



Ciudad Guzman, Mexico

2012 Dates and Fees:

- Nov 7 - Dec 2, 2011
- March 5 - 30, 2012
- July 9 - Aug 3, 2012
- Oct 8 - Nov 2, 2012

Mexico Course Fee: 1500 USD / 1065 EUR

Accommodation: 400 USD, 285 EUR, Includes four weeks in a single room with a Mexican family, all meals included.

Mexico, is a federal constitutional republic in North America. It is bordered on the north by the United States; on the south and west by the Pacific Ocean; on the southeast by Guatemala, Belize, and the Caribbean Sea; and on the east by the Gulf of Mexico. Covering almost 2 million square kilometers, Mexico is the fifth-largest country in the Americas by total area and the 14th largest independent nation in the world. With an estimated population of 109 million,^[10] it is the 11th most populous country. Mexico is a federation comprising thirty-one states and a Federal District, the capital city.

In the Pre-Columbian era complex cultures began to form in Mesoamerica. Many matured into advanced civilizations such as the Olmec, the Toltec, the Teotihuacan, the Maya and the Aztec before the first contact with Europeans. Mexico became a colony of Spain from the landing of Hernán Cortés in 1521 until its independence in 1821. Known as “the cradle of great artists”, Ciudad Guzmán is nestled snugly between two mountain ranges and overlooked by the extinct “snow” volcano, El Nevado de Colima, and its sister volcano, El Volcan de Fuego (Fire Volcano), the most lively of the 22 active volcanoes in Mexico. It enjoys an ideal geographical location, in a beautiful area mid-way between Guadalajara and the beautiful Pacific coast.

Guadalajara, Mexico's second largest city, is about 60 miles to the north-east.

Ciudad Guzman is the principal city in the regional area known as the South of Jalisco. This means that from the city it is easy to travel to many interesting locations and smaller villages in this area. The three “pueblos mágicos” - literally, magical cities, denoted as such for the richness of their traditions, atmosphere and culture (of which there are only 33 in the whole of Mexico) - of Tapalpa, Matzamitla and Comala are all about an hour away.

TEFL Training Center:



TEFL Training México/I.C.T.C. is a organization that specializes in global-humanitarian education through the merging of language teaching, cultural exchanges, and social programs for individuals interested in both, their self-development and the betterment the community in which they live and work. This is achieved through the use of state of the art methodology, advanced technology, multinational connections, and ethical and competent human resources. Our overall aim is to provide our students with skills they need to raise their quality of life for the general benefit of the communities in which they live

and serve.

Teaching English in Mexico:

There is a great demand for English speakers with a good command of the English language to teach children and adults. Mexicans study English in school but unfortunately don't get the opportunity to converse with native English speakers. This is where you can make a difference!

There are many exciting locations in which to teach throughout Mexico, from beautiful beaches and colonial towns, to traditional mountain villages. You will not find more genuine and friendly people than in Mexico! They are known for opening their hearts to visitors from other lands. Classes are typically 5 days/15-25 hours a week. Classroom size is typically 12 students for both children and adult English lessons. In some cases it will range from 3 to 25 students.

The Importance of English in Mexico:

Presently, there's a great demand for English teachers in Mexico. Jobs are plentiful. Many Mexicans receive higher salaries if they speak English. For example, a secretary at Aetna Seguros Monterey (an insurance company) will receive an additional 1,000 or more pesos a month if he/she can speak English. There are many American companies with branch offices throughout Mexico. The employees are Mexican and need to speak with their American counterparts. Overall, the general consensus in Mexico is that if you can communicate in English, your economic status and position will increase at a faster rate. Most Mexicans learn English grammar and vocabulary throughout their formal education. Unfortunately, they lack the opportunity to practice conversation. This is true of most schools where classroom attendance is high. Students may be competing with 30 or more students for their chance to speak. When Mexican students finish their education, they find that they cannot speak English well. As a teacher or private tutor, you'll be hired to help the student learn to speak correctly. You will also help build the student's vocabulary. Mexicans prefer hiring a native English speaker because of the need to pronounce words correctly. You should be skilled at the art of conversation.

Food and Clothing:

Lightweight pants with pockets are key. They are equal parts basic and stylish, and can be dressed up or dressed down. Lightweight cotton also dries faster when you wash it and takes up less room in your suitcase. Business casual is a safe bet.



Mexican food varies by region, because of local climate and geography and ethnic differences among the indigenous inhabitants and because these different populations were influenced by the Spaniards in varying degrees. The north of Mexico is known for its beef, goat and ostrich production and meat dishes, in particular the well-known Arrachera cut.

Central Mexico's cuisine is largely made up of influences from the rest of the country, but also has its authentic, such as barbacoa, pozole, menudo and carnitas.

Southeastern Mexico, on the other hand, is known for its spicy vegetable and chicken-based dishes. The cuisine of Southeastern Mexico also has quite a bit of Caribbean influence, given its geographical location. Seafood is commonly prepared in the states that border the Pacific Ocean or the Gulf of Mexico, the latter having a famous reputation for its fish dishes, a la veracruzana.

