



## **MAROMA RESORT AND SPA**

### *Fact Sheet*

#### **DESCRIPTION:**

Located on 25-acre beachfront portion of a 500-acre coconut plantation on the Riviera Maya, Maroma Resort and Spa is a rustically luxurious hideaway built in the tradition of the Mexican haciendas where personal service, warm hospitality and privacy are unsurpassed. This romantic 65-room hideaway is reputed to be among the finest resorts in Mexico. Opened in 1995, Maroma is nestled at the edge of an unspoiled stretch of beach on the Yucatan Peninsula, bordered by the world's second longest barrier reef, providing world-class SCUBA and snorkeling. The reef provides safe sea bathing in all weather conditions and protects Maroma's talcum powder-like white sand beach, which has been recognized as the "World's Best Beach" by the Travel Channel .

#### **LOCATION:**

Located approximately 10 minutes by car from Playa del Carmen, Maroma Resort and Spa is a Yucatan oasis set on a quiet beachfront setting on the Riviera Maya. Beautiful uncrowded beaches, lush jungles, over 100 mystical Cenotes and Maya ruins and a variety of eco-adventure and sport activities are all located within the region. Stretching 81 miles, the Riviera Maya begins 11 miles south of the Cancun International Airport in Puerto Morelos, and extends to Felipe Carillo Puerto, a small town near the Sian Ka'an Biosphere Reserve. Served by most of the major airlines via Cancun International airport, it is only a one-hour flight from Miami; two hours from Dallas, Houston, and Atlanta; and just three hours from New York and Chicago. A driver from Maroma Resort and Spa meets all guests at the airport and transports them to the hotel.

#### **DESIGN:**

Maroma's authentic Maya sensibility is evident throughout. The resort is made up of several white stucco buildings, two or three stories in height each with thatched roof terraces to maximize views and privacy. Buildings are joined by winding stone pathways lined with lush plantings, which are lit by over 100 candles or torches each evening.

Each building has been crafted by hand by the same family of Maya masons and purposefully aligned to the stars to ensure proper energy flow so that mind, body and spirit are at peace. Interiors feature curved lines, indigenous building products, windows that capture sunbeams, oversized tubs adorned with Mexican tiles, and carved lighting niches that define sensuality.

#### **ROOMS:**

Open to the sea and shaded by swaying palms, the resort offers 65 rustically luxurious rooms. All guestrooms offer ocean or garden views, original art by resident artist Bertrand Castelli, hand-loomed bedding and rugs, private terraces with sofas and/or double hammocks, bamboo shutters, telephone, in-room safes, and CD players. Bathrooms are resplendent with toiletries and feature oversized tubs: hand-made and adorned with Mexican tiles, no two are alike.

## **DINING:**

### **EL RESTAURANTE**

Hand built by Mayan masons, El Restaurante reflects the homemade hospitality of Maroma. Offering casually elegant surroundings complemented by original oil paintings by resident artist Bertrand Castelli; indoor and outdoor seating provide spectacular views of the white sand beach, which was named “The Best Beach in the World” by the Travel Channel.

Offering all-day dining, the restaurant is renowned for its breakfasts, which feature an abundance of fresh fruits, pastries and regional specialties.

For lunch chef serves Yucatan inspired cuisine including guacamole made table-side, Yucatan lime soup and cochinita pibil, a traditional Maya pork dish prepared with achiote, peppercorns and garlic, all wrapped in banana leaves and gently baked with chopped chilies and onions.

Sunday through Thursday evenings, El Restaurante is transformed into a “Caribbean Steakhouse” featuring the finest meats and fish available on the Yucatan Peninsula.

On Friday evenings, experience the Chef’s Caribbean Parillada, when tables are set in the sand and a Mexican Trio serenades you while the chef cooks up a beachfront feast of local spiny lobster, fresh fish and the best cuts of meats.

### **EL SOL**

El Sol is set in a magical environment that was built based on sacred Maya geometry that features arched ceilings and breathtaking views of the Caribbean sea, and brings to the table the two culinary worlds of Yucatan: Maya and Creole Cuisine. Maya Cuisine pre-dates the arrival of the Spanish “Conquistadores,” its authentic flavors, spices and techniques taking you on a culinary journey to the ancient Yucatan. The regions Creole cuisine was influenced by the Spaniards, during the 19<sup>th</sup> century when the area’s sisal was made into the ropes and exported around the world. This economic boom created an influx of wealthy Europeans or “Criollos” who built grand haciendas and brought with them style architecture and cuisine. The Creole cuisine of the Yucatan is a fusion of European, Maya, and French cuisine. Maroma’s Chef Guillermo brings together these two culinary heritages and adds his own contemporary touch. Open for dinner daily from 7p.m.

### **CILANTRO**

Located adjacent to the Kinan Spa, Cilantro offers alfresco dining for breakfast and lunch either poolside or beach front. Offering Maroma’s signature breakfast of fresh fruits, pastries and regional egg dishes for breakfast and in the afternoons gourmet spa cuisine delights guests with the sinlessly delicious. The Yucatan inspired spa menu features healthy dining options that draw on the local flavors like Achiote, Cactus, cilantro, beans, chayote and other fresh tropical fruits and vegetables. Cilantro also features a juice bar serving exotic combinations of local fruits, vegetables, herbs and flowers. Juice Bar open from 10 a.m. to 6p.m.

### **KINAN SPA:**

Kinan [pronounced - keynan] is Maya for ‘the source of life.’ Similar to the Asian concept of Chi, Kinan it is often referred to as the individual inner energy. Combining Zen and Maya concepts, the spa offers a full range of spa services in unique environments ranging from treatment rooms with private gardens, outdoor pavilion rooms in the Zen Garden and a rooftop tower treatment room with 360-degree views taking in the ocean and jungle.

Kinan Spa also features a steam bath and saunas with cold plunge pools. These additional services complement the traditional Maya Temazcal (the spiritual Maya sweat lodge) that is currently offered.

The 560-square-foot Wellness Center located adjacent to the Spa features a variety of Technogym equipment, including: two treadmills, a computerized stationary bike, a step machine/elliptical runner, cable, lat and leg extension machines, free weights and a lounge and stretching area. The Wellness center features floor to ceiling views of the jungle and surrounding gardens. In addition to personal training, the center also offers spinning classes and yoga at a rooftop palapa.

#### **EVENT & MEETING SPACE:**

Theater Violoncello, a private meeting theater that seats up to 80, is ideal for small group functions and meetings and provides high-speed internet access as well as projection screen capabilities. In addition, Maroma's abundance of outdoor space provides numerous alfresco options for gatherings by the pool, under palm trees or on the white sand beach. The sales staff can arrange for all ground transportation, excursions, banquets and special events as well as all the extras from mariachi bands to fireworks.

#### **GUEST SERVICES:**

A dedicated staff is committed to the anticipation and fulfillment of guests' needs, including:

- 24-hour room service, including hospitality services
- Laundry/dry cleaning
- Multi-lingual staff
- Full-time aficionado staff for customized sight-seeing tours, rental cars, etc.
- Nightly turndown service
- Spanish immersion program

#### Guest amenities, include:

- Three restaurants
- Indoor bar with billiards and card table
- Beach front bar
- Three outdoor pools
- Two tennis courts
- Boutique/Art Gallery
- Cultural Palapa with library of books on the Riviera Maya, Mexico and the Maya people
- A Multimedia theater with extensive film library
- Wellness Center
- Beach front activities center with snorkeling equipment, scuba center, kayaks, sailboats, Hobie Cats, windsurfing, and kite surfing.
- Complimentary computer access in the entertainment lounge
- High speed internet connection in room
- Personal combination-lock safe in each guest room

#### Excursions:

- Snorkeling
- Diving
- Windsurfing
- Sailing
- Kayaking
- Jungle river trips and fishing on premises with Maroma guides

- Guided nature walks
- Deep-sea fishing
- Championship golf located nearby
- Day trips to Chichen Itza, Tulum Uxmal, Merida, Tikal, Sian Ka'an Biosphere Reserve, and Contoy Island bird sanctuary

#### **AWARDS:**

In addition to receiving accolades in numerous publications, including *The New York Times*, *Town & Country*, *Travel + Leisure*, *Vogue*, *Andrew Harper's Hideaway Report* and *Gourmet*, Maroma Resort and Spa has also been honored by being named "The Top Beach" on *The Travel Channel's* "The World's 10 Best Beaches," in *Condé Nast Traveler's* "25 Coolest Places in the World," and "Top 10 Best Latin/Atlantic Hotels" and *Modern Bride's* "Word's Best Honeymoon Destination."

#### **2007 PUBLISHED RATES:**

- Garden (19) \$480 to \$570
- Premium (5) \$575 to \$680
- Ocean View (18) \$780 to \$925
- Junior Suite (7) \$1,035 to \$1230 – features a large bedroom with a sitting area and a large open bath with dressing room. It is flanked by two terraces – one furnished as an outdoor living room and shaded by a Thatched roof, the other open to the sun and overlooking both the bay and the jungle
- Master Suite (7) \$1,370 to \$1,620 - Offering unobstructed views of the ocean and gardens these suites feature a large living room area, spacious open bath with bathtub and shower, walking closet and in room bar area. With the option to connect to garden rooms, these rooms offer lots of comfortable seating for the perfect escape to relax alone or to entertain friends.
- Sian Nah One Bedroom Suite (9) \$1,900 to \$2,250 – Sian Nah is Mayan for House of Heaven, which describes the new collection of ultra luxurious ocean front suites. Each suite is a complete sanctuary equipped with expanses of windows and doors that allow the outdoor spaces to flow effortlessly into the interior ones. Each suite also has its own spa space for massages and spa treatments, a wellness area with fitness equipment, a separate living room and bedroom, a spacious outdoor terrace with lounge and dining palapa and a private plunge pool.

Note: A two-bedroom suite is also available by converting a master suite with attached room (3 possible conversions)

Rates include breakfast, wake-up coffee service, complimentary boat snorkel and ground transportation. High season is January 4 to May 15 and November 14 to December 19; Low season May 16 to November 13. Holiday season runs December 19 to January 5.

Age Restriction: Children under 16 allowed from May to December 22. All other times, no children under the age of 16.

#### **ADDRESS:**

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Riviera Maya, Quintana Roo  
Mexico 77500

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## **THE HISTORY OF MAROMA RESORT AND SPA**

*Its Origins, Inspiration and how this Boutique Resort on Mexico's Riviera Maya  
Has Earned A Place Among the World's Finest Small Luxury Hideaways*

In 1976, Jose Luis Moreno, a Mexico City architect, flew down the coast of the Riviera Maya. On the Caribbean coast of the Yucatan Peninsula, about 30 miles south of Cancun and just north of the Maya site of Tulum (named for the original inhabitants whose temple to the sun still watches over the land today), he discovered an unspoiled bay, where a forest of stately coconut palms promenaded toward the sea. He instantly fell in love with the site and purchased it from the owner, who had made his living drying and selling the coconut meat, harvested from the plantation.

