

-Oaxaca Fun Facts –

Oaxaca Region: Oaxaca State

Country: Mexico

Oaxaca by the Numbers:

- Population of Oaxaca metro region: 500,970 inhabitants
- Area of Oaxaca State: 36,820 sq. miles (a little larger than the state of Indiana)
- Average Elevation of Oaxaca: 5,000 ft
- Annual Rainfall: 27.4 inches
- Average Winter Temperature: 63 degrees F°
- Average Summer Temperature: 72 degrees F°

Quick Facts:

- Time Zone: Central Time Zone (GMT- 6)
- Country Dialing Code: 52 Area Code: 951
- Currency: Mexican Peso (MXN)
- Electricity: 110volts @ 50Hz Type A-Flat Blade plug
- Major Airport: Xoxocolan Airport (OAX), Puerto Escondido (PXM), and Huatulco (HUX)
- English Newspapers: "Oaxaca Times" & "Oaxaca"
- Spanish Newspapers: "El Imparcial" & "Noticias"
- Principal Industries: Tourism, Folk Arts & Crafts, Agriculture
- UNESCO World Heritage Site (1987) – Living Cultural Center

Did You Know?

- People who live in Oaxaca are called "Oaxaquenos."
- Sixteen different indigenous groups are formally registered within the state.
- Oaxaca State is the original territory of the Pre-Columbian civilizations of the Zapotec and the Mixtec peoples.
- The area was conquered in 1486 by the troops of Aztec Emperor, Ahuizotl, and named "Huaxyacac".
- In Nahuatl (the language of the Aztecs), Oaxaca means "on the top of the Guaje (Acacia) tree."
- In 1532, the King of Spain renamed the city "Nueva Antequera".
- Oaxaca is home to Benito Juarez, the 1st freely elected President of Mexico and Porfirio Diaz, the President of Mexico for the past 30 years.
- Oaxaca City is said to host a festival of some kind every week. The most famous festivals are "Guelaguetza", a native arts/dance festival and "Night of the Radishes" Christmas season celebration.
- The city of Oaxaca is considered by many as "Mexico's Culinary Capital" and is nicknamed "The Land of the Seven Moles". The national dish is "Mole Poblano".
- Made mostly of barbequed grasshoppers, "Chapulinas" is a coveted Oaxacan delicacy.

Places of Interest:

- Monte Alban
- Mitla
- Yagul
- Lambityeco
- Temple of Santo Domingo
- Soledad Church
- Oaxaca Cathedral
- El Tule
- Government Palace
- House of Cortez
- Plaza of the Constitution
- Macedonio Alcalá Theater
- Rufino Tamayo Museum of Pre-Hispanic Art

Orientation:

- Located in large temperate central valley of south central Mexico at 17° 5' N, 96° 45'W.
- Situated between the Sierra Madre Oriental and the Sierra Madre del Sur Mountain ranges.
- Oaxaca City is the capital of the state of Oaxaca, Mexico.
- Mexico City is 322 miles to the southeast; Tehuacán is 143 miles to the southeast; and Puerto Escondido is 167 miles to the northeast.

Oaxaca National Holidays:

- Año Nuevo-January 1st
- Día de la Constitución (February 5th)
- Día de la Bandera (February 24th)
- Benito Juárez Birthday (March 21st)
- Día del Trabajo/Primero de Mayo (Labor Day/May 1st)
- Cinco de Mayo (May 5th)
- Día de la Independencia (September 16th)
- Día de la Raza (Columbus Day/October 12th)
- Día de la Revolución 1910 (November 20th)
- Navidad (December 25th)