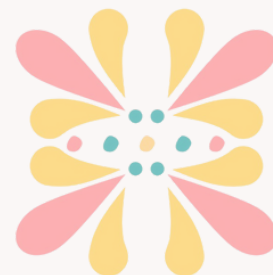




5 THINGS YOU MUST KNOW BEFORE TRAVELING TO MEXICO



Let's Travel to
MEXICO



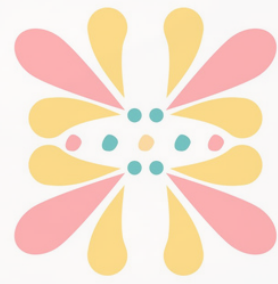
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About me &

This Travel Guide



Hey there! I'm Isabella, founder of Let's Travel to Mexico and your personal Virtual Travel Guide to Mexico. Thrilled you've grabbed my Mexico Travel Guide – I'm confident it's packed with valuable insights for you.

A bit about me: I've called Cancun home for seven years, balancing a corporate job in the bustling downtown. Before leaving the cubicle life I explored every corner of the city – hopped on many ferries and buses and rented many cars to explore the out-and-about of Cancun, mainly on my own. After my Cancun experience, I set off for an adventure around Mexico where I explored all the destinations that you are reading about in the blog and more. In some places, such as La Paz and Guanajuato, San Miguel de Allende, and Mexico City I have returned multiple times. Even now that I am traveling most of the time, Mexico remains my home base, the place I return to after my trips.

I started this blog to share my extensive knowledge of Mexico and help you craft your amazing Mexican adventure.

But let's get to the guide now and enjoy your journey!

-Isabella



5 THINGS YOU MUST KNOW BEFORE TRAVELING TO MEXICO

- 01. DO NOT DRINK WATER**
- 02. PACK WISELY**
- 03. CARRY MEXICAN PESOS**
- 04. GO OUT AND EXPLORE**
- 05. MEXICO IS A BIG COUNTRY**



01.

DON'T DRINK TAP WATER

Tap water is not drinkable in Mexico unless they tell you so in case a special water purifier is used. Make sure you have always a bottle of purified water or natural spring water (agua de Manantial) with you to stay hydrated.

You could use tap water for brushing your teeth, as I do, but it is advisable to still use bottled water as well, just in case. You don't really want to spend your vacation in the bathroom.

WHAT ABOUT GREENS?

Yes, greens are ok to eat because restaurants wash them with bottled water unless you are eating in very local non-touristy places. In that case, I would avoid veggies.

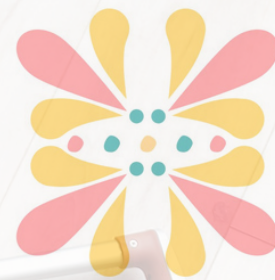
AND ICE?

Also, ice is ok to drink as it's also made with tap water.

WHERE CAN I FIND DRINKABLE WATER?

If you are concerned about consuming too much plastic, I am with you. That's why I always carry my water bottle to refill wherever I can. I will find water fountains in the major hotels and restaurants that may be happy to refill your bottle with purified water. [BUY MY WATER BOTTLE](#)

02. PACK WISELY



There are a few things you should know about packing for your Mexico trip.

1. Leave your jewelry at home: you don't need it in Mexico.
2. If you are staying in a high-end resort, you may want to pack some evening attire for dinner. Some restaurants require collar T-shirts, long pants, and shoes (no flip-flops) for men. Women know what to do :). The same goes for fine-dining restaurants.
3. Pack [sunscreen](#) and use it always, even when it's cloudy. Sunburns are not funny.
4. Pack hiking or gym shoes if you are planning to explore. These are also good in the jungle to prevent mosquitos or ants (those are brutal) from biting your feet.
5. Sunglasses are a good idea to protect your eyes from the tropical sun.
6. Headphones, please, if you are going to listen to music or podcasts or talk on the phone on the beach. Your neighbor will appreciate it.

Check out my [FULL PACKING LIST](#) here!
(downloadable **PACKING CHECKLIST** included)

03.

