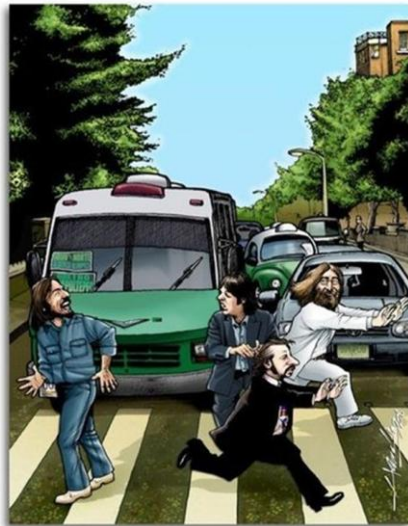


# Free e-guide Mexico City

## *Aztec Explorers*

### TIPS ON TRANSPORT WITHIN MEXICO CITY



# Mexican Welcome (Mexico City)

<http://www.meetup.com/Internationals-in-Mexico-City-Mexican-Welcome/>

## Taxis



- You will find a plentiful supply of affordable taxis across Mexico's cities, towns and villages. Getting around Mexico using taxis is surprisingly affordable, especially when compared to taxi fares in places like the USA and Europe.
- In Mexico City, it is best not to hail cabs off the street after dark. If you are unfamiliar with the city and don't speak Spanish, it's best to always use taxis from Taxi Ranks (Sitios) and never hail a cab from the street. Also if you travel with suitcases and / or expensive equipment it is better to use a Sitio / RadioTaxi.

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## Sitio Taxi / Radio Taxi



- Many cab drivers, especially those working in the capital, are now affiliating themselves with local taxi co-operatives, or companies that service fares from a base and / or pick people up when they telephone to book a ride.
- There are many good companies that will quote you a fare over the phone for the journey you request, and tell you the details of the car type/plate that will pick you up. Most hotels are affiliated to a local taxi firm, and some even have a sitio taxi rank outside, waiting for you to travel.
- The app 'Mapa de Ciudad de México' has an integrated interactive map and dictionary with most Sitio Taxis.

## Airport Taxi



- Taxis from Mexico's airports are some of the most expensive you will pay for. Charges are applied by zone, depending on where you are going. Taxis not affiliated to the airport are not allowed to aboard passengers at the airport, so you cannot telephone a local taxi firm and have them pick you up instead.
- Buses and Mexico City's Metro, are alternatives, but not really realistic when you have lots of baggage and just want to get to your hotel or back home; in that case it is better to be safe than to be sorry!

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## Street Taxi



- Some residents and foreigners familiar with Mexico City and who speak Spanish, DO hail cabs off the street in the capital, although it is important to understand the risks and to take a few sensible precautions:
- You need to know Mexico City and speak Spanish: don't take street cabs in Mexico City if you are unfamiliar with the capital and/or don't speak much Spanish. If you are visiting the city, get your hotel to phone a cab or use a taxi rank cab.
- Ensure that your taxi driver is properly licensed: be sure, whatever taxi you get into, that the driver's license card is visible. The license card is a white/green, laminated document with official stamps, a hologram and a photograph of the taxi driver on it. The card should be presented in full color and not be a photocopy.
- Make sure the meter works and that it starts with the right amount. The actual amount is 8.74 MXN between 07.00 and 23.00 hrs; between 23.00 and 06.00 the amount is 20% higher; 10.49 MXN.
- If you don't like the driver and / or the taxi does not comply with one of the above checks, don't start a fight; just get out and look for the next cab. Make sure that YOU determine the route, NOT the driver; use a GPS as a backup if necessary.
- Iron Man versus Hello Kitty: since August 2014 the colors for street cabs changed from Gold/Red to Pink/White; street cabs with the old colors have until 2017 to change their colors. DON'T use any street cabs with any other colors.

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## Uber



- Uber is an on-demand car service that allows you to request private drivers through applications for iPhone and Android devices. The service utilizes dispatch software to send the nearest driver to your location.
- Don't be fooled into thinking this is some sort of shared ride or cab service; Uber will send you a private taxi-style car. The service provides a cashless solution, that charges your ride directly to the credit card on file with your account.



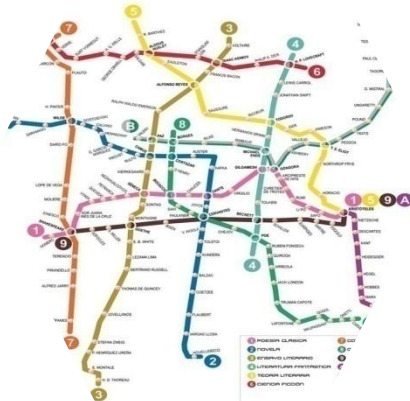
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## Metro



