Sad but True: We’ve been scammed, constantly

Here are some of our personal experiences and tips on how to avoid getting scammed next time

When traveling to any foreign country, it's important to be aware of common scams and to take steps to protect yourself. Unfortunately, Mexico is no exception, and there have been reports of scams in restaurants, shops, and drug stores. Here are a few things to watch out for when it comes to pricing in Mexico:

1. Hidden fees: Some restaurants and shops in Mexico may not show the prices of their products or services, or may not show the full price. This can lead to hidden fees or surcharges, which can add up quickly and significantly increase the final cost of your purchase.
2. Unmarked prices: It's common for some places to not have prices on the menu or in the store, making it difficult for customers to know how much they are paying until they receive the bill.
3. No receipts: Some shops or restaurants may not provide receipts after a purchase, which can make it difficult to dispute any charges or hidden fees. This can also make it hard to claim taxes or refunds on your purchases.
4. Pressure to buy: Some shopkeepers or street vendors may use high-pressure tactics to convince you to buy something. They may claim that it's a one-time offer or that the item is only available for a limited time.
5. Counterfeit currency: Be aware of the currency you are receiving and check if the bills are authentic. Some vendors may try to give you counterfeit money or bills that are no longer in circulation.

It's important to be aware of these scams and to take steps to protect yourself. One way to do this is by always asking for the price of an item or service before making a purchase. Also, always ask for a receipt after a purchase, and check it carefully for any hidden fees or charges. It's also a good idea to have a good idea of the exchange rate and to bring small bills and coins with you to avoid overpaying.

It's important to note that not all vendors or shopkeepers in Mexico are trying to scam you, and many are honest and reliable. However, it's always a good idea to be aware of potential scams and to take steps to protect yourself.