

Map of Historical Town Center



El Centro Histórico (The Historical Town Center) is considered by UNESCO to be a Cultural Patrimony of Human Kind partly because it brings the best examples of constructions of the virreinato period together. Places of interest:

Plaza de la Constitución (Constitution Square) (1) – Also known as Zócalo, it is one of the largest squares in the world. It holds enormous importance as a cultural, political, historical and symbolic center both of the city and of the country. You can find the National Palace, seat of the Federal Executive, the Metropolitan Cathedral, seat of the Catholic Church in Mexico, and the Buildings of the Government of the Federal District around the Plaza.

Palacio Nacional (National Palace) (2) – Linear building of three floors which combines quarry and tezontle. It is possible to admire murals by Diego Rivera, the Parliamentary Precincts, The Precincts to Honor Juárez and the botanical Garden in the interior. The Bell of Dolores, which is rung by the President during the celebration of the “Grito” of Independence, is located in the central balcony. 91581252. Mon through Sun 8–18. Free Entrance

Catedral Metropolitana (Metropolitan Cathedral) (3) – The main religious center of the Virreinato period is today the largest church of Latin America. Within its walls you can find numerous works of religious art, The altar of the Three Wise Men, the monumental organ built in the XVIII century and the crypt. The Metropolitan Tabernacle has one of the most beautiful baroque doors in Mexico. Sunday mass at 19 hrs has a mariachi. Guided tours are available. 55100440 ext. 101 Mon through Sun 8–20 hrs. Free Entrance.

Templo Mayor (4) – The Templo Mayor area corresponds to that of the main religious and ceremonial center of the Aztec Empire. The Templo Mayor Museum shows pieces of Aztec art among which the sculpture of Goddess Coyolxauhqui, the moon, and sister of God Huitzilopochtli, the sun, is remarkable. 55424943 Tues through Sun 9–17 hrs.

Palacio de la Autonomía (UNAM) (Autonomy Palace) (5) .- This building was built on the vestiges of the Santa Teresa la Antigua Convent from 18th century. Since 1929 it belongs to the National University and worked as the Odontology National School. 55223348

Calle de Moneda (Moneda Street) (6) – Alongside the National Palace the Moneda Street shows admirable constructions of the Virreinato period: The first head office of the University of Mexico; the House of the First Printing Works in America, at that time House of the Bells; Ancient Palace Of Archbishop, which nowadays hosts the **Museo de la Secretaría de Hacienda y Crédito Público (Museum Of the Ministry of Treasury) (7)** – which holds a collection of Mexican art, including works of different epochs and artists: From Juan Correa (XVIII Century) to Diego Rivera and Rufino Tamayo, among others.– 36881259. Tues through Sun 10 17:30 hrs. The Royal House Of Minting of the Nueva España (from which it takes the name), today **Museo Nacional de las Culturas (National Museum of Cultures) (8)** – exhibits pieces of several cultures of the world. 55420187. Tues through Sun 10–17 hrs. Free Entrance. Other important buildings are: Ancient Hospital Of God’s Love, present head office of the National School of

Plastic Arts of San Carlos, and the cloister of the ex convent of Santa Inés, today **Museo José Luis Cuevas (José Luis Cuevas Museum) (9)** – where it is possible to admire cravings by Picasso, drawings by Rembrandt, and of course, works by Cuevas, among other Contemporary artists.–55220156. Tues through Sun 10–17 hrs.

Ex Teresa Arte Actual (Ex Teresa Present Art) (10) – Baroque Temple of the XVII century. Nowadays It hosts a cultura project of INBA, which is specialized in new art tendencies and expressions. 55222721. Mon through Fri 10–18 hrs. Free Entrance.

Plaza de Santo Domingo (Santo Domingo Square) (11) – The palace of Cuauhtémoc was located here before the arrival of the Spanish conquerors. The square holds the second place in importance within the Historical Town Center, keeping its original 1628 line almost intact. **Portales de los Evangelistas (The Entrance Hall of Evangelists) (12)** – are located in the plaza. This is a Building from the Virreinato period of the XVII century, with wide entrance halls built in the XVIII century in the first floor. There public scribes do their job since the XIX century, that is to say, writing any kind of communications. **Templo de Santo Domingo (Santo Domingo Temple) (13)** – The Dominicans Order were the representatives of Inquisition in Mexico. Their temple was one of the most beautiful and important of the colonial period. Within the temple it is possible to find remarkable baroque altarpieces. **Antiguo Palacio de la Inquisición (Ancient Palace of the Inquisition) (14)** – This building is one of the most beautiful exponents of the baroque architecture of the XVIII century. For a long time it was the seat of the Court of the Holy Service. Today it hosts the Museum of Mexican Medicine and the Library Nicolás León.–55297542. Mon through Sun 9–18 hrs Free Entrance.

