Call: +1 425 371 6463
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Email: info@barbiltours.com
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Best of Mazatlán Shore Excursion El Faro and Historic Center

5 hrs 30 min · Shared · from Mazatlan

Check availability & book online »



At a glance

Start	6:00 AM, 6:30 AM, 7:00 AM, 7:30 AM, 8:00 AM, 8:30 AM
Duration	5 hrs 30 min
Pickup	Pickup is included from the listed pickup points — choose yours when you book. Pickup is up to 45 minutes before the start time; we confirm your exact pickup time before the tour.
Cancellation	Free cancellation up to 24 hours before the tour starts.

Itinerary

> **Start**

Mazatlan
Starts at 6:00 AM, 6:30 AM, 7:00 AM, 7:30 AM · pickup up to 45 min earlier

1 **Mazatlán's Lighthouse**

Climb to one of Mazatlán's most iconic landmarks — El Faro, widely recognized as the highest natural lighthouse in the world. Sitting 157 meters above sea level, this historic lighthouse has guided sailors safely into port since the late 1800s.
Make your way up a scenic trail and 336 steps to the top, where breathtaking 360-degree views of the Pacific Ocean, Mazatlán's historic Old Town, and the surrounding islands await. For those seeking extra thrills, a glass-bottom lookout and zip line are also available at the summit.
Whether you come for the history, the views, or the adventure of the climb, El Faro is an unforgettable Mazatlán experience not to be missed.

2 **Cerro del Vigía**

Drive up this historic peak—once used by 19th-century defense forces to watch for invading naval ships—to capture the ultimate postcard-worthy photos of Mazatlán. Located on the city's rugged southern peninsula, Cerro del Vigía offers sweeping, bird's-eye panoramic views of the spectacular bay, the bustling commercial harbor, and the endless Pacific horizon.
At the summit, discover where early settlers once raised flags to signal incoming trade ships and alert authorities of approaching threats. The hilltop is also home to the striking Observatorio 1873, a beautifully restored building that served as a military lookout and a vital meteorological station. It is an absolute must-visit vantage point for a memorable photo stop!

3 **The Diver**

Feel the excitement as you watch one of Mazatlán's most thrilling traditions at El Clavadista along the scenic Malecón. Fearless local divers climb a tall platform about 50 feet above the Pacific Ocean, wait for the right wave, and then leap headfirst into a narrow, shallow, rocky channel below. The divers perform for tips from the watching crowd — making every dive a truly special moment. This amazing tradition has been passed down from generation to generation, keeping this incredible display of courage, timing, and skill alive for visitors from around the world to enjoy.

4 **Plazuela Machado**

At the heart of the historic center lies Plazuela Machado, one of Mazatlán's oldest and most picturesque squares. Built in 1837 by the city with land donated by Don Juan Nepomuceno Machado, a wealthy Filipino merchant in silver, cloth, and pearls, this beautifully restored plaza is framed by elegant French and Spanish-influenced architecture, towering palm trees, and a 19th-century wrought iron gazebo sitting at the heart of the square. By day it is a peaceful oasis filled with local art, artisan boutiques, and shaded benches. By evening it comes alive with street musicians, bohemian energy, and the inviting aromas of the open-air cafés and restaurants that line the square.

5

Catedral Basílica de la Inmaculada Concepción

Marvel at the architectural jewel of Mazatlán, located right in the vibrant heart of the city center. Built between 1856 and 1899, this stunning basilica features a beautiful blend of Neo-Gothic, Baroque, and Moorish design, crowned by majestic twin spires and yellow tiled towers that can be seen from all over town. Step inside to experience an atmosphere of complete serenity, beautifully illuminated by natural light filtering through 28 magnificent stained-glass windows. What makes these windows truly unique is that each one features the Star of David — a tribute to the Jewish family whose generous donation helped fund the cathedral's construction. From its golden altar adorned with delicate gold-leaf details to its historic pipe organ built in Paris by master organ builder Aristide Cavaillé-Coll, this is a fascinating stop for history lovers, art lovers, and architecture enthusiasts alike.

6

Pino Suarez Mazatlan Market

Dive straight into the sights, sounds, and flavors of authentic daily life at Mercado Pino Suárez. Housed inside a magnificent iron and steel structure built in 1899 and designed using the very same techniques used in the construction of the Eiffel Tower, this bustling indoor market has been the vibrant commercial heart of Mazatlán for over 125 years. As you wander through the lively aisles, you'll find everything from fresh tropical fruits and local seafood to authentic Mexican spices, vanilla, and handmade souvenirs. The stalls are organized by food type, making it easy and fun to explore. It is the absolute best spot in town to experience authentic local life, grab a fresh coconut water, and pick up unique handcrafted gifts to take home!

7

Golden Zone

Conclude your tour with a drive through the high-energy pulse of Mazatlán's famous Zona Dorada — the Golden Zone. Developed in the 1950s and 1960s, this world-renowned resort strip quickly became the tourist heart of the city, stretching along 3 miles of beautiful golden sandy beaches. As you explore this vibrant district you'll find a bustling avenue lined with beachfront hotels, lively open-air bars, seafood restaurants, and shopping plazas. It is the perfect place to shop for authentic Mexican silver jewelry, enjoy a refreshing margarita with ocean views, or simply relax and soak in the fun, upbeat energy that makes Mazatlán's Golden Zone truly unforgettable.

8

Mazatlán

End your amazing tour by returning back to your original pickup location in Mazatlán, marking this as the perfect end to an unforgettable day. Sit back, relax, and enjoy a comfortable ride back to your hotel as you reflect on all the beautiful memories made!

o

Drop-off

Back in Mazatlan
About 5 hrs 30 min in total

For reference only – the order and timings can change on the day. Your confirmed details come with your booking.

What’s included

+ Expert Guide

+ Bottled water
+ Air-conditioned vehicle
+ Pick up and Drop off
+ Glass lookout fee in El Faro Lighthouse

Not included

- Foods & drinks
- Tips & Gratuities

Know before you go

- Stroller / pram accessible
- Public transportation is nearby
- Infant seats available

Custom pickup & drop-off

We can arrange a custom pickup and drop-off location. Pickup and drop-off at most downtown hotels and the cruise terminal are free. Pickup or drop-off at the airport, or outside the city limits, costs extra – contact us to arrange airport pickup and drop-off.

Contact us for airport pickup »

Rated 4.6 out of 5 by 793 travelers **Read reviews ›**

Ready to book?

Pick your date online: seatactours.com/tour/best-mazatl-n-shore-excursion-el-tour/

Call +1 425 371 6463 WhatsApp +1 425 371 6463 Email info@barbiltours.com
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3611 148TH St SE, Mill Creek, WA 98012, USA