

EDITION 138
quepasa.gt

Qué PASA

Your Guide to
Antigua Guatemala
and Beyond

Free!

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inside!

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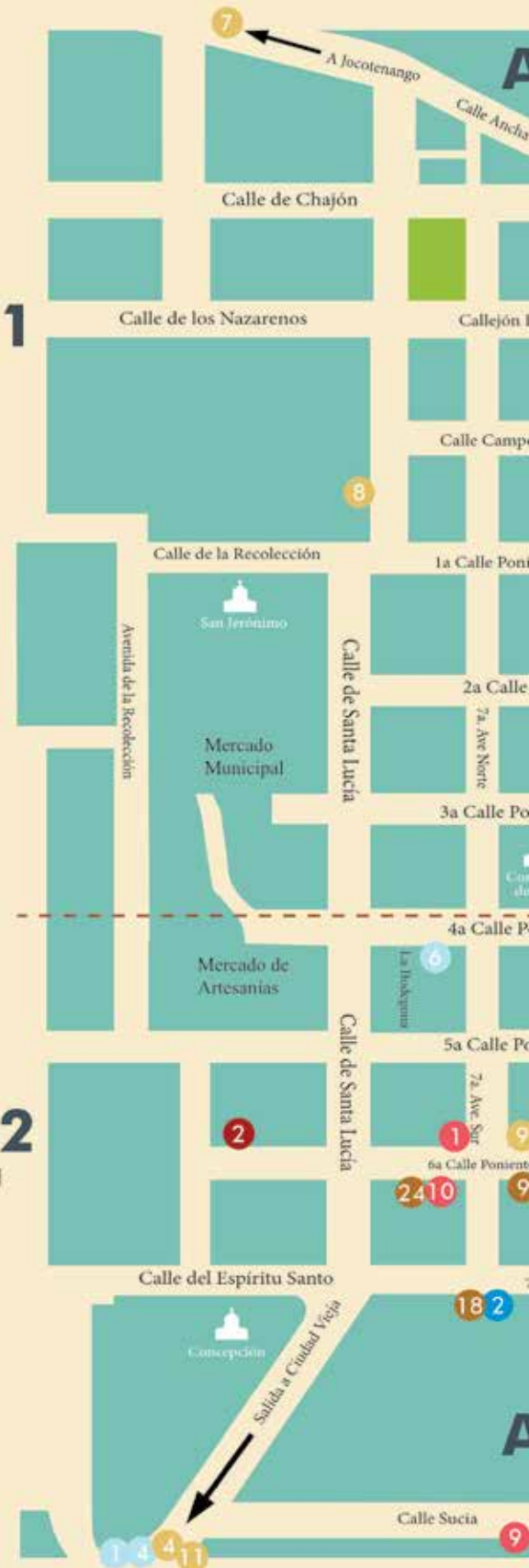
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Santo Domingo

Calle de los Carros

A Guatemala Ciudad

Calle de los Carpinteros

Alameda Santa Rosa

Capsuchinas

2a Calle Oriente

3a Calle Oriente

E.C. La Flores

4a Calle Oriente

1a Calle Oriente

4a Ave Norte

3a Ave Norte

1a Ave Norte

Palacio Ayuntamiento

Catedral

Central Park Parque Central

5a Calle Oriente

6a Calle Oriente

7a Calle Oriente

8a Calle Oriente

9a Calle Oriente

4a Ave Sur

3a Ave Sur

1a Ave Sur

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San Pedro

Tanque de La Unión

Santa Clara

Calle de los Pasos

8a Calle Poniente

5a Ave Sur

San José el Viejo

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A San Felipe

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Cheers for a moment like this!

tel 7832 9864 1 ave. 170 Antigua Guatemala
@patiodelaprimera



PATIO DE LA
PRIMERA



LA COCINA ES EL

Corazón
DE LA CASA

CONOCE A NUESTRO CHEF EJECUTIVO

Giuseppe Atzori, es un profesional culinario calificado y reconocido por su conocimiento acerca de la Integral e Internacional cocina italiana, cuenta con más de 25 años de experiencia progresiva en la gestión de la alta cocina para restaurantes y hoteles.

Desde 1993 trabaja fuera de Italia, su país de origen, desarrollando conocimientos acerca de la cocina internacional, su pasión innovación lo han llevado a buscar siempre la satisfacción gastronómica de los clientes.

Le gusta crear conceptos nuevos y experimentar con diferentes tipos de gastronomías mundiales.

Como chef ejecutivo de Camino Real Antigua se ha dedicado a crear nuevos conceptos de platillos que harán que tu paladar tenga una experiencia única.

Te invitamos a degustar del nuevo menú.

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Arte de Cocinar

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Te invita a degustar y a compartir la nueva experiencia del Restaurante Las Velas.

Deléitate con los diferentes sabores, texturas y olores que te provocarán una sensación extraordinaria en cada bocado.

Contamos con una amplia carta de sabores vibrantes que te harán disfrutar de una buena velada.

Todos nuestros platillos son realizados con alimentos frescos, saludables y de la más alta calidad.



En Restaurante Las Velas contamos con un horario de 6:00am a 10:00pm todos los días; y para compartir en familia o con amigos, tenemos la opción de disfrutar de un agradable Desayuno Buffet de 6:00 a 1:00pm todos los sábados y domingos.

RESTAURANTE
Las Velas

HOTEL
CAMINO
REAL
ANTIGUA GUATEMALA



To arrange a viewing contact

Scott Stanton

+502 5364 3432

scottquepasa@gmail.com



SCAN ME
For details on all
our properties

1001



Delightful 3-bedroom house with garden just 10 minutes from the centre of Antigua.
\$370,000 Negotiable

1002



Fabulous 2-bedroom loft apartment in up market gated community with swimming pool just a few minutes from the centre of Antigua.

\$325,000

1003



You'll have incredible views from this 3-level 3635m2 property just 2 km from Antigua designed by the renowned architect Franklin Contreras.

\$1,650,000

1004



Various lots for sale in the prestigious Condo del Obispo gated community. The gated community has its own clubhouse and swimming pool.

Lots from \$315,000

1005



Fit for a king, Qué Pasa Properties offers this 4-bedroom new build luxury villa in the San Pedro el Alto gated community.

\$1,500,000

1006



Tastefully and imaginatively designed new build 3-bedroom house located in the Hacienda del Comendador gated community.

\$615,000

1007



Located just 2 blocks from Central Park Antigua, this fixer-upper with some original fixtures could be made into an awesome house.
\$1,200,000 Open to offers

1008



One of the last remaining very large pieces of land (1.9 manzanas) for sale in San Juan del Obispo with a street entrance.

\$2,000,000

1009



3-bedroom, one-level house, located in Las Gravileas, central Antigua's most prestigious gated community.

\$895,000

LETTER FROM THE PUBLISHER

It's great to see Antigua bustling once again. The whole town is sparkling as if it's had a makeover. No wonder Vogue Magazine included Antigua as one of the twelve top destinations to visit in 2023!

Browsing through this edition of Qué Pasa, besides the great variety of dining, drinking, and shopping options that Antigua has to offer, you'll discover the many possibilities for outdoor experiences to enjoy. Here are some of this edition's highlights-

Check out "A Guide to Volcano Hiking around Antigua" by Peter Rohloff on page 21. He has run up two of Antigua's volcanos in just one day and is now in training to take it up to three volcanos. Quite incredible!

"A Newly Renovated Cerro de la Cruz" by Antigua's iconic Elizabeth Bell is on page 89. It's just a 30-minute walk from Central Park. You'll marvel at the best views of Antigua and it's far less strenuous than a hike up Fuego!

If you're lucky enough to be visiting Antigua for Holy Week, then turn to page 16 to read about the processions and other celebrations. For those of you visiting after Holy Week, well at least you can read what you missed!

Guatemalans are passionate about football. Watching Antigua GFC play at home would be a highlight of anyone's trip. So, head to "A Day at the Stadium" on page 30 to get in the mood!

If you've mastered Spanish, perhaps it's time to take a deep dive into learning Kaqchikel. The ubiquitous Peter Rohloff's "A Guide to Kaqchikel" is on page 93.

As in every edition, Qué Pasa supports and showcases an outstanding NGO. So, on page 97 learn about Cooperative for Education. Recently, 52 Rotary club members from around the world descended on Chajalajjá for a special presentation. Latin Grammy award winner Gaby Moreno serenaded the primary students with an acoustic rendition of her hit, "Quizás, Quizás."

I'm often asked whether foreigners are allowed to buy property in Guatemala. Well, on page 85, Manuela Rosales, Antigua's English-speaking lawyer, explains all.

Finally, not sure what to do tonight? For a daily calendar of events from live music to art openings, pub quizzes to salsa dancing, just scan the QR.

Happy travels!

Scott

PS. Qué Pasa will be back in September!



Thanks for the stunning cover photo José Hernandez @js.hernandez14

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Nelo Mijangos
H&M Translations





Finding parking in Antigua can be a nightmare.
Don't let your visit to Antigua be ruined by spending your valuable time looking for parking
Stay relaxed and think of the environment.

La Estacion de Antigua located in the center of Antigua offers:

**SECURE PARKING - CAR WASH - COFFEE SHOP - RESTROOMS - BICYCLE RENTAL
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The background is a solid orange color with a white border. On the left, there is a stylized orange outline of a building with a dome and a tower. In the center, there is a dark brown chevron symbol pointing right, followed by the word "experiences" in a bold, dark brown sans-serif font. The background also features abstract orange shapes representing mountains and a grid pattern of thin orange lines.

> experiences



WINE LOUNGE

AQUA

ANTIGUA

DRINK – Enjoy one of our refreshing signature cocktails or ask one of our mixologists to prepare something special using your favorite ingredients. If you prefer wine, you can select from our extensive wine list or visit our wine lounge to make a personal selection. We also offer local craft beer in each of our three bars. For healthy options, visit our cold-pressed juice and smoothie bar.

EAT – Our extensive menu features cuisines from around the world as well as familiar favorites to share or to enjoy by yourself. Customer favorites include Lobster Mac & Cheese, Tuscan Chicken, and Bang Bang Shrimp to name a few. We also offer steak, fresh fish, sushi rolls, charcuterie plates, sandwiches and specialty pizzas made in our wood-fired oven. We have something for everyone!

SWIM – Our swimming pool and jacuzzi are solar heated for your comfort and enjoyment. We also use a chemical-free salt water treatment system which is gentler on your eyes, skin, and hair. We provide a towel and a poolside lounge or you can reserve a private cabana to spend a relaxing afternoon. We offer a day pass or a monthly option. To provide the best possible experience for our guests, we limit the number of daily visitors. Reservations are suggested.

Your One-Stop Experience Destination In Central Antigua



LOBSTER MAC & CHEESE



SWIMMING POOL & JACUZZI



PERFORMANCES



¡Para leer en español!

360° Rooftop
Terrace Bar



PRIVATE EVENTS

RELAX – We offer a variety of unique spaces and ambiances for you to enjoy during your visit. Our 360° terrace is the highest rooftop bar in Antigua and offers stunning views of local monuments and volcanoes. The poolside patio is ideal for casual dining and our covered pergola can accommodate larger groups. For special occasions you can reserve our elegant wine lounge. You can also share an evening with someone special in our enchanting cave.

PARTY – The perfect event starts with the perfect venue. We have the spaces and amenities to create a truly memorable experience for you and your guests. Our events team will work with you to plan and manage the ideal party. You can reserve a specific space, such as the wine lounge or the terrace, or you can book the entire place for your big extravaganza. Our event packages can range from a cocktail reception to a full course gourmet dinner.



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LEARN MORE



Holy Week Celebrations In Antigua

Holy Week commemorates the Passion, Crucifixion and Resurrection of Jesus Christ across the world. Here in Antigua Guatemala, almost the entire city participates, and tens of thousands of visitors, both national and international, flock here to witness the celebrations.



Apparently, only Seville in Spain attracts more visitors than Antigua Guatemala during Lent (La Cuaresma) and Holy Week (Semana Santa). If you're lucky enough to be visiting during the first week of April, you will experience the full glory of Holy Week. 2023 is the first year since the pandemic that the faithful can celebrate this religious and cultural event in mass once again.

Holy Week in Guatemala dates back to the time of the Spanish Conquest in the 16th century when the first brotherhoods were established and exists as a fusion between Catholicism and Maya culture. So, what is so special about the Lent and Holy Week celebrations in Antigua Guatemala?

The Vigils

Each day during Holy Week there will be a vigil (even in the villages near Antigua). The vigils are open to the public from early in the morning and usually are closed by midnight. In addition to visiting these vigils and marvelling at the carpets and orchards in honour of the image displayed, the vigils are also a good opportunity to learn more about Guatemalan cuisine. The outskirts of the temples are flooded with traditional food like chéveres, tacos, dobladas, tostadas, panes con pollo and tortillas with meat that are the delight of children and adults.



Photo credit: Marco Ortiz
@marcoortiz_fotoarte



Photo credit: Sofia Letona

The Alfombras

Check out the elaborate and beautifully artistic alfombras (carpets) made of aserrín (sawdust) or viruta (wood shavings) dyed in bright colours. Pine needles, flowers such as bougainvillea, chrysanthemums, carnations, and roses, and even fruits and vegetables are also used to adorn the route of the processions. Sand or sawdust is generally used to level the cobblestone street, then these decorative elements are painstakingly arranged on top. The alfombras are made by residents along the route of the procession who invite friends, neighbours, and extended family to assist them.

Interestingly, these alfombras are a nod to the Mayan tradition of laying out elaborate carpets of feathers and flowers for kings to walk on. The Spanish, when colonizing and evangelizing, took this Maya ritual and fused with Catholic dogma. Like the Mayan gods and deities, the cofrades (religious brotherhoods) could not touch the ground, because of their contact with religious images. And so, they would walk on an alfombra.

The Processions

The actual processions are another example of this fusion of Catholic and native images and symbols

into one celebration. The Maya were used to transporting important people via palanquin—a covered litter for one VIP passenger, consisting of a large box carried on two horizontal poles by four to six bearers—so they found the idea of processions familiar.

During Holy Week, at least 25 processions will leave from different churches, shrines and brotherhoods in Antigua and its surroundings. On Good Friday (Viernes Santo), no fewer than four processions will pass through the streets of Antigua!