CARRY SOME MEXICAN PESOS



Credit cards are widely accepted, but it always depends on where you are heading in Mexico. You may still need to carry some Mexican pesos with you.

Where Can I Exchange foreign currency for Mexican Pesos?

Don't do it at the airport, as they rip you off. Use Casas de Cambio for Euros, British Pounds, USD, and Canadian Dollar. Otherwise, go to a bank-

Avoid paying in US cash even when accepted because they'll rip you off in the exchange rate.

I found that the best way to get pesos in Mexico is to withdraw from a cash machine of a Mexican Bank. Do not withdraw US in Mexico, you will pay huge commissions.

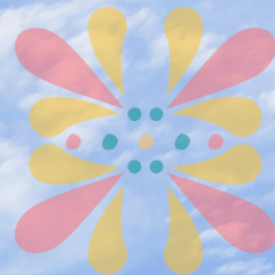
Avoid using cash machines at night or on isolated roads and always make sure you check your surroundings when you do.

What do I need Mexican Pesos for?

1. Tipping
2. Sometimes gas station has the Credit Card POS out of order (or so they say), so you will have to pay cash!
3. Some restaurants don't accept card payment - especially in Tulum or small non-touristy towns
4. Local convenience stores in small non-touristy towns
5. Markets and street food stalls

04.

GO OUT AND EXPLORE



If you have been locked up in an All-inclusive Resort in Cancun, you haven't been to Mexico. I mean, it's a great experience, for sure, but that's nowhere close to having traveled to Mexico.

No matter where you are staying (you have plenty of accommodation options), make sure you go out and explore. There is so much to see and visit in Mexico!!

Explore the charming Pueblos Magicos, with their colonial architecture, museum, natural wonders, and delicious food. Marvel at the remains of the ancient cities of the pre-Colombian cultures, such as the Mayan Ruins in Yucatan and Chiapas or the Teotihuacan near Mexico City, Tula in Hidalgo, and many others.

Go scuba diving, snorkeling, kayaking, or climb one of the tallest mountains in Mexico, don't miss swimming with the whale sharks in La Paz or Cancun, or swim in a Cenote in the middle of the jungle.

And yes, thanks for asking. It is safe to travel to Mexico and whoever says it's not, has never been there, or maybe something happened to them. Things happen, everywhere in the world, unfortunately. But Mexico is just as safe or unsafe as anywhere else if you do your homework.



05.

MEXICO IS A BIG COUNTRY

Usually, when you think of Mexico you imagine white sand beaches and turquoise water, which is pretty accurate for sure if you go to the Caribbean Coast of Mexico, that is [Cancun](#), and the [Riviera Maya](#). If you have never been there you should indeed visit, but also know that Mexico is much more than that.

There are so many incredible destinations all with different climates. I have been traveling around Mexico for quite a while and here are my favorite spots.

[Baja California Sur](#) is a real gem for water enthusiasts, where you will be diving or snorkeling with pelagics, [watching the majestic whales](#) breaching in the Sea of Cortez, hiking in the rocky desert, and much more.

[Mexico City](#) is the vibrant cosmopolitan capital where you can indulge in delicious [street food](#), world-class museums, art, and culture.

[Oaxaca](#) with its food and local traditions, besides natural wonders such as Hierve el Agua waterfall.

The lively [Puerto Vallarta](#) and [Sayulita](#) on the Pacific Coast, [Merida](#) the white city, and natural monuments such as the [Huasteca Potosina](#) and [Las Grutas de Tolantongo](#). Of course, this is just a tiny bit of all you can find in Mexico and I hope you will explore all of it through my blog.

BONUS TIPS



Now that you know the basics I am going to share some articles that may be useful to plan your trip to my beautiful Mexico.



[Renting a car in Mexico: All you need to know](#)



[5 Things about Mexican Culture to Learn Before Traveling to Mexico](#)



[The most popular Mexican food and authentic dishes](#)



[35 Mexico Travel Tips You Need to Read Before Traveling](#)

Traveling to Cancun?

Check out my dedicated site on [everything Cancun](#)

Need some solo travel inspiration?

Browse through my first site [Boundless Roads](#) where I aim to empower solo female travelers to live their best travel (and life) adventure!

Happy travels