

# All Saint's Day in Guatemala....



..... with **Gayle Weisfield**.  
 If you like immersing your self in the culture of a country, this will be the trip of a lifetime. An extraordinary odyssey; you will stay in some of Guatemala's most charming and distinctive hotels. You will go behind the scenes to grow in an understanding of both Guatemala's Maya and Colonial history, and see how people live by visiting their villages and cemeteries during celebration of one of their most important

holidays, **Todos Santos** or **All Saint's Day**. Experience the colorful kite flying celebrations in the village of Sumpango, and the family reunions in beautifully decorated village cemeteries, as the family celebrates life by beautifying the graves with flowers and other brilliantly colored ornaments. You will observe their graveside picnic feasts as they relate stories to the living about the loved ones who have passed away, and tell the departed the most recent family news.

There will be lots of time for visiting Maya markets and villages such as Chichicastenango and Comalapa, with opportunities for buying handicrafts and textiles known the world over for their beauty and quality. In Guatemala, beauty pursues the traveler, and you will find fascinating subject matter everywhere. Come participate in a creative feast for the heart and soul.

## Highlights and Accommodations...

### Tikal...

Discover Tikal, the lost world once inhabited by the ancient Maya more than two thousand years ago, a legacy to one of the most refined civilizations in the history of the world. Mammoth pyramids with temples on top attest to the skill, intelligence, and high civilization of these ancient peoples. Who were they? Why did they disappear? Their voices speak from the dust through the ruins they left behind, ruins that rival any Egyptian sites. Experience an exhilarating Canopy Tour; gliding high in the tree tops on a zip line, A must do! [www.petenesplendido.com](http://www.petenesplendido.com)

**Guatemala City...** the **Quinta Real** ([www.quintareal.com](http://www.quintareal.com)) a resplendent blend of Guatemalan and Mexican art and architecture overlooking Guatemala City and facing the colossal "Fuego" and "Agua" volcanoes.

**Lake Atitlán and Villages...**Travel through the highlands of Guatemala with vistas of great mountain peaks, plateaus, and valleys, planted with corn and wheat, intermittently spotted by whitewashed houses with red tile roofs. Lake Atitlán, known as "the most beautiful lake in the world" is surrounded by three towering volcanoes standing guard over the azure waters and the twelve Maya villages that rest on its shores. You will feel suspended in time as you watch a Maya fisherman in his dugout *cayuco* plying his trade as his ancestors have done for centuries. The color, the dramatic landscapes, and the deeply entrenched Maya culture will create memories that will change your life. You will stay in the **Hotel Atitlán** ([www.hotelatitlan.com](http://www.hotelatitlan.com)), sitting at the water's edge of the lake, engulfed by beautiful botanical gardens; a truly inspirational location.

**Antigua...**Step back into time almost five hundred years ago when the Spanish conquistadores invaded Guatemala. Draped in vibrant bougainvillea and surrounded by towering volcanoes, this picturesque, time trapped city of Antigua will capture your heart. Its richly textured ruins provide artistic inspiration and the opportunity to interpret the romantic ambiance of peaceful parks, cobblestone streets, ruined churches, monasteries, and colonial homes with courtyards. In Antigua you will stay at the **Casa Santo Domingo** ([www.casasantodomingo.com.gt](http://www.casasantodomingo.com.gt)), built from the ruins of a 16<sup>th</sup> century monastery. The sounds of running water in the stone-carved fountains, candlelight throughout the hallways, and fresh flowers everywhere will simply take your breath away.

**Chichicastenango...**This town with its world famous Indian market is a "crown jewel" of Guatemala, brimming with beautiful, hand woven textiles and splendid works of art and crafts in designs and techniques passed on from generation to generation. The Maya/Catholic rituals and open-air market of "Chichi" and the blazing colors of everyday dress will enthrall you.



### To enroll...

Detach the registration form and send it with your deposit or full payment check (**group size limited**, date of registration request determines priority of space) made **payable to Explore Guatemala, L.L.C.**. Upon enrollment, additional information will be provided to assist you in planning your trip. **Do not make airline arrangements until you have received confirmation of your reservation from Explore Guatemala.**

**October 31 – November 9, 2006**

**All Saint's Day in Guatemala**  
 Tel 210-599-7098 Fax 210-655-1451  
 e-mail: [exploreguatemala@idworld.net](mailto:exploreguatemala@idworld.net)  
 web site: [www.exploreguatemala.com](http://www.exploreguatemala.com)

### Registration Request

Name appearing on your passport / passport number:  
 \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Name you go by: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Sex: M/F \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Medical/Dietary considerations:  
 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I am on my own but wish to share a room.

\_\_\_\_\_ I am a smoker.

\_\_\_\_\_ I prefer the single supplement charge.

