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| **Note: archaeological sites are open 8am-5pm. All sites have bathroom facilities.** | | | | |
| **Archaeological Site** | **Location** | **Price** | **Food** | **General comments** |
| Maypán | Approx 50k from Mérida, Yucatan | 40 pesos | No | An under-visited site on the outskirts of Mérida. Well worth a visit. You can climb the ruins and enjoy looking around in peace and quiet. |
| Uxmal | On the 261 half way between Campeche and Mérida  (approx 80km from Mérida) | 111 pesos  (this is split in to two separate tickets, ensure you purchase both) | Yes, snacks and restaurant available | Lots to climb on and explore. Views are incredible.  Get there early to avoid the crowds.  Chocolate Museum opposite. There are hotel options around the area such as The Pickled Onion, a lovely little place with a good restaurant, pool and helpful staff.  (Fine with a hangover. Ahem) |
| Ek Balam | 17km north of Valladolid | 35 pesos | Snacks and water available, gift shops too | Far quieter and less visited than Chichén Itzá. Again, lots to climb, including a large monumental staircase up a massive pyramid. Incredibly peaceful and atmospheric (even if one small child runs around being a noisy bugger while the other loudly insists on having a poo on site). |
| Chichén Itzá | Close to Valladolid | 248 pesos  please remember that here even children pay the state fees and require tickets no matter what their age. | Restaurant, snacks and gift shops | The most touristy place you will see in the Peninsula. Tour bus after tour bus vomits out its crowds on to this spectacular but tourist-laden site. Expect large queue to buy tickets and to then enter the site.  Truly this is a wonderful place to visit but don't expect the tranquillity or atmosphere of the other sites. There are just too many visitors to make this possible.  You can't climb on anything here but that shouldn't detract (except for the children!) as this is a huge site and there is plenty to see.  Remember to bargain hard if you are going to buy souvenirs. I don't recommend you buy hammocks here as you can't test them or guarantee quality like you can in the cities.    Lots of people combine a trip to Chichén Itzá with a trip to a cenote. We went to Yokdzonot Cenote for lunch and a swim. Highly recommended (it's not the closest or most popular cenote in the area but it's a collective and much less touristy than others in the area) |
| Dzibilchaltún | 15km north of Mérida | 139 pesos, in two parts, paid at two windows | Yes although when we were there everything was being charged in USDs and was horrendously expensive. We walked out rather than pay $70 USD to feed a family of six. | There is a cenote on site. It's a good one for small children as it's small and easy to access. Be warned that sometimes people are prevented from taking bags on site (we were, don't know why) so be prepared to carry swimming stuff, water and anything else you might want.  Entry fee includes an on-site museum.  Very popular at the equinoxes as the sun shines directly through one of the buildings.  Some sections are permitted to climb, others not. |
| Tulum | Outskirts of town | 45 pesos | Yes, at the entrance there is a large shopping and restaurant area (with the only Starbucks in town) | After arriving in the car park, either walk the 300m to the ticket office or pay 20 pesos per person to ride in the small train (well worth it) along the mangrove lined road. Once you pay your entry fee it's another 10 minute walk (along a jungle path) to the ruin itself.  Probably the most spectacular views of all the ruins we visited given that it's situated on the carribean sea.  Look out for large iguanas and be aware that they will come a-nosing if you are eating (bitter experience).  Entry also includes access to one of the most beautiful sections of Tulum beach (although extremely busy). Lots of grass area for the kids to run and play. |
| Muyil | 15km south of Tulum | 40 pesos | No | An extremely well kept secret, not even in some guide books, this jungle ruin is a magical place to explore. Worth combining with a trip to the Sian Ka'an Biosphere. |
| Cobá | 47km west of Tulum, towards Valladolid | 70 pesos | Snacks at entrance, restaurants just outside the car park | Get there early. Hire bike taxis to take you around. It's a huge site and the drivers can tell you a lot about the place, they're really interesting people if you take the time to chat. Climb the 120 steps to the top of the enormous pyramid and marvel at the views over the top of the jungle. Watch out for wildlife and enjoy running around the jungle with the children.  There are two near-by cenotes well worth visiting although we would say only one is small child friendly. |