

TRAVEL

WEEKENDER

Destination**Mexico**

# SIETE LUNAS

## SAYULITA, MEXICO

BY MICHELLE LYN

Just under three hours away by plane, Sayulita is a small fishing village known for good waves. A 45-minute drive from the Puerto Vallarta airport, Sayulita is sleepy yet packed with tourists and ex-pats. Hotels and villas are a dime a dozen in this walkable town, yet the hidden gem, without a doubt, is Siete Lunas.

A family owned boutique property that is nestled in the hills at the southernmost point of town, Siete Lunas boasts jaw-dropping views and luxurious treetop bungalows that might just leave you lounging in bed all day.





01 Breakfast on the deck

02 Playa de los Muertos

03 Rooftop deck

04 Adrian, Siete Lunas manager

05 Pacificos on the beach



## WORTH THE CLIMB

Perfect for honeymooners or a romantic getaway, Siete Lunas isn't the easiest place to find, but it is well worth the effort. From the edge of town, you walk up a dirt road, past a cemetery and the appropriately named **Playa de los Muertos**, and then follow an unpaved road up the hill until it dead ends. Even then, you'll still be wondering where the heck the hotel is, because all you will see is a gated wall.

The super-friendly manager Adrian will let you in, pop you into a golf cart and drive you up a precariously steep hill, where you will get your first glimpse of the grandeur of Siete Lunas. You'll quickly forget any doubts you had when you walk onto the sprawling open air deck with a view of Sayulita spread out before you. Before you know it, Adrian has slipped a couple Pacificos in your hands and you're dipping your toes in the plunge pool, telling yourself you're never leaving.



Consisting of just seven treehouse bungalows, Siete Lunas was converted from a private residence to a luxury boutique property a few years ago. Modern, sexy and comfortable, the property was cleverly designed to be open and welcoming, with the rooftop deck and lounge area serving as a gathering place for all.

## MORNINGS

Waking up at Siete Lunas is one of the loveliest experiences you can have. With a bed facing wall-to-wall windows, you open your eyes and feel as if you are suspended from the trees. Take your time to enjoy the view from bed as the sun rises, and then have a cup of coffee on your balcony and enjoy the morning serenade from the birds that surround you.





01

## AFTERNOONS

## 01 Private dinner deck

## 02 Evening in the bungalow

## 03 Bungalow interior

## 04 Cassandra

Stroll down into the colorful town for some shopping

or a bite to eat. Some local favorites are **Don Pedro**, **El Espresso** and **Choco Banana**. Siete Lunas currently only serves breakfast, so best to plan ahead and eat out, although you do have a mini fridge in your bungalow if you want to do some food shopping on your own.

Make sure you spend at least one day at Playa de los Muertos as it's a fairly secluded beach that is beautiful and cleaner than Sayulita's main beach. Opt for lunch here, as there are a couple families that set up shop, grilling shrimp and shucking oysters for pennies. They also have a good supply of cold beers, so no need to bring anything but a towel and sunblock.

Make sure you save some daylight to get back up to Siete Lunas so you can lounge at the pool and enjoy the view just a little while longer.



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## EVENINGS

Wind down the day with a private massage in your bungalow. Relaxation comes easy as you listen to the sound of the ocean coupled with the jungle sounds that you will have already acclimated to.

When you've built up an appetite, wander down the hill and go for some street tacos. A couple more dinner favorites are **Sayulita Cafe** and **Calypso**. Just avoid the places that offer two-

for-one margaritas, spring break style.

Enjoy a walk through the center of town and then make your way back up the hill to Siete Lunas. It's an easy 10-minute walk, but it is completely dark, so bring a flashlight.

Or, if you'd like a romantic night, stay put and book a private chef to serve you dinner by candlelight on the deck.

Either way, you get to come back and tuck into your own private escape and float off into the clouds for another blissful night.

## PLANNING AHEAD

## Getting There

Alaska Airlines offers direct flights from San Diego to Puerto Vallarta. Arrange a driver in advance and once you get through Customs, they will be waiting for you in the airport lobby. Make a beer run on the way to Sayulita and expect to arrive at Siete Lunas within the hour.

## Book It

Rooms start at \$216 a night. Reservations can be made online at **SieteLunas.mx**



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