

**MEXICO CITY 2.0**  
**ARCHITECTURE, ART, HISTORY, GASTRONOMY**  
**SMALL GROUP TOUR - 8 Days FOR \$1895.00**  
**SEPTEMBER 6 to 13, 2026**  
**TOUR SIZE: 12-14 PARTICIPANTS**  
**REGISTRATION DEADLINE MAY 20, 2026**



**Mexico City 2.0** features entirely new and exciting sites not included on our original tour. Experience a fresh side of this amazing metropolis on this specially curated journey. Don't miss this opportunity to discover the vibrant spirit of the City on an unforgettable cultural journey blending architecture, art, history, and gastronomy. This immersive tour reveals the many layers of a City—where history, creativity, and culinary excellence come vividly to life.

**TOUR LEADER AND GUIDES:** Tucson freelance writer and photographer Dan Chavez will lead your tour. Maribel Lugo, a delightful and knowledgeable licensed guide and expert in Mexico City's rich culture, will accompany him.

### TOUR INCLUDES

- ✓ Transfers to and from the airport and hotel.
- ✓ Seven nights' lodging at the Hotel Casa Gonzales.
- ✓ Double-occupancy rooms; single-occupancy rooms available for an additional fee.
- ✓ 7 daily breakfasts, 1 group happy hour, 3 group lunches, and 2 group dinners.
- ✓ All tips included.
- ✓ Admissions to all museums and sites.
- ✓ An expert licensed guide at sites and museums.
- ✓ Ground transportation to all museums and sites.

**\*\*\*AIRFARE NOT INCLUDED\*\*\***

### SITES & MUSEUMS

- ✓ Auramex Cooking School
- ✓ Bibliotheca Vasconcelos
- ✓ Cárcamo de Dolores-Rivera Underwater Mural
- ✓ Casa Rivas Mercado 1890s residence
- ✓ Instituto de Geología UNAM
- ✓ Kiosco Morisco
- ✓ Luis Barragán House and Studio
- ✓ Mercado de Artesanías La Ciudadela
- ✓ Museo Anahuacalli
- ✓ Museo Casa Kahlo - Casa Roja
- ✓ Museo de Chocolate
- ✓ Museo Soumaya 20 Centuries of Mexican Art
- ✓ Museo Universitario de Chapo
- ✓ Palacio de Hierro Polanco
- ✓ Parque Lincoln and Galería Torre del Reloj
- ✓ Cantina Crawl Centro Histórico (optional)
- ✓ Lucha Libre Arena Mexico (optional)

### REGISTER TODAY

Per person, based on double occupancy: **\$1895.00**  
Registration Deposit: **\$500.00**  
Single occupancy supplement: **\$350.00**  
Tour minimum: 12 | Tour Maximum: 14  
Registration Deadline: **MAY 20, 2026**  
Final Payment Due: **JUNE 20, 2026**

### FOR QUESTIONS, PLS CONTACT

Dan Chavez, Email: [fotoventures@gmail.com](mailto:fotoventures@gmail.com)  
or tel: 520-904-5730

### DAILY ITINERARY

**DAY ONE:** Arrival—For those arriving by 5:00 PM, your tour leader will meet you at the airport to facilitate ground transportation to the hotel. Those arriving after 5:00 PM can readily book a taxi at one of the many airport taxi kiosks in the terminal. The tour will reimburse you for the taxi fare. **The tour will host a get-acquainted group happy hour at 7:00 PM.**

**DAY TWO:** After breakfast, we board our private van to the iconic **Plaza de las Tres Culturas**. Here, ancient Aztec ruins, colonial architecture, and modern Mexico converge in one unforgettable setting. Its importance lies in its unique ability to physically represent the three major eras of Mexican history—pre-Hispanic, colonial, and modern—within a single view.

