nileGUIDE
ALL YOU NEED TO PLAN YOUR PERFECT TRIP

descamarado

Romantic Acapulco

Acapulco, 5 Days

Table of contents:

Guide Description 2

Itinerary Overview 3

Daily Itineraries 5

Acapulco Snapshot 16

Copyright ©2000-2010 Nile Project. All rights reserved.

Guide Description

AUTHOR NOTE: Acapulco is of course known for its beaches, but there are also some stunning landmarks in this city by the sea. Some sightseeing, a lot of sunbathing, and plenty of enjoying the many fantastic restaurants in Acapulco will make this a vacation you'll enjoy together and remember forever.

Copyright ©2000-2010 Nile Project. All rights reserved.

Itinerary Overview

things to do
restaurants
hotels
nightlife

Day 1 - Acapulco

DAY NOTE: The Hotel Las Brisas, built in an old Spanish compound, is definitely the most romantic place in town. Known for the famous couples that have stayed there, it definitely lives up to its reputation. Surrounded by dozens of acres of gardens and overlooking the bay, you'll never want to leave. Opt for a private casita, where you'll have your own private pool and gazebo to share together. On your first day, visit the Capilla de la Paz (Chapel of Peace), near the hotel, which has a great view of the bay, a bird sanctuary, and beautiful gardens. If you're up for exploring another beach, the Playa Condesa is one of Acapulco's more famous shorelines. There are lots of watersports you can take advantage of here, or just have fun in the water and sand. Enjoy the sunset during a relaxing candlelit dinner on the terrace at Grazziel, just near the hotel.

Capilla de la Paz
Sky high city landmark

Playa Condesa
Festive beach

Grazziel
Candlelight and a glass of wine

Hotel Las Brisas
Simply put, Las Brisas Acapulco is one of the most romantic hotels in the world.

Day 2 - Acapulco

DAY NOTE: Spend part of your second day on La Roqueta Island, where you can take a snorkeling tour and also a glass-bottomed boat harbor tour to make the most of the crystal-clear waters. You'll be able to find some incredible local cuisine here, including seafood grilled fresh from right out of the water. For dinner, Kookaburra is one of Acapulco's best, serving Mexican fusion with a spectacular bay view.

Acapulco Snorkeling Tour
Snorkelling

Kookaburra
For a romantic late lunch or dinner, this classy thatch-roof restaurant in Las Brisas offers glorious views.

Hotel Las Brisas
Simply put, Las Brisas Acapulco is one of the most romantic hotels in the world.

Day 3 - Acapulco

DAY NOTE: For a little local history, visit the Fuerte de San Diego, a Spanish fort from the 18th century, which has exhibits on the fort's background, treasure on display, and interesting architecture. Playa Barra Vieja is one of the beaches less frequented by tourists, and you can enjoy delicious drinks and fresh food on the sand for little money and in relative solitude, as well as oceanside horseback riding. Have dinner tonight either here on the beach or at one of the hotel's several excellent restaurants.

Fort of San Diego
Fort originally built to defend Acapulco from pirates, now houses the city's historical museum.

Playa Barra Vieja
Open seas

Hotel Las Brisas
Simply put, Las Brisas Acapulco is one of the most romantic hotels in the world.

Day 4 - Acapulco

DAY NOTE: Acapulco's tree-shaded central plaza, El Zocalo, is surrounded by all sorts of small, locally-owned shops, restaurants, cafes, and lots of lively action. Walk around this area to get a feel for the real Acapulco. Also visit the Casa de Dolores Olmedo, where Diego Rivera lived toward the end of his life and created a mosaic that still stands on a wall along a small street. Take a sweet sunset yacht cruise with Yate Fiesta, and then try one of the great curries at Buda for a late dinner on the bay.

Zócalo (El)
The main traditional plaza of Acapulco

Casa de Dolores Olmedo
Where Diego Rivera once lived

Yate Fiesta
Inexpensive yacht tour

Copyright ©2000-2010 Nile Project. All rights reserved.

Itinerary Overview

things to do
restaurants
hotels
nightlife

Buda
Beautiful inside and outside!

Hotel Las Brisas
Simply put, Las Brisas Acapulco is one of the most romantic hotels in the world.

Day 5 - Acapulco

DAY NOTE: Get a feel for the natural history of the area with a jungle tour, and hang out at the Parador del Sol for the rest of the afternoon and enjoy the many activities they offer there. For your last Acapulco beach experience, head to Playa Pie de la Cuesta for an amazing sunset. Have dinner at another one of the best restaurants in the area, Madeiras, which of course also has a spectacular view, in addition to courteous service and an intimate ambience.

Jungle Tour
Nature in the raw

Playa Pie de la Cuesta
The best sunsets in Acapulco

Madeiras
Luxurious and sophisticated atmosphere

Hotel Las Brisas
Simply put, Las Brisas Acapulco is one of the most romantic hotels in the world.

Copyright ©2000-2010 Nile Project. All rights reserved.

Day 1 - Acapulco

QUICK NOTE

DAY NOTE: The Hotel Las Brisas, built in an old Spanish compound, is definitely the most romantic place in town. Known for the famous couples that have stayed there, it definitely lives up to its reputation. Surrounded by dozens of acres of gardens and overlooking the bay, you'll never want to leave. Opt for a private casita, where you'll have your own private pool and gazebo to share together. On your first day, visit the Capilla de la Paz (Chapel of Peace), near the hotel, which has a great view of the bay, a bird sanctuary, and beautiful gardens. If you're up for exploring another beach, the Playa Condesa is one of Acapulco's more famous shorelines. There are lots of watersports you can take advantage of here, or just have fun in the water and sand. Enjoy the sunset during a relaxing candlelit dinner on the terrace at Grazziel, just near the hotel.

Capilla de la Paz

contact:
http://www.visitacapulco.com.mx/

location:
Acapulco GRO

DESCRIPTION: Spectacular views. Well worth the trip for photos. The cross measures 42 meters high and can be seen from the city centre.

Capilla de la Paz

1 Playa Condesa

contact:
http://www.visitacapulco.com.mx

location:
Costera Miguel Aleman
GRO

DESCRIPTION: Located at the center of the bay in Acapulco's Golden zone, Condesa beach is known for its great tourist and commercial activity. Waves at this beach go from medium to large size and are ideal for those wanting to ride the waves in on a buggie board. It's festive atmosphere is ideal for meeting new friends, apart from the fact that along this beach there are several restaurants and bars which serve the public from early afternoon, all of which creates a festive mood that promises fun from sunrise to sunset.

Photo courtesy of Playa Condesa.

2 Grazziel

contact:
tel: 52 74 84 8163

location:
Carretera Escénica, s/n
Acapulco Guerrero 39868

hours:
8p 1a M Su

DESCRIPTION: Grazziel is a beautiful restaurant located in one of Acapulco's best areas, as it lets you admire a picturesque view of the bay. This restaurant specializes in international food and the efficient service and great quality have put them in a special league of their own. Delight in a romantic meal with your special someone on the outdoor terrace and hall, with candle light creating a magical ambience. Enjoy pleasant conversations while instrumental music provides a soothing background score. Accompany your peaceful meal with a glass of wine from Grazziel's ample and reasonably priced wine list. Bon appetit! © wcities.com

Copyright ©2000-2010 Nile Project. All rights reserved.

contact:
tel: +52 744 469 6900
fax: +52 744 446 5328
http://www.brisas.com.mx/

location:
Carretera Escenica, #5255
Acapulco Gro 39867

3 Hotel Las Brisas

panoramio

OUR LOCAL EXPERT SAYS:
Maids will unpack and pack your luggage for you if you ask them, thus making the most of the extra service charge you are obliged to pay.

