online!!!!!!**

Feel free to contact us regarding your specific situation. Call Paul after April 30th at 1-877-327-7555 or 604-852-1342. Remainder of the year, try 360-483-7933.

Permit and Visa types

Everybody needs a tourist card. These cost about \$35 US. They are slowly phasing them out in favor of a passport stamp, starting with Airports. You should be granted 180 days.

Your vehicles will require a TIP (Temporary Importation Permit). There are 2 types, a 180 day one and a 10 year one. Class A, B & C's plus 5th wheels and trailers will get a 10 year. Pickup trucks and towed cars will get a 180 day one. Both costs about \$65 US. A pickup towing a trailer will need 2 for example. Everyone is allowed one of each type. A 180 day permit requires a \$400 US deposit (cash or credit card) on any vehicle newer than 2007. Less for older vehicles. You will get this back when you cancel the TIP on exit. (not required for any vehicle eligible for a 10 Year.

Up to 2 items can be added to the truck permit. Utility trailers, scooters, etc.

Read on for some other quirks you should be aware of. BTW we advise cancelling a 10 year permit on exit unless you are leaving it in Mexico. It is an advantage to have all vehicles registered in both you and your spouses name.

These are the documents you will require:

Passports

Vehicle titles **and/or** registration. **Originals please!**

If the vehicle is company owned, or the registration shows another owner, you need a letter, even if it's your own company. Just make it look official. Notarized is better.

If the registration shows a lien, you need a letter from the lien holder. You may have to provide prior proof of Mexican insurance. **If you have the title and the registration, just use the one that shows no lien.**

Drivers license

Credit card

Make 2 copies of everything. (front page of passport) No enlargements!

Have \$200 in US cash, \$600 if you intend to pay the vehicle deposit in cash (trucks only or towed cars), you will get it back when you leave)

If you are towing a trailer, take a photo of the front of the truck looking backwards down the side with the front plate visible, and print it out. If from a place like Alberta, move the rear plate to the front for the photo. Also do the same for the door sticker showing weights. **Do not offer either of these unless asked.**

If you carry an ATV make sure you have either the registration or the bill of sale.

If you are towing, make sure the registered owners on truck & trailer match. If not, bring your marriage certificate.

Be ready to state your destination & hotel. For Yucatan, use the Hotel Nuntutun In Palenque, Chiapas. Colonial or Airstream, use Hotel Laguna de Tule, Villa Obregon, Jalisco. For Copper Canyon, use Tres Amigos Trailer park, Mazatlan, Sinhaloa.

Proof of rabies vaccine. (For your pet). A Certificate of health is no longer required.

Copper Canyon, Saltillo, Zacatecas & Patzcuaro are at high altitude. Expect warm days and quite cool nights. Bring some warm clothing for the evenings there. Patzcuaro is also at high altitude but will be warmer by the time we hit it.

Food & Alcohol you can take into Mexico

The general rule of thumb is don't take anything in you are not prepared to lose. However, most have never had anything taken away except fresh vegetables. There are restrictions on alcohol, they are unlikely to check, but it's up to you. Imported wines can be found in Wal Mart. You can take a small amount of pet food in, but most brands are available in supermarkets or from vets. Driving across, you can get away with more. You cannot take pet food back into the US, unless it came from there. The US is far more restrictive on what you can take back and will confiscate most meat & vegetables even if in sealed pre-packaged form. One exception is seafood, so bring back as much frozen shrimp as you want.

There are often Agricultural inspection stations at Mexican state lines or before them. (just like California) Avoid buying a lot of fruits & vegetables the day before crossing one.

Make 2 copies of everything.

You do not need a vehicle permit for Baja so some of these rules will not apply there. **Please ensure the VIN on your permit matches that on your vehicle before leaving the office.**

Keep your permit in the Glove box and accessible. There may be spot road checks

Tow cars:

You maybe required to unhitch, and drive separate at some spots. We actually advise against them unless you are on a long stay trip. They add to insurance, tolls, etc. and are of limited use unless you are in one spot for an extended period of time. We have had reports of The Guardia Nacional stopping people and telling them towing a car is illegal. This is unlikely to be an issue in a caravan

FGR Agents

You may encounter these in Sinaloa, especially. They are similar to the IRS and are looking for larger amounts of US Cash which may be drug laundering money. Some of them are not honest and may steal from you if they find it. We try to ensure we have Green Angel escorts (described later) in the areas they operate and then they do not bother us. They are often dressed in black with no uniforms. IF you do have a fair amount of US cash, I suggest you have some that is easy to find, maybe \$100. Then find a really good hiding spot for the balance. With an RV that is not hard with a bit of ingenuity. Better still, avoid carrying large amounts of US cash. They are not interested in pesos.

SECTION 6

Driving Procedures

The first 3 days

The first 3 days are the most risky as you need time to adjust to both driving in Mexico and being in a group. It is **compulsory** to leave the US with a full tank of fuel and top up at every fuel stop. There are reasons for this and on one caravan, not leaving with a full tank started a chain of events that led to an accident. It is important to remember to leave a 10 second gap between yourself and the rig in front of you. **Stopping distances with RV's are longer and you have to account for passers cutting in front of you.** Watch for Busses and semis coming up rapidly in the left lane. The last rig should warn those ahead by radio if there is a fast moving vehicle coming up on the left. We only fill up at gas stations on the other side of the highway when **absolutely necessary** and you need to take extra caution if we do so. Be very careful of semis in gas stations. They may not see you.

After the first 3 days

Most people get accustomed to procedures after the first 3 days and things run a lot more smoothly. The Wagon Master will assign your position in the caravan and may modify it later depending on your driving habits. If you are single, you will be placed behind the wagon master. We follow the speed limits and normally stick around 55 MPH or 90 KM per hour. Caravans tend to find their own speed after a few days. The wagon Master may use numbers to designate you, or your names or rig type, if the caravan is smaller. Try to keep the rig in front of you and behind you in sight, but do not tailgate, watch for Topes (speed bumps) which are common. Do not use the radio for ad hoc conversation.

A single rig requiring fuel may have to do it alone and catch up, we will stop the caravan at the next safe location. The same hold true after passing through toll booths, it will either stop where safe or go slow in the right hand lane to allow catching up. **Avoid re-ordering on the move.** Do it at the next Pemex. **Passing in Mexico is always RISKY.**

Mexico has 2 types of roads, Cuota's (toll) & Libres (free). We usually use Cuota's when possible, many are up to US interstate standards, Libres can be rough and have lots of Topes. In some cases if the Wagon Master feels the free road is more scenic and OK, he will use it. The chance of having an accident on a Cuota is a fraction of on a Libre, and no Topes. Despite being pricey, they are worth it.

We will get separated at toll booths, If there is an area to pull over, we will, otherwise we will go slow until everyone catches up, or sometimes pull to the side with hazards on. Please be aware that some booths are for transponders only, and you cannot use them. Try to radio back what you paid so the people behind have some idea of how much cash to dig out. Toll booths **only** accept pesos.

Watch for topes, there are over a million in Mexico. The unmarked ones in the shadow of tree are brutal. Have your passenger act as a spotter and watch for the vehicle in front passing over them.

It is illegal to turn right on a red in some areas. Using your left-hand turn signal on a highway indicates to the person behind, it is OK to pass (think about that one). It is common to go to the right before turning left across a road. It works this way in Puerto Vallarta, for example. Often there will be a loop on the right side for a left-hand turn. Watch speed limits especially in towns and **do not run a red**. Lights flash green before turning red in Mexico. We will not lose you.

Low trees on the right on 2 lane roads are common and you may have to go over into the oncoming lane to avoid them. Use your radio to help those behind you know it's safe. Also be wary of low wires in towns, we have snagged them before. We sometimes carry lifters. Airstream caravans have no issue as they are lower profile. We suggest you observe the rig ahead of you for clearance. We recommend that Wagon master fasten a fibreglass bike flag pole (less flag) to their rear ladder, set to the height of the highest rig. On 2 lane highways in Mexico, it is considered normal to drive 1/2 on the shoulder, so people can pass you. When you see a shoulder with a dotted line, this is what it means. This is illustrated by this video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UGdL1NODyp8>

Motorcycles:

Be very careful of motorcycles in towns, they dash in and out, pass on the wrong side and seldom wear helmets. In an RV they are real difficult to spot. Must be a lot of paraplegics in Mexico.

Green Angels:

We often use these as tail gunners, they are like the auto association with semi police powers. They charge for parts, but not for labor. We use them when possible.

Fuel:

Fuel is widely available, both gas and diesel. Keep in mind that colors are reversed, Diesel pumps are black and gas are green. Usually on separate Islands. DEF is hard to find, but ULSD diesel is now widely available, although not always marked on pumps. It is called DUBA in Mexico. DEF is available at Autozones, but try to bring what you feel you need. Fuel shortages can happen and sometimes stations are far apart. This is why **you should always top up**. A jerry can, can be handy, but we discourage carrying ones with gas because of the heat. Diesel is OK, and diesel is more likely to be subject to a shortage.