Secretaría de Educación Pública (Ministry of Education) (15) – The architectural set of the Ministry takes a whole block of the Historical Town Center and it holds famous murals of painter Diego Rivera, who represented the life of Mexican people in more than 120 drawing boards, distributed in three floors. (You can also find murals by David Alfaro Siqueiros, José Chávez Morado, Raúl Anguiano, Luis Nishizawa, Roberto Montenegro, Amado de la Cueva and Jean Charlot). 30031000. Mon through Fri 9–18 hrs. Free Entrance.

Museo de la Caricatura (Museum of the Caricature) (16) – An important exposition of original cravings and caricatures showing the life in Mexico is exhibited since 1987 in the ancient College of Christ, built in the XVII century. The works are date back from 1826 up to date. 57029256. Mon through Sun 10–17 hrs.

Antiguo Colegio de San Idelfonso (Ancient College of San Idelfonso) (17) – College founded by the Jesuits in 1582, although the present building is dated back to the XVIII century. In the XIX century it was the head office of the National Preparatoria School. The most famous muralists, headed by Orozco and Rivera covered its walls with remarkable works. Nowadays it is a UNAM museum where temporary expositions and various cultural activities take place. 57026378 Tues. through Sun 10–17 hrs.

Hospital de Jesús Nazareno (Hospital of Jesús Nazareno) (18) – Founded by Cortés in 1524 it is the hospital holding the most ancient operation in the American continent. 57026378. The mortal remains of Hernán Cortés, so as a sculpture of Jesús Nazareno after which the Hospital is named are located in the **Templo de Jesús Nazareno (Temple of the Conception of Jesús Nazareno) (19)**. The temple was part of the hospital and it contains the remains of Hernán Cortés as well as a statue of Jesus of Nazareth, the hospital is namesake. 5542–2408.

Museo de la Ciudad de México (Museum of Mexico City) (20) –It is hosted at the ancient Palace of the Counts of Santiago de Calimaya, and is a remark-

able example of baroque civil architecture of the XVIII century. Its construction is dated back to the XVI century. The history and evolution of the capital of the country is shown in its various halls. 55420083. Tues through Sun 10-18 hrs. Free Entrance.

Nacional Monte de Piedad (21) – The palace of Axacyácatl, seventh Aztec emperor used to be here. Cortés was hosted here when he arrived to the city. Sun through Fri 9-17 hrs. and Sat. 9-13 hrs.

Templo y Convento de San Diego (Laboratorio Arte Alameda) (Temple and Convent of San Diego (Laboratorio Arte Alameda)) (22) – Paintings from the XVI, XVII, and XVIII centuries are exhibited here. 55122079. Tues through Sun 9-17 hrs.

Museo Mural Diego Rivera (Diego Rivera Mural Museum) (23) – It was built to host the famous mural by Diego Rivera Sueño de una tarde dominical en la Alameda Central, which used to be located at the Del Prado hotel. The hotel was demolished by the 1985 earthquake. 55180183. Tues through Sun 10-18 hrs.

Hemiciclo a Juárez (24) – Monument in Carrara marble built to honor the memory of Benito Juárez, the Benémerito de las Américas.

Palacio de Bellas Artes (Palace of Fine Arts) (25) – The building is distinctive of the city. Decorative art déco elements combined with Pre-Hispanic motives are found inside of the building. The walls are covered with frescos by Orozco, Siqueiros, Rivera, Tamayo, O'Gorman and González Camarena. The theatre has a curtain-mural of shining glass designed by the Hungarian Maroti and fabricated by Tiffany house of New York. Concerts, cultural events and temporary and permanent expositions constantly take place there. 55126333. Tues to Sun 10-18 hrs.

