

# UXMAL

CHOCO-STORY



It has been part of the UNESCO World Heritage Program since 1996.



# UXMAL



Its etymology has not yet been explained; however, the traditional interpretation given to its meaning is "Three times built".

It once covered an area of 12 km<sup>2</sup> and had a population of around 20,000 inhabitants.



# THE HIGHLIGHTS



## NUNNERY QUADRANGLE

It is a complex made up of four palaces located on different levels, surrounding a courtyard. Its name was given by the colonizers due to its resemblance to old convents. The Quadrangle rests on a rectangular platform over four meters high and 100 meters on each side.



## THE DOVECOTE

This structure features very notable crests that resemble a dovecote, hence its name. The crests are formed by nine stepped triangles resting on a row of about 40 pillar-like niches. The surfaces of the crests also have carved figures.



## PYRAMID OF THE MAGICIAN

This pyramid stands over 30 meters tall, and its oval shape and smooth surface make it a unique structure. The grand building features five temples, situated at different heights and constructed in different periods. To reach the last temple, at the top, one would have to climb 150 steps.





# THE LEGEND OF THE PYRAMID OF THE MAGICIAN

The legend says that a sorceress found an egg and kept it in her home. One morning, she found the broken shell and discovered a child who had emerged from it. She took care of the child as if he were her own son. Although the child did not grow much in size, he spoke and behaved like an adult. The sorceress was convinced that her son was destined to be a great governor, and she encouraged him to challenge the current governor to take his place.

The governor, thinking he was very clever, accepted the challenge. For the dwarf to assume the position, he had to complete three tasks. The first was to build a long, straight white stone road. Faced with this impossibility, the dwarf turned to his mother, who advised him to ask the governor to lay the first stone. With great effort, the governor placed the large rock, and then the dwarf placed the second stone, followed by the effect of a spell that completed the *sacbé*, the road connecting Uxmal to Kabah.

Furious, the governor set a test he thought was impossible. This time, the dwarf had only one day to build the tallest house in the city, and if he succeeded, the governor would spare his life. Sleeping in his tears, the dwarf awoke on the largest pyramid in Uxmal, once again saved by the sorceress's spells.

With no other option, the governor challenged the dwarf to a contest of breaking *cocoyoles* (cocoa pods) on their heads; whoever could endure it would become the governor. The sorceress rubbed her son's head to protect him before the battle. The governor, very clever, started first but with no success; the *cocoyoles* did not hurt the dwarf, and he began to fear for his life. After the third *cocoyole*, the governor died from a head injury. Thus, the dwarf fulfilled his sorceress mother's expectations and was proclaimed governor of the city of Uxmal.



The image shows the exterior of the Choco-Story Chocolate Museum. The building has a blue upper section with the name 'CHOCO-STORY' in large, dark, serif capital letters, and 'THE CHOCOLATE MUSEUM' in smaller, dark, sans-serif capital letters below it. The lower section of the building is a light tan color with a series of white arches supported by columns. A set of red stairs with a black metal railing leads up to the entrance. In the foreground, there is a stone wall and some greenery, including a small palm tree on the left and various plants in the garden. The sky is clear blue.

CHOCO-STORY  
THE CHOCOLATE MUSEUM

# CHOCO- STORY

## CHOCOLATE MUSEUM

Choco-Story recovers the history of the ancient cacao: from its origins, distribution, and uses around the world, to showcasing its ancient Maya preparation methods.





The Maya used the cacao pod to create a Maya drink called “Chokoj Ha.” The word cacao comes from the Nahuatl word cacahoatl or cacahuatl, which means “bitter juice” or “chocolate.” In turn, “chocolate” comes from the Maya word chocol, meaning “hot,” and agua, creating this traditional beverage used to symbolize abundance, governance, and ancestry. It was used in matrimonial and religious ceremonies.



Cacao, considered the food of the gods, also played a very important role in the economy of the people, as cacao was used as currency for a long time due to bartering.



At Choco-Story, you will have the opportunity to be a chocolatier for a day, enjoying and discovering the techniques of cultivation, the variety of cacao beans, and their journey through history and origins. In its exhibition halls, you can appreciate Maya codices and artifacts related to cacao, as well as ancient tools and processes used in the preparation of the cacao bean.



The museum is located in a traditional Maya house, where you can experience firsthand how a middle-class Maya family lived, their traditional and everyday clothing, and how they conducted their funeral ceremonies.





Thank you for choosing Mexico to create unforgettable moments with your family and friends.

We are happy to have accompanied you on your journey and hope it was as enjoyable for you as it was for us.

If you enjoyed our service, please help us by sharing your experience.



Thank you