Next, we head to the breathtaking 21st-century **Museo Soumaya**. Its avant-garde architecture has become a modern icon of Mexico City. Designed by Mexican architect Fernando Romero, the building is a sculptural feat that houses one of the world's most extensive private art collections of renowned masterpieces. We will visit Gallery 5, an extraordinary collection of Mexican art spanning 20 centuries. It provides a comprehensive visual

narrative of the nation's identity from the pre-Hispanic era to the modern day. After touring Gallery 5, you will have free time to explore the other galleries that interest you most.

Next, we board our van for a short ride to the **Palacio de Hierro** for a group lunch hosted by the tour. The Palacio de Hierro's sleek modern design is a major architectural tribute to Mexico City. It houses the largest luxury collection of high-end retail stores and boutiques in Latin America. After lunch, you will have some time to explore and shop.

Our last stop of the day is a 15-minute walk to the **Galería Torre del Reloj and Parque Lincoln**. The Galería Torre del Reloj is a small public art gallery located at the base of the neighborhood's iconic clock tower. It hosts rotating exhibitions of contemporary visual art.

The Parque is significant as a historical symbol of diplomatic friendship between Mexico and the United States. The park was renamed in 1966 following the installation of a statue of Abraham Lincoln, a gift from U.S. President Lyndon B. Johnson to the people of Mexico.

**Breakfast and lunch provided.**

**DAY THREE:** Our first stop is the **Cárcamo de Dolores**, which houses Diego **Rivera's Underwater Mural**, a unique work painted directly inside a water chamber. The mural, titled *Water, Origin of Life*, depicts the evolution of life and was originally designed to be viewed underwater as part of a hydraulic system in Chapultepec Park.

Our next site is the **Luis Barragán House and Studio**. It is a striking example of modern architecture designed by the renowned Mexican architect Luis Barragán. Completed in 1948, this UNESCO World Heritage site is celebrated for its vibrant colors, geometric forms, and integration with nature.

Our next destination is the colorful **Mercado de Artesanías La Ciudadela**, renowned for its rich display of folk art and its delicious food stalls, where you can shop and have lunch on your own. The market showcases a wide array of traditional Mexican crafts, including pottery, textiles, woodwork, and metalwork. The food stalls offer a taste of traditional Mexican dishes like tacos, tamales, and quesadillas, with many vendors using fresh, locally sourced ingredients to ensure authentic flavors.

**Breakfast provided.**

**Optional:** In the evening, you have the option to attend **Lucha Libre** at Arena Mexico. This vibrant and electrifying Mexican wrestling spectacle bursts with color, energy, spandex, and sequins, captivating audiences with its unique blend of athleticism and theatricality. Cost: \$30.00.

**DAY FOUR:** We start the day with a short ride to **Kiosco Morisco**, an octagonal, wrought-iron pavilion in the nearby Santa María la Ribera neighborhood. It is renowned for its neo-Mudéjar (Moorish-inspired) arches, colorful geometric ornamentation, and a central glass dome. Originally built as Mexico's pavilion for the 1884 New Orleans World's Fair, it now serves as a distinctive cultural landmark in the neighborhood's central park.

Across the park, we will visit the **Museo del Instituto de Geología UNAM**. It occupies an imposing Porfirian-era stone building built between 1900 and 1904. Its cantera façade, formal neoclassical layout, and grand central staircase harken to a bygone era. We will also get to peek inside and explore fossils, minerals, rocks, and meteorites, including a reconstructed mammoth skeleton and Mexico's first restored dinosaur, *Isauria*.

After our tour-sponsored lunch, we head to the **Museo Universitario de Chopo**. This striking iron-and-glass structure exemplifies German Art Nouveau architecture. Built as a steel pavilion for an art and textile exhibition in Düsseldorf (1901–1905), its exposed iron frame, vast windows, and cathedral-like interior recall Europe's grand exhibition halls, especially London's Crystal Palace. After the fair, a Mexican entrepreneur purchased the structure and had it reassembled in Mexico City. Its relocation reflects the Porfirian-era fascination with European modernity, technology, and exhibition architecture.