Watch for scams. Bill switches can happen, the 20's and 500's are the same color. Make sure they zero the pumps. A locking gas cap is good. Do not use a credit card if they cannot provide a receipt. This can be a scam & you may get overcharged. We appreciate it if you request a receipt "ticket" and give it to the Wagon Master. He can photo them and the company can use

them as a tax write off. He can return it, if you need it. The company adds extras for us doing that. **You do not pump your own fuel in Mexico.** We advise tipping attendants maybe 50 pesos. They do appreciate it. You can use cash or credit card at most. If you use a credit card keep the receipt until the charge goes through on your account. Mistakes happen. Advise the wagon master once your fuel range is down to 100 miles or 130 km.

Vehicle Separation: Rumor is that rigs in a caravan have to maintain 100 metres (300 ft or 7 rigs average, with a mix of motorhomes & trailers) separation by law. That works out to 4 seconds separation at 55 MPH, our normal highway speed. Count 1 and, 2 and, 3 and, 4 and. We aim for 5 seconds.

Vehicle order: We have found that it is best to have a small rig with good acceleration at the rear, larger rigs about ½ way back. This makes it much more efficient with less chance of separation

Metric

Mexico uses the Metric system.

Canadians are familiar with metric, as it is the standard in Canada. For others, here is the conversion.

Speeds and distances are in Metric. Approximate, but close:

100 kph = 60 mph

90 kph = 55 mph

80 kph = 50 mph

60 kph = 40 mph

50 kph = 30 mph

1 Kilometer = 1000 Meters, approx 0.6 miles

Memorize those and you won't have any issues

We **only use** Metric on the road to avoid confusion.

Temperatures: 15C = 60F; 20C = 68F; 25C = 77F; 30C = 85F; 35C = 90F

GPS:

The Wagon Master can provide the GPS coordinates of the destination, however although it is good for time of arrival, **do not trust your GPS in Mexico, it can get you in trouble.**

Here is a list of the GPS coordinates for many of the parks we use: (not including Baja). We do not always use the same parks, but the wagon master will let you know which one you are headed for.

Yucatan Trips

Mission West RV Resort **N 26.220909 W 98.367198**
 Hotel Imperial-Salttillo **N 25.45678 W 100.985017**
 Hotel Baruk - Zacatecas **N 22.77406 W 102.61972**
 Bugamville RV - Guanajuato **N 20.94559 W 101.25844**
 San Juan del Lago, Cuitzeo - **N 19.906657 W 101.119497**
 Pepes, Mexico City - **N 19.72342 W 99.22111**
 Mar Esmeralda - Emerald Coast **N 20.30091 W 96.84562** or El Pina **N 20.30663 W 96.85077**
 Coco Adventure - Veracruz **N 19.05157 W 96.01305**
 Villas Tepetapan - Catemaco **N 18.41955 W 95.12115**
 Gordo y Pancho Balenario - Villahermosa **N 17.97992 W 93.04549**
 Freedom Shores - Isla Aguada **N 18.78289 W 91.49395**
 Balenario Kin Ha - Campeche **N 19.82940 W 90.49449**
 Uxmal - Uxmal **N 20.36144 W 89.76794**
 Rainbow RV - Merida **N 21.04206 W 89.62904**
 Pyramide Hotel - Chichen Itza **N 20.69373 W 88.58288**
 Yax Ha - Chetumal **N 18.56093 W 88.24965**
 Calakamul - Xpijl Pemex **N 18.509254 W 89.411203**
 Calakmul- Dry camp alternative **N 18.540714 W 89.922766**
 Hotel Nutuntun - Palenque **N 17.48342 W 91.97469**
 Hogar Orphanage **N 16.775358 W 93.384737**
 Las Palmeras - Chiapa de Corzo **N 16.726072 W 93.018146**
 Football Field - Santa Maria Xalapa **N 16.439993 W 95.464167**
 El Rancho RV - Oaxaca **N 17.053989 W 96.642134**
 Las Americas - Puebla **N 19.072349 W 98.295717**
 Teotihuacan RV Park (near Mexico City) - **N 19.68248 W 98.87085**
 La Mesa - Patzcuaro **N 19.50214 W 101.59369**
 Chimulco - Villa Corona **N 20.41233 W 103.67156**
 Laguna del Tule - Melaque **N 19.21676 W 104.69337**
 Melaque Paradise - Melaque **N 19.223728 W 104.697376**
 Boca Beach **N 19.3077823 W 104.817716**
 Telaquepaque - Lo de Marcos **N 20.957695 W 105.353901**
 La Parota- Lo de Marcos **N 20.9528 W 105.36005**
 Color Marino -Teacapan **N 22.61243 W 105.79139**

Las Jaibas, Mazatlan - **N 23.29869 W 106.48481**
 Tres Amigos, Mazatlan - **N 23.18681 W 106.40311** (note 2 of them 1 block apart)
 Villa Celeste, Celestino - **N 23.80667 W 106.88000**
 Los Mochis, Smartgas - **N 25.783241 W 108.876926** Chevron - **N 25.831746 W 108.971561**
 Hotel Playa de Cortes, Guaymas **N 27.912873 W 110.945270**
 Hotel El Mirador, Huatabampito **N 26.69408 W 109.59031**
 Totonaka-San Carlos **N 27.96331 W 111.02450**
 Rancho Betania northbound exit **N 30.513842 W 111.105369**
 Lukeville/Sonoyta Permit Return **N 20.957695 W 105.353901**
 Tlaquepaque - Lo de Marcos **N 20.957695 W 105.353901**
 La Parota- Lo de Marcos **N 20.9528 W 105.36005**
 Color Marino -Teacapan **N 22.61243 W 105.79139**
 Las Jaibas, Mazatlan - **N 23.29869 W 106.48481**
 Tres Amigos, Mazatlan - **N 23.18681 W 106.40311** (note 2 of them 1 block apart)
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 Hotel Playa de Cortes, Guaymas **N 27.912873 W 110.945270**
 Hotel El Mirador, Huatabampito **N 26.69408 W 109.59031**
 Totonaka-San Carlos **N 27.96331 W 111.02450**

 Rancho Betania (Northbound turn off) **N 30.513842 W 111.105369**
 Lukeville/Sonoyta Permit Return **N 20.957695 W 105.353901**
 Km 21 Vehicle Permit Return **N 31.16334 W 110.95315**
 Border Crossing, Nogales (Mariposa) **N 31.332856 W 110.965515**

Copper Canyon/Colonial/Airstream Trips

Desert Diamond Casino **N 32.006576 W 110.9925127**
 Border Crossing, Nogales (Mariposa) **N 31.332856 W 110.965515**
 Rancho Betania (Northbound turn off) **N 30.513842 W 111.105369**
 Rancho Betania (Southbound turn off) **N 30.513317 W 111.106679**
 Km 21 vehicle permits **N 31.16334 W 110.95315**
 Totonaka, San Carlos **N 27.96331 W 111.02450**
 Hotel Playa de Cortes, Guaymas **N 27.912873 W 110.945270**
 Hotel El Mirador, Huatabampito **N 26.69408 W 109.59031**
 Real de Alamos, Alamos - **N 27.03036 W 108.95053**
 Palma Sola Hotel, El Fuerte **N 26.409412 W 108.630685**
 Hotel Bugamvillas, El Fuerte - **N 26.41019 W 108.62633**
 Playa Bonita, Las Glorias (Guasave) - **N 25.29639 W 108.524075**
 Villa Celeste, Celestino - **N 23.80667 W 106.88000**
 Las Jaibas, Mazatlan - **N 23.29869 N 106.48481**
 Tres Amigos, Mazatlan - **N 23.18681 W 106.40311** (note 2 of them 1 block apart)
 Color Marino, Teacapan - **N 22.61243 W 105.79139**
 Los Mochis northbound, Chevron - **N 25.968461 W 109.034240**

Balenario San Juan, Durango - **N 24.052894 W 104.545367** (turn off main hwy spot)
 Hotel Baruk, Zacatecas **N 22.77406 W 102.61972**
 Bugamville RV, Guanajuato **N 20.94559 W 101.25844**
 San Juan del Lago, Cuitzeo - **N 19.906657 W 101.119497**
 Pepes, Mexico City - **N 19.72342 W 99.22111**
 Rancho La Mesa, Patzcuaro **N 19.50214 W 101.59369**
 Chimulco, Villa Corona **N 20.41233 W 103.67156**
 Laguna del Tule - Melaque **N 19.21676 W 104.69337**
 Melaque Paradise - Melaque **N 19.223728 W 104.697376**
 Boca Beach, **N 19.307823 W 104.817716**
 Tlaquepaque, Lo de Marcos **N 20.957695 W 105.353901**
 La Parota, Lo de Marcos **N 20.9528 W 105.36005**
 La Parota, Lo de Marcos **N 20.9528 W 105.36005**
 Los Mochis northbound Chevron **N 25.831707 W 108.971567**
 Km 21 Vehicle Permit Return **N 31.16334 W 110.95315**
 Lukeville/Sonoyta Permit Return **N 31.635964 W 112.807521**
 Border, Lukeville **N 31.879995 W 112.817406**