DESCRIPTION: Las Brisas, opened in 1957, was already one of the world's most famous hotels long before it was listed in "1,000 Places to Visit Before You Die." "Dream It, Feel It, Live It" is the Las Brisas message; generations of lovers have done exactly that, high above Acapulco Bay. Countless celebrities have hidden discreetly in the signature pink and white casitas, where tulipan flowers are strewn across the beds and float in the private swimming pools. The hotel's location is unsurpassed, with each casita positioned to maximize the stunning views from the hillside above the Carretera Escenica. Continental breakfast is delivered daily to each casita. The pink and white automatic jeeps that ferry guests around the property are available for rent – ask for the one "autographed" by Frank Sinatra for a true Rat Pack-era ride. The Chapel of Peace crowns the mountaintop above the hotel and is worth a visit.
Reservations (Mexico City): +52 555 339 1000
Toll free (Mexico): 01 800 506 7903
Toll free (US and Canada): 1 866 221 2961
Accommodations: # of Rooms: 263 suites and villas
Prices: US$254+. Taxes not included. Additional daily charge of $20 in lieu of tips
Payment: Visa, MasterCard, Amex, Cash Check-In: 3:00 pm Check-Out: 1:00 pm Services: bar, daily maid service, concierge, free internet, gym, handicapped accessible, free parking, shuttle service, swimming pool, restaurant, room service, spa, tennis, water sports, beach club, nightclub, 24-hour reception, 24-hour hot water, linens included, wake-up call, laundry service, AC, lounge/common area, meeting facilities, gym, outdoor pool
Additional Information: a member of Leading Hotels of the World, continental breakfast delivered daily to each casita, pink and white automatic jeeps are available for rental © NileGuide

Copyright ©2000-2010 Nile Project. All rights reserved.

Day 2 - Acapulco

QUICK NOTE

DAY NOTE: Spend part of your second day on La Roqueta Island, where you can take a snorkeling tour and also a glass-bottomed boat harbor tour to make the most of the crystal-clear waters. You'll be able to find some incredible local cuisine here, including seafood grilled fresh from right out of the water. For dinner, Kookaburra is one of Acapulco's best, serving Mexican fusion with a spectacular bay view.

contact:
http://www.partner.viator.com/en/6793/tours/Acapulco/Acapulco-Snorkeling-Tour/d629-4150SS

location:
Acapulco Guerrero

Acapulco Snorkeling Tour

DESCRIPTION: Enjoy a relaxing day in the sun snorkeling from the stunning La Roqueta Island, one of Acapulco's main attractions. With plenty on offer including a range of restaurants, secluded spots and colorful marine life, La Roqueta Island is sure to be a hit with the entire the family. Depart Acapulco and cruise across the beautiful ocean waters to snorkel off one of the nine gorgeous island beaches of La Roqueta, which is just off the coast of Las Playas.
Take advantage of sun, sand and sea of La Roqueta Island. Relax on the beach, explore diverse tropical aquatic life and enjoy lunch at one of the many local restaurants before allowing us to return you to your Acapulco hotel. © Viator

viator

contact:
tel: (+52) 744 - 446 6020
fax: (+52) 744 - 444 6039

location:
Carretera Escénica s/n, Local 3, Col. Marina Las Brisas
Acapulco Guerrero 39889

hours:
1pm - 11pm M Su

1 Kookaburra

OUR LOCAL EXPERT SAYS:
Worth reserving to get a good table with a view. Ask for la terraza.

DESCRIPTION: For a long time this was the best restaurant in Acapulco for romantic atmosphere, style, sea views and cuisine and it still is among the top in the Las Brisas area. Decor is white and fresh, with natural materials (wood and thatch, stone and pebbles) without being rustic. It tends to be business lunches at around 2 to 4 pm and more romantic dining or larger groups in the evenings, when the place flickers with candles. It is a favorite with Acapulco's political and business classes, so you can rest assured its dishes (mostly international fare, with a touch of Mediterranean) and prices are not just aimed at tourists. The starters are very good and of the main courses the fish and seafood dishes tend to be the best options. Dress on the formal side. © NileGuide

editor

Copyright ©2000-2010 Nile Project. All rights reserved.

contact:
tel: +52 744 469 6900
fax: +52 744 446 5328
http://www.brisas.com.mx/

location:
Carretera Escenica, #5255
Acapulco Gro 39867

2 Hotel Las Brisas

panoramio

OUR LOCAL EXPERT SAYS:
Maids will unpack and pack your luggage for you if you ask them, thus making the most of the extra service charge you are obliged to pay.

DESCRIPTION: Las Brisas, opened in 1957, was already one of the world's most famous hotels long before it was listed in "1,000 Places to Visit Before You Die." "Dream It, Feel It, Live It" is the Las Brisas message; generations of lovers have done exactly that, high above Acapulco Bay. Countless celebrities have hidden discreetly in the signature pink and white casitas, where tulipan flowers are strewn across the beds and float in the private swimming pools. The hotel's location is unsurpassed, with each casita positioned to maximize the stunning views from the hillside above the Carretera Escenica. Continental breakfast is delivered daily to each casita. The pink and white automatic jeeps that ferry guests around the property are available for rent – ask for the one "autographed" by Frank Sinatra for a true Rat Pack-era ride. The Chapel of Peace crowns the mountaintop above the hotel and is worth a visit.
Reservations (Mexico City): +52 555 339 1000
Toll free (Mexico): 01 800 506 7903
Toll free (US and Canada): 1 866 221 2961
Accommodations: # of Rooms: 263 suites and villas
Prices: US$254+. Taxes not included. Additional daily charge of $20 in lieu of tips
Payment: Visa, MasterCard, Amex, Cash Check-In: 3:00 pm Check-Out: 1:00 pm Services: bar, daily maid service, concierge, free internet, gym, handicapped accessible, free parking, shuttle service, swimming pool, restaurant, room service, spa, tennis, water sports, beach club, nightclub, 24-hour reception, 24-hour hot water, linens included, wake-up call, laundry service, AC, lounge/common area, meeting facilities, gym, outdoor pool
Additional Information: a member of Leading Hotels of the World, continental breakfast delivered daily to each casita, pink and white automatic jeeps are available for rental © NileGuide

Copyright ©2000-2010 Nile Project. All rights reserved.

Day 3 - Acapulco

QUICK NOTE

DAY NOTE: For a little local history, visit the Fuerte de San Diego, a Spanish fort from the 18th century, which has exhibits on the fort's background, treasure on display, and interesting architecture. Playa Barra Vieja is one of the beaches less frequented by tourists, and you can enjoy delicious drinks and fresh food on the sand for little money and in relative solitude, as well as oceanside horseback riding. Have dinner tonight either here on the beach or at one of the hotel's several excellent restaurants.

contact:
tel: (744) 4823848
http://www.fuertedesandiego.inah.gob.mx/

location:
Calle Hornitos y Morelos, Col. Centro
Acapulco Guerrero 39300

Fort of San Diego

OUR LOCAL EXPERT SAYS:
Bring a bottle of water, come early and take your time to let everything sink in. Views are great all around so take a wander. Combine visit with the colorful Mask Museum which is round the corner. Good toilets, spacious, clean and cool.

