



NEAR  
BY

## **HERIBERTO JARA CORONA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT**

Veracruz - Paso de Ovejas road, Las Bajadas  
Tels. (229) 934 90 08 / 934 53 72

## **BANKS**

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296 Cinco de Mayo Ave., Downtown  
Tel. (229) 932 76 41

1027 Independencia, Downtown  
Tel. (229) 989 13 10

- **BBVA**

Road to San Juan de Ulúa, Plaza Bandera,  
Aduana Marítima  
Tel. (229) 931 07 07

993 Independencia, Downtown,  
between Juárez and Emparan

1259 Cinco de Mayo, Downtown  
Tels. (229) 931 0962 /  
(229) 178 19 44 / 938 90 93 /  
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- **HSBC**

1028 Independencia, Downtown  
Tels. (229) 932 50 58 / 931 25 63 /  
932 60 36

- **Santander**

1000 Independencia, Downtown  
Tel. (229) 932 62 40

## MOVIE THEATERS

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Las Américas Shopping Center  
Tels. (229) 130 03 85 / 922 61 00

- **Cinépolis Las Brisas**

1150 Rafael Cuervo  
Tel. (229) 986 71 84

- **Cinépolis VIP El Dorado**  
El Dorado Shopping Center  
Tel. (229) 923 19 99
- **Cinemex Soriana Boca del Río**  
Ruiz Cortines Ave., at the corner of Juan Pablo II  
Tels. (229) 922 79 31 and 32
- **Cinemex Soriana Pinos**  
Los Pinos, Rafael Cuervo Ave., no number  
Tel. (229) 980 98 26
- **Cinemex Andamar**  
Andamar Shopping Center  
Tel. 800 710 88 88

## SHOPPING CENTERS

- **Plaza Acuario Shopping Center**  
Ávila Camacho Blvd., no number,  
Flores Magón, 91900, Veracruz, Ver.  
Tel. (229) 931 10 20
- **Plaza Las Américas Shopping Center**  
Las Américas Ave., no number,  
Ylang Ylang, 94298, Boca del Río, Ver.  
Tel. (229) 921 98 30

- **Plaza Mocambo Shopping Center and Mocambo Select**

S.S. Juan Pablo II Ave., no number,  
Jardines del Virginia, 94294, Boca del Río,  
Ver.

- **Andamar Shopping Center**

4300 Adolfo Ruiz Cortines Blvd.,  
Arrecifes, 94298, Boca del Río, Ver.  
Tel. (229) 688 37 07

- **El Dorado Shopping Center**

4405 Riviera Veracruzana Blvd.,  
El Novillero, 94290, Boca del Río, Ver.  
Tel. (229) 986 11 96

## PHARMACIES

- **Farmacias del Ahorro**

432 Paseo Insurgentes Veracruzanos, Faros,  
91700, Veracruz, Ver.  
Tel. (229) 937 35 25

1497 Independencia Ave., at the corner of  
Mario Molina, 91700, Veracruz, Ver.

Tel. (229) 937 352

- **Farmacias Guadalajara**

1429 Cinco de Mayo, Downtown, 91700,  
Veracruz, Ver.

Tel. (229) 931 90 59

905 Tuero Molina, Downtown, 91700,  
Veracruz, Ver.

Tel. (229) 937 88 32

## CHURCHES

- **Parroquia de la Asunción**

173 Independencia, Historic Center

Tel. (229) 932 48 29

- **Iglesia Católica La Pastora**

207 Constitución, between Independencia  
and Cinco de Mayo, Historic Center

Tel. (229) 932 32 60

- **Iglesia Nacional Evangélica**

161 Carranza, Ricardo Flores Magón

Tel. (229) 932 69 22

- **Iglesia Nacional Presbiteriana: El Buen Pastor**

245 Veinte de Noviembre, Downtown

Tel. (229) 932 29 15

- **Primera Iglesia Bautista**

243 General Prim Ave., Downtown

Tels. (229) 937 61 99 and 921 44 41

## **NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF IMMIGRATION**

Tel. (229) 989 72 50

311 Miguel Lerdo, at the corner of Cinco de Mayo

Tel. (229) 200 20 17

## **AIRLINES**

- **Continental Airlines**

Heriberto Jara Corona International Airport

Tels. (229) 938 6066 and 938 6088

- **Aeroméxico**

Adolfo Ruiz Cortines Lote 6, Int. 1

952 Simón Bolívar, Ignacio Zaragoza

Tels. (229) 925 22 51 and 925 22 54

- **Interjet**

Plaza Boka, Adolfo Ruiz Cortines Ave.,

Jardines del Virginia, 94294, Veracruz, Ver.

