

# Lupita's Guide for Mexico City



Welcome to the vibrant heart of Mexico, where history, culture, and flavours collide to create an unforgettable experience! Mexico City, or CDMX, is a captivating blend of ancient traditions and modern marvels. From the grandeur of the Zócalo and the majesty of the National Palace to the mouthwatering street tacos and the colourful chaos of the markets, this city will sweep you off your feet. ¡Vámonos! 🇲🇽🌮

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## Transportation

Hotel Marlowe (<https://maps.app.goo.gl/tCLYYWXffgQKQzUv7>) is located downtown, beside [Bellas Artes Theatre](https://maps.app.goo.gl/SgvuwibqAR358obe9) [<https://maps.app.goo.gl/SgvuwibqAR358obe9>] and [Alameda Park](https://maps.app.goo.gl/Sq14gC77GTSNVjhKA) [<https://maps.app.goo.gl/Sq14gC77GTSNVjhKA>]. The main square is a 10-minute walk through pedestrian streets Avenidas [5 de Mayo](https://maps.app.goo.gl/WwKUCW3kjX5VH39SA) [<https://maps.app.goo.gl/WwKUCW3kjX5VH39SA>] and [Francisco I. Madero](https://maps.app.goo.gl/C4mdtjKHZvAyGYi56) [<https://maps.app.goo.gl/C4mdtjKHZvAyGYi56>].

For our Backpacker's Editions, Hostel MX (<https://maps.app.goo.gl/NncyE7NnFBLAtBQ19>) is located downtown. The main square is just 2 squares from our hostel.

There are many things to visit and do within walking distance of our hotel. However, you will need transportation to get to some of the attractions. Below we describe some tips for different types of transportation<sup>1</sup>.

### Taxis, Ubers and other private car services

Opting for private car services is often the most efficient choice. It can save you time and ensure a safe ride. These services are less expensive than in other countries. [Uber](https://www.uber.com/us/en/ride/) [<https://www.uber.com/us/en/ride/>], [Didi](https://apps.apple.com/mx/app/didi-pasajero-pide-tu-viaje/id1362398401) [<https://apps.apple.com/mx/app/didi-pasajero-pide-tu-viaje/id1362398401>], and [InDrive](https://apps.apple.com/us/app/indrive-rides-with-fair-fares/id780125801) [<https://apps.apple.com/us/app/indrive-rides-with-fair-fares/id780125801>] are reliable app-based alternatives. InDrive allows price negotiation within the app but is only recommended during daylight hours for safety. Most of these apps allow you to enter your card details or pay in cash, as you prefer.

Avoid hailing public taxis, especially in downtown areas, as they overcharge. If using public taxis, choose only official taxi stands and taxis that have a counter, or ask for assistance at the hotel reception. Tipping taxi drivers is not customary unless they assist with luggage or shopping bags.

### Metrobus and Metro

The distinctive double-decker red Metrobuses are cost-effective and eco-friendly. Please be cautious of crowds and be mindful of pickpockets when using this service. Access is granted using the same chargeable card as the metro. Alternatively, you can ask someone with a card for entry and offer them 6 MXN (or a 10-coin).

The metro is an economical and eco-conscious choice, though it may be a bit dated and crowded during peak hours (Weekdays Mornings: 7:30 - 9:30 am • Evenings: 5:30 - 8 pm). It's

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<sup>1</sup> There are different Apps to check the lines and connections of public transport. I'd recommend "Transporte CDMX" (search for it in your App library). Yet, a good way to know which lines to take is by using Google Maps' public transport option.

considered safe, but take care during rush hours and avoid overcrowded cars (You can read further info [here](https://mexicocity.cdmx.gob.mx/e/getting-around/using-the-metro/) [https://mexicocity.cdmx.gob.mx/e/getting-around/using-the-metro/]). Some lines can get quite hot, especially when crowded. Tickets are available via a chargeable card that you can buy at select stations.

## Hop On Hop Off Tourist Bus

For a convenient, albeit pricier option (around 200-300 MXN), consider the tourist buses. You can book online or pay at different stops, and multiple companies offer this service, such as [Turibus](https://www.turibus.com.mx/en/cdmx/routes) [https://www.turibus.com.mx/en/cdmx/routes] and [Mexico City Tour](https://mexico.city-tour.com/en) [https://mexico.city-tour.com/en]. Opt for the historic centre route and avoid the route taking you to the south part of the city, avoiding traffic.

