

WELCOME TO THE GUATEMALA INSIDER COLLECTION

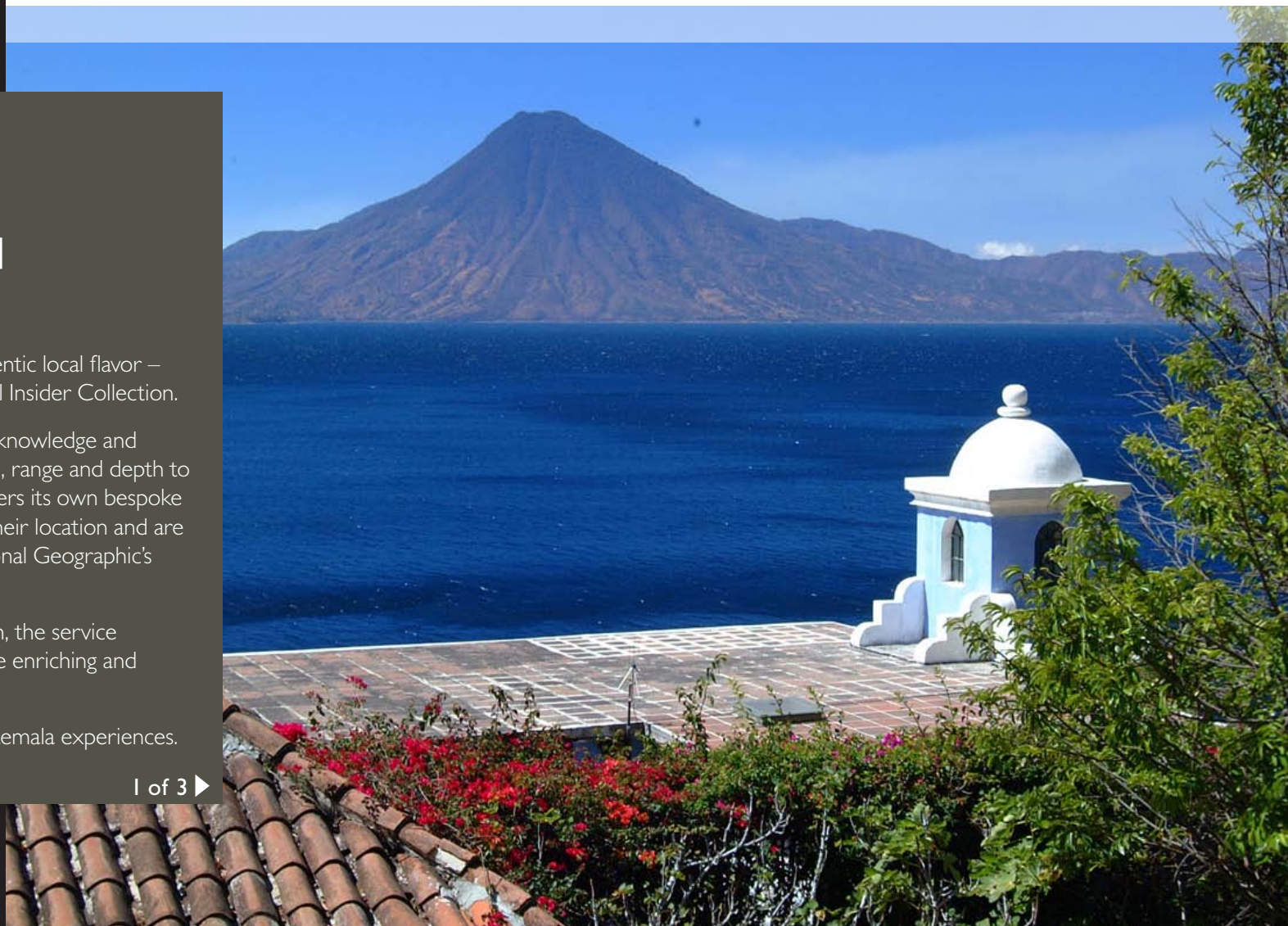
Truly memorable meetings and events with authentic local flavor – that is the inspiration behind the InterContinental Insider Collection.