DESCRIPTION: "La Fuerte," as it is referred to in town, is the main historical monument in Acapulco and the most important maritime fort along the Pacific coast. Acapulco´s first claim to fame was for being the port for the Nao de China (also known as the Manila Galleon) that brought splendid goods from the Orient, which were then transferred to Veracruz and sent to Europe. Here you will be greeted by the carriage of William of Holland which made its way from Veracruz in the 1840s, replicas of galleons, fine silks, treasure chests and plentiful models. Visitors will also find pre-conquest history, with faces and tools from La Sabana river area, Mezcala faces for the dead, a Mexica altar, information on wall paintings from nearby Pie de la Cuesta and a general insight into Guerrero state ´s pre-Hispanic sites. Nautical fans will be in paradise with probes, hour glasses, sextants, compasses, hoists and marine astrolabes. These compete with military trappings, armor and shields, and delicate, ancient flags and standards. The displays are beautifully conceived, and attentive visitors will note how Mexican artists began to reproduce stylized decorations in their own crafts, with examples from Puebla´s talavera pottery, ceramics from Tonalá, Jalisco, and lacquered furniture from Uruapan and Pátzcuaro, Michoacán. Other influences extend from dress (such as the gaudy, frilly China Poblana costume) to the spread of produce like rice, mangos, pepper and cinnamon.
© NileGuide

contact:
http://www.visitacapulco.com.mx

location:
Access on the Boulevard of Nations, and take a right before arriving at the airport.

Playa Barra Vieja

DESCRIPTION: If you take a turn off to the right on the road to the airport when you see the sign to "Tres Vidas" and drive some 27 kilometers, you'll reach "Barra Vieja". It's an open-sea beach several kilometers long and popular among Acapulco residents and visitors who delight in eating the famous a la talla fish and like to rent horses to ride along the beach enjoying a breathtaking sunset.

Photo courtesy of Playa Barra Vieja.

Copyright ©2000-2010 Nile Project. All rights reserved.

Acapulco GRO

contact:
tel: +52 744 469 6900
fax: +52 744 446 5328
http://www.brisas.com.mx/

location:
Carretera Escenica, #5255
Acapulco Gro 39867

1 Hotel Las Brisas

panoramio

OUR LOCAL EXPERT SAYS:
Maids will unpack and pack your luggage for you if you ask them, thus making the most of the extra service charge you are obliged to pay.

DESCRIPTION: Las Brisas, opened in 1957, was already one of the world's most famous hotels long before it was listed in "1,000 Places to Visit Before You Die." "Dream It, Feel It, Live It" is the Las Brisas message; generations of lovers have done exactly that, high above Acapulco Bay. Countless celebrities have hidden discreetly in the signature pink and white casitas, where tulipan flowers are strewn across the beds and float in the private swimming pools. The hotel's location is unsurpassed, with each casita positioned to maximize the stunning views from the hillside above the Carretera Escenica. Continental breakfast is delivered daily to each casita. The pink and white automatic jeeps that ferry guests around the property are available for rent – ask for the one "autographed" by Frank Sinatra for a true Rat Pack-era ride. The Chapel of Peace crowns the mountaintop above the hotel and is worth a visit.
Reservations (Mexico City): +52 555 339 1000
Toll free (Mexico): 01 800 506 7903
Toll free (US and Canada): 1 866 221 2961
Accommodations: # of Rooms: 263 suites and villas
Prices: US$254+. Taxes not included. Additional daily charge of $20 in lieu of tips
Payment: Visa, MasterCard, Amex, Cash Check-In: 3:00 pm Check-Out: 1:00 pm Services: bar, daily maid service, concierge, free internet, gym, handicapped accessible, free parking, shuttle service, swimming pool, restaurant, room service, spa, tennis, water sports, beach club, nightclub, 24-hour reception, 24-hour hot water, linens included, wake-up call, laundry service, AC, lounge/common area, meeting facilities, gym, outdoor pool
Additional Information: a member of Leading Hotels of the World, continental breakfast delivered daily to each casita, pink and white automatic jeeps are available for rental © NileGuide

Copyright ©2000-2010 Nile Project. All rights reserved.

Day 4 - Acapulco

QUICK NOTE

DAY NOTE: Acapulco's tree-shaded central plaza, El Zocalo, is surrounded by all sorts of small, locally-owned shops, restaurants, cafes, and lots of lively action. Walk around this area to get a feel for the real Acapulco. Also visit the Casa de Dolores Olmedo, where Diego Rivera lived toward the end of his life and created a mosaic that still stands on a wall along a small street. Take a sweet sunset yacht cruise with Yate Fiesta, and then try one of the great curries at Buda for a late dinner on the bay.

contact:
tel: +52 744 434 0170 (Tourist Information)

location:
Costera Miguel Alemán (between San Diego Fort and the Yacht Harbor), Col. Centro
Acapulco GRO 39300

1 Zócalo (El)

OUR LOCAL EXPERT SAYS:
The Cafe Astoria here is a great place to have a strong and bracing black Acapulco coffee, or even a breakfast (prices are fair) while you watch the square's goings on.

DESCRIPTION: The Zócalo was the heart of Spanish Acapulco, founded on December 13, 1521, when Fernando Chico sailed into Acapulco Bay, and remains the most traditional section of the entire city. The busy neighborhood's vital center is a pretty tree-lined plaza between the Church of Nuestra Senora de la Soledad and the bay front avenue, La Costera. The church, built only in 1930, is unusual in Mexico: onion-shaped twin towers covered in blue and yellow tiles resemble those of a Russian Orthodox church.
The plaza's arcades contain restaurants and ice cream stores and if you explore the surrounding side streets you will find decent prices for souvenirs. The cruise ship terminal is within walking distance of the Zócalo and the sidewalks are frequently packed with passengers enjoying a day in port. Walk up the hill behind the church to La Quebrada and watch the cliff divers. © NileGuide

wcities

contact:
tel: (55) 5555-1016
http://www.visitacapulco.com.mx

location:
Acapulco GRO

Casa de Dolores Olmedo

DESCRIPTION: Visit this extraordinary house which was home to one of Mexico's great patrons of the arts. Outside the house is a spectacular mural of an Aztec God by Diego Rivera. The last work he did before his death. This is considered one of the most important cultural works in Acapulco. Diego lived here for 18 years and painted the inside walls with murals to show his appreciation to his host.

contact:
tel: +52 744 482 3859 / +52 744 482 3860

location:
Costera Miguel Alemán, 222

2 Yate Fiesta

DESCRIPTION: This yacht has a capacity of approximately 250 people, and tours all of Acapulco Bay daily. The trip is two and a half hours long, and you'll have the opportunity to watch the sun set while relaxing in the middle of the ocean. During the tour, sights include the homes of famous

Copyright ©2000-2010 Nile Project. All rights reserved.

