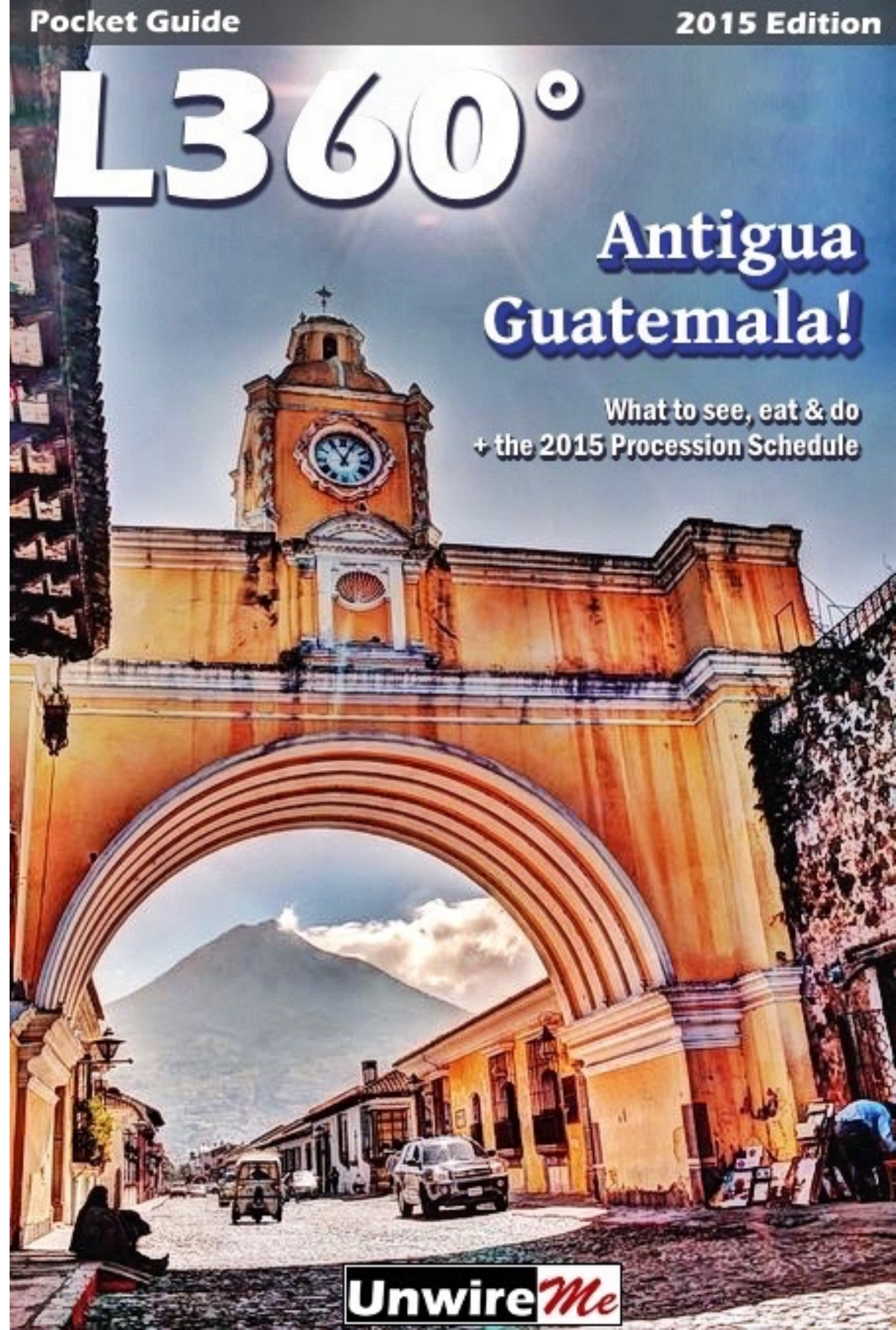


L360°

Antigua Guatemala!

What to see, eat & do
+ the 2015 Procession Schedule



How to navigate:

Swipe horizontally to navigate between pages.

Tap the globe icon to view links.



Tap the TV icon to watch video.



You're welcome to freely share this guide!

Location360°

Pocket Travel Guide to Antigua Guatemala
- Special Edition -

FROM THE EDITOR:

Thanks for checking out this special edition of Location360°! Lent festivities in Antigua are one of the best-known in the world - it's the city's time to shine. This guide contains the full processional schedule for 2015.

If you're here after the bustle of Holy Week, this guide will also be helpful to you. We've hand picked the best thing to see, do and places to eat. Use these lists as starting points for your exploration of this beautiful town.

As always, we'd like to note that all recommendations are our own - we haven't received a single to steer you otherwise. May you enjoy these places as much as we have.



If you do visit Antigua, we'd love to hear from you. Reach me at richpolanco@unwireme.com, or our social media at OkAntigua.com.

May you have a great time in wonderful Antigua.