## Eating

All the following links will help you locate the spots on Google Maps. Please note many of the places are only open during the day, and dinner options are less frequent. We recommend the following options:

- [Sanborns Casa de Los Azulejos](https://goo.gl/maps/J3Hj35EjPvdcG6WQ7) [https://goo.gl/maps/J3Hj35EjPvdcG6WQ7]: Beautiful building inside and outside. A good option for breakfast.
- [Café El Popular](https://maps.app.goo.gl/rQDVNCbfqNSeUZmT6) [https://maps.app.goo.gl/rQDVNCbfqNSeUZmT6]: Open 24 h
- [Café Tacuba](https://goo.gl/maps/SyMZA4kdc2stpF6u7) [https://goo.gl/maps/SyMZA4kdc2stpF6u7]: Traditional Cantina and one of the oldest restaurants in Mexico City.
- Veggie Options: [India Town](https://goo.gl/maps/aUhCybCTMR4hLt4W6) [https://goo.gl/maps/aUhCybCTMR4hLt4W6] and [Vegamo](https://goo.gl/maps/uWZ9vvbcCYH2rKhe6) [https://goo.gl/maps/uWZ9vvbcCYH2rKhe6]. Unfortunately, there aren't many vegetarian restaurants downtown. But these two are great.
- [Jugos Canada](https://goo.gl/maps/yBQg6hYAnz9MbHyL8) [https://goo.gl/maps/yBQg6hYAnz9MbHyL8]: Nice place for juices and sandwiches!
- [Churrería El Moro](https://goo.gl/maps/CWhJ9RDM76dNU6oU9) [https://goo.gl/maps/CWhJ9RDM76dNU6oU9]: Hot chocolate with "Churros". Different locations around the city.
- [Pastelería Ideal](https://maps.app.goo.gl/ghXrdbRM9H7Amx3XA) [https://maps.app.goo.gl/ghXrdbRM9H7Amx3XA]: Place to buy cakes and sweet breads.
- [Casa Churra](https://maps.app.goo.gl/tgwGD9PFkTHizZ1S6) [https://maps.app.goo.gl/tgwGD9PFkTHizZ1S6]: Good place to try pozole (popcorn soup)
- [Los Girasoles](https://goo.gl/maps/UUB139B4V7ccDkCGA) [https://goo.gl/maps/UUB139B4V7ccDkCGA]: Traditional Mexican food.

- [Terraza Gran Hotel](https://goo.gl/maps/jfLRU95Lc1kwUtYHA) [https://goo.gl/maps/jfLRU95Lc1kwUtYHA]: Terrace views to the main square and beautiful building.
- [La Cocina de San Juan](https://goo.gl/maps/48w4iTQLXoL7EiCG8) [https://goo.gl/maps/48w4iTQLXoL7EiCG8]: Traditional Mexican food.
- [Cantina La Castellana](https://goo.gl/maps/YCRtmQYa6upcaVjH9) [https://goo.gl/maps/YCRtmQYa6upcaVjH9]. If you want to try prehispanic food such as some interesting insects!
- [Testal](https://goo.gl/maps/wc7eP5ygtURxazfA6) [https://goo.gl/maps/wc7eP5ygtURxazfA6]: Good Mexican food.
- On the way and along the Alameda park, you'll find different dinner options such as La Cervecería de Barrio-Alameda [https://maps.app.goo.gl/KdhDpwZTPotaPRfQ7], Toks [https://maps.app.goo.gl/H4MwY28oZxFkZhNV7], La Casa de Toño [https://maps.app.goo.gl/4dEBVKbJjWpjDGoY7], or Sanbrons [https://maps.app.goo.gl/A7jxNFW8MVufjKx26] among others.

## Taco places

Mexico City is the mecca of tacos, nowhere else in Mexico has such a rich variety! Knowing exactly what each type of taco is made of might be difficult... I'd recommend pointing out what you'd like. These two articles may help you a bit:

- [How to Order Street Food in Mexico City](https://www.verbling.com/es/articles/post/how-to-order-street-food-in-mexico-city) [https://www.verbling.com/es/articles/post/how-to-order-street-food-in-mexico-city]
- [A Gringo Guide to Ordering Mexican Food](https://theculturetrip.com/north-america/mexico/articles/a-gringo-guide-to-ordering-mexican-food/) [https://theculturetrip.com/north-america/mexico/articles/a-gringo-guide-to-ordering-mexican-food/]. This one also includes recommendations for vegetarians

We recommend the following taco options:

- [El Buen Taco](https://goo.gl/maps/nmu8XFGKJLKX2e4i9) [https://goo.gl/maps/nmu8XFGKJLKX2e4i9]
- [Los Coyuyos](https://goo.gl/maps/iWP1aqeNhkx6jXHL9) [https://goo.gl/maps/iWP1aqeNhkx6jXHL9]
- [Los Coyuyos 2](https://goo.gl/maps/qm8kXb4eZ1MA5pjX6) [https://goo.gl/maps/qm8kXb4eZ1MA5pjX6]
- [Taquería El Torito](https://goo.gl/maps/1kcSmEVnnaujoJgh6) [https://goo.gl/maps/1kcSmEVnnaujoJgh6]
- [El Pescadito Centro Histórico](https://goo.gl/maps/j3HxhqN6dccf2Y6c6) [https://goo.gl/maps/j3HxhqN6dccf2Y6c6]: Fish Tacos
- [Los Especiales](https://goo.gl/maps/tvLg4QmbyMjhoiJj7) [https://goo.gl/maps/tvLg4QmbyMjhoiJj7]: Wet tacos
- [Tacos el Huequito](https://goo.gl/maps/KnZHM8ZaM5FCiCUN8) [https://goo.gl/maps/KnZHM8ZaM5FCiCUN8]



## Markets



The markets are colourful and vibrant in all of Mexico. You'll find good food stalls in most of them. Some nice markets are

- [La Ciudadela](https://goo.gl/maps/PEYSs1HfTjDa7Gk76) [https://goo.gl/maps/PEYSs1HfTjDa7Gk76]: A great artisan's market and your best choice for buying souvenirs at a fair price. The people gather in the park in front of it to dance to some traditional music!
- [Mercado San Camilito](https://goo.gl/maps/ovTkvtPwW9itFK3E6) [https://goo.gl/maps/ovTkvtPwW9itFK3E6]: Food market at Garibaldi, the mariachi square
- [Mercado de San Juan](https://goo.gl/maps/T4ReEEy4GegGEk5q7) [https://goo.gl/maps/T4ReEEy4GegGEk5q7]: You can find insects here, but a bit pricey and touristy...
- [Mercado de Jamaica](https://goo.gl/maps/q3fReQr6t17e8cYe8) [https://goo.gl/maps/q3fReQr6t17e8cYe8]: Massive and amazing market, but a bit far from our hotel
- [Mercado Medellín](https://goo.gl/maps/ksVSP6qLRzHFjZG7) [https://goo.gl/maps/ksVSP6qLRzHFjZG7]: At La Roma neighbourhood
- [Mercado Coyoacán](https://goo.gl/maps/GopV823z4VTkqFsv6) [https://goo.gl/maps/GopV823z4VTkqFsv6]: We'll visit it on our first day of the tour
- [Mercado La Lagunilla](https://goo.gl/maps/GdbEU6qJbvDLYDwT9) [https://goo.gl/maps/GdbEU6qJbvDLYDwT9]: Nice but be careful with pickpockets...
- [Mercado de Sonora](https://goo.gl/maps/FnHJuLT3PuyGfEKa6) [https://goo.gl/maps/FnHJuLT3PuyGfEKa6]: "Witches Market". No food but interesting. Be careful if they offer you to do any "cleaning" ritual... They'll tend to overcharge you... Better to only visit and avoid any extra services.
- [Mercado San Cosme](https://goo.gl/maps/E2VS6VYa93trwRC8?coh=178572&entry=tt) [https://goo.gl/maps/E2VS6VYa93trwRC8?coh=178572&entry=tt]

## Going Out

Please take extra precautions if going out at night. These are some options within walking distance of our Hotel:

- [Garibaldi Square](https://goo.gl/maps/pWrwDEHmUBDsuJFY8) [https://goo.gl/maps/pWrwDEHmUBDsuJFY8] (famous for its Mariachis) and [Tenampa Cantina](https://goo.gl/maps/DW6XmRJVexgfaG4e6) [https://goo.gl/maps/DW6XmRJVexgfaG4e6] (ask to be at the bar instead of a table, it is more fun)
- [Pulquería Las Duelistas](https://goo.gl/maps/dQ4ujbCK69aAuyDt8) [https://goo.gl/maps/dQ4ujbCK69aAuyDt8]. This is a crowded and genuine place to taste pulque. Can check [this article](https://theculturetrip.com/north-america/mexico/articles/the-10-best-places-to-try-pulque-in-mexico-city/) [https://theculturetrip.com/north-america/mexico/articles/the-10-best-places-to-try-pulque-in-mexico-city/] to know more about pulque. Please note it may not be the best for your stomach, don't drink loads...
- [La Burra Blanca del 56](https://goo.gl/maps/DrG689Xs58SXAeyu6) [https://goo.gl/maps/DrG689Xs58SXAeyu6]: Live music
- [Bar Pata Negra](https://goo.gl/maps/tbzythHF6S2fx8ZN8) [https://goo.gl/maps/tbzythHF6S2fx8ZN8]
- [Terraza Catedral](https://goo.gl/maps/KHBbAJRX5mBRfFMLA) [https://goo.gl/maps/KHBbAJRX5mBRfFMLA]: Not traditional, but nice. House music with views of the Zócalo
- [La Purísima](https://goo.gl/maps/kAaxuT4bFhWFBXaDA) [https://goo.gl/maps/kAaxuT4bFhWFBXaDA]: Craziest LGTBQ nightclub, not for the fainted hearts

