

Map of Xochimilco



XOCHIMILCO placed towards the South-west of the Federal District, which meaning in náhuatl is “place of the flowery sown land” has an attraction that has given it an international reputation for being unique in the world: the chinampas, old agricultural technique used by the xochimilcas since the pre-Hispanic period and that consists of artificial hectare created on the lake through the superposition of layers of trunks, earth, mud and roots secured by lianas. The UNESCO has declared Xochimilco “World Cultural and Natural Heritage”.

Xochimilco’s Archaeological Museum (1) – It shows more than 6 thousand pieces as plates, personal objects, and a ball game hoop, zoomorph and anthropomorph figures, which represent the mythical Xochimilca thought. Periférico Oriente I corner to La Planta s/n Col. Pueblo Santa Cruz Acalpixca.

Museum Dolores Olmedo (2) – Space where a Diego Rivera and Frida Kahlo’s collection is shown, as well as a pre-Hispanic piece series coming from diverse indigenous cultures of the country. Also, silver craft pieces, viceregal-period pieces of furniture and ceramic and talavera works can be found there. Besides, the museum has green areas where peacocks, ducks and the dog Xoloizcuintle (species in danger) are able to walk freely. Av. México 5843, La Noria, Tel. 55551221, Ma a D, 10–18h.

Parishioner Temple and Ex- convent of San Bernardino de Siena (3) – September 16 s/n, Historical Centre. Built by the Franciscan order in the 16th century. At the interior of the church an outstanding altarpiece is conserved.

Olympic track of Cuernavaca (4) – Periférico Sur. It was built in 1968 for the 19th Olympic Games’ rowing and boating competitions. It is a 2,200 meters long x 125 meters wide artificial channel.

Channels. Formed at the original lake with chinampas (traditional cultivation system). The typical tour can be done from any of its 10 quays: **Cuernavaca (5)**, **Caltongo (6)**, **Fernando Celada (7)**, **Salitre (8)**, **San Cristóbal (10)**, **Zacapa (11)**, **Las Flores (12)**, **Nuevo Nativitas (13)** and **Belém de las Flores (14)**. To cover the channels gives an idea of the appearance of Mexico’s Valley back in time, which caused the amazement of conquest Europeans. The tours are livened up by the food, music and handicraft sale.

Mercados. There are always options to buy flowers, adornment plants, as well as pottery, in either of its 4 specialized markets. **Cuernavaca (15)**, **Madre Selva (16)**, **San Luis Tlaxiátemalco (17)** and **Palacio de la Flor (18)**, or in its countless greenhouses.

Ecoturismo. The following places stand out: **Centro de Educación Ambiental Cuernavaca (19)** (a center for environmental education), **Bosque de San Luis Tlaxiátemalco (20)** – The green areas which this place has will allow you to coexist with the family, have a country day and visit the greenhouse in front of the forest, in which diverse flowers and plants will be found. Local road between Xochimilco and Tulyehualco and Av. 5 de mayo, **Bosque de Nativitas (21)** – It has a great infrastructure that makes it good to be in contact with nature, it has 17.2 hectares wooded with ash trees, sabinos and eucalyptus, which give calmness. Madreselva and local road Xochimilco-Tulyehualco and **Parque Ecológico de Xochimilco (22)** (ecological park Xochimilco) – a place destined for family enjoyment. The nursery, which has modern and wide facilities, is the Latin America’s largest. In this park cultural and recreational activities can be carried out such as tours on board of the typical trajineras, an installed sound system small train, ecological cars for hire (family quadricycles and all-age bicycles) and pedal motorboats. Shows of music, theatre and dance are also usually presented, among which a December pastourelle represented on the lake aboard the trajinera stand out. It is open from Tuesday to Sunday, from 10:00 to 18:00h. Sur Anillo Periferico s/n.