The processions that you will see during Lent and Holy Week are considered spectacular art shows. Ev-

eryone involved starts working on the design, creation, lighting, and elaboration of the decorations many months before. Some people work throughout the year and for many it is THE highlight of the year!

The wooden platform (anda) is used to transport a particular image. The decorations that the processions carry on their andas are inspired, as well as the holy vigils, by passages from the Bible and depict key messages derived from Psalms or Proverbs.

Each procession has spaces in which the carriers (cucuruchos) can place their shoulder to carry the floats; these spaces are called “arms”. During Holy Week, the procession carried by the conquerors of



Photo credit: Sofia Letona



Photo credit: Marco Ortiz
@marcoortiz_fotoarte

the church La Escuela de Cristo has 90 arms whilst the Santuario de San Felipe de Jesús has an amazing 100, making these the largest processions for men in Antigua. Each carrier has the honour of participating for one block in the streets of Antigua. Therefore, up to a staggering 6000 people are carriers for just one procession!

You could almost say that Holy Week in Antigua Guatemala is like a scene from a Cecil B. DeMille Hollywood epic. But what I appreciate is that it's real and from the heart. Globalisation and commercialisation haven't ruined it!

The processions vary in the length of time that they take to complete their journey. For example, the procession of Santo Entierro del Santuario de San Felipe de Jesús leaves the temple at 3 PM on Good Friday and returns at 6 AM on Holy Saturday, making its journey the longest of all processions taking 15 hours to complete!

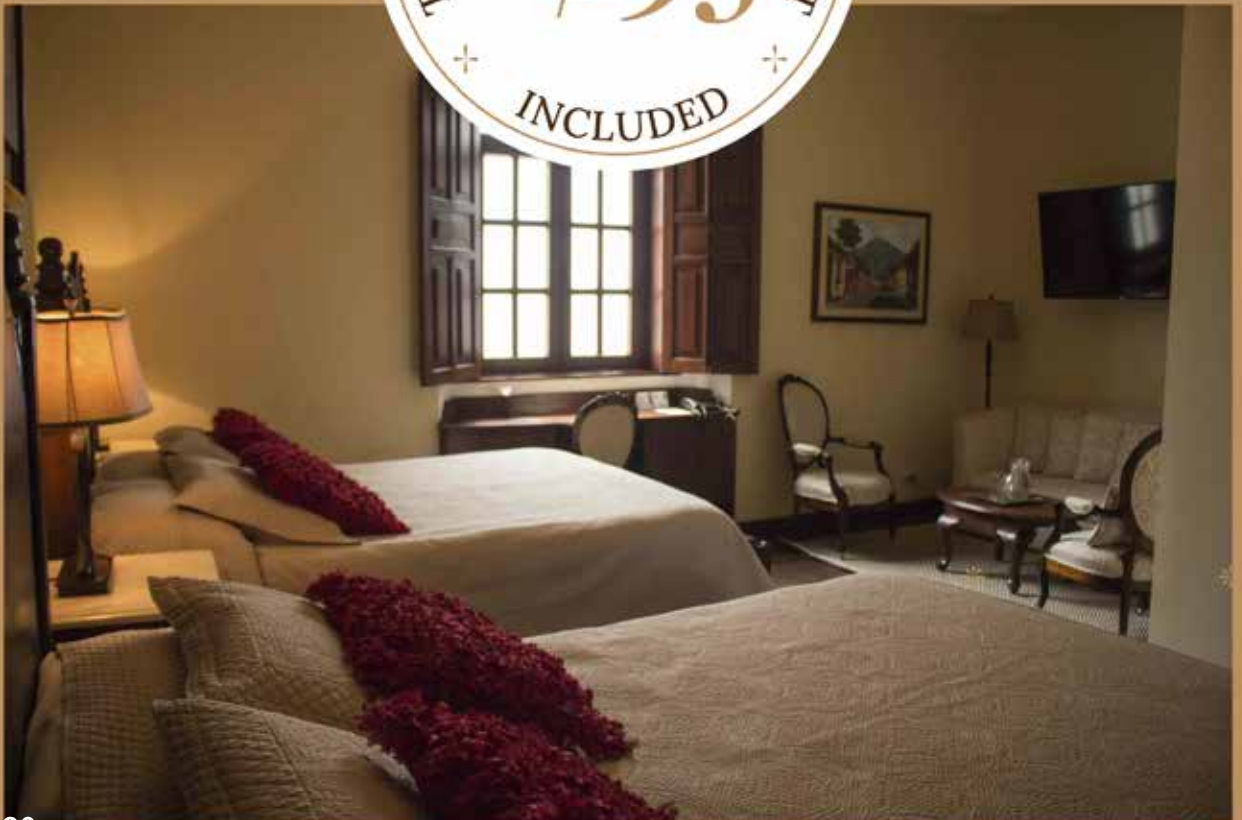


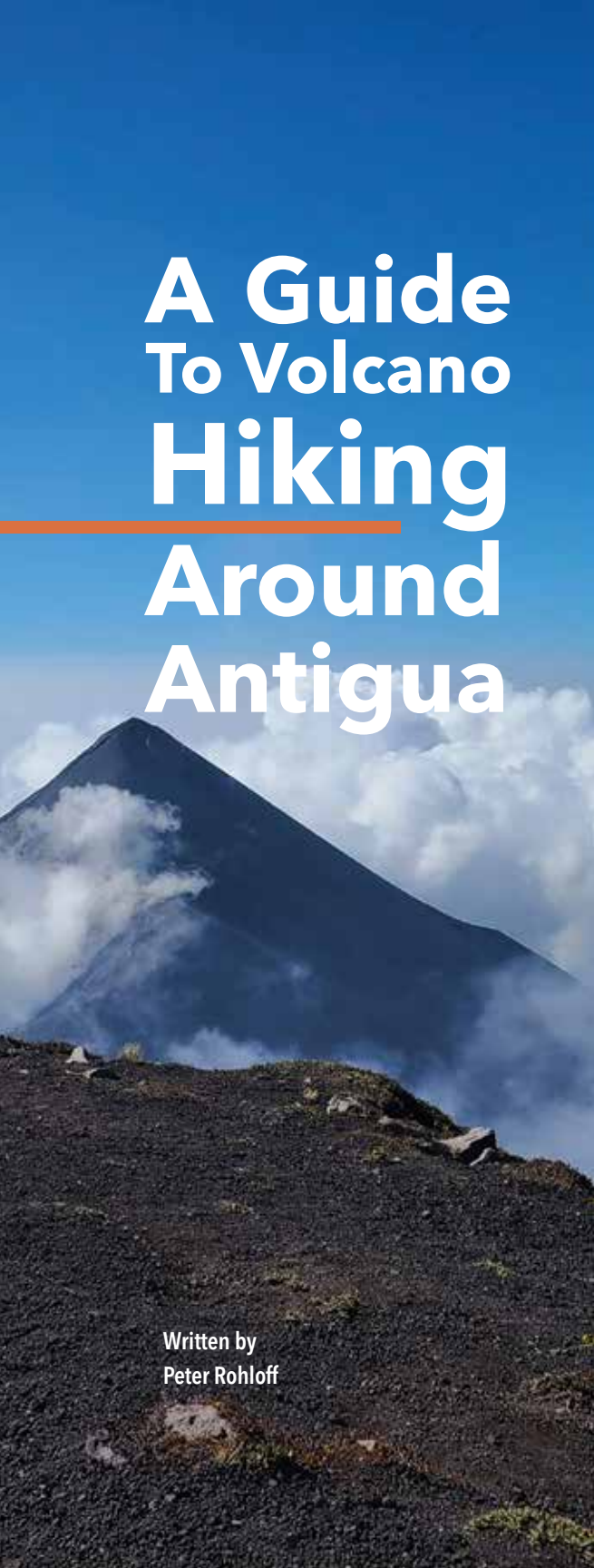
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A Place with History

1st Hotel Built in La Antigua

TAXES AND CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST
STARTING FROM
US **\$95**
INCLUDED





A Guide To Volcano Hiking Around Antigua

Written by
Peter Rohloff

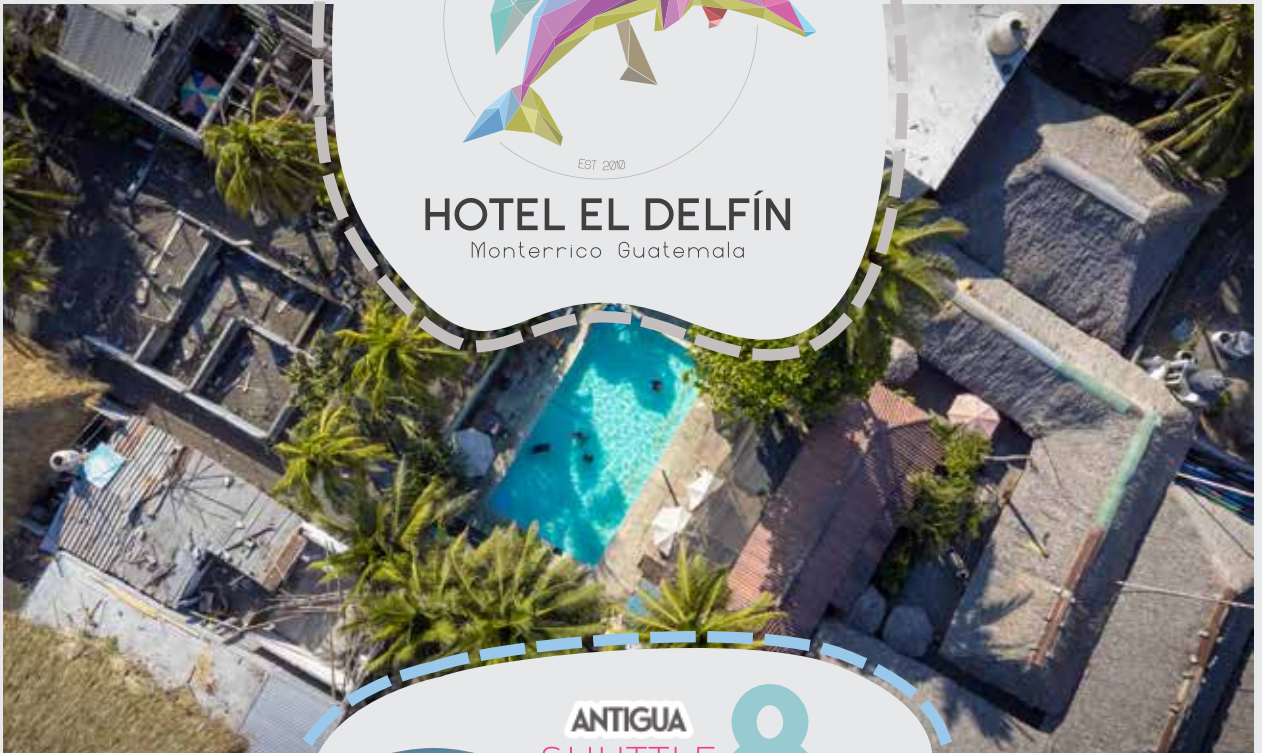
One of the best things about living in Antigua is easy access to some of the best hiking in the world. Multiple trailheads for three volcanos - Volcán de Agua (Junajpu') 3766 meters above sea level, Volcán de Fuego (Chiq'aq') 3763 meters above sea level, and Volcán Acatenango 3976 meters above sea level--are within a short drive of Antigua, all of which offer moderate-to-difficult hiking experiences for the adventurous.

A two-day hike up Volcán Acatenango is the classic first-time experience, allowing the summit to be reached in stages and permitting camping with night-time views toward the fiery summit of neighboring Fuego.

Many outfitters in Antigua offer this package group tour, which includes guides, food, equipment rentals, and camping platforms. Given the all-inclusive nature of the package, it is the best option for most first-time hikers. The paths taken up the mountain by these group tours are the most gentle and well-maintained and so, for most beginning hikers, this is a difficult but manageable hike and most make it to the summit.

“A classic ascent for ambitious hikers is Volcán Fuego from Alotenango. This 10 km climb begins around 1400 meters above sea level”

More advanced hikers and longer-term residents of Antigua should not stop here however, as all the mountains have other access points and trails which can be combined in interesting ways to create multiple adventures. Less experienced hikers will find that progress on all but the easiest of these trails is slow going - 1 km/hr or so. More experienced hikers may be able to make 2 km/hr or more. We recommend against taking the Santa Maria de Jesus - Volcan de Agua trail due to long-standing issues with theft and abuse of hikers; all other routes do not have these problems.



EST 2010

HOTEL EL DELFÍN
Monterrico Guatemala

ANTIGUA
SHUTTLE **8**
EVERY DAY
TO EL DELFIN **AM**

A classic ascent for ambitious hikers is Volcán Fuego from Alotenango. This 10 km climb begins around 1400 meters above sea level and climbs gradually through coffee, corn, and bean fields before reaching dense jungle where the climbing starts in earnest. Magnificent fleeting views toward the Fuego summit (glowing red if starting before dawn) reward the effort. After 8 km, excellent views toward the summit appear at the Mirador, and then the final push (known as the sandbank) toward the shoulder through scattered pines and volcanic sand begins, climbing very steeply (more than 500 m of vertical per km). The summit of Fuego is itself off-limits for obvious reasons, but standing on the shoulder at 3500 m is plenty close and very exciting. The descent back to Alotenango is quad-busting and slippery. The entire trail is buzzing with birds. At lower elevations one can see the noisy black headed saltator and brown-backed solitaire in abundance as well as an occasional lesser road-runner. At higher elevations, the elusive highland Guan (cayaya) is commonly seen.

Another classic ascent is the route from La Soledad up Acatenango by the Tres Marias route, which is the original trail established up the mountain long before climbing was a popular tourist activity. For the first half of this climb, one follows the usual tourist route up a sandy wash through cornfields before gently climbing through cloud and then pine forest. For early morning bird watchers, the transition zone between the cornfields and cloud forest is especially exciting, with numerous unique species of warblers and hummingbirds.

The very lucky hiker will observe more exotic species, like the green toucanet, in the cloud forest zone. At an intermediate plateau the Tres Marias trail takes the road-less-traveled, more-or-less climbing straight up the Yepocapa (lesser) summit of Acatenango along slippery sandy washes and grassy ledges.