Along with the plantation, a beautiful piece of jungle and an idyllic white sand beach just 100 yards from the world's second longest barrier reef in the world, the original ranch included a thatched hut where the owner and a caretaker named Timoteo lived peacefully. Timoteo stayed for 14 years. His five sons were born there without the help of doctors, nurses or midwives.

Amid this setting of sea-grape trees, coconut palms and hibiscus, Jose envisioned a paradise that would one day become Maroma Resort and Spa. Built by hand, by a family of local Maya Masons, it would take nearly 20 years to complete and would first open to guests on February 14, 1995.

Stories of this special place in Mexico caught the attention of James B. Sherwood, Chairman of Orient-Express Hotels, Trains & Cruises. The hotel fit with the company's collection of properties that exude personality and are located in spectacular destinations. In March of 2002, Orient-Express acquired a 75 percent interest in Maroma Resort and Spa; then in March of 2006, acquired the remaining 25 percent.

Today, Orient-Express Hotels is committed to preserving the essence and beauty of Maroma while enhancing the service and luxurious offerings of this beach front paradise.

The property is made up of two or three story, hacienda style buildings, which are dotted amongst the 25 acre beach front portion of this 500-acre property and connected by stone walkways that wind through the jungle and are candlelit by night. Fashioned from local materials, the resort features thatched roofs made

with leaves of native xit palm; white-stone flooring embedded with shell fossils; salmon-colored stone quarried in Merida (the Yucatan's old Hispanic capital), and bamboo harvested from the property for the shutters and furniture. Soaring arches, rounded terraces, ornamental niches and palapa-capped turrets delineate the visually engaging Maroma enclave which exudes the whimsical harmony of Maya-Moorish architectural motifs.

Since the purchase, Orient-Express has worked with the same family of Maya masons, who over three decades have lovingly crafted this one-of-a-kind paradise. Each enhancement has been carefully planned to ensure the beauty of the jungle and beach are protected and that the intimate feeling of the resort is maintained. As it has been from the beginning, each building has also been built in alignment with the stars and energy channels to ensure the mind, body and spirit find peace at Maroma Resort and Spa.

Since 2002, Maroma has grown to 65 rooms/suites, with Orient-Express:

- Adding the Aquarius area to the resort, which includes eleven premium rooms, two additional free form pools, one of which is designed based on the Flore de Vita (flower of life), a 560 square foot wellness center, featuring Technogym cardio and weight training equipment, a spinning studio, and Cilantro, a casual pool side restaurant.
- Building a new kitchen and expanding the hotel's main restaurant, El Sol, to include a formal dining area, new bar and expanded terraces for beachfront dining.
- Adding a cultural palapa: a library, lounge and relaxation area
- Adding a 7000 square-foot spa, Kinan Spa, pronounced – keynan, Maya for 'the source of life', the spa offers a full range of spa services in unique environments ranging from treatment rooms with private gardens, open-air massage palapas and a rooftop yoga pavilion with 360-degree views of Maroma's dual ecosystems – the jungle and the sea.
- The ongoing enhancement of all existing suites with new linens, furniture, enlarged closets and high-speed internet
- And, most recently, in 2006, the completion of the Sian Nah suites (Mayan for House of Heaven). The Sian Nah suites are a collection of eight ultra luxurious ocean front suites. Each suite is a complete sanctuary equipped with its own spa space for massages and spa treatments, a wellness area with fitness equipment, a living room, a bedroom, a spacious outdoor terrace private plunge pool, lounge area and dining palapa.

The changes have not gone unrecognized, since acquisition Maroma Resort and Spa has been hailed in numerous leading publications including *Town & Country*, *The New York Times*, *Travel + Leisure*,

*Andrew Harper's Hideaway Report* and was named as one of the top three hotels in Latin America in the coveted *Condé Nast Traveler* magazine's World Best Awards.

Located on the Riviera Maya, Maroma Resort and Spa is a rustic yet luxurious hideaway built by hand in the tradition of the Mexican haciendas where personal service, warm hospitality and privacy are unsurpassed. Opened in 1995, Maroma rests on the Yucatan Peninsula. Known for its residential feel, it is among the most sought after on the Riviera Maya as its unspoiled beach and lush jungle provides the utmost in privacy and natural beauty. Offering the cultural richness of the region, Maroma's idyllic natural setting, pristine beach, 65 spacious rooms, warm, caring staff and unobtrusive service draws sophisticated travelers from all over the world.

For reservations and information, please contact Orient-Express Hotels (toll-free) at 866-454-9351 or [reservations@maromahotel.com](mailto:reservations@maromahotel.com). Additional information is available at [www.maromahotel.com](http://www.maromahotel.com).

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## TEMAZCAL – AN ANCIENT MAYA RITUAL

*“We are asleep in the world. In the darkness of the Temazcal, you have no distraction, it is an opportunity to be fully present and to truly see yourself”* Nancy Aguilar, Temazcalera

Guests of Maroma Resort and Spa will notice a small brick-colored pyramidal structure on the south end of the beach, with a sunken entrance facing east. This structure is a source of spiritual and physical healing and rebirth – it is Temazcal.

Designed by Nancy Aguilar, the Temazcalera, the four sides of the pyramid are oriented to the four compass points. The pyramid faces east, which represents spring, childhood and the start of a new day, and is decorated with the representations of the sun and baby lizards. The south side of the pyramid represents summer, adolescence and freedom, and it is decorated with the representation of an eagle. The west is autumn, maturity, accumulated knowledge and humility, symbolized by a crab and a fish. And the north side is winter, enlightenment wisdom and transformation represented by a serpent which the Mayas considered the most sacred of beings.

The Maya Temazcal is similar to a North American Indian sweat lodge in which a source of heat (in this case super heated lava rocks) is doused with herb-infused water to create aromatic and healing steam, which removes toxins from the body and balances the energy flow of the people within. The Temazcal provides a womb-like sanctuary where guests in the darkness can let go of stress and face their fears.

Offered at dusk by the Temazcalera, this ritualistic treatment weaves together ancient traditions, chants and meditation -- guests often report seeing visions, which are later interpreted by Temazcalera. The body is also nourished during the treatment using fruit essence and enriched mineral mud. After the mud dries and the sun sets, guests are taken to the sea for a cooling plunge that symbolizes a re-birth and leaves an overall feeling of cleanliness, calm and inner peace.

Nancy Aguilar has been a practicing Temazcalera for over 14 years. A native of the Yucatan, Nancy's Maya grandfather taught her the ancient ritual. She did further study with other Temazcaleras in the Yucatan and with native tribes throughout North America to further enhance her knowledge and understanding of not only the ritual, but of herbs and muds that promote nourishment and healing.

### Temazcal Facts

- The Maya believe everything begins in the darkness, which is why the light is shut out of the Temazcal to simulate the darkness of the womb and the earth where all life begins.
- Each chant in the Temazcal is repeated four times to honor the four elements.
- Maya women have traditionally used the Temazcal for childbirth.

- A variety of herbs are used during the Temazcal. Maroma's Temazcalera Nancy Aguilar uses: Romero (Rosemary), Basil, Ruda, eucalyptus leaves, and bugambilia (Bougainvillea) petals. The Bugambilia petals and the rosemary are grown on property and picked fresh for the treatment. The herbs drawn on Maya tradition, but are selected based on their medicinal properties. Rosemary relaxes the nervous system and muscles, Ruda cleans the energy, basil is perfect for hydrating the skin, eucalyptus is used to clean the respiratory system.
- The volcanic rock used for heating the Temazcal is brought from the Popocatepetl and Ajusco volcanoes in Mexico City.
- All Temazcal should be located near the water. Many Temazcals in the Yucatan are located by Cenotes (underground fresh water caves that are considered sacred).
- At the end of the Temazcal guests are given a special tea made with Ginger, Hibiscus and Melaza. Hibiscus eliminates the last toxins from your body, Melaza (natural sugar) is to help the body recover and the Ginger gives our energy back.
- Full moons are particularly powerful nights for Temazcal as the energy is the strongest, often resulting in very emotional sessions for guests and the most vivid visions.
- Celebrities that have participated in Maroma's Temazcal include Tony Blair, Ernesto Zedillo (former president of Mexico), Sharon Stone, Mini Driver and the Princess of Bavaria.

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**FACT SHEET  
KINAN SPA  
at Maroma Resort**

**Description:**

Kinan is the Maya word for the energy of the sun. Similar to the Asian concept of Chi, Kinan it is often used to refer to the individual inner energy. Opened officially in March 2005, this fabulous addition to the luxurious Maroma on Mexico's Riviera Maya offers a full range of spa services in unique environments ranging from treatment rooms with private gardens, open-air massage palapas and a rooftop yoga pavilion with 360-degree views of Maroma's dual ecosystems – the jungle and the sea.

Each treatment room is named after a different God/Goddess to respect the ancient beings and increase the healing power of the space. The "Ix Chel" room is named after the goddess of moon, fertility and the protector of the weavers, women and children, while the "Ahau Chamahez" room honors the god of medicine.

The 7000-square foot Kinan Spa was handcrafted by the same family of Mayan stonemasons that have been lovingly creating Maroma for over three decades. This long-standing creative collaboration is one of the reasons that guests, travel professionals and the media rave about the visual beauty of the exclusive resort. In addition to the grace of the buildings, the directional alignment of the structures are based on Maya Sacred Geometry, principles of astrological alignment and energy channels that give Kinan Spa its spiritual essence -- each building and treatment room has been aligned to the stars to ensure positive energy flow so the body, mind and spirit are in harmony.

Maya Sacred Geometry is a science that people are still trying to understand, however it is based on ratios that are in all living things, from our bodies to the earth. Kinan has also been balanced with the four directions, which is another ancient way of respecting nature.

The front door points directly east, as do the treatment rooms. The massage beds are placed so that the guests' heads are at the west looking towards the east (representing new beginnings). The relaxation rooms are pointing to the north (representing the earth and grounding).

**Décor:**

White and cream stucco finishes, carved niches, handmade floor tiles with river stone borders, hand-hewn beams made from the native zapote trees, and mahogany furnishings and gurgling fountains and pools surrounded by tropical gardens provide an authentic and soothing environment, while strategically placed windows and thatched alfresco corridors bring sunbeams, fresh oceans breezes and bird songs from the jungle.

