

[Tepoztlán](#) in the state of Morelos is located about 90 minutes to 2 hour's drive southeast of Mexico City, in the mountains of central México. It is one of the many special locations in Mexico designated as a "Magical Town" or Pueblo Mágico because of its natural and architectural beauty and continuing respect for local traditions. For this reason, it is a popular tourist destination and has many hotels, restaurants, a thriving food and artisan's market, and interesting stores.

Due to COVID precautions the museums and access to the [pyramid](#) above the town are closed but there are still many interesting activities available, and just walking around the downtown area and the cobblestoned streets of town, or hanging in a coffee shop for delicious treats and people-watching can be a lovely way to spend time.

TRAVEL

If you would like us to help you arrange transportation to and from the airport as well as hotel reservations, please contact Erica Cohen at ericatepoz@gmail.com or cell, WhatsApp and +52 777 5649045

If you would like to arrange your own trip we have included a few options for transportation and a list of hotels. **Please note: Unless you have at least rudimentary Spanish, it is recommended that you arrange to have a private driver pick you up.**

Transportation from Mexico City Airport

Option One: There is a direct bus that leaves from the ADO bus station at 2pm. It is across the street from Terminal One next to the [Camino Real Hotel](#). The cost is about \$250 pesos (about US \$13) and the trip takes about 1.5 hrs depending on traffic. You access the ADO bus station by taking the enclosed skybridge to the Camino Real that is located near the Terminal 1 food court—on the second floor between the international and domestic flights area. When you arrive at the Tepoztlán bus station, there are taxis there to take you to your destination. Ask for the price before you get in. They know most hotels in town.

Option Two: Take a bus from the Airport to Cuernavaca, Casino de La Selva. These leave from either terminal every half hour approx. Same price, then take a taxi right outside the bus station to Tepoztlán. Ask for the price before you get in, it is around \$280 pesos or US \$14. Cuernavaca cab drivers do not necessarily know Tepoztlán well, so have the address of your destination at hand.

Option Three: Get a taxi from the airport directly to your destination. There are booths for several safe, registered taxi services in both terminals. Price around \$1,800 pesos or US\$100

Option Four: Have a trusted driver pick you up; Vicente Flores speaks English. His number is +52 777 522 2550; Email: tramites.servicios@yahoo.com.mx

COVID

COVID & Travel: At this time Mexico does not require COVID tests nor proof of vaccination for travelers entering into the country. However the US will require all air passengers two years of age and over entering the United States (including U.S. citizens and Legal Permanent Residents) to present a negative COVID-19 test result taken no more than 1 day before departure, or proof of recovery from the virus within the last 90 days. Below are two testing options you can choose from:

- Get tested when you return to Mexico City airport at one of three kiosks at Terminal 1. People who have used this option found it was not time consuming and the cost is MXN \$550 or only about \$27.50 U.S. You can read more about this option through this [link](#) to the website of the Mexican airline Volaris. It's not as convenient for people departing from Terminal 2 (there is no testing there), and you need to allow about a half an hour for the process. You will get results immediately and they are honored by the airlines. You should also be sure you have this amount in pesos left before you depart.
- Purchase an antigen self-test before you leave, bring it with you, and administer the test on a supervised video call the day before you leave. You will get a confirmation of test results e-mailed to you to present to the airline. This is a new option, and you can read about it at this [link](#). The best price we could find for this package is through [Optum](#). The cost is \$69.99, and this includes expedited shipping (2-3 business days). Note that you get two tests, so the cost per test is about \$35. Also note that you cannot administer this type of antigen test without supervision as this does not meet U.S. government regulations. The Optum website offers the correct package (test plus video conferencing) for travelers returning to the U.S.

COVID is still a concern in Tepoztlán. However, a large percentage of the population is now vaccinated, and many stores and restaurants will both take your temperature and offer you hand sanitizer when you arrive. While not everyone on the streets will be wearing masks and social distancing, by law those who work in public establishments must adhere to these policies. There is a general attitude of cooperation around these issues, and the atmosphere is relaxed.

HEALTH

Never drink the tap water! We don't recommend you even brushing your teeth with it. The hotels will provide you with purified water. Bottled water is inexpensive and widely available.

SAFETY

Generally, it is safe to walk around during the day, however **in the evening we recommend taking taxis**. The taxis are registered, and the drivers often speak at least some English. Your hotel can give you the numbers of the taxi companies that they recommend.

Please do not wander up into the mountains! They are treacherous and even experienced climbers and walkers have gotten lost, injured and even died in them. The path up to the [Tepozteco Pyramid](#) is a safe and beautiful (and strenuous—especially given the town's altitude at 5,700 feet) climb. Although the pyramid itself is closed due to COVID, the hike offers beautiful landscapes, flora and views of the valley. It is best to go early to avoid the midday heat and take a lot of water. Ask one of the many locals or the hotel to suggest some safe walks, as there are many.