Here flycatchers and yellow-eyed juncos abound, and on several occasions we have seen the elusive pink-headed warbler, a brilliant rose-colored bird found only in Guatemala and Chiapas. From the Yepocapa summit it is a brief push up to the main Acatenango summit.

For hikers new to these trails, a local guide is strongly recommended for safety reasons. They can advise you on rapidly changing weather conditions and keep you from getting lost. There is a rapidly growing trail running community as well, and participating in an organized trail running/hiking event is another excellent way to get to know a new trail.

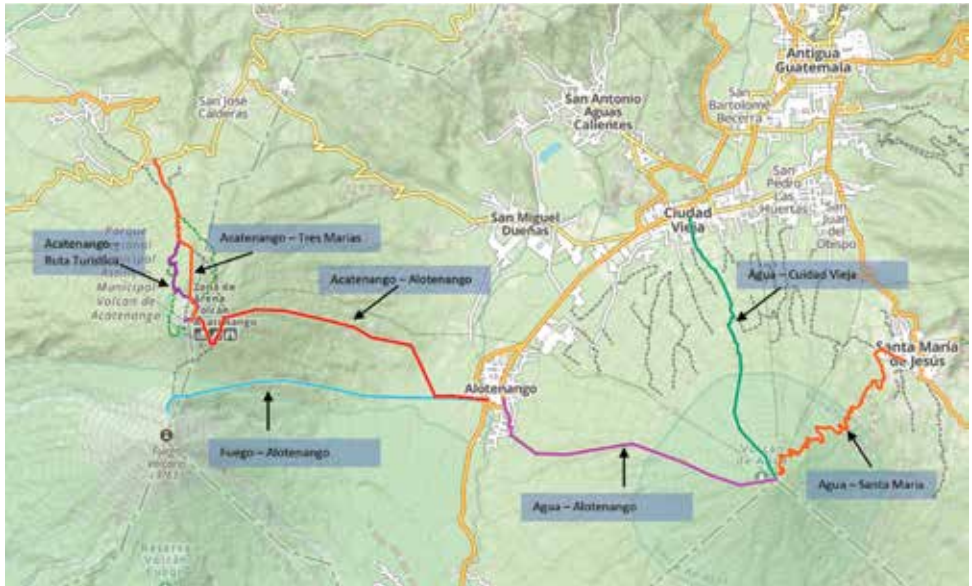


¡Para leer en español!

► *Qué Pasa recommends that visitors and especially non-Spanish speakers should book hikes through an established outfitter.*

find your trail

Trailhead Location	Trail Description	One-way distance (km)	Difficulty
Santa María de Jesús	Agua Volcano Classic climb	10.5 km	Moderate
Cuidad Vieja	Agua Volcano Shiguala route trail	9 km	Very difficult
Alotenango	Agua Volcano Alotenango route	10.5 km	Extremely difficult
Alotenango	Fuego Volcano Alotenango route	10.5 km	Difficult
Alotenango	Acatenango Volcano Alotenango route	13 km	Very difficult
La Soledad (Acatenango)	Acatenango Volcano Tourist route with multiple variants	6.5 km	Moderate
La Soledad (Acatenango)	Acatenango Volcano Tres Marías or Yepocapa	6 km	Moderate



LUXURY GUATEMALAN HORSE TOURS

photography by: Franciso Sejoul



Pacaya Volcano Luxury Horseback

Pizza with Lava Chef
Horseback Ride with
Private Guide
Roast Marshmallows in
Lava
Guatemalan
Chocolate Tasting
Sunset Dinner + Wine

SoulShine Horse Rescue

Every Adventure gives
back food, grain, &
medical care to the horses
and their families.
We are the horse rescue
of Guatemala!

Finca in the Clouds

Private Ranch 45 min
outside of Antigua
27 Horses Running Free
Horseback Ride or Guests
of the Ranch
Open Fire BBQ in Antique
Ranch House
Lunch + Wine



LOS MIRADORES OF ANTIGUA with DIRECT ADVENTURE

Antigua Guatemala is a city recognized worldwide for many things especially its incredible architecture, its cobblestone streets, its environment steeped in culture and history, but above all for its people!!!

However, many people think that coming to Antigua is just walking through its streets and learning about history or visiting museums... Surprise!!! It is not; Antigua Guatemala offers you a variety of activities that are designed for even the most demanding adventurers. Antigua is a city surrounded by mountains and volcanoes, with a pleasant climate (most of the year) which offers you options to go and get lost in the middle of the trails and be surprised by all its incredible views and magical sunsets.

Direct Adventure is a company that offers you outdoor unforgettable experiences specifically designed for you and your loved ones. From taking a walk accompanied by a local guide, where you will discover the magic of the city to going up in the muddy/dusty mountains in our 4*4 UTV or ATVS. The "Miradores tour" is specifically designed for the whole family to have fun in a safe and adrenaline-filled way, always accompanied by a guide who will undoubtedly bring out your adventurous side. Here you will drive the various vehicles that Direct Adventure offers, and you will go up to Cerro San Cristóbal el Alto, whose name already indicates that you will have a wonderful view, from where you will appreciate the city from a place known by very few.

Then you will have the opportunity to go through the most famous miradores in the city, the beautiful Cerro de la Cruz, to end the adventure in Altamira, one of the most incredible and highest theme parks in all of Guatemala. There, you can appreciate the incredible view of nothing more and nothing less than 2,200 meters above sea level. Without a doubt, an experience that you will never forget!!! But what are you waiting for? ***Don't just stay here reading this article, come and live the experience for yourself!!!***

📍 6a Avenida Norte #57C, Antigua Guatemala

☎ +502 4138-1621

🌐 directadventuregt.com



¡Para leer en español!



A Sailfish Adventure Close to Antigua



When it comes to experiences, for the many visitors to Antigua, I imagine the most popular is hiking a volcano. But did you know that some of the best sportfishing in the world is less than 2 hours away from Antigua at Iztapa on the pacific coast?

It's known as the "sailfish capital of the world," having set records for single catch and release. This is due to a unique geographical feature called "The Pocket". A natural canyon runs from the continental shelf 55 miles offshore to within 12 miles of Iztapa, creating the perfect pocket for the nutrient-rich water to come close to shore

Their captains and mates come from generations of local fishermen and know these waters like the backs of their hands.

and concentrate baitfish and billfish alike. This canyon is 40 miles wide and as deep as 3,000-4,000 ft in spots so marlin, sailfish, yellow-fin tuna, and dorado (mahi mahi) are all found there throughout the year.

Pacific Fins Resort, Guatemala's #1 Sportfishing operator, offers day and overnight luxury fishing packages from Antigua. When it comes to sail fishing, their experi-



enced fleet averages an incredible 15 to 20 bites a day. Marlin in the 300 to 600-pound class are caught regularly in their waters. In recent years it is not uncommon to see their outstanding captains and crews raise multiple marlin in a single fishing day.

Their captains and mates come from generations of local fishermen and know these waters like the backs of their hands. Besides sports fishing, Pacific Fins Resort is a top tier fly fishing resort. They cater to both experienced and beginner fly anglers.

Conservation is at the heart of Pacific Fins Resort. Besides the practice of catch and release, they have spearheaded the commission in Guatemala for the protection of sailfish in this great country. They are laying the groundwork for future generations to enjoy, protect and experience this amazing big-game fishing destination.

So, why not imagine yourself as Ernest Hemingway. Fuel your desire and let Pacific Fins make sportfishing your adventure of a lifetime!



¡Para leer en español!

pacificfinsresort.com

+502 7881-4788 +502 7881-4675

US: 888-431-5556



A DAY AT THE STADIUM

Football – or soccer, as North Americans call it – is one of the most beloved sports in Guatemala. Again and again, you can see fans support their favourite teams; fight for them; become disillusioned and give up; and then change their minds, turn around, and go back to being die-hard fans. Football is lived with passion and – if we’re going to be honest – with disappointment, as well.

Qué Pasa was at the Pensativo Stadium on the day that La Antigua won 6-1 against Achiapa and besides experiencing all the excitement alongside the rest of the fans, we were able to see what a day at Estadio Pensativo is like.

In addition to the fans, outside the stadium, there are also vendors selling shirts, caps, and plastic trumpets. There are a few



Aerial view of the Pensativo Stadium

Photo credit: marcoortiz_fotoarte



"Los Panzas Verdes" enjoying the match.

ticket scalpers around, as well. As time goes on, more and more of the stadium's neighbours on Calle Ancha begin to open up their temporary stalls offering meals and snacks, as well as drinks which have to be finished before going into the stadium, because no outside beverages are allowed. Yes, there will be a couple of vendors selling drinks inside the stadium, but they'll obviously be much more expensive inside.



¡Para leer en español!

Once the queue begins to move and you finally manage to enter the stadium, there's a perceptible change in the atmosphere; it's a fiesta that begins with green smoke (the colour of La Antigua's team – the Panzas Verdes) covering much of the Preferencia section of the stadium. A sea of green shirts, as well as a few purple ones from the opposing team, are visible in the stands, then comes the sound of trumpets and drums.



There's a kind of camaraderie among those in attendance. Once inside, it doesn't matter if this is your first, second, or hundredth time supporting the team. In unison, during free kicks or when a goal is missed, the audience yells at and – let's be honest – colourfully insults the culprit.

For almost two hours, the sun is strong, emotions run high, and every minute counts. You're part of this green tide that vibrates from emotion, that laughs, and that believes in the team. In the end, it doesn't matter whether La Antigua wins or loses, the fans never stop yelling.

To buy season tickets online check out www.FUCHIBOLA.com It's easy and inexpensive. You get guaranteed seating, early entrance to the stadium to get the best seats, discounts at affiliated businesses and can even participate in some of Antigua GFC activities.

Let's go! ¡Vamos Antigua!



Buy Season Tickets
at Fuchibola.com





A family business with a passion for sharing their love of Guatemala.

Their mission is to be your local *compañero* – your trusted companion – on your journey of experiencing the rich cultural landscape at every beautiful destination in Central America. Unlike your typical travel company, they want to get to know you (like, really know you) and understand what makes you tick. They're all about gaining a deeper understanding of their guests/friends, their team and the communities around them so they can empower you to get to know their favourite places on earth in a truly meaningful way. Belize, Guatemala, Costa Rica, Honduras or El Salvador have so much to offer and they're thrilled to bring you along the ride exceeding expectations.

Quality Over Quantity. Columbus Guatemala Travel believes that authenticity isn't always found on a map or "Top 10" list. You're going to be let in on all the local secrets, and you won't be disappointed.

•Community and Consideration.

Supporting the communities they work in and the people within them is at the heart of everything Columbus Guatemala Travel does. Sharing Central America with you through their collective passion, storytelling and expertise

in a way that is collaborative and mutually enlightening for everyone involved.

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Columbus Guatemala Travel invites you to forget everything you've read about hiring a travel company. Exceeding expectations is what they live for and each detail of the experiences they create is made with their guests in mind. They don't subscribe to the "one size fits all" model, so when you travel with them, be prepared for some pleasant surprises (and a lot of fun).



So, there you have it. They want you to be much more than a tourist. Stay away from the guidebook. Let's go deeper. Let's experience Central America with locals and travel to absorb real culture, to reconnect with nature and neighbors as much as possible.

Meet Esteban, Juan, Cathy and Milind / They are your local Central America travel experts who knows the landscape and culture inside out .



¡Para leer en español!

 2a Calle Poniente #2, Casa Mandarin Interior #8, Antigua, Guatemala

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 [columbus.guatemala.travel](https://www.facebook.com/columbus.guatemala.travel)

A Pint of Artisanal Beer or Two

With Antigua's amazing weather, the growth of artisanal breweries and restaurants, many in fincas, and others with great views is no surprise. Kid-friendly, pet friendly, and many with live music, they're great for a day out experience. Some are located just a short walk from the centre of Antigua, others are just a cheap Uber ride away.

And some of our participating artisanal breweries now have taprooms in the heart of Antigua where you can experience beer flights!

Check out some of Qué Pasa's recommendations!





El Bosque de Antigua Cerveza



El Bosque de Antigua Cerveza, originally a coffee farm and still active as such, gave rise to a dream born from the desire to be able to share an outdoor space surrounded by 4 blocks of forest in the centre of Antigua Guatemala, just 3 blocks from the church of La Merced. Making this experience even better, you get to experience it with a glass of fresh beer, bonfires, and live music.

El Bosque continues to offer the best of Antigua Cerveza. With more than 7 styles of beer, merchandise, beer to go, food, and much more for you to discover.

Surrounded by the forest you find the restaurants - La Cosecha and Chermol to accompany your beer. So how about a pizza? Or an Argentinian grill?

Pottery from Topis, and thematic gardens for you to live an experience full of life, flavours, art and music.

A space not only to eat and enjoy fresh beer, but also a space where you are able to create lifelong memories, create

moments, design dreams and start making them a reality.

If you like to work outdoors, with good music and let's not say... That real craft beer is just what you need... Wi-Fi, food, beer, coffee and good music, make this place your new office.

And don't forget to introduce us to your pet. That's right! El Bosque de Antigua Cerveza is pet friendly with everything you'll need for your pet to also have a great time!

 **Avenida El Desengaño #2, La Antigua Guatemala**

Open: Wednesday to Sunday.

 antiguacerveza.com  [antiguacerveza_elbosque](https://www.instagram.com/antiguacerveza_elbosque)

PARKING COMING SOON!



¡Para leer en español!





Abandoned Atlanta Olympics Trolley Finds NEW LIFE at Cervecería 14

In August of 2018, Steve Johnson and Billy Burns voyaged from the cornfields of Kansas to Antigua, in Millie, a well-used trolley.

Millie would be perfect to transport people from Antigua to their craft brewery, located in nearby Ciudad Vieja. After 2000 miles at 45 m.p.h., and a brand-new paint job, Millie now helps people to and from Cervecería Catorce, the area's first craft brewery to incorporate a tasting room, beer garden, and music venue, on a spectacular 7-acre coffee farm.

Brewmaster Logan Schaedig brings years of experience to Guatemala, after brewing around the world, in Ecuador, India, and most recently, Monterrey Mexico. Using German malt, and hops from the Pacific



This is Millie.

Northwest, Logan and his team brew a range of craft ales and lagers that appeal to every palate. Craft beer novices love the Chelita Linda Blonde Ale, while hop-fanatics crave the intense Mosaic and Idaho 7 hops that give the Dale Pale Ale notes of mango and passion fruit.

