



YOUR DIVE MASTER INTERNSHIPS ADVENTURE GUIDEBOOK



**DIVE MASTER INTERNSHIPS
BY
COZUMEL DIVE SCHOOL**

This brochure is designed to act as a pre-departure guide for an Intern who is willing to sign up for an Internship with Divemaster Internships by Cozumel Dive School in Cozumel, Mexico. Information contained within should not be taken as definitive.

Recommended Packing List

If you own your own Scuba Gear set...bring it! The gear is provided with your Internship, included in the price (with exception of a dive computer and signaling devices), **but you will always feel more comfortable in your own gear!**

In addition to packing your clothes and toiletries, do not forget to bring the following:

- light rain jacket
- light clothing
- comfortable walking shoes
- water resistant watch (preferably dive watch)
- signaling devices (DSMB, whistle)
- sun glasses & head cover
- **reef safe** sunscreen
(no oxybenzone, avobenzene, octinoxate, homosalate, octisalate, octocrylene)
- swimming suit/boardshorts
- beach/bath towel
- camera
- insect repellent
- flip flops
- any necessary prescription medication
- contact lenses kit (if you use them)



BRING MUCH LESS THAN YOU THINK YOU WILL NEED, **REALLY!**

Optional

- Mask, fins, snorkel
- Personal BCD and regulator (not necessary, but you are welcome to bring your own kit)

Note: The best is to travel with only the necessities. While on Cozumel, keep valuables at your accommodation rather than left unattended at the dive site.

Passport/Visa Requirements:

Interns must bring a passport **valid a minimum of 6 months** beyond their intended stay in Mexico. Thoroughly check US immigration requirements if traveling from outside the US via United States territory (ESTA/visa/vaccination passports).

On your entry to Mexico you will be issued a **Tourist Visa** (Forma Migratoria Multiple) valid for the time you want to stay in Mexico (tourist visas cannot exceed 180 days). Remember you might be asked for the purpose of your stay and your flight out of Mexico.

The address to use for immigration purposes is:

Calle 2 Norte #680
Colonia 10 de Abril
San Miguel de Cozumel
77622 Cozumel
Quintana Roo
Mexico

Chances are that you will get it, which saves you a trip to the immigration later. Be sure to say you are coming to be a student, **NOT** coming to work. It is very seldom an issue not to have a return or ongoing ticket (it is not a requirement regardless of what your airline says). If asked, simply showing a credit card, or saying that you will be leaving the country by bus is sufficient.

Travel Arrangements

Please inform Divemaster Internships Staff of your travel plans as soon as they are settled. In this way we can plan your Internship schedule and accommodation (if staying in our Dive House).

Useful Travel Information

Cozumel International Airport (IATA: CZM) is an international airport in the island of Cozumel, Quintana Roo, located at the Caribbean coast near Cancún. It handles national and international air traffic of the city of San Miguel, Cozumel. The airport is equipped with 6 boarding gates. Direct international flights are available to and from the United States & Canada, local flights from CDMX and Monterrey. Flight time from Atlanta is about 2.5 hours; from Houston or Dallas Fort Worth (DFW) is 2 hours and 40 minutes. Most European Airlines have direct flights to Atlanta, DFW or Houston from where you can make an easy connection to Cozumel. Arriving in Cozumel is quite easy, the airport is small. If you are staying in our Dive House, we will organize a pick up from the airport for you; just look for someone in a Cozumel Dive School T-shirt! In case we are all busy diving, we will let you know beforehand and ask to take a shuttle bus from the airport to our Dive House (Calle 2 Norte, between Avenidas 30 & 35). We will reimburse the cost of the shuttle in such a case.

If flying to Cancun airport (IATA: CUN), you will have to organize a transport to Playa del Carmen and then hop on a ferry to Cozumel. The cheapest way to get to Playa del Carmen is by ADO bus (2022: MXN 216); you will find their stands in each terminal (or just outside, ask for ADO bus and you will be directed to the right place). You can check the schedule [here](#). The buses operate from 8:30 am till 00:30 and run almost every hour. The bus ride is about one to one and a half hours, depending on the traffic. You can also use a taxi or a shuttle bus but the cost will be much higher (MXN 1200 for the taxi, around MXN 600 for the shuttle)

Once in Playa Del Carmen you will take the ferry to Cozumel. The ADO main station is 5 minutes walk from the ferry terminal. There are 2 companies that go between Playa del Carmen and Cozumel.

