



# Steph's Quick Budget Fact Sheet

## Mexico - Oaxaca

### Quick Facts

- ✓ **Capital:** Mexico City
- ✓ **Language:** Spanish + 68 indigenous (like Nahuatl / Yucatec Maya / Mixtec)
- ✓ **Population:** ± 300,050
- ✓ **Sq km:** ± 85.48
- ✓ **Currency:** Mexican Pesos (\$)
- ✓ **Country code:** +52 (951)
- ✓ **Visa:** Fore some countries, [check here!](#)
- ✓ **Alarm codes:** 066
- ✓ **Vaccinations:** Hep-A / Hep-B / Typhoid / Yellow fever / DTP / Rabies / Dengue / Malaria prevention (+ anti-mosquito).



### History Recap Over 1 Drink

AD 250-900: Mayas→mysterious collapse→10th-16th centuries: Revitalized Maya civilization in Yucatan (Chichen Itza/Uxmal). 1428-1521: Aztec Empire: Central Mex.'19: Start Spanish conquest. 1521-1820: Mex Spanish. 1810-21: War of Independence→ creation Mex Empire. '24: Federal republic→ formation of Guat/Honduras/ES/Nica/CR. '36: Texas secedes after war (US). '46-48: Mex-American War ends→ Mex forced to sell modern-day California/Nevada/New Mex/Arizona/Utah. '76-191: Dictatorship Diaz ("Porfiriato")→ '10-'20: Mex Revolution: Constitutional republic.'20: Pres Carranza murdered→Civil War.'42: Mex declares war on Japan&Germany '50s-60s: Tortures& killings of hundreds political activists by security forces. '68: Student demonstration in Tlatelolco→Killed too. '70s-'80s: Left-wing activists disappear. '85: Earthquake DF kills thousands.'93: Nafta (free trade) with Canada & US. '94: Guerrilla rebellion Chiapas (Zapatista/EZLN): Oppose Nafta, pro Indian rights. '95: Government&EZLN agreement on greater autonomy Mayans.'96: Popular Revolutionary Army (EPR) attacks government troops. '97: 45 Indians killed by paramilitary gunmen (Chiapas). '01: "Zapatour". '05: Gang violence in prisons.'06: Pres Calderon: "War on Drugs". '08/'09: Drug-related killings rise (Juarez)→'06-'12: 50,000+ people died. '14: Disappearance of 43 trainee teachers in Guerrero. '15: Druglord El Chapo prison escape.

### Travel Seasons

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Dry												
Wet (hot)												
High season												
Budget												

Altitude: 1542m. Climate: Tropical Savanna.

### Bucket List For Free

- ☺ Hitch a ride to Herve el Agua.
- ☺ Free museums: [Museo Textil de Oaxaca](#), [Museo de la Filatelia](#), [La Casa de la Ciudad](#), [Centro Fotográfico Álvarez Bravo](#), [Museo de Arte Contemporaneo](#) (Sun), [Museo de los Pintores Oaxaceños](#) (Sun), [Museo del Palacio](#).
- ☺ Sights: Santo Domingo, Catedral, Basilica de la Soledad, Convento de Cuilapam, Exconvento de San Pablo, El Mirador.
- ☺ Local culture: Mercado Benito Juarez & de 20 Nov.

### Worth The Extra \$€¥

- 👍 Paid museums: Museo de las Culturas de Oaxaca, [Museo Rufino Tamayo](#), Casa de Benito Juarez.
- 👍 Nature: Jardín Etnobotanico.
- 👍 Maya: [Monte Alban](#), Atzompa.
- ☺ Zócalo: Free music- and theatre performances.
- ☺ Go gallery hopping. Excellent art all over the city!
- ☺ Hike the 'Pueblos Mancomunados' (overnight).



## Festivals

- ☼ Guelaguetza: Folk, Jul.
- ☼ Oaxaca Film Fest: Oct.
- ☼ Día de Muertos: Culture, Oct-31-Nov-1.

## Budget Bites

- ⌘ Market: Mercado Benito Juarez, Mercado de 20 Noviembre.
- ⌘ Cheap supermarket: Chedraui, Walmart, Soriana.
- ⌘ Mexico's options for streetfood & cheap *comedores* are endless: Guacamole, Tacos, Tamales, Marquesitas, Mollete, Churros, Cochinita Pibil, Camote, Flautas, Tostadas, Nachos, Fajitas, Volcancitos, Panuchos, Gringas, Gorditas, Tampiquenas, Salbutes, Empanadas, Quesedillas, Sincronizadas, Enchilladas, Burritos, Enfrijoladas, Empalmes, Chalupas / Huaraches / Tlacoyos, Elote, Esquites, Tortas / Cemitas / Molotes / Pambazos, fruit with chili, Carnita & MUCH more.

... everything served with the hottest chilisauce you ever ate in your life. Level 'bushfire'.

What is it? [Check this Mexican Food Glossary!](#)

## Mama Said

- ☠ In Mexico there are many roadblocks. While mostly not dangerous, don't provoke.
- ☠ Watch your bag, buy a lock.
- ☠ Avoid walking around alone at night. Especially if you're drunk. Avoid El Mirador and Cerro del Fortin.
- ☠ Drug trafficking is big in Mexico and most violence is related to this. Don't get involved.

## Sleep Cheap

- ❖ [Casa Angel Youth Hostel](#), +529515142224, Tinico y Palacios 610.
- ❖ [Azul Cielo Hostel](#), +529512053564, Arteaga 608.
- ❖ Instead, go [Couchsurfing](#) or [house-sitting!](#) Also check [WorkAway](#). Paid work in hospitality is widely available.

## Nights Best Spent

- ◆ [Txalaparta](#), Matamoros 206.
- ◆ [Candela](#), Murguía 413.
- ◆ [Casa de Mezcal](#), Magón 209.

## ...Seated Down

- ◆ Teatro Macedonio de Alcala, Avenida de la Independencia 900 (Fri 8PM: Free Concerts Oaxaca Symphony).

## Free-Riding?

- Everything within the centre of Oaxaca is easily walkable. For the suburbs other means of transports are recommendable.
- It's easy to bike in Oaxaca, as traffic is mild. Check out the [Paseos Nocturnos](#).
- Taxis are relatively cheap, but a touristy place like Oaxaca can charge you tourist prices. Negotiate prices up front.
- There's not really a clear system with city buses. They're privately owned and destinations are displayed on the front window and so is the price (cheap!). It works in your advantage if you speak Spanish. To get out of Oaxaca City: The cheaper 2<sup>nd</sup> class bus terminal (*Central*) is located at Las Casas, 8 blocks west of Zócalo. On the eastside the Sur busline leaves. If you travel with 1<sup>st</sup> class ADO (5 de Mayo 900, across street), pre-book tickets online with your credit card for a 50% discount.
- Hitch-hiking is common and doable, but there's always a risk. In order to pre-arrange a ride & share gas costs, try [BlaBlaCar](#). Also check the 'Comparte Tu Auto' Facebook-page.

- Oaxaca has an airport, 6km south: 500m west of Hwy 175.

Tip: Download the Triposo Mexico app for offline maps, landmark descriptions & more, or load Google Maps when you have Wi-Fi and leave it open, you will still be able to use it offline.

## Next?

- ➔ In Mexico: Tehuacan, Puebla, Puerto Escondido, Veracruz, Acapulco
- ➔ International destinations close by: US, Guatemala, Belize.

The Earth Becomes My Throne