Taxco de Alarcón

Guerrero · Mexico

TRAVEL GUIDE

Tripomatic



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Overview

Taxco is a silver-mining town in the mountains of Guerrero, with white houses, red-tile roofs and steep cobbled streets. A pink baroque church stands above the main square, and many workshops and shops sell silver jewellery. The town is a National Monument.

It suits a night or two, or a long day trip from Mexico City or Cuernavaca. The town is best seen on foot, with slow walks and views from viewpoints.

When to visit

The climate is mild at about 1,700 m. November to April is dry and pleasant. May to October has afternoon rain.

Semana Santa (Holy Week) brings dramatic processions and many visitors, and the silver fair is held in November.

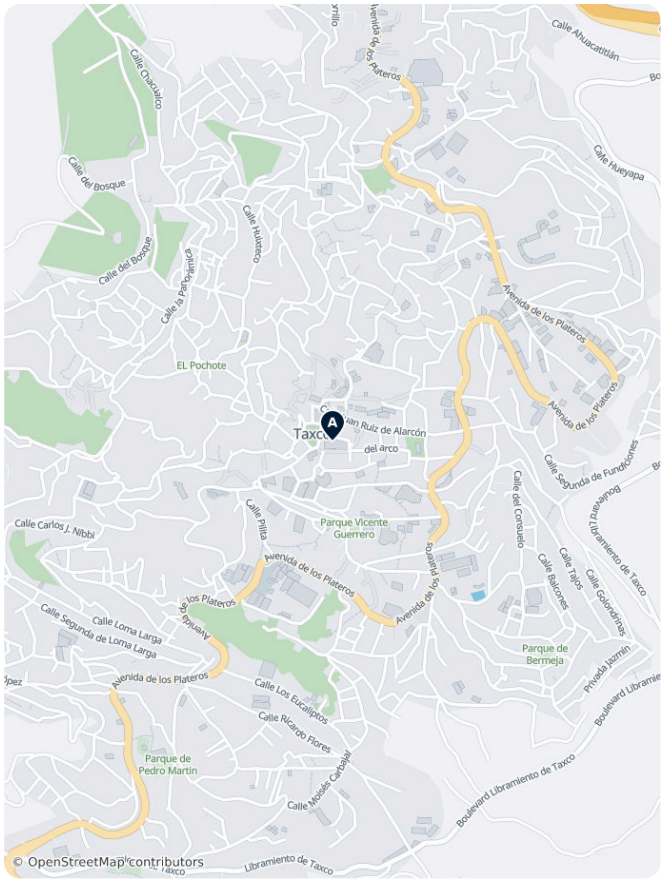
MONTH	CONDITIONS	DAY °C avg / max	NIGHT °C avg / min	
January	Great Great for sightseeing	25° / 28°	10° / 6°	25 sunny days · Dry air · Calm winds · UV 8 (Very high)
February	Great Great for sightseeing	28° / 31°	11° / 7°	25 sunny days · Dry air · Calm winds · UV 10 (Very high)
March	Great Great for sightseeing	30° / 33°	12° / 9°	28 sunny days · Dry air · Calm winds · UV 12 (Extreme)
April	Great Great for sightseeing	32° / 34°	15° / 12°	26 sunny days · Dry air · Calm winds · UV 12 (Extreme)
May	Fair Fair for sightseeing	31° / 35°	16° / 14°	Dry air · Calm winds · UV 11 (Extreme)
June	Fair Fair for sightseeing	27° / 33°	16° / 13°	24 rainy days · Calm winds · UV 11 (Extreme)
July	Fair Fair for sightseeing	24° / 28°	14° / 12°	27 rainy days · Calm winds · UV 11 (Extreme)
August	Poor Poor for sightseeing	24° / 27°	14° / 12°	29 rainy days · Calm winds · UV 12 (Extreme)
September	Fair Fair for sightseeing	23° / 26°	14° / 12°	27 rainy days · Calm winds · UV 10 (Very high)
October	Good Good for sightseeing	24° / 26°	13° / 8°	Calm winds · UV 9 (Very high)
November	Great Great for sightseeing	25° / 27°	11° / 7°	25 sunny days · Dry air · Calm winds · UV 8 (Very high)
December	Great Great for sightseeing	25° / 27°	10° / 6°	27 sunny days · Dry air · Calm winds

Best months: January, February, March, April, November, December

Climate data: NASA POWER (MERRA-2) · 1996–2025

Top sights

- A Catedral de Santa Prisca is the pink-stone baroque church from the 18th century, with an ornate golden altar.
- Zócalo is the main square, with benches, cafes and views of the cathedral.
- Casa Borda is a colonial house with a small cultural centre.
- Museo William Spratling shows pre-Hispanic objects and the story of Taxco's silver design.
- Cristo Taxqueño is a large statue of Christ on a hill, with a view over the town.
- Monte Taxco is a hilltop with a cable car and views of the valley.