Rich Polanco

Content

Practical Information p.4
([Click Here](#))

Top Things to See & Do p.6
([Click Here](#))

Map of Antigua p.12
([Click Here](#))

Antigua from Above p.14
([Click Here](#))

Getting Around p.16
([Click Here](#))

Where to Stay p.17
([Click Here](#))

Where to Eat p.18
([Click Here](#))

Guatemalan Cuisine p.22
([Click Here](#))

History of Antigua p.24
([Click Here](#))

Lent Season in Antigua p.30
([Click Here](#))

Map of Antigua Churches p.34
([Click Here](#))

Holy Week FAQ p.38
([Click Here](#))

2015 Procession
Schedule p.40
([Click Here](#))

Datebook
of Local
Festivities p.50
([Click Here](#))



Practical Information

SAFETY

Guatemala has an undeserved international reputation when it comes to safety, the remnant of a civil war that ended almost 20 years ago. That said, always be cautious - not paranoid - when traveling to Guatemala and you'll have a great time. As with any city you're unfamiliar with, follow these basic safety precautions: Don't flash jewelry, money, or expensive gadgets, and avoid unlit streets late at night.

Antigua itself is fairly safe. The city has its own English-speaking Tourism Police (phone # **7968-5303**), which provides assistance to tourists in case of an emergency. Reach them toll-free, from anywhere in Guatemala, at phone number **1500**. For the National Police, dial **120**, for the Fire Department dial **123**. By the way, Guatemala's country code is **502**. INGUAT, Guatemala's tourism information office, can also provide assistance (*5a Calle Oriente #13*, open daily from 8am to 4pm).

WEATHER

Antigua has a pleasant, spring-like climate most of the year. There's a rainy season that starts early mid-May and runs through October. Rainy season often brings afternoon thunderstorms. For the most part, temperatures tend to stay in the mid-70°s (24°C), though they can climb to the mid-80°s (29°C) from March to June. Bring a light jacket, as nightly temperatures can dip to the mid-50°s (13°C) throughout the year.



MONEY

Avoid exchanging money at the **Global Exchange** kiosk at the airport, save for a day or two worth of spending money - their rates are atrocious. Instead, withdraw money at ATMs around Antigua's Central Park.

Banco Industrial's (BI) blue ATMs have lowest fees. Yellow **5B's** ATMs are OK. Avoid white/red **BAC's** white/red ATMs, as some users have reported being victims of identity theft shortly after using them. Local banks will exchange euros and dollars, provided your bills are in near-mint condition.

For currencies other than dollars, you'll be forced to exchange them at the airport or at Global Exchange's branch in Antigua (Calle del Arco).

VISAS

Most visitors receive a tourist visa (90-day permit) upon arrival, whether by land, air, or sea.

If planning to extend your stay, ask for a 90-day extension at Guatemala's **Immigration Directorate** in Guatemala City prior to your first permit's expiration. Once your extension runs out, you will have to leave the country for 72 hours, to a non-CA4 country (any country other than Honduras, El Salvador or Nicaragua).

What to See & Do



(2) Arco Santa Catalina

The city's iconic landmark. The adjacent convent is now a hotel/restaurant. The arch, now closed to the public, once served as a passageway for nuns.

Location: *5a Avenida Norte* **Hours:** *Anytime*



(1) Parque Central

The place to people watch. Has beautiful jacaranda trees, which fill up with purple flowers. Its "Fountain of the Sirens" is a great photo-op. Safe to visit at all hours. An oasis during the week, it becomes crowded on weekends with locals, tourists and handicrafts vendors.

Location: *4a/5a Avenida & 4a/5a Calle*

Hours: *Anytime*



(3) Cerro de la Cruz

Great place to take in the view of Antigua and the three volcanos nearest to the city. Not much else there, but worth the trip.

Location: *Entrance on 1a Avenida Norte*

Hours: *Daylight only*



(4) Santo Domingo del Cerro

A great way to spend a few hours. Has an interesting open-air art gallery featuring works by **Efrain Recinos**, Guatemala's most renowned artist, and others. Expanded last year, it now has a one-room museum displaying personal belongings of writer **Miguel Asturias**, Guatemala's Nobel Peace Prize recipient, and a room that housing artifacts used by **Pope John Paul II** during his last visit to Guatemala. For the young ones, there's a new playground as well, in addition to an aviary. The region's best canopy rides are here too and views of surrounding volcanoes are excellent. White-tablecloth restaurant **Tenedor del Cerro** is an excellent place to enjoy breakfast. Best of all? Admission is free if you take **Hotel Museo Casa Santo Domingo's** free shuttle up to the restaurant (dining there not required). Parking is Q10 if driving up.

Location: Shuttle at 3a Calle Oriente #28A

Hours: 7am to 10pm - Closed Monday



(5) San Francisco Church

Hermano Pedro, Guatemala's canonized saint, lies here. A museum housing his personal effects is inside the convent's ruins.

Location: 1a Avenida Sur **Hours:** Museum - Q5 (9am to 4:30pm), Church (6:15am to 6:15pm)



(6) La Merced Church

Beautiful yellow façade. Self-guided tour of ruins in English. Has great volcano views and largest fountain in Central America.

Location: 1a Calle Poniente, 6a Avenida Norte

Hours: Convent - Q15 (8am to 6pm), Church (7am to 8pm)



(7) Mercado de Artesanias

Good place to find quality handicrafts. Bargain hard - any price first quoted can be as high as 50-100% above actual price.