San Pedro Tlalnahua– Visit one of best chapels built in Xochimilco, which dates back to 1533; it has a Capilla-posa style, where pre-Hispanic archaeological rests were found. Enjoy the architecture of this construction with masonry façade, which is considered a historical monument due to the originality of the materials which it was built with. Location: Street Pedro Ramírez del Castillo and Cuitláhuac.

Santa Crucita de Analco– Know this cultural heritage which dates back to 1687 and was restored in 1860. Its altarpiece is modern and is placed at the rear part. In this chapel, several filmings have been carried out; among them, there is the famous movie of María Candelaria. Location: Street Violeta and Francisco I. Madero.

Belem– It is a classic style chapel which dates back to 1758; it has been restored several times, the last time was in 1932. Its rooms have a special colonial style. Location: Street 5 de Mayo, Centre of Xochimilco.

Casa del Arte (Art House) – Its construction dates back to the 16th century, it housed a primary school and there the Xochimilco’s Historical File and the Newspaper Library can be found. The building is classified by the INAH as historical monument.

Archaeological zone of Cuahilama – Enigmatic petroglyph group that represent the stars, the cardinal points and the deities of fertility.

ACTIVITIES

The most beautiful flower of the land's Celebration – Between March and April, it is done seven days before Holy Week and is the most important party in Xochimilco. It is celebrated every year since 1955 and it has reached its very peak at the place and with the elements that has given rise to it: channels, trajineras and flowers. It also offers worship and admiration to Mexican beauty.

Feria de la Nieve (Water-ice fair) – Since 1985, Tulyehualco has been the main water-ice producer in Xochimilco, it has its history back in the pre-Hispanic period where it was known as an exotic and expensive candy due to the fact that the natives brought it from the volcano's foot. It is celebrated during the Holy Week.

Feria del Dulce Cristalizado (Crystallized Candy Fair) – It is done in July (in the town of Santa Cruz Acalpixca in the square of Quirino de Mendoza). Among the favorites candies are: mango, prickly pear, peach, fig, gourd, lemon, pineapple and cucumber.

Expo Nochebuena (Expo Poinsettia) – This exhibition takes place during the months of November and December and can be acquired till seven different varieties of poinsettia. Some of the places where these varieties can be found are: Centre of Xochimilco and the Plants Market of Cuernavaca.

Fair of the Alegría (a Mexican amaranth candy) and the Olive – It is developed in February (changeable date), at the town's center of Tulyehualco, its main objective is promoting the amaranth and olive consumption between the national and local population. This fair represents an excellent opportunity to enjoy diverse products and unique handicrafts, which are made with those ingredients.

Carnaval de Xochimilco (carnival of Xochimilco) – Made previously to The Most Beautiful Flower of the Land's Celebration.

Plant and Flower Markets – There you will found a great quantity of products, adornment plants and flowers, diverse pottery manufactures, traditional toys, handicrafts typical food and more.

The Llorona show – A sound and light show that is carried out during October and November. Each performance starts with a Cuernavaca's zone night tour and then continues arriving at the natural scenery, where the play is carried out. There an episode of the Tenochtitlán conquest and the Cihuacóatl legend (The Llorona) is recreated.

Fair of the corn and the tortilla – It is done in May (changeable date) at Santiago Tepapalcatlalpan.

