

# Mexico

## Information for applicants

### Mexico

After Brazil and Argentina, Mexico is the third largest country in Latin America. Geographically speaking, Mexico is situated in the southern part of North America. In the north it borders the USA while in the south it shares borders with Belize and Guatemala. Mexico has a population of around 122 million. With a total surface area of 1,972,550 km<sup>2</sup>, it is almost six times the size of Germany.

### Climate and sights

Mexico's climate is varied. The outer tropics in the southeast have a humid climate for eight to ten months of the year. In the central mountainous highlands, the climate is generally temperate. While Mexico's northwest has a desert climate, Mexico City is regarded as having a pleasant climate. The sun shines virtually every day and the temperature is around 25°C. In winter, and December and January especially, it can get very cold at night. As most apartments do not have any heating, it is advisable to take warm clothing.

Mexico's surrounding areas offer a great many opportunities for exploring the landscape and for cultural sightseeing. Examples include the pyramids of Teotihuacán, the 'Pueblos magicos' or the 'floating gardens' of Xochmilco.

### Medical care

Medical care is basically good in Mexico City. Here you have access to state-run and private hospitals, doctors, clinics and pharmacies.

However, in rural areas especially, health care is often not comparable with the technical and hygienic standards in Germany.

### Accommodation and quality of life

Many field-staff members use the Airbnb platform while still in Germany to find an initial place to stay. Once in the country, they then use this as a base to find somewhere more permanent. Finding a place to live is relatively easy. However, given the long distances and heavy traffic, we definitely advise staying close to the office and ensuring you have good transport links.

### Shopping and services

Food and all other daily commodities can be bought in department stores, shopping malls that have car parking facilities and in many other retail outlets. Furthermore, there is a wide selection of markets that sell every conceivable kind of household product as well as fresh goods, like fruit, vegetables, meat, fish and poultry. Department stores and supermarkets in larger cities stay open till late at night from Monday to Sunday.

Generally speaking, prices are somewhat cheaper than in Europe.

## Accompanying partners and children

In principle, accompanying partners can get a work permit if they have a job offer. However, it is advisable to enlist the services of a lawyer.

In Mexico City there are many different options for pre-schoolers and school age children. Pre-schools are for children up to six years. After 13 years of schooling, it is possible to sit the Mexican A-level equivalent and the German *Abitur*.

## Find out more

<https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/laenderinformationen/mexiko-node>

<https://www.giz.de/en/worldwide/306.html>

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