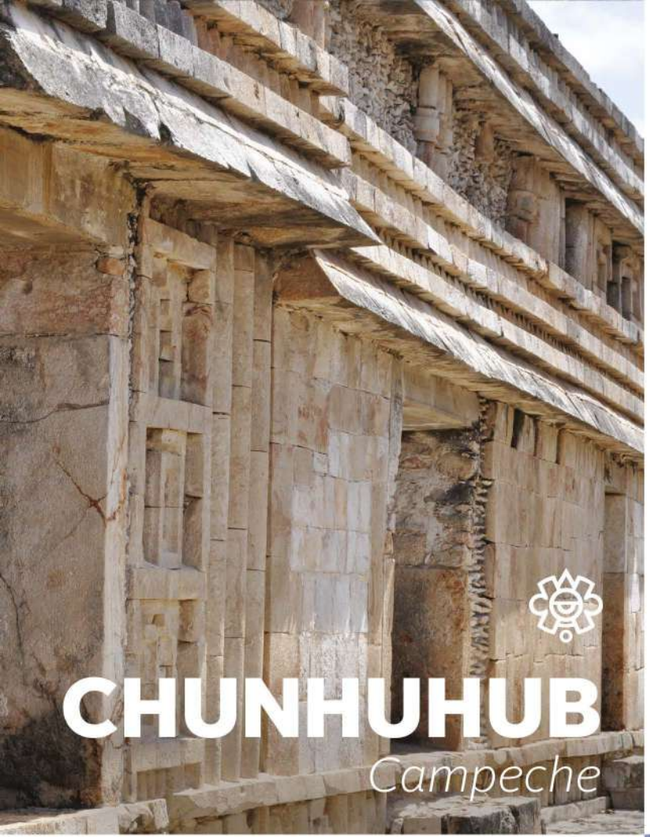


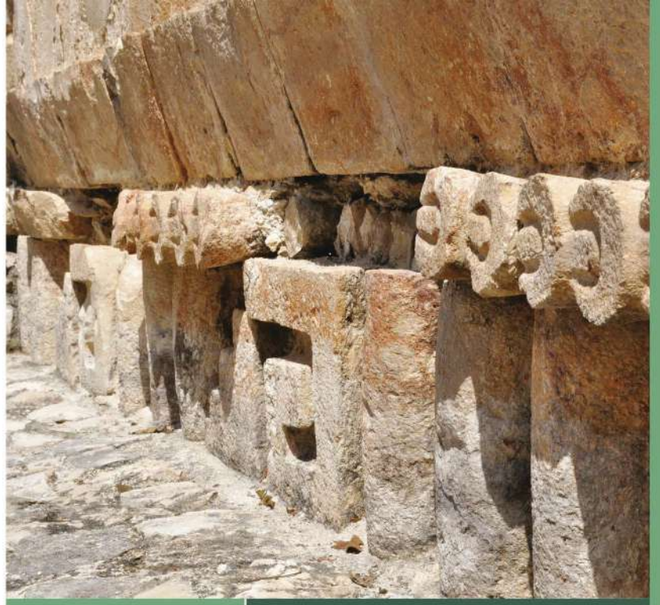
CHUNHUHUB

Campeche

HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

In the mid-nineteenth century the explorers John L. Stephens and Frederick Catherwood reported the site for the first time. Later, in 1887, Teobert Maler visited the place and made the first architectural and photographic records. In the 1930s Harry Pollock documented the archaeological zone and several of its sculptures, which had been reused in facades of houses in Xculoc. The first consolidation and restoration work was undertaken in the 1980s by Luis Millet Cámara. Then between 1986 and 1991, settlement pattern surveys and analyses were conducted by Dominique Michelet and Pierre Becquelin. A few years later, Renée Zapata did maintenance work on the buildings that can be visited today.

Chunhuhub has several examples of Puuc architecture, especially with structures from the Junquillo and Mosaico phases (AD 800–950), characterized by the use of simple or banded columns, stepped frets and finely worked masonry.



PLACE NAME	Place of the huhub trees (*Pinus caribaea* or Caribbean pine)
CULTURE	Maya
PERIOD	Late Classic and Terminal Classic
DATE	AD 600–1000

HOW TO GET THERE

It is located 23 km (14¼ miles) northeast of Bolonchén de Rejón, in the municipality of Hopelchén, in northern Campeche. From the city of Campeche, take the road to Hecelchakán and then federal highway 261 that goes to Bolonchén de Rejón. The highway has a turnoff at La Fátima/Bilimkok, from there go 23 km (14¼ mi.) to Xculoc, and then from there it is 5 km (3 mi.) to the site.

ADMISSION

According to the Federal Fees Act, admission is free for children under 13, students, and teachers with a valid ID, seniors, retirees, and pensioners, as well as INAH workers and researchers.