Acapulco GRO 39390

hours:
Tours: 11a, 4:30p, 10:30p

national and international showbiz and political celebrities. One of the most memorable moments is watching the divers of La Quebrada plunge into the sea. The Yate Fiesta offers snack-bar service. © wcities.com

contact:
tel: 52 744 481 0291

location:
Carretera escénica, s/n
Acapulco Guerrero 39686

hours:
5:30p 11p M Su

3 Buda

wcities

DESCRIPTION: If you are in the mood for a winning combination of delicious food, tranquil atmosphere and spectacular view, then this is your best bet. This top quality restaurant, perched on a hill top, enjoys faving the Bay of Port Marquess and Revolcadero Beach. The friendly staff just adds to the reputation awarded this eatery by patrons – it is distinctly the best restaurant in the port. © wcities.com

contact:
tel: +52 744 469 6900
fax: +52 744 446 5328
http://www.brisas.com.mx/

location:
Carretera Escenica, #5255
Acapulco Gro 39867

4 Hotel Las Brisas

panoramio

OUR LOCAL EXPERT SAYS:
Maids will unpack and pack your luggage for you if you ask them, thus making the most of the extra service charge you are obliged to pay.

DESCRIPTION: Las Brisas, opened in 1957, was already one of the world's most famous hotels long before it was listed in "1,000 Places to Visit Before You Die." "Dream It, Feel It, Live It" is the Las Brisas message; generations of lovers have done exactly that, high above Acapulco Bay. Countless celebrities have hidden discreetly in the signature pink and white casitas, where tulipan flowers are strewn across the beds and float in the private swimming pools. The hotel's location is unsurpassed, with each casita positioned to maximize the stunning views from the hillside above the Carretera Escenica. Continental breakfast is delivered daily to each casita. The pink and white automatic jeeps that ferry guests around the property are available for rent – ask for the one "autographed" by Frank Sinatra for a true Rat Pack-era ride. The Chapel of Peace crowns the mountaintop above the hotel and is worth a visit.
Reservations (Mexico City): +52 555 339 1000
Toll free (Mexico): 01 800 506 7903
Toll free (US and Canada): 1 866 221 2961
Accommodations: # of Rooms: 263 suites and villas
Prices: US$254+. Taxes not included. Additional daily charge of $20 in lieu of tips
Payment: Visa, MasterCard, Amex, Cash Check-In: 3:00 pm Check-Out: 1:00 pm Services: bar, daily maid service, concierge, free internet, gym, handicapped accessible, free parking, shuttle service, swimming pool, restaurant, room service, spa, tennis, water sports, beach club, nightclub, 24-hour reception, 24-hour hot water, linens included, wake-up call, laundry service, AC, lounge/common area, meeting facilities, gym, outdoor pool

Copyright ©2000-2010 Nile Project. All rights reserved.

Additional Information: a member of Leading Hotels of the World, continental breakfast delivered daily to each casita, pink and white automatic jeeps are available for rental © NileGuide

Copyright ©2000-2010 Nile Project. All rights reserved.

Day 5 - Acapulco

QUICK NOTE

DAY NOTE: Get a feel for the natural history of the area with a jungle tour, and hang out at the Parador del Sol for the rest of the afternoon and enjoy the many activities they offer there. For your last Acapulco beach experience, head to Playa Pie de la Cuesta for an amazing sunset. Have dinner at another one of the best restaurants in the area, Madeiras, which of course also has a spectacular view, in addition to courteous service and an intimate ambience.

1 Jungle Tour

contact:
tel: +52 744 85 2200

location:
Barra de Coyuca Kilómetro 5
(Hotel Parador del Sol)
Acapulco GRO 39550

hours:
10a-7p M-Su

DESCRIPTION: Jungle tour includes an excellent panoramic tour of Laguna Coyuca, and a pass by several points of interest. The tour company has its operation base in Marina Pirata, inside the Parador del Sol hotel. After the tour, many choose to spend the rest of the day there, enjoying the many sports and recreation facilities. The cost includes transportation, as the lagoon is located a short distance from Acapulco. © wcities.com

2 Playa Pie de la Cuesta

contact:
http://www.visitacapulco.com.mx/english/actividades.php

location:
Carretera Pie de la Cuesta
Acapulco GRO 39460

DESCRIPTION: World famous for its spectacular and wonderful sunsets, Playa Pie de la Cuesta is located in a small fishing village, only 15 kilometers north of downtown Acapulco. An ideal destination for a relaxing day trip, it has a good selection of restaurants and beach clubs, such as Tres Marías and Villa Rubí. Because this is open sea, the surf is strong and not recommended for swimming. Though the sand is white and fine, which provides the ideal atmosphere for a moonlit evening camping out. © wcities.com

3 Madeiras

contact:
tel: 52 74846921

location:
Carretera Senica
Acapulco Guerrero

DESCRIPTION: Madeiras serves absolutely lovely dinners along with a great view of the famous Acapulco bay. Served different menus are servied each day of the week in a classy atmosphere. All the table have a great view of the bay and the service is flawless. Each menu is four courses for a fixed price. The specialties include lobster, red snapper, chicken, and steak. There is a dress code: no shorts, tennis shoes, or bathing suits. They also have an impressive list of imported wine and liquors, as well as great margaritas. Dinner only; reservations are recommended.

4 Hotel Las Brisas

contact:
tel: +52 744 469 6900
fax: +52 744 446 5328
http://www.brisas.com.mx/

location:
Carretera Escenica, #5255
Acapulco Gro 39867

OUR LOCAL EXPERT SAYS:
Maids will unpack and pack your luggage for you if you ask them, thus making the most of the extra service charge you are obliged to pay.

panoramio

DESCRIPTION: Las Brisas, opened in 1957, was already one of the world's most famous hotels long before it was listed in "1,000 Places to Visit Before You Die." "Dream It, Feel

Copyright ©2000-2010 Nile Project. All rights reserved.

It, Live It" is the Las Brisas message; generations of lovers have done exactly that, high above Acapulco Bay. Countless celebrities have hidden discreetly in the signature pink and white casitas, where tulipan flowers are strewn across the beds and float in the private swimming pools. The hotel's location is unsurpassed, with each casita positioned to maximize the stunning views from the hillside above the Carretera Escenica. Continental breakfast is delivered daily to each casita. The pink and white automatic jeeps that ferry guests around the property are available for rent – ask for the one "autographed" by Frank Sinatra for a true Rat Pack-era ride. The Chapel of Peace crowns the mountaintop above the hotel and is worth a visit.
Reservations (Mexico City): +52 555 339 1000
Toll free (Mexico): 01 800 506 7903
Toll free (US and Canada): 1 866 221 2961
Accommodations: # of Rooms: 263 suites and villas
Prices: US$254+. Taxes not included. Additional daily charge of $20 in lieu of tips
Payment: Visa, MasterCard, Amex, Cash Check-In: 3:00 pm Check-Out: 1:00 pm Services: bar, daily maid service, concierge, free internet, gym, handicapped accessible, free parking, shuttle service, swimming pool, restaurant, room service, spa, tennis, water sports, beach club, nightclub, 24-hour reception, 24-hour hot water, linens included, wake-up call, laundry service, AC, lounge/common area, meeting facilities, gym, outdoor pool
Additional Information: a member of Leading Hotels of the World, continental breakfast delivered daily to each casita, pink and white automatic jeeps are available for rental © NileGuide

Copyright ©2000-2010 Nile Project. All rights reserved.