Some other options that require taking taxis are:

- The [Roma](https://goo.gl/maps/7niYGw6dutXN5UWv8) [https://goo.gl/maps/7niYGw6dutXN5UWv8] and Condesa neighbourhoods for a day or night out, it is full of restaurants and bars. Roma and Condesa are more expensive areas where many ex-pats live. We recommend MCarthy Irish Pub, Mama Rumba and Mercado Roma in Roma.
- [Zona Rosa](https://goo.gl/maps/zGcuJUVfop3LNmq56?coh=178572&entry=tt) [https://goo.gl/maps/zGcuJUVfop3LNmq56?coh=178572&entry=tt]: Known for its shopping, nightlife, the gay community and its recently established Korean community.
- [Jardín Juárez](https://goo.gl/maps/WVMV1MqJpDXN9ziU9?coh=178572&entry=tt) [https://goo.gl/maps/WVMV1MqJpDXN9ziU9?coh=178572&entry=tt]. Open-air terrace with live music, good food and beers.
- [Patrick Miller](https://goo.gl/maps/MCW5aJvPvN1rxBN17) [https://goo.gl/maps/MCW5aJvPvN1rxBN17]: Legendary High Energy (80's synth pop) nightclub. Very famous and crowded.
- [Pulquería La Hija De Los Apaches](https://goo.gl/maps/8PQeXwQEmTtakpva8?coh=178572&entry=tt) [https://goo.gl/maps/8PQeXwQEmTtakpva8?coh=178572&entry=tt]. This is a crowded and genuine place to taste pulque. Can check this article to know more about pulque. Please note it may not be the best for your stomach, don't drink loads...

- [Pulqueria los Insurgentes](https://goo.gl/maps/Vzj84hhmvMfd8df38?coh=178572&entry=tt) [https://goo.gl/maps/Vzj84hhmvMfd8df38?coh=178572&entry=tt]. Another good pulque place.
- Finally, can also visit [Salón Los Ángeles](https://goo.gl/maps/J15BkEYpyNozmoi37) [https://goo.gl/maps/J15BkEYpyNozmoi37]. It is an old-style hall. Orchestra live music on Sundays and Tuesdays afternoons.

## Optional Activities

### Nearby the hotel (Historic Center)

- Walk to the main square ([Zócalo](https://goo.gl/maps/Hh6ivDDetsTWs6i4A) [https://goo.gl/maps/Hh6ivDDetsTWs6i4A]) through any of the pedestrian streets such as [Avenida Francisco Madero](https://maps.app.goo.gl/VovX1gSctJ6ke14i8) [https://maps.app.goo.gl/VovX1gSctJ6ke14i8] and [Avenida 16 de Septiembre](https://maps.app.goo.gl/4Tai2d3ZnbnAp3Qt7) [https://maps.app.goo.gl/4Tai2d3ZnbnAp3Qt7], and visit the [Palacio de Iturbide](https://maps.app.goo.gl/HiL32QWnjksu4jzR9) [https://maps.app.goo.gl/HiL32QWnjksu4jzR9] and the [Cathedral](https://maps.app.goo.gl/jtNgb24S5Du34XdGA) [https://maps.app.goo.gl/jtNgb24S5Du34XdGA]<sup>2</sup>.
- Explore [Garibaldi Square](https://goo.gl/maps/pWrwDEHmUBDsujFY8) [https://goo.gl/maps/pWrwDEHmUBDsujFY8] (famous for its Mariachis), [Mercado San Camilito](https://goo.gl/maps/ovTkvtPwW9itFK3E6) [https://goo.gl/maps/ovTkvtPwW9itFK3E6] and [Tenampa Cantina](https://goo.gl/maps/DW6XmRJVexgfaG4e6) [https://goo.gl/maps/DW6XmRJVexgfaG4e6] (ask to be at the bar instead of a table, it is more fun)
- [Bellas Artes Theatre](https://goo.gl/maps/Hn9VdJyV9vzjSezC6) [https://goo.gl/maps/Hn9VdJyV9vzjSezC6]. Can ask to visit the Museum, which has some interesting murals. Or you can also book any of the concerts inside. Check these links: <https://palacio.inba.gob.mx/> , <http://museopalaciodebellasartes.gob.mx/visitas/>
- Visit [Pulquería Las Duelistas](https://goo.gl/maps/dQ4ujbCK69aAuyDt8) [https://goo.gl/maps/dQ4ujbCK69aAuyDt8] to taste pulque. Can check [this article](https://theculturetrip.com/north-america/mexico/articles/the-10-best-places-to-try-pulque-in-mexico-city/) [https://theculturetrip.com/north-america/mexico/articles/the-10-best-places-to-try-pulque-in-mexico-city/] to know more about pulque. Please note it may not be the best for your stomach, don't drink loads...
- Eat or drink at any terrace with views to the Zócalo Square, such as [Terraza Gran Hotel](https://goo.gl/maps/jfLRU95Lc1kwUtYHA) [https://goo.gl/maps/jfLRU95Lc1kwUtYHA] or [Terraza Catedral](https://goo.gl/maps/KHBbAJRX5mBRfFMLA) [https://goo.gl/maps/KHBbAJRX5mBRfFMLA] (We recommend sticking to one of these two to avoid possible scams (overcharging))
- Explore Diego Rivera Murals. Can find them at:

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<sup>2</sup> The Templo Mayor is the leftover ruins of the Aztec Empire. It is located just at the side of the Cathedral. Not really worth it unless you have a big interest on it.

- [Museo Mural Diego Rivera](https://goo.gl/maps/9FeRxdX8VPi3Gua26) [https://goo.gl/maps/9FeRxdX8VPi3Gua26]
- [Antiguo Colegio de San Ildefonso](https://goo.gl/maps/xguPnEnxtSpYGGDy9) [https://goo.gl/maps/xguPnEnxtSpYGGDy9]
- Visit [Monumento a la Revolución](https://goo.gl/maps/7VRUd1ipDDbkYg8w8?coh=178572&entry=tt) [https://goo.gl/maps/7VRUd1ipDDbkYg8w8?coh=178572&entry=tt] and through Reforma Avenue to [El Ángel de la Independencia](https://goo.gl/maps/6JzWh29MUenSGhSW6?coh=178572&entry=tt) [https://goo.gl/maps/6JzWh29MUenSGhSW6?coh=178572&entry=tt].
- [Mexican Wrestling](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dBhRM1iDYi0) [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dBhRM1iDYi0]. Hours vary, from 5 to 7:30 pm and there are shows 2-3 times per week. The best way to know the times is to check the online tickets [here](https://www.ticketmaster.com.mx/lucha-libre-cml-boleto/artista/1156538?utm_source=T_M-google&gclid=CjwKCAjwiOCgBhAgEiwAjv5whN7ca0Hc7g1ot6OnE5PIOtHQIfJqpAv1VsLI9JWWNe7mULyEODmLMRoCMZQQAvD_BwE) [https://www.ticketmaster.com.mx/lucha-libre-cml-boleto/artista/1156538?utm\_source=T\_M-google&gclid=CjwKCAjwiOCgBhAgEiwAjv5whN7ca0Hc7g1ot6OnE5PIOtHQIfJqpAv1VsLI9JWWNe7mULyEODmLMRoCMZQQAvD\_BwE]. The show usually lasts 2-3 hours, with excitement building up towards the end. Don't worry if you're running late; many people arrive after it starts! Inside the stadium, they offer snacks and beer, and you'll find street stalls selling masks before, during, and after the match. For ticket options, you can typically purchase them at the entrance. However, you can also [buy them online](https://www.ticketmaster.com.mx/lucha-libre-cml-boleto/artista/1156538?utm_source=T_M-google&gclid=CjwKCAjwiOCgBhAgEiwAjv5whN7ca0Hc7g1ot6OnE5PIOtHQIfJqpAv1VsLI9JWWNe7mULyEODmLMRoCMZQQAvD_BwE) [https://www.ticketmaster.com.mx/lucha-libre-cml-boleto/artista/1156538?utm\_source=T\_M-google&gclid=CjwKCAjwiOCgBhAgEiwAjv5whN7ca0Hc7g1ot6OnE5PIOtHQIfJqpAv1VsLI9JWWNe7mULyEODmLMRoCMZQQAvD\_BwE]. Ticket prices range from 100 to 500 MXN per person, and we usually recommend the 200-300 MXN range (12-18 USD). There are two coliseums:
  - [Arena Mexico](https://goo.gl/maps/gJ1gV8ny33ZbxU3S8) [https://goo.gl/maps/gJ1gV8ny33ZbxU3S8]. The biggest
  - [Arena Coliseo](https://goo.gl/maps/7tE6ZxX3fTZdHJM9) [https://goo.gl/maps/7tE6ZxX3fTZdHJM9]. Near Garibaldi Square
- Take a gastronomy market tour with [Eat Mexico](https://eatmexico.com/mexico-city-food-tours/) [https://eatmexico.com/mexico-city-food-tours/]
- Take a walking tour with [Mexico A Pie](https://mexicoapie.com/home) [https://mexicoapie.com/home] or the [Free Walking Tour](https://www.freetour.com/mexico-city?utm_source=google&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=Mexico_City_ENG&utm_term=mexico%20city%20walking%20tour&gclid=CjwKCAjwiOCgBhAgEiwAjv5whlpsrPB8KEGRpE_cMIVauvXev-zxH1-pw79qafkdxoklQK0gCua p6BoCkRQQAvD_BwE) [https://www.freetour.com/mexico-city?utm\_source=google&utm\_medium=cpc&utm\_campaign=Mexico\_City\_ENG&utm\_term=mexico%20city%20walking%20tour&gclid=CjwKCAjwiOCgBhAgEiwAjv5whlpsrPB8KEGRpE\_cMIVauvXev-zxH1-pw79qafkdxoklQK0gCua p6BoCkRQQAvD\_BwE]. Or contact Balam from [Corazón Chilango Tours](https://www.facebook.com/CORAZONCHILANGOTOURS/) [https://www.facebook.com/CORAZONCHILANGOTOURS/] to see if they are organising any activity during your stay if you are interested in a more alternative option.
- The [Museo de Arte Popular](https://maps.app.goo.gl/iEdy8We5JoVZntwd6) [https://maps.app.goo.gl/iEdy8We5JoVZntwd6] is a museum in Mexico City, Mexico that promotes and preserves part of the Mexican handcrafts and folk art.