Baja Trips

Villarino, Punta Banda **N 31.71764 W 116.66692**
 El Pabillon, Nueva Odisea San Quintin **N 30.37508 W 115.86916**
 Hotel Mision, Catavina **N 29.728922 W 114.718319**
 Malarino, Guerrero Negro **N 27.96774 W 114.02991**
 Villa Maria Isabel , Mulege **N 26.89598 W 111.96379**
 Playa Santispac, Bahia Concepcion **N 26.76569 W 111.88932**
 Rivera del Mar, Loreto **N 26.01756 W 111.34575**
 Campestre Marantha, La Paz **N 24.09702 W 110.38707**
 Playa Tecolote, La Paz **N 24.33583 W 110.31528**
 Baja Sunrise, Los Barillos, **N 23.670216 W 109.699933**
 Misiones, Ciudad Constitucion **N 25.04844 W 111.68025**
 Rancho Grande Turnoff, Bahia Gonzaga **N 29.791830 W 114.414070**
 Rancho Grande, Bahia Gonzaga **N 29.793156 W 114.396688**
 Villa Marina, San Felipe **N 30.91574 W 114.71901**

There is software available with Mexican RV park co-ordinates available on our web site. This can be loaded into a Garmin GPS or an app and other computer software available for free.

This is all explained and software linked at <https://www.mexicocaravans.com/rvparks.html>

What if I break down

We actually hope you don't, which is why we want you have your vehicle checked over thoroughly before departure. Please also make sure you check your trailer brakes. If it is something that can be fixed on the road we will stop the caravan and try to repair it on the roadside, or if it is movable, at the first wide area. The Wagon Master will place his rig at the rear and we will use somebody as a flag person. **We do not leave anyone alone unless we have a Green Angel or police officer or someone else to assist you on site, and we may leave one of the Wagon Master couple or an interpreter with you. THE WAGON MASTER DECIDES WHEN ANYONE MOVES. It may mean a night in a Pemex if the caravan is delayed.** If it's major, we will assist you in getting it fixed and hire either one of our tour guides or the Green Angels to catch you up with the group. **This will be at your expense.** If you have a trailer or 5th wheel, it is possible we may be able to use another customers truck to get your rig into an RV park. A similar situation may occur with an accident. This can be a hassle, especially if another insurance company is involved. They may want you to have your vehicle repaired locally. We try to talk them into allowing us to get it repaired further along where we may be stationary for a week, if the vehicle is drivable. Be careful turning left into an RV park across a road, watch for over-takers. We had an accident in spring 2022, with that (involved Wagon master assistant not a customer)

I am going to be straight with you and tell you having an accident in Mexico can be a real hassle. We will do what we can and not leave you stranded. We have an extensive stable of tour guides across the country we can hire to assist you, and on some caravans, the owners son, Bernie, is along, and we can leave him with you to assist, and arrange someone to go along with you to catch up. Otherwise, we will arrange to have someone else, like a tour guide, remain with you. In some cases, if you have minor damage, it may not be worth getting insurance involved. Most have \$500 deductible and that goes a long way to repairs in Mexico. We use toll highways, when possible, to minimize the chance of accidents. Keep that in mind before complaining about toll costs. Body work is cheap. In Melaque for instance I know places and you may want to have some existing dents or scrapes fixed while there. Cost me less than \$70 to have the kick panel fixed on my car for example.

If you are in an accident do not move the vehicle until the police arrive. Do not sign anything until the insurance agent arrives.

You may want to consider buying trip interruption insurance, in case your vehicle is not drivable, repairable, etc. and you have to cut your trip short. This has happened once on one of our trips, and they had no coverage for this, beyond the vehicle value. Even if we can do some refunding, there are lots of other expenses that won't be covered. Discuss coverage options with your insurance agent. Insurance is discussed elsewhere in this document.

Police:

Police in Mexico are divided into 4 basic divisions:

Guardia National (white cars) formerly State Police and Federales and some military, now merged

Municipal Police (Black cars)

Transitos, sometimes called Policia Vial (Various colors)

Tourist Police Only in resort areas

Police have a habit of driving with their flashers on which can throw you off.

There are also the equivalent of IRS agents (FGR) who sometimes set up checkpoints

If you are pulled over, radio the Wagon Master and have him deal with it or wait for the Green Angel if one is at the rear, to show up. Let the Wagon Master know, regardless. Do not pay a bribe. This is uncommon with the Guardia, more common with Transistos and Municipal Police.

You may also run into FGR. These are like the FBI, often not in uniform, they may search your rig, looking for guns or drugs. In all cases it often helps to have a cold coke or 2 to offer. It goes a long way.

Toll Booths

Tolls are common and pricey. Tolls will separate and sometimes re-arrange the order of the caravan. You should bunch up where it is convenient to pull over, or just go slow in the slow lane until people catch up.

Going Through Towns

These may separate the caravan. **Do not run lights**, you will get a ticket. Lights often tend to flash green before turning red. We will find you if we lose you and regroup after the town has been transited. In larger towns like Aguascalientes we may try to pull over at points. With complex transits like Aguascalientes, Guanajuato or Puerto Vallarta we will supply you a road log instructions you can print out prior to the trip.

Blockades

These can be a fact of life in Mexico. There is one near the town of Vicam in Sonora run by the Yaqui Indians for example. They are upset over water rights and the highway through their territory with no compensation. Their beef is legit and they will charge maybe 50-100 pesos. Give it to them, give them a thumbs up and everything will be fine. Similar blockades in Chiapas are also common. Taking over toll booths is another tactic and people have done that upset over no hurricane relief and that sort of thing. In that case the cost is usually less than the toll would have been, so you are still ahead.

In the Spring there is something known as La Princesa de la Primavera (Spring Princess). This a fund-raising thing for schools, and it is a high honor for parents to have their daughter win. My granddaughter won by hitting up gringos. The next year I had to fix it so she didn't. Also, her princess outfit I got at a medieval festival in the UK, so it was far better than anyone else's. Anyway, you may find 2 people on opposite sides of the road pull up a rope and stop you. They will have a can with a photo of their daughter in a princess outfit on it. It can freak you out unless you know what it is. Fund raising at Topes is common. You may be approached by people looking for money to buy medical drugs. Medical care is free, the drugs they need are not. Fire departments regularly raise funds this way.

SECTION 7

RV Park Procedures

This can be a bit of a zoo if it is not done correctly, especially with larger groups. First of all, we try to be fair with site allocations over the trip, so we do not tolerate any mad rush to get the best site. The Wagon Master always does the allocations. If you wish to move after everybody else is parked, that is up to you. In many cases we enter the park in small numbers. Try to get parked as soon as possible, and maybe offer to assist others before setting up. We have had mishaps in Parks with trees and other RVs in the past, and we try to avoid that. If you are parking with the assistance of someone else, please choose a radio channel not being used by the group as a whole. Remember to use Driver's side/Passenger side, not right or left. The Wagon master may ask the first person in to assist with doing things like checking power pedestals, getting Wi-Fi codes, laundry info, etc. If anyone has aspirations to be a future Wagon Master, this is a chance to learn the ropes.

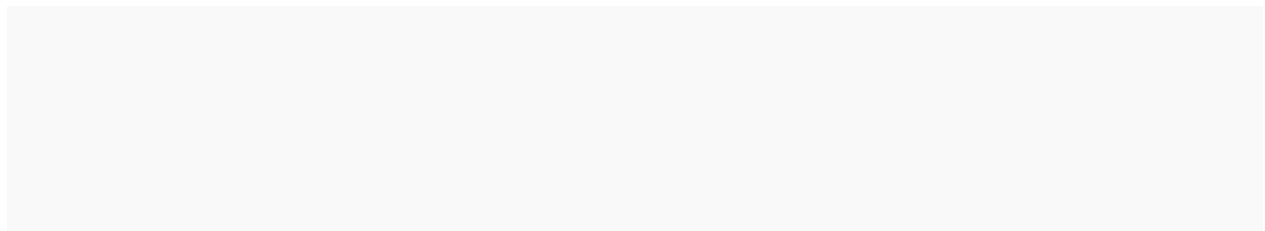
The Wagon Master will have a white board where schedules of meals & events are posted. Some groups have been utilizing What's App groups to do this as well, but everyone has to be comfortable with that. We encourage happy hours, and on many trips we do Spanish lessons at them.