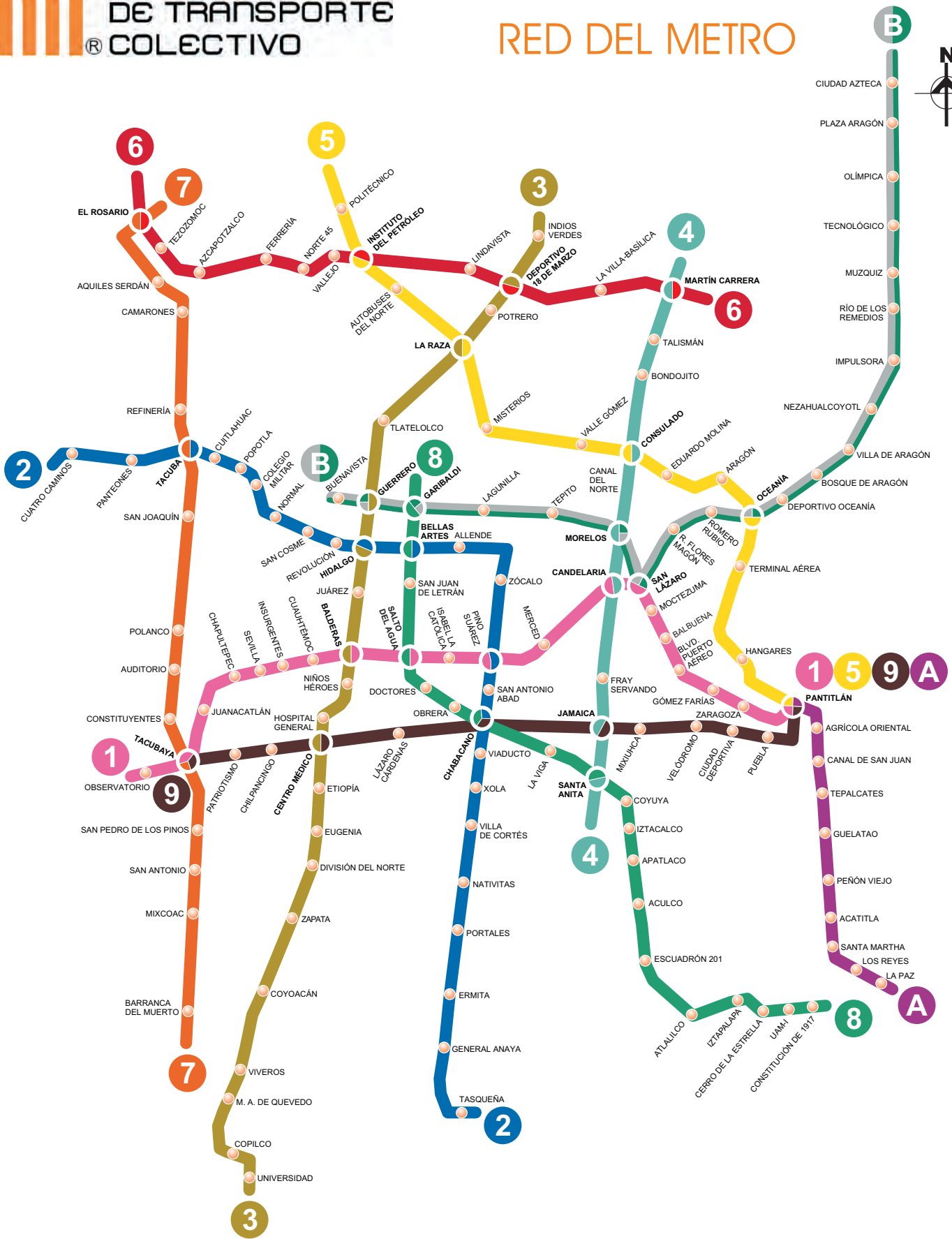
Expo honey – Made in November (changeable date).

Gastronomy – Among the typical Xochimilco dishes are: The tlapique or fish tamale, the cuatatapa (a chili and grinded-bean dish), stews with vegetables as the chard, the quintonil and the quelite (a mexican rare weeds); other dishes are also prepared with axolotl, frogs, acociles (a freshwater crayfish endemic species), fish and rabbit. The necuatole (a pumpkin candy) is also important.

Gastronomic Fair of Cuautatapa – From March to April in San Lucas Xochimanca (changeable date).

Niño – The term Niño is translated as "The Child of the Place"; this child (which is not real) was born at the chinampas, he is the essence of the place and he does not has a temple due to the fact that his house is at every home of Xochimilco's inhabitants. In February 2, the Stewardship change is carried out and, after the liturgical celebration, the child is given to his new custodians, who will be in charge of him from this day to December 24.





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.

Basilica (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

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