**Amenities:**

- 3 air-conditioned treatment rooms – each with its own shower, bathroom, and treatment tub
- 2 wet/dry sauna and cold plunge pool treatment rooms
- Manicure/Pedicure salon
- Massage tower with 360-degree views capturing both jungle and sea ecosystems
- 2 beach palapas for massage
- Men’s and women’s relaxation rooms
- Rooftop yoga and meditation pavilion
- Temazcal
- Jantzu garden pool
- Flor de la Vida (Flower of Life) pool. The flower of life symbol incorporated into the design of the pool is considered sacred among many cultures around the world, both ancient and modern. Within this symbol can be found all the building blocks of the universe and the symbol is often used as a metaphor for the connectedness of all life and spirit within the universe. The Pool is used for relaxation and water exercise.
- Wellness center with cardio machines, free weights, spinning and yoga.
- Spa boutique
- Treatment consultation room
- Men’s and women’s dressing rooms with bathrooms and showers

**Spa Cuisine:**

Healthy Yucatan-inspired cuisine is prepared by Maroma’s chef, which can be enjoyed poolside, in the open air Cilantro cafe or in the privacy of your treatment room. Menu favorites include the Aquarius salad of spinach, artichoke hearts, homegrown chaya leaves, string beans, citrus fruits and home dried tomatoes; Spiced beetroot soup served over jicama and yogurt slaw; False Cauliflower couscous with grilled langoustines and a hibiscus flower reduction; Guajillo chile stuffed with buckwheat; and Shrimp brochette; Zucchini carpaccio; and melon ravioli with crab and ginger in tamarind sauce.

Of special note is a special tonic, Mayan Chaya with Pineapple and Cucumber.

Grown naturally in the Yucatan peninsula, chaya absorbs its extremely high mineral content from the rich limestone earth unique to this region. For many centuries the wise Mayans have used this spinach-like “miracle plant” as a source of protein, iron and calcium and have taught us to blend its flavor with Mother Nature’s fruits to maximize its benefits.

This empowering tonic fills guests with essential vitamins and also eases digestion and stimulates blood circulation.

## **Mud Bar**

\$25

Kinan spa offers the first ever Mud Bar. This new service was created for those who prefer to self apply mud in the privacy of our luscious sauna and steam rooms. Choose from the four different healing muds:

- Mayan clay provides moisture, nutrients and is purifying to the whole body. This clay is especially good for premature aging and expression lines. Don't forget to put in your hair as it is healing and restorative. Good for all skin types.
- Black mud is a combination of volcanic mud, arnica extracts, and eucalyptus. This black mud is an anti-inflammatory, anti-septic, heals scars and is extremely hydrating. Very good for dry skin and sun-damaged skin.
- Red Mud is mainly used to refresh the skin and to calm any skin irritations. The red mud also acts as an analgesic, so it is very good for hurting muscles. Good for all skin types.
- Green Mud is the most astringent of all of our muds, which means that it is very good for oily and acne skin. This mud has many healing properties that act as an antiseptic for any external wounds.

## **Massage**

Any of the following treatments can be catered towards couples:

### *Body Oil Ceremony*

60 minutes - \$115, 90 minutes - \$140

Experience the healing effects of aromatherapy in a relaxing and restorative massage that combines the sense of tropical smells with the soothing value of a relaxing massage. The uniquely blended massage oil will rebalance your vital energies restoring harmony and calm to your body and mind.

### *Deep Tissue Massage*

60 minutes - \$125, 90minutes - \$155

This massage is custom designed to target specific areas of tension and soreness. By using deep pressure this massage will help improve flexibility and mobility in the muscles. This is the perfect massage for those who prefer stronger hands.

### *Hot Poultice Massage*

105 minutes - \$225

Drift away tensions while enjoying this unforgettable hot massage. The Hot Poultice Massage opens the pore, releases muscular tensions and revitalizes your mind. First you choose one of our three different all indigenous healing herb poultices. We start this experience with acupressure to open all the energy channels and follow by massaging the deep medicinal heat of the poultice into the muscles. We seal all the energy of this treatment with an oil massage. Allow this experience to take your body on a journey of total renewal.

### *Hot Stone Experience*

60 minutes - \$125, 90 minutes - \$150

The stones are the oldest materials on the earth and accumulate healing energy.

You are massaged with a combination of warmed river stones and aromatic oils. At the completion of this treatment you will feel a sense of new vitality and strength throughout your mind and body. To ensure the highest accumulation of healing energies, our stones are returned to the earth, for cleansing and recharging during the seasonal equinox and solstice. To feel the full benefits of the hot stone experience try the Stone Pixan.

### *Lomi-Lomi*

60minutes - \$125, 90 minutes - \$150

Lomi-Lomi is one of the oldest and most powerful forms of healing. The reason for this is that it works gently yet deeply into the muscles with continuous, flowing strokes, totally nurturing the body and enabling you to relax, give in and simply be. This flowing massage with total energy, using the long continuous, flowing strokes, combined with the very loving touch, relaxes the entire being, assisting in a letting go of old beliefs, patterns and behaviors.

### *Four Hand Massage*

60 minutes – \$190, 90 minutes - \$225

In this four-hand Lomi-Lomi massage, your two therapists deliver a powerful massage using harmonious dance-like movements, which will transmit grace, balance and strengthen your entire being.

### *Reiki*

60 minutes - \$125

Relax and heal with a Reiki treatment. Elvia our Reiki Master uses her hands to channel energy from the universe to your body so your body can heal itself. The Reiki therapy can relieve pain, boost the immune system and relax the nervous system. If you would like the best of both worlds, combine the Body oil Ceremony with Reiki for an hour therapy

### *Mud Massage*

60 minutes - \$135

Think of this mud massage as a healing treatment that has been handed down from our mother earth. Our traditional Mexican mud is a concentration of bio-minerals, trace elements, vitamins, amino acids, plant hormones and fatty acids in a molecular form that is easy for the human skin to absorb. This treatment benefits the body by beautifying, but also helps arthritis, hormonal imbalance, post surgery recovery and muscle recovery in sport medicine. Not to mention the anti-aging, anti-inflammatory, and natural antibiotics found in this healing mud.

### *Pre-natal Massage*

60 minutes - \$115, 90 minutes - \$140

Kinan Spa offers a wonderful massage for those mothers-to-be who need nurturing and the release of stress. We have a special table that is designed to hold the baby comfortably so that mom can lay face down and release all the muscles of the body. This massage will improve circulation, release lower back tension, and allow the circulation to flow freely. Mother and baby both will find peace and relaxation.

## **Body Treatments**

### *Exotico Body Polish*

50 minutes - \$120

Plump purple grape seeds and skins are mashed to create a naturally invigorating and vitamin-packed exfoliant that is delicious to the skin. Next, volcanic black clay is applied to sculpt one's hair, face and body, increasing the circulation of blood, toning the muscles and feeding the skin many valuable vitamins and minerals. The skin is then sealed with the scents and benefits of a rich coconut milk spray with which it is massaged and the body and senses are left renewed.

### *Purifying Body Kinku (Ritual)*

120 minutes- \$250

Golden corn was an offering so pure and sacred that it was worthy of the Mayan gods. Through Kinku, your body is cleansed with the use of a corn, cucumber and tamarind scrub and then the fiery and purifying properties of ginger, long pepper and cloves are applied in an intense contouring body mask. This unique blend of spices stimulates circulation while drawing out toxins. We balance the mask's intensity by wrapping your body in fresh, cooling banana leaves. Finally we take you on a journey of relaxation by applying our Kinan detoxifying massage. Your entire being will feel worked yet relaxed, refreshed and purified.

### *Oceano Nourishing Wrap*

90 minutes - \$170

In this treatment Kinan Spa transfers the vital energy forms of the turquoise sea directly into your own being. This firming body wrap is initiated with a gentle scrub from Maroma's own powdery white sands. Algae rich in iodine, proteins and minerals is then used to coat your body and the detoxifying powers of this sea plant immediately begin to penetrate and nurture your skin. In conclusion, you are revitalized with a full body massage and each of your skin's cells will be left awakened by the harmonious energy brought to you directly from the life-giving sea.

### *Stone Pixan*

90 minutes - \$170

The use of stones of different temperatures on the body to bring about healing and is an ancient technique.

Stones have been used in many cultures, such as in the Maya sweat lodge, to adjust the temperature of the healing environment. We have combined the healing effects of the stones in a three-part healing ritual. Our therapists begin with a Hot Stone Massage, the ritual progresses to a full-body exfoliation that is layered on with the hot stones. The heat of the stones allows the pores to open and accept the healing properties of the oils and exfoliants. We seal this treatment with hydrating the skin and one last hot stone experience with lotion or the oil of your choice.

### *Microderm Body Scrub*

60 minutes - \$190

This scrub is the synthesis of old world tradition meeting modern technology. Our microdermabrasion technology combines sea salt, sugar and magnesium oxide crystals to give you the delicate hand applied exfoliation of a full body microdermabrasion but in an application of a traditional salt scrub. This treatment finishes with a hydrating light body massage. The results are unbelievably silky glowing skin. Please ask the receptionist for the contra-indications.

### *The Goddess/God Wrap*

60 minutes - \$120

Treat yourself as the Gods did and allow you to be pampered by hot, aromatic, herbal soaked linens. The end result is bottomless relaxation and the elimination of toxins, leaving the skin surprisingly soft. As you lay tenderly wrapped, your scalp is softly massaged with herbal oils.

### *Ancient Aloe Sun Cooler*

60 minutes - \$120

The aloe plant, being a cactus plant, was called in ancient times, 'Fountain of Youth', 'First Aid Plant', and 'Wand of Heaven'. Aloe contains many vitamins, including the important antioxidant vitamins A, C and E as well as potassium, calcium, magnesium, manganese, copper, zinc, chromium and iron. This aspirin-like compound, Aloe, possesses anti-inflammatory and antibacterial properties. If you have had too much sun, on our glorious beaches of Maroma, come and feel the healing relief and restoration of the Ancient Aloe Sun Cooler.

### *Kinan Spa Sanctuary's*

Janzu 45 minutes - \$115

Through gentle rocking movements, stretches and the nurturing support of the arms of Cecilia our Janzu practitioner, this very spiritual water massage will return you to the peace and simplicity of your earliest childhood states. This treatment allows both physical and emotional blockages to be gently released. Each Janzu session takes place in warm, chest-high water and involves a series of flowing, dance-like movements in which Cecilia cradles you and maneuvers your body. Relax and enhance your emotional well

being while you breathe in the tranquility of Kinan's Zen garden, which surrounds the beautiful Janzu pool, and allow yourself to be nurtured and healed through this very tender yet powerful water massage.

#### *Temazcal*

90 minutes - \$90

The Maya Temazcal is similar to a North American Indian sweat lodge in which a source of heat (in this case super heated lava rocks) is doused with herb-infused water to create aromatic and healing steam, which removes toxins from the body and balances the energy flow of the people within. The Temazcal provides a womb-like sanctuary where guests in the darkness can let go of stress and face their fears.

