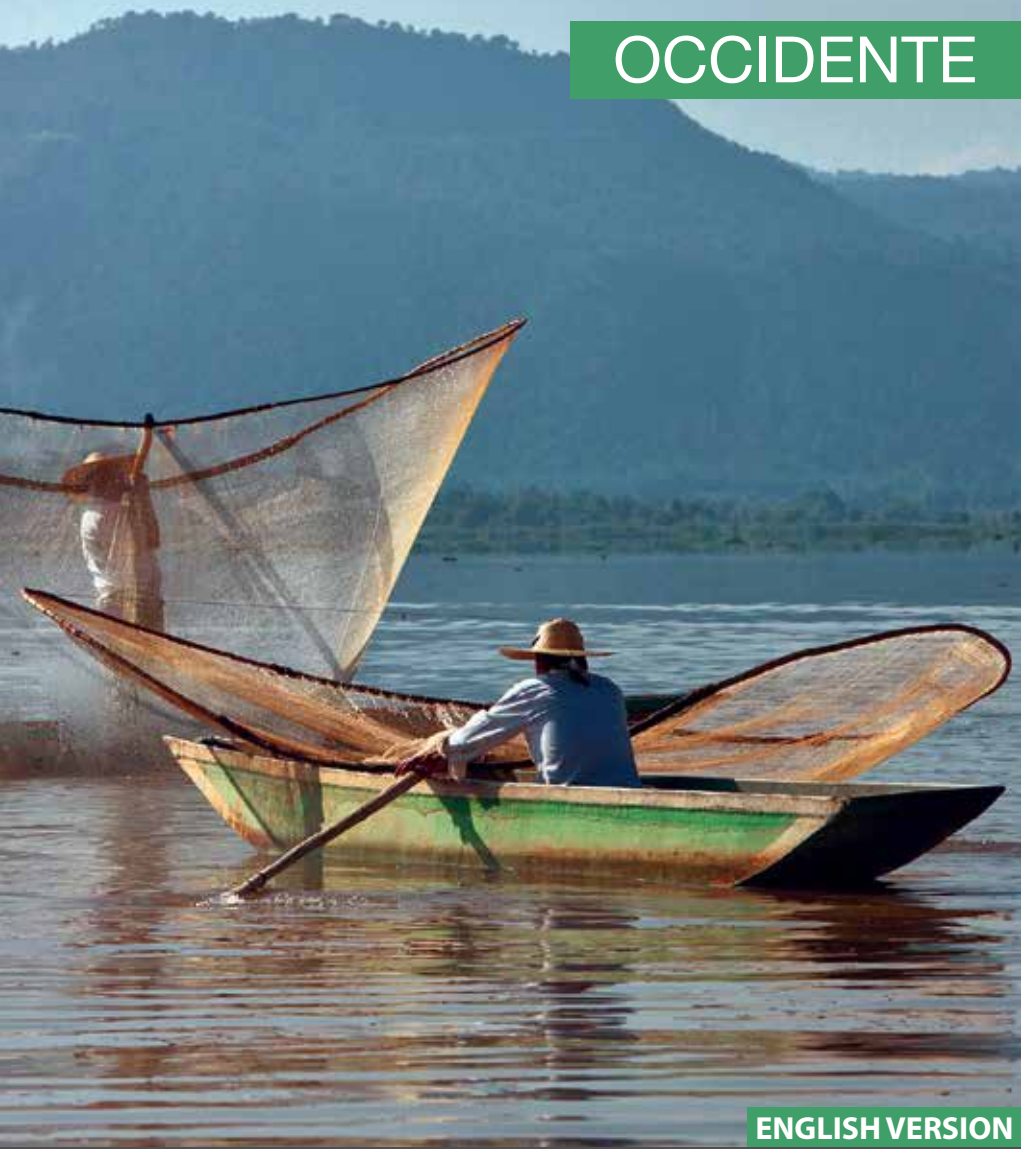


Mexico

MICHOACÁN

OCCIDENTE



ENGLISH VERSION

 **CONACULTA**



Instituto Nacional
de Antropología
e Historia

Morelia



Founded by Spaniards as Valladolid in 1541, in 1828 its name was changed to Morelia to honor Independence hero José María Morelos y Pavón, born in this city on September 30, 1765. In colonial times it was a thriving center of religious and political power, reflected in the construction of religious and civil buildings that are now a historical legacy of such magnitude and importance that the city has been declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The

characteristic color of its colonial buildings has won it the epithet "the city of pink stone." Among its principal monuments are the **Cathedral**, the **Government Palace** and **Clavijero Palace**, **Morelos's Birthplace**, the **Palace of Justice**, the **Federal Palace**, the **Guadalupe Sanctuary** in the former **Convent of San Diego**, the **Church of La Merced**, the **Colegio San Nicolás de Hidalgo**, the first of its kind in America and where Miguel Hidalgo was rector.

