2022, OUTSIDE THE US

OUT AT SEA 2022- DAY 8

November 10, 2022

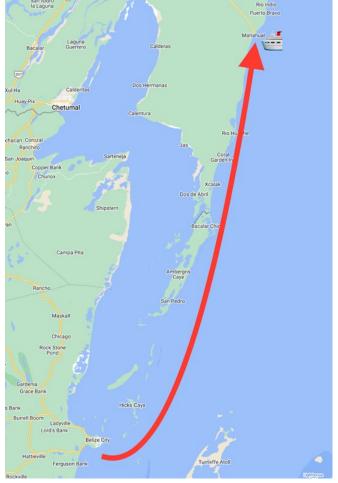
Locations: Costa Maya, Mexico Cruise Day: 6 of 8 (Costa Maya)

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Today, we had no agenda or tours to be on time for. Today was a Miss Frizzle kind of day...

"Take chances, make mistakes, get messy!"

We woke up, and gathered to eat breakfast together in the Windjammer L11, and then headed out to the dock on L2 to be able to walk into Costa Maya, Mexico (wiki).





From the Centrum on L4







Posing picture prop.







Giant wall art.

You walk the pier to reach the Costa Maya Cruise Port shops and food. There is plenty to do in that area alone, but we were looking for real Mexican food (not themed restaurants), beaches and bodegas. So passing everything up for the time being, we headed out to where we could walk into the country, or hop in a taxi and head to the beachfront down the way.







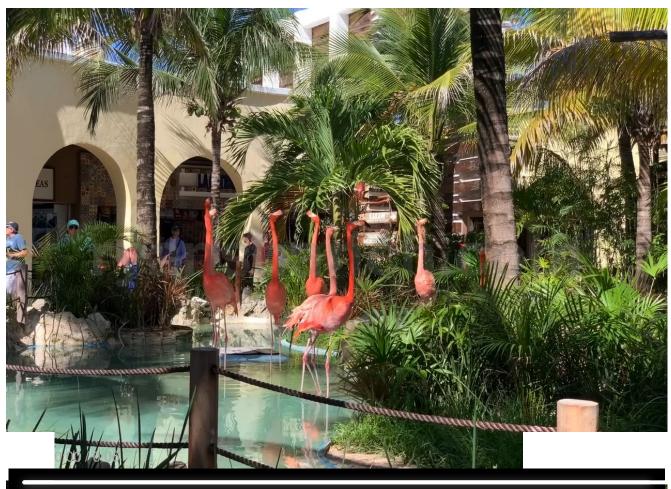






Flamingos





Right as you get past the last few shops, you are greeted by cab drivers ready to take you to your destinations. They suggested and took us to the white sandy beaches of Mahahual, two miles away, where we walked in after being dropped o.



Pitching their cabs and services to us.











We were greeted by everyone trying to sell souvenirs, food, or services (outdoor massages). We found 5 layout chairs near each other to lay out on, under the shade of the palm trees with coconuts (some the size of your head! ha), to be able to look out onto the white sandy beach as it blends into the blue waters and skies of Mexico as we relaxed.



Walking in from the main road.





Boats you can ride in to take tours of the area.



Our ship on the horizon.







While getting set up, we kept close doing whatever we wanted to do. We would walk out into the ocean, or order drinks and food. My brother went o to do whatever, and after a while, he still had not returned. So I started walking around looking for him because he did not tell anyone where he was going. Now, I know that the locals are doing whatever they can to get you to buy whatever so they can survive, but if there was ever a time that you wish there was a pop-up blocker in real life... this would be the time.

While walking around still looking for my brother, I found a little bodega on the main road that we drove in on. I stopped inside to see if I could and any candy or souvenirs for my kids and I.



It's so small!!! Like 4" tall.

I looped around and headed back to the beach road area, and then walked down the opposite direction (of where my family was at) to look for my brother. After walking back to go sit down to relax with my family since I hadn't found my brother... there he sat, all relaxed on the beach chair. It turns out, he was just 10 feet away from us, getting a beach side massage!!! Son of a...

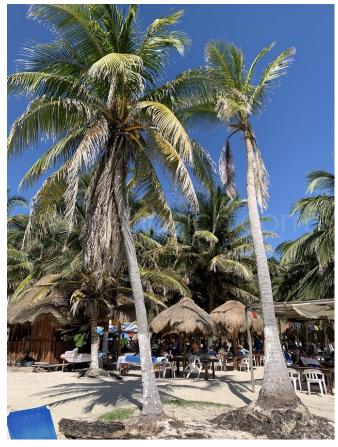
Because we were in public, I could not locate any public bathrooms or portable toilet around. I needed to change into my swim trunks... but how? HOW?! Mr. Bean Style, that's how.

Luckily, I was wearing shorts, not pants, which made it easier for me to change into trunks (not Speedo). With me ready, I could now go out and get pictures and videos while standing in the water.





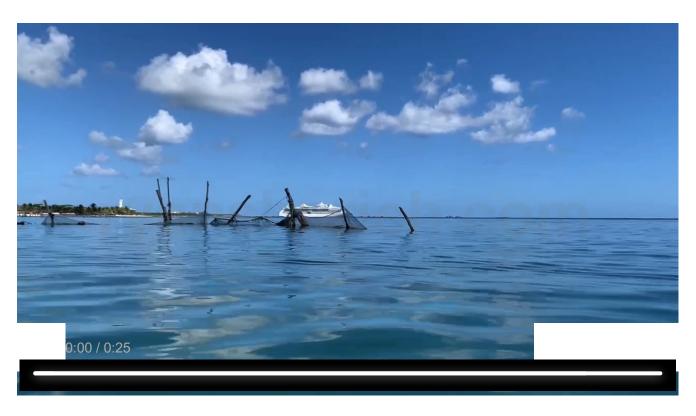








Looking down the other way of the beach.



Panning left, 360° around.

You could see small schools of sh swimming away as you walked closer to them. There were also what looked like needle nose sh, and I found a crab. I thought he was holding garbage in his claw, but it turned out to be dead sh (food). I gave it back and he kept going on his way.

After walking around in the water, I walked around taking more pictures of the area.





Public bench





The pier to another boat.

Walking around.





Cutting down coconuts





The panoramic e ect makes it look like it's an island.





About 50' out in the water.







Looking at those little white sand "ant hills".





Another angle of the boats

I built up an appetite from all the walking around and wadding in the ocean, and so I ordered shrimp tacos and a Coke from the menu from the restaurant that "owned" the small portion of beach we were sitting at. This was my Corona (beer) commercial moment...



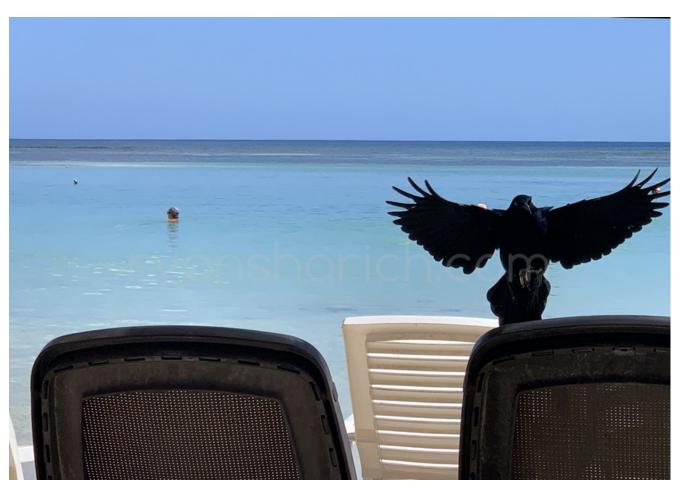


It fell and almost hit a woman near us. My family wouldn't let me try to smuggle it on the boat. So I took a picture instead.





My plate, sh tacos.



Landing in three... two...

After eating the food from my plate, everyone minus my sister's boyfriend, went walking around the streets that I had walked earlier, but this time was to actually stop and to check out the shops and the items for sale.





All the bootleg sports merchandise.









We looped around to the main road checking out a couple of little bodegas, purchasing more snacks and treats from Mexico. The good stu , man!











Cat running the till at this bodega. (jk)



Pedro Infante wall art (10'+ tall) (tweet info)







The Duracell... Bunny/Rabbit?



They should do this in the U.S.

With purchases in the bodegas complete, we walked back to our chairs to pay our tabs and enjoy the beach one last time before we had to head out.







A themed restaurant nearby.





"Beach club oxtankah" bench





Stairwell

"El diablo" that my brother purchased.



Knee Deep...

. . .

This place reminds me of the song " Knee Deep "... especially after how my last marriage ended...



After spending a few hours at the beach, the time had come for us to hop in a waiting taxi to get back to our starting point.





The Faro de Mahahual



Riding back in the cab. Stop sign...



Props to get people to pull over and look in this store.

We ashed our blue cards to access the grounds where the many shops were at.





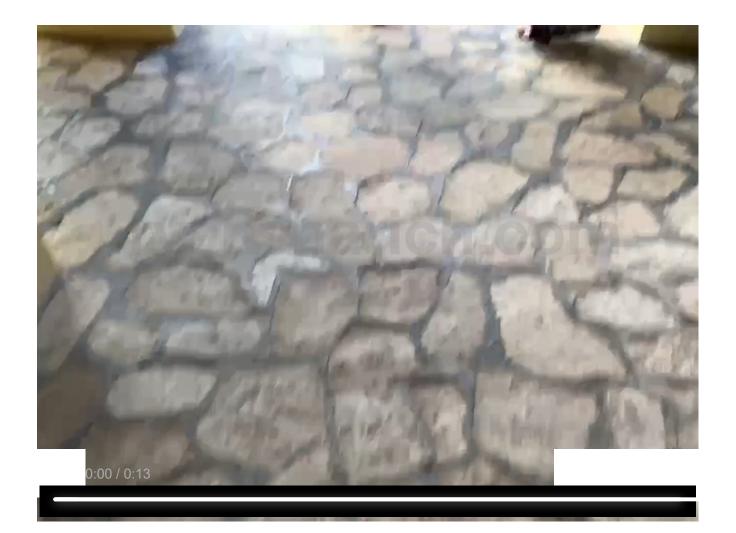




Ha!



The walkway you walk through to get to the stores.



I heard the amingos starting up while I was taking pictures. I had to make sure my brother wasn't provoking them.

We checked out the many retail shops to purchase any last minute and nal non-U.S. souvenirs, and to take any last minute pictures as we walked back to the ship.















More Covid signs! No more f*****g COVID!



That "tropical resort" environment.





With shopping nished, we were heading back to the ship.





"Don't, you tell me what to do! "



My brother said this gentleman playing the harp could make bank playing at weddings in the States.



The next cruise ship over.



I was bored on the ight home... (ORIGINAL)

We had 2 hours to kill before dinnertime, so we all did whatever we wanted to do until that time.

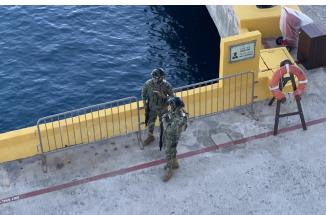


All the souvenirs I purchased for my kids.









Keeping the peace.





The walk to the mainland.

Once dinnertime rolled around, we all met in the restaurant.







Pineapple Sunshine Cake



Apple blossom a la mode.



The sta were singing to someone who had a birthday (perfect angle in the wall mirror)

Then after eating, the four kids (which includes me) walked around the decks towards the rear of the restaurant area (stern, L5) on the ship, getting some funny pictures because of the wind e ect through the walkway tunnel.



Sunset from star board looking west (L5)



The other cruise o in the distance



Spitting o the ship like Titanic (L5). I'm kidding, we were just looking at the water that is turned up by the propellers.





The air ow through this tunnel causes this hilarious "running in place" e ect.





My brothers placed his shades on it to make it look cooler.







His FARTS bracelet from Cozumel

We met up with my mom a little later in the Safari Room (L6) to watch the karaoke performances. Since it didn't start when it said it would, we all left and walked down to the casino.



When my brother was pulling money from the ATM, guess what I found behind it... another rubber ducky (#2)! I didn't gamble with my own money, but my brother used \$50 of the 100 to play the claw machine that has many bricks of \$100 in \$1's in it.



I don't consider myself an expert at winning these things (compared to the videos you see online), but I can say I get lucky with claw machines. My brother tried around 20 tries, and after a while he let me have a try at it (15–20 tries), and I nally hit the jackpot because I was able to grab a single \$100 brick. So now he was now up, but with no other bricks grabbed, he played the other \$50 and came out even.





My mom trying to guide my brother.





Later, I met up with my brother up in the billiards room to play a couple more games. Here is a major billiards tip: Don't put the 8-ball in a corner of the rack... most stressful game of billiards that I have ever played!





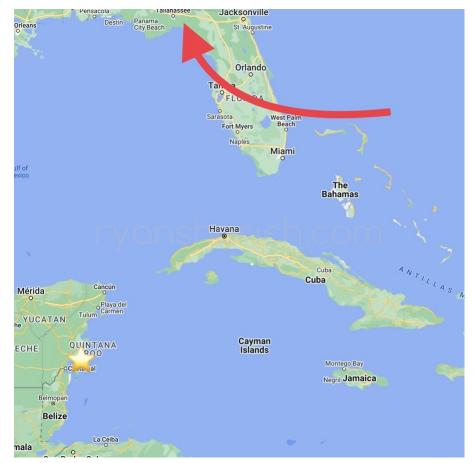
MOTHER-!!!!!

Because the next day was a day at sea with lots of activities, I was going to call it a night early so I could be up early and spend the whole day doing anything I could since it would be the last fun day on the ship.

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One more thing...

Because we were distracted during this cruise, we didn't see much news in the states. I didn't even know there was a hurricane that passed through Florida while we were here this day. But as you can see, we were many miles from the path of the hurricane. However, the e ect of rough weather in that area a ected our boat ride back... To be continued.



Posted Live: January 14, 2023 @ 20:29



By Ryan Sharich



PREVIOUSOUT AT SEA 2022- DAY 7

NEWER DOUT AT SEA 2022- DAY 9

