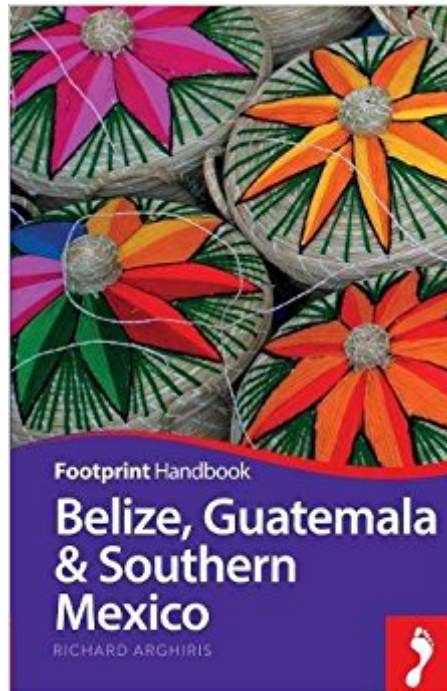




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Belize, Guatemala & Southern Mexico Handbook (Footprint - Handbooks)



Synopsis

Blessed with a tropical climate, abundant wildlife and a varied landscape, it's easy to understand the appeal of this beguiling region. Footprint's Belize, Guatemala & Southern Mexico Handbook will guide you from monumental Mayan ruins, through hypnotic fiestas, to sparking submarine adventures. Great coverage of the top activities and sights in the region, including jungle-shrouded ruins, basking in crystal clear cays, historic churches, delicious cuisine, and exploring volcanic cones. Loaded with information and suggestions on how to get off the beaten track, from birding spots in Belize to forgotten cities of ancient civilizations. Includes comprehensive information on everything from transport and practicalities to history, culture & landscape. Plus all the usual accommodation, eating and drinking listings for every budget. Full-color planning section to inspire travelers and help them find the best experiences. From idyllic Caribbean waters to awe-inspiring caves, Footprint's fully updated 3rd edition will help you navigate this compelling destination.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Expert author Richard Arghiris knows Belize, Guatemala & Southern Mexico inside out; he has travelled extensively throughout the region researching this new edition. Comprehensive coverage of all the main attractions plus plenty of suggestions for getting off the beaten track. Extensive, reliable listings and advice to help you choose the right hotel, restaurant or tour guide. In-depth background section to help you understand the country's history, culture, politics and people.

Richard Arghiris first visited Latin America in 2003, when he travelled between the capitals of Mexico and Panama. Richard has since become a regular visitor to the Americas, writing and researching content for guidebooks, magazines, newspapers and websites. Richard has lived and worked in Amsterdam, Brighton, London and at sea. Aside from Latin America, he has travelled widely in Europe and the United States, and is currently based in London where he works as an author and freelance journalist and is on the road whenever it calls. Check out Richard's blog, unseenamericas.com

I love these Footprint Guides. They've allowed themselves to slip behind other publishers in some parts of the world, but in central and South America, they're still the best. These books combine solid cultural and historical content with diverse listings and up-to-date practicals. If you're headed to this part of the world, this is the best book. In fact, these countries and regions blend together almost naturally, so it makes sense to do a book about the whole lot. True, the book is written from a European's point of view, but it only takes a little imagination and some intuition to make the jump to any original location. So you get a really nice selection of sites here. What's not to like? There's Oaxaca and San Cristobal for the colonials. There's pre-Colombian Mayan ruins for the archaeologists. And there's forests, beaches, oceans, mountains, volcanoes, waterfalls and rivers for the ecologists. But then there's something really, really special that deserves your attention, a sort of Siam Reap of the West, and that place is Antigua Guatemala. No guidebook is going to prepare you for this. Imagine trekking through the forests at the base of three massive volcanoes and stumbling across a colonial Spanish city, abandoned by its citizens in the late 18th century, left in a semi-ruinous state by a series of powerful earthquakes, left for you to explore and to imbibe, and even to help revive in your own way. Residents are slowly returning to Antigua. Structures are slowly being reclaimed from the earth. Very slowly. So if a Spanish colonial Machu Picchu sounds like your kind of thing, here's a place you'll love, and a book you must own. The book presents a nice blend of indigenous and inherited cultures, not always seeing eye-to-eye, of course, but with appropriate coverage of important and interesting sites, crafts and traditions. I always judge a guidebook by how authentic a portrait it creates for the reader, and Footprint is always top quality.

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