## West part of the city

- [Museo de Antropología](https://goo.gl/maps/Wb1e6yX5ndM53RgA8) [https://goo.gl/maps/Wb1e6yX5ndM53RgA8]. This museum contains the richest collection of America's prehispanic art. It is located in front of Chapultepec Park.
- [Chapultepec Park and Castle](https://goo.gl/maps/6TGgcXRQP2Zv9jha6) [https://goo.gl/maps/6TGgcXRQP2Zv9jha6]. The largest park in Mexico City. The castle inside serves as a History Museum.

## South Part of the City

- [Coyoacán Neighbourhood](https://maps.app.goo.gl/Kq5wmiTzMJ4FXvFG8) [https://maps.app.goo.gl/Kq5wmiTzMJ4FXvFG8]. Home to many attractions, markets, restaurants, parks, museums... We will visit it on our first days of excursion, on which we will explore the Museum of Frida Kahlo and have a bit of free time around the main square. Yet, if you have plenty of time, you can also visit it on a separate day and explore:
  - [Museo Nacional de las Culturas Populares](https://maps.app.goo.gl/ujUGg1dmDXHsPvch7) [https://maps.app.goo.gl/ujUGg1dmDXHsPvch7]: A museum dedicated to Mexico's ethnic and cultural diversity.
  - [Museo Anahuacalli](https://maps.app.goo.gl/4GWvcabWj4xS64Hu7) [https://maps.app.goo.gl/4GWvcabWj4xS64Hu7]: A temple of the arts designed by the Mexican muralist Diego Rivera. This museum stands out for its extensive collection of pre-Columbian art, as well as for its Ecological Space that protects endemic flora and fauna. Tickets are included with your Frida Kahlo tickets and you can visit it any day except Mondays. Ask us for your tickets if you want to visit it on your own.
- [San Ángel Neighbourhood](https://maps.app.goo.gl/p6rpSq8bLASB9xG17) [https://maps.app.goo.gl/p6rpSq8bLASB9xG17] (Plaza San Jacinto). Another neighbourhood which is full of attractions. Especially on weekends, it is very lively and full of art, handicrafts, museums and good restaurants. There are a lot of places to see such as [Museo Casa del Risco](https://maps.app.goo.gl/rnYbH4upGf4iQShK7) [https://maps.app.goo.gl/rnYbH4upGf4iQShK7], [Casa del Obispo "Galería de Arte Popular Mexicano"](https://maps.app.goo.gl/zc17M3P6PPfKPdyJ6) [https://maps.app.goo.gl/zc17M3P6PPfKPdyJ6], [Tianguis Artesanal](https://maps.app.goo.gl/KKpxuWX1vyHDUHPBA) [https://maps.app.goo.gl/KKpxuWX1vyHDUHPBA], [El Carmen Museum](https://maps.app.goo.gl/WxfRQYnS1EJD1KaXA) [https://maps.app.goo.gl/WxfRQYnS1EJD1KaXA], [Diego Rivera and Frida Kahlo Studio House Museum](https://maps.app.goo.gl/wpshoJeAE3SNWgVB7) [https://maps.app.goo.gl/wpshoJeAE3SNWgVB7], [Soumaya Plaza Loreto Museum](https://maps.app.goo.gl/DZMBCnZLCdxNbfoN9) [https://maps.app.goo.gl/DZMBCnZLCdxNbfoN9], etc.