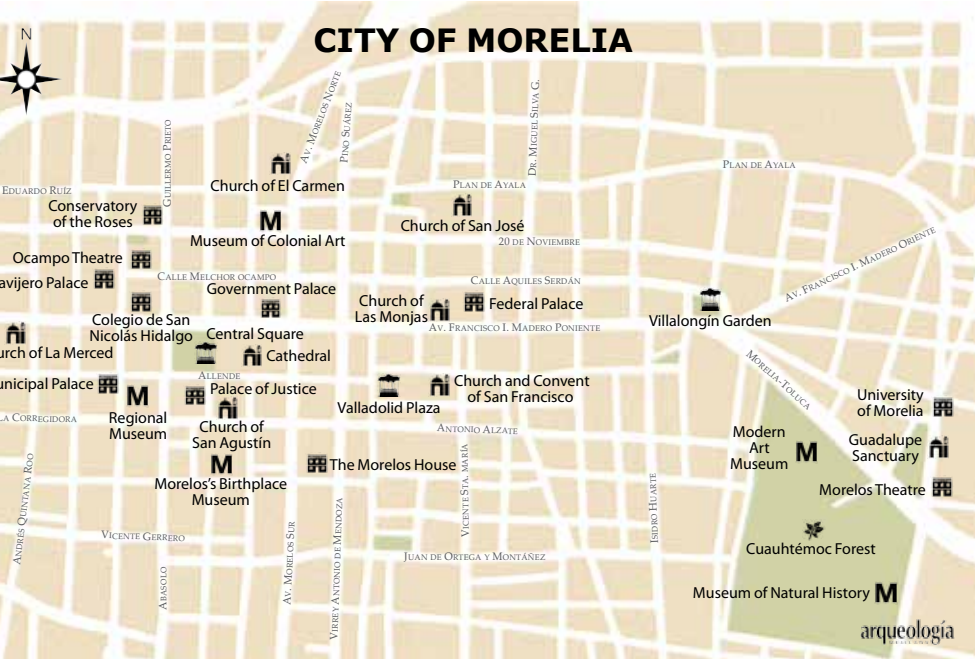


Cathedral, Morelia.

Other sites worth seeing are the impressive 253-arch **Aqueduct**, the **Sweets and Folk Art Market**, the **Public Library**, the **Michoacán Regional Museum**, the **Conservatory of the Roses**—now home of the Child Singers of Morelia choir—the **Church** and former **Convent of El Carmen** (housing the **Morelia House of Culture** and the **Michoacán Culture Institute**)—and the **Church Las Monjas**.



Morelia.



Pátzcuaro



A beautiful "magical town" noted for its traditional adobe, wood, and tile architecture and cobblestone streets. Visit monuments such as the **Basilica of Nuestra Señora de la Salud**, built under the direction of Vasco de Quiroga, who was buried here; the **Sagrarium**; the **House of the Eleven Patios**; the former **Convent of San Agustín**; the **Huitziméngari Palace**, residence of Antonio Huitziméngari, son of the last Purépecha ruler; and the **Museum of Folk Art**.

Paracho



It is famed for the **guitars** crafted here. Other string instruments and wood toys, furniture, and masks are also made here. Among the sites of interest are the **House for Purépecha Art and Culture**, and the **Guitar Museum**.

Lake Pátzcuaro.



PHOTO: CHRISTA COWRIE / RAICES

Zamora



The home of the **Diocese Sanctuary to Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe** ("The Unfinished Cathedral") was to be the cathedral of the Zamora Diocese, but it was never completed; even so, it is 108 m (354 ft.) tall and is one of the 15 tallest churches in the world.

Apatzingán



Site where José María y Morelos declared Mexico's first Constitution in 1814. Visit the **House of the Constitution** and the **City Museum**.



"The Unfinished Cathedral", Zamora.

even go surfing at **Nexpa** and **Ticia** beaches. Begin with a visit to the port of **Lázaro Cárdenas** and then go to **Playa Azul**, **Caleta de Campos**, **Pichilinguillo**, **Maruata**, **Colola**, **Faro de Bucerías**, and **La Manzanillera**.



Paracho.

PHOTO: MARIAM DE LOURDES ALONSO

San José de Gracia



A picturesque town surrounded by pine forests. It is famous for the traditional high quality dairy products made here.