Our network of hotels and resorts is global; our knowledge and expertise local, giving planners guaranteed choice, range and depth to add to any meeting or conference. Each hotel offers its own bespoke selection of services which are firmly rooted in their location and are responsibly guided by our partnership with National Geographic's Center for Sustainable Destinations.

The options are limitless, the local knowledge rich, the service professional and faultless, the delegate experience enriching and rewarding every time.

Sample for yourself some of our wonderful Guatemala experiences.

1 of 3 ►



INTRODUCTION | LOCATIONS | SPEAKERS | COMMUNITY | INTERACTIONS | BREAKS | CONTACT US

INSIDER LOCATIONS

Choose an InterContinental venue for your event and a world of possibilities opens up. As locals, your hotel team hold the key to a side of your locality tourists never see. What and who they know gives you an exclusive mix of authentic venues and experiences to play with.

INSIDER SPEAKERS

Bring your event to life with an inspirational speaker – someone who can really strike a chord with your delegates and enrich their experience beyond measure. Fascinating and engaging, motivating Insider Speakers range from celebrities and cultural experts to sporting heroes. Whatever their passion, they all have a local connection and you will discover that their unique insights and local know-how make your event one to remember.

INSIDER COMMUNITY

There's nothing quite like immersing yourself in the community to gain an added depth and understanding to your experience in a new destination. Insider Community has been designed to benefit local people and create truly memorable and meaningful experiences for your delegates too.

INSIDER INTERACTIONS

This team-building experience will help your delegates connect with each other as never before. Using the unique character, heritage or geography of your destination to inspire interaction, each experience, whether based on or off-site offers an original way to engage delegates and motivate them to build effective working relationships.

INSIDER BREAKS

With Insider Collection even your breaks are fulfilling experiences. From serving up a delicious lunch of provincial dishes for a taste of regional cuisine to spending some quality time with your Concierge team to get their best insider tips, a few minutes out of your busy schedule becomes a whole experience in itself.

◀ 2 of 3 ▶



INTRODUCTION | LOCATIONS | SPEAKERS | COMMUNITY | INTERACTIONS | BREAKS | CONTACT US

ENRICHING EXPERIENCES FOR OUR GUESTS AND OUR ENVIRONMENT

We believe that a responsible meeting is not only what you experience in the meeting room but also knowing that your hotel respects the destination around it.

We're proud to partner the leaders in geotourism, the National Geographic Center for Sustainable Destinations. Our ambition is that guests enjoy enriching experiences that reveal what makes a place truly special – its heritage, culture and tradition – and the importance of protecting it.

At InterContinental we use a holistic approach to being a responsible business: to work from the grass roots up, recognising each individual hotel team as the experts best placed to use their local knowledge for developing community and environmental initiatives that meet the specific needs of the destination. This Insider Collection gives delegates access to some of these unique experiences, and for those meetings that stay in the meeting room, you can be assured our hotel is working behind the scenes to protect what is special about the place for fellow travellers.

◀
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INTRODUCTION | LOCATIONS | SPEAKERS | COMMUNITY | INTERACTIONS | BREAKS | CONTACT US

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SPEND PART OF YOUR MEETING AT THE NATIONAL PALACE OF CULTURE

One of the great achievements of Guatemalan architecture, the National Palace of Culture is a magnificent venue for a gala reception or formal dinner.

Here delegates can admire the great artists of the 40s: Alfredo Gálvez Suárez murals, stained glass by Urruela July Vasquez and his associates, Guillermo Grajeda Mena, Dagoberto Vasquez, Roberto Gonzalez Goyri, as well as decorations by Rudolph Galeotti Torres and Carlos Rigalt.

As the most important building in Guatemala, all roads lead to and from the Palace, which is now a national museum. It is also the seat of government and home to the famous 'hands of peace' monument. Your delegates cannot fail but be mesmerized by the splendor and beauty of this amazing location.