To complement their offerings, La Catorce sought out the most accomplished chefs in the area to create a quality dining experience. Annie and Felix, known for their use of high-quality local ingredients, provide brick-oven pizzas, fresh salads, and other farm-to-table dishes from Tuesday to Sunday. On weekends, several rotating food trucks offer tacos, ceviches, and

other favorites.

An interior tasting room adjoins the production facility, while the patio and many decks offer volcano views, with Fuego providing nightly pyrotechnic shows. Play cornhole on the lawn, while children enjoy the playground built with recycled materials. Adirondack chairs surround campfires every evening, and talented musicians play the amphitheater overlooking avocado trees and hulking volcanoes.

Cervecería Catorce offers plenty of parking, or Uber is another convenient option, just a 12-minute ride from Antigua. For lovers of craft beer, or for friends and families looking for a great way to spend an afternoon near Antigua, La Catorce is a surefire hit.

•Catch a free ride on Millie from outside Santa Clara Bakery on 2a Avenida Sur to Cervecería Catorce!

Saturdays: 1pm, 3pm, 5pm and 7pm. The last return ride back to Antigua leaves at 9pm.

Sundays: 1pm, 3pm and 5pm. The last return ride back to Antigua leaves at 7pm.

Cervecería Catorce: Km 51 RN10, Camino a San Miguel Duenas, Cd Vieja

El Depósito: 6a Calle Poniente #24, Antigua

14 grados: Via 6, Zone 4, Guatemala City

@lacatorceguate

cerveceriacatorce

¡Para leer en español!





DISCOVER EL AZOTE BEER GARDEN

Starting a business during a pandemic is not for everyone. However, nowadays more and more people find it more appealing to spend their time outdoors. With this in mind, El Azote Beer Garden was born in August 2020 in the La Azotea Finca located just 10 minutes from the center of Antigua. Starting with just the option to rent a couple of bicycles, drink some beers and a month later purchase some food.

Since then, El Azote BG has become one of the most popular places to visit in Antigua. It has more than 80 craft beers and a selection of cocktails with and without alcohol to enjoy. You'll find brunch options and American bistro-style food. The German sausages, tacos, hot dogs, and pretzels are highly recommended options, as well as the popular ceviche. Other options include chicken wings, burgers, and vegetarian dishes.

Couples, families, and groups of friends can easily spend a full day at El Azote BG as there is so much to do. They are also pet friendly! You can also rent bikes to wander around Finca La Azotea or go for an enjoyable stroll. For those who just want a quiet moment, they can relax in a hammock, roast marshmallows at night; and for those who want to work in a quiet place, El Azote BG offers free high-speed internet.

Finally, you can listen to live music every weekend starting at noon or watch a movie on the big screen every Thursday. It is a large and beautiful garden full of instagrammable spots so that your photos are perfect. You can also reserve this place for private events, as it has a capacity of 600 people.

Visit El Azote BG's Instagram page at @azotebg for weekly events.

 Finca La Azotea, Antigua Guatemala

 www.azotebg.com

 5537-1725

 @azotebg

Monday to Thursday 10am - 6pm

Saturday 8am - 10pm

Sunday 8am - 6pm

¡Para leer en español!



Visit VALHALLA The Macadamia Nut Farm





Come check out this family run macadamia production farm, forestry project and restaurant. Open since 1989, the Valhalla Macadamia Farm has been promoting sustainable farming with macadamia trees in Guatemala and Central America by donating macadamia seedlings to indigenous farmers for over 30 years. Valhalla is the result of the dream and vision of its founders, Lawrence and Emilia Gottschamer, whose passion for the preservation of our environment is apparent in every corner of the farm and led them to their desire to contribute in a meaningful way to a solution. Planting macadamia trees addresses directly important issues that affect our environment today, such as deforestation, provision of income and food security. By promoting planting macadamia in Guatemala and since 2015 in Nicaragua, the Valhalla Macadamia Project aims to introduce macadamia and other productive projects to rural communities and create markets for innovative natural products focusing on ecology and sustainability. The farm has also developed the agro-industrial practices they use to produce their own brand of macadamia nuts and nut-based products, all from the production of organically and sustainably grown macadamia nuts from their proprietary orchard.


rant in an open-air setting, in the garden under the macadamia trees. Home to the famous macadamia pancakes and the tastiest macadamia-smoked ribs around, there is also a small SPA where you can program therapeutic as well as beauty treatments using macadamia nut oil, which is a very good moisturizing agent for skin.




Get a free tour of our orchard, sample macadamia nuts and chocolates, relax for a free facial and enjoy delicious food. Entrance is free and we are open every day.

 Km 52.5 Carretera a San Miguel Dueñas

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español!



At Valhalla Macadamia Farm you can also find a restau-

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ANTIGUA GUATEMALA



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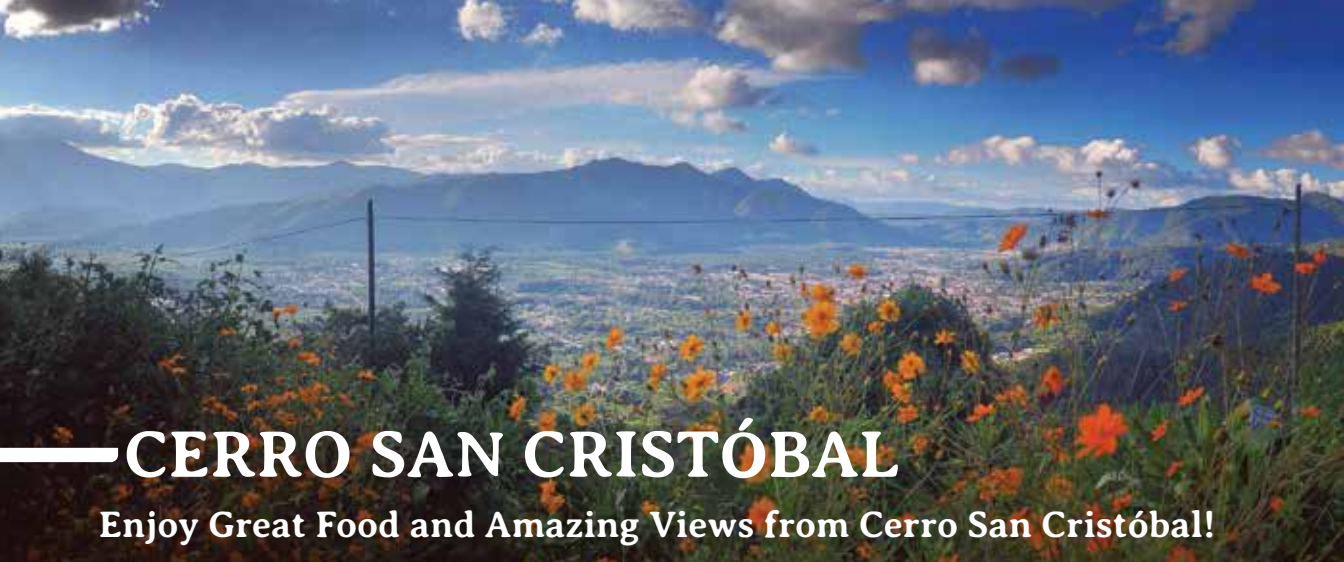
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CERRO SAN CRISTÓBAL

Enjoy Great Food and Amazing Views from Cerro San Cristóbal!

There's nothing like heading up, up, and away into the mountains for some fresh air. High up in the hills of Cerro San Cristóbal El Alto, at about 6 kms from the Central Park of La Antigua, you'll find the perfect spot to eat some locally sourced food and relax: Cerro San Cristóbal.

The restaurant is blessed with breathtakingly scenic backdrops of forested mountains, hills and the magnificent volcanoes that surround the city (Agua, Fuego and Acatenango) and, of course, endless sky.

When it comes to food, the place is a dream come true for those looking for an authentic farm to table experience. They bring the freshness of fields, orchards, and artisanal

foods directly to your table and prepare simple but beautiful dishes for you to savour while taking in the views. At Cerro San Cristóbal, you'll find some of the best pizzas in town - which you should pair with a local beer. On the weekends, their breakfast buffet is a must!

Cerro San Cristóbal not only delivers amazing meals in unforgettable settings, they also work on the sustainability of the community of San Cristóbal El Alto by joining forces with farm and business owners who provide sight-seeing tours and trekking tours to the waterfalls, coffee plantations, orchid sanctuaries and local artisan shops. The restaurant even has a small orchid farm you should visit!



On Saturdays & Sundays, you can take a shuttle from Nim Po't (5a Ave. Norte #29 under the arch of Santa Catalina).

The cost is Q20 per person. No charge for children under 10 years of age.

- It leaves at 9:30am, 12:30pm and 3:30pm.
- The shuttle returns to Antigua at 12pm, 3pm and 5pm.



¡Para leer en español!

 restcerrosancristobal.com

 [@comewatchugrow](https://www.facebook.com/comewatchugrow)

 [rest.cerro.sancristobal](https://www.instagram.com/rest.cerro.sancristobal)



restaurants
&
cafés

NEW HORIZONS, FLAVORS, BRANDS & EXPERIENCES IN HECTOR'S BISTRO

ANTIGUA GUATEMALA

In Antigua Guatemala, many things have changed since March 2020 including the culinary scene. Besides being a time of uncertainty, frustration and change, it was also a time of camaraderie, empathy, an outpouring of community-wide support and lastly opportunity.

In December 2020, Hector's Bistro left its tiny restaurant facing La Merced and moved to a much larger space in the heart of Antigua together with Cervecería 14.



Today they produce their own Roast Beef & Pastrami, a semi-cured meat technique that complements our Mr Bond and New York sandwiches

"El Depósito" is their tap room and now one of the hottest places in town to go try Cervecería 14's craft beers and imported wines.

This collaboration inspired Hector's Bistro to create the Tap Room Menu to pair both beers and wines. On the menu, you'll find Hector's charcuterie board and their dates, stuffed with artisanal goat cheese, and wrapped in crispy bacon. If you have not tried them, you are missing out on an explosion of flavors in a single bite.

This new relationship inspired them to try and make the best pizza in town. To differentiate themselves from the rest they decided to push themselves to make theirs with SOURDOUGH crust. One of the benefits of sourdough pizza is that it is easier to digest, even for some people who are intolerant to gluten.

The SOURDOUGH technique seemed so fascinating to us that we began to make our baguette bread with the same sourdough, our brioche, and whole wheat/seed bread. This led us to experiment with many other types of bread and baking.

HECTOR'S Deli, Bakery & Sandwiches.

This is where the idea of making their own bakery arose... and why not?... "Perhaps open a Deli?". A place for people to buy sourdough products, and some of Hector's sauces. They then came up with the idea of high quality and affordable sandwiches.

"The Melts," are a line of sandwiches cooked on the grill featuring our homemade bread and a mixture of three delicious kinds of cheese, a line of sandwiches to remember and honor the moments when we all ate homemade melts and which, incidentally, take us back to happy childhood moments.

Hector's Bistro & CANELA
Antigua another icon of the
culinary industry in the region.





At the end of the year 2022, Hector's purchased the recipes and the rights to the brand of the renowned kitchen/bakery CANELA which was originally located on 1st Avenue North. For those who do not know the history of CANELA, it was founded by Dave, a Jewish descendant from New York, who learnt the art of baking delicious bread that the Jewish heritage has gracefully contributed to the culinary industry: bagels, Challa, Babka's, etc. The legend says that this baker developed a Whiskey & Rye recipe that was awarded by the Bon Appetit, the famous culinary magazine.

Hector's team worked closely and trained with ex-bakers of CANELA. "It is not easy to maintain the quality of each and every product, especially when you are not the original creator of the recipe, but we do our best every day to try to keep the recipes as they were originally made." Hector's ideal scenario is to honor those artists/bakers of the culinary world, trying to create the recipes just as they were, or at least try to keep them as similar to how they were from their origin.

So in your next visit to this amazing little town, we hope you can come and try our beer or wine pairing menu, described in our menu as "our TapRoom Menu", a sourdough Pizza made from scratch, or perhaps a cheese melt or a gourmet sandwich made with homemade pastrami and bread. And of course, a whiskey & rye cookie or cinnamon roll to end your day with a sweet note.



¡Para leer en español!

once:once

COCINA VEGANA | CAFE | VINERIA

Our vegan temple was funded in 2019 by a woman entrepreneur who decided to transform a small garage from a house in Antigua into a restaurant that sat no more than 12 people. With the help of one cook, they created a flavorful and plant based menu, which included recipes that still remain best sellers today. The innovative Asian and Mexican fusions with a vegan twist became their signature in Antigua's gastronomy.

The pandemic was a transformative time for the restaurant and luckily, helped it expand. The reopening happened back in October 2020 and now, the boho chic garden sits 40 people. Their style is more elevated and keeps the same roots: plant-based food made from scratch, with natural and locally grown ingredients. Here you will find the most exquisite sauces, dressings and creams that accompany the perfectly seasoned veggies, pastas and plant-based proteins. In their specialties you will also find their natural beverages, made with tea and fresh fruits, and botanical mixology, created with natural extracts and herb tinctures, all of them in a delicate and unique presentation.

This project started out and remains vegan activism. One of their missions is to get rid of the stigma that many consumers have, specially in Guatemala. Vegan food is not only eating salads and small portions of food lacking flavor. In Once Once, you'll leave with a full and happy stomach, with the satisfaction of taking part by helping the environment and reducing animal consumption.



¡Para leer en español!

2 calle oriente # 22

FROM

9A TO 9A

¡Para leer en español!



9A is the house number where I started my previous restaurant in 2007 across from La Merced Church on 1st Calle. It had no name, let alone a sign on the wall. Some people called it Hector's and some others called it simply 9A. Five years later I sold it and the new owners finally put a sign on the wall and called it officially Hector's. My legacy still lives on but now in a different location. The new owners are doing a great job carrying the torch. I went away to cook on private yachts and finally on a private island in the Bahamas. When I had enough of that I came back home and opened Fermento. As fate would have it the house I found for Fermento is now on 1st again, but 1st Avenida, not 1st Calle. Guess what the house number is. 9A again! What are the odds? I guess I didn't find the house but the house found me.

