

MEXICO

Culture

1. Religion

-The main religion in Mexico is **Catholicism (88%)**.

-Important religious celebrations are **Día de los Muertos(DAY OF THE DEAD)** It is a day when family and friends gather together to pray for the deceased the time is **at 31 Oct - 2Nov**

And

Las Posadas It is a religious holiday in Mexico that commemorates the journey of the Virgin Mary and Saint Joseph from Nazareth to Bethlehem in search of the birthplace of Jesus. The tradition is celebrated over several days from **December 16 to Christmas Eve** and includes a caroling procession led by children dressed as angels, as well as food, hot drinks and piñatas.

2. Festival and traditions

-Day of dead

-Cinco de Mayo: commemorates the Battle of Puebla

-Independence Day (16 September)

3. Music

-Music genres like mariachi, ranchera, and banda are integral, often accompanied by dance forms like the jarabe tapatío (Mexican hat dance).

4. Gourmet food

Popular dishes:

-Taco

-Tamales

-Quesadillas

Street Food:

-Elote

-tostadas

Desserts

-Churros

-Flan

Drinks

-Agua Fresca

-horchata

5. Language

-Spanish is the official language, though numerous indigenous languages are spoken, including Nahuatl, Maya, and Mixtec.

6. Their greeting is very warm, with a hug, a kiss on the cheek or a handshake often used between acquaintances.

7. Sport

-Soccer (fútbol) is the most popular sport, followed by boxing and lucha libre (Mexican wrestling), which have a strong cultural presence.

8. Clothing

Women:

-huipil



-rebozo



-china poblana



-tehuana dress



Men

-Charro Suit



-Sarape



-Sombrero



Indigenous and Regional Attire

-Jalisco Dress



-Oaxacan Clothing: Oaxaca is known for its intricately woven and embroidered clothing, including blouses, skirts, and rebozos, often adorned with floral designs and vibrant colours.

-Mayan and Aztec-Inspired Clothing



History

Pre-Columbian Civilization (2000 BC to AD 1521): Home to advanced civilizations such as the Olmec, Maya, and Aztec, Mexico is known for its impressive cities, temples, and cultural achievements.

Spanish Conquest (1519–1521): Spanish explorer Hernán Cortés led the conquest of the Aztec Empire, marking the beginning of nearly 300 years of Spanish colonial rule.

Colonial Period (1521–1821): Mexico, known as New Spain, was a wealthy colony under Spanish control, with a mixed culture emerging from indigenous and European influences.

Independence and Early Republic (1810–1876): Mexico gained independence from Spain in 1821 after a decade of struggle. The country faced political instability, economic challenges, and territorial losses, including the Mexican-American War (1846–1848).

Reform and French Intervention (1857–1876): The Reform War led to liberal reforms. France briefly established the Second Mexican Empire (1864–1867) before being ousted by republican forces.

Porfiriato and Revolution (1876–1920): Porfirio Díaz's long rule brought modernization but also inequality. The Mexican Revolution (1910–1920) led to social reforms and the 1917 Constitution.

Post-Revolution and Modern Mexico (1920–present): The Revolutionary Institutional Party (PRI) dominated Mexican politics for much of the 20th century. Modern Mexico continues to evolve, balancing cultural heritage with contemporary challenges like economic inequality and violence.

Detail for Olmec, Maya, and Aztec

Olmec Civilization (c. 1500–400 BCE): Often considered the "mother culture" of Mesoamerica, the Olmecs developed complex societies, monumental architecture, and early forms of writing and art.

Maya Civilization (c. 250–900 CE): Known for advanced mathematics, astronomy, and a sophisticated writing system, the Maya built impressive cities like Tikal and Palenque.

Aztec Empire (c. 1300–1521 CE): The Aztecs, centered in Tenochtitlan (modern-day Mexico City), dominated much of Mesoamerica. They had a strong military, a complex religion, and built vast cities.