

25/25 Acapulco Mexico

Drug violence in Acapulco ebbs and flows, and though a recent spate has edged down tourism, the line of new hotels and high-rises extending the city's famous twinkling shoreline shows that its renaissance as a glitzy resort is on its way. Stay in an ocean-view suite, have a Margarita at sunset, and you'll see why 1960s Hollywood once viewed Acapulco as the pearl of the Mexican Pacific.

Essentials

- 01 Getting around is relatively painless. Many places are walkable, buses are cheap and taxis are plentiful.
- 02 Avoid the crowds in the centre and venture south for daytime swimming.
- 03 Stay sharp out on the town; don't sport your flashiest jewellery.
- 04 Don't miss the decadent charm of Old Acapulco's 1950s and 1960s architecture.
- 05 Do watch the boats roll into the bay as night falls at Las Brisas hotel's Sunset Bar.



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

Banyan Tree Cabo Marques
Blvd. Cabo Marqués, Lote 1
Col. Punta Diamante
+ 52 744 434 0100
banyantree.com/en/cabomarques

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
hotelosflamingos.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

Pampano (formerly
Madeiras)
Carretera Escenica 33 Bis
Playa Guitarron
+ 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 Bahia
Costera Miguel Alemán
+ 52 744 486 1516

Something for yourself

B & B Jewelry, a large
store and factory
Papagayo Park, Avenida
Costera Miguel German
+ 52 744485 6270

Two-hour tour

- 01 Take a cruise along the
bay
Playa Tlacopanocha,
Playa Manzanillo
- 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

Enroll on a scuba-diving
course
Acapulco Scuba Center
Paseo del Pescador 13
Col. Centro
+ 52 744 482 9474
acapulcoscuba.com

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