Plaza de la Santa Veracruz (Santa Veracruz Square) (26) – The following attractions are located in this beautiful Square: The Temple of Santa Veracruz, built in the XVIII century which has a beautiful altarpiece with a sculpture of Christ that was donated by emperor Carlos V, known as The Christ of the Seven Veils.

Museo Nacional de la Estampa (The National Museum of the Illustration) (27) – spreads the use of contemporary materials, techniques, and procedures that have gone beyond the limits of traditional illustration. 55212244. Tues through Sun. 10-18 hrs. El **Museo Franz Mayer (The Franz Mayer Museum) (28)** – Located in the ancient convent and hospital of San Juan de Dios, it was built in the XVII century and has suffered several modifications. It hosts superb pieces of applied arts, which were collected by German Philanthropist Franz Mayer, who in turn inherited them to Mexican people. 55182266. Tues to Sun 10-17 hrs. and Wed. 10-19 hrs.

Torre Latinoamericana (Latin American Tower) (29) – It was inaugurated on the 23 of April 1956. It has 44 floors and is 182 meters long to the antenna. From the Mirador, on floors 42, 43 and 44 it is possible to admire Mexico City. 55187423. Mon. through Sun 9-22 hrs.

The following attractions are located along Madero Street: **Templo y Convento de San Francisco de México y Capilla de Balvanera (Temple and Convent of San Francisco de Mexico and Chapel of Balvanera) (30)** – The private zoo of emperor Moctezuma Ilhuicamina was located in the terrains today occupied by the temple. The Churriguera Style façade and the altarpiece at the altar are remarkable.

Templo de San Felipe de Jesús (Temple of San Felipe de Jesús) (31) – Of neo-roman style, it was built at the end of the XIX century as a reward for the destruction of the temples of liberal governments. Mon through Sun 10-20hrs.

Casa de los Azulejos de los Condes de Orizaba (House of the Tiles or House of the Counts of Orizaba) (32) – Its construction dates back to 1596, and it belonged to the command of Count of Orizaba Valley. In 1881 it used to be the Jockey Club of the city, attended by distinguished people of the porfiriato period society. The first cafeteria owned by the last-named Sanborns brothers was first installed here in 1903. 55216058. Mon through Sun 7-22 hrs.

Palacio de Iturbide (Iturbide Palace) (33) – Banamex Cultural Promotion. It is one of the best examples of the Mexican baroque of the XVIII century. It was built between 1779 and 1785. At that time it was the highest building in the city. It was named after Iturbide, because Agustín de Iturbide himself lived there from 1821 to 1823. In 1965 it was acquired by the Banco Nacional de México, who ordered a careful restoration. It often exhibits art expositions. 52250280, 52250234 Mon through Fri 9-14:30 hrs. and 16-20 hrs.

Museo del Estanquillo (Estanquillo Museum) (34) – A colonial Majestic building from 18th century. It turns like a space full of Mexican humor, breaks with our idea about the serious museum; the museum curator is the caricaturist Rafael Barajas *El Fisgon*. The heritage of the Estanquillo is the personal donated by the famous writer Carlos Monsiváis. 5521-3052. Tue. to Sun. 10 - 18 h.

Another fundamental Street is that of Tacuba, where you can find: El **Palacio de Correos (The Post-Office Palace) (35)** – Built in 1908 it has a façade of quarry that mixes elements of the Italian gothic reninassance. It has two museums and a post-office library. 55102999. Tues through Fri 9-14:30 hrs. Sat. and Sun. 10-15:30 hrs. Free Entrance.

Palacio de Minería (Mining Palace) (36) – Built by Manuel Tolsá in the XVIII century. The Royal Seminar of Mining was located here. At Present time it is a UNAM's Center for continuous education and cultural diffusion where the International Book Fair of the Mining Palace annually takes place. Four meteorites are exhibited in the lobby. 56232981. Tues through Sun 10-18 hrs.

Plaza Manuel Tolsá (Manuel Tolsá Square) (37) – The equestrian statue of Carlos IV was placed here. Popularly known as "The little horse", it is a work by Manuel Tolsá, after whose name the square – a symbol of the city – is actually named.

Museo del Ejército y Fuerza Aereo Mexicanos (Museum of the Mexican Army and Air Force) (38) – Its headquarters is the Betmitas Convent. It shows the military history of Mexico from the Pre-Hispanic epoch. 55123215 Tues to Sat 10-18 hrs, and Sun 10-16 hrs. Free Entrance.

