

## TRAVELING TO TEPOZTLÁN, MORELOS FOR SACRED FIRE EVENTS

[Tepoztlán](#) is located in the state of Morelos about 90 minutes southeast of Mexico City, in a mountainous area. It is one of the many special locations in México that has been designated as a "Magical Town" or "Pueblo Mágico" for 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 many interesting stores.

There are many activities available, including the hour and a half climb up to the pyramid overlooking the town and neighboring valleys. Also, just walking 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

The closest airport is Mexico City International Airport—which is located about two hours away, depending on traffic.

If you would like us to help you arrange transportation to and from the airport and/or hotel reservations, please contact Erica Cohen at [ericatepoz@gmail.com](mailto:ericatepoz@gmail.com) or cell, and WhatsApp +52 777 5649045

If you would like to arrange your own trip here are a few options for transportation and a list of hotels.

**Option One:** Get a taxi from the airport directly to your destination. There are booths for several safe, registered taxi services in both terminals. Price around \$1,900 pesos or US\$100 for up to about 3 people depending on the amount of luggage and size of car needed. Larger vehicles are available for larger groups for \$2,400 pesos or US \$120..

**Option Two:** Have a trusted driver pick you up; Vicente Flores speaks English. His number is +52 777 522 2550; Email: [tramites.servicios@yahoo.com.mx](mailto:tramites.servicios@yahoo.com.mx)

### Money Exchange

Most restaurants and hotels and many stores here take major credit cards, however you will need some pesos for your stay. Also, let your bank know ahead of time if you are planning to use your card here.

There are several ways to get pesos:

- Contact your bank a few weeks ahead of travel to order them.
- Use one of the main exchange booths at either of the airport terminals. You can compare exchange rates.
- Use an ATM at the Airport or in Tepoztlán (there are several around downtown) and use your bank card to withdraw in pesos. Both your bank and the local one will charge you for this and the exchange rate may be less favorable, but it's a good backup if needed.

### HEALTH

**As of this writing COVID is mostly showing up as a light cold or flu. Generally no vaccines or masks are required in Mexico, and people choose precautions as they personally see fit. We will send an update if needed a week or so before the event.**

**Never drink the tap water!** Do not even use it to brush your teeth. The hotels will provide you with purified water. Bottled water is inexpensive and widely available.

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

### SAFETY

Generally, it is safe to walk around during the day, however in the evening we recommend using a registered taxi service, or going to one of the marked taxi stands around town. The drivers often speak at least some English. Your hotel can give you the numbers of the taxi companies they work with.

We recommend:

Radio Taxi Tepoztlán: WhatsApp: 777-564-0973, landline: 395-2236 y 395-2320

Taxi Independencia WhatsApp: 777 1898649 or landline: 395 0995, 395 2473, 3951076,

Keep in mind that it can take 5 to 10 minutes for the taxi to arrive, and up to half an hour on weekends.

**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, beautiful and quite strenuous climb especially given the town's altitude at 5,700 feet. The hike offers beautiful landscapes, flora and fauna and views of the valley. It is best to go early to avoid midday heat and bring a lot of water. Access to the pyramid itself is closed on Mondays, but the walk up is worth it anyway.

Ask one of the locals or your hotel to suggest some safe walks near town, as there are many.

## HOTELS

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

**Posada La Presa:** La Presa 22, La Presa, 62520 Tepoztlán

[www.posadalapresa.com](http://www.posadalapresa.com) Email: [contacto@posadalapresa.com](mailto:contacto@posadalapresa.com) Phone: [+52 739 395 3969](tel:+527393953969)

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](http://www.posadasarita.com) Phone: [+52 739 395 0635](tel:+527393950635) Email: [info@posadasarita.com](mailto: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 off Revolución de 1910

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 Calle 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, Santísima Trinidad, Tepoztlán, just north-west of the main square. Excellent Mexican food in a nice atmosphere.

**Las Mamazotas:** *Just across from Pan Nuestro. Amazing selection of gluten free bread and desserts, and the best matcha tea in town. A very special, not very typically Mexican place.*

**Central Market Area:** **Naty's:** Revolution of 1910, San Miguel, 62520 Tepoztlán center

(Mexican food) and **La Guarida 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 Cardamomo:** 5 de Mayo 18, San Miguel, 62520 Tepoztlán

Mediterranean food.

**La Miga:** C. Allende 12, San Jose, 62520 Tepoztlán

Mexican and European food in a beautiful garden.

**Tepoztlán Mariscos:** Revolución de 1910 49, San Jose, 62520 Tepoztlán and on Calle Zaragoza downtown.

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.

**El Arte de Oaxaca** Zaragoza no.2 around the corner from the marketplace. typical delicious Oaxacan specialties.

**Coffee and Chocolate shops:**

**Rustique:** Isabel La Católica 1, San Miguel, 62520 Tepoztlán.  
The best coffee in town, and freshly-baked sweet and savory breads.

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

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

**Bars:**

**Jakarandá:** Av. Del Tepozteco 18B, Santísima Trinidad, 62520 Tepoztlán  
We highly recommend this Afro-Caribbean style bar owned by Ana Cortés, one of the local Firekeepers. You can drink the best mojito in town and enjoy reggae, salsa and African music. It's best to go on Friday night or early afternoon on Saturday or Sunday to avoid the crowds.

**MUSEUMS**

The former convent of Nativity is an impressive historical building attached to the main Church downtown with an entrance on Calle Zaragoza. It is home to permanent and temporary exhibits and a well-stocked gift and book store.

Carlos Pellicer Prehispanic Art Museum: A special treasure, with a remarkable private collection donated to the town by the poet Carlos Pellicer.

**FIESTAS**

Tepoztlán is a traditional town, where the local Deity, the Tepozteco is still honored and also has many saint's days fiestas. 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 and if you come across one feel free to wander into the celebration, visit the church, etc.

**CLIMATE**

**Although Tepoztlán is close 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 rainy season generally runs from May through September when tropical storms can cause heavy downpours. The dry season starts in October. By March it is hot and dry during the day and cools off in the evenings.

**What to bring/wear**

Bring a hat, sunscreen and 'summer' clothes for the daytime and layers for the night. Good shoes for walking on cobblestone streets. The Audience will be held outdoors so bring some extra layers for that evening, warm socks, etc.

**For more information please contact Erica Cohen, one of the three local Firekeepers at [ericatepoz@gmail.com](mailto:ericatepoz@gmail.com) or cell and WhatsApp +52 777 5649045**