1 of 2 ►

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INTRODUCTION | LOCATIONS | SPEAKERS | COMMUNITY | INTERACTIONS | BREAKS | CONTACT US

THE NATIONAL PALACE OF CULTURE

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VISIT THE SPLENDID LA MERCED CHURCH

Take time out of your meeting to visit the wonderful La Merced Church in the heart of Guatemala City's historic center. This ancient church with its imposing colonial architecture and warm yellow baroque exterior was completed in the early nineteenth Century.

During their visit, delegates will be able to admire some of Guatemala's most precious works of art, whose best expressions can be seen in the altar pieces, sculptures such as Our Lady of Las Mercedes, paintings, textiles and other objects that make up the religious heritage of this sacred site.

Delegates can also enjoy a stroll through the romantic ruins of the former monastery, once attached to the main church. Here they will discover the Fountain of the Fish (Fuente de Pescados), which stands over 80ft high.

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INTRODUCTION | LOCATIONS | SPEAKERS | COMMUNITY | INTERACTIONS | BREAKS | CONTACT US

LA MERCED CHURCH

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LEARN THE SECRETS OF GREAT COFFEE WITH OUR BARISTA

Your delegates are invited to spend time in the company of Mr Raul Rodas, a multi award-winning barista and coffee connoisseur.

Raul will give your delegates fascinating and entertaining insights into how coffee is produced in Guatemala, and introduce them to the many different types of the beverage.

He will also spend time passing on his skills and tips on how to prepare truly delicious coffee, and identify a good quality espresso. In addition, he will talk about his work as a professional barista and the art of creating new and different coffee creations, using various types of milk, essences and liqueurs, among others. An interactive and entertaining session, which is bound to impress your delegates.

1 of 2 ►

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INTRODUCTION | LOCATIONS | SPEAKERS | COMMUNITY | INTERACTIONS | BREAKS | CONTACT US

MR RAUL RODAS

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MEET THE DREAM MAKER EXTRAORDINAIRE

Adventurer, traveler, super-athlete and dreamer, Juan Carlos Sagastume, will treat your delegates to an inspiring presentation of his amazing life so far.

Juan believes we have to be actors in life, not just observers. And he practices what he preaches.

In 2006 he became the first Latin American to cross the Atlantic in a rowing boat after sailing for 64 days, 13 hours and 16 minutes, covering a distance of 5,280 miles. At 19 he cycled 6,500km around Europe in 85 days. In his next adventure he plans to speed scale all 37 volcanoes in Guatemala in just 10 days.

Using personal anecdotes from his life experiences, Juan will talk to your delegates about the importance of teamwork, leadership, communication, respect, perseverance, self-belief and effort to achieve your goals. ◀

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INTRODUCTION | LOCATIONS | SPEAKERS | COMMUNITY | INTERACTIONS | BREAKS | CONTACT US

MEET JUAN CARLOS SAGASTUME

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SUPPORT THE LOCAL COMMUNITY – HELP OUR SENIORS

Your delegates are invited to do something worthwhile for the community and rewarding for them by volunteering for the day at a home for the elderly in the local area.

Cabecitas de Algodón is a charitable organization that runs two home-from-homes for terminally ill and homeless seniors. Delegates can interact with the older people, join in with their activities and hear their life stories.

Your organization will also have the opportunity to make a financial contribution to help in the creation of a desperately needed third home, as there is currently a very long waiting list of homeless seniors in need of a permanent place to live.

1 of 2 ►

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INTRODUCTION | LOCATIONS | SPEAKERS | COMMUNITY | INTERACTIONS | BREAKS | CONTACT US

CABECITAS DE ALGODÓN

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HELP OUR CHILDREN TO INCREASE THEIR KNOWLEDGE

Every month Maya children attending public schools, nurseries and orphanages in the national education system, can visit the Children's Museum of Guatemala.

These visits are only possible thanks to donations from kind donors, and your organization is cordially invited to sponsor the children on their next trip.