Location: *4a Calle Poniente, Cda Santa Lucia*

Hours: *7am to 10pm - Closed Monday*



(8) Mercado Central

A sensory overload of sight and sound. Official days are Mondays, Thursdays and Saturday, less crowded other days. Safest to visit during hours of 7am and 2pm.

Location: *Behind Alameda Santa Lucia*

Hours: *Every day from 7am to 6pm*

Antigua Pocket Guide



(9) Las Capuchinas Convent

Ruins with an interesting architecture - its circular cells are thought to be the first apartment building in the Americas.

Location: *2a Calle Oriente/ 2a Avenida Norte*

Hours: *Daily, 9am to 5pm - Q40 p/p*



(10) Museums Promenade

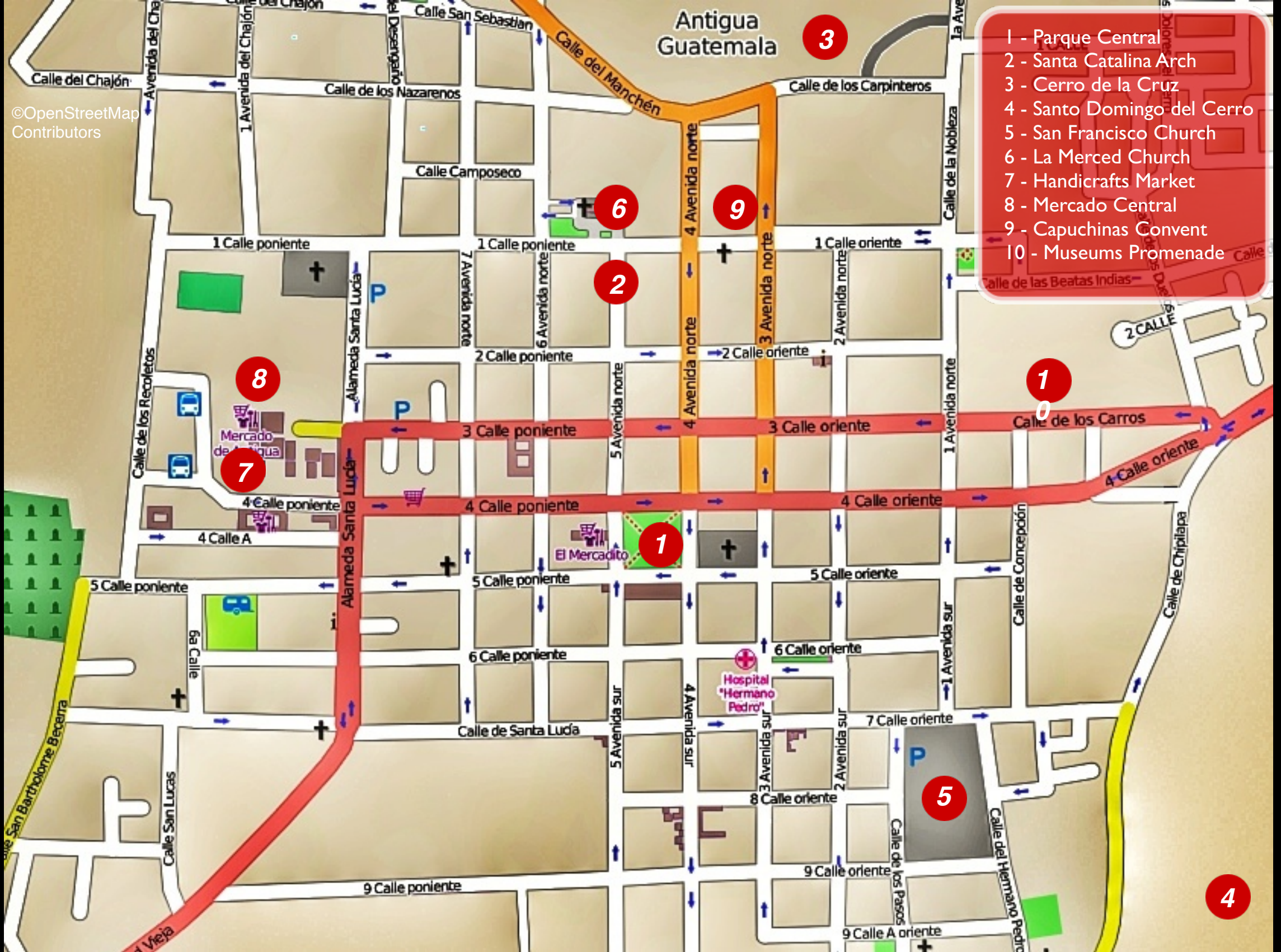
Tour six museums inside **Hotel Casa Santo Domingo**. See colonial and Maya art, archeological findings and crypts in what was once Antigua's largest convent.

Location: *3a Calle Oriente #28A*

Hours: *Daily, 9am to 6pm - Q40 p/p*

OkAntigua.com

©OpenStreetMap
Contributors



- 1 - Parque Central
- 2 - Santa Catalina Arch
- 3 - Cerro de la Cruz
- 4 - Santo Domingo del Cerro
- 5 - San Francisco Church
- 6 - La Merced Church
- 7 - Handicrafts Market
- 8 - Mercado Central
- 9 - Capuchinas Convent
- 10 - Museums Promenade

TOP ANTIGUA ATTACCIONS

See Antigua from Above!