In the last four years since **Fermento** opened doors to the public there have been quite a few stories to tell. Ups and downs, lessons learned, hardships and blessings, friendships lost, friendships found and some special friendships cultivated even further. Much has been achieved in the process so far. Amen for all that. These last four years have been definitely a challenge and a test, to say the least. Looking back at how we survived those awful months, although we laugh about it now, it was no joke.

The last hurdle took me over a year to navigate, negotiate and finally dominate. None of it could have been possible without the divine intervention of people who have been angels in our path. Angels that have guided us and have open the doors that needed to be opened at the precise moment for this to happen. They did it because they believe in Fermento and what it stands for. Diving head first into the unknown can be scary but we do it anyway because it's the only way to achieve something worth

telling. I look back at how it all started years ago in that tiny place across from la Merced, and now at this huge accomplishment, at this milestone that assures the permanence of Fermento in this new 9A. Now I know that all that blood, sweat and tears, all that heart and soul invested was not in vain.

As much as Fermento is earning its rightful place and recognition, by many accounts Fermento should not exist anymore. Yet, here we are well planted and stronger than ever. This new achievement changes everything and my energy and attention has been renewed. I am excited and grateful for the all the blessings the future will bring, as long as we continue to operate under the same good and noble intention.

I have always said since the inception of Fermento that I was not building just a restaurant. I am building an institution that is here to stay. Only time will tell if I will achieve just that.

If surviving the pandemic wasn't enough of a minor miracle, being able to legally and financially assure the permanence of Fermento is definitely another minor miracle. One that calls for a proper celebration on our fourth anniversary on 9A again, and 9A for a long, long time to come. With much honour and pride I raise a glass to Fermento. Salud!



📍 **1Ave. Sur #9A,
Antigua Guatemala**

☎ **502 7831 5799**

🌐 **fermentoantigua**

📌 **fermentoRestaurante**

📷 **fermentoantigua**



PATIO^{DE LA} PRIMERA

Walking into Patio de la Primera you feel as if you are stepping into a secret garden in Tuscany with all the culinary delights of Italy. The rustic ambiance is meticulously detailed with artisan metal and woodwork from local artisans and adorned with fine art from local artists. Culinary herbs and Mediterranean plants fill terracotta vessels and planter beds creating multiple open air dining areas surrounding the warm glow of the fire. Sip a fresh fruit infused cocktail while watching the sunset on their rooftop terrace while listening to the smooth sounds of acoustic music playing live below.

The menu can be described as gourmet Italian comfort food made from the freshest locally sourced and imported ingredients and prepared to perfection. While wood fired pizzas and fresh homemade pasta grab most of the attention here there are many more items to delight the taste buds. Breakfast features everything from bagel sandwiches to waffles and blueberry pancakes accompanied by cafe de Altura espresso or mimosas with fresh squeezed orange juice. Lunch and dinner start with an extensive menu of entradas such as Brie al Forno (baked brie with rosemary and honey) or Carpaccio de Lomito. Follow this with a simple arugula salad, an elementary and simple gesture of sitting at the table in front of a first plate of fresh home made pasta al dente at the Red sauce prepared in Casserole, wood fired pizza and for the main course Bistecca alla Fiorentina served with pure de papa. The desert menu boasts the most amazing gluten free sweet corn cake, a secret family recipe that has the texture of a warm souffle. Top any of the homemade desserts with a scoop of gelato made in house with fresh milk from a local dairy. If meat is not your thing they offer many vegetarian options to satisfy all types of diets.



Patio de la Primera boasts an eclectic selection of live music including singer songwriters, acoustic covers, bossa nova, and jazz every night of the week and all day Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

The various indoor and outdoor areas are perfect for groups of all sizes. With the majority of the menu featuring entradas and wood fired pizzas to share and ample areas to accommodate large tables. Recently finished is their private outdoor event space for groups of 30 to 100 perfect for weddings, corporate events and parties. For a more cozy setting for your event you can take over the adjacent Toscana Restaurant which now also houses the wine cave and fine art gallery.

Don't feel like going out, there is delivery available in the 5 mile radius of the restaurant for a minimal charge.



¡Para leer en español!



Cheers for a moment like this!

tel 7832 9864 1 ave. 17C Antigua Guatemala

@patiodelaprimera



Don't say cheers... Say SKÅL

As you may well know, the Vikings first settled in Guatemala way back, even before Game of Thrones in the late 8th century.

Today, you will find some of those ancestors, and even maybe a Latino Viking relaxing at SKÅL, enjoying a beer or two (or even maybe ten), clinking glasses and toasting each other with the Nordic word for cheers-SKÅL.

The Danish owners and staff take their food seriously. At SKÅL, you'll find fine authentic traditional Danish dishes; recipes that have been passed down from generation to generation. Try plates such as the succulent pork loin sandwich or the rich and hearty boiled potatoes and gravy. Or perhaps the bacon-wrapped meatloaf, Danish pork meatballs or even the pork loin with crackling. It's just like grandmothers cooking!

Another traditional Danish dish on the menu is a selection of tart-letters. They are puff pastry tartlets filled with fillings such as shrimp and Asparagus. Their homemade dill and cream cheese yellow lemon zest and asparagus tartletter is a total winner. It's even topped with a lovely spoon of Danish caviar!

For something lighter, try an open-faced sandwich or as the Danish call them, Smørrebrød. Perhaps the Atlantic harvest salmon with homemade remoulade or the Danish style liver paté served with homemade pickled beets on locally sourced fresh rye bread.

Enjoy your drinks and meal inside at the bar, seated under the two warm fireplaces or outside in the delightful courtyard.

You'll always receive a friendly greeting in Central America's only Danish bar and restaurant!



📍 4a Calle Oriente #14a CC. La Fuente, Local 14

🕒 Hours: 12PM-12AM

☎ +502 7832-8195

📷 @skal.antigua



MAXAN
ENVOIENDO COMUNIDAD

It all begins with the maxan leaf -- a leaf that wraps together the strength, history, and plethora of ingredients and flavors sprouting from the earth in each season and in every region of Mesoamerica. From this simple leaf, a creative culinary concept is born. Celebrating and savouring traditions, we call on each season's and each climate's recipe to tell a story of our community. By interweaving diverse delicious flavors, we begin a new tradition, and the fusion represents a new chapter for our grandmothers' recipe book.

Our world is in constant fusion and integration, and Maxan loves this.

Maxan is the result of this culinary concept. Speaking of regions, have you ever wondered why a recipe has to come from one specific country? What if we collected recipes by region, respecting the cross-border exchange of ingredients, culture, climate, and diversity of people? Our world is in constant fusion and integration, and Maxan loves this. And so, you may be wondering: What is Maxan?

Maxan is a restaurant with conscientious, honest, and creative cuisine. Every ingredient tells a story of its Mesoamerican roots and a story of those who cultivate it, those who prepare it and those who savour it. From these stories a new history is waiting to be told, in a humble, cheerful meeting place surrounded by the art and memories of an Antigua abuelo's home, where world music resounds and mixes with the delight of sincere conversations and laughter.

-  **1a Avenida Sur #8, Antigua Guatemala**
-  **+502 3722-1576**
-  **Maxan Guatemala**
-  **maxangt**



¡Para leer en español!





Experience as a Dining Guest



No trip to Antigua is complete without a meal at Meson Panza Verde as it's well renowned for its fine cuisine and romantic ambience. Dine in the elegant Main Sala with its vaulted ceiling, amid fine wines and original paintings. Its reputation for "International Cuisine with a Twist" has made it a favourite for Guatemalans and international travellers alike.

If you prefer, you can choose to be served on the corridor surrounding the main garden, on the terrace in a romantic candle-filled setting for two in the Cupula or in La Cueva, where live music is performed every evening by some excellent Guatemalan musicians mainly performing latin style music as well as visiting international musicians (Check our calendar to see what's on).

Its menu of classic dishes from around the world is carefully chosen and supervised by its cooking team, led by Head Chef Allan Ruiz, Administrative Chef Carlos Garcia and Culinary Director Alvaro Perera. At the end of March, you'll have the opportunity to experience the cooking team's exciting new menu.

The food at Meson Panza Verde has achieved critical acclaim.





Actually, it's considered to be one of the top restaurants in Guatemala, having received the "Tenedor de Oro" award as best in the country. The cuisine at Meson Panza Verde is rooted in creating a culture of inspiration through innovation and tradition, which is inherent to paying respect to what is local. It's inspired and influenced by seasonal European techniques and culinary traditions and aspires to provide a high-quality and unique experience to its continuously evolving clientele, through innovation and respect for Guatemala's bounty and its heritage.

📍 5a Avenida Sur #19,
La Antigua Guatemala

☎️ (502) 7955-8282

🌐 panzaverde.com

📷 @mesonpanzaverde

📷 @mesonpanzaverde

Check out Meson Panza Verde's Blue Room. It's an imaginatively styled underground event venue and bar. With its unique natural light pouring through the porthole windows from the lap pool it's a perfect spot to enjoy a cocktail or two. And now the Blue Room presents live music Fridays and Saturdays from 9 PM-11 PM.

Finally, the famous Meson Panza Verde Brunch is served every Saturday and Sunday morning. The eggs Benedict is divine, especially when ordered with a Bloody Mary!



¡Leer en español!



The Street Food of Antigua Guatemala

Written by Sofia Letona
Photos by Sofia Letona

In La Antigua, there are many options to eat well, including restaurants with great menus which are prepared by incredible chefs (you will certainly find more information in this magazine). However, you also have the opportunity to discover food that is not advertised anywhere, that does not change in essence or ingredients and that has been prepared in the same way for generations, a kind of traditional Guatemalan food that has been adapted for the street's informal eating.

Can you imagine the food of Turkish and Spanish heritage that was conceived to be served in special banquets? In Antigua, it's at your fingertips, but more importantly, affordable, presented in a way that will not only allow you to discover Guatemalan gastronomy but also adapt it to your hunger, taste and why not, needs.

In the atrium of the church of La Merced (on 1st Calle Poniente and 6th Avenida Norte, at the 'end' of Calle del Arco heading North) you will find food stalls every day, in all of them you can get a taste of a great variety of traditional Guatemalan food: chuchitos (small corn tamales), corn tostadas, traditional chicken sandwiches, and different sauce, broth and meat dishes served on tostadas, in bread and on daily menus, at affordable prices.

"Is not expensive, it's delicious and incredibly cheap!"

Desserts cannot be left out, there is a wide variety for all tastes, served, yes, on plastic plates. The idea is that since the sun goes down on weekdays and, almost from noon on weekends, all those who want to try the food that is usually served in Guatemalan homes, have the opportunity to do so by deciding the portions and the variety they want to consume.



Shuco



Comedor lunch

You can accompany your choice of food with a glass of lemonade with chia (which we call "chan"), pure water or a soda.

Inside the Municipal Market, on the Calzada Santa Lucía, there are many dining rooms that offer home-made food and snacks every day, especially during lunchtime. You don't want to miss the chicken pepián (a thick soup prepared with sesame seeds and different kinds of chillies) and the chicken soup (with tons of veggies), served with tortillas and maybe you'll be lucky and get some escabeche (pickled veggies with jalapeños).

Whether you eat in the many places available near the church of San Felipe de Jesús, in the Parque de la Unión in the afternoons or in the different stalls scattered around the city, the country's gastronomy, in the versions most attached to the daily life of Guatemalans, is not expensive, it's delicious and incredibly cheap!



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Starting a business is a big accomplishment, and owning Brooklyn Pizza Co. in Antigua Guatemala comes with its own set of challenges and rewards. As a foreigner married to a Guatemalan, it's important for me to support the local community through employment and being a positive presence in the community. If you've been running your restaurant for over a year, you should be proud of yourself for surviving the first year, which is all about establishing your business, finding your footing in the market and building a customer base. And what a journey it has been! I started with just two employees and now, I have a team of eight, which is a testament to the success and growth of my pizzeria.

Now that I've successfully made it through my first year, it's time to focus on growth. This can mean expanding my menu, reaching new customers, or improving my operations to run more efficiently. It's also important to stay mindful of my finances, making sure I'm sticking to my budget and considering an investment in marketing or advertising to increase brand awareness.

One of the biggest challenges in owning a pizzeria is maintaining consistent quality. To ensure my customers continue to enjoy their meals at Brooklyn Pizza Co., it's crucial for me to regularly review my ingredients, recipes, and make any necessary adjustments. I am not afraid to experiment with new recipes and menu items, as this can keep my customers interested and coming back for more.

Providing excellent customer service is another key aspect of a successful pizzeria. A welcoming and friendly atmosphere, along with attention to detail such as cleanliness and fast service, can greatly improve the customer's dining experience.

Finally, owning Brooklyn Pizza Co. in Antigua Guatemala gives me the opportunity to be a positive presence in my community. By hosting events or simply being a warm and welcoming space for people to gather, my pizzeria can become a valuable part of the community, which will not only grow my business but also establish lasting relationships with my customers.

In conclusion, owning Brooklyn Pizza Co. can be a challenging and rewarding experience. By focusing on quality, customer service, and community involvement, I can ensure my pizzeria in Antigua Guatemala continues to thrive and grow for years to come. I embrace change and try new things, as that's what entrepreneurship is all about!



📍 4a Calle Oriente #14 Local 9 C.C La Fuente

☎ +502 7882-4052

Sunday-Thursday 12PM-10PM
Friday and Saturday 12PM-11PM

📷 [brooklynpizza.gt](https://www.instagram.com/brooklynpizza.gt)

¡Para leer en español!





The Authentic French Bistro in the heart of Antigua

After 15 years in Antigua, Bistrot Cinq is the iconic atmospheric French Bistro in the heart of Antigua. You can't miss visiting this gem while visiting. With its open kitchen, inviting bar and comfortable seating, Bistrot Cinq oozes style. It's perfect for a romantic dinner but also for a night out with friends or just a cocktail at the bar. Candle lighting, jazz and blues in the background and the buzz from the crowd set the scene every evening.

Some of the stand out entree dishes include Escargot with herbs, fennel seeds and butter, French onion soup, as well as Mussels! For mains, steak and frites as well as the outstanding steak tartare deserve to be mentioned. The risottos are a must! Check out the blackboard specials that change every Friday. This is a great way to taste the skills of Executive Chef, David Toledo who started his career back in 2007 under the helm of Bistrot Cinq's founder and award-winning chef Robin Haas. The wine list at Bistrot Cinq is impressive - the owners take



pride in importing boutique wines from Europe and America. Since July 2021, JL, one of the partners has been hosting at Bistrot Cinq during the weekends. He is certified by the Wine & Spirit Education Trust (WSET) and will be delighted to recommend wines to pair with your meal, as well as more than 100 handpicked wines from around the world to go at reasonable prices. They also have a wine shop so make sure to stop by to pick up some nice juice to enjoy while in town.