Offered at dusk by the Temazcalera, Nancy, this ritualistic treatment weaves together ancient traditions, chants and meditation -- guests often report seeing visions, which are later interpreted. The body is also nourished during the treatment using fruit essence and enriched mineral mud. After the mud dries and the sunsets, guests are taken to the sea for a cooling plunge that symbolizes a re-birth and leaves an overall feeling of cleanliness, calm and inner peace.

#### *Kinan Ritual*

2 hours \$320

Treat yourself as do the Gods and discover your individual power. You are cleansed through the incredible and humble healing power of herbs that are infused into sheets, which then are wrapped around your body. You will feel this power draw unwanted toxins to your skin's surface. These are further removed as we exfoliate your body with healing honey and salt. You are then ready to receive a vigorous four-hand Lomi-Lomi massage. In Lomi-Lomi, your therapist delivers a powerful massage using harmonious dance-like movements, which will transmit grace, balance and strength to your entire being.

#### *Open Mind Retreat*

2 hours - \$225, 3 hours - \$325, 4 hours - \$425

Welcome to the ultimate ceremony...allow yourself to open and free...the Open Mind Retreat allows you to let go of your expectations and need of control. Our experienced spa consultants will speak to you about your needs, whether it is spiritual, mental or physical. Then we plan with our qualified therapist our best-customized treatment. The only concept that you as the guest must focus on is to be open and to breathe.

#### *Aphrodisia's Chocolate Invigoration*

120 minutes - \$420

This Invigoration is for couples only

Release yourself to this chocolate invigoration. Let Kinan take you and your partner to a place of internal heat and chocolate aromas. We start by exfoliating the entire body with pure cacao, which is then gently brushed off. This leaves you ready for a purely smooth chocolate immersion; we massage the body with the finest warmed chocolate and then gently wrap you to feel the heat of the healing properties. After you and your partner join

in the shower for a lover's bath we finish the treatment with a 100% pure chocolate and coconut oil. This Invigoration leaves you and your partner ready to experience the magic of Maroma.

## **Facials**

### *Fountain of Youth Facial*

60 minutes - \$130

Good for all those seeking an escape. Allow us to reverse the life of your skin with unparalleled forces of nature. Relax into the most luxurious 5-step facial of your life. As a Jasmine-Sage vision fills the air--your journey begins. Your hydrating mask, applied with volcanic stones will regenerate damaged skin cells for a healthy, dewy glow. Fall into massaging hands as the energies of Jasper and Citrine surround you in relaxation. Come back to this realm as the cool jade roller reduces inflammation and diminishes lines.

### *Spirit of Beauty Facial*

120 minutes - \$195

We at Kinan Spa are introducing a special anti-aging facial from the Spirit of Beauty products that use only therapeutic grade botanicals, essential oils and nutrients. We start with cleansing your face with our silky coconut cleanser, followed by a mask made with fresh hydrating lavender. We then take the time to extensively massage your hands and feet after we apply our anti-aging silver ion cloth. This cloth is used in burn clinics to regenerate skin. We finish the deluxe treatment with our Anti-Age Defying Serum and a customized moisturizer. Don't miss this opportunity to feel your Spirit of Beauty.

### *Kich Pam Face*

60 minutes - \$115

Experience our customized facial that will help to reverse the aging process while improving the condition of your skin. This is one of the most complete and personalized cleansing treatments that you will ever experience. This signature facial includes: deep cleansing, steam hydration, exfoliation, toning, massage of the neck and shoulders, three masks and a final re-hydration. The results of this remarkable treatment speak for themselves.

### *Deep Cleansing Facial*

60 minutes - \$130

This facial is designed for those who need a deep pore cleansing. We utilize a special scrub made from magnesium sulfate crystals (salt), collected at mineral waters, which have special medicinal properties to draw toxins out of the skin. This facial will deeply exfoliate the skin while removing fine lines and wrinkles and also benefits those with pigmentation, scarring, broken capillaries, and age spots. Experience a facial that works for everyone desiring radiant, glowing skin.

### *Man Radiance Facial*

60 minutes \$115

With growing awareness of health and fitness, men now care about how they look and feel. Enjoy our relaxing and rejuvenating facial that will give you a re-energized feeling. Our Man Radiance Facial begins with facial cleansing and followed by deep exfoliation by our microderm crystals. While the facial mask is processing, enjoy a foot massage. Your face is then hydrated with luxurious potions depending on your skin type.

### **Lila Yoga**

Kinan Spa features Mary Carmen and her unique style of Yoga, Lila Yoga. Lila is the Sanskrit word for “Divine Play”, this meaning inspired her to create a yoga flow style using a combination of different modalities.

Mary Carmen perfectly weaves other techniques such as: tai chi, Pilates, and dance into one complete class. Lila Yoga class is an asana/movement playground that allows every participant to be like a child with boundless opportunities. Like a child plays a game, every ounce of your attention is directed to your breath.

The purpose of Lila Yoga is a way to connect ones inner self to the Infinite in a spontaneous and playful manner allowing the sense of childlike wonder fill ones minds and hearts.

### **Hours of Operation:**

Spa: 9.00A.M. -----9.00P.M.

Fitness Center: 6.00A.M. -----10:00P.M. Daily

Extended hours available by special appointment

### **Accommodation & Spa Packages:**

Spa packages that combine luxurious Spa room accommodation with daily spa and fitness programs are available and can be custom built based on client preferences and needs.

### **Address:**

Kinan Spa at Maroma

(located in the Aquarius area of Maroma Resort and Spa)

Carretera 307, KM 51 Riveria Maya, Q. Roo

Phone: 52 998 872 8200

[www.kinanspa.com](http://www.kinanspa.com)

Spa Director: Sharron Hopley

Temazcal: Nancy Aguilar

Yoga instructor: Mary Carmen

Owners: Orient-Express Hotels, Trains & Cruises

Media Contact: Kristen Vigrass/Julia Barnes – The Brandman Agency; 212 683 2442;

[Julia@brandmanpr.com](mailto:Julia@brandmanpr.com)



## ANECDOTES AND LITTLE FACTS THAT AMUSE AND FASCINATE MAROMA RESORT AND SPA

It took more than four decades for the dream of Maroma to become a reality. A dream of a handcrafted resort, where bohemian luxury would be celebrated, the staff would pamper you like the dearest member of their family and guests would walk away calling it home. Today, the dream is reality and the paradise has grown from a private home to an intimate 64 room hotel that offers wonderful features and is rich with stories:

- Maroma means somersault in English and refers to the waves and how they crash on Punta Maroma right in front of the hotel's beach.
- Temazcal is a unique source of spiritual and physical healing. Herb-infused water is poured over heated volcanic rocks to extract toxins from the body and enhance energy flow from within, as guests form a circle inside a pyramidal structure. Following the Temazcal guests are invited to drink a special tea meant to cleanse the body and seal the experience. The tea is made especially by the Temazcalera using local ingredients including: ginger, hibiscus and melasa.
- At the centre of El Sol's ceiling in the evening dining room is a carving of the Descending God "Xux Ex." The God wearing a headdress is shown descending from the heavens. The deity's image can be found on several Maya temples in the region including Tulum and Coba. The Descending God is associated with the 'setting sun', rain, lightning, and with the planet Venus and is also thought to be the bee and corn God. His true identity is not certain.
- Jose Luis Moreno the founder and architect of the property was a great believer in spirituality and the power of energy fields that affect the world we live in. Every building has been aligned to astrological settings to ensure proper energy flow and to create an environment where the body and soul are at peace.
- Maroma is home to a resident artist Bertrand Castelli whose work is on display throughout the hotel. Often referred to as the Paul Gauguin of Maroma, he is also known for his work as the Executive Producer of the original Broadway musical "Hair". Of French decent, Mr. Castelli splits his time between New York, Paris, and Maroma. The resort currently features his entire first collection of work which celebrates the female form set within regional scenes and images of Maroma as well as his "Hair" exhibit - a series of interpretive paintings based on his experiences with this legendary musical. Mr. Castelli also discovered Donna Summer and launched her career by casting her in the Berlin production of "Hair."
- Room 23 in the main building of the hotel is often favored by visiting celebrities and has been home to Tony Blair, Robert Plant and Prince Charles.
- The hotel is also home to Marine biologist, naturalist and dive master Ramon Aguayo. A native of Mexico, Ramon provides dive excursions, scuba instruction and certification, nature walks and is passionate about the Maya heritage.

- Approximately 550 yards from the beach is the second largest coral reef in the world after the Great Barrier Reef, named the Great Maya Reef. This marvelous coral reef, also known as the Meso American Reef, starts in Cabo Catoche, north of Quintana Roo and skirts the coasts of Belize, Guatemala and Honduras. The Mexican part measures 300 km, out of a total of over one thousand kilometers. In many parts, the reef is extremely deep, since the transparency of the water lets in the light which is essential to the growth of coral.
- The entire property, from the founder's home to the final brick in the stone lined pathways, was built by the same family of Maya masons who have embraced the founder's vision. The family of artisans includes three generations and to this day can be seen working around the property.
- The hammocks that are strung from the balconies of many of the suites are handmade from silk that comes from the Yucatan Peninsula.
- "El tunel de los deseos" is the passageway between the El Sol restaurant and the entertainment room. When an individual stands in the tunnel he can take in the two ecological zones of the ocean and the jungle and will be in harmony. It is in this state where wishes are said to come true.
- During the Temazcal treatment guests are given a wooden bowl filled with water and herbs to ladle over their body. The blend created by the Temazcalera includes rosemary, basil, ruda, eucalyptus leaves, and Bugambilia (Bougainvillea) petals – The Bugambilia petals and the rosemary are grown on property and picked fresh for the treatment. The herbs draw on Maya tradition but are selected based on their medicinal properties. Rosemary relaxes the nervous system and muscles, ruda cleans the energy, basil is perfect for hydrating the skin, and eucalyptus and Bugambilia are used to clean the respiratory system.
- A special mud is also used during the Temazcal treatment. The mud comes from the ecologic reserve of Nanciyaga in Catemaco, Veracruz. Fed by spring water and rich with minerals, the mud relieves muscular pain, rheumatism, sunburn and firms the skin.
- Dinner on the Mirador is a special treat. Guests are lead up a candlelit staircase to a tower where there is a cozy dining room and breathtaking view of the ocean and jungle. Here they dine in complete privacy.
- The furniture featured in the suites and public areas of the hotel are made in Mexico. Many of the hard wood pieces are made from Cedrella and Caoba trees.
- The carved stones found throughout the resort are Cantera Stones, or "Stones of the Gods" which were created ages ago when lava flowed over soft rocks, creating a porous, carvable stone. These stones were used to build sacred cities and temples – which still stand today.
- The building of Palapas is a craft passed on from generation to generation. The beach palapas are made from palm xit or zacate and have to be restored every five years due to deterioration from the elements.
- Nancy Aguilar is the Temazcalera – a native of the Yucatan, the ritual of Temazcal was passed on by her Maya grandfather, and she has been practicing for over 14 years.