## Tipping

Tipping is meant to be a thoughtful gesture that reflects your appreciation for the service received, but it's a nuanced topic. We want to provide some guidance to help you navigate it smoothly during your stay in Mexico.

First and foremost, it's essential to remember that Mexicans, in general, value politeness. Whether you decide to tip or not, a warm "Hola," a smile, and a "Gracias" go a long way in fostering positive interactions, even during any disputes.

Tipping is customary in Mexico, but here's a general guideline:

- **Restaurants:** In Mexico City, a 10% tip at restaurants is common. If service has been exceptional, consider a bit more. Keeping some 5 and 10 pesos coins on hand for tipping musicians or street vendors is a practical approach. When paying by card, you can request to have the tip added to your bill.
- **Drivers** (e.g., airport transfers, taxis, Uber): While tipping is not obligatory, it's appreciated if the driver helps you with your bags. A modest tip of at least 20 pesos and up to 50 pesos is a gracious gesture.
- **Hotels:** If a hotel staff member assists with your luggage, offering a 10 to 20-peso tip is customary. However, feel free to decline assistance if you prefer to carry your bags yourself. Keep your valuables secure and, upon checkout, you'll often find an envelope for housekeeper tips. Typically, guests leave between 10 and 50 MXN.
- **Street Performers and Vendors:** You'll come across many musicians and vendors who may seek a tip or collaboration. While it's your choice to contribute, locals commonly offer 5-10 MXN in such situations. If you wish to avoid this, consider avoiding touristy terraces.
- **Children Begging or Working:** The matter of tipping children can be delicate, as it may inadvertently encourage such practices. Your choice to tip them is entirely voluntary, and again, 5-10 MXN is a suitable amount.

Remember, tipping should reflect your gratitude for good service and experiences. You'll find that most people in Mexico are gracious and welcoming, and your courteous attitude is just as important as the tip itself.

## Security Tips

Mexico City welcomes you with open arms, and as with any destination, ensuring a safe and enjoyable visit is essential. Here are some valuable tips to enhance your experience:

- **Emergency Contacts:** Mexico's emergency number is 911, and operators usually have basic English language skills. Keep this number handy in case you need assistance.
- **Seismic Precautions:** Mexico City is located in a seismic zone. While newer buildings, like our hotel, are well-prepared for such situations, alarms may be activated in the rare event of seismic activity. Please stay calm, follow staff instructions, and move to designated safe areas, which can be inside or outside the building. Avoid running and using elevators to minimize risks.
- **Conceal Valuables:** We recommend not leaving your valuables in plain sight within your room. It's a good practice to hide them among your clothing or in less obvious places.
- **When You Step Out:** When you venture outside, only carry what's necessary. Ensure your electronic devices and jewellery are securely stored. Avoid carrying large amounts of cash, and make sure your bags and pockets are securely fastened.
- **Document Safety:** Always have copies of your travel documents. While it's generally expected to carry your original passport in Mexico, it's advisable to leave the original at your hotel if you're staying close by. However, when leaving the city and being on the road, remember to take your original passport with you. Consider laminating a copy for added protection. You'll need your passport for currency exchange and entry to some nightclubs. Keep your migration receipt safely with your passport (in case there is any).
- **Vigilance:** Be cautious when approached by anyone offering drugs or prostitution services. Politely decline and move on.
- **Dealing with Authorities:** If confronted by a police officer or anyone else, remain calm and polite but firm. Avoid divulging excess information or handing over more documentation than requested. Try to attract the attention of people nearby.
- **Vulnerable Situations:** Exercise caution just after exchanging or withdrawing money, in crowded areas, on public transport, at markets, and during street performances. Remain alert at touristy places like downtown, while carrying luggage or shopping bags, and when entering or leaving the hotel.
- **Scam Awareness:** Be aware of common scams such as overcharging at restaurants, bars, and taxis. Always ask for prices beforehand and confirm that menus display currency and prices. Remember that tips are not obligatory. Avoid the balcony terraces at the main square, and verify their legitimacy in case you eat there<sup>3</sup>. Watch for incorrect