Acapulco Snapshot

Local Info

Acapulco's first distinction – always a breath-taking sight upon arrival – is its deep horseshoe-shaped bay on the edge of the Pacific Ocean. The full beaches of golden sand are fringed with palms, pools, restaurants and hotels, and a jungly backdrop of green hills that stretch into the rugged Sierra Madre mountain range. This picture-perfect scenery is a still from a movie … many of them, in fact, from the days of Johnny(Tarzan) Weismuller and Rita Hayworth to Elvis Presley and Sylvester Stallone. Its second distinction is its climate. Not known for their modesty, Acapulqueños(as the city's denizens are called), will say their"Acapulquito" has the best weather and swimming temperatures in the whole country. They are probably right. Acapulco's balmy delights first lead you to disrobe, coax you to letting your hair down and before you know it you'll be letting it all hang loose-- no doubt they have contributed to the resort's steamy reputation for carnality and hedonism. However, what no-one on this continent can beat Acapulco at(although Río in Brazil has something of the ring, and Havana in Cuba once used to) is its name … for glamour, romantic sunsets, Hollywood stars, romps on the beach, daring cliff divers, tropical seduction, the birth of disco, the wild antics of the jet-set, presidents, royalty and pop stars, all-night parties, and feasts for each of the senses. This is a two-edged sword for a port-town that has in fact been hosting outsiders and dealing with pirates(and other kinds of human sharks) for centuries, if you consider the days of the Manila Galleon, in the sixteenth century. Acapulco's allure is unique, but sometimes it is hard to live up to a larger-than-life reputation. People try however, and ooze charm and stories as tall as the drink you hopefully will be sipping. Unlike Cancún, whose population is largely a mix of folk from other states, there is a regional character here that is markedly feisty, exuberant, very proud, cheeky and downright wily. Acapulco is easy to reach, less than a four-hour drive from Mexico City, half-an-hour by plane from Juarez International airport and fairly well served with direct flights from destinations in the US. It is also a well-established port of call on cruise ship routes, and its stylish yacht club keeps sailboats from all over. It is now huge, divided into at least three major sections and travelling between them(usually by taxi) is one of the first issues a visitor will have to address. Its main income is from tourism, and it provides most of the income for the whole state of Guerrero and many local people, who have seen it all, speak a little English. Because proximity, and tradition, make Acapulco a magnet for the capital's working and service classes, especially in low season(summer holidays primarily but also Semana Santa), it is also one of the few resorts that genuinely caters to all budgets and most ages. Entertainment runs the whole gamut from tacky to whacky, and sordid to stylish, and you can eat and drink well for a song, as well as pay through the nose for something shriveled up and watered down. You need to be savvy – I don't recommend Acapulco for the guileless – and if you want to get a punch for your peso it certainly helps to speak Spanish and to have some patience. Harbor no illusions … if you are a white, English-speaking foreigner wearing tourist-type clothes, it is inevitable the local folk will start thinking in dollars. Gone are the days when local beauties walked barefoot down from their shacks on the hillside to feed you fresh home-made tamales or tacos from baskets propped on their heads merely hoping for a glint of your appreciative blue eye and maybe a tip. But there is a genuine warmth and hospitality for the visitor who is open-minded and armed with a generous sense of humor. While the Golden Days are melting into myth, the Diamond Days – Acapulco's current phase – are now firmly entrenched. Named for Punta Diamante, the tiny peninsula that now holds a new Banyan Tree hotel, this kicked off when tax incentives at the end of the 90s persuaded investors to try out some luxury developments on and beyond the Carretera Escénica(the"Scenic Highway"). Fortunately there was also a noticeable refurbishment of the old town, Caleta, La Quebrada and the Zócalo and adjacent stretch of seafront – still my favorite part – in the last six years. But the major change has been the massive expansion along Revolcadero Beach, of mega-stores and shopping malls, some housing for locals, restaurants, a conference center, a few hotels, an entertainment center and colossal condominium buildings aiming for the wealthy Mexico City("chilango") market. As a result, Acapulco's tourism profile – already very varied – is changing every month. Only the last year has seen the opening of three landmark hotels(all listed here), while new restaurants and clubs pop up like proverbial mushrooms. Lively events spruce up the calendar year, from a tennis tournament to a string of fancy-dress pilgrimages, an arts festival in the old fort or a daring cliff diving spectacle as the human torch, or a fashion show or baby turtle release experience for children. Nightspots and discos update their floorshows with each new season, hotels bring in new entertainment to lure guests, the Philharmonic tries to make itself heard over the techno beat from the clubs, and efforts to bring in world-famous opera singers happily coincide with a rowdy sand sculpture competition. Keep your eye on this site for what is coming up in January and February 2011.
© NileGuide

History

Imagine an unspoiled paradise on the coasts of the Pacific, where only a few animal species live, with the sun, the sea and the vegetation making up a green and ocher landscape. Thus was Acapulco Bay over 3000 years ago. The first inhabitants of this area were the Nahuas, a tribe that was a predecessor to the Aztecs, according to archaeological findings dating back to over 2000 years ago.

In 1521, Francisco Chico, by order of Hernán Cortés acting on behalf of the Spanish Crown, arrived in this area, the first foreigner ever to step on Mexican territory, and named it Santa Lucía. The newly founded city quickly became an important trading center between Asia and America, with ships constantly coming and going to and from the East, and which brought, among many other goods, spices into America. As a result of the economic boom, the population increased threefold and its wealth attracted the attention of legendary pirates such as Sir Francis Drake, Morgan and Cavendish.

In order to defend the port from the frequent pirate attacks, a castle was built: San Diego Fort, which would later fall prey to an

Copyright ©2000-2010 Nile Project. All rights reserved.

earthquake in the 18th Century, and would be destroyed as a result. Acapulco is, after all, one of the most earthquake-prone areas in the country.

At the beginning of the 19th Century, King Charles IV declared Acapulco aCiudad Oficial(official city) and it became an essential part of the Spanish Crown. In 1810, José María Morelos attacked and burnt down the city during the War of Independence.

Acapulco recovered its importance during the Gold Rush. Many of the ships stopped in the port on their way to Panama, and more than a few of the passengers were so taken by the natural beauty of its beaches that they decided to settle there.

In 1920, Acapulco started its voyage towards becoming an important tourist destination, with the visit of the Prince of Wales and future King Edward VIII. Acapulco's charm had captivated the royalty and they soon recommended the place all around Europe. The idea to create a hotel and trading infrastructure came from a Texan businessman named Pullen, responsible for the construction of what is now known as Old Acapulco. Years later, President Miguel Alemán radically transformed the port, installing electricity, drainage systems, pavements, and building the first road from Mexico DF to the port, which brought much more tourism to the state of Guerrero.

The economy grew and foreign investment increased with it. The year 1950 marked the beginning of the Golden Age of Acapulco. It became the"in" place among millionaires and Hollywood stars. Elizabeth Taylor chose Acapulco for one of her weddings; Sinatra, Eddie Fisher, John F. Kennedy and Brigitte Bardot were regular faces on Acapulco´s beaches.

During the 1960s and 1970s, new hotel resorts were built, and accommodation and transport were made cheaper. It was no longer necessary to be a millionaire to spend a holiday in Acapulco, the foreign and Mexican middle class could now afford to travel to the beautiful city.

