

# MEXICO CITY

Mexico City is the capital and largest city of the nation of Mexico. In a broader meaning, "Mexico City" refers to the whole metropolitan area of Greater Mexico City. As of 2000 the metropolitan area encompasses 35 independent municipalities located in the State of Mexico. The Metropolitan area of Greater Mexico City had 17.8 million inhabitants at the 2000 Mexican census, making it one of the five most populated metropolitan areas in the world.



## TRANSPORTATION

Mexico City is served by an extensive metro system. It is heavily subsidized, and is one of the cheapest in the world, with a one way trip costing about .19 USD. The metro reaches only a fraction of the city. A combination of privately and city run buses take passengers to the rest of the city.



## BANKS AND CURRENCY

Banks are open Monday to Friday, from 9am to 3am; some are open until 5:30pm. On Saturdays several mall have locations which are open from 10am to 1:30pm.

The currency of Mexico is the Peso. Bills come in 10, 20, 50, 100, 200 and 500 denominations. 1,2 and 5 peso coins are round - silver with a golden center. 10 and 20 peso coins are also round, but golden on the outside. Most places accept small US bills.



## SHOPPING

Shops are open daily from 10am to 8pm depending on the store. The most-concentrated shopping area is in the Zona Rosa, which is full of boutiques, jewelry stores, handmade goods, antique stores, and art galleries.



## CLIMATE

In general, Mexico City enjoys spring weather year-round, with the evenings somewhat cooler, especially in winter. June to September is the rainy season, which is typified by short and heavy showers in the afternoons. The average high is in the mid 70s, with summer hitting the low 80s. The average low is in the mid 60s, with winter hitting the low 50s.



## EATING

Mexican food is usually spicy and always includes the three following ingredients: salt, chili and lime. Seafood is also a commonly used ingredient. You are never very far away from a cantina where you will find tortillas, enchiladas and tacos. You will see that what is considered Mexican food in the states is very different than what is offered in Mexico.



## MUSEUMS

Most museums are open Tuesday to Sunday from 10am to 5pm. Some are open until 7pm one night a week. Ticket prices usually vary from 1-3 USD.



## GENERAL INFO

Ambulance, Fire, Police emergencies 060  
US Embassy (01-55) 5080-2000  
Post Office Mon-Sat 8am to Midnight