



Mexico City Flag

# Mexico City

by Blake King



Map of Mexico City

## Intro:

Established nearly 700 years ago, Mexico City has been home to indigenous populations and Spanish colonial rule, and is today a modern, cosmopolitan and diverse city of nearly 10 million residents. The greater Mexico City metropolitan area, which includes several surrounding municipalities (known as the Federal District of Mexico), totals 22 million residents.



Mexico City Skyline



Pyramid of the Moon



Floating Gardens of Xochimilco

## Hot Spots:

- **Chapultepec Park:** Chapultepec Park, the largest park within a city in the world, features the country's largest zoo, botanical gardens, lakes for paddleboat rides, an aquatic park with water slides, and miles of walkways and jogging paths.

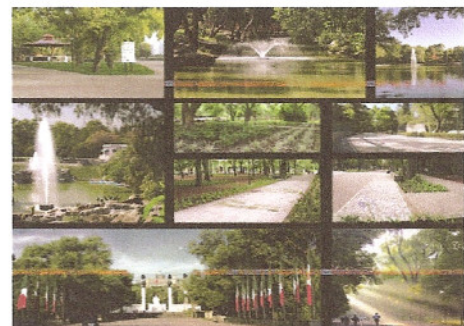
- **Paseo de la Reforma:** The Paseo de la Reforma is Mexico City's major avenue. It divides the city from east to west, and features many traffic circles, fountains and historic monuments.

- **National Museum of Anthropology:** Museum featuring a large collection of pre-Hispanic culture and artifacts.

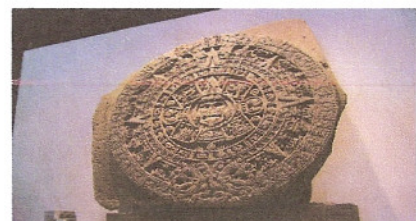
## Historical Sites:

-**The Pyramids of Teotihuacan:** When most people think of pyramids, they think of Egypt. But in fact, the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> largest pyramids reside in Mexico. There are two main pyramids, the Pyramid of the Sun and the Pyramid of the Moon. Both have great views of the area and give a glimpse of the culture that constructed these pyramids so long ago.

-**Floating Gardens of Xochimilco:** History shows up everywhere in the city, you won't want to miss the floating gardens, which have been in existence for seven centuries, since the time of the Aztecs.



Multiple images of Chapultepec Park

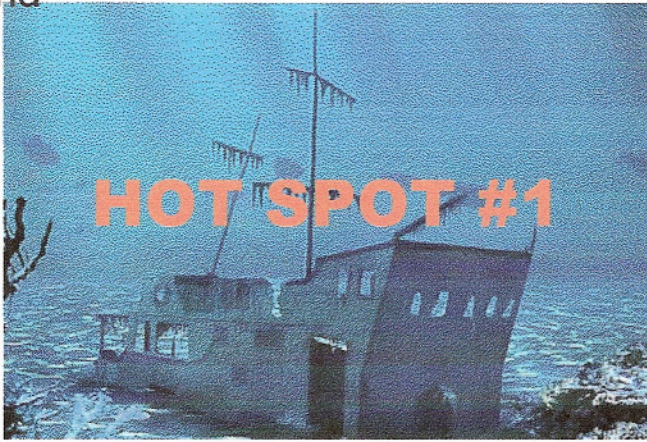


Aztec Calendar Stone - The Most Famous Object In The Museum

\*I hope you enjoyed a little insight into Mexico City, but remember; information is great, but the best way to learn and be more aware about Mexico City's culture is to travel here yourself.

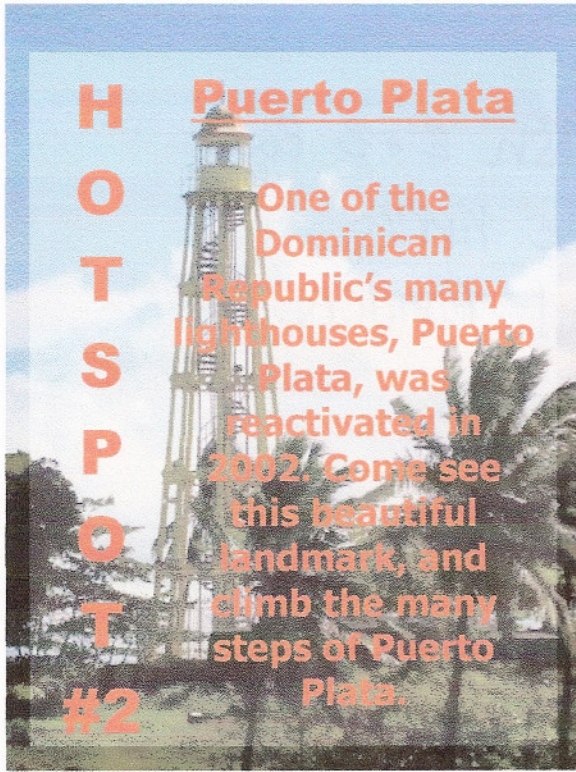


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Tanya V is a local hot spot in the Dominican Republic. This popular dive site is a recently sunk 120-foot-long steel ship.

