

Mexico

TABASCO

MUNDO MAYA



ENGLISH VERSION

 CONACULTA



Instituto Nacional
de Antropología
e Historia

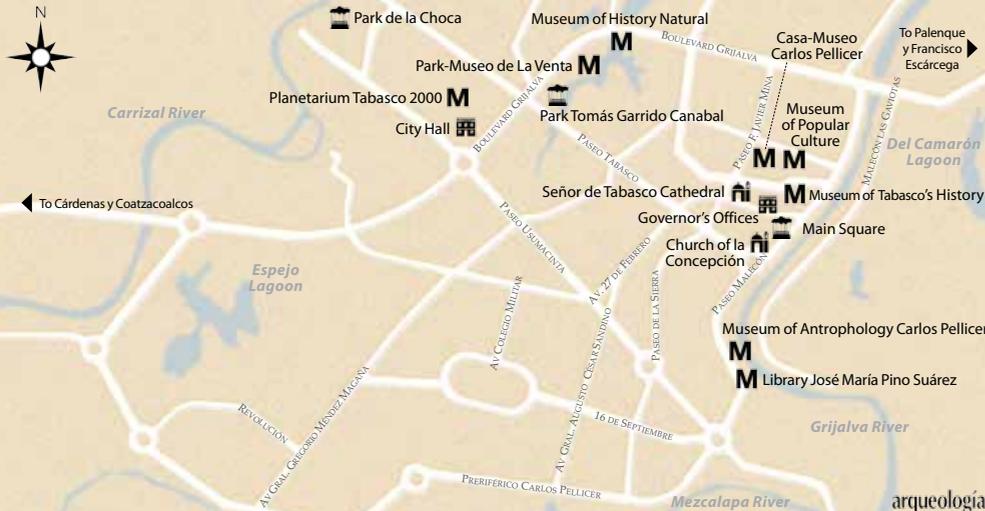
Villahermosa

As the majority of the cities in Tabasco after the Spanish conquest, Villahermosa was established at the banks of the Grijalva River. This location allowed it to greatly benefit from the regional trade, mainly from cacao, a product highly appreciated in Europe. Villahermosa is now a modern city with different appealing places as lagoons, rivers and jungles. Due to the oil boom of the 70's in the xx century, it was consolidated as a city and in spite of its modernity it is the custodian of an important cultural legacy. Its Historical Center or Centro Histórico contains great amount of local and religious monuments, which reflect the wealthy periods of the city in previous centuries. Among the places of interest are the **Park Tomás Garrido Canabal** and the **Park-museum of La Venta** as well as museums that display the history of Tabasco like the **Museo de Historia de Tabasco** (located at "Casa de los Azulejos" which means the house of tiles) and the one of the popular culture called Museo de la Cultura Popular.



Governor's offices.
PHOTO: SECTUR TABASCO

CITY OF VILLAHERMOSA



La Venta

This site is one of the most exponential of the Olmecan culture, one of the first complex societies of Mesoamerica. Linked to architecture, it contains numberless of gigantic sculptures, out of which some of them are now at the Park-Museum of La Venta.

Laguna de Mecoacán

Its natural richness is constituted by beach banks, numerous lagoons, abundant marshes, mangroves and rivers. This place is ideal for observing the aquatic flora and fauna and the sunsets are splendid for boat touring.



Cacao's grinding.
PHOTO: SECTUR TABASCO

Corredor Turístico "Paradise Republic"

It is an eco-touristic development with soft and warm sand beaches and with unique sunsets, as the **Paraíso** and **Limón** beaches.



Puerto Ceiba-El Bellote-Chiltepec Bridge.
PHOTO: SECTUR TABASCO

Comalcalco

It is one of the major developments of the Classic Mayan (250-900 AD). What we can see today in Comalcalco is only one part of the **Gran Plaza** and the **Gran Acrópolis**, a site crowned by a structure called the palace or El Palacio, which resembles in size and distribution to the ones of Palenque in the State of Chiapas. At the center of the site are numerous ceremonial structures, palaces and the rooms for the elite class.



Gran Acrópolis, Comalcalco.
PHOTO: RICARDO ARMILLO

Cacao Bean Haciendas

Tabasco is an important cacao bean producing area. The estates or "haciendas" are a singular point of attraction. When one visits them one can witness the conversion process of the cacao bean into chocolate. Among the estates we can find the **Hacienda La Luz**, which is among the first ones in industrializing the cacao bean and where the **Cacao Bean and Chocolate Museum** is located; the ranch **La Finca Cholula**, and the **Hacienda Jesús María**. In all of them one can buy the products they manufacture.

Malpasito

It has many plinths and platforms and ballgame squares. It is believed the site was built by the Zoque people. Between the years 600 and 900 AD. took place the earliest occupation of the zone and it was at that time they craved the petroglyphs.

Puerto Ceiba

It is a fishermen village founded in the XIX century. It has a great natural beauty and offers very diverse cuisines.

TABASCO



Gulf of Mexico



TOURIST ATTRACTIONS

- ★ CAPITAL CITY
- POPULATION
- 🏛️ ARCHEOLOGICAL ZONE
- 🌿 NATURAL AREA
- 🏖️ BEACH

— DIVIDED HIGHWAY
— TOLL MOTORWAY
— SECONDARY HIGHWAY
— ROAD

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.

Moral-Reforma



Mayan city located at the banks of San Pedro River and formed by different monumental sites of the Classic Period (200-900 AD), out of which only three plinths and one ballgame have been explored. From the dates craved on various monuments that are presently in the **Municipal Museum José Gómez Panaco** at **Balancán**, we know that it existed from the year 600 to 790 AD.