Please visit their Facebook pages for the most updated schedule:

- [WinJet](#)
- [Ultramar](#)

The ride takes 30-50 minutes. Since the pandemic, ferries operate on alternate days so it is probably best to buy only one way ticket (around MXN 250, both ways cost around MXN 500). The schedule is almost hourly with a few exceptions and the first ferry departs usually at 7am and the last around 10 pm. Make sure you check the schedule shortly before your trip as it may change at the last minute due to the weather etc. The ferry tickets are sold near the pier in booths with the company logo (we don't recommend buying tickets from random people on the street). Once on Cozumel, if you are staying in a Dive House, we will pick you up from the ferry terminal. If this is not possible we will ask you beforehand to take a taxi to our house (cost should not be more than MXN 60 and will be reimbursed to you).

If you are staying with us, a member of our team will check you in. Please let us know your flight details so we can arrange a pick-up and check-in.

You can call or WhatsApp Kenneth **+52 987 111 8780** or Meghan **+52 987 141 7186**.



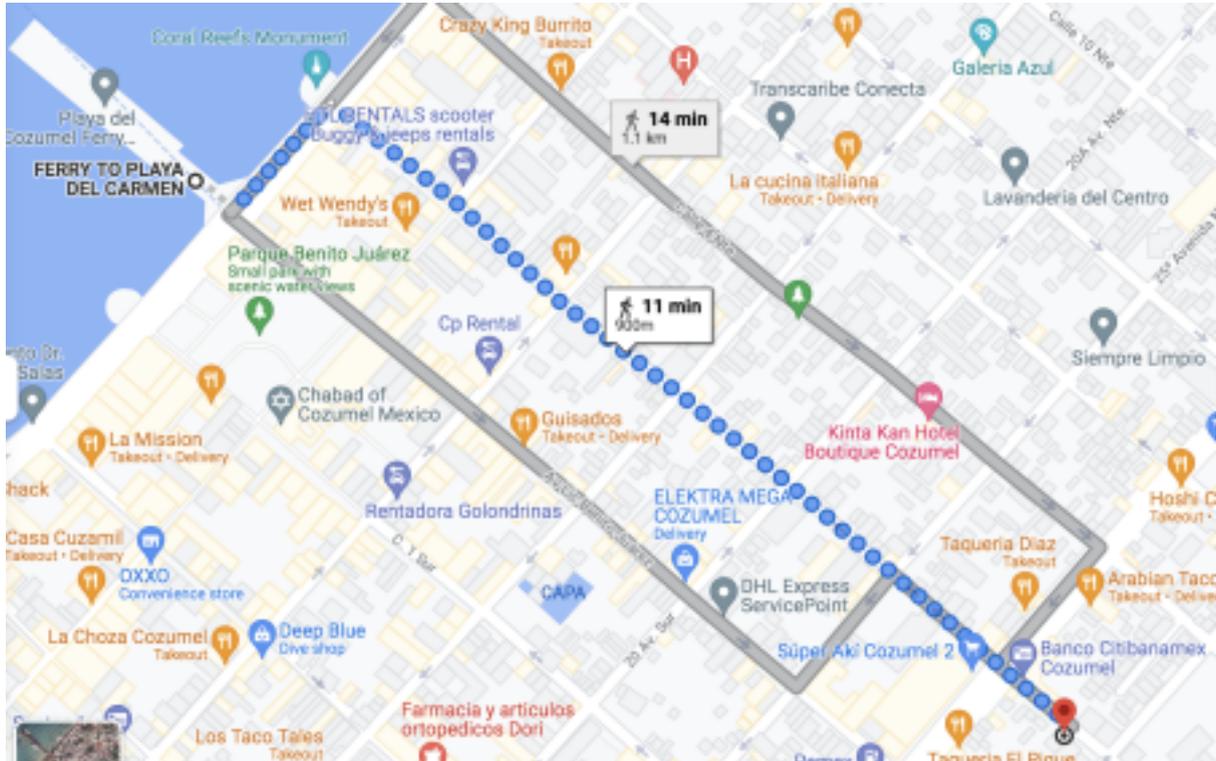
Accommodation

Students needing accommodation will stay in a 3-bedroom mixed Dive House. The house has a fully-equipped kitchen, WiFi & AC in dorms. Please see the pictures on our website:

<https://www.cozumeldiveschool.mx/prices-packages>

Our Dive House is located on Calle 2 Norte #690, between Avenidas 30 & 35. It is a white 3-storey building.