- Chaya is a native plant that is said to be more nutritious than spinach. This green leafy vegetable is a staple of a healthy Yucatan kitchen. At Maroma, guests can start the morning right with Chaia juice or in the evening can indulge in red snapper with Chaia pesto.
- Mayan Chaya with Pineapple and Cucumber is a special tonic prepared for guests. By combining the “miracle plant” of Chaya with fruits, we maximize its benefits, filling one with essential vitamins, easing digestion and stimulating blood circulation.
- For an experience that is out of this world, a trip to Dos Ojos (“Two Eyes”), a nearby cenote, will introduce adventurers to an underwater world of sunbeams and awe inspiring visuals of naturally backlit stalactites and stalagmites.
- Maroma Resort and Spa can arrange for private tours to both the well known (Chichen Itza, Tulum, Coba) and little discovered Maya ruins (Chun yaxche). The tours are lead by Archeologist Gerardo Ham.
- Weddings at Maroma have gained popularity a private ceremony on the beach, in the jungle or in the Mirador or the front terrace – each provides an exquisite backdrop for a special day.
- Huevos Yucatecos is the hotel’s signature dish. This special combination of beans, chilies, salsas and epazote is a recipe that comes straight from a Maya kitchen – one of the cooks grew up feasting on this every morning and introduced it to hotel guests with his mother’s permission, of course.
- Harvested from the Agave plant, Tequila has a long rich history that can be traced back to the 1520s. From the sap of the succulent Agave (a plant related to the lily and amaryllis) comes nectar, which once distilled, has as many subtleties in flavor, bouquet and color as the finest scotch. Tequila Tastings are regularly offered at the hotel where guests experience the nuances of the young blancos, the sharper almost peppery reposados and the smoother, woody aromas of an añejo tequila
- Every guest room or suite features a hand made tub crafted by Maya masons and adorned with Mexican tiles. No two tubs are alike. Shapes include horseshoes, circles, octagons and diamonds. The largest tub is in suite 7, the tub with the best ocean view is suite 40.
- At turn down house made chocolates are left on a small basket on the bed. These Maroma classics are made from Mexican chocolate and have a hard milk chocolate shell with a milk chocolate soft center. For those who become addicted, a take-home box is available in the boutique.
- Maroma is home to 6 parrots, 6 peacocks, numerous ducks, countless wild birds and iguanas as well as the occasional panther that only a fortunate few have been spotted during the morning jungle walk.
- There are only a few parrot species in the world that live in temperate climates. Chris and Laura, two Red Guacamayas (Scarlet Macaws) have moved from the forests of the Yucatan and permanently checked in to their new home at the hotel. They can usually be found snuggling in the courtyard adjacent to the lobby. Scarlet Macaws raise one or two young each season. They love to dine on fruits, nuts, flowers and nectar. Love seems to bloom everywhere at the hotel.

- All guests are greeted with a Maroma margarita this special margarita features Tequila, Cointreau, lemon juice, crushed ice and its defining difference - Xtabentun (a traditional Maya liqueur that combines the flavors of fermented honey and anis).
- Many locals believe in the Aluxes. Similar to fairies or pixies, these mischievous dwarf sized creatures live in the jungle and it is said that whenever you build you must also build a tiny house for the Aluxes. Failure to do so results in much mischief by the creatures, a nearby bridge had continuous problems and was re-built three times. The third time the construction project including a house for the Aluxes and almost magically the project was completed without a hitch. Little houses can be seen throughout the region. Maroma's Aluxes' house is located in a jungle area adjacent to the Peacock crossing.
- Guests of Maroma can not only brush-up on their Spanish through the hotels Spanish immersion program, they can also learn a bit of Maya– over 30 percent of the staff's first language is Maya. Contrary to popular belief Maya is not a dialect of Spanish but is believed to be related more closely to Asian languages.
- Flore de vita (Flower of Life) is the name of the flower shaped pool by the floatarium. The flower of life symbol incorporated into the design of the pool is considered sacred among many cultures around the world, both ancient and modern. Within this symbol can be found all the building blocks of the universe and the symbol is often used as a metaphor for the connectedness of all life and spirit within the universe.
- Every sunset nearly 1000 candles are lit and set along winding paths, pools, stone walkways and staircases creating an intoxicating amber glow.
- For the true tequila connoisseur, Don Julio Real is recommended. At \$55 a glass, this tequila has the higher recognition for its quality, age process and well-kept secret preparation. Flights of tequila tasting are offered once a week in the bar, which offers over 10 varieties.
- Instead of terry robes, guest rooms are supplied with 100 percent cotton caftans from Mexico. These flowing garments are perfect for lounging as well the preferred attire enroute to the spa.
- The Maroma Resort and Spa staff have been known to surprise guests with special messages and art on their beds created from flower petals picked from the garden. The messages vary based on the guest and are created from the petals and leaves of wild roses, Bugambilias (Bougainvillea), Tulipanes, Palm, Areca palm.
- Maroma's resident trio band "Alma, Vozy Sentimiento", were so inspired by the beauty of the property that they wrote a song called "Maroma Bonita" in its honor.
- Weddings at Maroma often break from tradition – recently the property hosted a beach front wedding for 78 people. The magical event, which included a buy out of the property, was planned from start to finish by the father of the bride.
- Love is not only for the young. Maroma, known for romance, is also a favored place of couples who have stood the test of time. A 93 year-old gentlemen and his 90 year-old wife have been coming to Maroma annually for the last five years.

- The El Sol restaurant and its main entry way were part of the original house. This area served as the living room.
- The talcum white sand on Maroma's Beach often surprises guests because of its silkiness but also because it does not get hot. With a high composition of coral that has been finely ground by the waves, the tiny coral particles hold air and do not heat.
- A special treat for autumn visitors is the sun and moon view from the private Mirador tower – at this time of year the sun can be viewed to the west while simultaneously the moon shines in the east.
- There are 2 shipwrecks on the Maroma Beach. They rest on the left side of the resort as you look out to sea. One is an old style “barque” that is covered by sand, except for the right front side. The second ship is totally covered by sand, except for the mast, which juts 6 feet above the beach. The ships are only a few feet apart and are part of the Maroma Walk.
- In November of 2006 Maroma Resort and Spa was admitted to the World Heritage Alliance (WHA). The WHA is an industry-leading initiative that was jointly formed by Expedia® and the UN Foundation in 2005 to promote sustainable tourism and awareness of World Heritage sites and communities around the world. Members are admitted based on their dedication to supporting sustainable travel, World Heritage conservation, and local economic development for communities in and around World Heritage sites.

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## **MAROMA RESORT AND SPA ACTIVITIES**

### ***Explore Ancient Civilizations While Rediscovering Inner Peace***

Hard as it is to resist lazing in Maroma's hammocks all day, guests would be remiss not to explore beyond resort grounds as many archeological treasures are nearby, including Tulum, Coba, and the other-worldly Chichen Itza. These three most famous Maya sites are splendid remains of a culture rich in astronomy (priests used the tops of temples and pyramids as observatories), mathematics (the Maya had a calendar and were among the inventors of the concept of zero), and spirituality.

Offering excellent infrastructure and a climate with both winter and summer daytime temperatures in the 80s (F), as well as on-shore breezes, the Caribbean coast of the Yucatan is a delightful recipe for holidays. Costs are relatively low by comparison to other Caribbean destinations, air access is better than ever with Cancun's expanded airport, and the government's investment in a four-lane express highway along the coast, well back from the beach resorts, ensures excellent access to many attractions. Plus, the entire peninsula is composed of limestone, which has eroded to form extensive cavern complexes where the water is crystal clear, affording a unique attraction for divers.

Tulum is a pleasant half-day trip just a one-hour drive from Maroma. Known as the 'city of dawn,' the story of Tulum unfolds in its silent stones covering a grassy sprawl that ends in cliffs overhanging the Caribbean. In a once-imposing castle that sits on a promontory above the sea, a torch was placed to signal the only opening in the reef enabling friendly boats to come ashore.

Coba is the oldest, and once biggest, city in the Yucatan, located inland in a dense jungle. A two-hour guided tour covers several of the most impressive stone structures that soar so high they seem heaven bound.

Chichen Itza, the most complete of the three sites, offers a marvelous sound and light show that highlights some of its principal structures, including the famous El Castillo, the pyramid with stepped ramps to the top on all four sides, as well as the ancient playing field. For those who wish to avoid the three-hour drive, the hotel can arrange to fly guests to Chichen Itza, providing lunch en route.

At Tres Rios, just four miles from Maroma by boat and bicycle, guests river-snorkel in glass-clear waters through a primeval underworld, visiting cenotes, bottomless wells connected by underground rivers that are said to be the biggest reserve of unpolluted fresh water in North America. The cenote favored most by Maroma's Guest Services Department leads to a river roughly 15-feet wide where guests snorkel through jungle underworld, transporting themselves both mentally and physically.

Guest Services also arrange tours to the more distant sites of Uxmal and Tikal, as well as Xcaret, a nearby theme park known for its underground river swimming. Sian Ka'an Biosphere Reserve, a diverse ecosystem of wetlands and jungle, is also highly recommended.

But many opt to spend their days relaxing, or swimming in the sea or shady pool in the garden. Long stretches of empty beach invite long meditative walks dotted with simple joys such as watching

sandpipers and chatting with the occasional fisherman. Even in high season few are ever on the beach with its white colored powdery sand that's constantly replenished from the world's second longest barrier reef just 100 yards off shore. Maroma's waters are superb for snorkeling, scuba and deep sea diving, and resort staff can arrange any type of outing.

Despite the relaxed atmosphere at Maroma, there is quite a lot to do, if one is so inclined. In addition to a plethora of spa treatments and pampering massage, facials and other rejuvenating treatments at Kinan Spa, a multimedia theater offers an extensive library of video and DVD movies and performances. The library, television room and billiards table provide other opportunities for carefree down time.

Regardless of how adventuresome guests are, Maroma's Temazcal is a "must." An ancient sweat lodge combining a steam bath and mud, it is a cleansing ritual designed to pay homage to the inner child. Utilizing heat from volcanic stones, it is ideal for cleaning pores and clearing the mind. The 60-minute natural treatment begins with a therapist who marks the beginning of the ritual by blowing into a conch shell. Once inside the Temazcal, which is shaped like a pyramid, guests form a circle and the door is closed.

