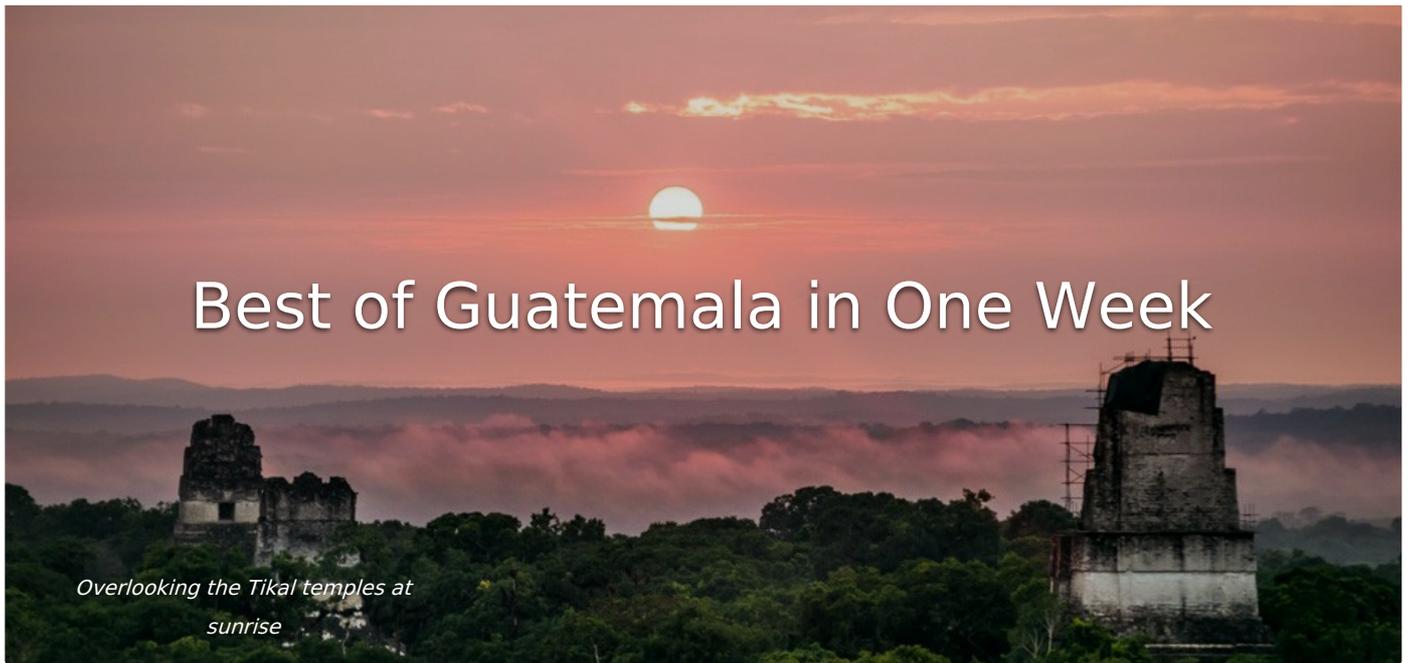




**OLD TOWN
OUTFITTERS**
ANTIGUA, GUATEMALA



Best of Guatemala in One Week

*Overlooking the Tikal temples at
sunrise*

Your itinerary

Discover Guatemala, one of the hidden wonders of the travel world, on this eight-day multi-sport adventure. Encounter a country rich in a diversity of culture, natural beauty, and adventure. Experience an intriguing blend of Mayan culture and Spanish colonial influence.

Stroll through the amazingly well-preserved colonial town of Antigua, with its cobblestone streets, ruins, elaborate churches, and a bustling market. Climb the active, fiery Pacaya Volcano, enjoy two days of hiking, kayaking, and mountain biking around the simply magical Lake Atitlan, and visit the famous Tikal Ruins.

Return from this action-packed escape inspired by both the rugged beauty of the land as well as the warmth and loveliness of the people.

