

Mismaloya, Mexico





*I am magical Mismaloya, in Mexico. A secluded cove where lush emerald jungle tumbles down hills to the Bahía de Banderas, a sparkling bay above a sunken volcano crater where humpback whale and dolphin play. I am quiet simple villages and miles of virgin beach; I am relaxation and romance under the exotic tropical sun. So in 1963 when Elizabeth Taylor and Richard Burton flaunted their passion on the film set of *The Night of the Iguana*, when the paparazzi flocked to snap the star couple's romance and fame descended on me like so many gulls coming home from the sea, I wasn't bothered. I am magical Mismaloya, and my beauty, my allure, can never be diminished in the least. Lovely – and popular – Puerto Vallarta may be a mere seven miles to my north; its luxury hotels and beachside resorts, its cruise-ship dock and hundreds of condos so close. But I am the real Mexico. Yes, still. And like it was said in *The Night of the Iguana*, I haven't stuck to the schedules of the brochures. I've always allowed the ones who wanted to come see the real me, to see! Like you, Pilot Michael.*

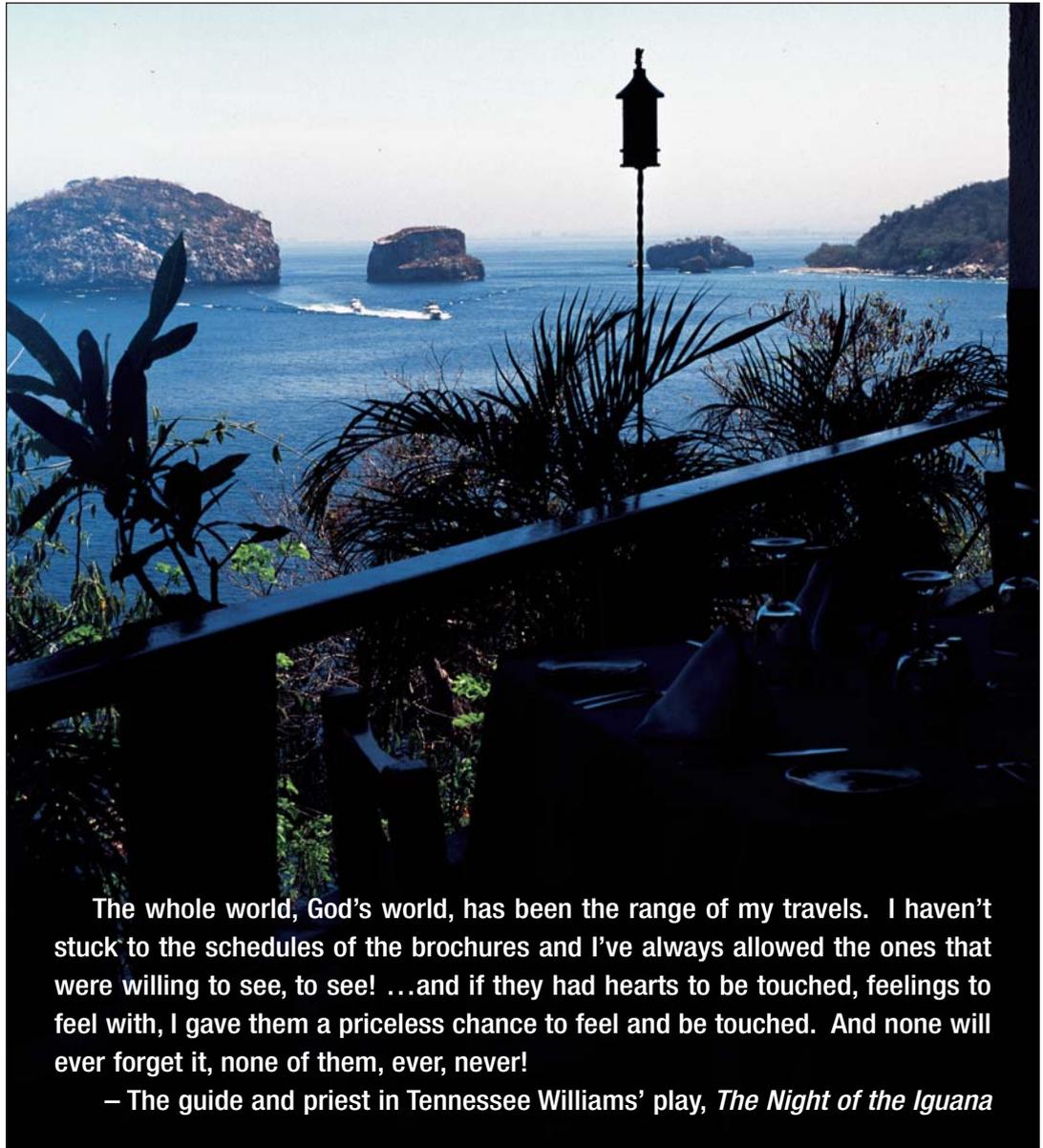
You have flown here to me to see. Would it would be said it is true you, too, are among the none who will ever forget me (none of them, ever, never!)?