During the 1990s, the road known as theRuta del Sol was built, crossing the mountains between Mexico City and Acapulco. The journey only takes about three and a half hours, making Acapulco a favorite weekend destination for Mexico City inhabitants.

Acapulco is still expanding and its infrastructures constantly improving with ever-growing foreign investment. No doubt it is worth visiting this Mexican destination, where the landscape and sunset are still the same as they were when Nahuas admired them from the deserted beaches so many years ago.
©

Hotel Insights

If the port of Acapulco de Juárez, in the state of Guerrero, is one of the favorite places among royalty and celebrities, imagine the variety in terms of entertainment the city has to offer its visitors! Since the early 1960s, Acapulco has been a favorite tourist destination among both Mexicans and foreigners. The tourist boom brought hotel investors to the bay to transform the area entirely, providing a wide range of services and prices.

Acapulco has one of the best hotel infrastructures, with something for everyone, whatever your budget. The road known asRuta del Sol, crosses the mountains into Mexico City. The journey between the two cities is only three and half hours, and has made Acapulco a favorite weekend destination among Mexico City's inhabitants. For this very reason, Acapulco continues to grow and improve in order to provide all its visitors with everything they might need, want or enjoy. Acalpulco continues to grow as a top Mexican destination, without spoiling, needless to say, the natural beauty of the Mexican Sierra Maestra.

Punta Diamante

The list of luxury hotels is lead by the Acapulco Princess, which includes a top Golf Course as part of the services it offers. The Hotel Camino Real, located in the Puerto Marqués, far away from the busy streets of the center in a very exclusive area, is a real experience for its guests. Hotel Las Brisas and Hotel Mayan Palace are two other good options for guests staying in near the Punta Diamante.

Golden Zone(Zona Dorada)

For those who are after luxury and comfort, the best options are Hotel Elcano, Fiesta Americana, the Crowne Plaza Hotel and Park Royal. All of these offer first class services, bilingual staff, and are very near the most"chic" beaches in the bay. Other first class hotels include in the area include the Emporio Acapulco, Hotel El Presidente and Maris.

There is yet another option in terms of accommodation: what are known ashoteles económicos, and rightly so, are often compared to places in Waikiki in Hawaii. These hotels offer basic services and facilities, but are perfect for those who only want somewhere to sleep and some hot water. Some of these economical hotels include the Fiesta Inn.

For those of you who are just happy with somewhere clean to sleep and hot water, the"standard" hotels offer basic services at very reasonable prices, whatever your budget. So don't miss out on coming to Acapulco; if you are on a tight budget, stay at the Hotel Acapulco Malibú, or Hotel Tortuga located on the Costera Miguel Alemán, at the center of all the fun and on one of the best beaches; Bali Hai is another excellent option.

Traditional Zone(Zona Tradicional)

Another option is simply to stay in what are known as First Class hotels, like Hotel Boca Chica, very close to the Beaches of Caleta and Caletilla, one of the most traditional beaches for decades. Near the Papagayo Park, in the shopping area, is the Hotel Parador del Sol, the Pierre Marques, and Playa Suites Acapulco, among many others.

If you are looking for one of thehoteles económicos in Acapulco, try the Hotel Majestic. Situated on a beach which you are bound to have seen in more than one

Copyright ©2000-2010 Nile Project. All rights reserved.

film, it is famous for being one of the most popular destinations during Easter and for New Year's Eve revelries.
©

Restaurants Insights

As is the case with all the Mexican beach destinations where international tourism has flourished, Acapulco has a great number of restaurants, bars and discotheques, each one with a style of its own, offering special dishes and special features which make them worthy of recommendation.

There are restaurants located all along the hotel area, and also in the city center. The latter tend to be more reasonably priced, and mostly specialize in seafood or local cuisine. In the province of Guerrero, the traditional food is rather hot and spicy. Take this into account when ordering food: don't overdo it.

Golden Zone(Zona Dorada)

Variety is the spice of life, or so the Spanish saying(en la variedad está el gusto) goes, and in Acapulco Bay this has been taken very seriously. Taking advantage of tourists' taste for nightlife, the number of discotheques and bars in the bay seems to increase by the day. Popular ones around town include: Baby'O, the legendary Hard Rock Café Acapulco, and its neighbor Planet Hollywood Acapulco. At most of the nightclubs, there is a flat fee upon entry, and thereafter one can drink as much as one wants all night long. The most exclusive discos are in the area known as Las Brisas.

If you prefer slightly quieter places, stop by one of the several piano bars along the coast, like Café del Pacífico, which is an intimately lit romantic hangout. Dino's and Villa Fiore are other fine restaurants that serves Italian cuisine.

Perhaps you would prefer to taste something a little more local? Excellent places for Mexican food include El Zorrito's, or if you are in town for some fine seafood, La Langosta Loca and Pipo's have a wide variety of dishes to please your palate.

If fast food is more your thing, you will find what you are after at places, like California, El Fogón, Shakeys Pizza and Subway.

Punta Diamante

A great place to go dancing is the Palladium or Carlos'n' Charlie's, or you want to simply listen to some great tunes, try Pepe's, a romantic piano bar. If you would rather have an Italian experience, book a table at Restaurante Casanova, which is one of the city's best restaurants. Culinary delicacies all the way from Japan are served at the elegant Suntory and San& Town.

For breakfast, lunch or dinner, Acapulco has an enormous quantity of options to choose from, no matter the occasion, your food preferences or your budget. When it comes to international cuisine restaurants, check out Madeiras, on Calle Coyuca 22. Señor Frogs has a glorious salad and cold meat menu. If you want authentic Mexican, try Los Rancheros.

Traditional Zone(Zona Tradicional)

La Perla is one of Acapulco's best and is conveniently located inside the Hotel Mirador. Why not take advantage of being right next to the sea and try some local seafood at restaurants such as, El Amigo Miguel. For a quick meal on-the-go, Tio Alex is a great choice.
©

Nightlife Insights

Nature gave"the Pearl of the Pacific" a remarkable number of some of the most stunning beaches in the planet. The natural beauty makes Acapulco perfect for those visitors who are after the pleasures of the sun and the sea, and have been searching for the perfect sand and water to relax in, enjoy or play sports in.

In Acapulco there is simply no time to get bored. The price of attractions and entertainment varies, but are never too expensive. If you prefer busy streets and action in general, stick to the center; if you would rather relax on a quiet beach, the part of the Bay known as Las Brisas is your best bet.

Beaches

All the beaches in Acapulco are open to the public, including those near the most exclusive hotel resorts. The following beaches are particularly worth visiting: Barra Vieja, enormous in length Laguna de Tres Palos, which eventually leads to the Pacific; the Beaches of Caleta and Caletilla in old Acapulco and a favorite among the locals; Magic Marine World, Roqueta Island, La Angosta, Playa Condesa and the Laguna de Coyuca. La Isla Roqueta is perfect for snorkelling or windsurfing. While still on the subject of beaches, it's necessary to mention the Beaches of Hornos and Hornitos: a swimmer's paradise; and Icacos Beach, one of the finest places in Acapulco. Playa Pie de la Cuesta is the ideal place to sit and watch the sunset; what you see on the postcards is nothing compared to the magical experience of seeing it live. Surfers find its waters a true paradise. The waves of Port Marqués Bay are not particularly swimmer-friendly, but many people prefer them for water sports. At El Revolcadero you have the chance to ride a horse along the shore and check out stunning views. Other beaches which are well worth visiting include Tamarindos Beach and Tlacopanocha.