As the Temazcal becomes hot the body immediately begins to release toxins, inviting the transformation to begin. After 50 minutes, a bowl of cleansing mud is passed around for guests to slather on their bodies. Then the Temazcal is opened, and guests are led into the ocean, leaving bodies and minds refreshed.

Visitors can also head for the thatched-roof hut on the beach where a menu of leisure activities ranges from snorkeling, diving, sailing, windsurfing, fishing and kayaking to indulgent spa treatments, including various forms of massage, mud-baths, Reiki and shiatsu. Browsing Maroma's boutique for beautiful cotton wear, jewelry, Mexican crafts, original art, resort wear and sundries, is always pleasurable, while a visit to the resort's salon for manicures, pedicures and hair styling is an indulgent diversion.

Located on the Riviera Maya, Maroma Resort and Spa is a 65-room rustically luxurious hideaway built by hand in the tradition of the Mexican haciendas where personal service, warm hospitality and privacy are unsurpassed. Known for its residential feel, it is among the most sought after on the Riviera Maya as its unspoiled beach and lush jungle provides the utmost in privacy and natural beauty.

For reservations and information, please contact Orient-Express Hotels (toll-free) at 866-454-9351 or [reservations@maromahotel.com](mailto:reservations@maromahotel.com). Additional information is available at [www.maromahotel.com](http://www.maromahotel.com).

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## **EL RESTAURANTE**

### **DINNER MENU**

#### ***Las Entradas***

Suprema de Pato en Escabeche de Chipotle con Ensalada de  
Mango Verde y Jicama  
*Supreme of Duck in Chipotle Escabeche with  
Green Mango and Jicama Slaw*

Las Empanadas de Camaron con Salsa de Guacamole al  
Cilantro y Salsa de Chile Ancho  
*Shrimp Empanadas with Cilantro Guacamole and  
Ancho Peper Sauce*

La Terrina de Berenjena y Pimiento Morron con  
Aceite de Albahaca y Ajo  
*Eggplant and Bellpepper Terrine with Basil and Garlic Oil*

El Pastel de Cangrejo Salteado con Camote Frito  
*Pan-seared Crab Cake Stacked on Camote Fries*

#### ***Las Sopas***

Sopa de Tortilla con Guarnicion Tradicional  
*Trditional Tortilla Soup*

Chawder de Mariscos con Saquitos de Poblano  
*Seafood Masa Chawder with Poblano Pockets*

La Crema Fria de Jitomate con Camarones Estilo Cajun  
*Iced Tomato Soup with Cajun Shrimp*

#### ***Las Ensaladas***

La Ensalada de Queso Roquefort con Peras y Nueces Caramelizadas  
*Mixed Greens with Roquefort Cheese, Pears,  
and Caremalized Nuts*

La Ensalada de Camarones Parrillados y Mango, Vinagreta de  
Cilantro y Echalot  
*Grilled Shrimp and Mango Salad with Cilantro and Shallot Vinaigrette*

### ***Los Pescados y Mariscos***

La Cola de Langosta Caribena a la Parrilla, Sobre una Cama de  
Papas Tibias en Crema de Jalapeno y Azafran  
*Grilled Lobster Tail over Warm New Potatoes in a Jalapeno-Saffron Cream*

El Salmon con Piel Crujiente sobre Arroz Jade y Salsa de Toronja  
*Crispy Skinned Salmon on Jade Rice and Grapefruit Sauce*

La Mariscada con Mojo de Ajo y Chile Guajillo  
*Mexican Seafood Platter served with Garlic Guajillo Butter*

Los Camarones y Callo de Hacha sobre una Pila de Camote y  
Mantequilla de Mandarina  
*Pan-Seared Shrimp and Scallops on a Sweet Potato Stack and Tangerine Butter*

Huachinango a la Parrilla con Fondue de Jitomate, Guajillo y Nopales  
Acompañado de Pure de Habas y Chips de Platano  
*Flame Grilled Red Snapper in a Tomato-Guajillo and Cactus Fondue  
served with Refried White Beans and Plantain Wafers*

### ***Las Carnes***

El Tenderloin de Res sobre Papas y Cebolla Verde con Tomate Frito  
*Beef Tenderloin on Green Onion Potatoes with Fried Tomatillo*

La Suprema de Pollo Glaseado al Tamarindo en Costra de Elote Dulce y Ajos  
*Tamarind Glazed Chicken Supreme on a Sweet Corn Crustard and  
Soft-Shell Jumbo Garlic*

### ***Sabor a Mexico***

Pelo de Angel Hecho en Casa a la Veracruzana con Chirizo Mexicano  
*Homemade Angel Hair Pasta Veracruzana with Mexican Chorizo*

Flautas de Cochinita Pibil acompañadas de Frijoles Refritos y Salsa Verde  
*Crip Tortilla Flutes of Pork Cochinita served with  
Refried Black Beans and Mexican Green Sauce*

Tacos Suaves de Pollo Entomatado en Salsa Verde y Queso Fresco  
*Chicken Mexican Soft Tacos with Green Tomatillo Sauce  
and Fresh Local Cheese*

Mero Grille en Adobo con Aguacate Horneado y Queso Oaxaca,  
servido con Arroz al Cuitlacoche  
*Grilled Caribbean Grouper In Adobo Spices with Baked Avocado  
and Oaxaca Chesse, served with Cuitlacoche Rice*

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#### **Media Contact:**

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## CILANTRO SPA MENU

### Aquarius Salad

Spinach, artichoke hearts, chaya leaves, string beans, citrus fruits and home dried tomatoes served with a citrus and olive oil vinaigrette

### “Gazpacho Temascal”

A toasted almond and cucumber cooling soup with a slash of guajillo chili oil

### Salad of Mexican Flavors

Lettuce leaves with egg, crisp bacon pieces, red onion, avocado and a chipotle and orange dressing

### Spiced Beetroot Soup over Jicama and Yogurt Slaw

False Cauliflower Couscous with Grilled Langoustines and a Hibiscus Flower Reduction

### Traditional Ceviche of Mixed Shellfish

### “Salpicon de Res”

Marinated beef strands served in a cucumber roll flavored with radish, local bitter orange and red onion

### Mango Spaghetti

Guajillo Stuffed with Buckwheat and Shrimp Brochettes

Chicken Supreme in a Nut Crust on Tomato Rice and Light Mole Sauce

A Mirror of Scallops Dressed with a Corn and Yucatan Grenadine Lime Vinaigrette and Puffed Wild Rice

Carpaccio of Zucchini, Melon Ravioli with Crab and Ginger and a Tamarind Sauce

### Fish of the Day

Seared and served with vegetables and sprouted alfalfa and soy

### Penne Pasta or Spaghetti

Served with your choice of chaya pesto, tomato or basil sauce, olive oil and herbs or putanesca

### Filet of Grouper

Served over pumpkin seed couscous, and grilled vegetables; red onion, eggplant, peppers and zucchini with orange segments

Tropical fruits, “horchata” Sorbet and a Serrano Pepper Syrup

Cold Strawberry Soup with Fresh Strawberries Dusted with Black Pepper and Served with  
Chocolate Ice Cream

Sweet Potato Pie with Nut Crumble and Orange Sauce

Coconut Milk Rice Pudding and Green Tea Soaked Currants

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## CALENDAR OF AREA EVENTS AND MAROMA PACKAGES

2006-2007

### *CUSTOM PACKAGES*

In addition to a variety of seasonal and year-round packages, Luxury Sales Managers are available to personalize a unique experience for individual leisure travelers. Offering more than reservations, these travel professionals are experts in the art of luxury. Adventure, romance, history, golf, gardens, art, Yucatan cuisine, eco-adventure, Maya ruins . . . whatever one's interest, we can attend to all details while providing personal attention that redefines customer service. Call 866-454-9351 to speak to a Luxury Sales Manager.

#### **Winter (December, January, February)**

##### **The Riviera Maya Fair (Month of December)**

Experience a small town fiesta with rides, booths selling wares from all over the country, entertainment and food. Locals from nearby villages come to this extremely popular event.

##### **Fiesta de la Concepción Immaculate -Festival of the Immaculate Conception (December 3 to 9)**

The villages of Quintana Roo observe this holy time for six days with processions, folkloric music and dance, fireworks, and bullfights.

##### **Fiesta de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe -Festival of Our Lady of Guadalupe (December 12)**

Devoted pilgrims on bicycle or foot journey to the Basilica of the Madonna of Guadalupe to celebrate this most significant religious holiday celebrated in Mexico. Their arrival is timed to coincide with the midnight mass and the ringing of the church bells. Those who don't make the pilgrimage participate in a procession through their hometown carrying the statue of Guadalupe. Dances and carnivals are held after the mass.

##### **Navidad (December 16-25)**

Processions and masses mark Christmas throughout the Yucatán. Children go from door to door singing Christmas songs and asking for donations. On December 24, the most important night, Nochebuena (Holy Night), families gather for traditional midnight Christmas dinner. At Maroma Resort and Spa guests will feel like family with a series of special, hands-on experiences that will make every holiday season to come resonate with memories from Maroma. On Christmas Eve, our chef will bring the warmth of the holiday kitchen to all as they work with our willing guests to prepare traditional Mexican dishes and cocktails, which will be enjoyed by all in a communal meal filled with surprises. Guests awake Christmas morning to find the piñatas they created filled with a special gift from their friends at Maroma. During this special week, our guests will also experience special afternoon teas featuring seasonal treats, holiday choirs that will perform traditional Mexican holiday songs and more. Rates from December 20<sup>th</sup> to January 3rd start at \$510 per night.

##### **New Year's Eve**

People throughout the region celebrate the New Year with a midnight dance and the burning of an effigy representing the old year. At Maroma Resort and Spa, Mariachi bands play into the wee hours and special

astrology palapas are set beach front to allow for star gazing. Plus, local astrologists will provide table side readings at El Sol restaurant.

### **Feast of the Epiphany, or Three Kings' Day (January 6, 2006)**

Children receive their presents from the three wise men on this traditional day of gift giving. The traditional cake Rosca de Reyes (Kings' cake) is served. Maroma Resort and Spa's pastry chef prepares a traditional cake for the enjoyment of guests. Traditionally a small Jesus figurine (El Nino) is hidden in one piece of cake and the guest that finds the figurine hosts La Candelaria, a final Christmas Party on February 2<sup>nd</sup> where traditional food and drink are served. At Maroma the guest who finds the figurine is treated to special private dinner with a guest of their choice in the Mirador, complete with Mariachi band.

