


MEXICO

COLIMA

OCCIDENTE



ENGLISH VERSION

 **CONACULTA**



Instituto Nacional
de Antropología
e Historia

Colima



It was founded in 1527 as the Villa (Town) of San Sebastián de Colima. Its long history is reflected in a large number of diverse monuments, such as the **Cathedral** and its famed half-dome cupola; the **Government Palace**, with murals by Colima artist Jorge Chávez Carrillo; the **Regional Museum of History**; the



Cathedral, Colima.

Church of La Merced, among the few in the city built of stone; the **Church of the Sangre de Cristo**, with vestiges of a 16th-century hermitage; the **Church of San José**, often regarded as the most beautiful in Colima; and the **Church of San Felipe de Jesús** (the **Beaterio** or **Parish of the Sagrario**), one of the few with its original 18th-century structure, now housing the parish archives. It also has places such as the **Municipal Historical Archive**, housed in a typical 19th-century Colima-style house; the **Regional Museum** and the **Museum of West Cultures**; **Álvaro Obregón Market**; **Hidalgo Park and Theatre**, in honor of the Independence hero's brief stay in this city; **Gregorio Torres Quintero (Jardín Chiquito)**, **Libertad**, **Juárez**, and **Núñez** gardens; the **Federal Palace**, now the post of-



PHOTO: © GPTM/RICARDO ESPINOSA-REO

Libertad Garden, Colima.

office; the **Painting Collection of the University of Colima**. Visit **Piedra Lisa Park**, the **Gringo Cemetery**, and the **Centro Nacional Editor de Discos Compactos** of the University of Colima, a pioneer in the field of Information Technology in Mexico.

Manantlán Sierra Biosphere Reserve



It is the most important protected natural area in West Mexico as a result of its natural wealth and its size; more than 139,500 ha (344,712 acres) housing some 2,900 plant and 560 animal species. It's ideal for outdoor activities like camping, animal-, and plant-watching.

Coquimatlán



This town, which still preserves its colonial feel, has a number of natural attractions, such as **Los Amiales** resort, with a small spring of cold, crystal-clear water. Visit the **Church of San Pedro Apóstol** in the center of town.

Comala



Named a "magical town" by the Mexican Tourism Ministry for its traditional charm, its highlights include the **Parish of San Miguel Arcángel**; the former **Hacienda of Noguera**, a 17th-century construction; the **Cultural Center**, and the **Eco-Park**. Nearby is **Lake La María**, in an ancient crater, and **La Yerba Buena**, a rustic town on the road



PHOTO: ENRIQUE MARTÍNEZ-V.

La Campana.



PHOTO: © GPTM/RICARDO ESPINOSA-REO

Comala.

to the **Nevado de Colima National Park**. The state's first hydroelectric plant was built in 1906 at **El Remate**, which now houses a museum.

Zacualpan



A traditional, indigenous town housing the **Community Museum** and a nearby spring, **El Cóbano**, a natural water source that supplies water to the state, and the rock formation, the **Piedra de Juluapan**.

La Campana



This Classic (AD 200–900) period archaeological site has streets and a drainage system. The ceremonial center displays monumental constructions, including an architectural complex with high walls.