Museo Nacional de Arte (National Museum of Art) (39) – It is a remarkable example of the porfiriato period architecture. It holds an extraordinary collection of Mexican art with pieces date back to the XVI century up to mid XX. 51303403 Tues to Sun 10-17:30 hrs.

Museo Interactivo de Economía (MIDE) (40) – This innovative museum takes up the antique convent of Betlemitas, a majestic colonial building from 18th century. This place offers a great variety of interactive experiences about the economy science with the most high technology. 5130-3400. Tue. to Sun. 9 to 18 h. Other sites in the Historical Town Center: **Plaza Garibaldi (Garibaldi Square) (41)** – Mariachis and interpreters of Mexican popular music get together in this place. It is surrounded by restaurants, bars and cantinas.

Mercado de Artesanías de la Ciudadela (La Ciudadela Handcrafts Market) (42) – Traditional craftsmen offer their works, which they continue to

fabricate with techniques and raw materials from their original communities. An important urban handcraft production fabricated in Mexico City is also offered here. Mon through Sun 10-18 hrs.

Mercado de Artesanías, San Juan (San Juan Handcrafts Market) (43) – If you are looking for a souvenir of your visit, you will be able to buy Charro hats, sarapes and reproductions of Pre-Hispanic pieces here. Sun. 10-18 hrs.

Museo de Arte Popular (44) – The old building of Navy Department was planned like fire station, even so it keeps the access for vehicles in the main basement that gets in touch with the central yard. Nowadays, it shows a beautiful façade in *art déco* style and shelter one of the popular art collections most important of this country. 55212921.



- TOURIST INFORMATION**
- SUBWAY STATION
 - POST OFFICE
 - SIGHTSEEING
 - FOREST PARK
 - TRAMCAR

- SYMBOLS**
- MUSEUM
 - HOTEL
 - EMBASSY
 - CHURCH
 - TURBIS
 - HOSPITAL

MODULE OF TOURISTIC INFORMATION

Aeropuerto (Airport)

Capt. Carlos León s/n, col. Peñón de los Baños. "Benito Juárez" Mexico City International Airport . National Arrivals. 57869002. Mon through Sun 7 to 22 hrs.

Antropología (Anthropology)

Paseo de la Reforma and Gandhi, col. Bosque de Chapultepec. Front of the Anthropology Museum 52863850. Mon. Thorough Sun 9:00 to 18 :00 hrs.

Basílica (Basilica)

Plaza de las Américas 1, col. Villa de Guadalupe. Front Yard of the Guadalupe Basílica. 57482085 Mon. Through Suun 9:00 to 18:00 hrs.

Palacio de Bellas Artes (Palace of Fine Arts)

Corner of Angela Peralta and Av. Juárez, Col Centro Between the Palace of Fine Arts and the Alameda Central 55182799. Mon through Sun 9:00 to 18:00 hrs.

Catedral (Cathedral)

Plaza del Empedradito, next to the Metropolitan Cathedral 55181003. Mon through sun 9:00 to 18 :00 hrs

Cien Metros

Av. 100 Metros 4907, Col Magdalena de las Salinas. North Bus Station. Main entrance. 57191201. Mon through sun. 9:00 to 18:00 hrs.

El Angel (The Angel)

Paseo de la Reforma and Florencia, col. Juárez. In front of the Angel of Independence. 5208-1030.. Mon through Sun 9:00 to 18:00 hrs.

Observatorio

Sur 122 at the corner with Río Tacubaya, Col. Real del Monte. West Bus Station. Main entrance 52728816. Mon through Sun 9:00 to 18:00 hrs.

Tapo

Calz. Ignacio Zaragoza 200, col. 10 de Mayo, Orient Bus Station. 57843077. Mon through Sun. 9:00 to 18:00 hrs.

Templo Mayor

Seminario s/n, col. Centro Next to the Metropolitan Cathedral. 55128977 Mon through Sun 9:00 to 18:00 hrs.

Ministry of Tourism Government of the Federal District

Nuevo León 56 col. Hipódromo Condesa

Touristic Information of the Federal District,
018000089090

Free Service
informaciontouristica@emexicocity.gob.mx
www.turismo.df.gob.mx - www.mexicocity.gob.mx