Sailing

Sailing in a yacht is one of the favorite activities among tourists who visit the Bay. Although the sea is not entirely calm and one requires some previous experience or simply natural talent to sail, fishing certainly poses no danger. Why not take your rod? You could catch anything from barracudas to sharks. There are special fishing tours you can book: the men in charge of the boats know where to find what you are after, and with their advice and suggestions, your experience is bound to be a success.

Golf

Acapulco is also excellent for playing golf, with two very good golf courses, one of which is at the Fairmont Acapulco Princess,

Copyright ©2000-2010 Nile Project. All rights reserved.

and the other at Pierre Marqués Golf Course, both with 18 holes. There are also several hotels that have tennis courts such as the Hyatt Hotel.

Historical Sights

If you fancy a walk, visit some of the many arts and crafts shops, where a great amount of establishments specialize in Taxco silver and traditional arts and crafts from the Guerrero province. On Sundays, enjoy the folk music and try something special to eat at the Acapulco Garden Club. La Catedral is a chance to look into the history of Acapulco and the Acapulco International Convention Center is famous for the amount of quality shows that run year after year here, particularly concerts from the Acapulco Symphony Orchestra and music festivals. The Acapulco Festival is the world's largest since 1991 and stays current every time with large surprises.

Scenic Walks

During your visit, don't forget to go for a walk along La Quebrada, where, for decades, divers have tried their luck and put their lives at risk by diving from a great height to a narrow and dangerous entry into the Pacific Ocean, from a mountain peak. Yet another of the old attractions of Acapulco. The landscape from up here is beautiful and there is a wide selection of arts and crafts shops and traditional restaurants.

Family Fun

Acapulco offers entertainment for everyone, whatever age, tastes or interests. For the little ones, stop at Magic Marine World or at the CICI, famous slides and water games, as well as all sorts of trained sea animals. ©

Things to Do Insights

Traditional Acapulco

The traditional area of Acapulco is something you simply cannot miss. It was here that the port became an international tourist destination.So because of this we highly recommend the following tour, which will take the entire day, but will be a truly unforgettable experience.

To start with a deliciously nutritious breakfast, stop at 100% Natural restaurant, where dishes are light and exquisite. Afterwards, you only need to cross the street to be at the Beaches of Caleta and Caletilla. These are very popular; they're usually the busiest areas due to their warm, calm waters. Renting a small pedal boat or a jet ski is a great idea. Then, visit Magic Marine World aquarium, located in the centre of both bays.

Once you have toured the aquarium, and enjoyed the pools and slides, for a bite to eat, check out a glass-bottomed boat, which you'll find at the docks. The boatmen feed the fish, so you can see them eating right below your feet. Another attraction is a visit to the Capilla Submarina(Underwater Chapel), which consists of an impressive statue of the Virgen de Guadalupe, as the Queen of the Sea. You will also hear stories about giant manta rays, mermaids and many others that make up a part of the tour and add interest to the trip. Finally, you arrive at Roqueta Island, where you can grab a bite at Palao restaurant. It offers beautifully seasoned seafood and first-class service.

After savoring delightful food, you might want to stop by the Aca-Zoo on this island, which is not a bad idea, but to get there you will need to climb a few little hills to admire the animals in their natural habitat. After finishing this tour you can take advantage of a dip in a part of the ocean with a soft surf and fine sand. Much later, the conductor of the boat that has been rented will return you to your point of departure.

Sunsets in Acapulco are famous. Caleta Beach is one of the best places to see them, with a drink in your hand and a trio singing next to you. This can be a truly unforgettable experience. To put an end to a perfect day, visit the famous Quebrada show. We suggest seeing the 8:30p show because the torchlit diving is very impressive. Next, maybe finish off with a romantic dinner at La Perla restaurant, where you can enjoy traditional Mexican music in a stunning setting. If you are still up for more after your meal, check out a disco. Or you can go dancing on one of the many boats featuring live music, with the starry sky above and the natural sound of the waves surrounding you, we recommend the Bonanza Yacht. It also offers Hawaiian dance shows and a buffet supper included in the admission price.

Pie de La Cuesta Tour

A complete tour of this area requires the use of a car. Renting a car may be the best option: taxis could turn out to be pretty expensive. As you start making your way down the road, you will soon have a view of the sea beside you. This is where the tour starts.

Pie de la Cuesta is located some 6 miles from the center of Acapulco; along the way you will come across several cozy seafood restaurants where you grab breakfast, although a stop at the Tres Marías restaurant, where you will get a taste of the true flavors of the coast is highly recommended. The seafood is caught in the early morning hours so it is always served as fresh as possible. The great attraction of this area is that by simply crossing a narrow street, you will find yourself overlooking spectacular views of either the sea or the lagoon.

On the side of the lagoon, you have the chance to practice a never-ending list of water sports, such as water-skiing, parachuting, jet skiing, sailing and boat racing. However, the real charm of this place is its sunsets, which have given these beaches worldwide fame.

Other activities to keep you occupied on the beach are sports like, volleyball, football, horse-riding, 4-wheeled bikes, and above all, soaking in the Acapulco sun. Hotel Parador del Sol is another excellent option to spend the day at, as the admission price includes the use of all the facilities, that is, the pool, sun-decks, areas for volleyball and football, a buffet, and more.

Very nearby, there's a small port next to the lagoon, which organizes a Jungle Tour. This is a wonderful chance to go on a two-hour

Copyright ©2000-2010 Nile Project. All rights reserved.

boat tour, where you will get to see a small isle inhabited by all sorts of bird species. If you are so lucky as to visit it in the winter, you will be able to see the ducks who have migrated from Canada to the warm waters of Acapulco. But it is not only birds you will have the chance to see here; this is also a great fishing area which provides Acapulco restaurants with most of their fish. This is a truly beautiful tour which is well worth spending some time on while you enjoy being in direct contact with nature.

If you're traveling with children, Pie de la Cuesta also offers an aquatic amusement park, Castillo del Rey León with all sorts of water activities, perfect for the little ones. It has swimming pools, slides, and games which will provide the perfect entertainment for kids and adults alike.

After such a busy day, how about dinner at El Cabrito restaurant? Located on the Costera Dorada, its spacious terrace is the perfect setting for a relaxed and enjoyable evening. Later, enjoy international music at the discos like El Alebrije or Andrómedas.

Diamante Area

The Diamante Area in Acapulco is the newest part in terms of building and development. This is where the luxury hotels and accommodation are to be found. However, there are also some of the most beautiful beaches and places to visit in this area. Here is a guide to the most interesting spots in Diamante.

Start the day with a visit to the Capilla de la Paz(Chapel of Peace), a church of remarkable beauty located at the top of a hill. From here, you can see the whole bay and port of Acapulco—time to get out your cameras! You will also see the most exclusive residential area in town, Hotel Las Brisas, where national and international artists and several millionaires live. If you take a taxi, he or she will be able to show you a few of them.

Continue the tour by stopping off at Los Pavorreales restaurant, where a delicious Mexican breakfast is waiting for you. You can also take the opportunity to go for a ride on the Laguna de Tres Palos, either on a boat or a jet ski, which you can rent. Or simply go for a swim in the pool.

