

COPPER CANYON TRAILS

11 Days

520.324.0209

CMC Marathon Itinerary

DAY 1: ARRIVE LOS MOCHIS, HOTEL IN EL FUERTE (elevation 300 ft)

You arrive at the airport in Los Mochis, Sinaloa, Mexico (airport code: LMM). You will be met by Cathy or Mike of Copper Canyon Trails and transferred by suburban to Hotel Rio Vista about 1.5 hours away in the historical town of El Fuerte, founded 1564. (D)

DAY 2: FIRST CLASS TRAIN, LOLA'S GUEST HOUSE (elevation 7500 ft)

Early departure on the first class Chihuahua al Pacifico northbound train. A club car is onboard if you want refreshments before arriving about 3:30pm at Posada Barranca. (B,L,D)

DAY 3: BEGIN HIKE (+/- 800 ft, 4 mi, 4 hrs) CAMP UNDER STARS

We meet the crew, load the burros, and begin this long day with a traverse along the canyon rim. It's up and down, with most of the elevation gain at the end of the day. Camp is in the cool, pine covered Mesa Guitayvo. (B,L,D)

DAY 4: TRAVERSE TO A SECOND MESA, CAMP IN PINES (+/- 1200 ft, 7 mi, 8 hrs)

Spectacular views appear as soon as we leave the mesa. The hike is more up and down, but the elevation we lost is gained at the end of the day, when you most notice it. Camp is on the outskirts of a Tarahumaran village. (B,L,D)

Day 5 & 6: TRAVERSE TO A RANCHO, LIFE ON THE EDGE (+/- 500 ft, 4 mi, 4 hrs)

We pass through the village of Churo early in the morning. This is a village with not much traffic, but a recently reconstructed mission. Chances are good we'll see burro trains bringing or taking goods deeper into the barrancas. A little further on is Rancho Chihuirabo located on a spectacular precipice. (B,L,D)

Day 6: ANOTHER NIGHT AT RANCHO CHIHUIRABO (optional day hike)

Opportunity to hike at the canyon edge and witness breathtaking views while spending another night at a humble serrano rancho. (B,L,D)

Day 7: DESCEND TO URIQUE (- 4500 ft., 8 mi, 8 hrs), CAMP AT ENTRE AMIGOS

Breathtaking views to the south and west as we descend a burro route across solid rock. Down, down we go until the pines give way to desert agave and pochote (kapok trees). We pass a small village on the way, for snack and photos. (B,L,D)

Day 8: RACE DAY!!, CAMP AT ENTRE AMIGOS

The race starts at 7am. We can cheer the participants and then explore the rich mining history in the town of Urique right on the Urique River. Visitors from all over have been making this regional race into a destination. (B,D)

Day 9: BUS to RANCHO PARAISO DEL OSO (elevation gain 4000 ft)

The daily bus leaves at 8 am. We'll ascend effortlessly on countless switchbacks back into the high pine clad mesas, and hot showers. (B,L,D)

Day 10: TRANSPOR TO BAHUICHIVO, FIRST CLASS TRAIN TO EL FUERTE

You'll be met at the train station by our representative, and have accommodations back at the Rio Vista, with your host Chal Gamez. (B)

Day 11: TRANSFER TO LOS MOCHIS AIRPORT; FLY HOME