HOURS

Monday to Sunday from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

PHOTOGRAPHY

For the use of any device to make videos, visitors must pay the amount set by the Secretary of Finance. Non-professional photography, without the use of tripods, is free of charge.

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CULTURA
SECRETARÍA DE CULTURA

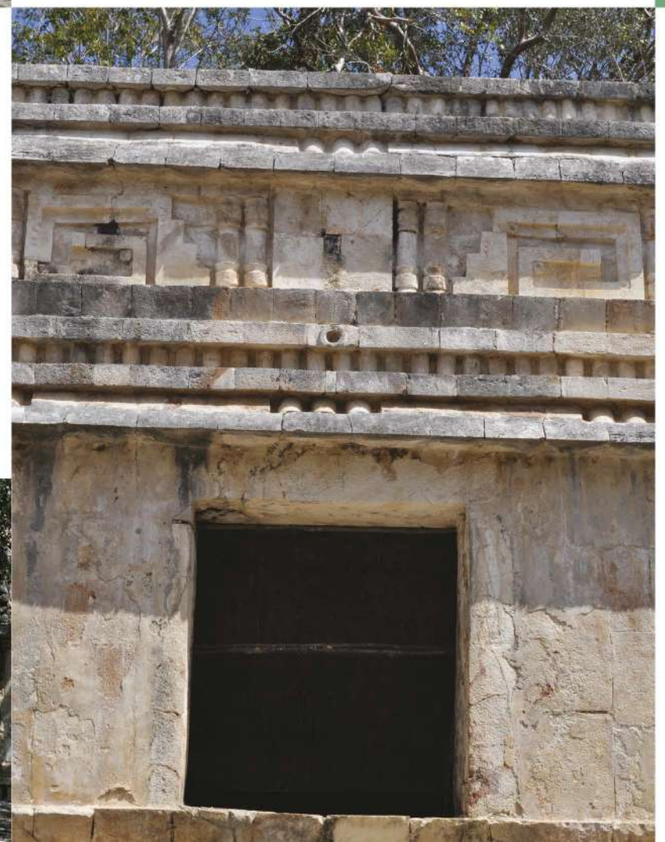
INAH

GET READY TO EXPLORE

Structure II

This three-room building is right next to the Palace. The facade is plain and the middle molding, just as the cornice, is decorated with plain cylinders. The frieze displays groups of banded drums, but the stepped fret designs stand out over the doorways, evoking oversized zoomorphic masks. A partially restored stairway is located between the two structures.





MAIN ATTRACTION

The Palace or Structure I

It stands on an unexplored platform. The front building displays four wide entrances. The second or central doorway (the first was not restored) is lavishly decorated on both sides. The frieze once had seated sculptures of the solar god Kinich Ahau alternating with bats. Behind it is another construction that has vaulted rooms, but that has not yet been restored.

The building was part of a palatial architectural group. Archaeological exploration and restoration work have only restored some sectors to give an idea of the monumentality and wealth invested by the ancient inhabitants of the valley. The noteworthy quality of the masonry and its superb assembly speak well of the Maya architects, as well as the stoneworkers and masons who left us this magnificent patrimony.



ARCHITECTURE

The architectural splendor on the western part of the peninsula dates to between AD 800 and 1000, with examples of Puuc structures such as those at Chunhuhub, which are among the finest examples of the boom in this style.

WHERE TO SEE PUUC ARCHITECTURE?
Chunhuhub Structures I and II.





All the exterior decoration at Chunhuhub is clearly Puuc in style. Its beauty and monumentality are heightened by the interplay of dark and light contrasts of the plain walls alternating with the meticulously cut and assembled decoration.



ESSENTIALS

- **A** *The Palace or Structure I*
- **B** *Structure II*
- **C** *The stairway between the two structures*



DID YOU KNOW ?

- *Chunhuhub is the site of important examples of Puuc architecture.*
- *The water supply in pre-Hispanic times came from chultuns or underground cisterns to collect rainwater.*
- *The sculptures that once decorated the Palace frieze are on display in the archaeological museums of Campeche.*
- *Today we can see the "raw shell" of structures but in pre-Hispanic times buildings were covered with lime plaster and painted in various colors, mainly red.*

SOME FIGURES

500 AD	In about AD 500 there was marked demographic growth on the kankab or red earth plain where Chunhuhub is located.
1200	The buildings that we can see today have survived over 1200 years.
1843	In 1843 John L. Stephens published Incidents of Travel in Yucatan, where he wrote of this archaeological zone.
45	In 2007 the Chunhuhub protection polygon was implemented, which comprises slightly more than 45 hectares (111 acres).

AND DO NOT MISS . . .

- A visit to the Xtacumbilxunaan Grottoes, a sacred place for the Mayas and whose name means "place of the hidden woman." The grottoes are roughly 200 meters (656 ft.) and have impressive stalagmite and stalactite formations offering visitors an amazing visual spectacle.