On the evening before, or morning of a departure, there will be an orientation meeting where the Wagon Master will give a bit of a description of the driving day, number of body breaks, etc. If you are below ½ tank of fuel let him know. Or if you are running short of propane. There will be a radio check before departure. We aim to depart at 8 AM, even on short travel days.

Ants: These can be an issue, usually just small ones and usually do not appear until in one spot for a few days. I use Raid Ant drops, they will kill a nest in 4 days. Chances are no queen in your rig so they disappear when you move on. You can sprinkle Borax or Comet around point of entry like tires, etc. Make sure no palm fronds are in contact with your roof, go up and trim them back if so.

Coconuts: These can be a hazard to your head on your rig. Try not to park under any and have wagon master ask park to remove them if you have no choice. They can do severe damage to an RV roof or kill you if one drops on your head.

When assisting parking use "drivers side-passenger side", not "left -right" to avoid confusion



WiFi & Internet Availability

Most RV parks in Mexico have Wi-Fi, or you can also get a data package for your cell. Please avoid streaming on RV Park Wi-Fi. Most Wi-Fi in Mexico is copper DSL, not fibre or cable. 15 meg speed. Some is satellite with slow upload, so not suitable for Skype. If you have to download large files, do it late at night. Cell data plans are cheap in Mexico, and you can often use a Mobile Hotspot. "Telcel Amigos Sin Limites" is \$10 a month. Free calling and 4.5 gig of data with mobile Hotspot

Water & Sewer

Mexican RV parks tend to place pedestals at the rear instead of the side. This means you may need a longer water & sewer hose. A sewer hose joiner is useful as you can always borrow somebody else's to dump if you can't reach the drain. This may sound a bit gross, but a spare sewer cap is useful to drill hole in and let gray water dribble out in transit if needed. We will only do this in a pinch & on remote highway stretches.

With limited space in an RV, and a long trip without access to sanitizer, we are recommending a product called 5 Star Happy Camper sanitizer. It is in powder form, easy to store, and much more economical. It also works in high heat. (Enzyme products can fail in high temperature conditions). It is made in Medford, Oregon.

<https://happycampersworld.com/>

You can find it on Amazon. The Canadian distributor appears to be defunct.

Do not drink the water in Mexico, even if the park claims it has safe water. Bottled water is cheap, get a 5-gallon container with a screw top cap. It may be wise to wait and buy one in Mexico, the most common brand is Ciel, and if you buy one of those, you may be able to do a straight exchange most of the time, otherwise you transfer water between whatever brand is available and your container (bring a funnel). Easy to carry in the bed of a pickup, if you drive one. The water is so cheap you can even dump it if you have nowhere safe to carry a full one.

Some people fill their tanks with bottled water so they can still drink out of them. This is actually a bit of a fallacy. There are always some bacteria present in even purified water. Left alone in the correct environment it can multiply. It is never a good idea to drink out of an RV holding tank even in Canada and the US. This information comes from my wife who taught university level environmental chemistry, specializing in Water Quality and sewage treatment.



Water pressure is usually low, so it is best to fill your water tank rather than use the city water hook-up. Buy one of those blue inline filters (left picture) and maybe put a cap of chlorine in the tank. Buy a washer/strainer to put in your hose where it hooks to the tap to catch any debris. Use this for showers & dish washing. Put a little chlorine in the dish water. When you get back to the states, put a good dose of chlorine in the tank (dilute it first), fill it half full, drive around for a few hours to slosh it, drain & refill. Be careful with chlorine going into your holding tank and possibly reacting with your sanitizer. Small amounts are OK and that is all you need.

If you have a Suburban water heater, it is not a bad idea to carry an extra sacrificial rod (center picture below). Possibly change it before you leave. **If you have an Atwood (Dometic), we suggest you carry an extra water temperature sensor kit (right picture - ECO)** as they are failure prone. Buy the attached thermal fuse as well. (looks like a resistor in a plastic sleeve) If yours is suspect, contact Paul and he will tell you how to test it. They are cheap and easy to change on the road. We have had failures in the past. It should be in your spare parts kit. Regardless, it is cheap. You can get all 3 parts on Amazon. Search under RV water filter, Suburban rod and Atwood ECO assembly and Atwood thermal fuse. All are cheap, and you should have a spare. We have had them fail on caravans a couple; of times in the past.



I have had some people complain that some RV park taps are $\frac{1}{2}$ inch instead of $\frac{5}{8}$ as is supposed standard. I may be smart to go to Home Depot and get an adapter. T

Bad Taps

We have encountered taps that will not take a standard hose thread, or are damaged. It is a good idea to order one of these from Amazon for about \$10. [Amazon.com : 1 Pack Universal Faucet Hose Adapter, Thickened Sink Hose Attachment for Faucet, Flexible Silicone Sleeve Water Hose Connector for RV Garden Hose Damaged/Stripped Faucet Threads or Threadless Faucet : Tools & Home Improvement](#)



Spanish Lessons:

Many of our trips have Hispanic Wagon Masters, Mexican interpreters or co-Wagon Masters along. When this is the case, we encourage them to do Spanish Lessons at happy hours.

Drinking & Drugs:

This is pretty normal on Caravans. (not drugs) Do not get drunk before travel days. We have had individuals with drinking problems before and there is not a lot we can do; we just hope their spouse controls them. Buying and using illicit drugs are grounds to be booted out.

Generator Usage

This is OK, but the Wagon Master will set allowable hours. Be aware of the guy next to you, some parks are cramped, and you do not want to gas him with your exhaust. We recommend you bring some fans as you may not always have A/C. I have found 12 volt or USB powered personal ones next to you on your bed side table help a lot. One of those blowing on your face can make sleeping without A/C comfortable. If you have a CPAP, disconnect the humidifier. They are power suckers. Set it up to run off an inverter when you do not have power. Portable ones use less juice and rechargeable battery packs are available. The ResMed Air Mini is the one I use. Very useful for vacations involving flying.

Bikes & E-Bikes, ATV's, Scooters:

They can be useful, but bring a cover, coastal areas can be rough on them. Make sure you have good locks although we have never had a theft. E bikes do not require a permit, neither do scooters under 250 CC or ATV's under 350cc. They are added to the truck permit. There is a product you can buy at Autozone and other automotive stores, similar to WD40 but it does not smell and is not greasy. I used it on my ATV to protect areas that may corrode. It is about 100 pesos a can.



You want to bring a cover for bikes, and use them at oceanside spots. You will be battling corrosion issues, otherwise.

SECTION 8

Leaving the Caravan

This is OK as long as you **inform the Wagon master**. He will require you to sign a separate waiver unless it's just going somewhere for the day. You may rejoin later, however if you leave without permission, you are out. The Wagon Master job is stressful enough without him having to worry about disappearing customers. You should tell the WM where you intend to go for a day trip, and take a cell phone, so he is not concerned about you.

ATM's & Cash

ATMs are common, you will soon figure out which ones charge less. If asked to accept an exchange rate, choose no, you will usually get a better rate. Try to use ATMs inside a bank when possible. Try to bring cards on more than one account. Most ATM's will dispense 5000 to 8000 pesos at a time. Cover your hand when entering your pin. It is a good idea to check your account online after. Just carry enough cash up front to cover fuel and tolls. Find a place to hide excess. It is not a bad idea to put maybe 1000 pesos in smaller bills in your kitchen cutlery drawer, easy to find if you do get broken into. Hopefully, they will snatch and run. This has never happened, BTW. Examine ATMs for signs of tampering, fake keyboard overlays, pinhole cameras, etc.

Tour Guides:

Unlike our competitors, we use qualified Tour guides, some with PhD's. This ensures you receive accurate information at Archaeological sites, etc. It makes us a bit more expensive, but you get a proper experience not just the general knowledge of the Wagon Master he picked up out of a book. We do not cheap out on tours or meals.

Tour Rules

We **MAY** allow you to opt out of certain tours (eg Copper Canyon). This is totally at our discretion, and **you must request it well in advance of the caravan departure date**. We will look at each request on its merits. **Airstream Caravans may have different rules.**

On many tours we want you to take along a portable FRS/GRMS radio. We have lost people who do things like head off for an ATM or bathroom. The Wagon Master will advise. Please note you are not usually allowed to take pets on tours. A small dog in a carrier may be OK if the tour bus driver is willing to watch them (Tip him). **This must be cleared with the Wagon Master.**

Most tours come with hot sit-down meals, except a very few in remote areas. On those you will be advised to pack some sandwiches. (eg Calakmul) We do try to take a cooler of drinks. It is a

good idea to bring snacks along on all tours as sometimes lunch may not be until 1 or 2 PM. Some tours may also require warm clothing. The Wagon Master will advise. Some tours include overnight hotel stays. Your rig will be safe, and we try to arrange pet care. You cannot take a dog to a hotel, unless it is pet friendly or unless it is a certified seeing eye dog, with paperwork. Tours are in buses or vans and sometimes taxi's, depending on group size. People have followed in their own vehicle in the past to facilitate their dog.