For lunch, stop by Bahía de Puerto Marqués, where there is a wide variety of seafood restaurants offering delicious food at very reasonable prices. We suggest the Cevichería Linda, a place where the variety of cocktails is sure to please the palate.

Now that you're in this bay, you may want to go water-skiing, snorkeling, or rent a jet-ski, which will enable you to reach the most exclusive and private beaches.Pichilingue An excellent place for lunch amongst restaurants located in La Barra, where the Laguna de Tres Palos and the Revolcadero Beach come together to form a beautiful landscape. Here you can go horseriding, as well as swim in the lagoon. It is not advisable to swim in the sea, as the waves can be strong and dangerous. It is, however, possible to go on a panga, a small row-boat, which will give you the chance to get to know the lagoon canals, as well as see all sorts of species of birds in their natural habitat, and picturesque fishing villages.

On your way back, don't miss the chance to visit theGran Turismo hotels, such as Acapulco Princess, Mayan Palace and Pierre Marqués, with wonderful facilities of all sorts. You can stop off at any of these, and enjoy a drink at their lobby bars, with live music, a distinguished ambience and excellent service. Most of the guests at these hotels are foreign tourists.

These hotels also have a large selection of boutiques, offering exclusively designed shoes and accessories which are bound to give you that elegant and sophisticated touch. To end the day, how about a fun night at the disco? Palladium and Pepe's are in the same area and provide splendid quality and service.

TOUR OF THE REGION

The folklore of Guerrero is very varied and of great interest for anybody who comes to visit Acapulco. It's highly recommend to do this tour on a Thursday, as this is the day when most restaurants prepare the most traditional dishes from the area.

The first place you should visit is the Mercado del Campesino, where you will find unique products, not only from Acapulco, but also from all over the region. If you arrive between 8 and 9 in the morning you stand a better chance of purchasing the best products. Although it is small, each of its stalls provides plenty of handicrafts and a wide variety of other objects.

The Fuerte de San Diego museum is another must for soaking in the culture. An impressive Colonial building, it houses pieces of great value which have been found by archaeologists over the years in Acapulco and surrounding areas.

For more archeology, you could go to the Centro Cultural de Acapulco, although here the exhibition is smaller and the objects are of a later date. Perhaps after visiting these museums, you might feel like indulging in a different sort of activity. Why not visit Playas Hornos y Hornitos and Tamarindos, where you can spend the rest of the morning playing water sports and watching the fishermen at work?

If you prefer a more touristy and international atmosphere, try Playa Condesa, a very popular beach, due to its beauty and entertainment facilities.

When hunger strikes, we recommend you go to Los Cazadores restaurant, famous for itsPozole Verde, the local dish par excellence. This is not only worth going to for the excellent food, but it also gives you the chance to see the variety show staged here, so you can easily spend the afternoon here in its festive atmosphere. Another choice could be Los Rancheros restaurant, which, despite not offering a show, does have a terrace with views of the bay, where you can spend a pleasant time listening to the music and the sound of the sea.

Towards the end of the evening, visit the Parque Papagayo, a fair with dolly mollies, Mexican snacks and games. Kids and adults alike will find this place charming and fun.

Round it all off by going to Noche Mexicana Centro de Convenciones, where there is

Copyright ©2000-2010 Nile Project. All rights reserved.

traditional music and dancing, shows, and also the chance to savor an exquisite meal.
©

Travel Tips

Getting There:

By Air:

The Juan N. Alvarez International Airport perches 22.5 kilometers(14 miles) southeast of downtown. Recent major renovations to its terminal, including more restaurants, have made it more visitor-happy.

Juan N. Alvarez International Airport(ACA)+52 744 466 9446http://www.oma.bz/

Its runways are frequented by major airlines such as:

Aeromexico(+1 800 237 6639/http://www.aeromexico.com) American Airlines(+1 800 433 7300/http://www.aa.com) Continental(+1 800 525 0280/http://www.continental.com) Mexicana(+1 800 531 7921/http://www.mexicana.com) US Airways(+1 800 428 4322/http://www.usairways.com)

Private taxis are banned from ferrying passengers from the airport so look for the Transportes Terrestres booths near the baggage claim area. Shared vans average USD10, while taxis range from USD18-USD50. Rides into town take 25-30 minutes.

Rental car companies include:

Alamo(+1 327 9633/ http://www.alamo.com) Avis(+1 800 831 2847/http://www.avis.com) Budget(+1 800 527 0700/http://www.budget.com) Galgo(+52 744 484 3066) Hertz(+1 800 654 3131/http://www.hertz.com)

By Bus:

The Central Camionera Station, north of downtown, is serviced by two major bus lines: Estrella de Oro(+52 744 485 9360) and Estrella Blanca(+52 744 469 2028). Both have air-conditioned buses and provide almost hourly service to Mexico City.

By Car:

Highway 95, a four-to-six lane toll highway, takes 3.5 hours from Mexico City and costs USD50. If time is not a factor but you are looking to save money Highway 95 D, a route that parallels Highway 95, is free but takes six hours from Mexico City due to its excess of continuous curves. Highway 200 wanders into Acapulco from both the north and south. Be careful when driving from the south for it has a history of robberies.

Getting Around Town:

Acapulco sports an extremely efficient bus system. Riders can choose from either its new line of pastel colored buses(USD.40) or its noticeably old school buses(USD.35). Covered bus stops, complete with posted route maps, line the Costera(Acapulco's main hotel/restaurant strip) making buses accessible from almost every street corner. Buses operate from 5A-11P daily.

Taxis are abundant and easy to find. The VW bug cabs are cheaper than the more contemporary"sitio" taxis averaging between USD2-USD10 as compared to USD4-USD12. If you hail a hotel taxi they generally charge three times higher. Because taxi competition is fierce each cab attempts to gain an edge by lavishly decorating their cars with elaborate neon lights so don't be surprised to be picked up by something that resembles a vehicular Liberace. Some of the more prominent upscale cab companies include:

Sitio Escudero:(+52 744 484 0250) Sitio Emancipacion(+52 744 484 7300) Sitio 54 Acapulco Plaza(+52 744 486 2461)

Because of Acapulco's sprawl having a car is handy, but not necessary due to its bus system. If you do drive be aware that parking is tight and is completely banned from the Costera. Street names and numbers are difficult to spot so have a good idea of where you going prior to driving.

Acapulco is not conducive for walking, unless you plan on never leaving the Hotel Zone.
©

Fun Facts

Acapulco State: Guerrero **Country:** Mexico

Acapulco by the Numbers:

Population: 721,100 Land Area: 18 cu km/ 11 sq mi Average Annual Rainfall: 150 cm/ 59 in Average January Temperature: 27°C/ 81°F Average July Temperature: 33°C/ 92°F Average Sunshine Days: 360

Quick Facts:

Major Industries: Tourism, Textiles, Petroleum Electricity: 110-120 volts; standard, flat two-pin plugs Time Zone: GMT-6(GMT-5 daylight saving time); Central Standard Time(CST) Country Dialing Code: 1 Area Code: 744

Did You Know?

Some famous couples who have honeymooned in Acapulco: Jacqueline and John F. Kennedy and Bill and Hillary Clinton.

©

Copyright ©2000-2010 Nile Project. All rights reserved.