### **La Candelaria - Candlemas (February 2, 2006)**

This final Christmas Party is traditionally hosted by the individual who found the small Jesus figurine (El Nino) in their piece of King's cake on January 6<sup>th</sup>. Candlemas honors Mary while celebrating the day Christ was presented at Temple. Many villages celebrate with candlelight processions including music, entertainment, and food. All of the festivities lead up to the blessing of candles and seeds. At Maroma February 2<sup>nd</sup> is a day of special holiday menus and entertainment.

### **Valentine's Day (available for the Month of February)**

This intimate Hacienda style resort features handcrafted tile bathtubs, carved furniture and a hammock big enough for two on every room's private terrace. Maroma's Valentine's packages include welcome champagne, daily breakfasts, a three-course dinner (with wine), an afternoon sail for two, snorkeling adventures, round-trip airport transfers and the resort's signature Temazcal, a cleansing spa ritual that utilizes a Maya style sweat lodge, heat from volcanic stones, cleansing muds, Maya rituals, and the refreshing properties of the ocean. Memento gifts are also provided. Packages start from \$2,706 per couple. For reservations, call 1-866-454-9351 or [www.maromahotel.com](http://www.maromahotel.com).

### **Carnaval (February-March)**

The week before Lent sees this fiesta with interesting parades, floats, dance contests, and fireworks. Come to Riviera Maya and Cozumel during this week for their famous outrageous carnival parades that the whole city joins. Smaller villages have bullfights and circuses as well.

<b>Spring (March, April, May)</b>
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### **Yoga Retreats**

See Year Round Packages

### **Aniversario de Benito Juárez (Birthday of Benito Juárez) March 21**

Government offices, schools and some businesses close in honor of Benito Juarez's Birthday, one of Mexico's greatest heroes.

### **Spring Equinox at Chichen Itza (March 21-22)**

Witness the serpent slither down to earth at the steps of the El Castillo (the Castle) Pyramid. Thousands attend this remarkable display of Maya astrology and mathematics symbolizing the great plumed deity, Kukulcan.

### **Vernal Equinox (March 21 1:00 universal time – GMT)**

Every year at the main temple at Chichen Itza, visitors come to celebrate the equinox and to see the illusion of the serpent Kukulcan descending from the temple. A natural phenomenon of light and shadow creates the pattern of a serpent slithering down the steps of El Castillo (the Pyramid of Kukulcan). According to history, the Maya constructed the temple in a way that the equinox sun and shadows would specifically create this effect. The serpent is supposed to bring with it a good harvest.

### **Semana Santa, (Holy week)**

This week around Easter is the most important holiday in Mexico, even exceeding Christmas. Families tend to take vacations to resort areas around this time because children have two weeks off from school. A popular tradition that you may see is when family and friends break brightly colored eggs containing confetti over each other's heads. In small villages and more traditional cities, people will re-enact Jesus' procession with the cross with Passion plays.

### **April**

Celebrate the founding of Riviera Maya, with singing, dancing, cultural events and partying throughout the month.

### **Sol a Sol Regatta (April 21 - May 2)**

The Sol a Sol International Regatta begins in St. Petersburg, Florida and finishes in Isla Mujeres. The whole island celebrates with dances, fairs, live music and performances of regional dance.

### **Día de las Niños "Children's Day" (April 30)**

Celebrate the children of the world with special events such as clown performances, puppet shows and a free lunch and gift for every child.

### **May 5: Cinco de Mayo (May 5)**

Party hardy on the 5th of May and celebrate the 1862 victory at Puebla when the Mexican army defeated Maximilian and the French army. Riviera Maya explodes with patriotic parades and fireworks. And it's a good excuse to have fun! Schools, government offices and some banks are closed.

### **Maroma Loves Moms (in honor of Mother's Day, redeemable year-round)**

There's something about the rhythm of the jungle and the lure of turquoise waters that make a Mothers' Day package at Maroma Resort and Spa a truly special treat. What Mom wouldn't swoon over Rejuvenation Package, a special way of thanking women for all they do for their loved ones. This five-day rejuvenation package combines the beauty of nature and the pleasures of our spa into a total immersion. We start with six hours of spa treatments, customized to one's particular needs with the option of a classic Temazcal treatment, offering guests a glimpse into the way this ages-old sweat lodge experience marries body and soul. Mom will also delight in the snorkeling trip that brings her face to fin with a gorgeous mosaic of sea life in the warm waters off the resort. The package (which requires a five-day minimum stay) includes daily breakfast and airport transfers. Maroma Loves Moms starts at \$3,340 (based on double occupancy). For details or to reserve: [www.maromahotel.com](http://www.maromahotel.com) or call 1-866-454-9351.

### **Billfish Tournaments (Early May to late June)**

Fishermen from all over the world come to Cozumel, Puerto Morelos, Puerto Aventuras, and Riviera Maya. Top honors go to the fisherman who catches the biggest of these big game fish migrating here to breed in the warm Riviera Maya waters.

### **Carnival (February 27 – March 4) see February**

<b>Summer (June, July, August)</b>
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### **Yoga Retreats**

See Year Round Packages

### **Summer Solstice (June 21)**

Celebrate the beginning of summer Maya-style at the ruins of Chichen Itza.

### **Isla Mujeres Founding Day (August 17)**

Celebrate the establishment of Isla Mujeres as a city with a civic parade, outdoor events, live music and an all night dance.

### **My Maroma – Summer Fun (June, July & August)**

Discover the Riviera Maya and its rich culture this summer with special rates and programming that allow guests to experience their own Maroma. The My Maroma summer provides an immersion and true expedition into the bounty of the Yucatan, of course, all in the lap of luxury. In addition to complimentary daily breakfast and a variety of free activities including: a snorkel exploration to the barrier reef, tequila tastings, demonstrations by local artisans on hammock, furniture and piñata making and evening performance by local musicians, guests can add a variety of luxury expeditions. Guests can have the hospitality anfitriónas (hosts) develop custom excursions or select from a menu of favorites, including a guided tour of Maroma's nature preserve, a day trip with driver, gourmet picnic and guide to the Maya ruins of Tulum, Coba or Chichen Itza, or diving adventures into a world of stalactites, darkness and underwater sunbeams that are the cenotes. Rates available upon request.

<b>Fall (September, October, November)</b>
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### **Yoga Retreats**

See Year Round Packages

### **State of the Union Address (September 1)**

The liquor doesn't flow on this day until the President finishes his lengthy four or five hour speech about how the country is doing. By then everyone is thirsty for a beer.

### **Fiesta de San Román - Feast of Saint Roman (September 14-28)**

This famous holiday attracts 50,000 people to the city of Campeche to view the procession through the streets of the Black Christ of San Román -- its patron saint.

### **Patria de la Independencia Independence Day (September 15-16)**

Every village and city throughout Mexico re-enacts the famous historic speech, known as the grito (shout), by Independence leader Padre Miguel Hidalgo. At midnight the people gather in the town square to ring the bell of freedom and shout "Viva Mexico" over and over. Dance and celebrate into the wee hours!

### **Autumnal Equinox at Chichen Itza (September 21, 2006)**

Witness the serpent slither down to earth at the steps of the El Castillo (the Castle) Pyramid. Thousands attend this remarkable display of Maya astrology and mathematics symbolizing the great plumed deity, Kukulcan.

### **Día de la Raza -Race Day (October 12)**

This celebration traditionally commemorated the arrival of Columbus, but now it's an effort to celebrate the Hispanic heritage of the Americas and the multicultural heritage of everyone that contributed to it.

### **The Isla Mujeres International Music Festival (Second week in October)**

The entire island comes alive with music and dance as performers from around the world participate in this 12-day event.

### **Día de los Muertos - Day of the Dead - (November 1-2)**

On All Souls Day, Mexicans across the country visit the graves of loved ones, decorate the headstones with marigold wreaths and leave offerings of food and tequila. Families often share a meal with their dearly departed by having a graveside picnic which turns into an all night fiesta. Shops sell skulls shaped pastries and candies to be eaten at the picnic.

### **International Caribbean Cultural Festival (November 10 -15)**

The state of Quintana Roo hosts this cultural festival when Riviera Maya and other regional cities sponsor a series of events. Performers from all over the Caribbean perform poetry, dance and song. The real draw is the performances of the variety of salsa music from all the major salsa groups throughout the Caribbean.

### **Día de la Revolución - Revolution Day (November 20)**

This official holiday commemorates the 1910 Revolution. Banks, stores, offices and schools are closed.

<b>Year-Round</b>
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### **Yoga Retreat**

Maroma Resort and Spa is now offering the *Yoga Body Buddha Mind* yoga and mediation retreat from October 24 - 28, 2007. Join OM yoga Center Director Cyndi Lee and senior Shambhala Buddhist teacher David Nichtern, as you embark on a journey to invite your body and mind back into balance. With humor, depth, and authenticity, these gifted teachers will guide you in combining physical yoga and Buddhist mindfulness, bringing ancient wisdom alive and making it relevant to the realities of contemporary life.

Through yoga practice, you will explore how alignment, breathing, balancing, stretching, and strengthening provide the ideal opportunity to apply the Buddhist meditation techniques of watching your mind, recognizing your habits, and opening your heart. Daily dharma talks and sitting and walking meditations will help cultivate awareness and compassion—aspects of practice that help our minds become unbiased, wakeful, and connected.

All retreats include 4-nights accommodations, round-trip airport transfers, daily breakfast, daily yoga class & seminars, one snorkeling trip per person and special retreat amenities. Prices start at \$1,280 per person for a shared garden room or \$1,970 per person for a private garden room. Taxes and gratuities are not included.

### **Yucatan Exploration**

A real summer vacation, from the land of endless summer, with the essence of Maya culture, indigenous Yucatecan cuisine, romance and ancient spa therapy includes:

- A four-night stay at Maroma Resort and Spa
- A romantic three-course candlelight dinner for two with wine specially selected from our distinguished cellar
- A Temazcal treatment - the ancient Maya steam therapy - for each guest
- A private day trip with picnic lunch to the Maya archaeological zones of Tulum and Coba, and an amazing snorkel adventure into the crystal spring waters of a cenote rock formation
- A sedan for the day to explore on your own

Rates for the four-night package based on two people double occupancy start from \$2,576 to \$4,316.

## **Honeymoon Hideaway**

For couples seeking the most romantic adventure that only a Riviera Maya holiday can offer, Maroma takes this to its ultimate level. Included are:

- A five-night stay at Maroma Resort and Spa
- Champagne from our cellar upon arrival
- Daily breakfasts
- Three-course dinner (menu du jour) for two including a bottle of wine
- One-hour afternoon sail for two (non-exclusive)
- One Temazcal per person
- One snorkeling trip per person
- Round-trip airport transfers.
- Memento Gifts: Two caftans and a handcrafted pewter picture frame
- One Aphrodisiac's Chocolate Invigoration couples massage

Rates for the five-night package based on two people double occupancy start from \$2,980 to \$9,480

## **Spa Sensations**

This program is at the heart of Maroma - a special five-night Spa Sensations Package that provides an open mind retreat.