Brief itinerary

Day	Highlights	Overnight
Day 1	Arrive in Antigua	Antigua
Day 2	Valley Ride - Bicycle Tour of Antigua's Villages, Farms, and Ruins	Antigua
Day 3	Hike Pacaya Volcano	Antigua
Day 4	Transfer to Lake Atitlán & Boat Tour	Lake Atitlan
Day 5	Kayaking and Hiking Tour	Antigua
Day 6	Fly to Tikal	Tikal National Park
Day 7	Explore Tikal National Park (fly back to Guatemala City)	Guatemala City
Day 8	Depart Guatemala City	

Detailed itinerary

1

Arrive in Antigua

Arrive to the Guatemala City international airport. A driver and private shuttle will meet you at the airport with your name on a card.

You'll be driven to Antigua taking about an hour, depending on traffic.

Overnight: Antigua



Antigua's famous Santa Catalina Arch



2

Valley Ride - Bicycle Tour of Antigua's Villages, Farms, and Ruins

Today's tour gives you a great opportunity to explore the area surrounding Antigua on two wheels.

You will meet at the Old Town Outfitters shop at 9 am and walk over to our bike shop for sizing, gear explanations, and a quick safety chat before we start the ride.

Riding to the south, we will head out of Antigua and onto the base of Agua Volcano. On today's ride you will explore and experience the various towns and villages of the Almolonga Valley. Your guide will make plenty of stops along the way to show off the magnificent churches and Spanish colonial ruins. Other highlights of today's ride include:

- Escape Antigua for the day and tour the countryside by mountain bike
- See ruins one earthquake away from extinction
- Visit Lorenzo's experimental macadamia farm at Valhalla - a sustainable agriculture project
- Explore the many local villages including San Antonio Aguas Calientes, famous for its textiles and weaving

We will return to Antigua around mid-day (varies a little for each group) and then your guide can recommend a great place for lunch. The rest of the day is yours to explore and enjoy the charming streets of Antigua.

Meals included: Breakfast

Overnight: Antigua



Hike Pacaya Volcano

Volcano Pacaya (8370ft/2552m) may not be Guatemala's highest peak, however its slopes and unique landscapes are certainly of some of the most impressive volcanic landscapes in all of Central America. Set in its own National Park, Pacaya is a storybook volcano with a continuous plume of smoke drifting from its summit and a massive dried lava field forming the valley at the base of its caldera.

Meet at 8AM at our local Antigua shop and fill up your water bottles before heading off to climb the volcano. Our drive to the trailhead is approximately 1.5 hours in private transport from Antigua to the park office.

As our group moves up the myriad of trails on the mountain, Guatemala's impressive vistas open up before us. As we reach the base of the caldera, our guide will direct the group through the rugged dried lava fields, recently reformed by a massive eruption in 2010. No matter what conditions we encounter on the mountain, our group will have the opportunity to traverse unique volcanic-rock landscapes as we ascend towards the peak. Here the group will stop for a freshly prepared picnic to enjoy along with views of nearby volcanoes Agua, Fuego and Acatenango. There will be plenty of opportunity to explore geothermal hot-spots on the cooled lava formations – which are always available to help roast marshmallows!

Our hike down brings across the remaining dried lava fields before we begin our descent through Pacaya's lush and lesser known forests and farmland. After our hike down to the trailhead, we will return to Antigua by private transport to arrive in town around 4-5PM.

Hike Stats

- Est. hiking time: 3-4 hours
- Distance: ~6 kms
- Ascent: ~ 400 mtrs
- High point: 2,288 mtrs

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch

Overnight: Antigua



4

Transfer to Lake Atitlán & Boat Tour

This morning you will have a private transfer to **Lake Atitlán**, approximately two and a half hours drive. Part of the morning will be spent on the **Pan American Highway** known as the part of a network of roads stretching from **Prudhoe Bay, Alaska**, to **Ushuaia, Argentina**. As you get closer to Atitlán, keep an eye out for views from above the lake.

Once you arrive to the main town on Lake Atitlán—**Panajachel**—you will start a village tour by boat with our local guide. Many smaller **Mayan** villages are located along the lake and your private boat tour will visit a few of them to give you a closer look into the local arts, traditions, and stories. Highlights include visiting a local women's weaving co-op, and visiting a shrine of the infamous "**Maximon**" Mayan saint.