**Breakfast and lunch provided.**

**DAY FIVE:** Today, we head south to Colonia Coyoacan to visit the newly opened and renowned **Museo Casa Kahlo**. It is dedicated to Frida Kahlo's life and showcases her family home in Coyoacán. It features personal objects, letters, photographs, and early artworks that reveal her upbringing and creative development. The museum, also known as La Casa Roja, offers an intimate glimpse into Kahlo's personal life and influences, complementing the more famous Casa Azul museum.

Next, we visit **Parque Centenario** for lunch on your own. This charming park is lined with cafés and restaurants.

After lunch, we travel to the nearby **Museo Anahuacalli**. Designed by Diego Rivera, it is a unique blend of pre-Hispanic architecture and modern design, inspired by Mesoamerican pyramids. It houses Rivera's extensive collection of ancient Mexican artifacts, offering a deep dive into civilizations like the Olmec, Aztec, and Maya. Surrounded by volcanic landscapes and native flora, the museum provides striking views and a culturally immersive experience.

In the evening we will enjoy a group dinner at Hotel Casa Gonzalez.

**Breakfast and dinner provided.**

**DAY SIX:** We will spend the day at **Aura Cocina Mexican Cooking School**, diving into Mexico's rich culinary heritage and mastering the art of cooking traditional Mexican dishes you can recreate at home.

Our experience includes the following: a welcome drink & appetizer, a curated market tour, and a Hands-On Cooking Class consisting of:

- Street appetizers (sopes) with two Mexican molcajete salsas
- Mextlapiques (vegetable tamales without masa)
- White Mole served with handmade corn tortillas
- Corn bread with traditional hot chocolate
- Premium Beverages: We will savor artisanal mezcal, craft beer, or fine Mexican wine during lunch, perfectly complementing your homemade dishes.

**Breakfast and lunch provided.**

Optional: **Cantina Crawl** in the Centro Histórico. Visit two cantinas and enjoy mezcal, tequila, cerveza, and small bites. Cost: \$30.00

**DAY SEVEN:** Our first stop is the **Casa Rivas Mercado**, a late-19th-century residence designed by architect Antonio Rivas Mercado as his family home and creative space. Built between 1893 and 1898, it reflects the eclectic architectural style of the Porfirian era, combining elements of Neoclassical, Gothic, Moorish, and Art Nouveau design. Architecturally, it is significant for its rich decorative details and imported tilework, which demonstrate the innovative residential design of the period.

**Bibliotheca Vasconcelos** is a major public library designed by architect Alberto Kalach and opened in 2006. The building is known for its dramatic interior, with suspended steel bookshelves, glass walls, and long axial spaces that create the effect of floating book stacks. Architecturally, it is significant as a landmark of contemporary Mexican architecture, merging monumental library design with gardens, natural light, and open structural systems.

Lunch will be on your own in the dining room at the historic Palacio de Hierro (c1891) in the Centro Histórico.

After lunch, we drive to the nearby **Museo del Chocolate (MUCHO)**, a small museum dedicated to the history and cultural importance of chocolate in Mexico. Located in a restored early-20th-century house, it features interactive exhibits about cacao's origins, its role in Mesoamerican civilizations, and traditional chocolate-making techniques. Its engaging displays, chocolate tastings, and workshops highlight Mexico's deep connection to cacao.

**Breakfast and farewell dinner provided.**

**DAY EIGHT:** We hope that departure day finds you with many fond memories of your time in Mexico City. The tour

will arrange your ground transportation from Benito Juárez International Airport.

