

MEXICO

CAMPECHE

MUNDO MAYA



ENGLISH VERSION

 CONACULTA

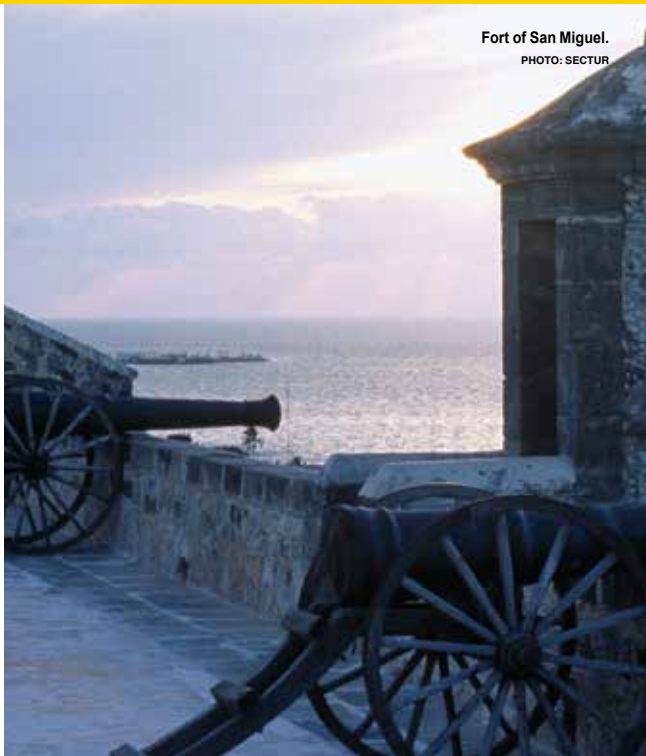


Instituto Nacional
de Antropología
e Historia

City of Campeche



It was founded in 1540 by Francisco de Montejo, "el Mozo". Due to its excellent location it soon turned to be the most important and largest port of the Yucatán peninsula. Attracted by the wealth that circulated through the region and the precious woods and the logwoods, the pirates –as Francis Drake and Henry Morgan– surrounded the city and in order to protect it against the constant attacks, they built a fortress with eight bastions, reinforced by forts and command units. These constructions are beautiful examples of the military architecture and several of them now work as museums or cultural centers. In the **Historical Downtown** one can see a merge of splendid constructions of the XVI to the XIX centuries which contributed to declare the city part of the world cultural heritage.



Fort of San Miguel.

PHOTO: SECTUR

Seybaplaya



A seaside town where the **Municipal Square, the City Hall** or Palacio Municipal and the **Church of Our Lady of Ascension** stand out. Nearby are beaches as **Playa Bonita** and **Sihoplaya**.

Chamotón



It is an old town where the **Church of Our Lady of Favors** –built by Franciscans–, and the **Bastion of San Antonio** are prominent. In the surroundings there are beaches as **Punta Xen** and ancient henequen estates or haciendas like the ones of **San José Carpizo, San Luis Carpizo** and **Ulumal**.

Edzná



It was one of the most important Mayan sites of Campeche in the Late Classic Period (700 – 900 AD). The city had a complex channel system and broad stone avenues which linked the most relevant architectural developments. Therein one can see different architectural styles as Petén, Chenes and Puuc.



PHOTO: J.L. BORRITO / SECTUR CAMPECHE

Church of San Isidro Labrador, Seybaplaya.

Hecelchakán



In this town, which was built in the XVI century, are located the **Church and Convent of San Francisco** –built by Franciscans in the XVI century–, and not far away from there are the henequen estates or haciendas of **Chunhuás, Chunkanán** and **Blanca Flor**.

Puuc Architectural Style



In Campeche are several Mayan sites with excellent samples of buildings with Puuc architectural style, one of the most beautiful and harmonious of the prehispanic period. Those that can be visited are **Kankí, Xcalumkín** and **Chunhuhub**.

Calkiní



It is a village where the **Temple and the Convent of San Luis Obispo de Toboza**, one of the most beautiful of the state were built in the in the XVI century.



PHOTO: J.L. BORRITO / SECTUR CAMPECHE

Central Square, Calkiní.

CITY OF CAMPECHE



Gulf of Mexico



Edzná.

