Next January escape the winter and settle in at the lovely 18th century Hacienda Misné, located near the White City of Mérida, one of the oldest cities in the American continent, on the sunny Yucatán Peninsula. While thousands of touristic sun-worshippers may flock to Cancún or Cozumel on Yucatán’s eastern shore, we will be close to the northern shore, a more authentic historical region.

This program, especially designed for Williams, offers day trips to amazing archaeological sites, Spanish colonial towns, ocean beaches, a nature reserve, and Uxmal on the itinerary, Antonia will have ample opportunity to share her knowledge of the ancients. In addition, learn about a main component of the peninsula’s charm and its exotic birds and animals, cenotes for swimming, and festive meals at haciendas. You will be transported into an oasis of peace and relaxation. Pebbled paths with lush flowers and study trees welcome you.

Your study leader is Professor Antonia Foias, an archeologist who has a decade of experience in Maya digs. With major sites such as Chichén Itzá and Uxmal on the itinerary, Antonia will have ample opportunity to share her knowledge of the ancients.

In addition, learn about a main component of the peninsula’s charm and its architectural heritage—the haciendas and its rich design style, architectural wonder of a bygone era. We will get an insight into the lifestyle of the wealthy henequen (sisal) planters during the 19th and beginning of the 20th century.

If you seek a relaxing experience and a deeper immediate acquaintance with the civilizations of Mesoamerica and the colonial company throughout, travel with Antonia Foias and Williams alumni staying at a beautiful hacienda during a lovely time of the year.

Kind regards,

Robert Behr ’55, Coordinator
The Williams College Alumni Travel-Study program

COSTS AND CONDITIONS

LAND PROGRAM COST: $3,945

SINGLE SUPPLEMENT*: $865

*Should you request to share a twin room, we will attempt to find a roommate for you. However, if at the time of final payment no roommate is available, the single supplement fee is charged.

SAMPLE AIRFARE FROM BOSTON: $756

*As of March 2012 and is subject to change. (Other gateway cities are available)

**The following are the official Williams College credits and fees and are subject to change. For the most current information please contact the Office of Student Financial Services or visit the Williams College website.

1. New York (JFK or LGA) roundtrip airfare; 2. Airport transfers; 3. Domestic airport transportation; 4. Hotels, accommodations, and meals; 5. All site fees; 6. All tours and excursions; 7. All ground transportation; 8. All tips for tour director, local guides and drivers, and others. 

CANCELLATIONS AND REFUNDS:

A deposit of $500 per person payable to “Royal Adventures” is due on or before February 1, 2012. Final payment for the program is due December 15, 2012. (Other gateway cities are available) 

The advertised single supplement fee is charged to each individual camp unless a roommate is available, the single supplement fee is charged. Reservations are acknowledged in order of receipt and accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Deposits may be charged to a credit card. Final payment is due October 25, 2012 and is non-refundable. Royal Adventures handles all bookings, ticketing, and billing. CST #209-679-060

COSTS AND CONDITIONS

1. Land program cost includes roundtrip airfare from New York (JFK or LGA); 2. Accommodations; 3. Transportation; 4. Meals; 5. Site fees; 6. All tours and excursions; 7. All tips for tour director, local guides and drivers, and others; 8. All ground transportation; 9. Airport transfers; 10. Domestic airport transportation; 11. Personal items; 12. Insurance; 13. Any items not specified in the itinerary; 14. Personal effects are the sole responsibility of the owners. 

ADDITIONAL FEES:

1. Alcoholic beverages not included; 2. Optional excursions; 3. National park fees; 4. Personal items; 5. Optional gratuities; 6. Airfare to the gateway city (New York); 7. Land program cost; 8. All air transportation; 9. Personal effects are the sole responsibility of the owners.