Cerro de la Cruz

Antigua is located in the Panchoy Valley, surrounded by three volcanoes: Agua (inactive), Fuego (active) and Acatenanago (semi-active). You don't need to climb one of these volcanoes to get a great view of the city.

Head over to **Cerro de la Cruz** for breathtaking views of Antigua and the valley. To get there, follow 1st Avenue North. There's a footpath that will take you up to the top. Tourism Police will also provide an escort, or ride, if requested. Limit visits to daytime hours.



View From Earth Lodge

On the same road that leads to Cerro de la Cruz, heading towards El Hato village, you'll find the entrance to **Earth Lodge**, another excellent place to catch great views of the valley.

But a visit to Earth Lodge is more than just about views. Part avocado farm, it also has excellent food - their burgers are a personal favorite. Check out their hammocks, camping grounds, and even book a tree house for a night or two. (EarthLodgeGuatemala.com).

See More
Cerro de la Cruz Pics:



See More
Earth Lodge Pics:



Getting Around

Flying in? Antigua is a 50-minute shuttle ride from Guatemala City's La Aurora Airport. Look for "Antigua Shuttle" signs upon exiting Customs, or arrange with hotel. Cost: Q80-Q90 (\$10-\$12).

Driving in? Pan-Am Highway CA-2 connects Mexico and El Salvador. Follow signs for Guatemala City (CA-9). Follow turnoff to Antigua (RN-14).

Getting around: Antigua is easy to explore on foot. For longer distances, use a tuk-tuk - three-wheeled motorbikes (Q5-Q20/\$0.60-\$2.50). Chicken buses travel to outlying communities(Q1-Q3.50/\$0.12-\$0.50). Taxis are available at the taxi stand across the east side of Parque Central.

TIP: ALWAYS negotiate the total fare cost with taxi and tuk-tuk drivers BEFORE you get inside the vehicle. Don't be scammed.



Where to Stay

There are quite a few places to stay in Antigua. Below are our picks. Remember to book early if coming to Antigua during Holy Week or at Christmastime.

BUDGET

Yellow House Hostel: Of the cheap ones, the best of the bunch. Great terrace, friendly staff, clean rooms, good WiFi, and breakfast included. (*1a Calle Poniente #24*). **Under \$25USD.**

MIDRANGE

Hotel Casa Cristina: Clean, nicely decorated. Amazing terrace views. (*Callejon Camposeco, between 6a and 7a Avenida*). **Under \$50USD.**

Casa Florencia Hotel: Beautiful hotel on the edge of town. Keep in mind if walking back late. Excellent service, quiet surroundings. (*7a Avenida Norte #100*). **Under \$100USD.**

HIGH-END

Meson Panza Verde: Luxury hotel and restaurant. (*5a Avenida Sur #19*). **Over \$100**

Porta Hotel Antigua: Good pool, beautifully decorated hotel. (*8a Calle Poniente #1*). **Over \$100**

Where to Eat

Antigua Guatemala is a great place for foodies. There are over 150 eating establishments here, most within walking distance of each other. Here are some we consider to be the best of the best:

Breakfast

Panadería Santa Clara: Bakery/restaurant popular with locals. Restaurant next door offers varied breakfast options. Has a covered terrace. (2a Avenida Sur #24). \$

Doña Luisa Xicontecatl: Bakery/restaurant - try the banana bread. Breakfast is great as are lunch options. (4a Calle Oriente #12). \$

Fernando's Kaffe: Great coffee and chocolate. Limited menu. Good WiFi too. (7am Avenida Norte and Callejon Camposeco). \$

Y Tu Piña También: Muffins, sandwiches and friendly staff. Bacon pancakes and a Sunday brunch. (1a Avenida Sur #10B and 6a Calle). \$

Rainbow Cafe: Open for breakfast to dinner. Vegan & gluten-free options. Live music on weekends, open mike nights Wednesdays. (7am Avenida Sur #8). \$

Cafe Condesa: Strong coffee, great omelets. Serving breakfast all day! Sunday brunch. (5a Avenida, across Parque Central). \$

Tenedor del Cerro: Come on a clear morning to Santo Domingo del Cerro to gaze at the volcanoes in the distance while munching on french toast. Free shuttle from **Hotel Casa Santo Domingo**. (Closed Mondays). \$\$ (Rating is for breakfast prices).



Lunch

Hector's: Tiny restaurant consistently ranks as one of the best. (*1a Calle Poniente #9A*). \$\$

Quinchos Restaurante / Hugo's Ceviches: Ceviche (Guatemalan seafood cocktail) and *micheladas* (beer + tomato juice + lime + hot sauce cocktail). Quinchos' truck is parked at Alameda Santa Lucia, while Hugo's is at 2a Avenida Norte. Hugo's restaurant has nice seating, a playpen for kids and free WiFi. Both \$\$.