Usumacinta River.
PHOTO: MARÍA DE LOURDES ALONSO

Cascadas de Reforma



These waterfalls are formed by the San Pedro River and are outstanding for their beauty. They are four waterfalls, known as **Tasiste**, **El Imperio**, **El Chile** and **La Botica**, located at exuberant jungle tunnels.

Tenosique



A place full of local color located at the bank of the Usumacinta River where José María Pino Suárez was born. It offers different alternatives for eco-tourism. During its carnival they dance "The Pochó Dance" that has deep prehispanic roots.

Cañón del Usumacinta



It is a natural protected area with a surface of approximately 46 thousand

has and includes both part of the Usumacinta River and a relevant reserve of high jungle. One can tour through the river and walk along trails.

Boca del Cerro



Boca del Cerro or the hill's mouth is located in the natural area of the Usumacinta River Canyon. This site is an ideal point to approach the majesty of the Usumacinta River; it is worth seeing the metal bridge which crosses the river.

Pomoná



Pomoná is an important site for its hieroglyphic inscriptions which have enabled us to know more about the region and the relationships among the cities during the Mayan Classic Period (200-900 AD). Pomoná had a hieroglyphic emblem which positioned it in the hierarchy of regional capital. Out of the six groups of the site only Group I, has been explored.



Pomoná.
PHOTO: SECTUR TABASCO



PHOTO: M.A. PACHECO / RAICES

Tamale of chipilín

GASTRONOMY



The gastronomy of Tabasco besides sharing different ingredients and ways of elaborating them with the rest of the Mayan area has its own elements, being the most important the **cacao bean** since the prehispanic period. Another distinctive food brought to the region on the XIX century is the **banana**. The dishes of Tabasco include products from the lagoons, rivers and sea shore like the famous **pejelagarto**, literally a lizard – fish. Worth mentioning are the **pozol**, refreshing corn-based dish, and the **tamal** (corn-based sticky dough) of chipilín, one of the aromatic herbs which enrich the local cuisine.



PHOTO: M.A. PACHECO / RAICES

Pejelagarto.

Pantanos de Centla



The wetlands of Centla are the most important biosphere and delta system of Mesoamerica. Therein are rivers, mangroves and streams which altogether create a rare landscape. With more than 302 706 has of surface, the Centla wetlands constitute an ecosystem in which 39 species of fish, 50 of amphibious and reptiles, 60 of mammals and 125 of birds live.



Pantanos de Centla.

PHOTO: MARÍA DE LOURDES ALONSO

Tapijulapa



Considered as a magic town, it preserves the traditional features of the mountain range colonial villages. Besides admiring its environment, landscape and architectonic characteristics, one must not miss the **main square** and the **Santiago Apostle Church**.

Tapijulapa.

PHOTO: SECTUR



Miramar Beach



It is one of the largest and most visited beaches of the state. Its fine sand and calm waters turn it into the ideal place for swimming. One can find other beaches nearby as **Pico de Oro** and **Playa Azul**, where one can make scuba diving.

Oxolotán



This village has one of the most important religious monuments of Tabasco, the former Dominican **Convent of Santo Domingo de Guzmán**, founded in the XVI century.



PHOTO: MARÍA DE LOURDES ALONSO

Carved calabashes.

HANDICRAFTS



A great variety of handicrafts are made in the villages of Tabasco, some of them with ancient prehispanic techniques. In Nacajuca and Jalpa are made miniature wood **Cayucos**. **Basketwork** is practiced in many communities as for instance Tapijulapa, Tenosique and Emiliano Zapata. **Carved calabashes**, one of the most representative handicrafts of the state, are crafted in Jalpa and Nacajuca. **Furniture** of all kinds and various objects are made out of wood in places like Tenosique and Teapa. Alongside the communities at the coast it is common the manufacturing of **joloches** flowers and objects made out of shell and snail. In Nacajuca they make **ribbons** and **embroidered** costumes famous for their fine art.

YOU MUST...!

- Have a tour of the Park-Museum of La Venta in Villahermosa
- Visit the Park Garrido Canabal in Villahermosa
- Enjoy the cacao bean producing estates or "haciendas"
- Have a cruise through the Usumacinta River Canyon
- Visit Centla Wetlands
- Go to Comalcalco
- Visit Pomoná
- Buy chocolate
- Eat tamal of chipilín
- Drink pozol

Tourist Information

Information Booth at the Park Museum of La Venta, Avenida Ruiz Cortines s/n, Col. Jesús García, CP 86040, Villahermosa, Tabasco

Information Booth at CENMA, Malecón Carlos A. Madrazo s/n, Col. Centro, CP 86000, Villahermosa, Tabasco

Information Booth at the ADO Bus Station of Villahermosa. Francisco Javier Mina, at the corner of the street Lino Merino, at Downtown, CP 86000, Villahermosa Tabasco

Ministry of Tourism at the Strada Square, Av. Juan Estrada Torre No. 101, 2nd. Floor, Neighborhood Primero de Mayo, CP 86190, Villahermosa, Tabasco, +52 993 310 97000 Ext. 5218

Villahermosa Office of Conventions and Visitors, Paseo Tabasco No. 1504, Administrative Government Center, Tabasco 2000, CP 86035, Villahermosa Tabasco, +52 993 316 8271
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ISBN: 978-607-9100-13-1