Your delegates will be able to come along on the day and join the children as they have fun learning and interacting in an exciting and stimulating environment. This is a real treat for the children and it will be for your delegates too.

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INTRODUCTION | LOCATIONS | SPEAKERS | COMMUNITY | INTERACTIONS | BREAKS | CONTACT US

CHILDREN'S MUSEUM OF GUATEMALA

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CREATE YOUR OWN GUATEMALAN KNITWEAR

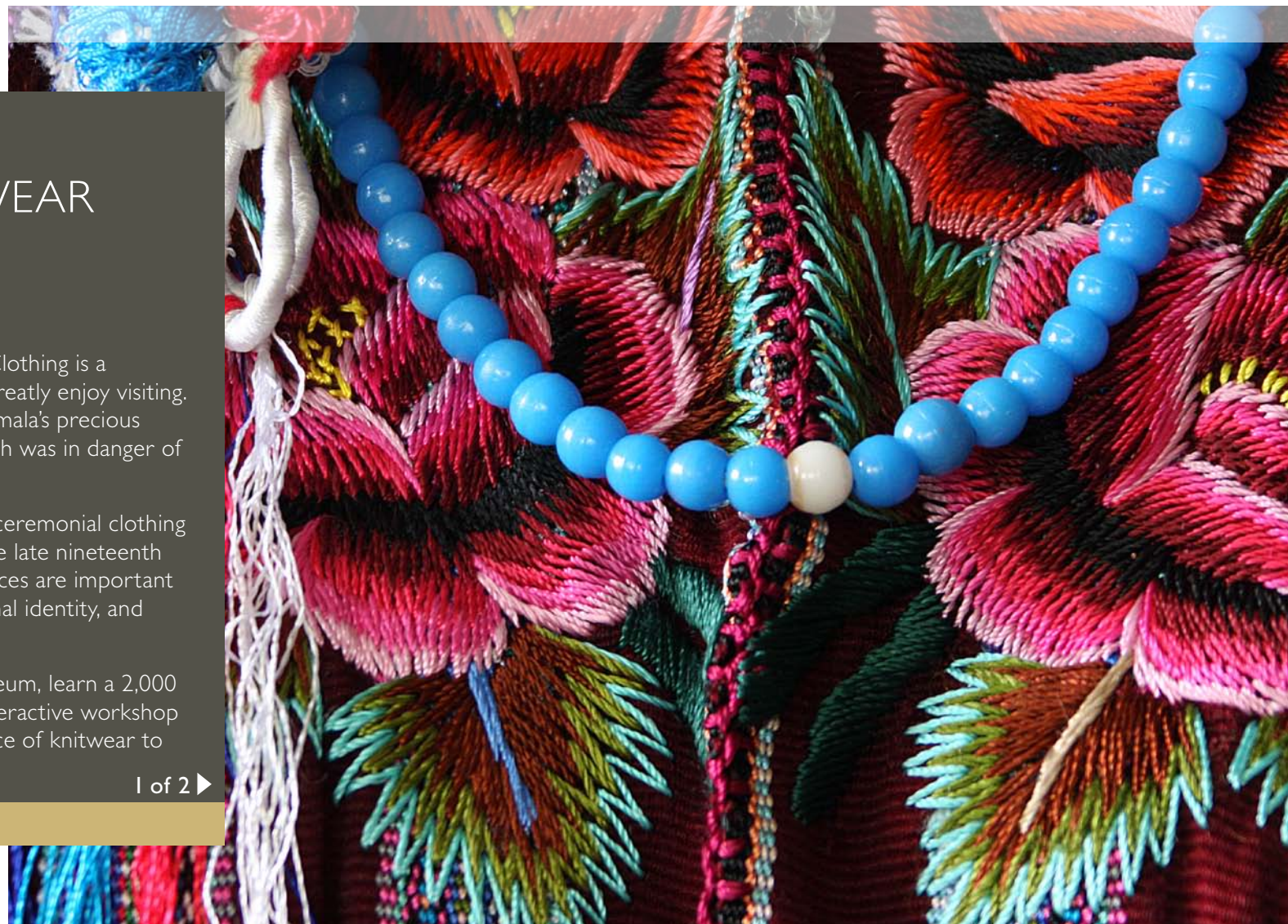
The Ixel Museum of Indigenous Textiles and Clothing is a fascinating place and one your delegates will greatly enjoy visiting. The museum was founded to preserve Guatemala's precious indigenous heritage and culture, much of which was in danger of eroding away.