Your guide will give you time during the tour to stop for lunch or you may prefer to wait and eat at the hotel in the afternoon. After wrapping up the tour, we will head to the beautiful lakeside hotel of **Casa del Mundo**. The rest of the afternoon is free for you to relax, enjoy a swim in the lake, and take in the views.

Meals included: Breakfast

Overnight: Lake Atitlan



5

Kayaking and Hiking Tour

After waking up to gorgeous views of the lake and its towering volcanoes, you'll have breakfast. Then our guide will meet you for today's adventure.

In the first part of the kayak tour, our paddle takes us westward along the north shore of Atitlán for 1.5-2 hours, passing by tiny villages perched on the sides of the sheer ridges that rise up from the azure waters of the lake. Depending on weather, and speed of the kayak group—there are opportunities to stop for a dip in the lake and/or cliff-jumping. We will eventually arrive to our destination between the villages of **Tzununá** and **San Marcos La Laguna** where we will trade our kayaks for our daypacks and hiking shoes.

Hiking out of town on the lake trail, which connects village to village, we're treated to spectacular views of volcanoes **San Pedro, Tolimán** and Atitlán. We'll pass through small villages as we follow the shoreline for approx 1.5 hours, eventually returning back to **Jaibalito** and **Casa del Mundo**. After a hearty and well-earned lunch at the hotel, you have the afternoon free to relax.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch

Overnight: Antigua



6

Fly to Tikal

Today we will return to Guatemala City to catch your domestic flight to Flores in the north of Guatemala. Private transfer will take you to your hotel inside the Tikal National Park so you'll be ready to enjoy the tour of these famous ruins the following morning.

Meals included: Breakfast

Overnight: Tikal National Park



7

Explore Tikal National Park (fly back to Guatemala City)

Today you will visit the famous Tikal National Park to see the amazing Mayan ruins. Tikal is known world-wide for its impressive pyramids and sprawling ruins. The UNESCO World Heritage hosts a former capital of one of the most powerful kingdoms of the ancient Maya, and boasts the tallest pre-Columbian structure in the Americas, Temple IV standing at 70 meters (270ft).

You will spend the day with your expert guide exploring this vast complex of temples and pyramids until late in the afternoon. During your visit you will have the opportunity to see all the major sites of interest including Temples I, II, II, IV, and V, Lost World, Complex Q, The Great Plaza, The Window Palace, and more. Keep an eye out for lots of wildlife along the tour and enjoy the sights and sounds of the jungle. You will have time enjoy lunch in the park and have time to explore on your own.

In the afternoon you will return to Flores and fly back to Guatemala City. You will stay in Guatemala city tonight, in preparations for tomorrow's departure.

Meals included: Breakfast

Overnight: Guatemala City



Tikal Inn



8

Depart Guatemala City

Enjoy breakfast in your hotel (depending on your departure schedule). Afterwards, you'll take the hotel shuttle to the Guatemala City airport for your flight home. We recommend arriving to the airport three hours prior to your departure.



Goodbye Guatemala!

Price includes

Accommodations
Guides
Daily breakfasts and lunches where indicated
Roundtrip airport transfers
Ground transportation
Mountain bike and helmet rental
Kayaking gear rental
Domestic flights
All relevant entrance fees

Price excludes

International flights
Travel insurance (recommended)
Meals not stated in inclusions
Personal clothing and gear
Personal expenses (i.e. laundry, alcohol, souvenirs)
Guide gratuities

About your local specialist



**OLD TOWN
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ANTIGUA, GUATEMALA

Founded in 1998, Old Town Outfitters is a full-service adventure travel and destination management company located in the Spanish colonial town of La Antigua. We specialize in designing custom-built trips for both organized groups and independent travelers. Old Town strives to provide unique, high-quality trips which create rewarding experiences for our clients.



Chris

Based in Antigua,
Guatemala



[24 reviews](#)

I am passionate about adventure travel and feel very lucky to be able to share that passion with others through Old Town Outfitters. I'm originally from Savannah, Georgia but have been living in Antigua, Guatemala for 9+ years now. I head up the team at Old Town... [read more](#)
