

BRIDAL GUIDE

Experience the Culture of Mexico at Mahekal Beach Resort

Located on the longest uninterrupted beach in Playa del Carmen, situated between the lush jungle and the azure waters of the Caribbean Sea, Mahekal Beach Resort offers a breathtaking backdrop for weddings and a serene escape for honeymooners. Whether you want to tie the knot in a seaside ceremony, relax by the pool with your bridal party, or enjoy a rejuvenating post-wedding couples massage, you're sure to have a #MagicalMahekal experience.



From the moment you arrive at Mahekal Beach Resort in Playa del Carmen, you feel as if you're being welcomed home. An immediate sense of calm overcomes you as your hosts greet you with a warm smile and a cool lavender-scented hand towel. Once you check in, follow the winding hand-laid stone walkways to your suite. You'll be captivated by the beauty of the resort and will need to resist the urge to take photos every step of the way.

Family and tradition has always been the cornerstone of Mahekal. The resort dates back approximately 50 years ago, when a local entrepreneurial family built six thatched-roof palapas on the beach for backpackers to rent. Mahekal has grown exponentially since then, and every penny of profit was invested in constructing more bungalows. In 2015, Mahekal underwent a \$16 million renovation — adding 74 bungalows to the existing to the 122 existing suites and beachfront palapas.

Say "I Do" in Paradise

The turquoise waters, white sand beach, and lush vegetation of Mahekal Beach Resort provide a truly magical backdrop for a destination wedding. From intimate beach ceremonies beneath swaying palms to a platform stage atop the oceanfront infinity pool, there are a variety of tropical settings where guests can tie the knot at Mahekal. Since the renovation, there are a number of new venue options at Mahekal. If you are looking for a more verdant spot for your big day, the resort's new open canopied chapel is set amongst lavish gardens and the natural jungle. After the addition of 4,500 square feet, the resort's newly transformed "Celebre" event space can easily accommodate all of your guests.



The chef at Mahekal takes pride in crafting delectable cuisine from the freshest local ingredients. From authentic Mexican catering to contemporary favorites designed to represent your personal tastes, Mahekal Beach Resort has a long tradition of creating the perfect menu for every event. Mahekal's creative planning services help guide couples through every step of the wedding process, from selecting the décor and the music to booking a photographer and guest accommodations, ensuring you'll have an unforgettable wedding in Playa del Carmen.



Here is the list of services that Mahekal offers:

- Attendant or minister
- Decorations
- Flower arrangements
- Lighting design
- Beauty services
- Music
- Photography
- Spa treatments
- Open-air wedding pavilion



For guests that want complete privacy: Separated from the rest of the resort by just a few steps, the Aventura section of Mahekal is available for exclusive buy-outs. Perfect for private wedding groups, Aventura offers bungalows clustered together and four multi-story penthouse buildings. Each building features six units — one on the top floor, two on the second floor, and three on the first floor. All have some of the largest balconies in the resort. In addition, there are six single bungalows right on the beach — one building is a two unit building with one king bed, and another room with two double beds, as well as a fabulous ocean view (seen below). There are 30 total units in Aventura, as well as Las Olas restaurant and bar.



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5 Reasons You Need to Stay For Your Honeymoon:

1. The rooms are picture-perfect inside and out.

Three types of rooms are available at Mahekal (ocean, garden, and jungle), and all provide a romantic escape. Each of the three palapa-style bungalow accommodations offer a variety of extraordinary features, all less than a two-minute walk from the beach.

Oceanfront

In the oceanfront rooms, you can hear the sound of the waves as they kiss the shoreline. They feature beautiful views, private open air terraces, hammocks and, depending on the suite you select, a private plunge pool or outdoor moon shower.



If your room was any closer to the sea, it would be a boat!



Garden View

The garden view rooms afford secluded views of natural flora and the relaxing sounds of the nearby Mexican fountain and reflecting pond. The interior design is a mix of bohemian vibes, colorful accents, and plush textures. Once you lay down in the comfy bed, you'll want to move in.



Jungle View

Designed as an extension of the brand new Revive Spa, Jungle View Rooms include spa-style amenities, some with outdoor showers and private pools. These rooms offer views of lush gardens, beautiful fountains, fire bowls, and easy access to the pool and the beach. Boasting extra seating space inside, these units are some of the largest rooms offered at Mahekal. One thing you won't find in your suite is a TV; Mahekal prides itself on creating an unplugged experience, where you can find sanctuary away from the busyness of everyday life. If you have a harder time disconnecting from the outside world, don't worry, the resort has free Wifi, so your Instagram followers won't miss a second of your adventures.



2. You'll never want to leave the pool.

And you don't need to, because three of Mahekal's four luxurious pools have bars serving up refreshing cocktails and delicious bites. Whether you're soaking up the sun for a pre-wedding glow or taking a dip in the infinity pool with your new spouse, the pools at Mahekal are an oasis for relaxation. Las Olas Pool and hot tub is surrounded by palm trees and has a picture perfect oceanfront view. The Itzi pool, located in the middle of the resort, is home to Mahekal's signature swings.



The Fuego Pool is the resort's newest heated swimming pool with a hot tub, located between the bungalows and adjacent to the new restaurant and beachfront bar, Fuego Restaurante y Cantina. This pool also features several covered cabana-style day beds to relax out of the sun. The Treehouse Pool is located in the garden area at Mahekal Beach Resort. This pool is surrounded by nature and lush foliage. The pool is accented by fire bowls, and you'll also hear several of the nearby fountains that line the Treehouse section.