**Breakfast** is provided before departure for those leaving after 7:30 AM.

## REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT DEADLINES

Registrations will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis for a tour of 12-14 participants. The **REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS MAY 20, 2026**. A **\$500.00** deposit is requested with your registration to secure your space on the tour. A PDF copy of your registration form should be emailed to Dan Chavez at [fotoventures@gmail.com](mailto:fotoventures@gmail.com). Your deposit payment may be made electronically through your bank via Zelle to [fotoventures@gmail.com](mailto:fotoventures@gmail.com) or via the Venmo app to [@Daniel-Chavez-2608](https://www.venmo.com/Daniel-Chavez-2608). Let us know if you would like to pay by credit card, and we will invoice you via PayPal. A 3.0% processing fee is applied to credit card payments. **The FINAL PAYMENT is due by JUNE 20, 2026.**

**We strongly recommend that you NOT make non-refundable travel arrangements until the tour is confirmed.** The tour will be confirmed once the tour minimum is met, or no later than MAY 20, 2026, the registration deadline.

**CANCELLATIONS AND REFUNDS:** Cancellations must be in writing. Participants who cancel on or before **JULY 6, 2026**, will receive a full refund, less a \$120.00 processing fee. No refund can be made if a cancellation is made after that date. We cannot be responsible for losses due to non-refundable airline tickets or other travel arrangements.

**Travel Insurance is highly recommended.** You may also wish to consider **minimum Medical Emergency and Evacuation Insurance.**

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION:** The tour will make every effort to conduct the tour as advertised. Every effort will be made to carry out all the activities as planned. However, in the event of unforeseen circumstances or events beyond our control, we reserve the right to make adjustments or modifications to the itinerary and/or accommodations as deemed necessary. **Passports must be valid for the entire duration of your stay in Mexico and have blank pages for immigration stamps.**

## TOUR PACE AND ACTIVITY LEVEL

If we had to rate the tour's activity and pace levels, overall, on a scale of 1 to 10, the activity would be a level 4 to 6; travelers should be able to leisurely walk 2 to 3 miles, which includes climbing one or two flights of stairs and walking over uneven pavement or cobblestones. In addition, standing for up to 1 to 2 hours may be required

at some sites. Regarding the pace, on a scale of 1 to 10, the tour is moderate or level 4 to 5, with our itinerary typically including three sites daily, allowing for a 90-minute lunch/rest break. Most, if not all, the venues offer benches and seating, should you need to rest for a few minutes or catch your breath. Throughout each day, there should be ample opportunities to purchase bottled water at tour sites, kiosks, and mini-marts, with regular restroom breaks at venues and restaurants.

The itinerary calls for departing the hotel each morning at 9:00 AM, except on Saturday, when we depart at 9:30 AM. We will be returning to the hotel between 4:00 and 4:30 PM most days. On the evening of day 7, the group will go out for a farewell dinner and return to the hotel at approximately 9:30 PM. Please consider this when booking your airline departure time, as the following morning, you should plan to leave the hotel 3 hours before your international departure.

### **MISCELLANEOUS**

The tour's Hotel Casa Gonzalez is located in the Cuauhtémoc neighborhood, with the U.S. Embassy 2 blocks away, making the area a comparatively safe place for visitors and tourists. The hotel has been recognized with shout-outs in Lonely Planet and in a November 2022 New York Times 36 Hours in Mexico City article. Like any large city, to avoid becoming a crime target, tourists need to stay cautious, stay aware of their surroundings, dress inconspicuously, and avoid carrying excessive cash.

Upon arrival in Mexico City, tour participants will receive an informational handout listing nearby pharmacies, urgent care centers, and hospitals.

### **TOUR LEADER BIO**

Dan Chavez is a Tucson-based freelance writer and photographer whose creative journey began in his teens. Since 2013, he has worked as a commercial photographer and freelance writer, focusing on Hispanic culture and its rich traditions.

In 2017, a consulting project for a Mexico City tour inspired him to begin organizing exclusive small-group cultural tours. To date, he has led 13 tours to Mexico City, Oaxaca, and San Miguel de Allende.

Dan's dozen years exploring Mexico City have made him an expert on its vibrant present and storied past. Let his insight and passion elevate your journey through this extraordinary City.