Villa de Álvarez

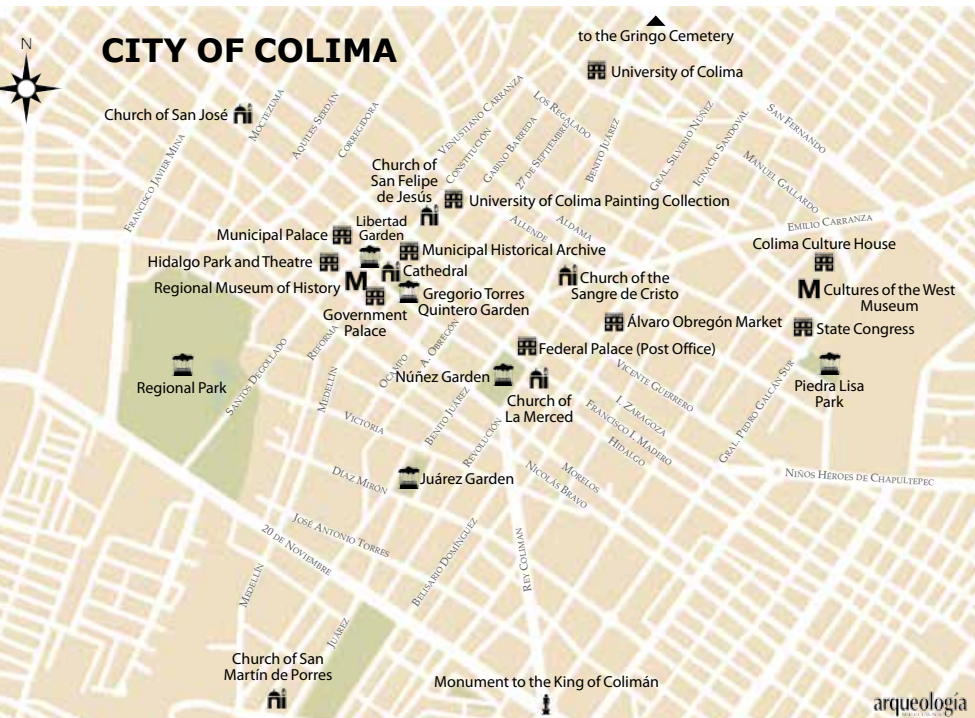


Visit the **Church of San Francisco de Asís**, **Independence Garden**, and **La Petatera**, a moveable bullring made of wood and mats, for fiestas featuring horsemanship and bullfighting in honor of St. Philip of Jesus, the city's patron saint.



PHOTO: SECTOR COLIMA

Church of San Francisco de Asís, Villa de Álvarez.



COLIMA



JALISCO

COLIMA

MICHOACÁN

Pacific Ocean

- TOURIST ATTRACTIONS**
- ★ CAPITAL
 - TOWN
 - 🏛️ ARCHAEOLOGICAL ZONE
 - 🌿 NATURAL AREA
 - 🏖️ BEACH
 - ✈️ AIRPORT
 - 🛣️ TWO-WAY HIGHWAY
 - 🛣️ FEDERAL HIGHWAY
 - 🛣️ SECONDARY HIGHWAY
 - 🛣️ ROAD

- HIGHLIGHTS**
- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
| 🌍 WORLD HERITAGE SITE | 🏛️ MUSEUM |
| 🏡 MAGICAL TOWN | 🗿 MONUMENT |
| 🏠 CIVIL ARCHITECTURE | 🏘️ INDIGENOUS TOWN |
| ⛪ RELIGIOUS ARCHITECTURE | 👤 FOLK ART |
| 🏢 CENTRAL SQUARE | 🍴 CUISINE |
| 🏡 HACIENDA | 🎉 LOCAL FESTIVAL |
- Note: The symbols refer to the spots described in this guide.



Nevado de Colima National Park



It covers 22,200 ha (54,850 acres) and includes the **Volcano of Fire** and the snow-capped peak, the **Nevado de Colima**. In this enormous park, see pines, diverse oak species, as well as gorges, canyons, and lakes. It's a great spot for camping, mountain climbing, and bird- and plant-watching.

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Nevado de Colima.

El Chanal



It flourished from AD 1100 to 1400 and is the largest pre-Hispanic settlement in Colima. It was a city with streets and squares, as well as altars, ballcourts, and public and residential structures.

PHOTO: CECILIA ALVAREZ / RAICES



El Chanal.

Cauhtémoc



The **Camino Real**, royal road in the colonial period linking Mexico City to the port of Manzanillo, passed through this town. Among the sites of interest is the **Church of San Rafael Arcángel**. Small settlements sprang up along the **Camino Real** and later became towns. One of them is **Quesería**, which was later the hacienda **La Albarrada**, where milk and cheese was produced; visit the **Church of Nuestra Señora de la Merced**.

PHOTO: MARÍA DE LOURDES ALONSO



Cauhtémoc.

Suchitlán



Filled with lush vegetation, it is also known for the **Church of the Señor de la Expiración** and the **Magical Zone** or “the ascent that descends,” where by optical illusion the road seems to climb when it is actually going down.

Tecomán



“The lime capital of the world,” it produces 30% of all of Mexico's production. Stop by the **Church of Santiago Apóstol**, the **Culture House**, the **Pre-Columbian Ceramic Museum**, and **El Limonero Monument** by sculptor Sebastián. Other attractions are **El Real** and **Boca de Pascuales** beaches and the **Tecuanillo** estuary combining fresh water and saltwater.

Minatitlán



This small town produces a distinctive painted red pottery. Its attractions include the **Church of the Inmaculada Concepción**; **El Salto**, a 20-m (65-ft.) waterfall; **Ojo de Mar**, a round lake; and **Cerro La Astilla**, a hill with an iron mine.

El Limonero, Tecomán.



PHOTO: SECTOR COLIMA

Manzanillo



Ideal for high seas sport fishing, regarded as “sailfish capital of the world.” Its attractions include the **Álvaro Obregón Garden**, **Church of Salagua**, the **boardwalk**, **Church of Guadalupe**, **Municipal President's Office**, **5 de Mayo Market**, and **Manzanillo Plaza**. **San Pedro Beach** is great for swimming; other beaches are **Miramar**, **La Audiencia**, **La Boquita**, **Ventanas**, and **Laguna Las Garzas**.