My sweet Mismaloya, it's true! I knew your sunny 90-degree days and 80-degree nights would woo me to your incredible Casa Iguana Hotel and from this gracious garden retreat (complete with waterfalls and turtle pond) lead me to the authentic Mexico of my dreams. Horseback riding on the beach at sunset. Snorkeling and diving under the giant boulders of Los Arcos ("the arches"). Sportfishing for sailfish, red snapper and bass. Hiking to jungle waterfalls and boating to remote beaches – even venturing high into the Sierra Madre (due east is thriving Guadalajara, the "most Mexican of Mexican cities," it is said, with its 16th c. architecture) to visit the land of the Huichol Indians; these direct descendants of the Aztecs enjoy a pre-Columbian culture that today is amazingly intact.

This is the Mexico I will never forget, my marvelous Mismaloya. And even the charms of nearby Puerto Vallarta I remember: Her shopping for fine and folk art like exquisite beaded masks among the cobblestone streets of Viejo Vallarta, or Old Town; her lively restaurants and thriving nightlife of Los Muertos Beach and Colonia Emiliano Zapata. It was Antonio, Victor, Jose and other English-speaking staff at Casa Iguana who made my visit with you so sweet. They personally knew your secret places where real Mexico is alive – whether it was a 1-hour horseback ride along the migration path of the Monarch butterfly to Chino's Paraíso, a canyon of waterfalls so

brehtaking in their beauty I could cry (a zoo is here too). Yes, they knew the names of the best in local restaurants, most outdoors and some the former set dressings of *Iguana*, where the fresh fish is plentiful and the tequila is real, and cheap. They even knew that after a tropical breakfast of fresh orange or papaya juice, and breads slathered in luscious roasted pineapple jam - when taken

there. Later I would choose south, where so many stunning beaches are accessible by boat only, but I knew the Casa Iguana had a penthouse in the center of Puerto Vallarta for guests in the mood for a change of pace from your blissful solitude (Mismaloya you're such a love when it comes to providing this!), so for the moment I turned north...past the Playa de los Muerto ("beach of the dead")



The whole world, God's world, has been the range of my travels. I haven't stuck to the schedules of the brochures and I've always allowed the ones that were willing to see, to see! ...and if they had hearts to be touched, feelings to feel with, I gave them a priceless chance to feel and be touched. And none will ever forget it, none of them, ever, never!

– The guide and priest in Tennessee Williams' play, *The Night of the Iguana*

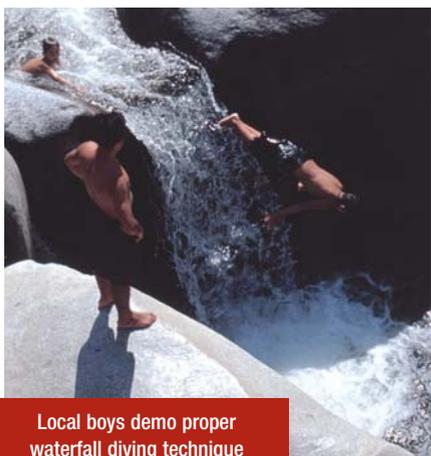
outdoors in the company of vivid green iguana and colorful tropical birds - I would be eager to explore even more of your endless wonders.

I knew I had a choice: head south to the small state of Colima along a route that passes 120 miles of virtually deserted beach, broken only by the occasional village of villas owned by wealthy recluses which are a haven for honeymooners, or turn north toward Puerto Vallarta, and the many amusements

where pirates and Indians once did battle; past the Conchas Chinas, the rocky pools where tiny tidal creatures go about their lives; and past the sea cliffs just beyond the Los Arcos rocks where bungee jumpers fly. I'd heard the scuba is especially good at Islas Marietas, and the grand Italianate villas perched on the cliffs of Conchas Chinas are impressive, but wouldn't you know? Suddenly I changed my mind. Puerto Vallarta's many sights would be for another

time. This trip was to be devoted entirely to you, my serene Mismaloya, the be all and end all of what it means to get away.

