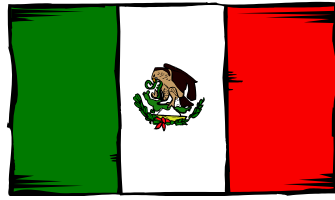


Mexico



Mexico shares its border with the United States. To the southeast Mexico also shares a border with Guatemala and Belize. To the east of Mexico are the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean Sea. To the west is the Pacific Ocean. Mexico is approximately three times the size of the state of Texas.

The capital of Mexico is Mexico City.

The official language of Mexico is Spanish. *Hola* is how to say hello and *Adios* is how you say goodbye.

The currency used in Mexico is the Mexican peso.

Corn is one of the most common foods in Mexico. It is used to make tortillas which are eaten daily by most people. Tortillas are usually a substitute for bread. Tacos, tamales, beans and stew are also popular foods.

The most popular sport in Mexico is soccer, known as *fútbol*. Another common sport is bullfighting.

Mexican men wear white cotton shirts, pants, and leather sandals called *huaraches*. Sometimes, they wear "*sombreros*." The *sombreros* protect them from the heat and rain. The women in Mexico usually wear cotton skirts and blouses. Often times their clothes are embroidered.



Typical Mexican homes have a Spanish style and may be decorated with hand painted tiles and bright colors

Weaving and embroidery are among the traditional crafts of Mexico's native Indian people.

A *fiesta* is a festival that celebrates a holiday such as *Cinco de Mayo* and *The Day of the Dead (El Día de Los Muertos)*. The town celebrates with fireworks, traditional music, dancing, dress and food.