## TOWN HALL

Independencia Ave., no number

## MEDICAL SERVICES

- Sociedad Española de Beneficencia  
995 Dieciséis de Septiembre  
Tel. (229) 931 40 00 Emergencies

- Sanatorio Mareke  
1828 Dieciséis de Septiembre  
Tel. (229) 931 12 12

- IMSS  
Tels. (229) 922 13 40 and 932 27 05

## GROUND TRANSPORTATION

- Línea UNO and ADO GL Bus Lines  
1698 Salvador Díaz Mirón Ave.  
Tels. (229) 925 31 90 / 130 25 68 and 800  
702 80 00

- Autobuses de Oriente ADO Bus Line  
1698 Salvador Díaz Mirón Ave.  
Tels. (229) 937 57 44 / 937 57 88 and 937  
66 77

# A BRIEF HISTORY OF VERACRUZ

Mexico's second largest port, Veracruz is a major commercial and industrial center. Founded by Hernán Cortés in 1519 with the name Villa Rica de la Vera Cruz, the city experienced rapid development as a major economic center. Consequently, it was attacked several times by pirates and buccaneers during the colonial era. The French bombarded and occupied the port in 1838, U.S. troops did the same in 1846, in 1861 the French landed there to invade the country, and in 1914, it was again bombarded and occupied by U.S. soldiers. It played a major role in Mexico's civil wars and was practically the capital of Mexico when presidents Juárez and Carranza each resided there. It's been given the official name of Cuatro Veces Heroica Veracruz (Four Times Heroic Veracruz).

# IN VERACRUZ?

## **VERACRUZ AQUARIUM**

The best aquarium in Latin America, located on Ávila Camacho Blvd. (Playa de Hornos). Operating hours: Monday thru Friday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays, 9 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

## **MARITIME CUSTOMS**

Built on what was once the old Pontones berth, this late 19th-century building was opened by President Porfirio Díaz in 1902. Architecturally speaking, it's a building consisting on meanders, battlements, and plinths. Please dial the Express Line and an agent will inform you of location and visiting hours.

## **SANTIAGO BULWARK**

One of nine bulwarks that protected the city in 1635. Please dial the Express Line and an agent will inform you of location and visiting hours.

## **CATHEDRAL OF NUESTRA SEÑORA DE LA ASUNCIÓN**

Not long after its founding, Veracruz erected its parish church, today the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Assumption, consecrated on June 13, 1734. Please dial the Express Line and an agent will inform you of location and visiting hours.

## **CHAPEL OF SANTO CRISTO DEL BUEN VIAJE**

One of the oldest chapels in the Americas, it has housed a figure of a Black Christ—the guide of travelers—since 1598. Located at the edge of the La Huaca neighborhood, the area is considered the city’s geographic center. Please dial the Express Line and an agent will inform you of location and visiting hours.

## **POST AND TELEGRAPH OFFICE**

A gorgeous building with elegant pilasters, Ionic columns, a triangular pediment, and two entrances flanked by imposing lions. The land on which the building was erected was reclaimed from the sea. Please dial the Express Line and an agent will inform you of location and visiting hours.

## LA PRUEBA CIGAR FACTORY

Old cigar factory offering a great tradition going back over 125 years. Workers would listen to music and someone would read them a book in order to strengthen the industrious spirit. Please dial the Express Line and an agent will inform you of location and visiting hours.

## VENUSTIANO CARRANZA LIGHTHOUSE

Old lighthouse that as of May 21, 1935, is occupied by the Navy Department, which carries out administrative functions for the third naval zone. It was occupied by U.S. troops in 1914. Years later, President Venustiano Carranza used it as government offices. It currently houses the Oceanographic Institute of the Gulf and Caribbean Sea as well as the Department of Hydrography. Please dial the Express Line and an agent will inform you of location and visiting hours.

## SAN JUAN DE ULÚA FORT

Fortress built in the 17th century to defend the city during the colonial era. It was later turned into a hospital, prison, and the

museum it is today. It's interesting to note that in 1859, Benito Juárez took refuge here, when he fled from the conservatives. Please dial the Express Line and an agent will inform you of location and visiting hours.

## **GRAN CAFÉ DE LA PARROQUIA**

The Gran Café de la Parroquia is an iconic restaurant and café in the port of Veracruz. Famous for its traditions, family atmosphere, and café lechero (espresso and steamed milk). Located at 34 Paseo del Malecón and Valentín Gómez Farías in the city's Historic Center. Considered the most famous restaurant-café in all of Mexico. Their motto is "Coffee how it should be."

Officially, the Gran Café de la Parroquia started in 1808, year of the rise of Pulpería de la Principal, a business at first located on the corner of the porticoes on Parroquia Avenue, also known as Main Street, right in front of Parroquia de Nuestra Señora de la Asunción, now the Cathedral of Veracruz. Hence, the name given to the city's main street, and consequently to the shops and businesses along it.