PHOTO: SERGIO AUTREY / RAÍCES



CAMPECHE



PLACE OF INTEREST

HERITAGE OF HUMANITY	LIGHTHOUSE
MAGICAL TOWN	MUSEUM
CIVIL ARCHITECTURE	MONUMENT
RELIGIOUS ARCHITECTURE	NATIVE PEOPLE
MILITARY ARCHITECTURE	HANDICRAFTS
SQUARE	GASTRONOMY
ESTATE	FESTIVITY
	ROUTE

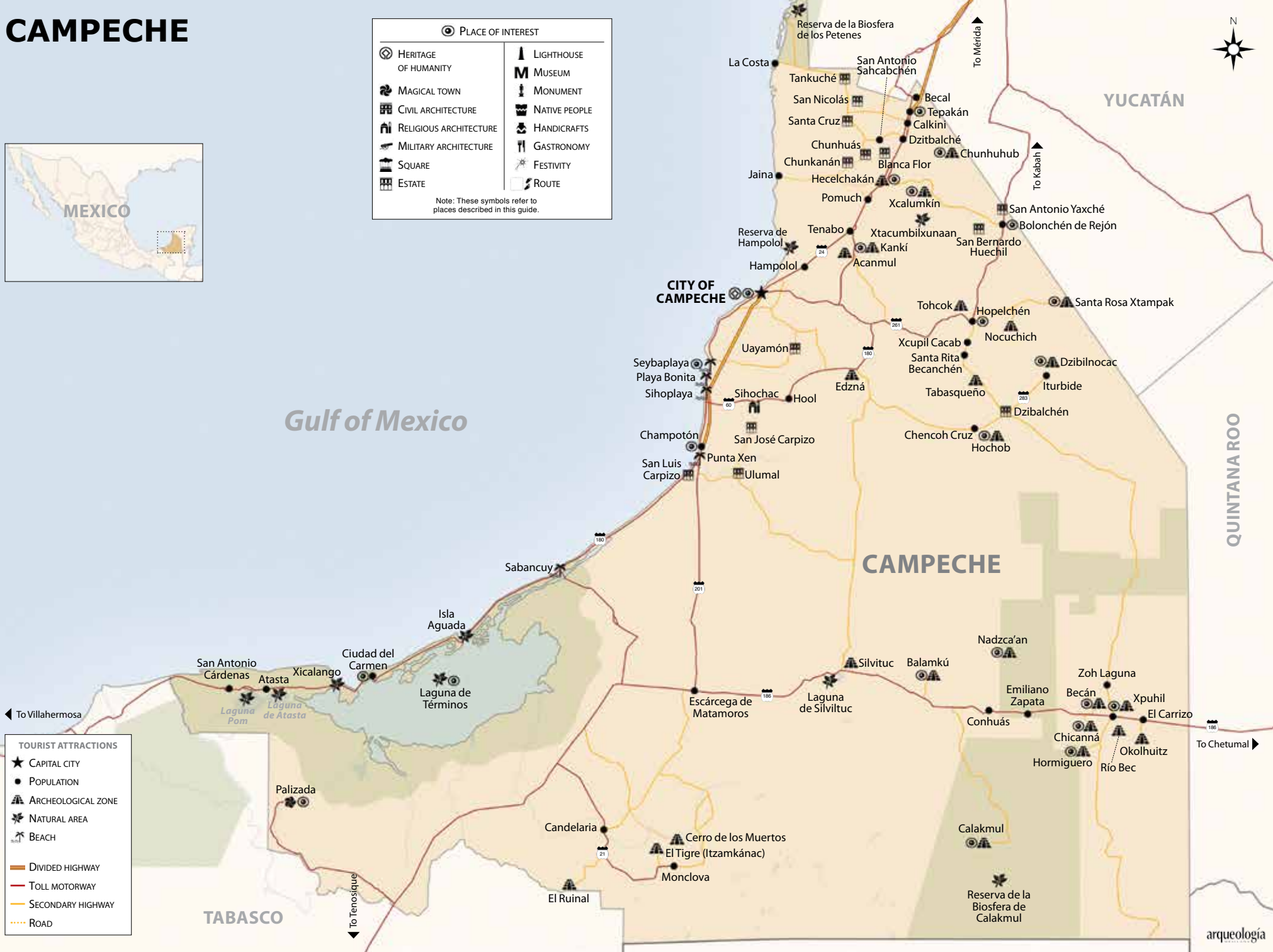
Note: These symbols refer to places described in this guide.

TOURIST ATTRACTIONS

- CAPITAL CITY
- POPULATION
- ARCHEOLOGICAL ZONE
- NATURAL AREA
- BEACH

ROADS

- DIVIDED HIGHWAY
- TOLL MOTORWAY
- SECONDARY HIGHWAY
- ROAD





Tabasqueño.

Chenes Architectural Style

Name of a Mayan architectural style whose most remarkable characteristic is the decoration of the façades with zoomorphic masks. Among the sites with buildings with this style are **Santa Rosa Xtampak**, **Tabasqueño**, **Hochob** and **Dzibilnocac**.

Hopelchén

Founded in the XVII century, Hopelchén was the only transit route for the people of Camino Real. The nearby towns of **Becanchén** and **Xcupil** also have colonial temples. The former haciendas of **San Antonio Yaxché** and **San Bernardo Huechil** stand out among others.