Below is a map on how to get to our dive house from the ferry terminal (8-10 minutes walk).



Health & Safety:

All students will be informed of health and safety procedures upon arrival. It is imperative that everyone both understands and respects the rules. Cozumel has 3 major hospitals that are clean and professional. Seeing a doctor costs around USD 40. If you need to get your dive medical signed by a physician and you are insured with DAN, you can do it for free in our partner clinic, Costamed.

Insurance

It is essential that you have comprehensive travel insurance for the duration of your stay with Divemaster Internships. Make sure it covers theft of personal items, such as diving equipment, cameras, etc. along with coverage for diving up to 30 meters or 100 feet. Check DAN Europe or DAN USA. You can follow this [link](#).

Meals

Interns are responsible for their own meals throughout the course of the program. Cozumel has many eating out options and even if you are a very strict vegetarian or vegan, you will find something for yourself. Below you may find some restaurants we like:

Los Seras: Avenida 30/Calle Morelos - Mexican food \$

Chilangos: Avenida 30 between Salas & Calle 3 - Mexican food \$

Super Hit: Avenida Xel-Ha/Avenida 30 - Mexican food \$

El Pique: Avenida 30, between Calle 2 & Juarez - taco-pizza & drinks \$

Arabian Tacos: Avenida 30, between Calle 2 & 4 - delicious tabbouleh, falafel & kebab \$

Los Otates: Avenida 15, between Salas & Calle 3 - Mexican food & drinks \$
 Arabian Tacos: Avenida 30, between Calles 2 & 4 - tacos with Lebanese twist \$ Tony
 B's: Calle 2, between Melgar & Avenida 5 - Mexican food, BBQ, wings & drinks \$
 Burrito Gordito: Avenida 5 between Calles 2 & 4 - best lunch burritos \$
 Las Nopales: Avenida 30, between Calles 19 & Xel-Ha - Mexican food \$
 Sucre & Salé Cafe: Calle 2, between Avenidas 5 & 10 - French pastries, coffee & breakfast \$
 Maple Bakehouse: Calle 6 between Melgar & Avenida 5 - bakery, great breakfast & lunch options \$\$
 Jolly Coffee & Late Breakfast: Calle 6 between Melgar & Avenida 5 - coffee & breakfast till 4 pm \$\$
 Cocinando Experiencias: Avenida 10 between Juarez & Calle 2 - vegan/vegetarian experimental kitchen \$\$
 Cozumel Coffee Roasting Company: Avenida 5, between Juarez and Calle 2 - peanut butter coffee, breakfast & lunch \$\$
 Cozumel Dreaming Sushi: Calle 2, between Avenidas 5 & 10 - great sushi \$\$ Kooben Laab: Avenida 30, between Calle 5 and Morelos - amazing truly Italian pasta, wine & Coffee, great spot for breakfast \$\$
 Cerveceria Punta Sur: Avenida 10, between Calle 3 & Salas - best beer on the island, thin crust pizza (with lionfish!) & empanadas \$\$
 Cozumel Rum Company: Avenida 10, between Calles 3 & 5 - rum tasting, bbq on weekends, board games, live music \$\$
 Dick's Dive: Avenida 5, between Juarez and Calle 2 - great cocktails, live music, sports bar \$\$
 Konstanz: Calle 2, between Melgar & Avenida 5 - vegan options, fresh juice, acai bowls & more! \$
 La Cuisine: Calle 11/Avenida 5a - healthy smoothies, breakfast & lunch with vegan/vegetarian options + a shop with healthy snacks & eco products \$\$
 New Especies: Calle 3, between Avenidas 5 & 10 - delicious Italian cuisine by Francesco di Roma \$\$\$
 Soy Gardel: Calle 6, between Melgar & Avenida 5 - Uruguayan cuisine \$\$\$
 El Palomar: Melgar/Calle 10 - perfect spot for sunset cocktails, great ceviche \$\$\$
 Hemingway: Melgar, in front of the military base - great for sunset drinks, delicious food \$\$\$
 O'Hanas: Avenida 5, between Calles 6 & 8 - pizza, burgers & peanut butter tequila \$\$\$

