

Frequently Asked Questions

Continuing Education for Appraisers in Mexico on March 13, 2017

FAQs About the Resort(s)

Q: Why did you choose the Royal at Playa del Carmen resort in Mexico?

A: We have stayed in Cancun and Playa del Carmen several times and the Royal was by far our favorite resort.

Q: Where is the Royal Playa del Carmen resort located?

A: Playa del Carmen is located in the Riviera Maya region of Mexico, which includes Cancun.

Q: How do you get to the Royal Playa del Carmen resort?

A: Fly into Cancun and take a shared or private transfer to Playa del Carmen, which is about one-half hour away. The Royal is right on the beach, and a short 2 block walk to the entire downtown shopping area in Playa del Carmen. It is a mixture of newer mall-like areas and older Ma and Pa shops and restaurants owned by the locals. The travel agent will have all the information regarding airlines, ground transportation, and any other arrangements you may wish to make.

Q: What if I want to bring my spouse or significant other?

A: We encourage you to do just that. The Royal Playa del Carmen is a 5-star adult-only (18 and older) resort and is all inclusive. This means that meals in several award winning on-site restaurants, snacks, 24-hour room service, drinks, wine, beer, etc. are all included. Tips are also included, but some additional tipping is the norm. See the attached detailed information about the resorts. The travel agent (Boni at AAA Travel, 605-342-8482) can help you with all of the details.

Q: What if I want to bring my children?

A: We encourage you to bring your entire family, if you desire a family vacation. The Grand Porto resort is the sister property to the Royal resort and it is literally just across the street. This resort is an all-inclusive family resort. Note that only certain room bookings at the Gran Porto resort allow you to fully access the Royal Playa del Carmen resort. The travel agent (Boni at AAA Travel, 605-342-8482) can help you with all of the details.

Q: Are there any group activities that will be scheduled for the appraisers?

A: There are two group 'activities' for the appraisers. The first is the CE education class on Monday, March 13, 2017. The second activity that we will set up is a group dinner at the Royal in Playa del Carmen resort on Saturday night, March 11, 2017. This will be optional, of course, but encouraged to celebrate our professional associations and friendship among colleagues.

Outside of these two scheduled events, we encourage you to enjoy your vacation and explore the resort, the town, and the entire Riviera Maya region.

Q: Are there other activities in Playa Del Carmen?

A: Yes, of course! Besides shopping, the pools, and the beach, there are many activities at the resort including daily and nightly entertainment, a fitness center, and a world class spa. Outside activities can also be arranged - including snorkeling, scuba diving, zip-lining, sport fishing, golfing, and many other action adventures. There are also dinner cruises, tours of the Riviera Maya region, and day trips by ferry to Cozumel, the island just across from Playa del Carmen. You can reserve these adventures in advance by asking the travel agent or book when you arrive at the resort.

Q: What if I don't stay at the Royal Playa del Carmen resort or the Grand Porto resort?

A: You will have to pay a fee to come onto the Royal property for access to the classroom.

Q: How long should I stay in Playa del Carmen?

A: You can stay for a couple of days or a couple of weeks. The crew at Steinley Real Estate Appraisals will be in Mexico for several days on either side of the class.

Q: What is the dress code?

A: Casual dress and sandals or flip-flops are the norm in all but the fine dining restaurants on the resorts.

Q: How do I get more information about The Royal Playa del Carmen resort or the Grand Porto resort?

A: Find more information about the resorts at www.realresorts.com and choose either the Royal Playa del Carmen or the Gran Porto resort.

Q How do I book travel and resort reservations?

A: Book your travel and resort reservations by contacting: Boni at AAA Travel. You can email her at Boni.Tracy@aaasd.org or call her at (605) 342-8482.

Q: Should I book my resort reservations early and why?

A: Right now the special rate is 50% off only until **May 31, 2016**. You do **not** have to pay by May 31, 2016 but you must book by then. Don't let this opportunity pass you by!

FAQs About the 7-Hour Continuing Education Seminar for Appraisers

Q: What seminar will be offered for appraiser CE on Monday, March 13, 2017 at the Royal Playa del Carmen resort?

A: That will be determined by those who pre-register for the seminar. At this time, the class to be offered is not yet determined. It may be a custom-developed seminar or an Appraisal Institute seminar. The 7-hour CE class on March 13, 2017 will appeal to both residential and non-residential appraisers. Again, the education topic(s) will be chosen by those who sign up to be in Playa del Carmen on March 13, 2017.

Q: How much will the 7-hour CE seminar on March 13, 2017 cost?

A: \$150

Q: Will the CE seminar on March 13, 2017 be approved for CE credit in my state?

A: Once the topic and provider is determined, the continuing education offering will be submitted for CE approval in the states in our region. Remember, you will participate in the selection of the topic for the CE seminar, and state CE approval will be applied for after that. You will be advised of the status of all state CE approvals by late Fall, 2016.

Other FAQs about the CE Seminar for Appraisers in Mexico on March 13, 2017

Q: Will this trip to Playa del Carmen in Mexico be tax deductible?

A: Contact your tax advisor for a definitive answer as each taxpayer's circumstances are different. You will be traveling to Mexico to attend an appraiser continuing education seminar.

Q: I'm in! How do I register for this CE seminar?

A: Print and complete the CE seminar registration form from the website www.rapidcityappraiser.com and mail with your payment to:
Steinley Real Estate Appraisals, PO Box 7722, Rapid City, SD 57709

Q: I'm in! How do I book travel and resort reservations?

A: Book your travel and resort reservations by contacting: Boni at AAA Travel. You can email her at Boni.Tracy@aaasd.org or call her at (605) 342-8482. Remember, right now the special rate for resort reservations is 50% off only until **May 31, 2016**. You do **not** have to pay by May 31, 2016 but you must book by then. In fact, if you take care of your own airline arrangements, the deposit for the resort **isn't due for many months**. Don't let this opportunity pass you by!

Q: Do I need a passport to go to Mexico?

A: Yes. For information on how to obtain a passport:
<http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/passports/apply.html>
Begin this process early as it can take a couple months to obtain a passport.

Q: What is the currency? Do I need to bring or obtain Mexican currency?

A: Most items are priced in Mexican pesos, but US dollars work just as well.
Hint: Bring plenty of \$1 bills to tip your servers when around the pools or on the beach.
Hint: While in Mexico, use a credit card that doesn't charge a foreign currency fee for converting your purchases in Mexico to US dollars. Most don't charge such fees anymore, but be sure to check.

Q: Isn't this during Spring Break in Mexico?

A: The Royal Playa del Carmen resort does not accept reservations from spring-breakers.