Do you want to enjoy a beautiful site and see some of the history of this site? If so come see us, at Tanya V!



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**Puerto Plata**

One of the Dominican Republic's many lighthouses, Puerto Plata, was reactivated in 2002. Come see this beautiful landmark, and climb the many steps of Puerto Plata.

**HOT SPOT #3**

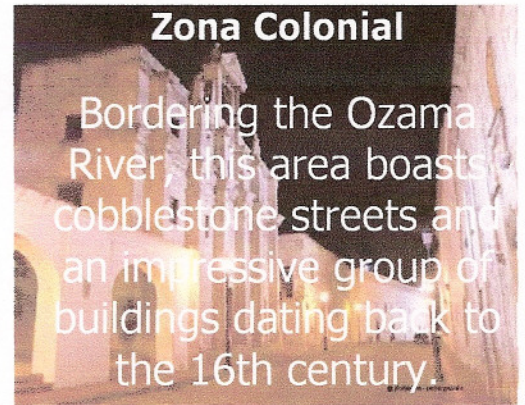


Built in the shape of a cross, the towering 676-ft. tall, El Faro a Colón, monument is both a sightseeing attraction and a cultural center. In the heart of the monument lies the tomb of Columbus.

**HISTORICAL SITES**

**HISTORICAL SITE #1**

**Zona Colonial**



Bordering the Ozama River, this area boasts cobblestone streets and an impressive group of buildings dating back to the 16th century.

**HISTORICAL SITE #2**

**Alcazar de Colon**



Located in Santo Domingo, this historical house of Columbus Alcazar resides. Come see us at this beautiful attraction!

**HISTORICAL SITE #3**

**Monumento a los Heros de la Restauracion**



It is located on a hill in the middle of Santiago with spectacular views of the city and surrounding mountains. It

also has a surrounding park and it is an attractive place at night where people go to relax.

**DOMINICANA**



# San José, Costa Rica

## Historic Places

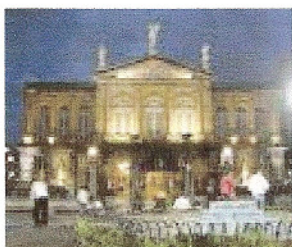


**Population:**  
2.1 Million

**Altitude:**  
1160 meters

**Economy:**  
Tourism/ National Government

### El Teatro Nacional de San José



The Teatro Nacional de Costa Rica is the national theatre of Costa Rica. The National Theatre is the maximum representation of economical stability of the nation. This theatre is great for tourists to visit, as well as having performances several times a week. If you're in the mood for a relaxing time, stop by the Teatro Nacional de Costa Rica!

### El Museo Nacional de San José



This historic museum is housed in a former army barrack that was the scene of fighting during the civil war of 1948. This is San José's best museum! It houses substantial collections of pre-Columbian artifacts along with colonial and national treasures. It's a must see!

### El Teatro Melico Salazar

If you are looking for an elegant night out, stop by the Teatro Melico Salazar that boasts several works from Spanish Museum of Art, and an orchestra. Each showing allows 1,000 guests, so there is more than enough room to watch a good show. So come enjoy what the Teatro Melico Salazar has to offer!

## Hot Spots!



### El Parque Central



This hotspot is a great location for friends and families to go and enjoy a fun time. This town park is centrally located in Alajuela, a town northwest of San José. Here, you can sit on stone benches and play in the fields while being surrounded by exotic palm and mango trees. This park is great for admiring the beauty of San José.

### El Jardín de Mariposas Spirogyra

This small butterfly garden houses over 30 different species of butterflies and five species of hummingbirds in attractive enclosures. Self-guided tours in the enclosures enlighten you on butterfly ecology and let you see the winged creatures close up. This magical Spirogyra Butterfly Garden is a great family adventure to bring the kids to, but remember, try to come when it's sunny, as butterflies are most active then.



### Carreta Casterricense



These colored Costa Rican oxcarts are now the tourist symbol of Costa Rica, and are now a native craft done by many craftsmen.

