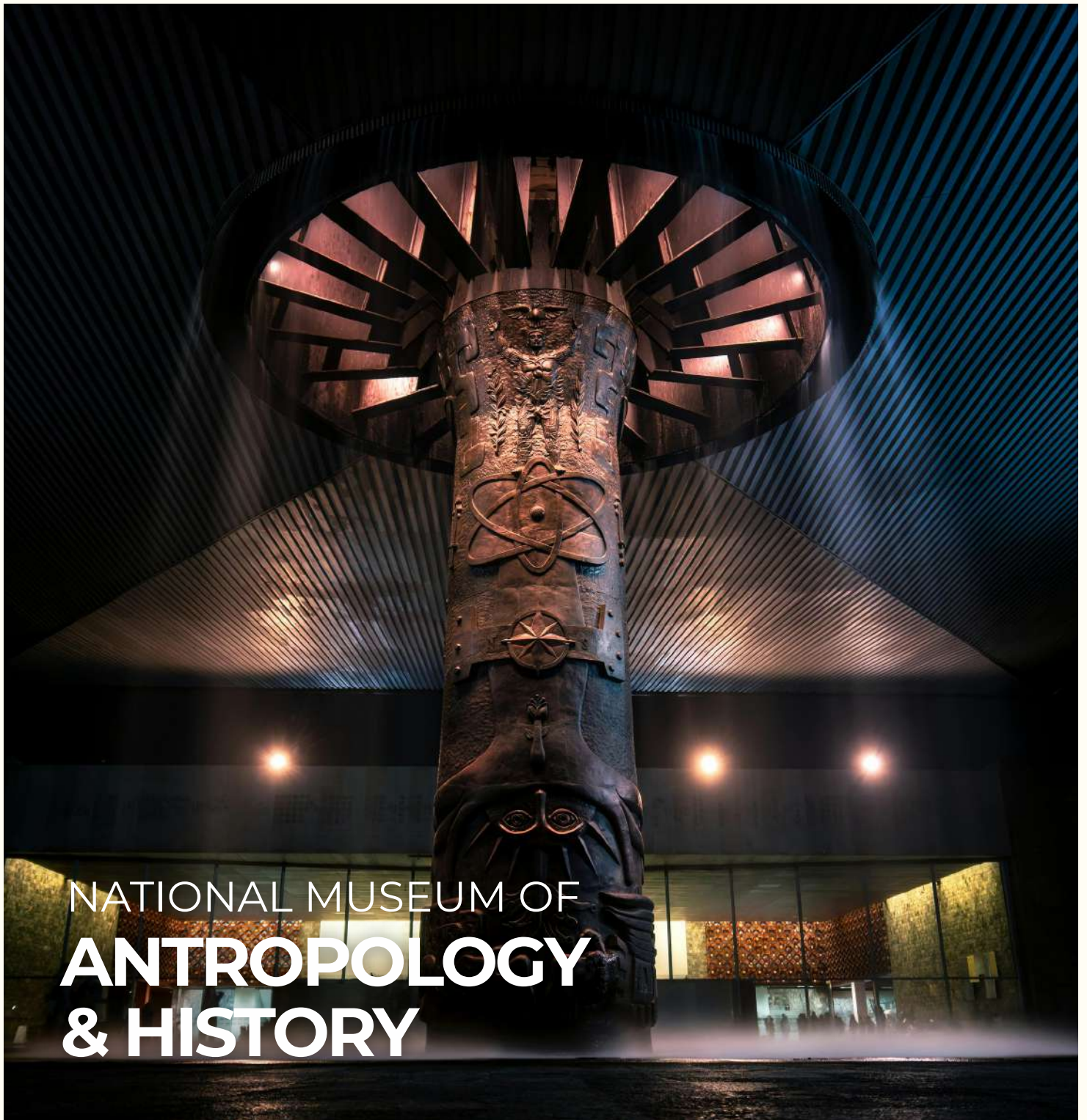




CHAPULTEPEC

MUSEUM + CASTLE



NATIONAL MUSEUM OF **ANTROPOLOGY & HISTORY**

This museum houses **the most important archaeological and ethnographic collection in Mexico**. It is a space dedicated to preserving, researching, and sharing the legacy of the cultures that have inhabited Mexican territory from pre-Hispanic times to the present day.