At first, according to how taxes were paid in those days, the business sold beverages such as coffee, wine, aguardientes, mistelle, and imported European food. Please dial the Express Line and an agent will inform you of location and visiting hours.

## **VERACRUZ INSTITUTE OF CULTURE**

Formerly an 18th-century Bethlehemite convent and hospital. Today, it's a cultural center where they put on interesting exhibitions, performances, music, and literature from the state. Please dial the Express Line and an agent will inform you of location and visiting hours.

## **LA CASITA BLANCA**

In the house that was home to famed Mexican poet and musician Agustín Lara, there is currently a museum devoted to his life and work. Please dial the Express Line and an agent will inform you of location and visiting hours.

## LOS PORTALES

Traditional meeting place for personalities, tourists, parishioners, and sailors. Here, you can try a broad sampling of regional and international cuisine and listen to the sound of the marimba and son jarocho. Please dial the Express Line and an agent will inform you of location and visiting hours.

## WAX MUSEUM

You'll find representations of a number of historical, entertainment, political, and religious leaders from Mexico and the world. Located at Plaza Acuario, Ávila Camacho, no number. Operating hours are Monday to Thursday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Friday to Sunday 10 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

## CITY MUSEUM

The Antiguo Hospicio Manuel Gutiérrez Zamora was opened in 1970 as a museum and cultural center. Please dial the Express Line and an agent will inform you of location and visiting hours.

## **MEXICO NAVAL MUSEUM**

The Mexico Naval Museum is located in the city of Veracruz. Its primary purpose is to display, conserve, and preserve the cultural assets of the Mexican Navy as well as that related to major historic international maritime events in which the Mexican Navy has participated. The museum was founded at the first headquarters of the Military Naval School on July 1, 1997. Please dial the Express Line and an agent will inform you of location and visiting hours.

## **RIPLEY'S MUSEUM**

One of the most modern venues for the international Ripley's Museum is the one in Veracruz. Inside you can check out wonderful objects like a miniature circus, a collection of jewels, and fun, interactive exhibits like the bed of nails.

Located at 57 Manuel Ávila Camacho Blvd., Plaza Acuario, Ricardo Flores Magón, 91900, Veracruz, Ver.

Operating hours: Monday thru Friday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays, 9 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Tel. (229) 93 27 450

## **CIVIL REGISTRY**

19th-century building with a gorgeous stained glass window by Mexican artist Alberto Beltrán. Please dial the Express Line and an agent will inform you of location and visiting hours.

## **HOUSE OF THE REFORM**

Old San Francisco Church, built in 1715. This is where Benito Juárez read the Reform Laws of 1859. Today it houses the Constituents Museum. Please dial the Express Line and an agent will inform you of location and visiting hours.

## **FRANCISCO JAVIER CLAVIJERO THEATER**

Old period building where Benito Juárez was notified that the Reform War had been won by the Liberals. The building has endured many fires. Please dial the Express Line and an agent will inform you of location and visiting hours.

# DAY TRIPS

## ALVARADO

Over the years, the port of Alvarado has become one of the largest fishing ports in Veracruz. It has an interesting history and a peculiar shellfish cuisine.

It's a quiet place with a warm climate. In addition to delicious food and cheerful people, you can find a major natural site: the Alvarado lake system, where you can sail and see where the Limón, Acula, Papaloapan, and Blanco rivers meet the sea. Fishing is also a major activity at this lake, one of the most important economic activities at this port.

## CATEMACO

The rustic charm of Catemaco and Los Tuxtlas with their mystical lakes, the Nanciyaga ecological reserve, the Eyipantla Falls, the Basílica del Carmen church, and surrounding areas of lush vegetation attract visitors to this small paradise.

## CEMPOALA

Cempoala, or Zempoala (from Nahuatl “twenty waters”), is a Mesoamerican archeological site located in the municipality of Úrsulo Galván, in the state of Veracruz, Mexico. The word Cēmpoalli comes from the Nahuatl roots Cēmpoal, which means “twenty,” and “ā(tl),” meaning “water,” perhaps because the city had a great many irrigation canals and aqueducts that provided water to the many surrounding gardens and farm fields. The place was primarily inhabited by the Totonac, Chinantec, and Zapotec.

Cempoala is located on a flat, coastal plain 4 miles from the Gulf of Mexico and less than a mile from the banks of the Actopan River (also called Chachalacas River).

The Cempoala site museum opened to the public in the 1960s. The building is located at the entrance to the walled city, surrounded by gardens. It was established at what was the encampment for the archeologists who carried out their work in the area.

The building has four rooms where it displays the museum collection comprised of recovered archeological artifacts from

different eras. There are anthropomorphic and zoomorphic figures, daily use articles like mortuary yokes, axes, and dishes for common and ritual use. In the museum you can also see architectural elements like battlements and mural paintings.