Hugo's Restaurant: *7a Calle Poniente #11*

Quinchos Restaurant: *Ave. La Recoleccion #55*

Sobremesa: Unicorn steak! Chef Alex Ferrer is always creating. (*4a Calle Oriente #4A*). \$\$\$

Cactus Taco Shop/Cactus Grill: Go for shrimp & bacon tacos. (*6a Calle Poniente #21*). \$\$

Pappy's BBQ: Texas ribs, brisket, pork, and smoked meats. (*6ta Calle Poniente #21B*). \$\$

Metiz Deli & French Bistro: Tasty sandwiches - try the "Burger Sandwich". (*4ta Avenida Norte 4A - Closed Mondays*). \$\$

Dinner

Por Que No? Cafe (Why Not? Cafe):

Known for eggplant dishes and quirky ambience. (*2da Avenida Sur #9a*). \$\$

COMO COMO: Run by a Belgian couple, this gastropub serves a variety of pasta and meat dishes. Chocolate mousse is a must-try. (*6a Calle Poniente #6*). \$\$\$ - Closed Mondays

Bistrot Cinq: A true French bistro. Open for lunch and dinner. Big wine list and absinthe. Sunday brunch. (*4a Calle Oriente #7*). \$\$\$

La Peña del Sol Latino: Great Mexican and Guatemala food. Live music starts at 7pm (*5a Calle Poniente #15*). \$\$

Meson Panza Verde: For a romantic evening or special occasion. Reserve the "cueva" (grotto) if you really want to impress someone. High-end meals, wine to match. Dress up. (*5ta Avenida Sur #19 - Continental cuisine*). \$\$\$\$

Price Guide

\$ = Under Q50 (\$6.25)

\$\$ = Dishes are Q50 - Q100 (\$6.25 - \$12.50)

\$\$\$ = Dishes Q100 - Q150 (\$12.50 - \$18.75)

\$\$\$\$ = Over Q150 (Over \$18.75)

Guatemalan Cuisine

Guatemalan cuisine, while not world-renowned, is inexpensive and filling. Corn is a staple in many dishes and in the form of tortillas, as are black beans, or *frijoles*. Contrary to what some may believe, Guatemalan cuisine is a lot less spicier than that of Mexico. Flour tortillas are not very popular here either.

A typical Guatemalan breakfast consists of eggs, refried beans, sweet plantains, fresh cheese, and corn tortillas. For lunch, try a cheap (Q20/\$2.50) and filling *almuerzo del dia* (lunch of the day) consisting of meat, rice or potatoes, beans, salad and - again - corn tortillas. Dinner is more of the same in slightly different configuration, with corn tortillas, of course.

To get a taste of Guatemalan food, you can either go the touristy route, or go where the locals eat. For Guatemalan specialties, such as *tamales*, *atoles* (corn drink), *rellenitos* (sweet plantain stuffed with a black bean sauce very similar to chocolate), among other dishes, locals prefer to visit **San Felipe's handicrafts market**. To get there, follow 6th Avenue North, past **La Merced Church** - it's a 5-minute tuk-tuk ride away from there. For the tourist experience, head to **Los Tres Tiempos** (*5a Avenida Norte #31*).

For an inexpensive, tasty lunch, visit **Rincon Tipico** (*3a Avenida Sur*), half a block away from Hermano Pedro Hospital - their wood-roasted chicken is great. Dishes you should also try are *ceviche* - seafood marinated in lime, and *pepián*, a traditional beef stew, the latter at **La Casa de las Sopas** (*7a Avenida Norte #5*).



© Rich Polanco

Tortilla Preparation



© Rich Polanco

Guatemalan Street Food

Watch Tortilla
Preparation:



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A (Very) Brief History of Antigua



Santa Catalina Arch

Heaven is an apt adjective to describe Antigua. At least for me anyway.

Maybe Antigua's gorgeous weather year-round has something to do with it. Its magnificent colonial Spanish architecture has earned it a designation as a UNESCO World Heritage city. I love its beautiful church ruins and cobblestone streets, which gives one the feel of being in the middle of an open-air museum. Antigua's stunning volcano backdrop has been mesmerizing visitors for centuries.

But for all its architectural wonder, there's something else about Antigua that draws travelers in. This city is one of those places that invite exploration, always tugging at you to stay a little longer. As one of the most walkable cities in the world, Antigua has earned a place in the conversation as a great Slow Travel destination.

Antigua means "old" or "ancient" in Spanish. The city's original name was Santiago de Los Caballeros. People have been referring to the city as "Old Guatemala" ever since the capital was moved to its present location.

More
Antigua Pics:



Established in 1543 as the Spanish seat of government in the region, Antigua quickly became a popular destination for Spanish dignitaries and Catholic missionaries on assignment to the New World. At the height of Antigua's power and influence, the city boasted 38 churches, many of them magnificently appointed and well-renowned.



La Merced Church, Antigua

Two earthquakes, one in 1717 and another in 1773 destroyed most of the city. Officials relocated the capital to where present-day Guatemala City now stands.

Almost razed by officials desperate for construction material needed to build the new capital. Antigua's damaged buildings were allowed to remain standing thanks to a small group of residents who defied orders to move to the new capital. It wasn't until the arrival of a very profitable crop, coffee, that Antigua finally began to rise again.



