



JeriCo Christian Journeys

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PILGRIMAGE TO OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE, MEXICO CITY AND GUADALAJARA.

(9days/8 nights)

First Day, Arriving to Mexico City on your pilgrimage.

The group will arrive at Mexico City's International Airport. From there we will drive to our hotel in the downtown area and check in. After allowing for necessary time to unpack, we will share our first dinner with the group at the hotel's restaurant. If time allows, we will all leave for a first visit to the Basilica of Guadalupe and a view at night of the Tilma; if possible having our first Mass in the Shrine. Then we shall return to our hotel for the night.



The Metropolitan Cathedral by night

Second Day, A Day at the Basilica of Guadalupe with our Lady.

After breakfast with the group, we will go to the Basilica area for a full day's visit, with time to get acquainted and for prayer. We will then participate in a Mass at the New Basilica. Afterwards we will visit the Old Basilica, now Perpetual Adoration Chapel. After some time for individual lunch we will visit the Basilica's Museum and then climb the Tepeyac Hill where the miracle of the Roses happened and where tradition holds that the first time one goes to the Shrine at the top of the Hill, a Rosary should be prayed during the ascent. On the way down we will visit the Chapel of the Well and the Parish of Indians. After all this has been accomplished we

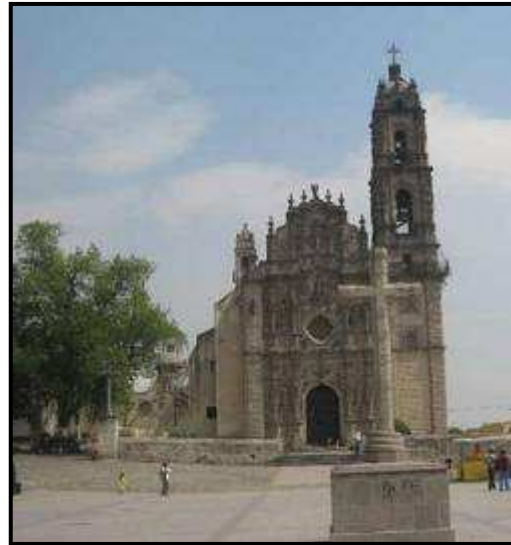


Shrines to Our Lady of Guadalupe, old and new Basilicas

shall return downtown for dinner and for a ride in the downtown and Reforma areas. Afterwards we will return to our hotel for the night.

Third Day, St. Juan Diego, getting to know him, his home, and the story of his life.

We will start the day having breakfast with our group and then we will leave the hotel and arrive at the Plaza of the Three Cultures in Santiago Tlaltelolco, where the Temple of Saint James the Apostle is. This is the second earliest XVI Century Church built in America and the Parish where Saint Juan Diego was baptized in 1529. From there we will travel by bus the road St. Juan Diego used to walk to his house in Cuautitlán, in the State of Mexico, where we will all participate in a Mass at the Church of the Little Hill which was built over the remains of St. Juan Diego's house. Afterwards we shall visit the underground museum which shows where and how he lived. From here we will go to nearby Tepotzotlán, one of Mexico's Magic towns, where we will have a traditional Mexican dinner and a visit to the Church and ex convent of St. Francis Xavier, now the most important Colonial Arts Museum in Latin America. This visit will allow everyone to better understand how Catholicism was lived and understood between the XVI and XVIII Centuries and how it has shaped our beliefs nowadays. We will then return to our hotel for individual supper.



Ex-convent of St. Francis Xavier

Fourth Day, A day filled with Mexican culture

We will start the day with breakfast with the group at the House of Tiles and then have Mass at the Chapel of Guadalupe in the Church of St. Francis, the first Catholic temple built in the Americas in 1525. After Mass, and visiting the Temple of St. Phillip of Jesus – the first Mexican martyr and the only church where the Blessed Sacrament has been exposed since the 1920's, we will visit the National Museum of Anthropology. We will have dinner at the museum's restaurant. Return downtown for a visit to the Cathedral and a view of the Palace of the Archbishop, where the Tilma was exposed to Bishop Fray Juan de Zumárraga on December 12, 1531. After a proposed walk in the area we will return to the hotel.



House of the Blue Tiles

Fifth Day, A journey with St. Juan Diego and Our Lady's together with our people: the Church of the Fifth Apparition and the Pyramids of Teotihuacán.

Once we have enjoyed breakfast together we will start our day with a ride to Tulpetlac, a suburb of Mexico City in the State of Mexico, in order to participate in a Mass at the Church of the Fifth Apparition of Our Lady of Guadalupe, where Sajays.com

Juan Diego's uncle was miraculously healed at the same time Our Lady appeared to St. Juan Diego at Tepeyac Hill and insisted he visit the Bishop and tell him of her wish to have a Sanctuary built. We will hopefully get to talk to the brothers from the "Hermanos de San Juan Diego" order, a Mexican-American congregation which works with the underprivileged people in the area. From here we will continue our day driving to San Juan Teotihuacán, in order to visit one of the most important archaeological centers of Pre-Hispanic America. We will have lunch with the group enjoying the impressive view of the site with time to visit, shop, and walk around. For those with enough energy we suggest climbing the Sun and Moon pyramids. After this we will return to Mexico City for a last visit to the Basilica before we return to the hotel.



Teotihuacan, archaeological center

Sixth Day, A day in Mexico's traditional Morelia.

After participating in an early mass at the Church of St. Phillip Neri, we will all have breakfast. Then we will get our luggage packed in order to leave for the cities of Morelia, in the State of Michoacán and Guadalajara, in Jalisco. We will start our journey stopping for lunch at the capital of the State of Michoacán, Morelia, where we will visit where we will visit the XVI century Temple of the Augustinians, where the Virgin of Aid, a present from St. Thomas, is venerated, and the House of Culture (now the Museum of the Mask and Folk Art). We will also visit the Cathedral. Then we will proceed to Guadalajara where we will spend the next couple nights.



Cathedral in Morelia

Seventh Day, A day spent with Our Lady of Zapopan and a taste of the local culture.



Basilica of Zapopan

Once we have had breakfast, we will participate in a Mass at the Basilica of Our Lady of Zapopan, Patron of the city of Guadalajara. Then we will enjoy lunch in the downtown area with time for an afternoon visit to the Cathedral, the Zócalo, and the Hospicio Cabañas, World Cultural Heritage, which holds some of the most important murals of painter Clemente Orozco. We will also ride the turibus around the city. Return to our hotel to spend the night.

Eighth Day, A pilgrimage ride to San Juan de los Lagos.

Breakfast with our group before we ride to the city of San Juan de los Lagos where we will participate in the celebration of the Mass and time for prayer with Our Lady of San Juan, a precious and tiny image of Our Lady which shares with Guadalupe the faith of the Mexican people. San Juan de los Lagos is a typical town nearby Guadalajara. We will have lunch in the area and then return to the city of Guadalajara for a free afternoon of visiting, shopping, and packing.



Basilica of San Juan de los Lagos

Ninth Day, Farewell.

Early mass in the Church of St. Francis and breakfast with our group in the vicinity of the hotel. If time allows, we will make a final visit to Our Lady of Zapopan. We will finally go to Guadalajara's International airport in order to leave the country and return home, hopefully with renewed faith.

Pictures courtesy of:

Pablo Miguel González Judd
Sector, Mexico's Tourism Department
Wikipedia