The current building was inaugurated in 1964; however, the origins of the museum date back to 1825, when President Guadalupe Victoria ordered the creation of the first National Museum of Mexico to gather and preserve the country's historical and archaeological heritage.

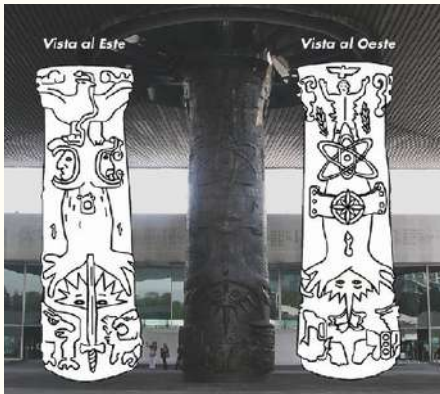


TLÁLOC MONOLITH

Upon arriving at the museum, you will be greeted by a monolith weighing **more than 160 tons**, identified as Tláloc, god of rain (although some researchers believe it may represent another deity related to water).

The sculpture was moved from the town of San Miguel Coatlinchán, in the State of Mexico, in 1964. The move was a **national event** that drew thousands of people who came to watch this impressive piece pass through the streets of the capital.

THE UMBRELLA IMAGE OF MEXICO



Architect Pedro Ramírez Vázquez wanted an open central courtyard, like the **pre-Hispanic ceremonial plazas**, but also protection from the sun and rain. This led to the creation of this canopy supported by a central column, whose silhouette resembles an open umbrella.

One of its most striking features is the curtain of water that falls around the column. It is not a conventional fountain: the water flows evenly down the entire perimeter of the central support, creating a visual effect of “rain” beneath the roof.

The bronze relief covering the column represents the **country's identity** through elements symbolizing the encounter between the indigenous and Hispanic worlds, industrial development, agriculture, education, and the nation's hope and future.

Museum is divided in 2 areas

ARCHEOLOGY

It presents the history of Mexico's **ancient civilizations** through 11 permanent galleries, dedicated, among other topics, to an introduction to anthropology, the settlement of the Americas, the Preclassic period, Teotihuacán, the Toltecs, the Mexicas, and the Maya civilization, among others.



ETNOGRAPHY

The exhibits showcase the **cultural richness** of the indigenous peoples currently living in Mexico. Through traditional clothing, tools, handicrafts, ceremonies, and traditions. The museum demonstrates that indigenous cultures continue to be an essential part of the **country's identity**.

The building was designed by architect Pedro Ramírez Vázquez, in collaboration with Rafael Mijares Alcérreca and Jorge Campuzano. It opened on September 17, 1964, and is considered a **masterpiece of modern Mexican architecture**. It covers more than 45,000 square meters, making it **the largest museum in Mexico** and one of the most notable in the world.