\_\_\_\_\_ I wish to add Pacific Sailfishing (**Oct 30-31**)

\_\_\_\_\_ I wish to add Los Tarrales (**Nov 4**)

Enclosed is check/money order

**Payable to Explore Guatemala, L.L.C.**

Deposit: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ or Total Fee: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**X** \_\_\_\_\_

(indicates you have read our Terms and Conditions)

**Travel with Gayle Weisfield**  
**All Saint's Day in Guatemala**  
**October 31 – November 9, 2006**



**Itinerary.....October 31-November 9, 2006**

**Tue 31<sup>st</sup>:** Arrive Guatemala City and transfer to Antigua.

**Wed 1<sup>st</sup>:** Travel to the village of Pastores and its cemetery to observe the traditions of All Saints Day. Then on to Sumpango, renowned for its kite celebration and competition where the villagers erect their incredibly colorful, giant kites; some measuring over 40 feet tall. (B,L,D)

**Thu 2<sup>nd</sup>:** Morning tour of the Casa Santo Domingo, an architectural delight, full of colonial artwork. It is an ongoing archeological excavation site with several "world class" museums. A visit to the Jade factory and shop, whose archeologist owners rediscovered the lost Jade mines of ancient the Maya. Exploring and shopping on your own. (B)

**Fri 3<sup>rd</sup>:** Breakfast in a local café. We will visit the market then free time for lunch, art, exploring, or shopping on your own. After lunch we will travel through the Guatemalan highlands to the most beautiful lake in the world, Lake Atitlán. Here we will be staying at the Hotel Atitlán, surrounded by botanical gardens, towering volcanoes, terraced mountainsides, villages, and a beautiful lake view. (B,D)

**Sat 4<sup>th</sup>:** A free day to visit the local village of Panajachel or relax around the hotel pool & Jacuzzi. **OR** Optional tour to Finca Los Tarrales, a private reserve with a coffee plantation, exotic flower operation, and scenic trails. (B,D)

**Sun 5<sup>th</sup>:** Travel to Chichicastenango and its world famous market. Colorful, exciting; a maelstrom of furious commerce and the best place in the country to buy textiles and handicrafts. The magic of the Maya and their religion is everywhere. (B,L,D)

**Mon 6<sup>th</sup>:** Boat across Lake Atitlán, viewing beautifully terraced mountainsides and volcanoes, to the village of Santiago for an incredible cultural experience and a little shopping in the artists' colony. A Tz'utujil lunch at a private home (featured in Architectural Digest, Aug, 2002), built in the traditional style of Tz'utujil architecture will thrill you. (B,L,D)

**Tue 7<sup>th</sup>:** Leisurely breakfast then transfer to Guatemala City and a short flight to Flores where we will stay at the Hotel Esplendido on Lake Petén Itzá. (B,L,D)

**Wed 8<sup>th</sup>:** Visit Tikal, possibly the most significant of all Maya sites, thought to be the center of the Maya universe. A canopy tour which involves flying through the tops of the jungle - a thrill that will be one of the highlights of your trip. Explore the island of Flores. (B,L)

**Fri 9<sup>th</sup>:** After breakfast this morning we will depart Flores for our return to Guatemala City and your flights home. We will arrive at the airport in Guatemala City at around 9am.

**Accompanying your Workshop/Tour**

**Anita Rogers** lived in Guatemala for 25 years, speaks Spanish, and was a collector of Maya weavings and Spanish Colonial antiques. She has been around the travel industry most of her life, as her family owns the beautiful Hotel Atitlán on Lake Atitlán in the Guatemala highlands. **John Korte** has traveled to Guatemala for the past 20 years. They understand local customs and business practices. They stay in the hotels, eat in the restaurants, and ride the transportation, personally experiencing every aspect of their workshop/tours. They know the "hidden treasures" as well as the little bits of information only the locals know. Their experience, relationships, and knowledge of the country allow them to provide a worry-free, life enriching travel adventure

**Included in your Explore Guatemala Experience:**

- A superbly crafted travel experience to the most enchanting, magical land of the Maya...Guatemala.
- Travel with renowned artist Gayle Weisfield.
- 10 days, 9 nights at unique, luxury hotels with most meals and meal service tips included (per itinerary).
- Deluxe motor coaches and private boats viewing the most scenic and colorful venues...an artists paradise.
- Hotel baggage handling, driver tips, as well as all entrance fees and excursions included in itinerary.

**NOT included:**

- Airfare from your hometown to Guatemala City. Our flexible plan allows you to:
  1. use your Frequent Flyer miles to obtain your own tickets
  2. **or**, purchase your tickets through your own sources
  3. **or**, go through our **discount ticketing** resource, eXito, a company specializing in low-cost airfare to Latin America. Call Issac at 1-800-655-4053 ext. 8507 or 0 if not available. Tell him you are traveling with **Explore Guatemala – Gayle Weisfield Group**. Issac will arrange for everyone to arrive in Guatemala City by the appointed time.

Obviously, the sooner you make your reservation, the better the price and availability. **Do not make airline arrangements until you have received confirmation of your reservation from Explore Guatemala.**

**Prices:**

- \$1830 Plus airfare (based on double occupancy).
- Single room supplement: \$365
- Los Tarrales Add-On: \$60
- Pacific Sailfishing Add-On: \$425
- **Reservation Deposit: \$500** (reserve **now**, group size limited).

**REGISTER NOW**