A TRANSPORTE  
RED DEL METRO



- For a city so massive and sprawling, it's astonishingly easy to get everywhere you want to go by metro. Given the unsavory (and mostly undeserved) reputation Mexico City has in general, it's perhaps not surprising that a lot of travelers who touch down are afraid to use the Metro.
- The Mexico City Metro is no more dangerous than any other big-city subway. Yes, it can sometimes be crowded, especially during rush hour. But crowded sort of comes with the territory when you're in one of the world's most populous cities. And most of the time, it's not all that crowded at all. Yes, during rush hour the front couple of cars are reserved for women and children only. But that doesn't mean that during those times the other cars become a hotbed of testosterone and violence or anything. They're just more crowded; still filled with men and women (and children) alike.
- Definitely one of the best ways to explore Mexico City. From Monday to Friday the service hours are from 05:00 to 24:00 Saturdays from 06:00 to 24:00 and Sundays from 07:00 to 24:00. You can buy tickets at the ticket booth (Taquilla) for 5 pesos, or better, buy a rechargeable card (Tarjeta Recargable) that you can use in the Metro and Metrobus; there is no extra charge for buying the rechargeable card. An interesting link in English with all the 12 lines (line 12 not available until further notice) and detailed information per line:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mexico\\_City\\_metro\\_lines](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mexico_City_metro_lines)

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## Metrobus



- The Mexico City Metrobús is a bus rapid transit (BRT) system that serves Mexico City since 2005. It comprises five lines that traverse the city and connect with other forms of transit, namely the Mexico City Metro.
- It is an OK transport, although somewhat slower than the metro and it can be packed during rush hour, depending on the line that you are taking
- Download the latest maps: <http://www.metrobus.df.gob.mx/mapa.html>
- There are different service hours per line: <http://www.metrobus.df.gob.mx/rutas.html>





# Mexican Welcome (Mexico City)

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## Trolley Bus / Tren Ligero



- Trolley Buses in Mexico City is one of the largest systems in North America spanning more than 400 kilometers. Compared to regular buses, electric trolley buses travel at a comfortable speed due to the overhead cables. The fares are charged at a flat rate irrespective of the destination, normally 4 MXN (to be paid in coins, normally they don't give change). Information about the current 8 lines; different opening times per line, some run also at night until around 01.30: <http://www.ste.df.gob.mx/index.html?page=1&content=2>



- The Xochimilco Light Rail (locally known as el Tren Ligero) is a light rail line that serves the southern part of Mexico City. It connects to, but is not considered a part of, the Mexico City Metro. Rather, it is operated by the Servicio de Transportes Eléctricos (STE), the authority that operates Mexico City's electric trolleybus system and formerly operated the municipal electric tram system. More information: <http://www.ste.df.gob.mx/index.html?page=1&content=3>

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## Turibus



- Turibus is a tourist bus covering the most popular areas of Mexico City. This hop-on, hop-off bus can be boarded at any pre-designated stop and tickets are handed over to the passenger once they get aboard.
- Each passenger receives a personal audio guide of the various attractions in several languages. Tourists can stay back at a specific attraction and then board the Turibus a few hours later.
- This open top bus covers 21 historical and contemporary attractions of Mexico City.

More information:

<http://www.turibus.com.mx>

# Mexican Welcome (Mexico City)

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## Colectivo (Pesero or microbus)



- Mexico City's peseros are grey-green or white colored minibuses or combis, operated by private firms. Since they are cheaper than regular taxis and follow routes that most other buses are not able to cover peseros are a popular mode of transport amongst Mexicans.
- These routes generally start and end at metro stations but stop at nearly every street corner. Night fares between 11:00 am to 6:00 pm are 20% expensive than day fares.
- NOT the best choice if you just arrived in Mexico City 😊.

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## Bicycle



- There is a public bike system called Ecobici: <https://www.ecobici.df.gob.mx/>. For the longer, better priced membership you need to have a Mexican bank account, or someone with a Mexican bank account to sponsor you and put down the deposit. It may be worth it to open an account with a bank that charges little or no fees to do so. Once you've done that, the fastest way to get started is to visit one of Ecobici's offices.
- On Sundays Paseo de la Reforma, one of the main streets of the city, is closed to cars and many people bike and walk there.
- Additionally the city sets up places where you can rent a bike for free. You can rent it for 2 to 3 hours and you need to leave your passport. More information: <http://www.sedema.df.gob.mx/mueveteenbici/>

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## Apps



- App 'Metro y Metrobus'.  
High quality maps and detailed track information of Metro, Metrobus, Tren Ligero, Suburbano, Pumabus and Mexibus.
- App 'CityMapper'.  
All the mayor transport possibilities integrated in one single App, even Ecobici and Uber; in a GPS like environment with fast and accurate google-like maps.
- App 'Moovit'.  
If you are ready to use the Micros and Combis as well, then this is the App that can take you to the next level 😊.



# Mexican Welcome (Mexico City)

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## Travelling in and around Mexico City



- Aztec Explorers  
Their objective is to help foreigners and Mexicans to discover more of Mexico and Mexico City in a social, economic and fun way; normally they have small groups of 8 to 20 people on their (free) trips, inside or departing Mexico City. All trips in English and Spanish.

- Meetup Group (English):

<https://www.meetup.com/Internationals-in-Mexico-City-Mexican-Welcome/>

- Facebook Group (English):

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1528020777414606/>



- Azteca Travel Tours Art

A small travel agency that can help you with economic day / weekend / road trips, beach trips and National and International holidays:

[Www.AztecaTTA.com](http://www.AztecaTTA.com). Website in Spanish, however they also speak English.