## **COATEPEC**

Just ten minutes from the city of Xalapa. It's approximately 6 miles from the state capital, a Mexico Department of Tourism-designated Magical Town, thanks to the efforts of its inhabitants to conserve its cultural and historical richness. It's known for its coffee production and is often referred to as Mexico's Coffee Capital.

## **JALCOMULCO**

Located on the edge of La Antigua River, it's become the perfect site for rock climbing and rappel, as it features many interesting ravines like Tuzamapan Hill and Cotlamanis Hill, throughout which can be found different degrees of rapids for rafting.

## LA ANTIGUA VILLA RICA DE LA VERACRUZ

Site where Hernán Cortés made landfall in 1519 and erected the first town hall, which was moved to the town of Antigua in 1524. Here, you can see the house of the conquistador and the Rosario Hermitage, considered to be the first Catholic Church built in the continental New World.

## LOS TUXTLAS

A region located in the state of Veracruz, Mexico. Its name comes from the Nahuatl word *toxtli*, which means “rabbit” or “yellow birds.” This region has an ecological reserve that is recognized by many countries worldwide. Its territorial expanse includes nine municipalities and small parts of others.

The climate varies from tropical to humid subtropical, due to the different altitudes of the region. The central part has west-inclined basin and is home to Lake Catemaco. Other lesser lakes include La Encantada, Chalchoapan, and Lake Majahual.

The region is home to the lush vegetation of the evergreen high forest and has been subject to intense agricultural exploitation

since pre-Hispanic times. Major agricultural products include corn, beans, sugar cane, and tobacco. Other activities include fishing, cattle raising, industry, and tourism.

In December, they perform the Christmas-time tree branch tradition. Places of interest for visiting in the Tuxtlas region include: Los Tuxtlas Biosphere Reserve, Regional Museum of San Andrés Tuxtla, Santa Clara Cigar Factory, Tuxteco Regional Museum, Eyipantla Falls, Encantada Lagoon, and Tres Zapotes Site Museum.

## **CHACHALACAS BEACH**

A quiet beach where you can enjoy the dunes that stretch out toward the sea, giving the appearance of a vast desert. It's the perfect place for an afternoon spent riding an ATV. The beach has a calm surf and you can practice water sports and scuba diving in the ocean.

## **TAJÍN**

El Tajín is a pre-Hispanic archeological site near the city of Papantla, Veracruz, Mexico. The city of Tajín is believed to have been the capital of the Totonac empire, reaching its

peak in the transition to the Post-Classic period, also known as the Mesoamerican Epiclassic Period, between the years 800 and 1150 A.D. It features several Mesoamerican ball courts and pyramid plinths. Tajín means City of Thunder in the Totonac language.

Located at an altitude of 394 feet between the Cazonas and Tecolutla river basins, it's a warm, tropical climate. It's four miles from Papantla de Olarte, Veracruz, and 10 minutes from Poza Rica, Veracruz, on the Canoas-Martínez de la Torre road.

This pre-Hispanic city was named a World Heritage Site, as it is an exceptional testament to the greatness of Mexico's pre-Hispanic cultures, and an outstanding example of their architecture. On December 14, 1992, the pre-Hispanic site of El Tajín, located in the northern region of the state of Veracruz, was named a Tangible Cultural Heritage.

## **TLACOTALPAN**

River town that has exceptionally maintained its original urban structure, known for its broad streets and Porfirian architecture

lined by colorful porticoes. Its nationally renowned for its traditional Feast of the Virgin of the Candelaria, held January 31 to February 9 on the Papaloapan River, where you can find a varied culinary sampling of the region's specialties. Additionally, its charm has earned it international recognition as a World Heritage Site (Kyoto, 1998).

Places of interest for visiting in Tlacotalpan include: Church of the Candelaria, Rafael Murillo House, Zaragoza Square, Salvador Ferrando Museum, and the Miniature Zoo.

## **XALAPA**

A college town, brimming with culture thanks to the schools, libraries, and museums like the extraordinary Anthropology Museum. That's where you'll find the best preserved examples of the Olmec culture, in an architectural space that has been awarded by the Society of Mexican Landscape Architects. It features many parks and green areas, considered excellent examples of the typical plant life of the cloud forest including: Paseo de los Lagos,

La Haya Park, Macuiltepec Ecological Park, and the Cloud Forest Sanctuary, all great places to bring the kids.

## **XICO**

Naturally, attractions at Xico include the town itself with its cobblestone streets and colonial-era houses. It's a blend of the indigenous and the Spanish. Of course there are its vast forests full of plants and animals, creeks, and waterfalls.

## **CEMPOALA ARCHEOLOGICAL SITE**

Totonac ruins where you can see several temples, featuring a site museum with major artifacts found in the area.