3. Experience the culture of Mexico at every meal.

Las Olas Restaurant and Bar

Las Olas Restaurant and Bar serves enticing regional specialties, offering incredible cuisine with a side of panoramic ocean views. Start your day off right with fresh fruit and specialty egg dishes. After a few hours soaking up the sun at the just-steps-away pool or beach, return for a refreshing Paloma — made with grapefruit juice and fruit-infused tequila.



Cocina

Cocina offers a more global menu, exploring cultures and cuisines that span across Yucatan, Mexico and Latin America. In addition to delicious dishes, including mouth-watering ceviche (seen below), the restaurant's inviting candlelit glow and bohemian décor offers a romantic atmosphere for newlyweds.



Fuego Restaurante y Cantina

Mahekal's newest oceanfront restaurant and bar, Fuego, offers an ever-changing array of locally-sourced cuisine. The "Tulum-style" wood-burning oven restaurant features farm-to-fork dining accompanied with a relaxed vibe. Executive Chef Crescenciano Nerey prepares all meals over open flames, serving up vibrantly colored dishes, such as Caribbean Grouper slow roasted with garlic and fine herbs. Offering both indoor and outdoor seating, the restaurant features natural, simple décor, from antique wood furniture and a huge palapa-style roof.



Boli's Bar

A cozy alternative to the Playa del Carmen bars of 5th Avenue, Boli's Bar offers guests an inviting ambience and handcrafted cocktails. Named for the resort's beloved concierge, Boli, the lounge provides a fun place to mingle over fresh-pressed juice cocktails and a game of pool, ping-pong, shuffleboard and more.



Itzi

Among the most lavish poolside bars in Playa del Carmen, Itzi (named after a Mayan Princess) offers a selection of light bites and cocktails. Sip a frosty Coco Loco, enjoy creamy avocado and tomatillo salsa and crisp tortilla chips as you lounge by the pool, or try one of Mahekal's infamous handmade swings. Itzi is the closest bar to Mahekal's new fire pit, where guests can enjoy freshly blended cocktails, beer, or wine while listening to the live acoustic jazz music.



Mayan Culinary Casita

The most unique dining experience at Mahekal Beach Resort is the newly launched Mayan Culinary Casita. Guests immerse themselves in the local culture by helping native Mayan chefs prepare an authentic feast. A stone path leads diners through lush gardens and palm fronds to the casita, where an indigenous Mayan Shaman lights Copal incense and blesses each guest before entering.

Inside, a thatched-roof hut houses a fire pit dug into the soil, where a clay pot holds and cooks the food. The chef talks through the recipe speaking the Mayan language while another chef translates. The private, multi-course lunch includes handmade tortillas and guacamole, traditional Lime and Chicken soup, savory fish and vegetables steamed to perfection, and Mexican desserts. In addition to getting a hands-on culinary experience, guests are sent off with recipes to recreate the feast at home.



4. Get pampered like royalty at the full-service spa.

Discover the meaning of serenity at Mahekal's newly renovated Revive Spa. From the moment you enter, the bohemian designs, antique wood furniture, subtle lighting, and a palapa-style roof featuring a fiber optic ceiling — reminiscent of glowing stars — will have you feeling relaxed. Relaxation rooms welcome guests with freshly squeezed juice, chilled champagne, aromatic scents, and soothing music. Unwind with a romantic couples massage in the VIP room, which features a dedicated bath area with freestanding tub, indoor and outdoor shower, and private access to the Zen Garden.



Be sure to try the spa's signature treatment, "Revive 5 Senses," in which the therapist uses targeted massage techniques, aromatherapy, and wholesome Mayan-inspired treatments to relax the mind, body, and soul. Additional lavish spa amenities include a full-service salon offering a variety of beauty services, indoor and outdoor lounges, and an "off-the-beaten-path" couples' cabin.



5. Unique excursions, exciting sites, and romantic adventures are only minutes away.

Playa del Carmen is a top diving location, and Mahekal's on-site Vida Aquatica Dive Center is one of the oldest operating dive centers in the area. It offers excursions for diving, snorkeling, and other water activities. The dive center has a resort-sized swimming pool for confined water training, plus equipment rental (and the beach and boats) for taking dive trips. Vida Aquatica allows guests to dive all the reefs on the area, as well as offers resort and certification courses, ocean dives, cenotes dives, Cozumel dives and night dives. The crystal-clear Caribbean water allows you to see living coral reefs and sea life up close. Look for rays, eels, and the famous sea turtles who make the reef their home.



After a long day in the water, take a stroll down the famed La Quinta Avenida (5th Avenue), located only a few blocks away from the resort. Here, you'll find vibrant nightlife and local and luxury shopping. There are a variety of bars and restaurants offering flavorful Mexican and International cuisine, refreshing cocktails, and live entertainment. Browse the charming carts and shops for the perfect souvenir or gift. Forgot to pack a coverup or a beach hat? Find exactly what you are looking for at the U.S.-style mall featuring familiar stores like American Eagle and Zara.

The third-most-visited archeological site in Mexico, Tulum, is only a short drive from the resort. Mahekal offers day trips to explore the ruins and the azure waters of the adjacent beach. Marvel at the ancient structures as your guide teaches you about the Mayan-Aztec connection and daily Mayan life. On your way back from the ruins, be sure to stop for lunch at Posada Margherita — a beautiful restaurant and boutique sitting right on the beach. Listen to the waves as you sip a creatively blended cocktail and enjoy fresh seafood in an Italian-inspired meal with a Mexican twist.



Mahekal's attention to detail is unparalleled. From the second you arrive, it's easy to get lost in the beauty of Mahekal. What sets Mahekal apart from the other resorts in Playa is its truly immersive cultural experience. You're sure to have an unforgettable trip that will stay with you long after you leave Mexico.