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**Elope to the Viceroy Riviera Maya for a Sacred Mayan Union
Performed by the Shaman-in-Residence**

Riviera Maya, Mexico – June 14, 2013: If a frenetic getaway to a justice of the peace doesn't sound very romantic, elope to the chic Viceroy Riviera Maya (www.viceroyrivieramaya.com) and be married in a sacred Mayan union where you will fully embrace in a new beginning together.



The luxury hideaway resort's 'Mayan Elopement Package' combines a Mayan Kamnicté Wedding Ceremony performed by the resort's authentic resident shaman with exquisite villa accommodations and a private celebration dinner on the Viceroy Riviera Maya's pier.

At the Viceroy Riviera Maya, the guest experience - from dining to spa treatments - is infused with traditions of the ancient Mayans of the region. But the most beautiful, celebratory and inspired is the Mayan Kamnicté Wedding Ceremony. It is conducted in the Mayan language under a gazebo on the beach decorated with Mayan inspired flowers, with the bride wearing a hand-made Mayan dress and the groom a white-linen guayabera (traditional Yucatan shirt). It begins with the resort's shaman, who comes from a long family line of Yucatan shamans, presiding over a ceremonial exchange of daisy flower bracelets as stirring drums beat within the jungle and a conch-shell horn signals the ritual's transformations. The

shaman then addresses the four cardinal points of the universe and asks permission to bless the union of the couple with love, peace, and abundance. He performs blessings and good wishes offerings, and seals the union between the two lovers by strewing flower petals across the waves.

The Mayan Elopement Package includes:

- 2 nights in a spacious luxury villa with private plunge pool.
- Mayan Kamnicté Wedding Ceremony on the beach.
- Romantic Celebration Dinner on the Pier: Following the ceremony, the pier is transformed into a private romantic haven, complete with torches and music, and the happy newlyweds are served a three-course dinner paired with Mexican boutique wines to celebrate their nuptials.

The package starts at \$1,485. A full range of other wedding and romantic services can be provided at additional cost, such as a wedding photographer and assistance with a marriage license.

For more information and reservations, contact Viceroy Riviera Maya at 800-578-0281 or vrn.reservations@viceroyrivieramaya.com.

The Viceroy Riviera Maya's Shaman-in-Residence, Jose Colli, is the only full-time shaman on staff at a resort in Mexico. He comes from a long family line of Mayan shamans from the Yucatan village of X-pichil (meaning ceiba tree, which was sacred to the Mayans). In keeping with the Mayan tradition, he received the shaman's "gift" through inheritance, and in keeping with his family's tradition going back many generations, knowledge of the lore and practices of his Mayan ancestors was passed on to him from his father. Shaman Colli interacts directly and indirectly with guests in many ways, infusing Mayan elements into the resort's guest experience – from welcoming each guest with a Mayan blessing to release you from your cares and worries into a new beginning at the resort, to performing Mayan wedding ceremonies, to growing the herbs used in Mayan-inspired treatments at the spa and tending the hive of stingless Mayan meliponas bees whose honey is used for the Mayan Hunan Kab, the "Sweet Honey and Rain" massage performed in the open-air jungle rain cabin.

About Viceroy Riviera Maya

The Viceroy Riviera Maya is a serene hideaway where guests experience true relaxation, gracious villa living, exquisite dining, personalized pampering, healing spa treatments and much more. The award-winning, all-villa resort combines a sugary-white-sand beach lapped by the warm turquoise waters of the Caribbean with a lush jungle ambiance of ferns, palms, guava trees and a friendly family of spider monkeys. The 41 spacious villas – in beachfront, ocean view and jungle locations – are elegantly and comfortably appointed, including a private plunge pool, terrace and outdoor shower. Mayan healing techniques and traditions infuse every aspect of the spa experience. La Marea serves refined Mexican cuisine accented with international influences. The seaside Coral Grill features a Mexican-Mediterranean menu cooked on wood-burning grills. Among the amenities are a palm-ringed lagoon pool, fitness center, day beds at the beach, and a pier where guests enjoy massages, romantic dinners and are conveniently picked up by boat for snorkeling, diving and other excursions. The resort is located 35 minutes from Cancun International Airport, and three miles from the restaurants, boutiques and nightlife of popular Playa del Carmen.

About Viceroy Hotel Group

[Viceroy Hotel Group](#) delivers one-of-a-kind lifestyle experiences that bring together provocative design and intuitive service in sought-after locations. Signature brand amenities and services created for the diverse business and leisure guests include dynamic dining venues featuring world-class culinary talents and destination spas specializing in health, fitness and beauty. Current properties include hotels and resorts in Abu Dhabi, Anguilla, Beverly Hills, Maldives, Miami, New York, Palm Springs, Riviera Maya, San Francisco, Santa Monica, Snowmass, St. Lucia and Zihuatanejo with forthcoming openings in Istanbul and Bodrum, Turkey.