***NOTE:** Septic Systems require that you put toilet paper in the trash and not flush it.

HOTELS

Tepoztlán has many hotels, AirBnBs and posadas. We recommend:

Posada La Presa; La Presa 22, La Presa, 62520 Tepoztlán
www.posadalapresa.com Email: contacto@posadalapresa.com Phone: +52 739 395 3969
A three-minute walk from Casa Xiuhtecuhtli, where the Audience will be held, and a half hour walk or 10-minute taxi ride to town.

Posada Sarita; C. Allende 26, San Jose, 62520 Tepoztlán
www.posadasarita.com Phone: +52 739 395 0635 Email: info@posadasarita.com. Closer to town and more economical.

RESTAURANTS

Posada La Presa: If you stay at the hotel, an excellent, buffet-style breakfast will be included. The Posada is also beginning to serve lunch and dinner.

El Retoño del Mango: 7 La Presa--just before Revolución de 1910
They serve an excellent selection of pizzas and some pasta dishes.

El Pan Nuestro: Revolución de 1910 82, San Jose, 62520
Continental style food. Fairly expensive, but gourmet quality—including an amazing selection of desserts. Open for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Just around the corner from La Presa on Revolución.

Juanitos: 14, Revolución de 1910 Just off the main square on the south side. Okay, you won't get authentic Mexican food here, but they make some of the best hamburgers you will find anywhere—south or north of the border! Also they have other sandwiches, stir-fry, and salads.

Los Colorines: Del Tepozteco 13, Santisima Trinidad, Tepoztlán, just north-west of the main square. Excellent Mexican food in a nice atmosphere.

Central Market Area: **Naty's**: Revolution of 1910, San Miguel, 62520 Tepoztlán center (*Mexican food*) and **El Guarido de Baco** (Mexican and European) are right by the market, so you can do your people watching while you eat great food at a reasonable price. Both are open from breakfast almost every day.

Teteria Cardomomo: 5 de Mayo 18, San Miguel, 62520 Tepoztlán
Mediterranean food.

La Miga: C. Allende 12, San Jose, 62520 Tepoztlán
Delicious Mexican and European food in a beautiful garden.

Tepoztlán Mariscos: Revolución de 1910 49, San Jose, 62520 Tepoztlán
Excellent fresh seafood.

La Sombra del Sabino: Prolongación Zaragoza 450, Barrio, Santo Domingo, 62520 Tepoztlán

Coffee shop, restaurant and bookstore and gifts all in one. Spacious garden with a view of the mountains, a great place to spend a restful afternoon. Music and other performances on weekends.

Coffeeshops & Hot Chocolate:

Rustique: Isabel La Católica 1, San Miguel, 62520 Tepoztlán
The best coffee and bakery with freshly-baked sweet bread.

Cacao Mexican Chocolate: Revolución de 1910 9C, Centro, 62520 Tepoztlán
Great hot chocolate.

Nomada: Zaragoza 19, Tepoztlán
Great hot chocolate and also has a spectacular view of the mountains.

Bars:

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Jacarandá: Del Tepozteco 18B, Santísima Trinidad, 62520 Tepoztlán
*We highly recommend it! An Afro-Caribbean style bar owned by Ana Cortez, one of the local Firekeepers. You can drink the best mojito in town and enjoy Cuban live music. It's best to go on Friday night or early afternoon on Saturday or Sunday to avoid the crowds.

FIESTAS

Tepoztlán is a traditional town, where the local Deity, the Tepozteco is still honored and many saint's days fiestas—complete with fireworks and broadcast music—are held regularly. This means a lot of fireworks, streets closed off, music and visits to the churches. The cacophony inspires dogs to bark, and sometimes car alarms to go off as well! Bring earplugs for sleeping (it can be noisy at night) and don't worry if you hear a ten-minute barrage of fireworks. It's okay, people are having fun! Everyone is welcome at the fiestas so if you come across one feel free to wander into the celebration, visit the church, etc.

CLIMATE

Although Tepoztlán is closer to the equator, it is also at relatively high altitude (5,700 feet) and this makes for more temperate weather in general and cooler evenings. The best time to visit Tepoztlán is from January until April and November and December, when you have pleasant temperatures and less likelihood of rain. The rainy season generally runs from May through September and the tropical storms can cause heavy downpours during this time..

*March, the first month of the spring in Tepoztlán, is a moderately hot month, with average temperature varying between 25.1°C (77.2°F) and 11.2°C (52.2°F)

What to bring/wear

Bring hat, sunscreen and 'summer' clothes for the daytime and layers for the night. The Audience will be held outdoors so bring some extra layers for that evening.

For more information please contact Erica Cohen, one of your three local Firekeepers at ericatepoz@gmail.com or cell, WhatsApp and +52 777 5649045