

# MONARCH BUTTERFLIES

**7 DAYS (8 Meals)      \$539 PER PERSON\***

*For years no one knew where the **Monarch Butterfly** migrated in the winter time. Now we know! The delicate creatures begin their migration in November. You will find them at their peak in January, February and March. Join us for an almost **ethereal experience** in the beautiful state of Michoacan - 3,000 miles from home for our migrating friends - **the Monarchs**. Daily as the sun warms the wings of the colorful insects, they descend from their lofty perches among the pines to drink at a nearby stream. The stillness of the forest, the rustling of the millions of butterfly wings, the tinkling of the bubbly mountain stream all combine to form a natural paradise.*

**DAY 1** - Your adventure begins as your chartered motor coach travels west over a recently completed four lane highway, then through ranch and farmland to **Montemorelos**, the center of a rich citrus area, where we pause for lunch. Traverse the **Santa Rosa Canyon** where we stop to admire the awe inspiring vistas. Late afternoon finds us in **Matehuala** on what they call the high plains of Mexico. **Overnight** at the **Las Palmas Midway Inn** in **Matehuala**.

**DAY 2** - Arrive into **San Miguel Allende** for a late lunch. Known as the **Mexican Hill Town** and considered by Americans as a retiree's mecca, San Miguel is a photographer's delight, a shopper's paradise, a history buff's dream. Put on your walking shoes as you explore the town. Each turn of the cobble stone streets presents a new vista. **Overnight** at the **Posada de San Francisco** or **Best Western Monteverde Express** in **San Miguel**.      **B**

**DAY 3** - Continue into the beautiful state of **Michoacan** where we spend the night in a small colonial hotel. You will have time to explore the village before dinner. Be sure to wear your long handles, your flannel night gown or be prepared to "cuddle up" as there is no central heat. **Overnight** at the **Hotel Don Bruno** in **Anganguo**.      **D**

**DAY 4** - Today is "**the day**". Bench-seated pick-ups carry us to a nearby Indian village where with special permission we enter into the **Monarch Preserve**. Those not able to walk at this altitude need only to wait in the peaceful solitude of the meadows for as the sun warms, the Monarchs descend to you. A tail-gate **picnic lunch** provides more time for us to enjoy the tranquility of this preserve. Then lean back and relax as our charter motor coach takes us to spend the next two nights in **picturesque Patzcuaro**, center of the Tarascan Indian culture. **Overnight** at the **Posada Don Vasco** in **Patzcuaro**.      **B, Picnic Lunch**

**DAY 5** - Early morning is a good time to encounter **Tarascan Indians** using their butterfly nets as they seine for the famous whitefish in nearby **Lake Patzcuaro**. Have your cameras ready! Return to the mainland to shop in the **Casa de Once Patios** where each room is filled with a different regional craft. Then shop in the **local market**. Time after lunch to visit **Santa Clara del Cobre** where a centuries old trade of hand-hammering copper is still practiced. A special treat tonight after our **included dinner** is the dance presentation of **Los Viejitos** (the little old men). **Overnight** at the **Posada Don Vasco** in **Patzcuaro**.      **B, D**

**DAY 6** - As we start homeward, our first stop is **Morelia**, capital of **Michoacan**, where the baroque style Cathedral houses a German made organ boasting 4,600 pipes. Then on to **Queretaro** with the awesome aqueducts stretching 6 miles into the mountains. After lunch, continue to **San Luis Potosi** where Jo has a wonderful surprise scheduled for 8:00p.m. **Overnight** at the centrally located **Hotel Panorama** in **San Luis Potosi**.      **B**

**DAY 7** - Alas, today is the last day of our adventure. Return to the magic Rio Grande Valley through Saltillo, Monterrey arriving to the border around 6:30p.m.  
**B**

**PRICE PER PERSON\***

Single - \$689

Double - \$539

Triple - \$509

**DEPARTURE DATE**

March 4, 2010

**\*Currently there is No Charge for the Mexican Visa on land tours of 7 days or less.**

Departs from **Brownsville** at 6:00a.m.; from **Harlingen** at 6:30a.m.; from **Weslaco** at 7:00a.m.; from **Mission** at 8:00a.m. or from your park with specified number

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