Ixtlahuacán



A unique spot with raised houses based on traditional materials and techniques. It also has attractions such as the **Community Museum** and the **Church of La Santísima Virgen**. Visit the nearby **San Gabriel Grottoes**, entered by a shaft 7 m (23 ft.) in diameter and 15 m (49 ft.) deep.



PHOTO: MARÍA DE LOURDES ALONSO

San Gabriel Grottoes, Ixtlahuacán.

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Sailfish sculpture, Manzanillo.

Cuyutlán



The beach destination with the most tradition in West Mexico, renowned for its huge, seasonal “green wave.” It is also an important salt-mining center, home to the **Salt Museum**. Other spots of interest are the **Miguel Álvarez del Toro Turtle Sanctuary** and **Cuyutlán Lagoon**.

Alcuzahue Lagoon



The 2 km (1¼ mi.) of its length shelters **Isla del Diablo** (Devil's Island). Also nearby are **Colorada Lagoon**; **Amela** and **Alcuzahue lagoons**, where you can fish for *chococo*, small freshwater fish.

PHOTO: SECTOR COLIMA



Cuyutlán.

FOLK ART



Colima's folk art is made from a variety of materials from the local natural environment. Comala specializes in mahogany and **guanacaste wood furniture** and other wood pieces; Ixtlahuacán and Patitajo in high and low fire **pottery**; Suchitlán in **wood masks**, “little horses” and embroidered and drawnwork attire; Agua Dulce in **palm hats** and **brooms**; Cuahtémoc in fine **pita** or **ixtle** (plant) fiber embroidered leather **belts**; Colima in **repoussé metal**; Coquilmatlán in **coconut fiber** figures; and Ixtlahuacán in **acapán** (soft plant fiber) **hammocks**. Other handicrafts include **woven cane** and **reeds** from Platanarillo, and pieces made of a wide array of **seashells** in Manzanillo.

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Typical sweets.

CUISINE



Colima's best flavors come from **tropical fruit**: mango, **guanábana** (soursop), **bonete** (mountain papaya), **dragón**, and **guayabilla** (goosefoot fruit), dragon fruit, **huamúchil** (blackbead), tamarind, coconut, and plum. Other delicacies are **chacales** (river prawns), tripe-mint soup, **sopitos** (fried corn dough topped with meat in tomato sauce), **tatemado** (stewed pork), **tostadas with ceviche**, **pork loin with cucumber**. Typical sweets are honeyed fruit, coconut and pineapple **alfajores** (cookies), **tamarind pulp**, **borrachitos de leche** (sweets in brandy syrup), **pellizcos** (tamarind), and **tacuachines** (wild yams). Drinks include the **tuba**, made from coconut palm, mescal punch, and **tuxca** (mescal from the volcano region), **bate**, cornmeal drink with chan seeds sweetened with **piloncillo** (solid molasses), and **fruit liqueurs**.

PHOTO: © CPTM / RICARDO ESPINOSA-REO



Craftsman from Suchitlán.

And don't miss ...

- Relaxing on its beaches
- Getting to know the city of Colima
- Hiking in Nevado de Colima National Park
- Exploring Chanal and La Campana
- Enjoying Manzanillo and its beaches
- Sampling the region's bounty of fruit
- Strolling in Comala, "magical town"
- Visiting the state's museums
- Taking in the region's natural beauty
- Going to Tecomán and nearby

Tourist Information

www.sectur.col.gob.mx

Colima Information Booth: Av. Juárez, no #, Plaza Libertad, Col. Centro, C.P. 28200, Colima, 312-316-2025

Comala Information Booth: Leona Vicario, no. 1, Col. Centro, C.P. 28450, Comala, 312-315-5020 and 315-5022

Manzanillo Information Booth: Blvd. Miguel de la Madrid, no. 875-A, Fracc. Playa Azul, C.P. 28869, Manzanillo, 314-333-2264, granadosrangel@hotmail.com

Manzanillo Conventions and Visitors Office: Blvd. Miguel de la Madrid, no. 14540, locales 12 and 13, Col. Colinas de Santiago, C.P. 28860, Manzanillo, 314-333-1380, direccion@vivemanzanillo.com.mx

National Chamber of the Restaurant and Prepared Food Industry (CANIRAC): Calle León Felipe, no. 50, Fracc. Lomas Verdes, C.P. 28017, Colima, 312-314-5026, canirac_colima@hotmail.com

EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS

Colima

Fire Station: 312-312-5858, 312-5859, 312-5860

Red Cross: 312-313-9912

Police: 312-312-0301, 316-0906 and 316-0926

Comala

Civil Protection: 312-307-2312

Police: 312-315-5050

Manzanillo

Fire Station: 314-336-7300

Red Cross: 314-336-5770 and 334-4545

Police: 314-334- 8326



FRONT: LA CAMPANA. PHOTO: ENRIQUE MARTÍNEZ V. BACK: COMALA. PHOTO: © CPTM / RICARDO ESPINOSA-REO

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