Municipal Palace, Apatzingán.

PHOTO: MARIAM DE LOURDES ALONSO

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TOURIST ATTRACTIONS

- ★ CAPITAL
- TOWN
- 🏛️ ARCHAEOLOGICAL ZONE
- 🌿 NATURAL AREA
- 🏖️ BEACH
- ✈️ AIRPORT

HIGHLIGHTS

| | |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| 🌐 WORLD HERITAGE SITE | 🏠 HACIENDA |
| 🏰 MAGICAL TOWN | 🏛️ MUSEUM |
| 🏰 CIVIL ARCHITECTURE | 🎭 FOLK ART |
| 🏰 RELIGIOUS ARCHITECTURE | 🍴 CUISINE |
| 🏠 CENTRAL SQUARE | 🎪 LOCAL FESTIVAL |

Note: These symbols refer to the spots described in this guide.

— TWO-WAY HIGHWAY
— FEDERAL HIGHWAY
— SECONDARY HIGHWAY
— ROAD

Tlalpujahua



Founded in the 16th century, this gold-and-silver-mining town still retains its traditional feel and houses monuments of interest, so it has been named a “magical town” by the Tourism Ministry. Its buildings include the former **Convent of San Francisco**, the **Guadalupe Sanctuary**, and the **Parish of the Virgen del Carmen**. You can also visit the **Rayón Brothers House and Museum**, the **Dos Estrellas Mine** (now the **Technological Museum**), the **Buried Church** (the town’s former church), **Brockman Dam**, and the **Campo del Gallo National Park**. Visit the largest Christmas ornament factory in the world.

PHOTO: MARCO ANTONIO PACHECO



Tlalpujahua.

Anganguero



A mining town, designated a “magical town.” Its attractions include the **Church of the Inmaculada Concepción**, housing an altar brought from Italy; the **Chapel of Santa María Goretti de la Misericordia**; the **Church of San Simón**; the **Parker House Museum** with the San Simón tunnel; the **Monument to Miners**, and the former **Hacienda of Jesús de Nazareth**.



PHOTO: MARIA DE LOURDES ALONSO

Anganguero.

Monarch Butterfly Biosphere Reserve



Named a UNESCO World Heritage site, it is a unique spot where a remarkable natural phenomenon takes place: the annual winter migration from Canada of close to a billion monarch butterflies that blanket the trees before beginning the return journey northward in the spring.

San Felipe Los Alzati



Pertaining to the Tarascan culture, this site, which houses the tallest ancient building in Michoacán, was surely a settlement on the border of the Mexica empire.

Zitácuaro



The setting for several events in the War of Independence. Here you can visit **Independence Hill**, the **Church of Los Remedios**, the **Municipal Palace**, and the **Constitution Garden**.

Cuitzeo del Porvenir



Named a “magical town” for its natural beauty, traditional atmosphere, and colonial monuments, it houses the former **Convent of Santa María Magdalena**, founded in 1550 by Augustinian friars and regarded as the most beautiful convent in Michoacán for its Plateresque style. Other points of interest are the churches of the **Hospital Franciscano**, of the **Concepción**, of **San Pablo**, and of the **Calvario**.



PHOTO: MARIA DE LOURDES ALONSO

Former Convent of Santa María Magdalena, Cuitzeo.

Santa Clara del Cobre



Named a “magical town” by the Tourism Ministry, it is famed for its copper smiths who use a wide range of techniques. Visit the **National Copper Museum** and the **Church of Nuestra Señora del Sagrario**. **Lake Zirahuén**, only 12 km (7½ mi.) away, is one of Mexico’s most beautiful lakes, surrounded by pine forests.



PHOTO: MARCO ANTONIO PACHECO

Copper artisan. Santa Clara del Cobre.

Uruapan



Known as the world’s avocado capital, this is the foremost city on the Purépecha Plateau, a region that has preserved a tradition regarded as Intangible World Heritage: the *pirekua* (a musical genre). It houses the **Eduardo Ruiz Cupatitzio Canyon National Park**, the only national park within a city.

San Juan Nuevo Parangaricutiro



A town that recovered after the volcanic eruption of **Paricutín**. Visit the **Church of the Señor de los Milagros** and the **Church of San Juan Parangaricutiro**.

FOLK ART

Since pre-Hispanic times, Michoacán was a land renowned for the skill of its craftspeople. It stands out for **lacquer**, with pieces from Pátzcuaro, one of the few places where the technique continues. Other crafts are **hammered copper** from Santa Clara del Cobre; **leather** from A-patzingán; **blown glass** and **Christmas ornaments** from Tlalpujahua; and **guitars** from Paracho. Different towns also have **precious metalwork**, **wood carving**, **lapidary stone carving**, **textiles**, **pottery**, and **basketry**.