Food & Restaurants

Our trips provide many meals. All high-quality hot meals, not a soggy sandwich and coke. Please let the Wagon Master know before the trip start if you have any serious allergies, are gluten intolerant and that sort of thing, or if you are vegetarian.

The procedure we use is to offer 2 or 3 menu items and give you a colored ticket for your choice along with an alcoholic drink ticket. This speeds up the lunch or dinner considerably, and avoids errors as we give the kitchen the other half. **There is one exception**, and that is if you inform us before the trip that you have a severe allergy that would be a problem, or if you are a vegetarian. In those 2 instances we will allow you to order separately off the menu. We hope everyone understands that we have to give some folks a break. We may not use this method with small groups.

Politics & Tolerances

Unless everybody is obviously on the same page, avoid politics or religion. Especially American politics, which seem to be especially volatile these days. If you cannot separate politics & friendship, avoid the subject. Remove, or cover up any political bumper stickers. US politics seem especially volatile these days.

Flying foreign flags in Mexico can be sensitive. Hoisting a US flag in Canada is no big deal, after all Canadians are simply "unarmed Americans on Medicare" but avoid doing it in Mexico as it is viewed as disrespectful, **unless** you also fly a Mexican flag of equal or greater size. Flag stickers are OK.

We are a very open minded & inclusive company. We do not care if you are Black, White, or Purple or what your politics & sexual orientation are, and we do not tolerate any open prejudices. As long as you are nice. We have, for example, had Wagon Masters (& customers) who are Straight, Gay, Republicans & Democrats, Caucasian, Hispanic, or the Canadian equivalents. The commonality is that everyone is willing to take their RV into Mexico and have fun.

Power

Do not get too tied up over this. Most people find it hard to get a handle on, unless you are an electrician. Feel free to discuss it with Paul, who has experience with all of this, by phone (604-852-1342 May-Oct or 360-483-7933 any time). It is of less concern on the short Copper Canyon trip or Baja. For those, you may want to consider the power protector, rather than the regulator. Less hassle and useful in the US & Canada.

Some points:

- 1) Electricity in Mexico is not reliable
- 2) Voltages often range outside the acceptable values (104 V-132 V)
- 3) Low voltage is worse than high voltage
- 4) Appliances are rated at a certain wattage.

The formula is Watts = Voltage x Current (amps)

If the voltage is too low, the appliance draws more current to compensate. Current, in a roundabout way, translates into heat, and the appliance can burn out

5) A 15-amp outlet in Mexico may be coming off a 30 Amp breaker or no breaker. Hence if you try running stuff like A/C's, water heaters at the same time, your cord can overheat and burn, so can the outlet into which it is plugged. A fused extension cord is not a bad idea if you can find one. Other than that, just be careful not to run more than one high current appliance at a time. Do not stuff adapters (15 to 30, for eg) into a compartment in your rig, hang it outside. If it overheats, any fire is outside the rig.

6) A surge protector is useless, **unless it blocks too high, or too low, continuous voltage**, which most do not. Unless it says it is EMS, do not waste your money.

So, this is all a lead up as to why you need one or more of the devices below, and make sure it is the right device. The power protectors are available in Canada and the US, the regulators are only available, once in Mexico. (The Hughes Autoformer available in the US **only raises low voltage, it does not lower high voltage**) Having both is not a bad idea, but if you have the regulator, you really do not need the power protector, but on the other hand the power protector is also a good idea in the US and Canada.

Here are descriptions of the 3 categories of protection. You can use all 3 if you wish, hooked up in this order:

Power Pedestal - Surge protector - Regulator - Power Protector - RV. I have the regulator & power protector in my own RV.

If you only have one of the 3, the Regulator is the most useful.

Surge Protectors

This only protects against a momentary surge, **it does not protect against consistent high or low voltage**. Pretty much useless if only used alone.

Power Protectors (EMS Surge Protectors)



These will prevent voltage that is dangerously high or dangerously low from entering your rig. They usually also protect against surges. These will protect your rig but you may find you are blocked from having any power at all, in many locations. These are made by 3 companies, SurgeGuard, Progressive Industries & Camco. Camping World sells some. You can also do a search on Amazon for EMS power protectors

They come in both 30 Amp & 50 Amp versions.

Power Regulators

These will actually correct voltage. Please note that the Hughes Autoformer sold in the US will only bring up low voltage a maximum of 10%, it does not correct high voltage, which is also a problem in Mexico. Therefore, we do not recommend it. The Mexican made ISB described below corrects to 20% either high or low. RV safe voltage is between 103 & 132 volts. The ISB will correct 85 to 147 Volts. Above 147 it will still correct, but to a bit higher than the safe range. Do not buy the 50 amp version, it is not RV compatible.

ENTRADA V~	85	90	95	100	110	120	135	140	145	150	155
SALIDA V~	103	109	115	121	121	120	121	125	130	134	139

Home Depot in Mexico sells a small power regulator/conditioner for about \$100 US. You cannot run an air conditioner through one of these. It is 15 amp. It will, however, run a small 6000-9000 BTU AC as found in some Class B's. They come in a Red & White box. Pictured below.



Your best bet is a 30 Amp unit that has to be hardwired. (\$250 US) It will run A/C. You will need to butcher a 30-amp extension cord. You can carry the unit in a Milk crate, (you need 12 inch by 12 inch internal dimension). You can simply shove it under your rig to protect from dew & rain and throw it in the door for transit. There are 3 wires minimum to connect, the feed - male plug end (black) and the power out (also black) from the female socket end. You tie the 2 whites to the common (You will need a murette - see red one in photo below - to tie them together then take a 3rd short piece to the connector. The green, which is ground, you don't have to cut. You can just let it flow through, although it is a good idea to wire it to the case when you get home.

Paul can order these for delivery via his Mercado Libre account, further down the road (Maybe, a parts shortage in 2023 make them hard to find). These come in 4 or 8 KV versions, 4 KV is sufficient for most RV's. The 8 KV is larger and will not help much.

<https://www.isbmex.com> **You will have to bring your own 30 amp extension, they are hard to find them in Mexico.** You can lock this unit using 2 locks and a cable. We will try to source these out at a spot close to the start of the caravan. Detailed instructions on wiring these may be found at:

<https://www.mexicocaravans.com/Regulator.pdf>



Adaptors

You need to bring adaptors to change 30 amp to 15 amp and vice versa. These are cheap and found in RV stores. We suggest you buy 2 of each. There are times when you may not be able to reach the pedestal. You may have to reduce a 30-amp pedestal plug to 15 amp, so you can use an extension cord then convert it back to 30 amp. Not all pedestals have 30-amp sockets, many are 15. If your plug is 50 amp, you will need an adapter. Bring a 25 ft extension cord, either a 30 amp or heavy duty outdoor 15 amp. There are only 3 parks in Mexico I know of with 50-amp sockets. One of them is Tres Amigos in Mazatlán, a stop on many caravans, so a 50 amp to 30-amp converter cord is a good idea. (15 amp is available there). These are cheap ones found at most RV stores. The more expensive dog bone versions are better.



Propane

Propane is about 1/2 the price it is in the US. Regardless, cross the border with full tanks as it can be hard or awkward to find. It is not sold in gas stations, but in separate propane vendor locations. Sometimes we have to hit 2 or 3 for the correct fittings. Further south it may be Butane (Compatible), so you want to use it all up before encountering winter conditions. As it can freeze. At many parks the propane trucks will come around occasionally. Generally speaking it has not been an issue.

Archeological Sites & Churches

There are many locations in Mexico where you can do things like climb pyramids. Many sites are restricting this especially those with many visitors, to curb erosion. Most pyramids in Mexico are limestone. Please be careful, steps on pyramids are often narrow and we do not want to have to retrieve your body at the bottom of one, even if a native priest has not ripped out your still beating heart. Please follow the rules, taking that selfie of you sitting on a statue may be a no-no. Picking up souvenirs or chipping them off is, for sure, a no-no. Also, on a similar subject it can be a no-no to take photos in some churches. There is one in Chiapas we visit where this is for sure not allowed. Please do not sneak a photo on your cell. If caught, it can be very dicey. Some folks are very superstitious. If you are squeamish, they sometimes sacrifice animals in that church (chickens)

Survey

We may ask you to fill out an online survey at the end or near the end of the trip. We encourage you to be honest, & you can be anonymous. If you don't like something, let us know, this is the only way we improve future trips. You can still say nice things about us, but we do want to know what may have upset you. Sometimes on our page of testimonials we will print a less than perfect review. I am always suspicious of 100% positive reviews on any company. They are obviously cherry picking. However, you can not please every one, but we do our best.