RESPONSIBILITY:

Royal Adventures, its agents and employees act only as agents for the various independently owned and operated airlines, hotels, transportation, travel agencies, tour operators, and travel service companies engaged in carrying out any part of the tours. No responsibility or liability is assumed by Royal Adventures for acts of default or omission by any of the airlines or other travel service companies engaged in carrying out any part of the tours. Neither Royal Adventures, its agents, its employees, its contractors, nor any other person acting on behalf of Royal Adventures, accepts the liability for any airline cancellation, change, or delay, whether caused by the defect of any aircraft or vehicle, the weather, or any other cause. Neither Royal Adventures, its agents, its employees, its contractors, nor any other person acting on behalf of Royal Adventures, accepts the liability for any airline cancellation, change, or delay, whether caused by the defect of any aircraft or vehicle, the weather, or any other cause. Neither Royal Adventures, its agents, its employees, its contractors, nor any other person acting on behalf of Royal Adventures, accepts the liability for any airline cancellation, change, or delay, whether caused by the defect of any aircraft or vehicle, the weather, or any other cause. Neither Royal Adventures, its agents, its employees, its contractors, nor any other person acting on behalf of Royal Adventures, accepts the liability for any airline cancellation, change, or delay, whether caused by the defect of any aircraft or vehicle, the weather, or any other cause. Neither Royal Adventures, its agents, its employees, its contractors, nor any other person acting on behalf of Royal Adventures, accepts the liability for any airline cancellation, change, or delay, whether caused by the defect of any aircraft or vehicle, the weather, or any other cause. Neither Royal Adventures, its agents, its employees, its contractors, nor any other person acting on behalf of Royal Adventures, accepts the liability for any airline cancellation, change, or delay, whether caused by the defect of any aircraft or vehicle, the weather, or any other cause. Neither Royal Adventures, its agents, its employees, its contractors, nor any other person acting on behalf of Royal Adventures, accepts the liability for any airline cancellation, change, or delay, whether caused by the defect of any aircraft or vehicle, the weather, or any other cause. Neither Royal Adventures, its agents, its employees, its contractors, nor any other person acting on behalf of Royal Adventures, accepts the liability for any airline cancellation, change, or delay, whether caused by the defect of any aircraft or vehicle, the weather, or any other cause. Neither Royal Adventures, its agents, its employees, its contractors, nor any other person acting on behalf of Royal Adventures, accepts the liability for any airline cancellation, change, or delay, whether caused by the defect of any aircraft or vehicle, the weather, or any other cause. Neither Royal Adventures, its agents, its employees, its contractors, nor any other person acting on behalf of Royal Adventures, accepts the liability for any airline cancellation, change, or delay, whether caused by the defect of any aircraft or vehicle, the weather, or any other cause. Neither Royal Adventures, its agents, its employees, its contractors, nor any other person acting on behalf of Royal Adventures, accepts the liability for any airline cancellation, change, or delay, whether caused by the defect of any aircraft or vehicle, the weather, or any other cause. Neither Royal Adventures, its agents, its employees, its contractors, nor any other person acting on behalf of Royal Adventures, accepts the liability for any airline cancellation, change, or delay, whether caused by the defect of any aircraft or vehicle, the weather, or any other cause. Neither Royal Adventures, its agents, its employees, its contractors, nor any other person acting on behalf of Royal Adventures, accepts the liability for any airline cancellation, change, or delay, whether caused by the defect of any aircraft or vehicle, the weather, or any other cause.

COSTS AND CONDITIONS

LAND PROGRAM COST: $3,945

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SAMPLE AIRFARE FROM BOSTON: $756

*As of March 2012 and is subject to change. (Other gateway cities are available)
Dear Fellow Alumni and Friends of Williams:

Next January escape the winter and settle in to the lovely 18th century Hacienda Misné, located near the White City of Mérida, one of the oldest cities in the American continent, on the surry Yucatán Peninsula. While thousands of tourists sun-worshipers may flock to Cancun or Cozumel on Yucatán’s eastern shore, we are close to the northern shore, a more authentic historical region.

This program, especially designed for Williams, offers day trips to amazing archaeological sites, Spanish colonial towns, ocean beaches, a nature reserve with exotic birds and animals, cenotes for swimming, and festive meals at haciendas. You will walk on this ancient beautiful, comfortable and historic hacienda, blessed with tropical gardens and two fine swimming pools. As the old century oak door of the hacienda closes, the world remains behind, and you are transported into an oasis of peace and relaxation. Paved paths with lush flowers and study trees welcome you.