Courtyard, Jesuit Monastery

In 1944, Antigua was declared a national monument. In 1979, the city was designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site and since then, restoration efforts haven't stopped.

Antigua offers that rare combination of modern conveniences and authentic local flavor. Best of all, its attractions are located within a small, easily accessible geographical area.

One can't-miss event is *Semana Santa* (Holy Week). Though the city fills up with tourists, these processions will give you a glimpse into Guatemala's culture through the eyes of their religious traditions.

To avoid tourist crowds and get more of the local flavor, seek out carnival-like festivities known as *patronales*. Entertaining and worth a visit.

See for yourself why Spanish conquistadors chose the Panchoy Valley to settle by getting a birds' eye view of Antigua from two magnificent lookout points.

Last, step off the tourist trail. Explore the city at leisure and soak in the atmosphere.

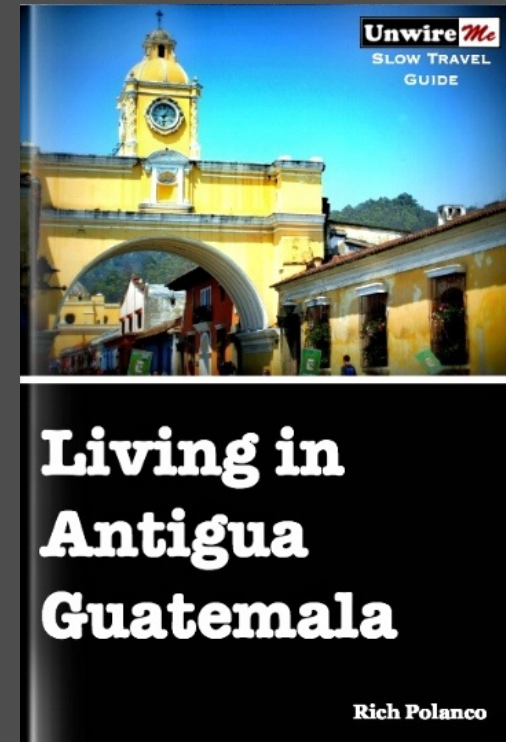
I'm almost certain you'll agree that Antigua is heavenly.



Antigua Pocket Guide

Thinking of moving to Antigua Guatemala for a month? Six months? A year?

Check out the how-to guide
Living in Antigua Guatemala!



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Lent Season in Antigua

Antigua's *Semana Santa* - Holy Week - religious processions are world-famous. While there are similar celebrations in other countries, Antigua's are certainly among the most elaborate. Massive floats - known as *andas*, some which weigh over 6,000 pounds, are the centerpiece of these celebrations. *Andas* are carried for miles along predetermined routes by *Cucuruchos*, as purple-robed *anda* bearers are known.

The smell of incense and solemn, mournful music fills the air during these religious processions. Many of Antigua's cobblestone streets are adorned with *alfombras* - colorful dyed-sawdust carpets bearing intricate patterns. Participation in *anda* processions and the making of sawdust carpets are oftentimes family traditions that go back generations.

This year, Holy Week starts on Palm Sunday (March 29th), ending on Holy Saturday (April 4th), while Easter Sunday falls on April 5th. If you won't be here for Holy Week, don't despair! While most of the elaborate processions take place during Holy Week, there are many processions during the run-up to Palm Sunday.

Check out the 2015 Lent & Holy Week Procession Calendar ahead.



Cucuruchos

© Rich Polanco



Alfombra

© Rich Polanco

- **Watch** for pickpockets in crowded areas.
- **Book** your room early if planning to arrive in March.
- **Staying longer?** Rental rates skyrocket around this time. Arrive in March or earlier for better selection and lower rates.



Watch a
Good Friday Procession:



See More
Holy Week Pics:



Churches North and East of Antigua



Parque Central



Jocotenango General Cemetery



Nuestra Señora de la Asunción Church



San Felipe de Jesus Church



La Merced Church



San Jose Cathedral



Santa Ines Monte Pulciano Church

Churches South of Antigua



-  Parque Central
-  San Francisco El Grande Church
-  Escuela de Cristo Church
-  Santa Ana Church
-  El Calvario Church
-  Santa Catarina Bobadilla Church

Holy Week FAQ

◆ **What is a Procession?** Most churches have religious statues on display year-round - some are priceless works of art. At Lent and during Holy Week, many of these statues are paraded reverentially in what are called **processions**.

◆ **What about floats and flower carpets?** Floats, known as "andas", are the platforms on which religious images are carried. Some floats are so heavy that multiple shifts, each with as many as 100 men, are needed to carry them. Elaborate flower, fruit, and colored sawdust carpets (*alfombras*) are created along a procession's route. These *alfombras* take hours to make for the purpose of being walked on by *anda* bearers.

◆ **What is a Vigil, or "Velación"?** Before a religious image leaves a church on a procession, it's displayed in an elaborate setting inside its "home" church - usually two days

before they're scheduled to be paraded. This is known as a "velación" or vigil. Vigils are great photo-ops. Know they're not timed, as they're just displays. Avoid taking pictures during Mass and dressing in tank tops or shorts inside a church.

