

25/25 Acapulco Mexico

In Acapulco, gleaming new additions to the coastline herald the return of glamour to a city that saw its glory days in the 1960s and 1970s. If you embrace the kitsch of Old Acapulco while staying in a new luxury hotel, avoid the spring breakers, and enjoy fresh Pacific seafood at low-key beach shacks, you'll understand why it was so popular in the first place.

Essentials

- 01 Acapulco is in three parts: the newer areas to the south; the Costera running along the bay; and Old Acapulco to the north.
- 02 Take in Old Acapulco's faded charm and Diamante's new additions, but pass on the Costera's hotels.
- 03 Admire the architecture of the great 1950s, 1960s and 1970s villas.
- 04 Avoid the weeks of American spring breaks (late February to mid-March).
- 05 Go see Acapulco's daring clavadistas, who dive from the rocky cliffs at La Quebrada.



Guide/Info

Hotels

Independent and easy

Hotel Boca Chica
Punta Caletilla
+ 49 30 884 940 040
designhotels.com/bocachica

Dependable chain

Fairmont Pierre Marqués
Playa Revolcadero
+ 52 744 435 2600
fairmont.com/pierremarques

Premium

Las Brisas Beach Club
5255 Carretera Escénica
+ 52 744 469 6900
brisas.com.mx

Dining

Fast breakfast

Any branch of
100% Natural
100natural.com.mx

Leisurely breakfast

Los Flamingos Hotel
Avenida Adolfo López
Mateos between Caleta
beach and La Quebrada
+ 52 744 482 0690
hotellosflamingos.com

Mid-morning coffee

Pierre's Café and
Delicatessen
Fairmont Pierre Marqués,
Playa Revolcadero
+ 52 744 435 2600
fairmont.com/pierremarques

Lunch with friends

El Cano Diamante
Carretera Barra Vieja,
km3.5
+ 52 744 444 5400

Picnic spot

Playa Pie de la Cuesta
Head north out of
Acapulco for 10km
on MEX 200 highway

Lunch on your own

La Cabaña de Caleta
Playa Caleta (east)
+ 52 744 469 8553
lacabanadecaleta.com

Sunset cocktail

Sunset Bar at Las Brisas
5255 Avenida Escénica
+ 52 744 469 6900
brisas.com.mx

Dinner for two

Zibu
Avenida Escénica
(no number)
+ 52 744 433 3058
zibu.com.mx

Dinner with friends

Tres Marias
Restaurante y Bar
Playa Pie de la
Cuesta, km1.5
+ 52 744 460 0178

Barbecue spot

Restaurant Beto Godoy
Carretera Acapulco-
Pinotepa, km32
+ 52 744 444 6101
restaurantbetogodoy.com

Big dinner with friends

Becco al Mare
14 Avenida Escénica
+ 52 744 446 7402
beccoalmare.com

Late drinks

The deck at Zuntra
Avenida Escénica inside of
Marina Brisas Acapulco
neighbourhood.
+ 52 744 446 5601
zuntra.com.mx

Reading

You can buy international
newspapers and
magazines at any branch
of the Sanborns store.
sanborns.com.mx

Basics

Pharmacy at any
branch of Sanborns.
sanborns.com.mx

Shopping

Something you can't get anywhere else

You can buy fresh
fish from the seafood
market at Puerto Marqués

Lost luggage – where to buy shirts, socks and underwear

La Isla Shopping Village
18 Boulevard de las
Naciones

Something for the kids

Crafts from the central
market
Mercado Central, Zona
Tradicional

Something for someone you love

Guayabera shirts and
espadrilles from Emil
Plaza Bahía
Costera Miguel Alemán
+ 52 744 486 1516

Something for yourself

Mezcal Don Fili from
La Europea
2908 Costera Miguel
Alemán
+ 52 744 484 8043

Two-hour tour

- 01 Visit the historical
museum at the Spanish
fort Fuerte de San Diego
Calle Hornitos
Calle Morelos
+ 52 744 482 3828
- 02 Watch the cliff divers
at La Quebrada.
Plazoleta de la Quebrada,
Old Acapulco
- 03 Check out Zócalo,
the main square, and
Nuestra Señora de la
Soledad Church,
Old Acapulco

Limousine/car

Most hotels and fine
restaurants have taxi ranks;
if not, they will call a cab
for you. If you are staying
at a private home or villa,
call the nearest hotel and
they will send a taxi to
wherever you are.

Transport

Taxis are cheap and safe,
but make sure to call
ahead for one.

Fitness

Good gym

Stick with the hotel gym,
as there are not very many
local ones.

Good running route

Head east from the
Fairmont Pierre Marqués
along the beach into the
newly developed
Diamante zone.

Alternative diversion

Embark on a fishing
excursion on the Pacific.
Fish R Us
100 Costera Miguel
Alemán
+ 52 744 482 8282
fish-r-us.com