After all, the calm of the Casa Iguana with its spacious rooms and personalized service, its exquisite meals and pampering amenities, lulls me into a state of supreme well being. I know I need only ask and Jose will bring horses practically to my door

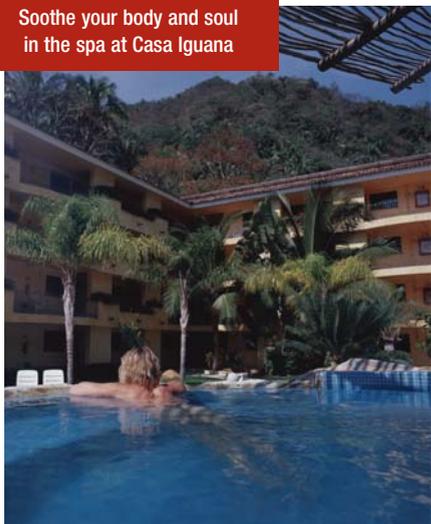


Local boys demo proper waterfall diving technique

should I desire an energizing morning ride on the beach, or a lazy late afternoon trot through the palm-lush jungle where natural pools await to invite me in for a swim. The promise of your adventure is always a seductress, too, whether it's one of your air tour of Tequila, situated in the midst of thousands of acres of blue Agave plants from which the spirit is distilled, or a boat cruise to commune with the giant manta rays, sea turtles, dolphins and whales who frolic in the bay without fear: dolphins who bear their young here year round patrol its entrance to keep shark away. And what thrills me most, my beautiful – and rejuvenating - Mismaloya, is that you indeed are the Mexico at its best and most authentic.

My fun-loving flyer Pilot Michael, you

Soothe your body and soul in the spa at Casa Iguana



CASA IGUANA HOTEL

877.893.7654
011.52.322.228.01.86
Ave 5 de mayo 455
Mismaloya, Jal. Mexico
www.CasalguanaHotel.com

The Casa Iguana Promise. Coming to the Casa Iguana Hotel in Mismaloya is coming home to authentic Mexico. A lush garden pool and unhurried pace revive the most frazzled, romance-deprived flyer, while tropical delights served in its friendly La

Cocina restaurant – from homemade roasted pineapple jam to a magical margarita – make exotic the serene sunny days of vacation – endless local adventure always optional.

After all, the Casa Iguana Hotel knows what most seduces a flyer's heart and woos his soul: the best of Mexico... at a bargain. Call now to book and Antonio will start mixing up what promises to be the margarita of your life.



Awesome Aviator Special Good through December 20, 2002

Mismaloya
Presidential Suite at Casa Iguana
Pictured to the right \$78/night special

Puerto Vallarta
Downtown Oceanfront Penthouse
Pictured below \$200/night special



Request the posh Presidential Suite at Casa Iguana Mismaloya and your dream of knowing secret Mexico, worlds away from the tourist pace of Puerto Vallarta is real – for only \$78 per night. A 3-bedroom, 2-bath suite with living room and full kitchen, this spacious retreat has skylights, is quiet... and means unabashed romance.

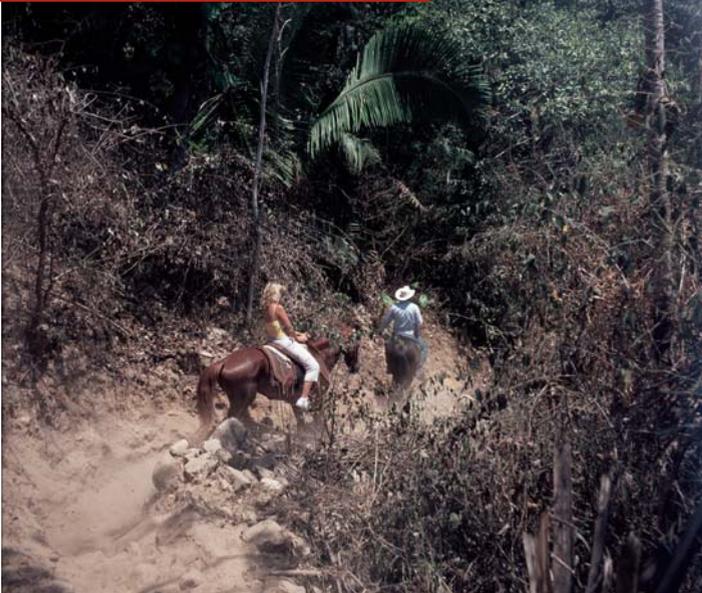


Then again, with the Casa Iguana also keeping a penthouse downtown in the midst of Puerto Vallarta's glamorous Mexican pleasures – from world-class restaurants to shopping and nightlife – perhaps a stay in this spectacular ocean-view shangri-la is your delight. If so, the marvel of surprise is yours for pampering yourself with the penthouse is a joy acquired at only \$200 a night. It is 2,500 square feet of three large bedrooms, each with its own private bath, plus a half bath for guests. Huge living room, gourmet kitchen, and balcony with Jacuzzi overlooking the ocean. Wow!

have proved you have a heart to be touched, feelings to feel with, so by welcoming you I have given you a priceless chance to feel and be touched. For I am magical Mismaloya and none who know me will ever forget me.