◆ **How long do processions last?** Processions start and end at the same church. Depending on the length of the journey, a procession will often last six or more hours. Nearly all processions, at some point, will make the pilgrimage to Parque Central and do a ceremonial stop in front of San Jose Cathedral. Exact times/location of a procession can be hard to pin down - the information booths located at the corners of Parque Central can provide an estimate.

◆ **What are Stations of the Cross?** Similar to processions, they differ in that they have scheduled stops where scenes of the life and death of Jesus are reenacted. They usually don't return to the point of departure.



Vigil at San Bartolome Church

Holy Week Calendar

Schedule has the following format:

<Event>, <Statue Venerated>, <Location>

Processions are marked with a '•'

Ash Wednesday - February 18

Imposition of Ashes - All Churches

Vigil, Jesús Nazareno del Milagro, *San Felipe de Jesús*

Friday - February 20

Vigil, Santo Cristo del Perdón, *San José Cathedral*

Vigil, Jesús Nazareno de la Salvación, *Santa Catarina Bobadilla*

Saturday - February 21

Vigil, Virgen de Dolores, *San Felipe de Jesús*

1st Sunday of Lent - February 22

• 11:00 Hrs. **Procession**, Jesús Nazareno de la Salvación, *Santa Catarina Bobadilla*

2nd Wednesday of Lent - February 25

Vigil, Jesús Nazareno, *Cuasi Parroquia, Los Llanos Jocotenango*

2nd Friday of Lent - February 27

Vigil, Jesús Nazareno, *Santa Inés del Monte Pulciano*

18:00 Hrs. **Stations of the Cross**, *San José Cathedral*

2nd Saturday of Lent - February 28

Vigil, Santísima Virgen de Dolores, *Nuestra Señora de La Asunción*

• 17:00 Hrs. **Procession**, Jesús Nazareno, *Cuasi Parroquia, Los Llanos Jocotenango*

• 18:00 Hrs. **Procession**, Anniversary of Consecration, *Santa Catarina Bobadilla*



Won't be in Antigua to catch the Lent and Holy Week festivities? Don't be bummed out! Antigua has a small, interesting museum dedicated to all things Holy Week. Head to **Museo de las Tradiciones de Semana Santa**, set inside what is believed to be the former home of enigmatic and in her time, controversial nun **Sor Juana de Maldonado**. (4a Calle Oriente #45). Q15 p/p.

Alfombra



Holy Week Calendar (cont.)

2nd Sunday of Lent - March 1

• 12:45 Hrs. **Procession**, Jesús Nazareno, *Santa Inés del Monte Pulciano*

3rd Friday of Lent - March 6

Vigil, Jesús Nazareno El Dulce Rabí, *Nuestra Señora de La Asunción*

3rd Saturday of Lent - March 7

• 13:00 Hrs. **Children's Procession**, Jesús Nazareno, *Santa Ana*
• 14:00 Hrs. **Children's Procession**, *Nuestra Señora de La Asunción*

3rd Sunday of Lent - March 8

• 11:00 Hrs. **Procession**, Jesús Nazareno El Dulce Rabí, *Nuestra Señora de La Asunción*
Children's Vigil, Jesús Nazareno El Peregrino (Infantil), *La Merced*

4th Friday of Lent - March 13

Vigil, Jesús Nazareno de la Dulce Mirada, *Santa Ana*
Vigil, Replicas of Señor Sepultado and Santísima Virgen de Soledad, *Escuela de Cristo*

4th Saturday of Lent - March 14

Vigil, Santísima Virgen de Soledad, *San José Cathedral*
• 15:00 Hrs. **Children's Procession**, Replicas of Jesus Nazareno de la Caída and Santísima Virgen de Dolores, *San Bartolomé Becerra*

4th Sunday of Lent - March 15

• 11:00 Hrs. **Procession**, Jesús Nazareno de la Dulce Mirada, *Santa Ana*

5th Wednesday of Lent - March 18

Vigil, Virgen de Dolores, *San Bartolomé Becerra*

5th Friday of Lent - March 20

Vigil, Jesús Nazareno de la Caída, *San Bartolomé Becerra*
Vigil, Jesús Nazareno de La Esperanza, *Santa Lucia*
Vigil, Jesús Nazareno Infantil, *General Cemetery, Jocotenango*

5th Saturday of Lent - March 21

Vigil, Santísima Virgen de Dolores, *San Francisco*
Vigil, Señor Sepultado, *San José Cathedral*
• 15:00 Hrs. **Children's Procession**, *Escuela de Cristo*

5th Sunday of Lent - March 22

• 07:00 Hrs. **Procession**, Jesús de la Caída, *San Bartolomé Becerra*

Passion Tuesday - March 24

Vigil, Santísima Virgen de Soledad, *San Felipe de Jesús*

Passion Wednesday - March 25

Vigil, Santísima Virgen de Soledad, *Escuela de Cristo*

Passion Thursday - March 26

Vigil, Jesús Nazareno del Desamparo, *San José Cathedral*

Passion Friday - March 27

03:00 Hrs. **Stations of the Cross**, Hermano Pedro (Men), *San Francisco*
• 15:00 Hrs. **Children's Procession**, Jesús Nazareno del Desamparo, *San José Cathedral*
Vigil, Jesús Nazareno de la Humildad, *San Cristóbal El Bajo (continued...)*