Your study leader is Professor Antonia Foias, an archeologist who has a decade of experience at Maya digs. With major sites such as Chichén Itzá and Uxmal on the itinerary, Antonia will have ample opportunity to share her knowledge of the ancients.

If you seek a relaxing experience and a deeper more immediate acquaintance with the civilizations of Mesoamerica and congenial company throughout, this is the Williams Alumni College’s Travel-Study program.

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ITINERARY

Saturday, January 19
ARRIVAL TO MÉRIDA
Fly from the U.S. to Mérida. Upon arrival in Mérida, transfer to the Hacienda Misné. Hacienda Misné (meals not included)
Sunday, January 20
MÉRIDA
Welcome orientation this morning at the Hacienda. Depart for a tour of Mérida. Known as “The White City” because of the color of the stone used to construct many of the buildings, Mérida is the capital city of the state of Yucatán and once sustained the Mayan civilization. Lunch is at the Hacienda Sotuta de Peón. Hacienda Misné (B, L, D)

Monday, January 21
HACIENDA SOTUTA DE PEÓN
Visit to a large hacienda owned by the English of New Orleans and estates to the English. Hacienda Misné (B, L, D)

ITINERARY

Tuesday, January 22
CHICHÉN ITZÁ / IZAMAL
Explore the ancient city of Chichén Itzá and its sacred cenote. Visit to the Franciscan church of Izamal. Hacienda Misné (B, L, D)

Wednesday, January 23
CHICHÉN ITZÁ / IZAMAL
After breakfast depart for the small fishing port of Celestún. Located on the western coast of the Yucatán Peninsula, Dzibilchaltún was continuously occupied from 800 BC to 1590 AD. At the Temple of the Dolls, 6,000 figurines were buried beneath the floor. A suite through the floor was designed to present the Maya deity, the spirit of Divers. Explore the Cenote Xlacah, a 140 foot deep natural well, believed to have been a place of communication with the gods. The site also has a significant archeaological history and culture, while enjoying the luxury and first class service. Its daily lives and traditions. Hacienda Misné (B, L, D)

Thursday, January 24
IZAMAL
This morning is at leisure to explore the Hacienda or to shop. After lunch visit the ancient and impressive city of Uxmal with its graceful architecture and symmetrical streets. Hacienda Misné (B, L, D)

Friday, January 25
IZAMAL
Transfer to the airport this morning for flights back the US. (B)

HACIENDA MISNÉ
At the historical Hacienda Misné you will submerge yourself into the great history and culture of Yucatán, while enjoying the luxury and first class service. 42 spacious rooms and 8 majestic suites all overlooking the colonial era, while the high hospitality standards and comfort bring them back to modern days. Enjoy the morning reading on the terrace with a cup of coffee. Lunch is at a local restaurant next to the hacienda, providing a peaceful atmosphere.

Chicken Itza

Flights: Round-trip from Yucatán to Mérida on Iberia Airlines

DAY 1: Arrival to Mérida

DAY 2: Chichén Itzá and Izamal

DAY 3: Chichén Itzá and Izamal

DAY 4: Celestún

DAY 5: Uxmal

DAY 6: Izamal

DAY 7: Departure

Cenote Yucatán

Caribbean Climate

Hacienda Misné

Welcome to Hacienda Misné.

ITINERARY

Saturday, January 19
ARRIVAL TO MÉRIDA
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Sunday, January 20
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Thursday, January 24
IZAMAL
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Friday, January 25
IZAMAL
Transfer to the airport this morning for flights back the US. (B)
ITINERARY

Saturday, January 19
ARRIVAL TO MÉRIDA
Fly from the U.S. to Mérida. Upon arrival in Mérida, transfer to the Hacienda Misné. Hacienda Misné (meals start).