MUSEUM
HIGHLIGHTS

SUN STONE



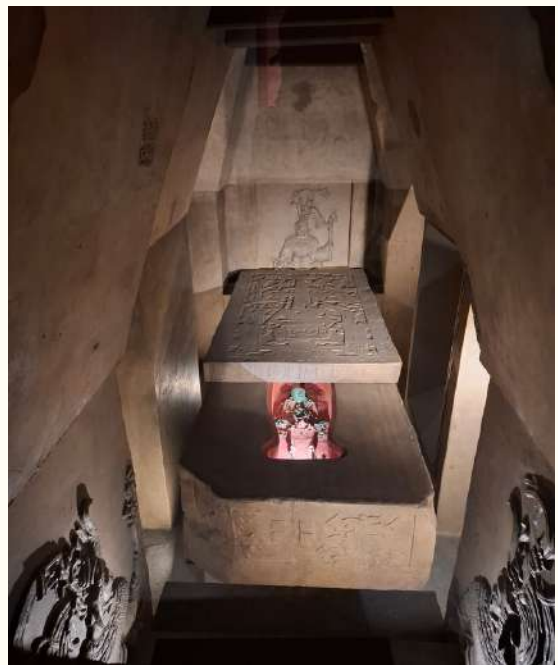
SCULPTURE OF
COATLICUE



PAKAL'S
FUNERARY'S MASK



REPLICA OF
PAKAL'S TOMB





CHAPULTEPEC CASTLE

Chapultepec Castle is located at the summit of Chapultepec Hill, about **2,325 meters above sea level**, and is one of Mexico's most important historical monuments. Its history spans more than two centuries, and it has been the scene of some of the country's most significant events.

In addition to being a **national symbol**, it is the only castle in the Americas that served as the official residence of an emperor.



Construction began in 1785 by order of Viceroy Bernardo de Gálvez, who wanted a **retreat away from the city** center. However, the project proved to be very costly and remained unfinished after the viceroy's death. For several years, it lay virtually abandoned.



In 1841, the building was designated to house the **Military Academy**, serving as an important training center for Mexican army officers. It was during this period that the **Battle of Chapultepec** took place.



In 1864, Emperor Maximilian of Habsburg and Empress Carlota chose Chapultepec Castle as their **official residence**. During their stay, they carried out **renovations**, including the creation of European-style gardens, panoramic terraces, marble staircases, and halls decorated with French furniture.



After the fall of the Empire, the castle was used as an **official residence** by several Mexican presidents. Notable among them were Porfirio Díaz, Francisco I. Madero, Venustiano Carranza, Plutarco Elías Calles, and Lázaro Cárdenas. In 1939, President Lázaro Cárdenas decided to stop using it as a residence and **convert it into a museum**.

THE MOST
NOTABLE ROOMS



MAIN COURTYARD



NATIONAL HISTORY
MUSEUM



STAINED-GLASS
WINDOWS



CARLOTA'S
BEDROOM



MALACHITE ROOM



IMPERIAL DINING
ROOM



TERRACES



GARDENS



VIEWPOINT
OVERLOOKING REFORMA





CHAPULTEPEC

Chapultepec Forest, covers an area of more than 800 hectares, is Mexico's most important urban park; it is considered **the “green lung” of Mexico City** and welcomes millions of visitors each year.

Its name comes from the **Nahuatl word Chapoltepēc**, which means **“Hill of the Grasshopper”** as it is composed of *chapolin* (grasshopper) and *tepetl* (hill).



Moctezuma Ilhuicamina

Before the arrival of the Spanish, Chapultepec was a **sacred site** for various Mesoamerican peoples. When the Mexicas arrived in the Valley of Mexico, they established one of their main places of **rest and recreation for rulers** here.

The tlatoani Moctezuma Ilhuicamina ordered to protect the forest and build an aqueduct to carry water from the Chapultepec springs to Mexico-Tenochtitlan, a major undertaking at the time. Several Mexica rulers had their portraits carved into the rock face of the hill. Although many were destroyed after the Conquest, some traces still remain.

THE CHAPULTEPEC BATTLE

One of the most memorable events in Chapultepec's history took place on September 13, 1847, during the Mexican-American War. The castle served as a military academy and was defended by soldiers and cadets against the advancing U.S. army. History particularly remembers the **Niños Héroes**, six cadets who became a **symbol of Mexican patriotism**. At the entrance to the forest stands the Altar to the Fatherland, a monument honoring their memory.



Chapultepec forest is currently divided in 4 sections:

1ST SECTION

Chapultepec castle, National Museum of Anthropology, Tamayo Museum, Modern Art Museum, Zoo y Major lake.

2ND SECTION

Sports facilities, Lago Menor, museums, and recreational areas

3RD SECTION

An ecological reserve with trails and conservation areas.