In modern times, other cuisines of the world have become very popular in Mexico, thus adopting a Mexican fusion. For example, sushi in Mexico is often made with a variety of sauces based on mangoor tamarind, and very often served with serrano-chili blended soy sauce, or complimented with habaneroand chipotle peppers. mostly using hot spices in many dishes such as menudo and pozole.

Climate:

The January temperature averages 16°C (60°F). In June, the average is 23°C(74°F). Rainfall is heaviest between June and September. Average annual rainfall is 134 centimeters (53 inches). Puerto Vallarta on the Pacific Ocean is warmer, with average January temperatures of 22°C(71°F) and June average temperatures 28°C (82°F). There are tropical forests with mahogany, rosewood, and cedar trees, mosses, and orchids. There are also lemon, coconut, and banana trees. In the cooler regions, there are white pine (and other species of pine), oak, fir, birch, and hazelnut trees.

Accommodation:

We provide you with the best options for staying in our community, and immersing yourself in the real Mexico found in Ciudad Guzmán. Students can choose from either staying with a Mexican family in their private home, or in one of the many traditional hotels in the city. In either case, we carefully screen potential housing options to make sure that they are not only safe and comfortable for our students, but, that they will enhance your experience here. Many of our students form life long relationships with the people they meet during their time here, and we guarantee that your stay here in Ciudad Guzmán will be truly unforgettable!

Private Homes of Mexican families

Private homes are available if you wish to experience life with a Mexican family, and take even more opportunity to practice and develop your Spanish. All home-stay prices include three meals a day and the option of either a private or shared bedroom. Home-stays are usually not more than a 15 minute bus journey from our school.

Families are carefully selected to be friendly and helpful, and always treat their guests as one of the family. This is a great opportunity to experience the hospitality and warmth that Mexico is famous for.



Hotels

There are several posada type hotels very near to the school. Some of our recommendations are below. All the places recommended are clean, safe and very reasonable. Prices do not include food:

Hotel Zapotlan

An exceptional, old colonial hotel located on the plaza in the center of Ciudad Guzman. It is one of the finest hotels in the city. Many of I.C.T.C.'s long term teachers live in apartments at this complex.

Posada del Parque Hotel

Located within 50 feet of the entrance to our language institute. Most of the rooms at this posada are two beds to a room. So, if you



want to share a room with another person, this is a very reasonable option.

Hotel Tlayolan

Located near the Plaza in the center of Ciudad Guzman. It has a 4 star service rating, and is located two blocks away from our training center within the historic down town area. It includes a dining room, hot water showers, a room with TV, room with computer and internet access available for guests, laundry service, tourist info, tours and events room.

Communication, Telephone and Internet:

If you do not have your own internet connection in Mexico you can use one of the many internet cafes that are available in almost every Mexican town. If you have your own laptop you can also look for a café that offers free Wifi-access, though these are hard to find in smaller towns.

Some companies offer traveler's SIM cards which can be used in Mexico. These cards can be cheaper on international calls compared to SIM cards purchased locally, so look around and compare.

If your phone does not work in Mexico you might also want to consider renting a mobile phone. With mobile prices decreasing and more and more mobile phones being able to operate in different networks, mobile phone rentals have become less common in recent years.

Excursions and Cultural Highlights:

For those who enjoy spending time in the outdoors, Ciudad Guzmán is a key ecological and extreme sports center. It is surrounded by lakes, hills and mountains, the western part of which form the National Park of the 'Nevado de Colima'. There is an ecological park within the city limits, which is a delightful place to walk or jog. In addition, there are three 'Ramsar' sites close to the city - areas of wetlands whose conservation is deemed as important. You can hike trails, camp, ascend the extinct volcano (4240m), go horseback-riding, rock-climbing, bird-watching, swimming, and enjoy natural thermal baths, as well as participate in more extreme sports like para-gliding and repelling .

The high elevation (approximately 5,000 feet above sea level) combined with its latitude gives Ciudad Guzmán a near perfect temperate climate. Most of the year the temperature is around 75 Fahrenheit degrees (24 Centigrade degrees) and dry, apart from the short rainy season in June-August when there is typically one hour or so of heavy rainfall in the evening.

For those who enjoy the sun and surf, there are also countless beautiful beaches within a few hours drive from here. On weekends, students often take first-class buses to party beaches such as Manzanillo or Tecoman, or to relaxing virgin beaches like el Faro or Barra de Navidad. Other students often hop over to Colima City or Guadalajara to get a taste of big city life in Mexico. Either way traveling to wonderful tourist spots is easy from Ciudad Guzmán.

Special Offers:

TEFL Training Mexico is constantly offering exciting promotional offers through out the year, both general and course specific.

Check back often as specials are updated weekly!

General Specials:

Double-up discount

Book together with a friend for the same course and you can both claim a 100 EUR discount on the advertised price. We can also arrange for you to share the same accommodation if required.