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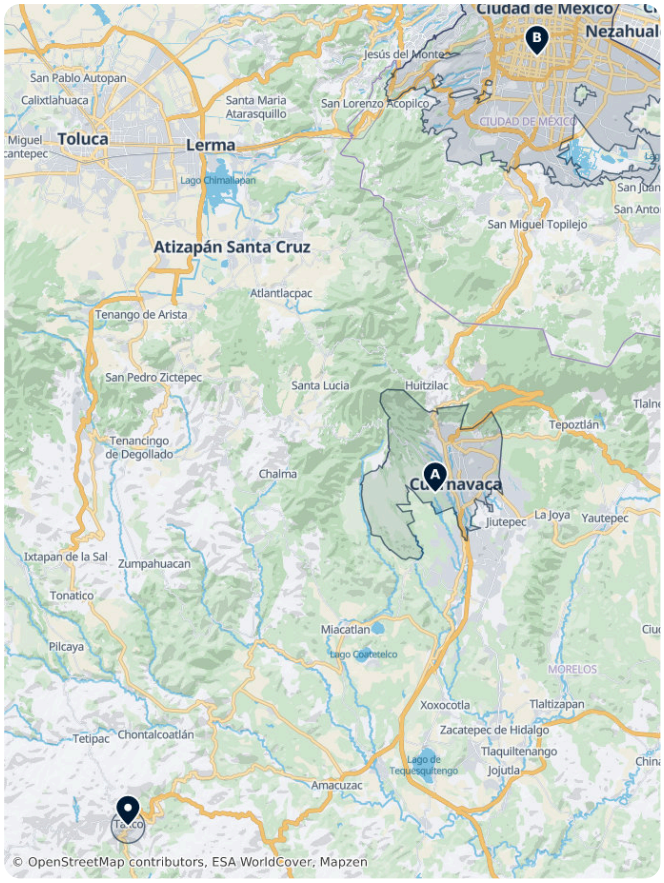
What to experience

- Shop for silver in a workshop and ask about the design and the quality.
- Take the cable car to the hilltop for a view over the town.
- Watch the Holy Week processions, if you visit in spring.
- Walk the old streets at dusk, when the houses glow.

Day trips

- A Cuernavaca: about 1.5 hours by car. A garden city with a cathedral and palace.
- B Mexico City: about 3 hours by car. Mexico's capital.
- Grutas de Cacahuamilpa: about 45 minutes by car. A large cave system.



Where to explore

- Cuernavaca for a garden city close to Mexico City.
- Acapulco for beaches on the Pacific.

Getting there

- **By bus**: Coaches run from Mexico City's southern bus station, about 3 hours. Local buses connect with Cuernavaca and Acapulco.
- **By road**: The toll road from Mexico City to Cuernavaca, then the road to Taxco, is in good condition.
- **By air**: The nearest large airport is Mexico City (MEX).

Getting around

- **On foot**: The old town is on steep hills. Take comfortable shoes.
- **Taxi**: White VW Beetle taxis are the main transport. Agree the fare first.
- **Colectivo**: Shared vans serve the main roads.

Getting around on foot & by bike

WALKABILITY

Low

The old town has steep, cobbled streets and many steps. Take comfortable shoes.

CYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE

Low

Steep slopes make cycling impractical.

Driving

- **Is a car worth it?**: Not needed in the town. A rental car adds freedom for caves and nearby villages.
- **Roads**: Streets are steep and narrow. Park outside the centre and walk.
- **Parking**: Paid lots are at the edges of the old town.

Food & drink

Taxco offers regional Guerrero food, such as pozole, tamales and cecina (dried meat). Many restaurants have rooftop terraces with views of the church.

Mezcal and local sweets are common.

What to eat & drink

LUNCH

Cochinita Pibil
Slow-roasted, citrus- and achiote-marinated pork, a Yucatán specialty traditionally cooked in an underground pit.