Vigil, Virgen de Dolores, *La Merced*
Vigil, Virgen de Dolores, *Santa Ana*
Vigil, Jesús del Silencio y Virgen de Soledad, *El Calvario*
•19:00 Hrs. **Procession**, Santísima Virgen de la Soledad,
Nuestra Señora de La Asunción

Palm Saturday - March 28

05:00 Hrs. **Stations of the Cross**, Hermano Pedro
(Women), *San Francisco El Grande*
Vigil, Jesús Sepultado Templo, *San Felipe de Jesús*
Vigil, Virgen de Dolores, *San Mateo Milpas Altas*

Palm Sunday - March 29

•06:30 Hrs. **Procession of Palms**, *Nuestra Señora de La Asunción*
•08:00 Hrs. **Procession of Palms**, *Santa Ana*
•08:00 Hrs. **Procession of Palms**, *Escuela de Cristo*
•08:30 Hrs. **Procession of Palms**, *San Felipe de Jesús*
•11:00 Hrs. **Procession**, *Reseña de Jesús Nazareno, La Merced*

Holy Monday - March 30

Vigil, Jesús Nazareno, *La Merced*
•16:00 Hrs. **Procession**, Jesús Nazareno, *Santa Inés del Monte Pulciano*
Vigil, Jesús Nazareno, *San Mateo Milpas Altas*

Holy Tuesday - March 31

08:00 - 11:00 Hrs. **Vigil**, Jesús Nazareno del Perdón, *San Francisco El Grande*
•16:00 Hrs. **Procession**, Jesús Nazareno del Silencio, *El Calvario*

Spy Wednesday - April 1

Vigil, Señor Sepultado, *Escuela de Cristo*
•14:00 Hrs. **Children Procession**, *La Merced (cont.)*



Maundy Thursday - April 2

- 11:00 Hrs. **Procession**, Jesús Nazareno de la Humildad, *San Cristóbal El Bajo*
- 13:00 Hrs. **Procession**, Consagrada Imagen de Jesús Nazareno del Perdón, *San Francisco El Grande*
- 17:00 Hrs. **Holy Week Service**, *All Churches*

Good Friday - April 3

- 00:00 Hrs. **Midnight Announcement of Jesus' Sentence**, *La Merced*
- 04:00 Hrs. **Procession**, Jesús Nazareno de la Penitencia, *La Merced*
- 12:00 Hrs. **Act of Crucifixion**, *San José Cathedral*
- 12:00 Hrs. **Act of Crucifixion**, *Escuela de Cristo*
- 15:00 Hrs. **Procession**, Señor Sepultado, *San José Cathedral*
- 15:00 Hrs. **Procession**, Jesús Sepultado, *San Felipe de Jesús*
- 16:00 Hrs. **Procession**, Señor Sepultado, *Escuela de Cristo*

Holy Saturday - April 4

- 15:00 Hrs. **Procession**, Virgen de la Soledad, *San Felipe de Jesús*
- 16:00 Hrs. **Procession**, Santísima Virgen de Soledad (Condolences), *Escuela de Cristo*
- 20:00 Hrs. **Easter Vigil** - *All Churches*
- 22:00 Hrs. **Paschal Candle Lighting** - *All Churches*

Easter Sunday - April 5

- 08:00 Hrs. **Procession**, Resurrección, *Cuasi Parroquia Los Llanos, Jocotenango*
- 13:00 Hrs. **Procession**, Jesús Resucitado, *San Pedro (Obras Sociales del Santo Hermano Pedro)*
- 19:00 Hrs. **Solemn Eucharistic Procession**, *Escuela de Cristo*



- 14:50 Hrs. **Procession**, Jesús Nazareno del Milagro, *San Felipe de Jesús*
- 16:00 Hrs. **Procession**, Jesús Nazareno y Virgen de Dolores, *San Mateo Milpas Altas*

Small Town Celebrations

Many towns in Guatemala bear the name of a Catholic saint, known as the Patron Saint. Each town marks the birthdate of their Patron Saint with week-long festivities, known as *fiestas patronales*. These festivals offer visitors a chance to attend cultural events and sample local dishes. In Antigua, *patronales* stretch over an entire month, culminating on July 25th. Antigua's official patron saint day honors San Santiago (Saint James), a nod to the city's original name.

Be on the lookout for *patronales* in towns around Antigua. The carnival atmosphere - mechanical rides and food stalls abound - attract local crowds and tourists are seldom spotted.

Festival Dates:

Santa Maria de Jesus: January 2nd

San Gaspar Vivar: January 6th

Santa Catarina Barahona: January 15th

San Felipe: May 4th

Santa Ines: May 16th

San Antonio Aguas Calientes: June 13th

Alotenango: June 24th

San Pedro Las Huertas: June 29th

Jocotenango: August 15th

San Bartolome: August 24th

San Miguel Dueñas: September 29th

Ciudad Vieja: December 8th



Patron Saint Festival
Alotenango

See Antigua's
Patronales Pics:

