



Cancun's warm weather, water always inviting

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A. No. Cancun has great weather by the first week of February or the middle of the month. The weather is fine in summer, only hotter.
Q. Are there many Americans who are permanent residents?
A. Yes. Most work in the time-share business. I don't know how many, though.
Q. Sounds like you travel a lot. What do you miss most about Cancun?
A. What I miss most from Cancun is sports. Cancun is ideal for that. You can swim in the ocean, run on the main avenue, bicycle. . . . When I travel to islands, that's difficult to do.

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BY JOHN BORDSEN
KRT NEWS SERVICE

What's it like to live in a far-off place most of us see only on a vacation? David Krouham, 45, is president and CEO of Grupo Anderson, the Mexican restaurant company whose flagship chain is Senior Frog's bar and restaurant.

Krouham has lived in Cancun 19 years; he is originally from Mexico City.

Q. Cancun is known as a spring-break destination for American college kids. Is it quiet there now?

A. In summer, Cancun has two kinds of visitors. There are summer-break kids who come on travel packages or by themselves; and there are families who bring their children for a nice vacation in Cancun.

The non-students are Americans, some Canadians. Plus, we get people from all around Mexico in spring and summer.

Q. Are there things you can do in Cancun in summer, fall or winter that spring breakers wouldn't know about?

A. No. Cancun has great weather by the first week of February or the middle of the month. The weather is fine in summer, only hotter.

So you can do exactly the same things in summer. There's not a big difference. Night comes a little later, but that's it.

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A. What I miss most from Cancun is sports. Cancun is ideal for that. You can swim in the ocean, run on the main avenue, bicycle. . . . When I travel to islands, that's difficult to do.

And the nightlife in Cancun is different.

In Cancun there are no Saturdays or Sundays: Every night offers the same fun, and that's not very common elsewhere. In Cancun, you can have a great party even on a Monday.

Q. Do you live on the island — the Hotel Zone — or the mainland?

A. In a building right on the ocean, downtown in the Hotel Zone.

Q. What's your favorite stretch of beach?

A. The nicest is where the Hotel Presidente Intercontinental is. It's the widest beach and the ocean is very calm there. There aren't a lot of waves, so it's great for the kids. It's like a swimming pool. No danger.

Q. Many who visit Cancun just stay in the Hotel Zone; what are they missing in the Mexican

town, on the other end of the causeway?

A. We have a couple markets that are great for locals and have a more Mexican flavor. One is the Mercado 28. You can buy nice handicrafts there.

Q. What are your favorite restaurants?

A. One that's famous which we own is called Glazz; it's at the Plaza La Isla. It serves Asian food and has a nice lounge.

And I like Puerto Madero, which has steaks and seafood. Both are in the Hotel Zone.

Q. What about Yucatan food, which is more Central American — with seafood, pineapple, etc. — and not like the Mexican food along the U.S. border?

A. Try Los Almendros, which is downtown and just across the street from the bullring. The food there is very good — but spicy.