DINNER

Mole
A complex sauce, often built from chiles, spices, and sometimes chocolate; mole poblano and Oaxaca's several moles are the best known versions.

Chiles en Nogada
A Puebla dish of stuffed poblano chiles topped with a walnut cream sauce and pomegranate seeds, in the colors of the Mexican flag.

Pozole
A hominy stew with pork or chicken, topped with shredded cabbage, radish, and chile, traditionally eaten on special occasions.

SNACKS & STREET FOOD

Tacos
Corn or flour tortillas filled with meat, fish, or vegetables, with endless regional and stall-to-stall variation.

Tamales
Corn dough filled with meat, cheese, or vegetables, wrapped in a corn husk or banana leaf and steamed.

Elote/Esquites · Elote / Esquites
Grilled or boiled corn on the cob (elote) or served off the cob in a cup (esquites), topped with mayonnaise, cheese, chile, and lime.

DRINKS

Mezcal
A smoky agave spirit from Oaxaca and several other states, distinct from tequila, traditionally sipped neat.

Tequila
An agave spirit from the region around the town of Tequila in Jalisco, Mexico's best-known export spirit.

Horchata
A sweet, cinnamon-spiced rice-based drink, popular as a non-alcoholic accompaniment to spicy food.

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Safety & health

The old town is generally safe by day. Take usual care with bags and phones at night. Check local advice before you travel on rural roads in Guerrero.

- Streets are steep and slippery when wet. Wear shoes with grip.
- Buy silver from established shops, and look for the .925 mark.
- Drink purified or bottled water.

History

Spanish miners founded Taxco in the 1520s. In the 18th century, the silver magnate José de la Borda built the Santa Prisca church and other buildings. In the 1930s, the American William Spratling opened a silver workshop and made the town a centre of modern silver design.

Country facts

Quick practical facts for Mexico at a glance:

CURRENCY
MXN $

EMERGENCY
911

ELECTRICITY



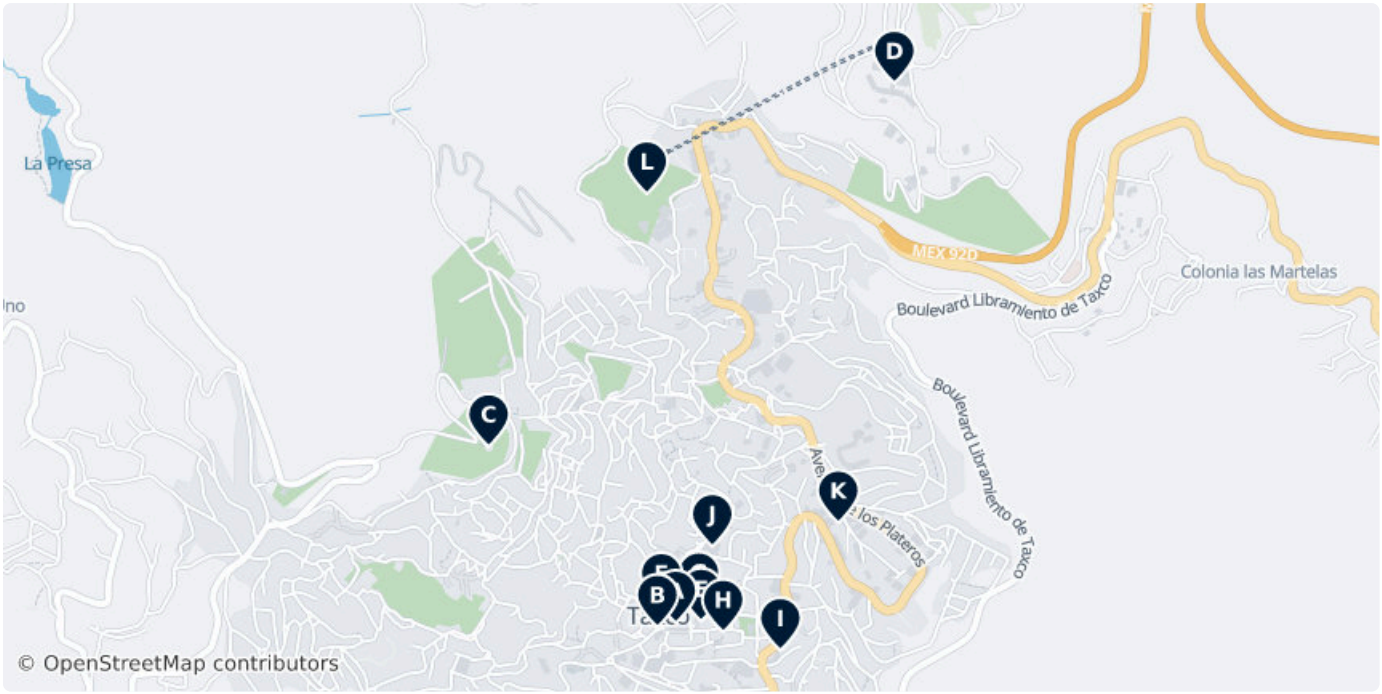
Type A / Type B
127 V · 60 Hz

LANGUAGES
Spanish

TAP WATER
Not safe to drink

Taxco de Alarcón Essentials

Taxco de Alarcón is a historic silver-mining town characterized by its steep cobblestone streets and white-walled architecture. This selection features the 18th-century Santa Prisca Church, a masterpiece of Mexican Baroque, and the central Plaza Borda. It covers essential cultural sites like the William Spratling Museum's archaeological collection and the Humboldt House's viceregal art. From the ruins of the Chorrillo Hacienda to the panoramic Cristo Taxqueña monument and the artisanal Silver Market, these locations represent Taxco's transition from a colonial mining hub to a center for world-class craftsmanship.





A Santa Prisca Church

The Parroquia de Santa Prisca y San Sebastían, commonly known as the Church of Santa Prisca, is a colonial monument located in the city of...

4 Calle Celso Muñoz, Taxco 40200, Mexico
(18.55640, -99.60483)

B Zocalo

Also called Plaza Borda, this is the focal point of activity. This square is the literal center of Taxco, people come here to see each other.

11 Calle Agustín de Tolsa, Taxco 40200, Mexico
(18.55630, -99.60531)

C Christ Monument

The tall statue overlooks Taxco as a still memorial of Christian roots of the contemporary Mexican society. The view is great from here.

Camino al Mirador, Mexico (18.56073, -99.60968)

D Monte Taxco

Take the funicular to the top of this hotel to enjoy the smashing view of the city - you can't get better views anywhere else.

Fraccionamiento Lomas de Taxco, 40210 Taxco de Alarcón, Mexico (18.56965, -99.59917)

montetaxcohotel.com, +52 762 622 1300

E William Spratling Museum

The William Spratling Museum is a museum in Taxco, Guerrero, Mexico. The museum contains 293 archeological pieces that were part of William...

Porfirio A. Delgado 1, Taxco, Guerrero, Mexico (18.55645, -99.60417)

+52 762 622 1660

F Borda House

The beautiful historical building houses a small exhibition dedicated to local history, particularly the silver mining and trade.

1 Calle Juan Ruiz de Alarcón, Taxco 40200, Mexico (18.55683, -99.60520)

+52 762 622 6617

G Humboldt House

Officially called Museum of Viceregal Art, this is where Humboldt spent one night.

Juan Ruiz de Alarcón 12, Centro, 40200 Taxco de Alarcón, Guerrero, Mexico (18.55685, -99.60423)

+52 762 622 5501

H Old Town

The core of Taxco is a showcase of colonial architecture. Just loosely wander around and look up at all the beautiful houses.

11A Calle Pajaritos, Taxco 40260, Mexico (18.55617, -99.60360)

I Silver Market

This market offers an amazing variety of silverware and jewelry in general. Be careful though, there are many scam sellers too.

197A Avenida de Los Plateros, Taxco 40260, Mexico (18.55573, -99.60212)

J San Bernardino de Siena

This church was built in the 16th century and then burnt down and restored again. You wouldn't know - it looks so old.

4 Callejón Primera Chachalacas, Taxco 40200, Mexico (18.55828, -99.60388)

K Juan O'Gorman's Mural

Awe-inspiring artwork created by the renowned Mexican architect and artist. If interested in these artsy details, do not miss out.

32 Calle del Hundido, Taxco 40230, Mexico (18.55886, -99.60062)

L Chorrillo Hacienda

According to oral history, this was the first settlement in Taxco area. Ruins of a silver smelter - worth stopping by.

(Unnamed Road), Taxco, Mexico (18.56693, -99.60558)

DATA SOURCES

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