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<sup>3</sup> This happens a lot around the terraces at the main square, the only legit one is [Terraza Gran Hotel](#).

change, especially when exchanging money. Be cautious about common distractions that pickpockets may exploit.

- **Drug Scams:** Be vigilant about your belongings; a stranger may try to slip a small packet of drugs into your bag. If approached by someone offering drugs, continue walking. This situation could lead to a confrontation with the police.
- **Tipping:** Tipping in Mexico is not mandatory, and it's illegal for businesses to add tips to bills or set minimum spending amounts. If you experience a situation where tipping becomes uncomfortable, consider paying to avoid potential conflicts. Your safety is a priority, and you can report any issues to "PROFECO," the Office of the Federal Prosecutor for the Consumer.

## Health Tips<sup>4</sup>

Your well-being is essential, and we want to ensure your trip is memorable for all the right reasons. Here are some health tips to keep in mind during your trip:

- **Watch Your Diet:** Traveler's diarrhoea is common, so pay extra attention to what you eat. Opt for restaurants that appear clean and bustling with local patrons, especially when it comes to seafood. Be cautious with sauces and ensure they look fresh.
- **Water Precautions:** Avoid tap water, even for brushing your teeth. It's safer to use bottled water. When showering, try to keep your mouth closed to prevent accidental ingestion.
- **Hand Hygiene:** Carry a small hand sanitiser and use it frequently. Remember to sanitize your hands after using public restrooms or public transport.
- **Avoid High-Risk Foods:** Steer clear of salads, fresh fruits, ice, and ice creams from street food vendors. Additionally, wipe the tops of cans or bottles before consuming their contents.
- **Healthy Habits:** Try to maintain a balanced diet rich in vitamins. Avoid eating too much. If you're not feeling well, avoid coffee, spicy foods, sugary treats, and dairy products.
- **Stay Hydrated:** Mexico City's altitude can affect your energy levels and lead to dryness-related symptoms. Keep yourself hydrated with at least 1 to 2 litres of water daily. Powdered hydration salts and drinks are readily available.
- **Sun Protection:** Protect yourself from the sun with a good hat and sunscreen. Seeking shade is an effective way to prevent dehydration.

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<sup>4</sup> Please note the following advice is just our recommendation. You should always prioritize your doctor's health advice.

- **Mind Your Step:** Streets in the towns you'll visit may have uneven surfaces or become slippery, especially when it rains. Wear shoes and socks instead of sandals for better safety. Always watch your step!
- **Traffic Awareness:** When crossing streets, remember to look both ways for oncoming traffic. Wait until the car has stopped (in Mexico, normally cars do not stop at pedestrian crossings). Safety first!

## Responsible Travel Tips

As you embark on your journey, remember that responsible travel can enhance your experience while respecting the local way of life. Here's how to do it:

- **Embrace Local Etiquette:** Being friendly and attentive to local customs can prevent unintended offence.
- **Speak Their Language:** Learning a few Spanish phrases can earn you goodwill. Try Thanks - Gracias, Please - Por favor, Hello - Hola.
- **Tip Thoughtfully:** In restaurants, a 10% tip or more is customary, but it's not mandatory. If the service doesn't meet your expectations, don't feel obliged to tip. When paying by card, you can request to have the tip added to your bill.
- **Respect Personal Space:** Always seek permission before taking photographs. Not everyone may be comfortable with it.
- **Waste Disposal:** Be responsible with your trash. While public trash cans are scarce in Mexico, businesses often provide bins. If not, carry your trash with you.
- **Support Local Businesses:** Opt for local eateries and family-run shops whenever possible. This helps boost the local economy and ensures an authentic experience.
- **Artisan Appreciation:** When shopping for souvenirs, buy from local artisans. Bargain reasonably, and explore multiple shops before making a purchase.
- **Reduce Plastic Use:** Say no to shopping bags if you don't need them. Your eco-conscious choices make a difference.
- **Respect Sacred Spaces:** When visiting places of worship, dress appropriately and modestly. This demonstrates your respect for their culture.