Tipping

You do not have to tip at meals, we do that. It is a good idea to tip gas attendants maybe 50 pesos. You can tip tour bus drivers & tour guides. Up to you. Most do. 50 pesos to a driver, maybe 100 to a tour guide. It adds up with a lot of people. Most customers tip the Wagon Master and/or Wagon Master assistants at the end of the trip. How you handle that may be a group decision. Sometimes they just hand them an envelope with a group tip. Once again you are under no obligation. There is one location on the Yucatan tour where we encourage a collection for a donation. This is Hogar Orphanage. In the past we have raised money for fridges, washing machines etc. A very good cause. Also, we have had instances where we have tipped the police. One example of this is Durango, where they supplied an officer overnight for security. One of us took him bacon, eggs and coffee in the morning and we took up collection for his family and gave him a card after 3 nights. He was overwhelmed.

Passports & Tourist cards. Do not lose them.

Make and carry copies of both. In 2023 we had a customer lose, or have her passport stolen. Do not leave valuables on a tour bus. In this case we suspect she left her purse in a cab. If you have to leave something on a tour bus, leave it with or alert the driver so he knows that you know he has it and will not leave the bus unlocked if has to answer a call of nature, for eg. Tourist cards are being eliminated in favor of a passport stamp, so your passport is even more important. Do not carry large amounts of cash. Pesos or dollars.

Some common Mexican Expressions or questions you will likely encounter. We will add more as we think of them.

Que Tal (kay tal) How are you?

Que es su nombre? (kay es su nom-bray) What is your name?

Que mal onda (kay mala onda) That sucks. The opposite is Que buena onda (Kay bwaynah onda)

Que le vaya bien - You will hear this all the time when you pay in stores, it means have a nice trip.

Quisiero (key-sea-err-o) Use this when asking for menu items. It is much more polite than I want. You can also use "me gustaria" (may-goose-ta-ria)

Excelente (ex-cel-en-tay) good way to respond to how was the food. Or that sucks above, LOL. or OK if mediocre.

De donde esta or eres? (where are you from) "estan" instead of "es" if 2 of your are being addressed

No me Gusto (no may goose-toe) I don't like or "me gusto" (I like)

No me molesta (no may moe-less-ta) Dont bother me (time share salesmen)

Ya lo tengo (Ja low ten-go) I already have one (to get rid of someone trying to sell you a hammock or something)

Por supuesto - Of course

Porfa - instead of por favor for please

Muy amable - (mwee ah- mah-bley) Very kind of you

De nada - (day nah-dah) Your welcome

Note on carrying ID

I have had reports on Mexican immigration doing checks on people for identification. For a tourist this means your passport and tourist card, although tourist cards are being phased out and there may just be a green stamp in your passport. I know its uncomfortable carrying these documents with you, so I would at least carry a copy of your passport front page and your FMM

card or take photos of both and put them on your phone. **On longer tours more than a few hours, I would carry the originals.** Maybe get yourself a sling that goes over one arm and your head preferably with an inside pocket, so that's it's up against your body. Markets are a pickpocket risk. My wife had hers picked in 2021 and lost her resident card and some cash.

Contacts

Please forward any suggestions or concerns to Paul at beddows1@telus.net

I may be reached at either

604-200-1342 Cell Paul

Above Cell works in Canada, US and Mexico

360-483-7933 Land Line US, leave message (Paul). He gets notified

Gabriels (CEO) phone is 967-147-3333 (Mexican Cell) (+52)

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Bernie (Gabriels son): 477-139-2243 (+52)

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SECTION 9 (RV Parks)

Mainland Mexico

Several parks also have rooms if you wish a break. **Please note that not all parks are used on all trips and sometimes we make changes**

Totonaka, San Carlos (Copper Canyon, Colonial, Yucatan)

This is the first Park on the Copper Canyon & Colonial Caravans and is also used northbound (maybe) and also northbound for the Yucatan route.

- For this park we usually enter people in pairs and park up the road. 5th wheels and trailers should try to be parked on the left side of the main road, it is easier for them. Some longer rigs can park on the main road which does have hook-ups
- This is a modern Park. It has Wi-Fi with repeaters, one customer or the wagon master should obtain the list of passwords
- The park has several laundry machines which take US Quarters (available at office)
- The park has a small pool
- There are 2 or 3 restaurants in easy walking distance plus an OXXO convenience store. A small supermarket and an ATM machine are about 1 km west on the same side of the main road outside the Park. We use Charlies restaurant across the street for welcome & farewell dinners.
- We do a couple of tours form this park. The sea lion show at the aquarium (its great) a city tour of Guaymas and the pearl factory tour. Avoid fight with your wife beforehand or you may have to buy her some.
- Beach is across the road.
- Showers



Hotel Playa de Cortes, Guaymas (Copper Canyon, Colonial, Yucatan)

- This is an alternate park to Totonaka we sometimes use, usually northbound.
- Hotel Restaurant
- Beach
- Pool
- Some WiFi
- showers

Hotel Mirador, Huatabampito (Copper Canyon, Colonial, Yucatan)

- Used for Copper Canyon and Colonial, sometimes Yucatan northbound
- Wi-Fi at Restaurant
- Excellent seafood restaurant
- No Grocery stores or ATM's close by
- No laundry
- Beautiful Beach, avoid parking in beach spot closest to restaurant, it is soft
- Electricity can be dicey, unless you have a regulator or EMS protector, be careful
- Water pressure is low you need to fill your tank and use internal pump
- Very friendly owners
- Shuffle feet if in ocean, there can be rays
- Shower



Alamos (Copper Canyon, Colonial)

- Location varies and it is dry camping for 2 nights so fill and dump in Huatabampito
- Alamos is historic and many movie stars had homes there in the 40's & 50's
- We do a city tour and an evening walk around with minstrals and a donkey carrying wine. This is not to be missed.
- No WiFi.
- ATM's in town
- No Laundry



Hotel Bugamvillas, El Fuerte (Copper Canyon, Colonial)

- This is where we park for the Copper Canyon excursion
- Laundry can be arranged
- Dog sitting is arranged
- Taco stand across the street
- WiFi in office area
- Some 15 amp power, rigs that only have electric fridges are given preference.
- Owners will check your fridges while you go to Copper Canyon and move food to a room if needed.
- El Zorro show & dinner tour (it's great)
- Copper Canyon trip
- Nature boat river trip plus ancient petroglyphs
- Trip to Mayo Village and lecture by medicine man
- Buffet breakfast after boat trip



La Bonita, Las Glorias (Copper Canyon, Colonial, Yucatan)

- Maybe north or southbound
- Laundry can be arranged
- Beach
- Restaurant
- WiFi
- showers
- Hookups 15 amp (may be short, so maybe some dry camping)

- Pool



Villa Celeste, Celestino (Copper Canyon, Colonial, Yucatan)

- Maybe north or southbound
- Laundry
- WiFi
- Pool
- A bit tight to get into
- Hookups 15 amp some dry camping spots
- Showers



Las Jaibas, Mazatlan (Copper Canyon, Colonial)

- Maybe used southbound
- Laundry
- WiFi
- Pool
- 30 amp hookups
- Beach 1.5 blocks away
- Restaurants in walking distance

- Pulmonia Tour of Mazatlan
- Country tour, La Noria (Leather) and El Quelite
- Showers



Barrakas, Mazatlan (Copper Canyon, Colonial)

- Maybe used instead of Las Jaibas
- WiFi Pool
- 15 amp hookups
- Beach
- Can be noisy on weekends
- Pulmonia Tour of Mazatlan
- Country tour, La Noria (Leather) and El Quelite
- Showers



Tres Amigos, Mazatlan (Copper Canyon, Colonial, Yucatan)

- Used Northbound
- WiFi
- 15 to 50 amp hookups
- Beautiful Beach
- Restaurants
- Stores, restaurants & Laundry close by
- Ferries to downtown Mazatlan, say you are residente, it is cheaper

- Pulmonia Tour of Mazatlan
- Country tour, La Noria (Leather) and El Quelite
- Showers
- Laundry



Color Marino, Teacapan (Copper Canyon, Colonial, Yucatan) (Colonial) (NOTE park on pads not beside them)

- Used Northbound or Southbound
- WiFi
- 15 amp hookups, power can be bad
- Beautiful Beach
- No restaurant or store
- Nice pool
- Showers



San Juan Baelanario hotsprings, Durango

- No WiFi
- High Altitude
- 1 hookup that can be split if needed otherwise dry camping
- Showers and bathrooms
- Hot Springs
- Restaurant

- Tour of Durango



Hotel Baruk, Zacatecas (Colonial, Yucatan)

- Wifi in office
- High altitude
- 15 amp hookups
- Airbrake and train noise (but its the only game in town)
- Indoor pool
- Restaurant
- El Eden Mine tour
- City tour
- A bit hard to level rigs and tight for slides
- ATM's in walking distance across tracks & up in complex you can see up above
- Rigs held at entrance and parked one by one



Bugamillas, Guanajuato (Colonial, Yucatan)

- Wifi in office
- High altitude
- 15 amp hookups
- Grassy, no pool
- Laundry service, but pricey

- Restaurant on site, but not great
- Day tour of Guanajuato
- Night walk around with minstrels is not to be missed (included)
- Day tour of San Miguel Allende
- Note the Mummy Museum is not toured, it freaks some out, but it is fascinating. You can taxi there if you have a free day (Yucatan) or take a taxi there after the Guanajuato day tour from downtown and taxi back to the RV Park (Colonial), inexpensive, but a bucket list item if you have the stomach.