The main collection consists of everyday and ceremonial clothing and a diverse range of textiles, dating from the late nineteenth and early twentieth Century to today. The pieces are important and irreplaceable examples of local and regional identity, and originate from 156 different communities.

Delegates can enjoy a guided tour of the museum, learn a 2,000 year-old art of weaving and take part in an interactive workshop where they can make their own individual piece of knitwear to take home with them as a personal souvenir.

1 of 2 ►

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INTRODUCTION | LOCATIONS | SPEAKERS | COMMUNITY | INTERACTIONS | BREAKS | CONTACT US

TRADITIONAL GUATEMALAN TEXTILES

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DISCOVER ANTIGUA AND GUATEMALA'S EXOTIC PAST

To visit the city of Antigua is to enter a world suspended in time. Just 45kms from Guatemala City, it was once the third capital established by the Spaniards in 1543. Despite being stripped of its capital status following the earthquake of 1773, echoes of its rich colonial past still remain and today it is one of Guatemala's major tourist attractions.

Of immense historical and cultural value, it was designated a UNESCO 'World Heritage Site' in 1979.

Delegates can enjoy a cultural tour of many of the places of interest including the General's Palace, City Hall, San José Church, the Archbishop's Palace and the Portal of Commerce (o de las Panaderas). In the center of the plaza, nestles The Mermaid's Fountain. The perfect place to stop for a coffee and watch the world go by.

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INTRODUCTION | LOCATIONS | SPEAKERS | COMMUNITY | INTERACTIONS | BREAKS | CONTACT US

THE GENERAL'S PALACE

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SAVOR TRUE GUATEMALAN CUISINE

We have drawn our inspiration for this menu from the pre-Hispanic era and added a simple, modern twist of our own. We have combined classic Mayan cuisine, which has its basis in the produce available at the time such as sweet corn and kidney beans, with our own style to offer deliciously original alternatives.

COLD OPTIONS

Chancol cheese cuts served with sauco marmalade and toasted baguette • Smoked salchichón, with Dijon mustard

HOT OPTIONS

Beef chile relleno brioche with soft chipotle sauce • Jocon green tomatillos chicken pita with melted cheese

SWEET OPTIONS

Puréed plantains stuffed with our pastry cream • Sweet corn ice cream

1 of 2 ►

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INTRODUCTION | LOCATIONS | SPEAKERS | COMMUNITY | INTERACTIONS | BREAKS | CONTACT US

TRUE GUATEMALAN CUISINE

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INTERNATIONAL BREAK

For this delicious break, which combines the best flavors from around the world, you can choose from:

COLD OPTIONS

Mini wrap of chicken with caramelized onions • Spring rolls with nam-prik sauce • Pastry basket with marinade mushrooms • Olives, pickles, onions, humus and toast bread • Mini focaccia with 3 cheeses • Fish or shrimp dumpling • Mini phillo stuffed with cheese and spinach

SWEET OPTIONS

Lemon or cranberry mini tiramisu • Mango mousse • Mini lemon pie

Fresh selection of natural fruit juices: orange, melon, papaya

Coffee or tea

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INTRODUCTION | LOCATIONS | SPEAKERS | COMMUNITY | INTERACTIONS | BREAKS | CONTACT US

DELICIOUS INTERNATIONAL BREAK

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THANK YOU

Contact us to learn more about the Guatemala Insider Collection and how we can help you create a truly memorable experience with authentic local flavor.

Whichever Insider Collection experience is right for you, you can be assured that it reflects the best principles of Responsible Business, a commitment demonstrated by our partnership with the National Geographic Center for Sustainable Destinations.

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