But let's not forget Absinthe. Bistrot Cinq has a great selection where you can explore the mysteries of "The Green Fairy."

 4a Calle Oriente #7 Antigua, Guatemala

 www.bistrocinq.com  [bistrocinq](https://www.instagram.com/bistrocinq)

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Las Palmas

For 20 years, the ever popular, Las Palmas has been one of Antigua's favourite restaurants and bars.

Live music is at the heart of Las Palmas. Upstairs on the terrace, which has great views over Antigua, you can listen to both Guatemalan and visiting musicians from around the world performing blues and jazz from 6 PM-8 PM Tuesdays to Sundays.

Downstairs, a great salsa band plays live onstage from 9.30 PM-12 AM from Tuesdays to Sundays. Put your dancing shoes on as the dancefloor will be alive. There is always a fun and friendly atmosphere so expect to make new friends and practise your Spanish. Not sure about your moves? No worries, take advantage of the free salsa lessons from Tuesdays to Sundays at 5 PM. There is always a fun and friendly atmosphere so expect to make new friends.

In its famous Coconut bar, you can order cocktails such as margaritas or mojitos, or choose from a wide variety of beers and wines.

If you're looking for a restaurant that caters to groups, then Las Palmas is a great choice. It has seating for groups of up to 120 people. Now open for breakfast, the restaurant has a large and varied menu, including great pizzas from their wood-fired pizza oven. Other sharing ideas would be their various nachos, chicken wings in BBQ sauce, carpaccio, coconut shrimp, and their many grill options. But if you still have some room for dessert, try the homemade panna cotta with mandarins or the crème brûlée.

So, for a cocktail on the terrace, a romantic evening for two, or a fun and lively night with your friends, Las Palmas is your perfect option.

 6a Avenida Norte #14, La Antigua

 +502 7832-9734

Tuesday-Sunday 9AM-12PM

  [laspalmasantiguaguatemala](#)

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Osteria Di Francesco - Authentic Italian cuisine in Antigua

If you're looking for authentic Italian cuisine in Antigua, then check out the Osteria Di Francesco. Over the years, it's become a magnet for the Italian community in Guatemala- they know and appreciate good home-cooked Italian food!

Francesco Naso, owner and chef was born in Calabria in the south of Italy. In the 1990's he travelled to Guatemala and opened restaurants in Guatemala City. But Francesco always wanted to live in beautiful Antigua and so opened Osteria Di Francisco here in 2013.

Now located on the leafy Alameda el Calvario, one of Antigua's most picturesque avenues, you'll be sure of a warm welcome. You can dine on the terrace, the garden, the lounge or in one of the six dining rooms. Or perhaps outside in the front and pretend to be Italian and watch the people go by!

Ana, Francesco's partner told me that they take pride that all the cheese, ham and olive oil are imported directly from Italy.

Osteria Di Francesco specialises in seafood. Mouthwatering options include *Frutti di Mare*, lobster, octopus, and *pasta vongole*. For starters, you can choose from various carpaccio, a goat's cheese *Caprese* and an *antipasto Calabrese* amongst many other

options.

Pasta is a very popular choice. For instance pasta *Alfredo*, *penne al chorizo*, *Carbonara*, and *pulpo al cognac*. Also, very popular for diners and take out are the pizzas. The choice is huge, but consider the *Al Funghi Porcini*, *Siciliana* and the *Pizza Francesco*. Highlights of the main courses are the *Tagliata Toscana* and the *Scaloppine al Funghi*.

If you've still got room for dessert, then consider the *Semi-freddo*, the *Panna Cotta* or the *Tiramisú*.

Finally, it's good to mention that Osteria Di Francesco is pet-friendly, great for families, and has easy parking.

 Alameda el Calvario No. 30, Antigua Guatemala

12PM-9PM Tuesday- Sunday

 7882-4089

 @Osteria Di Francesco

Reservations are suggested especially over the weekends to avoid disappointment.

¡Para leer en español!





CAZADOR 3.0

**THE
PASSION
IS
BACK**

El Cazador Italiano

Wine Bar & Pizzeria

Since the last edition of Qué Pasa, Luciano has finally awoken from his deep contemplative state. Yes, it's true that he radiates a new optimism; he has finally reached a new maturity. Now, true wisdom beckons!

Only at El Cazador Italiano Wine Bar and Pizzeria, can you eat the finest homemade pasta and original thin crust pizzas using only the finest imported Italian ingredients. Try the Pizza Marina or the Burrata e Bresola; you won't be disappointed. And for you, cheese lovers, order the Pasta Arturo. Watch as it's freshly prepared at your table.

Did you know El Cazador is Guatemala's largest importer of Italian wines? With a selection of no less than 135 wines and 15 wines by the glass, there's a wine for every taste and budget. Aaaaarrgh!

And being a sports bar, you'll always find the biggest and best live sports events shown. Reservations are always suggested for the Champions League and Classicos.

For special occasions or for private events for up to 70 people, the VIP Club of Cazador Italiano offers personalised menus, tasting menus and pairing

¡Para leer en español!



menus all prepared by Luciano in a private house with a stunning terrace located in the centre of Antigua. Planning an event at home? The VIP Club of Cazador Italiano now offers a catering service. **For more information, call 4033-5557.**

Let's not forget El Cazador Deli. Some say a man like San Francisco said that the deli's sourdough was the tangiest he ever tasted. Well, you must remember that Luciano is an acclaimed baker, having learnt his trade at the tender age of only 15.

You'll find hams, salamis, cheese, freshly baked bread, focaccia, olives, and tapenades. Plus, frozen pasta dishes to be enjoyed at home, 137 carefully selected wines and much, much more!

And finally, why not enjoy your morning cornetto or a pastry with an Italian coffee at the deli?

The Passion is Back!



 **El Cazador Italiano Wine Bar And Pizzeria**
6a Calle Poniente #29B

 **7832-5824**

 **El Cazador Deli**
3a Avenida Norte #1

 **7726-0228**

 **@elcazadoritaliano**

 **@cazadoritaliano**

Late Breakfast



Towering volcanoes, lush green hills, and Spanish colonial architecture surround a vibrant city with amazing nightlife and cuisine. Imagine taking in all of that and then waking up late, craving breakfast, only to find out that most restaurants stop serving it after 11 am.

That's how **AM-Breakfast all Day** was born.

Back in 2021, Alyssa (an American) and Daniel (a Guatemalan) had recently gotten married and had been living in Antigua for a year. The pandemic was winding down, and opportunities were in the air. Daniel, a trained chef, and Alyssa, an amateur ceramist, saw an opportunity to start a project together that would combine not only their skills but also art and culture.

The concept:

In Daniel's words, *"In culinary school, they teach you that people don't like to choose and that as the chef, you are the expert and should tell people what to get. Studies agree with this, but when it comes to breakfast, it's a very personal meal. It's the first meal of the day, the one you have at home, and people want it in a specific way! So I wanted to recreate that in a restaurant."*

The idea was to make breakfast as personalized as possible, locally sourcing ingredients and making items such as mayo, sauces, and bread.

Anyone?



So why not make the dinnerware as well?

Alyssa had been practicing pottery for over a year and had built a small studio at home, so they decided to get to work and create unique dinnerware using her skills. These included coffee mugs, bowls, plates, and ramekins. It was only natural to then open a small store inside the restaurant so that customers could take home their favorite mug or plate if they liked it. This is how Wyld Ceramics Studio was born. As AM Breakfast grew, so did the Studio, which now also offers custom pieces and pottery classes among other things.



AM-Breakfast all Day is quickly gaining popularity as a must-visit restaurant in Antigua, thanks to its familiar flavors, high-quality ingredients, great customer service, and a unique “build-your-own” menu. Many tourists who visit the restaurant rave about the experience, often saying they tried it once, loved it, ate elsewhere, regretted it, and then made AM - Breakfast all Day their breakfast spot for the rest of their trip.

If you're in Antigua Guatemala and looking for a top-notch breakfast, AM-Breakfast all Day is the place to go. They're open every day from 7am and serve comfort food breakfast items, with local ingredients, presented in beautiful dishes and with spot-on flavors. We highly recommend trying their signature dish, the Build-Your-Own Croissant Sandwich.

Follow them on social media **@ambkfst** to get a visual taste of what they have to offer, and while you're there, consider taking a ceramics class at their studio, Wyld Ceramics. It's a unique and fun experience that's not to be missed. You can also keep up with their work by following **@wyldceramics**.

¡Para leer en español!



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 [ambkfst.com](https://www.ambkfst.com)



Menú inglés Menú español



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www.cafecondesa.com.gt

Cafe Condessa
RESTAURANTE



Cafe Condesa opened its doors on Palm Sunday 1993.

It was farm to table before "Farm to Table was even a concept. Since the beginning, all the menu items are made in-house. Back then, not much was available in Antigua. We visited local farms to ensure the produce was being grown with potable water. We

drove to Guatemala City weekly with big coolers to buy whole turkeys and aged tenderloins. Heck, we even had to buy cases of napkins and toilet paper because there were no deliveries to small restaurants in Antigua at that time. Thankfully, now most businesses deliver and/or affordable express shipping exists.

Back to the food. Everything is prepared with the freshest ingredients available. We use whole milk that is delivered daily from a local dairy. We use only the best butter and cream, also local. The eggs in all the breakfast dishes are from free-range, organically-fed hens (and breakfast is served all day long). The icings on the cakes are either buttercream or fresh whipped cream. No fillers or additives are needed. The oils we use are olive or sunflower. Simply said, we don't skimp on the quality, and you can tell that with your first bite. To complement the menu and to take advantage of the wide array of seasonal fruits and vegetables, we have daily specials: **soup, pancakes, omelet and sometimes a special dessert item.**

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In a hurry??

Cafe Condesa Express has two locations: next door to the restaurant on the Central Park or on 4th Calle, headed out of town to the City.

¡Para leer en español!





PEPÍAN

Writing and Photography by Sofia Letona

Throughout Guatemala, there are many traditional foods that showcase, not only the local produce of the region they are traditionally made in, but also embody the history of how our culture has become what it is today- an exuberant combination of flavours, languages, beliefs and even colours.

Pepián is one of Guatemala's most well known traditional dishes. Some even say it's Guatemala's national dish! Although it's said that it was created in Chimaltenango, pepián is cooked almost throughout Guatemala.

Pepián's origins go back to the pre-Columbian era when the Maya-Kaqchiqueles decided to mix two kinds of chillies (guaque and pasa) with onions and tomatoes to create a thick broth. Over time, other ingredients were added, like seeds (pumpkin seeds

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apparently so
simple to
prepare and
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and sesame seeds,) garlic and coriander (all arrivals from the new world). This thick, reddish, almost brown caldo could become the perfect dish to accompany almost any meat.

Besides chicken, beef or pork, people added cooked vegetables to the mix like potatoes, squash, carrots, and even green beans. Pepían is usually with rice. Often a good amount of rice is added to the broth and comes with some hot tortillas or corn tamalitos on the side.

Pepían, apparently so simple to prepare and yet so flavourful, was served during important celebrations, in great ceremonies and rituals, related to religion and politics in the pre-Columbian era. Today, members of brotherhoods and community groups all over the country have continued with the tradition of preparing it for important celebrations, especially those that promote the conservation of Guatemala's gastronomic traditions.

You really should try pepían if you're visiting Antigua. For a great experience, head to the municipal market. It's open throughout the week, but on market days (Mondays, Thursdays and Saturdays) it's bustling! Look for the small area of eateries, the comedores. You'll always find a richly satisfying and amazingly cheap pepían available. It'll be one of your trip's highlights!





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No matter where you are seated in Serve Hope Café, your purchase contributes to the change of many people to whom we Serve HOPE.

Serve Hope is a Christian Organization with a vision to disciple the nations. It was first established in Honduras five years ago and recently established in Guatemala. Serve Hope focuses on biblical discipleship, education, career training, and community development. There are many initiatives within, one of them being Serve Hope Cafe. Located in Antigua Guatemala, sits the cafe, roastery, and co-working area.

The cafe supports the purchase of coffee from small producers in different parts of Guatemala to offer customers a variety of top-quality coffees. The cafe provides jobs to local baristas and professionally trained roasters. Serve Hope Cafe's menu offers a variety of specialty drinks, snacks, and


desserts. To top it off, come enjoy the beautiful view from the terrace.

In addition, the unique space for coworking offers a quiet and comfortable area to work from your laptop as well as a small conference room. Serve Hope Cafe is a place where people from all nations and cultures can come and enjoy.

As part of the contribution to the community, Serve Hope Cafe gives water filters and builds homes to families in need with a percentage from their profit.



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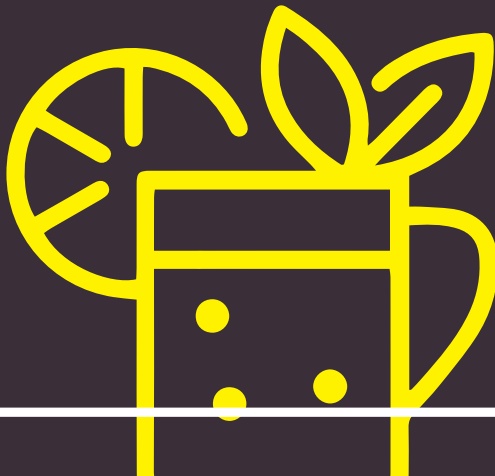
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MÍSTICO BAR BISTRO, abre sus puertas como un lugar único de tendencia y vanguardia en la Antigua Guatemala, en un escenario histórico en la Antigua Guatemala, con vistas privilegiadas al volcán. Un espacio emblemático, rodeado de un ambiente artístico y creativo.

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1a Avenida Norte Casa #5, La Antigua Guatemala

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If you're looking for a fun night out, then you're spoilt for choice in Antigua.

