

Mexico is located in the Northern hemisphere, this means it is above the Equator.

Hola Mexico!

Festivals and celebrations.
In Mexico, many different festivals and special days are celebrated across the year and are a central part of Mexican culture. Special clothes, music, food, dancing and business closures as well as parties may all be involved as part of the celebrations.



Mexico's official name is:



Mexico Fact file
Size: 1.973 million km²
Population: 126.2 million
Capital City: Mexico City
Main religion: Roman Catholic

Mexico has 4 different time zones!

Dia de la Independencia (Independence Day)
The start of Mexico's fight for independence from Spain in 1810 is celebrated on the same date every year. Celebrations begin on 15th September with the President of Mexico ringing a bell in the National Palace in Mexico City before shouting 'Viva Mexico!' from the balcony. Gathering crowds sing the national anthem and wave Mexican flags. The colours of the Mexican flag are the central theme for decorations and clothing and can be seen throughout the many parties and parades the following day when banks, schools, offices and many other businesses close.



Mexico sits on the **Tropic of Cancer**, the most northerly point that the Sun can be directly overhead. The Tropic of Cancer also divides the country into two parts.

In the Northern hemisphere, the year begins with Winter and has a temperate climate.
A temperate climate has:
- Has a wider temperate range throughout the year
- Has more obvious seasons
- Typically has four seasons



Dia de los Muertos (Day of the Dead)
Loved ones who have died are remembered on the 1st and 2nd November when the day of the dead festival takes place. Skeleton costumes and skull decorations are popular both in homes and the streets where parades take place. Brightly decorated alters are set up by families with photos and favourite foods of the deceased adorning them.



Fiesta de Santa Cecilia (Festival of Saint Cecilia)
On 22nd November, more than 500 musicians perform songs dedicated to Saint Cecilia, the patron saint of music, at open air concerts and parades throughout Mexico.

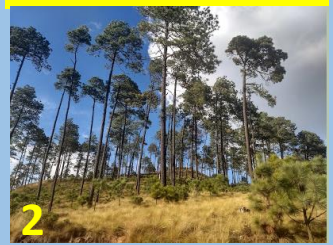
The Southern part has a tropical climate.
A tropical climate has:
- higher temperatures throughout the year
- only two seasons (a wet season and a dry season)
- intense sunlight

As well as having multiple climates across Mexico, a large area of it is also covered in mountains.

- 3 main biomes:**
1. Desert
 2. Temperate rainforest
 3. Tropical
 4. rainforest



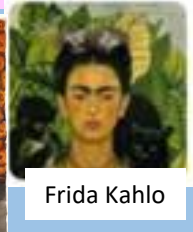
Currency: Mexican Peso



The Sierra Madre Mountain range consists of 3 parts:
- Sierra Madre Occidental (in the west)
- Sierra Madre Oriental (in the east –
-Sierra Madre del Sur (in the south)

Many different languages are spoken throughout Mexico but the main language spoken is Spanish.

Mexican folk painting has been influenced by many things, including nature, landscapes and religion. Brightly coloured paintings and jewellery are **key characteristics of Mexican art** and feature vibrantly coloured plants, forests and creatures as well as Mexican/Mayan patterns and abstract shapes.



Embroidered wall hangings are another traditional form of art which are also very popular.