This package includes:

- Private consultation with spa consultants who create a customized treatment
- \$1,200 Spa credit (any unused credit is non-refundable and non-transferable)
- Daily private yoga or pilates sessions
- Kinan spa caftan
- Two healthful lunches at Cilantro
- Access to women's and men's spa lounge, sauna and steam room
- Daily breakfast at Cilantro
- One snorkeling trip per person
- Round trip airport transfers

Rates from \$3,596 to \$10,096

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## **FAMOUS PEOPLE SERVED BY MAROMA RESORT AND SPA**

Tim Allen, Actor  
Vera Anderson, Celebrity Photographer  
Anthony Blair, Prime Minister of Great Britain  
James Carter, Actor  
Dick Clark, Television Host  
Tom Cruise, Actor  
Claire Danes, Actor  
Danny de Vito, Actor  
Cameron Diaz, Actor  
Matt Dillon, Actor  
Minnie Driver, Actor  
Beau Flynn, Producer (Requiem for a dream)  
Farrah Fawcett, Actor  
Claire Forlani, Actor  
Noel Gallagher, Musician (OASIS)  
Bradley Trevor Greive, Writer (Australia)  
Carla Gugino, Actor (Snake Eyes)  
Indigo Girls, Singers  
Katie Holmes, Actor  
Enrique Iglesias, Singer  
Claudio Lopez, soccer player Argentina  
Paolo Maldini, soccer player Italy  
Gregory Nava, Movie Director  
N Sync, Musicians  
James Orr, Movie Director  
Sean Penn, Actor  
Brad Paisley, Country singer  
Robert Plant, Musician  
Sharon Stone, Actor  
Andy Summers, Musician (The Police)  
Danny Tartabull, (New York Yankees baseball player)  
Ana Torroja, Musician (Spain)  
Kimberly Williams, Actor  
Will Young, British Rock Star

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## AWARD-WINNING HISTORY OF MAROMA RESORT AND SPA AND THE RIVIERA MAYA

In addition to receiving accolades in numerous leading publications, including *The New York Times*, *Town & Country*, *Vogue*, and *Gourmet*, Maroma Resort and Spa has also been honored with the following recognition:

### *Travel + Leisure*

**“World’s Best Awards – Top 25 Mexico and South and Central American Hotels” 2007**

**“World’s Best Awards – T + L 500” 2005, 2006**

**“World’s Best Hotels –Mexico, Central/South America” 2005**

In the August 2007 issue of *Travel + Leisure* magazine, Maroma Resort and Spa was selected as one of the Top 25 Hotels in Mexico, South and Central America. Each year *Travel + Leisure* magazine publishes their **World’s Best Awards**, a compendium of the greatest hotels around the globe as chosen by their readers in the annual **World’s Best Survey**. For the past decade, readers have identified their favorite hotels, cities, islands, airlines and more. *Travel + Leisure* is the authority, setting trends, and motivating readers and is a leading source of information on travel, hotels, resorts, dining and entertainment. The magazine reaches the sophisticated travelers with a circulation of nearly one million.

### *Condé Nast Traveler*

**“Gold List – World’s Best Places to Stay” 2004, 2005, 2006**

**“Readers’ Choice Awards – The Best in the World” Top 15 Mexico 2006**

**“Top 20 Latin American Hotels” 2003**

**“Top 10 Best Latin/Atlantic Hotels” 2002, 2003**

**“25 Top Coolest Places in the World” 2002**

In the January 2005 “Gold List – World’s Best 700 Places to Stay,” Maroma was rated 100 for “The Best by Location” as well as rating # 3 in all of Latin America. In the Readers Speak section, it was noted that, “This former coconut plantation has a dreamy location on a white sand beach.” Maroma Resort and Spa was named as one of the best in The Americas in the 2004 Gold List – World’s Best Places to Stay as well as being named as one of the top 10 best Latin/Atlantic Hotels in 2002 and 2003 by *Condé Nast Traveler* magazine readers. In 2002, *Condé Nast Traveler* honored Maroma Resort and Spa as one of the top “25 Coolest Places in the World.” For the hotel category, over 32,000 subscribers rated the quality of rooms, service, restaurants and location of the hotels. *Condé Nast Traveler*, whose credo is “Truth in Travel”, is a monthly publication that caters to the experienced, discerning and frequent traveler. *Condé Nast Traveler* has a circulation of 801,795 readers and a median household income of \$122,000.

### *Travel Channel*

**“World’s Best Beaches - Best Romantic Beach” 2004**

**“Top 10 World’s Best Beach” 2002, 2003, 2004**

**“World Best Beach Resort” 2004**

**“Great Honeymoon” Resorts 2004**

**”Top Beaches by Region for Caribbean & Mexico” 2003**

**“Top Beach of the World’s 10 Best Beaches” 2002, 2003**

**“Number One Best Caribbean Resort” 2002**

The Travel Channel honored Maroma Resort and Spa for the third year in a row. The luxury Hacienda style resort on the Riviera Maya in Mexico was honored as the 2004 World's Best Romantic Beach as well as being showcased as one of the 2004 "Best Beach Resorts" and "Great Honeymoon" Resorts. The Travel Channel reaches over 30,000,000 subscribers and is devoted exclusively to travel entertainment capturing the fascination, freedom and fun of travel.

Travel Channel delivers insightful stories about the world's most popular destinations and inspiring diversions and in ranked Maroma number one World's Best Beach overall in 2002. The Travel Channel website described Maroma Resort and Spa, as "Quite possibly the most exquisite secret in Mexico, Maroma Beach is a resort hideaway intent on preserving the ecology of its 500-plus acres of beach and rain forest, all the while bringing individual service and luxury to unprecedented heights."

**Celebrated Living**

**Platinum List/Editors' Picks 2004, 2005**

The resort was favored as one of the Editors' Picks due to the newness or exclusivity of the property not allowing for a popular vote at this time. It was praised as being a Moroccan-style Riviera Maya resort pouring on the romance, offering surfside meals, lighting 1,000 candles along pathways at night, and banishing in-room TVs.

**Condé Nast Brides**

**"Most Luxurious Bathrooms" Summer 2003**

**Andrew Harper's Hideaway Report**

**"Top International Resort Hotels" 2003**

**"Top International Resort Hideaways" 2002, 2003**

**"Hideaway of the Year" 1997, 2000**

Now in its 25th year of publication, *Andrew Harper's Hideaway Report* is the ultimate travel guide for sophisticated travelers seeking candid reviews of enchanting luxury hotels, resorts and hideaways in the United States and around the world. To assure you wholly independent observations, noted travel authority Andrew Harper travels incognito - booking into hotels and paying his own way, as would any typical guest. Hotels don't know his real name, or what he looks like because he refuses to introduce himself during inspections. So while you may have seen *Hideaway Report* favorably mentioned in *Forbes*, *Fortune*, *Mirabella*, *Vogue*, *The New York Times* and other such publications, his identity has never been revealed.

**ZAGAT'S Top International Hotel, Resorts & Spas Survey, 2003-2006**

In the 2006 survey, *Zagat's* said of Maroma Resort and Spa, After you "pass through what seems like a jungle, you enter this unusual oasis" "set on a beach " in a "stunning" area near Puerto Morelos with "whitewashed buildings" designed in rustic Mexican style; each of the "unique" rooms has "handmade furnishings", there's "gracious", "unobtrusive" service all around and the "wonderful" cuisine includes a delicious "homemade chocolate truffle left on your pillow at night"; with no children under 16 allowed, this is a truly "romantic" "private sanctuary". The results of this survey are created from the shared experiences of nearly 10,000 people and are based on roughly 380,000 nights at hotels per year. On average, to be included in the survey one or more surveyors per night, every night, all year long. Considered the candid, no punches-pulled guide to where to stay and eat, *Zagat Surveys* have been called "a necessity second only to a valid credit card" by the *New York Times*.

**Modern Bride**

**"Best Beds" Top 5 - 2005**

**"Most Luxurious Bathrooms" 2003**

**"Best Honeymoon Destination" 2002**

In 2002, *Modern Bride* Magazine named the Riviera Maya the #1 Up and Coming honeymoon destination in *Modern Bride's* World's Best Honeymoon Destinations 2002 survey. Voted on by more than 3,000 American Society of Travel Agents (ASTA), the annual survey is the only one of its kind that asks agents about their favorite destinations to recommend to honeymooners.

**Island Destinations**

**Travel Agents Choice – “Spa of the Year Award” 2005-2006**

Over 200 top travel agents attend this annual event where just a few premier resorts are awarded the crystal plaque of excellence. Travel firm *Island Destinations* is considered to be the “Authority for Luxury Travel”, serving only those travel agents representing clients with interests in luxury accommodations.

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**MAROMA RESORT and SPA APPOINTS FEDERICO ECHAIZ AS  
MANAGING DIRECTOR**

**RIVIERA MAYA, MEXICO (June 18, 2007) – Maroma Resort and Spa** appoints **Federico Echaiz** as Managing Director of this luxurious, authentic Mexican hideaway, a member of the Orient-Express collection of properties. Echaiz will look after Maroma’s 65 lavish rooms and suites as well as its uniquely designed Kinan Spa. Echaiz previously served as Resort Manager of Rosewood’s Las Ventanas al Paraiso in Los Cabos.

With more than 20 years of hospitality experience, Echaiz is a veteran of the luxury hotel industry. He has held positions around the world from the Middle East and Asia, to Central and South America, including Executive Assistant Manager, Food & Beverage at the Ritz-Carlton and the Hyatt Regency in Santiago, as well as Director, Food & Beverage at the Park Hyatt Mendoza & Regency Casino Mendoza in Argentina. Echaiz holds a degree in Hotel Management from the Inacap Hotel School in Santiago, Chile.

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Maroma Resort and Spa is an authentically luxurious 65-room hideaway built-by-hand in the tradition of the Mexican haciendas. It offers personalized service, warm hospitality and unsurpassed privacy. Part of the famed Orient-Express Hotels, Trains & Cruises collection, the Maroma Resort and Spa consistently receives the highest accolades by discerning publications such as *The New York Times*, *Town & Country*, *Vogue*, *Gourmet* and *Andrew Harper’s Hideaway Report*. The resort has also been singled out by The Travel Channel for “Best Beach in the World” and “Most Romantic Honeymoon Spot” and most recently in *Condé Nast Traveler Magazine’s* “Best in the World’s Readers’ Choice Awards” ranking number three in the top 10 Latin American hotels. For more information, visit [www.maromahotel.com](http://www.maromahotel.com) or call (52) 998 872 8200 or 1-866-454-9351.