When it comes to live music, both Guatemalan musicians and bands as well as the many visiting musicians to Antigua have given it a very lively music scene. From salsa to bluegrass, reggaeton to boleros - Antigua has you covered. Here are some of Qué Pasa's favourite places to hear live music or enjoy a fun pub quiz. Use our map to find the locations mentioned.

Live in Antigua

SCAN ME to check out Antigua's monthly events calendar!



Panza Verde

Without a doubt, La Cueva with its grand piano is the most elegant place in Antigua for live music every evening.

The very cool basement **Blue Room** at Panza Verde has live music Fridays and Saturdays from 9pm - 11pm.

El Azote BG

Live Music every weekend from 12 PM.

El Barrio

Live bands.

Cerveceria 14

Live music Tuesday - Friday from 7pm.
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El Depósito

Live music Wednesday - Saturday from 7.30pm.

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Karaoke every Wednesday at 8pm and Karaoke open mic every Friday at 8pm.

El Bosque de Antigua Cerveza

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The Return of The Londoner



THE LONDONER

Antigua, Guatemala

9a Calle Poniente #1A

Facebook: The Londoner

Instagram: thelondoner_2

As some of you are aware, I closed The Londoner in February 2021 after 5 successful years!

After lots of encouragement from friends and pulling on my heartstrings, I decided the time was right to **reopen The Londoner**. After much searching, I found a new location that I believe will lend itself to my vision. Located on 9th Calle close to the junction with 3rd Avenue, it was a blank canvas ready to be transformed into a traditional London pub in the heart of Antigua.

It comes complete with a charming fireplace to add to the atmosphere, and have set about creating my vision. Having installed a commercial kitchen to recreate everyone's favourite dishes, I've employed our old chef, Sergio as our head chef/manager to take charge of our **traditional English menu**, serving all your old favourites along with some exciting new specials.

We set about building a new bar which will accommodate our selection of draft beers including our very own **Londoner Bitter** brewed especially for us by **Cerveceria Catorce**.

I aim to provide a space everyone will enjoy and call their local! I hope to open early to mid-March and look forward to welcoming both old and customers to my **new Londoner!**



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THE WONDERFUL LENS OF MARCO ORTIZ



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Marco Ortiz Fotoarte

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The image features a solid red background with a white geometric pattern of overlapping squares and lines. A white border frames the entire composition. The text is centered in the upper half.

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1011



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On a lot of 800m2 and construction of 360m2, this spectacular 3-bedroom house located in San Pedro las Huertas has an amazing price.

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A Guide For Foreigners Thinking of Buying Real Estate in Guatemala

by **Manuela Rosales**
(English speaking lawyer and notary)



¡Leer en
español!

That feeling of knowing that one is comfortable in a place, a business, a personal relationship, school, pleasure, or an intention to invest... There are various reasons why one can decide to purchase real estate property. And when this place is in a foreign country, questions and doubts can follow such a decision.

Foreigners can purchase property in Guatemala: taxes, conditions, and rights are the same for Guatemalans, foreigners, residents, and non-residents. The advice of a reputable real estate agent is more than advisable. Unless the seller is a family member or a friend, the involvement of a knowledgeable agent is indispensable. It is important to choose your realtor carefully as there is no certification system or MLS in Guatemala. The realtor oversees managing the offer and counter offer and assists during the purchase process.

The advice of a good notary is also indispensable. It is a notary who draws up the agreement in writing and ensures that the seller receives the funds according to the agreement. The notary also ensures that the buyer gets a clear/clean title and possession of the property. In Guatemala, lawyers have both titles: attorney and notary, which can be confusing, and I personally believe that this practice should cease.

In my experience, if there isn't a realtor dealing




In 1999 Mesón Panza Verde opened the doors of a space designated for art. Surprising with its versatility, presenting and supporting works by renowned Guatemalan artists, as well as internationally recognized artists. Panza Verde Gallery has had exhibitions of great artists such as Luis González Palma, Julio Zadik and Daniel Chauche.




Demonstrating support for most artists, they showcase pieces decorating various spaces such as the rooms, hallways and restaurant. It is a place frequented by design lovers; they like to keep remodeling different areas of the facilities to renew and give a fresh touch. Maintaining the decoration style with an exact mix between art and antiques.

Generally, there is an art opening the first Friday of the month where you can meet the artist and a glass of wine.

Visit our Facebook and Instagram pages for more details.

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Horario: 12:00-19:00
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Museums in Antigua



@cigarsinantigua

with the sale (or not a very competent one), it would help if both the buyer and seller take the advice of separate notaries, who would work in collaboration. But if there is a good realtor dealing with the sale, who takes care of the commercial side of the transaction then one notary could represent both parties. The buyer pays the fees of the notary and, for that reason, gets to choose who this will be. If the seller needs extra assistance and advice, translation, or extra meetings for the seller to understand the steps of the transaction, an agreement regarding the fees can be made.

“This country, and Antigua especially, has been enriched by the visit of foreigners and honored by their decision to make it a home.”


Anyone who purchases property needs to have an NIT (tax identification number). The decision of whether to purchase individually or to set up a corporation (S.A.- Sociedad Anónima) depends on the particular situation of each person or family. It is possible to obtain a loan from a bank. Sometimes the buyer can receive financing from the seller in which case it would be advisable for each party to have separate notarial representation. If any of the signatories do not speak Spanish, a sworn translator must assist and sign documents to witness that they have read the documents to their client in their spoken language. If either the buyer or seller is outside Guatemala and unable to sign the documents, they must grant a power of attorney to represent them.

And about taxes... I compare the question: “How much is the cost of purchasing property in Guatemala?” with this question asked to a doctor without bringing the patient: “How much does it cost to heal a patient?” Any responsible notary or realtor will not answer this question, and will only explain the cost,

or possible costs, after having studied the specific property. The reason for this is that the assessed values (fiscal values) of properties have been incredibly low, uneven, and unfair. There are historical reasons... and our governments have not succeeded in achieving an organized system, an adjustment in the rates, or an incentive for people to present the most truthful appraisals. Buyers pay a transfer tax (that can go from 3% to 12% depending on the history of the property), and sellers pay a capital gain tax; these rates are calculated on the assessed values, and the flaws of the system have permitted that very similar properties pay very different taxes. A good legal advisor is important, as is the conscience of understanding how important taxes are for the country, and how important it is to keep decisions within a fair and legally safe structure.

This country, and Antigua especially, has been enriched by the visit of foreigners and honored by their decision to make it a home. The cultural interchange has been a source of learning and growth. Laws and rules vary, and it is true that foreigners do have to adjust to the local ways, which I understand may not always be easy. But I have happily witnessed how it always works out.

 **1a Calle Poniente #1, Antigua Guatemala**

 **+502 7832-1802**

manuelamaria@enantigua.net





Niche is a clothes store located just a block from Central Park that sells both women's and children's clothes as well as items from local artisans. The profits from the store are donated to fund Paso a Paso (step by step), an NGO located in Barrio La Cruz, close to Antigua.



Paso a Paso was originally self-funded by the founder. Over the years as it has grown its partnerships not only with Niche but with the local Spanish consulate, various local stakeholders as well as a number of USA based churches whose donations in cash, time and labor are used to fund the many programs Paso a Paso provides to children and families in and around Barrio La Cruz and Pastores.

The first program was educationally based to support children living in Barrio La Cruz to attend elementary, middle, and high school as well as supporting them through college. Paso a Paso also has programs to help build homes and distribute food for families in the surrounding neighbourhoods.

The educational programs are held in an old church that has been converted into a 3 story multipurpose building. It serves as a center for the after school program, a preschool, and sometimes even housing for missions groups. The building has a fully functioning kitchen where after school snacks are prepared for the children and lunch is prepared for the preschoolers.



To learn more about Paso a Paso for donating and volunteering visit www.Pasoapasomissions.org

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¡Leer en español!

A Newly Renovated

photo by: Nelo Mijangos @nelomh

CERRO de la CRUZ!

By Elizabeth Bell

A newly created Recreational Park for the Hill of the Cross was the spectacular scenario for the National Symphony of Guatemala during a stellar opening of its renovation on February 11th! While the Municipality of Antigua continues to finalize the installation of trails and ramps with wheelchair accessibility, plans to improve this municipal park continue.

The Park was later enhanced with the bronze sculpture of Santiago Apostol on horseback donated by the Spanish Government in 1971.

The hill was originally known as Cerro del Manchen. Mayor Guillermo Arzú Matheu built the cross in 1930 indicating it was a daunting project in the day to build the windy road up to the area which provides the iconic view of the city still today. With it, the hill adopted the name of the Hill of the Cross. The Park was later enhanced with the bronze sculpture of Santiago Apostol on horseback donated by the Spanish Government in 1971. Reforestation projects were implemented with kids planting eucalyptus and pine trees but very few visited the Cerro de la Cruz for years!



Cerro de la Cruz is open to the public every day from 6 am-6 PM.

You'll find a few shops that sell cold drinks and gifts.

Entrance to the park is free.

photo by: José Hernandez
@js.hernandez14

When a local Mayor who had offered to distribute property located throughout the Hill, won the election, local community leaders, founded the Asociación Cerro de la Cruz in 2001. As President, I had the honor of presiding over the work which first included registering three property deeds to secure the area. We worked with local universities and, later, with a newly elected Mayor of Antigua, gathering information for future projects. A grant from INGUAT provided funds to install bathrooms. It was noted that the eucalyptus should be removed as birds don't nest in it. Thus, plans included reforesting the Hill.

photo by: Nelo Mijangos @nelomh



¡Leer en español!

With Municipal funds and additional funds awarded from the Ministry of Culture and Sports, **we are so excited that work began on the Hill again in 2022** under the direction of the Mayor of Antigua, Victor Hugo del Pozo. We look forward to having fun on the Hill of the Cross with new activities! Another plus to our monumental city!

photo by: José Hernandez @js.hernandez14

For the best views of Antigua, take a walk up to Cerro de la Cruz. It's around a 30-minute walk from the centre of town. Head all the way up 1st Avenue North past the basketball court until you reach the steps on the left that take you to the cross.



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Melida Uribio earned a degree in fashion design from FIDM in Los Angeles, California. After a career of 38 years in the development of brands in top-name companies from start-up labels to well-known brands such as Calvin Klein, Michael Kors and Victoria Secrets, she decided to move to Guatemala, her mother's birthplace.

Melida's decision to move to Guatemala to be part of the rich artisan community has made it her mission to participate in Guatemala's growing fashion industry.

Starting MelRose design house in the heart of Antigua is in harmony with MelRose Boutique, and aims to establish a unique teaching experience. With a vision and desire of going back to her roots, Melida is choosing to share her 38 years of experience to educate and guide aspiring pattern makers and designers.

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182
CHAPÍN

In a nutshell: Nickname for Guatemalan. Why are Guatemalans called **chapines**? There is no definitive answer. But here are at least three theories:

- 1) Some say that those who lived in outlying areas of the country used to call the inhabitants of the capital **chapines**, in referenceto a type of ornate shoe worn there.
- 2) Another hypothesis is that **chapín** comes from the name of the southernmost state in Mexico, called Chiapas. And
- 3) it may be a derivation of the French word *chapeau*, a kind of hat that locals may have worn.

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Need some art in your life?
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If you have been inspired by Peter Rohloff's informative Kaqchikel article, then check out Antigua Books where you'll find a selection of books in Kaqchikel.

However, if you're still struggling to master basic Spanish then I do recommend:
"Guatemalan Spanish-Speak like a native!"

Apparently, **Antigua Books** still have a few copies on its shelves.

ANTIGUA TOURS TRAVEL & WEDDINGS
by Elizabeth Bell

The best tour operator in Antigua since 1992
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A Guide To Kaqchikel

by Peter Rohloff

The Mayan languages are a major branch of more than 30 languages spoken in Mexico and Central America. The languages all have a common source language, called proto-Maya by linguists, which was probably spoken near the Mexican-Guatemala border as long as 4000 years ago. This means the roots of modern Mayan languages are at least as old as any other world language.



AKaqchikel Family By John Isaac - UNEP-WCMC Internal Resources, Attribution

In Guatemala, 21 Mayan languages are spoken, and around half the population of the entire country speaks a Mayan language as the first language. The language spoken in and around Antigua is Kaqchikel Maya, which has around 500,000 speakers. The geographic area where Kaqchikel Maya is natively spoken extends from Guatemala City east to the northern and eastern shores of Lake Atitlan, throughout the departments of Guatemala, Sacatepéquez, Chimaltenango, Sololá, and Suchitépéquez. Given that Kaqchikel in particular is an important language in and around Antigua, tourists and long-term residents both will find it rewarding to take some time to learn more about and show appreciation for the language and its speakers. Here are several suggestions:

1. Take Kaqchikel classes! Several languages schools in town can connect students with Kaqchikel teachers with advance notice. As one example, the Proyecto Linguistico Francisco Marroquin school has been doing this for decades. Kaqchikel

has a very strong presence on Facebook and social media as well, and it is very easy to find on-line learning communities there or connect with teachers willing to provide classes either in-person or on-line.

2. Learn the names of places! Almost all the official names of towns and communities in Guatemala are colonial impositions, often a hybrid of Catholic saint names and words taken from the Nahuatl language of Mexico, as invading colonial Spanish forces brought many Nahuatl speakers with them on the march down from Mexico. For example the Kaqchikel town of Pa K'im (place full of straw or grasses) is now known officialy as Santiago Sacatepéquez (Nahuatl sacatepéquez meaning grassy hill). However all the original Kaqchikel names are still in active use among native speakers. Using them can be an important sign of respect and acknowledgment.

Town	Kaqchikel Name
Santiago Sacatepequez	Pa K'im
Santa Maria de Jesus	Junajpu'
Chimaltenango	B'oko'
Tecpan	Iximche'
Patzun	Pa Su'm
Comalapa	Chiq'a'l

3. Learn basic greetings in Kaqchikel! This is a great way to show respect and when interacting with businesses in the market, as most vendors come from Kaqchikel-speaking towns around Antigua. Kaqchikel doesn't have a habitual generic "hello" phrase so saying "good morning" and so on is the best form of greeting.