\$ - 20-100 pesos/meal \$\$ - 75-250 pesos/meal \$\$\$ - 180+ pesos/meal

Mexico

Cozumel (*Island of the Swallows* in Mayan) is an island in the Caribbean Sea off the eastern coast of Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula, opposite Playa del Carmen. Cozumel is a well-known tourist destination, famous among scuba divers, and adventure seekers. The main town on the island is San Miguel de Cozumel. In 1960, Jacques Cousteau was introduced to the beauty of the local reefs and publicized it as one of the best places to go scuba diving in the world. Scuba diving is still one of Cozumel's primary attractions, mainly due to the healthy coral reef marine communities. These coral reefs are protected from the open ocean by the island's natural geography. In 1996, the government of Mexico also established the Cozumel Reefs National Marine Park, forbidding anyone from touching or removing any marine life within the park boundaries. Despite the importance of healthy reefs to Cozumel's tourist trade, deep-water piers were built in the 1990s for cruise ships to dock, causing damage to the surrounding reefs, and turning the island into a regular stop for cruises in the Caribbean.



Climate

Cozumel has a warm tropical climate that averages in 25-27 C (mid 80s F) during the day and 23-25 C (mid 70s F) at night. The Caribbean rainy season runs approximately from June to October, with October being the wettest month. Like in all tropical paradises, there are mosquitoes.

Time Zone

Cozumel follows Eastern Standard Time clocks, but does not observe daylight savings time.

Money

The official currency is Mexican Peso (MXN), although dollars are also accepted. The currency rate fluctuates a little every day; you can view an up to date conversion on XE.com Be aware that local businesses might be using less favourable exchange rates.

Traveler's checks are NOT widely accepted throughout the island. Most major credit cards are accepted in many restaurants and big grocery stores, sometimes with an addition of 4-7 % processing fee.

There are many banks all around Cozumel (Santander, Citi Banamex, Banorte); ATMs are also available within walking distance of our Dive House (about 3-4 blocks). ATMs mostly give MXN but there are a few that will also dispense US Dollars.

Valuables

The Dive House has lockers in each room, but you have to bring your own padlock. Cozumel is a safe island however opportunity makes a thief. Cash, wallets, cameras, cell phones etc. should not be left unguarded. The best advice we have is: *if you can't afford to lose it, don't bring it.* You might be requested by Immigration officers to show your passport and visa (FMM cards) in different locations: in the marina or at the ferry terminal so it is not a bad idea to carry them with you or at least have a copy or photo of them on your phone.

Continuing Education

If you feel hungry to learn more, we offer a range of PADI specialties and PADI TecRec Deep training. Many of our past interns are currently working around the world. Being a Divemaster is only the start to a career in professional scuba diving. Should you decide to eventually work in the dive industry, you may want to consider becoming a PADI Open Water Scuba Instructor since as an instructor it is much easier to find a job. We are offering monthly instructor development courses (IDC) which you are welcome to attend after your internship. You can decide on that any time during or after your internship. For more information, please visit our website or contact Ken at +52 987 11 8780.

Cancellation

If, due to unavoidable circumstances, you are unable to participate in the internship, please contact Divemaster Internships via email or phone immediately. Please read our cancellation policy and full terms and conditions [here](#).

Websites

Cozumel Dive School: <http://www.cozumeldiveschool.mx>

Divemaster Internships: <https://www.cozumeldiveschool.mx/divemaster-internship>

If you have any additional questions or feel that some important information is missing from this Adventure Guidebook, please contact us at cozumeldiveschool@gmail.com

 Follow us on Instagram: [@cozumeldiveschool](https://www.instagram.com/cozumeldiveschool) & [@cdsdivemasterinternships](https://www.instagram.com/cdsdivemasterinternships)