Rancho Mesa, Patzcuaro (Colonial, Yucatan)

- Wifi (may have to go to restaurant)
- High altitude, cool at night
- 15 amp hookups (maybe 30)
- Grassy, no pool, great view
- Laundry service in town
- Grocery stores in town
- Restaurant on site, really good
- Great place for a bonfire
- Tours of Santa Clara de Cobre and parts of Patzcuaro (included)
- Janizio Island is recommended as an optional day, tour. Share taxis to dock and catch cheap ferries. Nice to walk around but it is hilly. Cheap excursion and worth it.
- Patzcuaro has a large market downtown.



Pepes, Tepetzotlan near Mexico City (Colonial, Yucatan)

- WiFi
- High altitude
- Full hookups
- Showers
- Laundry
- No pool
- Tours to Mexico City and to Taxco, Teotihuacan (colonial). Teotihuacan done northbound on Yucatan trip out of another park
- Dog care



Maravatio area (Colonial, Yucatan)

- No WiFi
- Dry Camping
- Overnight spot while Butterfly tour is done



Chimulco Water Park, Villa Corona (Colonial, Yucatan, Copper Canyon Extension)

- WiFi, sometimes only at office
- 15 amp hookups
- Grassy
- showers
- Hotspring pools, plus you can request night pool
- Laundry, drop off with rooms maid and tip her.
- Water has slight sulfur odor
- Town in walking distance, HSBC ATM on square near church
- Tours to Guadalajara and Tequila and Guastecomates pyramids. Optional for CC extension



Boca Beach north of Melaque (Colonial, Yucatan)

- WiFi, at office
- 15 amp hookups
- Grassy
- Swimable beach, pool near restaurant
- Beach restaurants
- showers
- Close to melaque

Laguna del Tule, Melaque (Copper Canyon Extension)

- WiFi, at office
- This park has issues with power, water, and sloppy reservations, may not use it
- 30 amp hookups
- Between beach and a lagoon
- Nice pool with swim up bar
- Dangerous to swim in ocean
- Laundry just outside park to right

- Showers
- Filter supplied water, sometimes contains debris
- Lots of great restaurants in walking distance
- 3 ATM's in town, walkable
- St Patricks festival and fireworks in March



Melaque Paradise, Melaque (Copper Canyon Extension)

We are tending to use this park due to ongoing issues with the ownership of Laguna del Tule (above) and their sloppy reservation system, lack of WiFi and poor water and power. This park is not on the beach, but has a nice pool and easy walking access to all Melaque has to offer.



Tlaquepaque, Lo de Marcos (Colonial, Yucatan)

- Most modern RV park in Mexico
- WiFi
- 30 & 50 amp hookups
- 2 pools
- Restaurant
- Restaurants and ATM's in town, easy walking distance

- Beach a short walk away.
- Laundry in town, walking distance.
- San Blas river tour may be included or an optional.



Hotel Imperial, Saltillo (Yucatan)

- First stop on Yucatan trip
- Limited 15 amp hookups, but only one night
- Restaurant in Hotel, KFC next door
- ATMs located in shopping center, across street, one block to the left and one block in.



Mar Esmeralda RV Park, Emerald Coast (Yucatan)

- First Caribbean/Gulf of Mexico stop
- 15 amp hookups
- Pool
- Beach
- WiFi near office

- No restaurants in walking distance
- Tour of El Tajin from here
- RV's bought in 2 at a time from opposite shoulder, use extreme caution.



Coco Adventure RV Park, Veracruz (Yucatan)

- 15 amp hookups
- Pool
- Beach
- Exercise caution going in and out. Fairly narrow treed road access, may need assistance of others to guide
- Possible Veracruz city tour
- No WiFi



Gordo y Pancho Villahermosa, (Yucatan)

- Limited 15 amp hookups, no sewer. Ground can be soggy after rain.
- Pool
- This park is used twice on the trip as an overnight. It has seen better days.
- Tour of Olmec Heads
- No WiFi
- Showers



Freedom Shores, Isla Aguada (Yucatan)

- 15 amp hookups
- Beach front, swimmable
- Optional dolphin tour available
- WiFi
- Showers
- Should be laundry nearby



Balnario Kin Ha, Campeche (Yucatan)

- Former RV park, they tend to string some power for us
- Central water & Sewer
- Pool
- Grassy
- Tour of Campeche



Uxmul, Uxmul Pyramids (Yucatan)

- Dry Camping
- 2 restaurants
- No Wifi
- Use of restaurant pool if you eat there or order drinks
- Tour of Uxmul and chocolate factory



Pyramide Hotel, Piste

- Dry Camping outside hotel, she may string some power if needed
- Nice Pool
- May no longer be available
- Tour of Chichen Itza and cenote



Vallazoo Cabana's Valladolid

- Full hookups
- Tour to adventure park

Not much info on this park it is only recntly being used as the Paamul where we used to stay is not honoring our reservations

Yax ha, Chetumal

- 15 amp power
- Central water & sewer
- Grass
- Nice Pool
- Restaurant
- Wi Fi
- Boat Tour on Lake Bacalar
- Inexpensive tour to 2 pyramid sites (Dzibilanche & Kohunlich) can be arranged via taxi



Calakmul Pyramids, Xpujil (Yucatan)

- Dry camping
- Grassy
- No WiFi
- Tour of Calakmul and bat caves



Hotel Nutuntun, Palenque (Yucatan)

- Dry camping
- Some strung power with extension cords
- Pool & river swimming
- Restaurant
- WiFi in Hotel
- Central water & sewer. Advised to dump before morning of departure, sometimes a tour bus can block sewer access.
- Tour of Palenque and waterfalls



Hogar Orphanage, near Tuxla (Yucatan)

- Dry camping, some hookups
- Grassy
- No WiFi
- Can arrange dog sitting
- Laundry can be arranged
- Overnight tour to San Cristobal , Sumidero Canyon

Santa Maria Xalapa Soccer field (Yucatan)

- Dry camping
- If enough time maybe take taxis to see sunken church in the lake

El Rancho RV, Oaxaca (Yucatan)

- Full hookups, nice park
- Grassy
- Pool
- Showers
- WiFi
- Oaxaca based tours



Las Americas, Puebla (Yucatan)

- Full hookups,
- Grassy
- WiFi
- Can be a tricky entry for longer rigs

Teotihuacan RV park near Mexico City (Yucatan)

- Full hookups 15 amp
- Grassy
- Can be a tight fit, issues with slides
- Pyramids tour



Rancho Betania, Santa Ana (Yucatan, maybe Colonial & CC)

- Full hookups 15 amp,
- Grassy
- Indoor pool
- Christian retreat, no drinking

Rancho Bugamvillas

We are checking out this park for possible use by late running caravans, It is down the coast from manzanillo N 18.51524 W 103.580775. On the beach.



SECTION 10 (RV Parks)

Baja Mexico

Several park also have rooms if you wish a break. **Please note that not all parks are used on all trips and sometimes we make changes**

Villarino in Punta Banda - south of Ensenada.

Available: electricity, water was salty, restaurant and market up on the road, propane close by, showers and bathrooms. We do a winery tour out of here.

El Pabellon in Nueva Odisea, San Quintin

Poor Electricity (only one or two sites), water and shower is salty, some sewer maybe. No stores or service it all.

Hotel Mision in Catavina

Flat parking in the back, dry camping was free with dinner

Restaurant, pool for guests only, Gabriel reserved a room for showers

Malarimo RV park in Guerrero Negro

Electricity, hot showers, water, dump, WiFi in the restaurant

Villa Maria Isabel in Mulege

Electricity, water, pool, shower,

Call Felipe for laundry +52-615-161-9662, will pick up and deliver the next day.

Playa Santispac in Bahia Concepcion

Dry camping, sewer, lots of vendors, excellent restaurant at Armando's, another occasional restaurant Ana's

If you are there on a Thursday night, go to J.C.'s restaurant across from Playa El Burro for oysters rockefeller and authentic Mexican music with Licho.

