

# Artful Living



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# Cancun Calling

The Grand Fiesta Americana takes relaxation to new heights.

BY FRANK ROFFERS

**T**he Grand Fiesta Americana Coral Beach Cancun Resort & Spa is located on the Yucatán Peninsula's finest stretch of private beach. It has everything to offer, and guests have no reason to step foot off the property.

All of the 600-plus suites afford breathtaking views, each with a private terrace facing the turquoise Caribbean waters and the lagoon-like pool. The resort's beachfront is considered the area's best, with onsite watersports from kayaking and snorkeling to Jet Skis and paddleboards. Open vistas with long sightlines include an unobstructed view of nearby Isla Mujeres. Adults enjoy swim-up bars, while children take in entertainment at the Fiesta Kids club.

The hotel's top two floors are designated for the Grand Club. A 12th-floor VIP lounge features butler service and an extensive variety of complimentary food and drinks. The Grand Club concierge offers personalized services, including private check-in and checkout.

The Grand Fiesta Americana features several dining venues, namely Le Basilic, one of few restaurants in Mexico to hold the AAA Five Diamond distinction. The exceptional eatery serves French-Mediterranean fare under the guidance of Chef Henri Charvet, who holds the title of Maître Cuisinier de France. His team



takes fresh, local ingredients to a new level using French culinary techniques. Guests' dining experiences are captured live by a commissioned artist who makes art come to life against the backdrop of live jazz.

La Joya dishes up the authentic tastes of Mexico in a classic setting, complete with a 10-piece mariachi band, a tequila lounge and scenes from vintage cinema. Overlooking the Caribbean, Isla Contoy is a casual beachfront eatery serving fresh seafood. The beautifully appointed Viña del Mar pairs sea vistas with a lavish breakfast and brunch offering.

The resort boasts the best spa in Cancun — and perhaps all of the Caribbean. The 40,000-square-foot Gem Spa has unmatched amenities and innovative treatments, such as its 10-stop hydrotherapy ritual. This two-hour circuit of hot-and-cold conditioning carries one away in a sea of sensations.

First, you step into a steam room to melt away tension. From there, you cool off in a shower with multiple jets to invigorate the senses before getting detoxified and baked in a hot-clay steam room. After that, you chill out in an ice room before popping into a hot sauna to warm up once again. Next up is a rain shower before transitioning into a bubbly, hot whirlpool. From there, it's a dip in the polar pool, where fresh and warm waters combine to once again awaken the senses. After that comes an interesting walk on pebbles amid water cascades to relax the legs and feet. At last is the main massage treatment using the healing elements of gemstones.

The progression is sensory and exciting, and you just don't know what is coming next. At the end of it all, you are invited to continue your state of bliss in an amusement park of pools and expansive water features cascading over black granite. Talk about total relaxation. [AL](#)