Sunday, January 20
MÉRIDA
Welcome orientation this morning at the Hacienda. Depart for a tour of Mérida. Known as “The White City” because of the color of the stone used to construct many of the buildings. Mérida is the capital city of the state of Yucatán and has a unique feel with its mixture of colonial architecture and modern development.

ITINERARY

Monday, January 21
HACIENDA MISNÉ
Enjoy breakfast or dinner at the terraces surrounded by tropical gardens, providing a peaceful atmosphere.

Tuesday, January 22
CHICHÉN ITZÁ / Izamal
Explore the grand site of Chichén Itzá. One of the Wonders of the World. Chichén Itzá is a vast ruin—Chichén Itzá was home to Maya and Toltec architects who do not wish to stay for the Light and Sound Show, there will be transportation back to the Hacienda.

Wednesday, January 23
CELESTÚN & BEACH DAY
After breakfast depart for the small fishing port of Celestún. Located southwest of Mérida, Celestún is a quaint fishing village famous not only for its seafood restaurants, but also for its river with beautiful flamingo, bird colonies. Take a boat ride up the river to see the Pink Flamingos. Celestún is a fantastic place for its river with beautiful flamingo bird colonies. Take a boat ride up the river to see the Pink Flamingos. Celestún is a fantastic place for

Thursday, January 24
UXMAL
This morning is at leisure to relax and enjoy the Hacienda or to shop. After lunch visit the ancient and impressive city of Uxmal with its graceful architecture, symmetry and grandeur. It represents some of the best examples of classic Maya art and architecture, namely the Puuc style. In the Late Classic period, 600–900 AD, it was the most important city in the Puuc Hills region which included the smaller towns of Sayaj, Kahab, Xlapak and Labna. Dinner is at a local restaurant. After dinner, return to Uxmal to experience the famous Light and Sound Show, acclaimed to be one of the finest in the world. See the archaeological site colorfully lit up to the accompaniment of drum and flute music, while a speaker recounts the history of Uxmal. For those passengers who do not wish to stay for the light and sound show, there will be transportation back to the Hacienda.

Friday, January 25
DZIBILCHALTÚN & BEACH DAY
One of the oldest sites on the Peninsula. Dzibilchaltún was continuously occupied from 200 BC to 1590 AD. At the Temple of the Dolls, 7 clay figurines were buried beneath the floor. A tube through the floor was added to modern astronomical observatories. Of particular interest is the structure known as El Caracol or the Observatory as it bears a striking resemblance to modern astronomical observatories. Lunch is at a local restaurant with an entrance fee. Afternoon is at leisure to relax and enjoy the Hacienda or to shop. After lunch visit the ancient and impressive city of Uxmal with its graceful architecture, symmetry and grandeur. It represents some of the best examples of classic Maya art and architecture, namely the Puuc style. In the Late Classic period, 600–900 AD, it was the most important city in the Puuc Hills region which included the smaller towns of Sayaj, Kahab, Xlapak and Labna. Dinner is at a local restaurant. After dinner, return to Uxmal to experience the famous Light and Sound Show, acclaimed to be one of the finest in the world. See the archaeological site colorfully lit up to the accompaniment of drum and flute music, while a speaker recounts the history of Uxmal. For those passengers who do not wish to stay for the light and sound show, there will be transportation back to the Hacienda.

Saturday, January 26
FLIGHTS BACK TO THE U.S.
Flights back to the U.S. (B)
Hacienda Misné

ARRIVAL IN MÉRIDA

Fly from the U.S. to Mérida. Upon arrival in Mérida, transfer to the Hacienda Misné. Madame Misné will take you on a tour of the colonial city, ending with dinner at the Anthropological Museum. Dinner at the Hacienda Misné.

Tuesday, January 22

CHICHÉN ITZÁ & UFAM

Explore the site today in the freight liner—Chichen Itzá. Established around 550AD, this remarkable site was home to Maya and Toltec civilizations. Included is a visit to a traditional Mayan house and an opportunity to swim in a crystal clear cenote (fresh water pool). The widely distributed cenotes, or natural wells have long been principal sources of water in the Yucatán and once sustained the Mayan life. Lunch is at the Hacienda Santa Cruz Pulin with time to enjoy the hacienda’s pool.