Calakmul

It has been declared Heritage of Humanity and it was one of the most important Mayan cities. The site is noticeable for its huge size –just the main square has around 25 km²– its numerous buildings –some of them are among the largest of the Mayan area–, and the highest number of stelae of the region (more than 100). During the Classic period (200 - 900 AD) it was the regional capital, and the headquarters of the kingdom of the Snake Head and main opponent of Tikal, Guatemala.



Calakmul.
PHOTO: SECTUR CAMPECHE

Bolonchén

Bolonchén is a traditional village where the **Church of Saint Christ of Esqulpulas** was built in the XVII century. In the area nearby we can find the **Xtacumilxunaan caves**, likely to be the largest and deepest of the Yucatán Peninsula.



Xtacumilxunaan caves.
PHOTO: SECTUR CAMPECHE

Río Bec Architectural Style

With this name we know the architectural style characteristic of Campeche which outstands from other elements due to the presence of towers. The places that can be visited are **Balamkú**, **Nadzca'an**, **Becán**, **Chicanná**, **Hormiguero** and **Xpuhil**.

Ciudad del Carmen



In this island was founded in 1717 the Presidium of El Carmen. Today it is a port of fishermen and trading center of the oil industry. It has religious monuments as the **Church of Our Lady of El Carmen** and the **Church of Jesus** built in the beginning of the XIX century. In the surrounding area there are places ideal for relaxation, as the beaches of **Manigua**, **Caracol** and **Norte** and sites proper to have a close look to nature as the **Island of "Los Pájaros"** (the birds).



Ciudad del Carmen.
PHOTO: SECTUR CAMPECHE

Laguna de Términos



It is an extensive wetland with mangrove forests. This is a flora and fauna protected area where species as sea bass, shrimps, manatees; birds like the jaribu stork and the pilgrim falcon; crocodiles, ocelots, hawkbill turtles and white pelicans coexist.

Palizada



A magic town that used to be an important cutting center of precious woods and logwoods in the region. It has local colorful squares and the **Church of Saint Joaquín**, built in the XIX century. Nearby there are several natural appealing sites like the **Laguna Encantada** (enchanted Lagoon) and the **Palizada River**.



PHOTO: SECTUR CAMPECHE

Palizada.

HANDICRAFTS



The main materials they use are the mud, wood, vegetal products and natural fibers. Tepakán is famous for the **production of pottery**. In places like Becal, the former estate of Santa Cruz, the villages of San Nicolás and Tankuché, and the municipality of Calkiní, they manufacture hats with leaves of **jipi palm**. In Champotón, Escárcega and the city of Campeche, the wood is combined with **knitted fabric** and **intertwined jipi palm** leaves to create different objects. In the municipalities of El Carmen and Champotón they elaborate ashtrays, lamps, sunshades and butterflies made out of sea shells and fish scales. With the **bull's horn** they manufacture photo frames, jewelry cases, brochures, earrings and necklaces, mainly in the municipality of el Carmen. In Dzibalché, Xcupil, Hopelchén and Santa Rita women make cotton **embroidery** or other kind of fabrics. Hammocks are made principally in the municipality of Calkiní, San Antonio Sacabchén, Santa Cruz and Dzitbalché.



PHOTO: SECTUR CAMPECHE

Guimaldas bordadas.

and the hot pepper or **chile x'catic** stuffed. Other dishes may be the **tamale** filled with mincemeat of pork or chicken and annatto sauce; the **pibinal**, tender corn cooked in an underground oven; the **pibipollo**, that is like a tamale covered with banana leaves and filled with pork and chicken meat prepared in annatto sauce and cooked in an underground oven (which is translated in Mayan as in **pib**)

GASTRONOMY



Campeche's gastronomy combines ingredients of the Mayan and Spanish cuisines. Everywhere you may find **sea food** of excellent quality, delicious **meat, vegetables** and **fruits**. The sweet bread in Campeche is famous, specially the puff pastry known as "**campechanas**". Dogfish is used to make **panuchos**, **pan de cazón**



PHOTO: SECTUR CAMPECHE

Chiles rellenos.

YOU MUST...!

- Visit the historical downtown and the bastions of the City of Campeche
- Enjoy the Archeological Museum of the Mayan Culture at the Fort of San Miguel
- Go to Edzná
- Admire Calakmul
- Get acquainted with Chicanná's architecture
- Visit Hormiguero
- Buy a palm leaf hat and embroidery
- Go to Ciudad del Carmen
- Walk through Palizada
- Eat sea food and pan de cazón

Tourist Information

Tourist Information Booth at the Cultural Center, House No. 6, Street 57 between 10th. And 8th. streets, Downtown, CP 24000, San Francisco de Campeche, Campeche +52-981-816-1782

Tourist Information State Office, Av. Ruiz Cortines without number, Moch Couoh Square, Downtown, CP 24000, San Francisco de Campeche, Campeche, +52 981 127 3300

Tourist Information Office of the Municipality of Campeche, Street 55 No. 3, just next to the Cathedral, Downtown, CP 24000, San Francisco de Campeche, Campeche+52 981 811 3989

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