Yes, none of us, ever, never!

A horseback ride through jungle lush with exotic birds and Monarch butterflies is rewarded with a swim near natural waterfalls



FLYING INTO MEXICO (MADE EASY)

Although there are many rules and regulations on both sides of the United States and Mexico borders, flying into Mexico doesn't have to be as intimidating. To prepare for your adventure, you need to map out your flight and file a flight plan. You will need Mexico Charts if you are traveling farther south than the US Charts take you. We ordered maps on a Friday from Aviation Publication Service (800-869-7453) and they arrived on the doorstep the next day.

Your flight plan will have to take several things in consideration. The first point of landing in Mexico must be at an airport designated as a "Port of Entry" and your return flight into the US must be at an "International Airport". You will also have to consider there is no VFR night flights in Mexico and finding fuel at smaller airports can be challenging. Your flight plan will have to specify the border crossing time and your return flight must be within 15 minutes of your filed flight time or you can be fined \$5,000 for missing the time. Once you are into Mexico, calling Flight Service can be challenging as "800" numbers are not applicable in Mexico and most public phones only accept a Mexican phone card. Before you leave, make sure your US calling card works in Mexico and gives you access to US "800" numbers (We used our MCI World Card).

Since you cannot count on phone service we recommend that you file your return flight plan at the same time as you file the departure flight plan. Choose a border crossing time significantly later than your planned time. This will give you the opportunity to radio a change in crossing time while a minimum of 30 minutes away from the border. If you plan it close and you are too far from the border to radio a US Flight Service Station, you will be in trouble crossing at the right time. Depending where you cross, you will work with one of four FSS. San Diego, Prescott, Albuquerque, or San Angelo. Be sure to get their radio frequency for in-the-air communication and for their local (non 800#) in

case you need to call from Mexico. San Diego FSS has three prerecorded briefings on flying into Mexico. They are very good and highly recommended. (800.439.4322, touch 2, 25-26-27)

The papers required for landing in Mexico and crossing back into the US are the same, although you may not be asked for all of them. In Mexico, you are required to have a two-way radio and insurance written by an authorized Mexican Insurance Company (be sure you have proof). If you rent a plane, you must have the owners written permission to enter Mexico. When entering back into the US, your aircraft is required to have a data plate and 12-inch N#.

Once you have arrived at your Port of Entry airport, find a local that speaks English. A \$5 tip up front will go a long way in getting you a personal escort through the numerous checkpoints. Bring lots of \$1 bills as tipping expedites the process (plan for an hour). The airports have a nominal Landing Fee – we paid \$26 (US). They accept US dollars or Mexican pesos but don't be surprised when the teller gives you change via his wallet. You will also be expected to pay a \$51 (US) Mexican Airspace Authorization Fee. You can either pay this fee when you get there, or if you pay it ahead of time to Mexico City, it qualifies for the entire year, unlimited flights. We have the form and fax number on our website.

If your Port of Entry is not your final destination, you will be required to file a Mexican Flight Plan – they keep close tabs on us! Your flight plan must be signed and authorized by the airport authority. When it comes to buying fuel, major US credit cards are not always accepted so carry enough cash to fuel up. It is recommended to fuel up on departure, as one local gestured, to avoid "milking" the gas. Puerto Vallarta's FBO is very safe with fenced, guarded, 24/7 security.

Check out www.pilotmichael.com/mexico for more information and access to required forms.

Numbers for Border Flight Service Stations:

- San Diego FSS, CA – 800.439.4322
- Prescott FSS, TX – 866.226.3763
- Albuquerque FSS, NM – 866.449.5390
- San Angelo FSS, TX – 866.300.3867

PUERTO VALLARTA INTL (MMPR)

AIRPORT DATA

Elevation:	20'
Runways:	11L/29R - 10,171'
Approaches:	VOR/DME
ATIS/ASOS:	none

TRANSPORTATION

Casa Iguana Hotel	322.228.01.86
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LODGING

Casa Iguana Hotel (Mismaloya)	322.228.01.86
Downtown Penthouse (Puerto Vallarta)	322.228.01.86

FIXED BASE OPERATIONS / FUEL / SERVICES

Aerotron	322.221.19.21
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Mi FBO is su FBO, says Aerotron of Puerto Vallarta. English-speaking staff and sophisticated service make arriving and departing Mexico an experience as sunny as the country. Aerotron is 3,000 square feet of hangar, 10,000 square feet of ramp space, state of the art fuel trucks, 24-hour security, and a number of services inarguably *mu y bien*: 24-hour air ambulance, courtesy van, clean restrooms, pilot lounge and tasty catering. Plus a trained maintenance team in case your plane needs fixing. Even sunnier is they will handle all the Mexican flight planning and paperwork for you.