Modern Mérida continues its mixture of colonial architecture of Yucatán and has a unique feel with its color of the stone used in its construction. The city’s main street, Paseo de Montejo, is lined with majestic residences along with the chef’s specialties combining the Mayan and European flavors.

Hacienda Misné

ITINERARY

Saturday, January 19

ARRIVAL TO MÉRIDA

Mérida Cathedral

Saturday, January 20

HÉRIDA

Welcome orientation this morning at the Hacienda. Depart for a tour of Mérida. Known as “The White City” because of the color of the stone used to construct many of the buildings. Mérida is the capital city of the state of Yucatán and has a unique feel with its mixture of colonial architecture and ancient Maya heritage. Highlights include the Anthropological Museum, Mérida’s Cathedral and a carriage ride on the famous Pasos de Montejo Avenue, lined with majestic residences that today are the pride of Mérida.

Antonia begins her teaching at the Anthropological Museum. Dinner at the Hacienda Misné.

Monday, January 21

HACIENDA JOTUA DE PÉON

At the historical Hacienda Misné you will submerge yourself into the great history and culture of Yucatán, with 42 spacious rooms and 8 majestic suites. The suites were designed to take guests back to the colonial era, while the high hospitality standards and comfort bring them back to modern days. Enjoy the morning reading, sunbathing or swimming at both open air swimming pools. Relax with a massage at the Mayan Spa. The restaurant located right on the beach.

At Hacienda Misné, you are invited to enjoy the luxury and first class service. Its architecture, its symmetry and grandeur. It represents some of the best examples of classic Maya art and architecture, namely the Puuc style. In the Late Classic period, 600-900 AD, it was the most important city in the Puuc Hills region which included the smaller towns of Sayil, Kabah, Xlapak and Labna. Dinner is at a local restaurant. After dinner, return to Uxmal to experience the famous Light and Sound Show, acclaimed to be one of the finest in the world. See the archeological site colorfully lit up to the accompaniment of drum and flute music, while a speaker recounts the history of Uxmal. For those passengers who do not wish to stay for the Light and Sound Show, there will be transportation back to the Hacienda.

Wednesday, January 23

CÉLESTUN

After breakfast depart for the small fishing port of Celestún, Located southeast of Mérida, Celestún is a quaint fishing village famous not only for its seafood restaurants, but also for its river with beautiful flamingo bird colonies. Take a boat ride up the river to see the Pink Flamingos in its natural habitat, along with other bird species. Lunch is at a seafood restaurant located right on the beach. “Meet the People” event at the Hacienda this afternoon to get to know some local people and learn about their daily lives and traditions. Madame Misné.

Thursday, January 24

UXMAL

This morning is at leisure to relax and enjoy the Hacienda or to shop. After lunch visit the ancient and impressive city of Uxmal with its graceful archways, the Puuc art style and Puuc architecture.

Hacienda Misné

Trip to the airport this morning for flights back to the U.S. (B)
ITINERARY

Saturday, January 19

ARRIVAL TO MÉRIDA
Fly from the U.S. to Mérida. Upon arrival in Mérida, transfer to the Hacienda Misné. Hacienda Misné (meals aloft)

Sunday, January 20

MÉRIDA
Welcome orientation this morning at the Hacienda. Depart for a tour of Mérida. Known as ‘The White City’ because of the color of the stone used to construct many of the buildings, Mérida is the capital city of the state of Yucatán and has a unique feel with its mixture of colonial architecture and ancient Maya heritage. Highlights include the Anthropology Museum, Mérida Cathedral, Evaristo de la O and the famous Paseo de Montejo along with the chef’s specialties combining the Mayan and European flavors.

Tuesday, January 22

CHICHÉN ITZÁ / IZAMAL
Explore the ancient city of Chichén Itzá is located southwest of Mérida, a vast ball court and the sacred well. Lunch is at a seafood restaurant.

