



CHABLÉ RESORT & SPA, YUCATÁN, MEXICO

Nature reclaimed this 19th-century hacienda some 80 years ago, and it's taken more than a decade to turn it into the place it is today. Sprawling gardens dotted with crumbling arches, snaking vines and twitchy-eyed iguanas are best experienced by moonlight when fireflies flicker. Meanwhile, down at the spa, treatment cabins overlook a spring-fed cenote, which the Mayans believed to be a portal to the underworld. For ultimate privacy, go for the Royal Villa, which comes with its own gym, pool, movie room and spa suite.

Guests are encouraged to start their days with a wellness jolt. Morning classes include 'animal motion', combat fitness and HIIT. Or you can blend your own herbal compresses in the spa kitchen using seedpods and botanicals to ease away aches and pains. For healing on a deeper level, temazcal ceremonies are carried out in igloo-like sweat lodges. Cue drumming and chanting overseen by visiting shamans – not for the faint-hearted. After dark, follow the flames to Ixi'im restaurant for hand-rolled tortillas served in hollowed-out gourds, slow-roasted suckling pig and the world's largest private collection of tequila.

NEWS FLASH While this, the group's first resort, is all about the jungle, a new property, Chablé Maroma, is all about the ocean. On an exquisite strip of Maroma, there are 70 spacious villas scattered along the Riviera Maya coastline, each with its own private pool and outdoor terrace. *Leo Bear*

Mr & Mrs Smith can arrange a stay at Chablé Resort & Spa's Royal Villa (sleeps six) from £735 per night; mrandmrssmith.com