If you are there on a Tuesday, go to Playa Buenaventure (about 8 miles south) for Taco Tuesday. It is a Packer bar and the tacos are fabulous.

Rivera del Mar in Loreto

Electricity, water, sewer, laundry at entrance, Wi-Fi weak, showers bathroom

Community palapa is very nice

Maranatha in La Paz

Full service and everything works!

Laundry, coffee shop in front with good food. Pool

Tecolote Playa in La Paz

Dry camping, no services, no fees

Can be windy and lots of flies,

Be careful to leave someone behind because there is some theft there

Baja Sunrise in Los Barillos

Full service and everything worked, laundry on site

Great tacos across the street

Misiones in Ciudad Constitucion

Full service, Pool, don't leave your shoes out at night

Rancho Grande at Bahia Gonzaga

No services, pay before entering from Mexico 5

A good walk north along the beach to a good restaurant

Villa Marina south of San Felipe

Full service, tight for big rigs, nice palapa with kitchen, laundry on-site

Mexican Road Signs. Blue ones are the most common

<u>SPANISH</u>	<u>ENGLISH</u>
ACOTAMIENTO	Soft Shoulders
ALTO	Stop
AREA DE DESCANSO	Rest Area
ASCENSO Y DESCENSO DE PEAJE A 250 m	Toll Booth Barrier Ahead in 250 m
CALLE SIN SALIDA	Dead End
CAMELLON CENTRAL	Center Divider
CAMINO CERRADO	Road Closed
CAMINO SINUOSO	Winding Road
CARRIL IZQUIERDO SOLO PARA REBASAR	Left lane Only for Passing
CARRIL LATERAL SOLO POR VEHICULOS LIGEROS	Laterals Only for Light Vehicles
CASETA DE COBRO	Toll Booth
CEDA EL PASO AL PEATON	Give Way to Pedestrians
CICLOPISTA	Bicycle Path
CON LLUVIA DISMINUYA SU VELOCIDAD	In Rain Reduce Your Speed
CON NEBLINA ENCIENDA SUS LUCES	In Fog Turn on Lights
CONCEDA CAMBIO DE CIERRE SU ESCAPE	Close Muffler By-Pass
CONCEDA CAMBIO DE LUCES	Dim Your Lights Approaching Traffic
CONSERVE LIMPIO QUINTANA ROO	Keep Quintana-Roo Clean
CONSERVE SU DISTANCIA	Keep Your Distance
CONSERVE SU DERECHA	Keep to Your Right
CRUCE DE ESCOLARES	School Crossing
CRUCE DE PEATONES	Pedestrian Crossing
CUANDO TOME NO MANEJE	When You Drink Don't Drive

CUIDADO CON EL TREN	Careful Rail Road Crossing
CURVA PELIGROSO	Dangerous Curve
DESPACIO	Slow
DEPOSITOS DE BASURA EN CASETAS TELEFONICAS	Deposit Trash at the Telephone Booth
DESVIACION A 500 MTS	Detour in 500 Meters
DISMINUYA SU VELOCIDAD	Slow Down
DISMINUYA SU VELOCIDAD	Reduce Your Speed
CASETA DE COBRO A 1Km	Toll Booth in 1Km
ELIJA SU CARRIL OPORTUNAMENTE	Select Your Lane At Earliest Opportunity
ENTRADA	Entrance
ENTRADA Y SALIDA DE CAMIONES	Trucks Entering and Exiting
ENTRONQUE PROXIMO	Intersection Near
ENTRONQUE PELIGROSO	Dangerous Intersection
ESTA CARRETERA NO ES DE ALTA VELOCIDAD	This is Not a High Speed Road
ESTACIONAMIENTO SOLO PARA EMERGENCIAS	Emergency Parking Only
ESTE CAMINO NO ES DE ALTA VELOCIDAD	Not a High-Speed Road
EVITE ACCIDENTES	Avoid Accidents
EVITE LA INSTALLACION DE TOPEs	Avoid the Installation of Speed Bumps
FELIZ VIAJE REBASE CON PRECAUCION	Have a Good Trip Pass with Caution
GRACIAS POR USAR EL CINTURON DE SUGURIDAD	Thanks For Using Your Seatbelt
GRAVA SUELTA	Loose Gravel
GUARDE SU DISTANCIA	Keep Your Distance
HOMBRES TRABAJANDO	Men at Work
LO MEJOR TUS VACACIONES UN BUEN REGRESO A CASA	The Best of Your Vacation is a Good Return Home
MANEJE CON PRECAUCION	Drive with Caution

MANEJE CON PRECAUCION SU FAMILIA LE ESPERA	Drive with Caution Your Family Waits For You
MAQUINA TRABAJANDO	Heavy Machines at Work
MIRADOR	View Point
NO CIRCULAR POR EL ACOTAMIENTO	No Driving On the Shoulders
NO DE FRENTE	No Entry
NO DEJE PIEDRAS EL ACOTAMIENTO	Do not leave rocks on the highway
NO DOBLE RODADO	No Trucks with Duals
NO ESTACIONARSE EN ACOTAMIENTO	No Parking On Shoulders
NO FRENE CON MOTOR	No Engine Brakes
NO MALTRATE LAS SENALES	Don't Disregard the Signs
NO MANEJE CANSADO	Don't Drive Tired
NO REBASE CON RAYA CONTINUA	No Passing on a Continuous Line
NO REBASE POR EL ACOTAMIENTO	No Passing on Shoulders
NO REBASE	No Passing
NO TIRE BASURA	Don't Throw Trash
NO TRANSITE POR FRANJAS LATERALES	Do Not Drive on Shoulders
NO UTILIZAR FRENO CON MOTOR	No Engine Breaking
OBEDEZCA LAS SENALES	Obey the Signs
OBLIGATORIO EL CINTURON DE SEGURIDAD	Seatbelts mandatory
PARA VUELTA IZQUIERDA ESPERE SU LUZ	Turning Left on Light
PARADERO	Bus Stop
PAVIMENTO DERRAPANTE AL ESTAR HUMEDO	Pavement Slick When Wet
PERMITA REBASAR UTILICE SU EXTREMA DERECHA	Allow Passing Use Extreme Right
PLAZA DE COBRO	Toll Both
POBLADO PROXIMO	Town Near

POR TU SEGURIDAD RESPETE LAS SEÑALES	For your Safety Respect The Signs
PELIGROSO	Dangerous
PRECUACION CRUCE DE PEATONES	Caution Pedestrian Crossing
PRECAUCION ZONA ESCOLAR	Caution School Zone
PRECAUCION ZONA DE GUANDO	Caution Livestock Zone
PRECAUCION ZONA DE TOLVANERAS	Precaution Wind Zone
PRINCIPIA TRAMO EN REPARACION	Main Highway Under Repair
PRINCIPIA ZONA DE DERRUMBES	Begin Rockslide Area
PRINCIPIA ZONA DE VADOS	Begin Area of Dips
PROHIBIDO ESTACIONARSE	No Parking
PROHIBIDO TIRAR BASURA	Throwing Thrash Prohibited
PROHIBIDO TIRAR BASURA MULTA O CARCEL	Throwing Trash Prohibited by Fine or Jail
PUENTE ANGOSTO	Narrow Bridge
RADAR EN OPERACION	Radar in Operation
REDUCCION DE ACOTAMIENTO	Reduction of Shoulders
REDUCCION A DOS CARRILES	Reduction to Two Lanes
REDUCTOR DE VELOCIDAD	Speed Bumps
RESPETE LIMITE DE VELOCIDAD	Obey the Speed Limit
RETURNO A 2KM CARRIL IZQUIERDO	U-Turn In 2km Left Lane
RUTA DE CAMIONES	Truck Route
SALIDA	Exit
SALIDA A 150 MTS RAMPA DE SEGURIDAD VEHULOS SIN FRENOS	Exit in 150 MTS for Vehicles without Brakes
SEMAFORO EN OPERACION	Stop Light In Operation
SE USARA GRUA	Tow-Away Zone
SI TOMA NO MANEJE	Don't Drink and Drive
TERMINA AMPLIACION	End of Shoulders

TERMINA ZONA DE DERRUMBES	End Rockslide Area
TOPEs	Speed Bumps
TRAFICO PESADO	Heavy Traffic Go Right
TRAMO EN REPARACION	Road Repairs
TRANSITO LENTO CARRIL DERECHO	low Traffic Keep Right
TRANSITO PESADO POR LIBRAMIENTO	Heavy Traffic by Libramiento or Circle Route
TROPICO DE CANCER	Tropic of Cancer
UN SOLO CARRIL	Single Lane
VADO PELIGROSO	Dangerous Dip
VEHICULOS LIGEROS	Light Vehicles
VEHICULOS PESADOS	Heavy Vehicles
ZONA DE FALLAS	Landslide Area
ZONA DE GANADO	Cattle Area
ZONA URBANA	Urban Zone Slow Down