Friday, January 25

DZIBILCHALTÚN & BEACH DAY
One of the oldest sites on the Peninsula, Dzibilchaltún was continuously occupied from 800 BC to 1590 AD. At the Temple of the 7, 57 stairways were built facing the floor. A lighthouse through the floor was designed to guide maritime traffic. The site also has an excellent museum. Continue to a beach located close to modern day Dzündzún Argüel and enjoy the beach and swim in the warm waters of the Gulf of Mexico. Return to the Hacienda in the late afternoon. Hacienda Misné (B, L, D)

Saturday, January 26

MÉRIDA
Transfer to the airport this morning for flights back to the U.S. (B)

source of the green gold of the Yucatán—sisal— that made many a millionaire. Haciendas are to the Yucatán what the Great Plains were to the United States.

At the Hacienda Misné you will submerge yourself into the great history and culture of Yucatán, where you can experience the life of the estate and learn about their daily lives and traditions. Hacienda Misné (B, L, D)

Tuesday, January 22

CHICHÉN ITZÁ / IZAMAL
Explore the ancient city of Chichén Itzá is located southwest of Mérida, a vast ball court and the sacred well. Lunch is at a seafood restaurant. After dinner, return to Uxmal to experience the famous Light and Sound Show, there will be transportation back to the Hacienda.

Wednesday, January 23

CULIYÉN
After breakfast depart for the small fishing port of Celestún. Located just south of the Yucatán Peninsula, Dzibilchaltún was continuously occupied from 800 BC to 1590 AD. At the Temple of the 7, 57 stairways were built facing the floor. A lighthouse through the floor was designed to guide maritime traffic. The site also has an excellent museum. Continue to a beach located close to modern day Dzündzún Argüel and enjoy the beach and swim in the warm waters of the Gulf of Mexico. Return to the Hacienda in the late afternoon. Hacienda Misné (B, L, D)

Thursday, January 24

UXMAL
This morning is at leisure to relax and enjoy the hacienda or to shop. After

On July 7th 2007, Chichén Itzá was declared one of the new Seven Wonders of the World. Chichén Itzá is also home to the largest known Maya ball court and the sacred well, a vast natural well believed to have been the Monday, January 21

HACIENDA SOTUTA DE PEÓN
Haciendas are to the Yucatán what ranches are to Texas, plantations to New Orleans and estates to the English Countryside. In the early 1900’s these magnificent land holdings were the home of the ancient and impressive city of Uxmal with its graceful architecture, symmetrical and grand. It represents some of the best examples of classic Mayan art and architecture, namely the Puuc style. In the Late Classic period, 600-900 AD, it was the most important city in the Puuc Hills region which included the smaller towns of Sayil, Kabah, Xlapak and Labná. Dinner is at a local restaurant.

ANTONIA FOIAS,
Alumni College in the Yucatán, January 19-26, 2013.
Enclosed is my check or credit card authorization for $______ ($500 deposit per person) payable to “ALUMNI EDUCATION FUND” on the Alumni College in the Yucatán, January 19-26, 2013. I/We will take care of our own international flight arrangements.

If possible, please assign a roommate:

Name as on passport

Please return this form with deposit check or credit card authorization to: Ph.D. from Vanderbilt.

Watson College

Date

Visa

No: __________________________ E-mail ________________________________________
Fax: __________________________
Telephone: (home)___________________________          (work) ___________________________
City_________________________________________                    State__________ Zip_______________
Address  ________________________________________________________
Signature(s) __________________________________
Alumni College in the Yucatán, January 19-26, 2013.
Enclosed is my check or credit card authorization for $______ ($500 deposit per person) payable to “ALUMNI EDUCATION FUND” on the Alumni College in the Yucatán, January 19-26, 2013. I/We will take care of our own international flight arrangements.

If possible, please assign a roommate:

Name as on passport

Please return this form with deposit check or credit card authorization to: Ph.D. from Vanderbilt.