Phrase	Kaqchikel
Good morning	Xseqär
Good afternoon	Xqa q'ij
Good evening	Xok aq'a'
How are you?	¿La utz awäch?
Thank you	Matyöx



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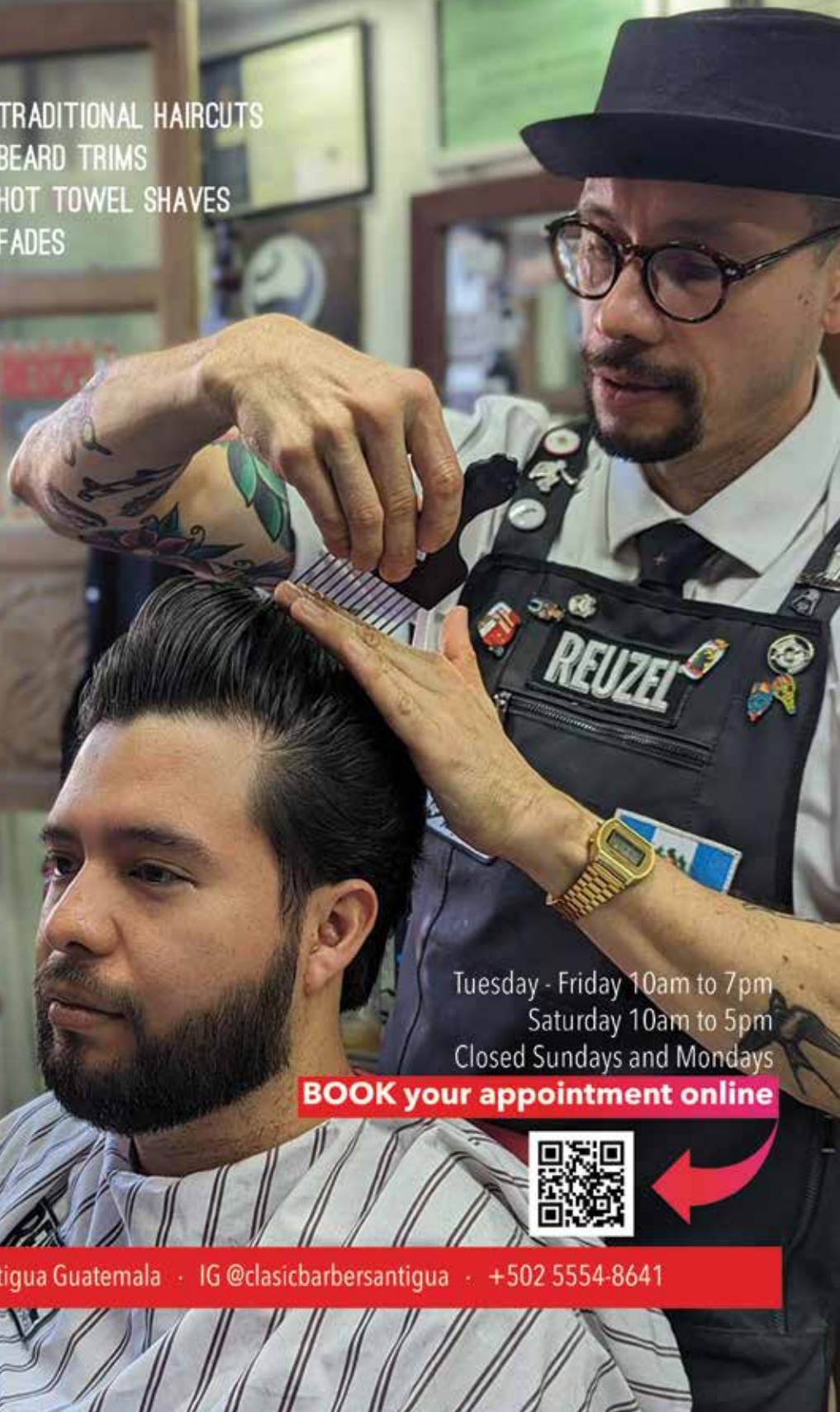
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Cooperative for Education

Opening Doors in Rural Guatemala

In February, 52 Rotary club members from around the world descended on Chajalajyá for a special presentation, as singer Gaby Moreno serenaded the primary students with an acoustic rendition of her hit, "Quizás, Quizás." One particular audience member was none other than Jennifer Jones, the first female president of the worldwide service organization Rotary International. They aren't the first celebrities to visit the rural mountain towns of the Western Highlands of Guatemala.

In the 25-year history of Cooperative for Education (CoEd), pop singer Hancer, as well as Josh, Chuck, and producer Jeri of the popular US podcast "Stuff You Should Know," have all visited isolated communities like this. Why? It's all about education; as Gaby Moreno told the kids, "As someone who has ties to both Guatemala and Rotary, it's particularly meaningful to me—and worth celebrating—that Rotary and its partners—including Cooperative for Education—are creating lasting, positive change in Guatemala by improving education and creating opportunities for students here."

CoEd's mission is to break the cycle of poverty in Guatemala through education, empowering many indigenous Guatemalan students with opportunities that enable them



to determine their own stories and shape the destiny of their country.

When the organization was founded in 1996, approximately two out of three rural Guatemalans couldn't read or write. Fast forward multiple decades, and the ratio has shrunk to 1 in 3. Together with others, they've helped reduce illiteracy rates by 50%.

And with their 26th year right around the corner, CoEd has no plans of stopping, having already served over 60,000 students this year through four tried-and-true educational programs: Spark Reading, Textbooks, Computers, and Rise Youth Development.

These innovative and sustainable programs equip students with the tools to advance traditional and technological literacy in their communities, laying the groundwork for



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increased economic and social mobility in the future.

As of 2023, the San Lucas-based nonprofit has over 84,000 textbooks in circulation, established 56 computer centers, trained over 1,200 Spark teachers, and has given scholarships to over 2,000 Rise students.

After more than two decades of effort, nearly 280,000 students have benefitted from CoEd's programming—enough to fill Estadio Nacional Doroteo Guamuch Flores more than ten times over!

Education is the key that opens up doors for these students to set themselves—and future generations—up for success, empowering them to become strong leaders in their communities.

Take Rise student Yurleny, for example. Although once forced to drop out of school to care for her ill mother, Yurleny is now back in school and on track to graduate after receiving a Rise scholarship. She's even serving as an international advocate for education, with a feature in Rotary International Magazine in September of last year.

Yurleny expressed the following about how the Rise program helped her achieve her goals, "I thank God and CoEd for the scholarship to continue studying so that I can graduate from high school and in the future obtain a job to buy a house for my mother."

Thanks to CoEd and their generous supporters around the globe, the futures of thousands of students are looking considerably brighter.



From the beautiful hills of Chajalajjá, Spark teacher Blanca Matzul agrees, "My students can now read and write. I am convinced that the future of this country depends on each child who puts in the effort to learn to read and write, hope lies on them, and I am sure there is a bright future ahead."

To learn more about how CoEd's educational programs are helping open doors for students in underserved communities, visit:

www.coeduc.org/es



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Past Life and Between Life Soul Regressions

WITH JOYCE PAYSON

"Your Guide can take you to many different places in this realm.."

¡Para leer en español!



A **Past Life Soul Regression** is the process where you are induced into a hypnotic state called the theta brain wave state where the brain waves slow down creating a state of tranquility, creativity, and very deep relaxation. In this state, you are guided to the hall of Records where all past life knowledge is kept. You choose one door that will lead you to a past life. I as the therapist am responsible for guiding this past life and you and your guides are responsible for the content. In a PLSR you have the opportunity to receive information that will help resolve and understand issues you are working on in your current life. This is all possible because we are working at the soul level.

In a **Between Life Soul Regression**, the hypnotic induction is longer and deeper than in a Past Life Soul Regression. You first will experience another past

life. At the end of this past life, your body crosses back over to the other side. It is natural, easy, secure, and loving. Some of you will be greeted by one of your spirit guides, others by a loved one who has crossed over. At this point, you will process the past life you just experienced with your Guide.

Your Guide can take you

to many different places in this realm. You may be taken to meet your Council of Elders, a group of wise, loving, non-judgemental, evolved beings. You may meet your soul group, those souls you come into life with time after time. There is the possibility of knowing where your soul originated; you might be an Earth-based soul, an Interplanetary Soul, or from the Angelic Realm. During this regression, you will have the opportunity to ask questions about your current life's purpose, or perhaps why you are living the life of today. It is a magical journey to the time when you were a pure soul.

I have been a shamanic practitioner for over 30 years and my background is in shamanic healing. I was certified for PLSR with Dr Linda Backman in 2019 and certified in BLSR in 2020. Every one of the many clients I have worked with has had significant and enlightening experiences.

For an appointment or more detailed information, please contact me by WhatsApp at **+502 4124 8663** or email: **Joyce.Payson@gmail.com**.





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The future of work is shaping to be about flexibility, collaboration and innovation.

Opened in May 2021, **el cubo** offers all three. Whether looking to work for the day with a day pass, working out of an office, or holding an annual strategy meeting in one of its multiple meeting spaces, el cubo brings together a dynamic community of entrepreneurs, companies and creative freelancers to create an innovative hub for work generation in Guatemala.

Since opening up, el cubo has grown to house over 40 innovative companies, dozens of coworkers, and hosted events and programming that have attracted close to 1,000 visitors a month. With over 3,000 meters of work and recreational spaces, 80 parking spots, 4 conference rooms, Corazonada bistro, Artista Cafe, a fully equipped gym, Respiro, with trainer and nutritionist, and rooftop with volcano views, el cubo offers everything members dream of. Connectivity is provided by clear channel, fiber optic internet with redundancy, and el cubo counts with 24/7 access, security and a generator for emergency backup.

Located just seven minutes from Antigua's center, el cubo is developing a robust entrepreneurial ecosystem to transform Guatemala. By attracting a range of companies

from leading corporations, to social impact ventures like Eco-filtro, to a range of companies and coworkers in the tech, film, e-commerce, education, marketing and legal space, el cubo is proving that quality work can be generated from the Panchoy Valley to the world.

El cubo members not only benefit from working in a professional space but from the curated programming, networking and support provided. Just this month, el cubo joined in the launching of the **Impact Center**, a collaboration with Ernst and Young and the Pomona Foundation to support companies with world class services so they can scale.

Wait no longer, to be part of the community that is shaping Guatemala's future. el cubo awaits!

el cubo offers
Coworking from Day Passes for Q125
to monthly memberships and dedicated
desks in the \$145-\$200 range-Conference
Rooms- Events Spaces.

 **Km. 77 Ruta Nacional 14, San Lorenzo El Cubo, Ciudad Vieja, Sacatepéquez**

 **+502 3093 3699**

 **elcubocenter.com**



For events and meeting spaces,
contact: events@elcubocenter.com.

For more information
contact info@elcubocenter.com
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Rhinoplasty
Tummy Tuks

Dr. Milton Solis's specialty is aesthetic and reconstructive plastic surgery. His training was at the University of Guadalajara, Mexico, and he is a member of the American Society of Plastic Surgeons and the Asociación Guatemalteca de Cirugía Plástica.

He has 18 years of experience. The esthetics procedures performed by Dr. Solis are: rhinoplasty, eyelid surgery, face lifts, liposuction, tummy tucks, breast augmentation and reduction, ear surgery, and more. Spanish and English spoken.



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Dra. Schambach, a hair-restoration surgeon with a medical degree from Universidad Francisco Marroquín and an ISHRS active member, runs the Schambach Med-Group Hair Clinic which offers treatments for any kind of hair loss in any body area. This includes full hair-care cosmetic assessment, Platelet Rich Plasma, intradermal stimulating medications, micro-transplants with FUE technique (no scars, general anesthesia, or pain), among other treatments. Spanish and English spoken.



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IF SOMETHING GOES WRONG



 Tourist Office **INGUAT**
5a Calle Oriente #11

Tourist Police

6a Calle Poniente Final, Rancho Nimajay

Most visitors to Antigua have an enjoyable, memorable, and safe time. However, it's always good to know what to do if something goes wrong.

If you only remember one thing from this article let it be 1500. That's the 24-hour hotline to the Guatemalan Tourist Office (INGUAT). Their service is completely free, and they speak English!

Importantly, they have a designated English-speaking person in Antigua who oversees emergency help 24 hours a day.

For instance, they can help with medical emergencies- From arranging the logistics to get you stabilised in a private medical centre to transportation to a private hospital

in Guatemala City (If you've got insurance) or if not to the National Hospital.

In the unlikely event of being robbed, then you will need to head to the Tourist Police. It's important to have a police report made so you can make a claim on your insurance. Apparently, they have an English-speaking officer there every day between 8 AM till 8 PM.

After 8 PM, I would contact INGUAT for help coordinating with the Tourist Police. They can also assist with consular matters, especially emergency passports.

Thanks to Abraham Martinez, Angel Quiñonez and Ronny Castellanos for their help in writing this article.

1019



Located on the edge of Antigua (near El Calvario), this spacious 3-bedroom, 3-bathroom home located in a gated community is priced to sell!

\$340,000

1020



Stunning new build 3-bedroom house with swimming pool located in El Cortijo de las Flores gated community. One of my favourites!

\$750,000 + Impuestos

1021



Various pieces of land for sale in and around the very popular El Paredón. From 1216 varas up to 12,000 varas including beachfront.

Contact us for more details.

1022



Perfect house for workshops and retreats close to El Hato. With 5 bedrooms the house is set on almost 1/2 an acre of land.

\$500,000

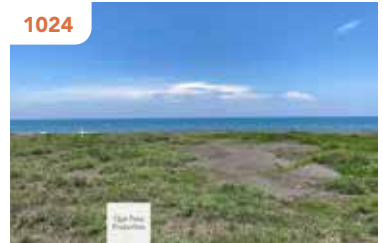
1023



Qué Pasa Properties has various model houses to order in the spectacular gated community of Los Franciscanos. Amazing clubhouse with huge swimming pool.

Prices start from \$260,000 plus tax

1024



1296 metres² beachfront land for sale close to Monterrico. Street access has its own well and electricity can easily be connected.

\$55,000

1001



Delightful 3-bedroom house with garden just 10 minutes from the centre of Antigua.

\$370,000 Negotiable

1025



New build 4-bedroom house located in Jacarandas. It's the jewel in the crown of gated communities in central Antigua.

\$1,700,000 + Impuestos

1002



Fabulous 2-bedroom loft apartment in up market gated community with swimming pool just a few minutes from the centre of Antigua.

\$325,000

To arrange a viewing contact

Scott Stanton

+502 5364 3432

scottquepasa@gmail.com



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