4TH SECTION

Recently incorporated into the “Chapultepec: Nature and Culture” project, it expands the space for cultural and environmental activities.



There's a **convenient and fun** way to explore part of Chapultepec Forest: **the little train**. More than just a mode of transportation, it offers a **scenic experience**. During the ride, you can enjoy views of gardens, monuments, museums, and recreational areas, while learning a little more about the forest's history.

TRIP THROUGH THE FOREST

Here are the places you'll enjoy along your tour.



1.- Site Museum and Visitor Center

This is the starting point, where visitors are introduced to the history of the forest, its evolution since pre-Hispanic times, and the environmental, cultural, and historical significance of this area.

2.- The David

A replica of Michelangelo's famous Renaissance sculpture. It is one example of the influence of European art in Chapultepec Forest.

3. Fountain of Temperance

An elegant, classic-style fountain that symbolizes moderation and balance. It is part of the collection of sculptures and ornamental fountains installed during the Porfirio era to beautify the forest.

4.- Moctezuma's Baths

Actually, these are ancient water reservoirs associated with the hydraulic system that harnessed the Chapultepec springs to supply Mexico-Tenochtitlan. They are among the oldest remnants of the forest.

5.- Los Pinos Cultural Complex



Stop to get off

It served as the official residence of Mexico's presidents from 1935 to 2018. Today, it functions as a cultural space open to the public, featuring exhibitions, gardens, and historic buildings.

6.- Canadian Tótem

A monument hand-carved from wood by the indigenous peoples of Canada's northwest coast. It was presented by Canada as a symbol of friendship between the two countries.

7.- Nezahualcóyotl Fountain

A fountain dedicated to the ruler of Texcoco, renowned as a poet, philosopher, and engineer. It pays tribute to one of the most important figures of pre-Hispanic Mexico and to his legacy in water management and architecture.

8.- Chapultepec Zoo

It is one of the most important zoos in Latin America. It is home to species from every continent and is famous for its conservation programs, especially those focused on the giant panda.

9.- Fountain of the Frogs



Parada para descender

A sculpture ensemble decorated with frog figures. It is one of the best-known spots in the forest and a favorite place for visitors to rest.

10.- Calzada del Rey "King's road"

A beautiful tree-lined path that connects different areas of the forest. Its name harkens back to the viceregal era, when it was used by officials and distinguished visitors.

11.- The Fountain of Don Quixote

Inspired by *Don Quixote of La Mancha*, Miguel de Cervantes' masterpiece. It is one of the most iconic tributes to Spanish literature in the forest.

12.- Don Quixote in the Clouds

A contemporary sculpture of the famous Knight of La Mancha, rendered in an artistic and symbolic style. It invites reflection on imagination, ideals, and dreams.

13.- Audiorama

One of the quietest spots in Chapultepec, a space designed for reading, contemplation, and ambient music, surrounded by trees and gardens.

14.- Monumental Grandstand

Also known as the Monument to the Fallen Eagles, it was built to commemorate the members of Squadron 201 and other Mexican military heroes. It is notable for its architecture and its enormous stone eagles.

15.- The Sergeant

One of the forest's most iconic trees. It is an ahuehuete tree that is several centuries old, considered a living witness to the history of Chapultepec and one of the oldest trees in the park.

DISCOVER THE FOREST *HIGHLIGHTS*



LAGO MAYOR

Take a boat ride, go for a walk around the area, and sit down to watch birds and squirrels.



ZOO

Meet Mexico's last giant panda—and the only one in all of Latin America.



MONKEY HAT

The iconic Forest souvenir



BOTANICAL GARDEN

It is home to more than 300 plant species from different ecosystems in Mexico.



MODERN ART MUSEUM

An art collection featuring works by Frida Kahlo, Diego Rivera, Remedios Varo, Leonora Carrington, and Rufino Tamayo.



SNAIL MUSEUM

It presents the history of modern Mexico through models, dioramas, maps, and interactive resources.



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EXPERIENCE



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