

## Mexican Magic: Chablé Expands Its Charm To Maroma on The Riviera Maya



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When **Hamak Hotels** opened its first **Chablé** property on Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula early last year, it created a buzz among travel connoisseurs all over the world.



Inside the Chablé Resort Yucatán. (CREDIT: DEL SOL PHOTOGRAPHY)

Wowed by its rough-hewn (yet uber-luxe) hacienda style, it charmed even the most jaded jet-setters with its artsy design ethos – think: antique tiles, bright art and local textiles – and it set a marker in the sand for a new level of luxury.



The magical entrance to Chablé Resort Yucatán. (CREDIT: DEL SOL PHOTOGRAPHY)

Carved out of a former sisal factory, it took 12 years to transform the estate into what is now a magical spa retreat with a standout restaurant and design-led interiors, with the property already collecting a cabinet full of awards.



The bedrooms exude a clean style ethos (CREDIT: DEL SOL PHOTOGRAPHY)

Adding to its sparkle, is the fact that Chablé Resort is found in a remote spot in the Mayan jungle, 25 minutes from the historic city of Mérida – all the better for dinner-time boasting back at home. There are 38 stand-alone contemporary casitas spread across the 750-acre estate, each with a pool, not to mention a sprawling Presidential Suite and an even bigger Royal Presidential Suite – the latter costing an eye-watering \$10,000 per night.



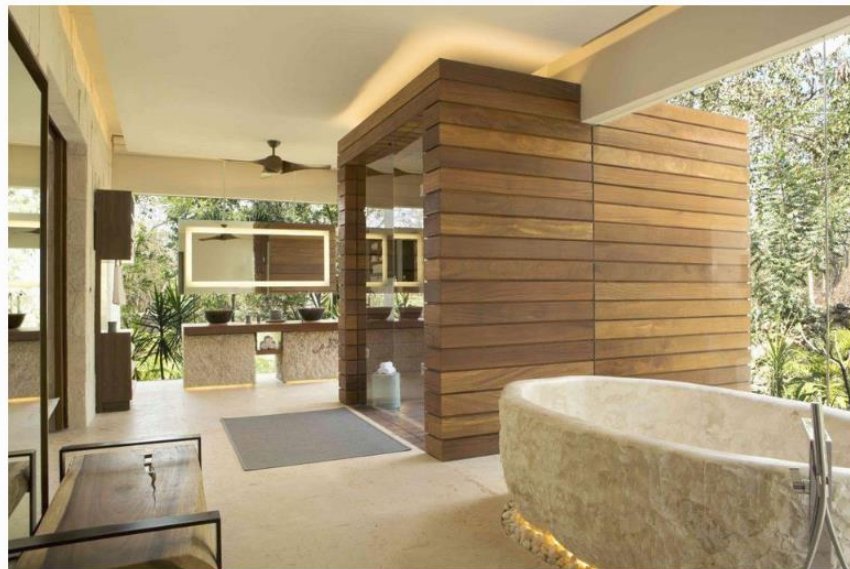
The resort is carved out of an old factory building (CREDIT: DEL SOL PHOTOGRAPHY)

Mexico City-based interior designer Paulina Moran has given a unique twist to the interiors and so bedrooms embrace a natural theme with limestone walls, dark wood features and pops of colour against cool whites and creams. Best of all are the bathrooms with their indoor/outdoor rain-showers framed by the forest giving the ultimate place to relax.



The glamorous restaurant that is Ixi'im (CREDIT: DEL SOL PHOTOGRAPHY)

With the culinary offering conceived by renowned chef **Jorge Vallejo** (whose Mexico City restaurant **Quintonil** was awarded the 11<sup>th</sup> place in the **2018 World's 50 Best Restaurants** list) dining is a highlight. In real life, the main restaurant **Ixi'im** is actually overseen by Vallejo's protégé, **Luis Ronzon** (who previously worked at **Noma** so his expertise is not to be sniffed at) and offers Mexican dishes with a modern twist and which will push gastronomic boundaries. Organic, seasonal menus feature produce sourced directly from the resort's own gardens, and there is also an expansive cellar showcasing the largest tequila collection in the world.



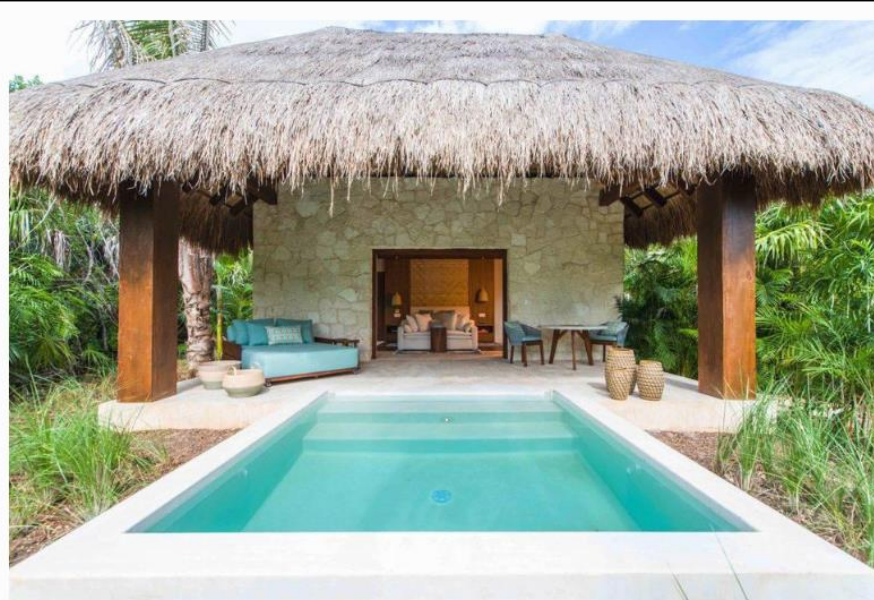
Bathrooms embrace the outside (CREDIT: DEL SOL PHOTOGRAPHY)

The real draw here, though, is the exceptional spa offering inspired by the ancient Mayan culture. Built around a "cenote" – natural cave formations commonly associated with the Yucatán Peninsula and considered sacred by the Mayans – it blurs the lines between its modernist architecture and traditional therapies. Guests can dip into Mayan-inspired spa treatments, sweat it out in one of the pre-Hispanic-style *temazcals* (traditional saunas) and meditate outside by the light of fireflies.



The latest opening: Chablé Maroma (CREDIT: CHABLÉ)

While this, the group's first resort, is all about the jungle, the next property – **Chablé Maroma**, which is due to open next month – is all about the ocean. Found on the pristine beach of **Maroma**, in Riviera Maya, it is surrounded by lush mangroves on Mexico's Caribbean coastline, and will feature 70 spacious villas, each with its own private pool and outdoor terrace.



The new Chablé offers beachside living (CREDIT: CHABLÉ)

The group is set to continue with its winning formula made up of a striking design ethos, gourmet cuisine by Vallejo and an expansive 17,000 square-foot spa. The resort will also feature a yoga pavilion, fitness centre and beachside pool with private cabanas along the shore. Taking its cue from its natural surroundings, guests can enjoy kayaking, cultural adventures, gastronomical experiences and jungle tours. It's Mexico redefined.

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