Watson College

Date

Visa

No: __________________________ E-mail ________________________________________
Fax: __________________________
Telephone: (home)___________________________          (work) ___________________________
City_________________________________________                    State__________ Zip_______________
Address  ________________________________________________________
Signature(s) __________________________________

Antonia Foias is very well versed on the peoples and cultures of the Mayan world, past and present. Her interest in the ancient Maya is enhanced by her work on an archaeological site near Tikal where she has conducted excavations for over a decade. A look at the site was published last year, revealing Mayan politics and power struggles. Professor Foias has brought Williams students to the site, the paral life interests, courses, and papers concern Mesoamerican cultural evolution, the rise and fall of civilizations, empires of antiquity, and ceramic analysis. She received a B. A. from Harvard and her Ph.D. from Vanderbilt.
WHAT TO EXPECT

This exclusive Williams College program
PAID
Alumni Relations
75 Park Street
Williamstown, MA 01267

JANUARY 19–26, 2013

Featuring Professor Antonia Foias

A Society of Alumni & College Alumni program

Travel-Study program

Next January escape the winter and settle in at the lovely 18th century Hacienda Mísne, located near the White City of Mérida, one of the oldest cities in the American continent on the sunny Yucatán Peninsula. While thousands of tourist sun-worshippers may flock to Cancun or Cozumel on Yucatán’s eastern shore, we will be close to the northern shore, a more authentic historical region.

This program, especially designed for Williams, offers day trips to amazing archaeological sites. Spanish colonial towns, ocean beaches, a nature reserve with exotic birds and animals, coves for swimming, and festive meals at charming locales. You unpack once at this beautiful, comfortable and historic hacienda, blessed with tropical gardens and two fine swimming pools. As the old century oak door of the hacienda closes, the world remains behind and you are transported into an oasis of peace and relaxation. Paved paths with lush flowers and study trees welcome you.

Your study leader is Professor Antonia Foias, an archeologist who has had a decade of experience at Maya digs. With major sites such as Chichén Itzá and Uxmal on the itinerary, Antonia will have ample opportunity to share her knowledge of the ancients. In addition, learn about a main component of the peninsula’s charm and its architectural heritage—the hacienda and its rich design style, architectural wonder of a bygone area. We’ll get an insight into the lifestyle of the wealthy families who have managed the haciendas, and learn about their cultural and economic impact. You will understand the historical impact of the haciendas on the Yucatán Peninsula and why the hacienda style remains so popular today.

On your first day of arrival, you will unpack at Hacienda Mísne, where the comfort of the hacienda and its plantation-style hospitality await you. The hacienda, blessed with tropical gardens and two fine swimming pools, as well as its hacienda style, provides the perfect setting for a Williams College Alumni College trip. Yucatán provides the perfect setting for a Williams College Alumni College trip.

Hacienda Mísne, located near the White City of Mérida, one of the oldest cities in the American continent on the sunny Yucatán Peninsula.
Next month, a Williams Alumni Travel-Study program to the Yucatán Peninsula will offer students an opportunity to study the archaeological, cultural, and historical aspects of the region. Led by Professor Antonia Foias, an archeologist and Maya expert, the program will explore the architectural wonders of ancient Maya cities, the rich history and culture of the Yucatán Peninsula, and the natural beauty of the region.

The program will feature visits to important archaeological sites, including the ancient cities of Chichén Itáli and Uxmal, as well as the historic city of Mérida. Participants will also have the opportunity to explore the cultural heritage of the Yucatán through hands-on experiences, such as traditional cooking classes and visits to local markets.

The Williams Alumni Travel-Study program to the Yucatán Peninsula is designed for students interested in studying the region's rich history and culture. The program will offer a unique opportunity to explore the ancient cities of the Yucatán Peninsula and experience the rich cultural heritage of the region.

Program highlights include:
- Visits to important archaeological sites, including Chichén Itáli, Uxmal, and Mérida
- Cultural experiences, such as traditional cooking classes and visits to local markets
- Hands-on learning opportunities, such as archaeology fieldwork and cultural immersion activities

The program will run from January 19 to January 26, 2013. If you are interested in participating or learning more about the program, please contact Joanna Ciafone at 925-820-6260 or 1-800-453-4754.

For more information, please visit the Williams Alumni Travel-Study program website at <http://www.williams.edu/alumni/travel.htm>.