Lacquered gourd. Uruapan. MNA.

PHOTO: MARCO ANTONIO PACHECO / RAICES

Tzintzuntzan.

PHOTO: CARLOS BLANCO / RAICES

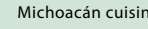


Tzintzuntzan and Ihuatzio



These are two of the main cities of the Tarascan kingdom that dominated Michoacán in the Late Postclassic (AD 1200–1521). **Ihuatzio** once shared power with Pátzcuaro and Tzintzuntzan, and was a fairly large city with large structures and causeways. **Tzintzuntzan** was the kingdom’s capital from 1450 to the Spanish conquest. It had large ceremonial center, which displays the distinctive Tarascan architecture in the form of **yácatas**, long platforms with round structures. Other archaeological sites open to the public are **Huandacareo La Nopalera** and **Tres Cerros**—both on the shores of Lake Cuitzeo—and Tingambato, an Early Classic (AD 200–600) site with Teotihuacan-derived architecture.

CUISINE



Michoacán cuisine is so rich in tradition it is UNESCO World Heritage. Lake zone products include **white fish** from Pátzcuaro and **charalitos dorados** (little fish). Other dishes are **Tarascan soup**; **carnitas** (braised pork); **michi soup** (fish with prickly pear fruit); **corundas** (tamales), **uchepos** (tamales), and **aporreadillo** (beef and eggs in sauce). Tarascan dishes are **churipo** (spicy soup), **minguichi** (cheese and pepper soup), and ash tamales. Sweets consist of diverse **ates** (fruit pastes), **chongos zamoranos** (clotted milk), **caprotada** (bread pudding), **morelianas** (milk sweets) and **sherbets** and popsicles of natural flavors. The typical beverage is **charanda** (fermented sugar cane juice).



PHOTO: A. RIOS / SECTUR MICHOACÁN

Tamales.

And don't miss ...

- Experiencing the Monarch Butterfly Reserve
- Boating on Lake Pátzcuaro
- World Heritage cuisine
- Exploring the "magical town" of Tlalpujahua
- Going to beaches on the Michoacán coast
- Buying hand-wrought copper
- Strolling in downtown Morelia
- Enjoying Uruapan, avocado capital
- Getting to know the state's "magical towns"
- Visiting Tzintzuntzan and Ihuatzio

Tourist information

www.visitmichoacan.com.mx/
www.michoacan.gob.mx/Visita_Michoacan

MICHOACÁN

01800-830-5363, 01800-450-2300
secturweb@michoacan.gob.mx, turgaleria@michoacan.gob.mx

MORELIA

Tourist Information Booth: Av. Tata Vasco, no. 80, at the corner of Hospitales, Col. Vasco de Quiroga, C.P. 58230

Tourist Information Booth, Palacio de Gobierno: Av. Madero Poniente, no. 63, Centro, C.P. 58000

Tourist Attention Center (Span. Acronym: CAT): Portal Hidalgo, no. 245, Col. Centro, C.P. 58000

PÁTZCUARO

Tourism Office: 434-342-1214, 342-1705

ZAMORA

Tourism Office: 351-512-4015, 515-7781

URUAPAN

Tourism Office: 452-524-7850, 524-7199

ZITÁCUARO

Tourism Office: 715-153-0675, 156-7001

APATZINGÁN

Tourism Office: 453-537-4854, 532-7090

Morelia Conventions and Visitors Office (ocv): Av. Camelinas, no. 676-A, Fracc. La Loma, C.P. 58290, Morelia, 443-204-1201, 204-1202, contacto@convencionesmichoacan.com.mx

National Chamber of the Restaurant and Prepared Food Industry (CANIRAC): Blvd. García de León, no. 734, interior A, Col. Nueva Chapultepec, C.P. 58000, Morelia, 443-232-0122, caniracmich@hotmail.com

EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS

Michoacán: 066

Morelia

Fire Station: 443-317-7948

Red Cross: 443-314-5151

Police: 443-316-3808, 316-3100

Civil Protection: 443-320-1781



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Lic. Consuelo Sáizar

Culture and Art
Secretary
Lic. Roberto Vázquez Díaz

Technical
Secretary
Lic. Raúl Arenzana Olvera

FRONT: LAKE PATZCUARO. PHOTO: IBANCO / PACHECO / REC. BACK: DAY OF THE DEAD IN JANITZIO. PHOTO: SECTOR MICHOCAN



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