

MEXICO

# QUERÉTARO

CENTRO NORTE



ENGLISH VERSION

## Santiago de Querétaro



Founded in 1531, the state capital of the state has been considered Humanity Cultural Heritage, for its extraordinary urban and architectural wealth. This beautiful colonial city has religious monuments such as the **Querétaro Cathedral (Former San Felipe Neri Oratory)**, the **Real Colegio Santa Rosa de Viteri**, (now **State Center of Arts, CEART**), the **Temple of Señor Santiago**, the **Real Beaterio Santa Rosa de Viterbo**, the convents of **San Francisco**, **San Antonio de Padua**, **Carmen**, **Capuchinas**, **Santo Domingo**, **San Agustín**, **Santa Cruz de los Milagros** and **Teresitas**, the **Congregación de Guadalupe Sanctuary** and the **Church of Santa Clara**, in whose gardens is the **Neptuno Fountain**. Other interesting buildings are the **Palacio de Gobierno (Former Casa de los Corregidores)**, the **República Theater** – where the Constitution of 1917– was enacted, the **Academy of Fine Arts**, the **Marqués de Ecala House**, the **Don**

**Bartolo House**, the **Diezmo House**, the **Perros House**, the **Cinco Patios House**, the **Casas Reales** and the **Aqueduct**. Among the cultural sites are the **Querétaro Regional Museum (in the Former Great Convent of San Francisco)**, the **Querétaro Art Museum (in the Claustro de San Agustín)**, the **Republic Restoration Museum (in the claustro of the Former Convent of Las Capuchinas)**, the **Zacatecana House Museum**, the **National Museum of Graphic Arts**, the **City Museum (in the Former Convent of Las Capuchinas)**, the **Magia del Pasado Museum (in Cerro de las Campanas)**, the **INBA Luthier School** and the **Dr. Mena House of Culture**. Other attractions are the **Plaza de Armas or Independencia Plaza**, the **Fundadores Plaza**, the **Plaza of la Corregidora**, the **Art Garden**, the **Guerrero Garden**, the **Zenea Garden**, the **Hidalgo Alameda**, the **Cerro de las Campanas Municipal Park**, the **Alcanfores Recreational Park**, the **Querétaro 2000 Ecological Park** and the **El**



PHOTO: © OPTIM / RICARDO ESPINOSA-REC

Querétaro Art Museum.

**Cimatario “Cimacuático” National Park**. Other interesting sites are the **Queretanos Ilustres Pantheon**, the haciendas of **Jurica** and **Juriquilla** and the **Náutica Plaza in Juriquilla**.

## La Cañada



It has attractions such as the **Iglesia Chiquita or Small Church**, of 1531, the **San Pedro Parish**, the **Central Plaza**, the **El Marqués Bio-Museum** – with samples of flora and fauna of the region – and the **House of Culture**.

## San Juan del Río



This city, which was part of the Camino Real de Tierra Adentro, considered Humanity Cultural Heritage, has interesting places such as the **Bridge of la Historia** – built in 1710 –, the haciendas of **San Antonio**, **La Galera**, **Galindo**, **La Venta**, **La Muralla**, **San Gil**, **Villa Antigua** and **de la Llave**, some are hotels now. It has religious monuments like the temples of **Santo Domingo**, **Sagrado Corazón**, **San Juan de Dios**, **del**

**Calvario** and **Sacromonte**, also the **Beaterio de las Hermanas Terceras**, the **Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe Parish** and the **San Juan del Río Parish**. Other attractions are the **Museum of Death (in the former Santa Veracruz Cemetery)** and the **Ixtac Chichimecapan Archaeological Museum**, as well as the **Portales**, the **Independencia Garden** and **Plaza** and the **Fundadores Plaza**. Nearby are the **Venecia**, **Agua Rica** and **Cañón del Paraíso** water parks.

## Tilaco



Here are the **San Francisco de Asís Mission**, the smallest and simplest of the five missions of the Sierra Gorda, and the **Tilaco Community Museum**.

## Colón



Here is the **Virgen de los Dolores de Soriano Basilica**, the **San Francisco de Asís Parish**, the **Temple of Santo Domingo de Guzmán** and the **Community Museum**. Other attractions are the **Old Factory (Noria de Cubos Ranch)**, the **Cerro del Zamorano** hill, the **la Soledad** and **Colon** dams. Nearby are the **Ajuchitlán Alameda** recreational park and the **Former Hacienda of Ajuchitlán**.

## Pinal de Amoles



In this region, whose main town is several interesting sites such as the **Former Bucareli Convent**, the **Church of San Antonio Escanelilla**, the **San José Temple**, the **Ahuacatlán de Guadalupe Mission** and the **San Pedro Escanela Community Museum**. Besides, it has amazing natural at-

PHOTO: © OPTIM / RICARDO ESPINOSA-REC



San Francisco de Asís Mission, Tilaco.

tractions like the **Chujeje** or **El Salto Waterfall**, the **Puerta del Cielo**, the **Gloria Rock**, the **Infiernillo Creek**, the **Media Luna Hill**, the **Calentura Hill** and **La Pingüica Hill**, the highest of the Sierra Gorda.

## Tolimán



Founded in 1532, this town has attractions like the **Temple of San Pedro**, the **Chapel of San Miguel**, the **Temple of San Pablo**, the **Chapel of la Santísima Virgen de los Dolores**, the **Public Clock**, the **Castalia Fountain**, the **Handicraft Museum** and a natural spot: **El Derramadero**. In this region of the Sierra Gorda there are the **capillas otomies chichimecas**, also known as “capillas familiares” (family chapels) or “capillas oratorio” (oratory chapels), where rites considered intangible humanity heritage are made.



Hacienda Galindo, San Juan del Río.

PHOTO: © OPTIM / RICARDO ESPINOSA-REC

# QUERÉTARO



## Concá

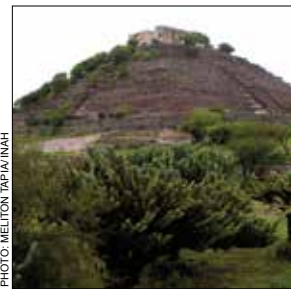
Its main attraction is the **San Miguel Concá Mission**, considered cultural world heritage sites.

## Franciscan Missions of the Sierra Gorda

Built in the 1750s and 1760s by Franciscan friars, they were centers not only were the missionaries lived but places that also allow them to gather the indigenous people of the region. Built similarly, although with different theme each, they have been considered cultural heritage of humanity. The five missions are: **Concá**, **Jalpan de Serra**, **Tancoyol**, **Landa de Matamoros** and **Tilaco**.

## El Pueblito

Its main attraction is the **Virgen del Pueblito Convent and Sanctuary**, which houses the patron virgin of the people from Querétaro and receiving every year thousands of pilgrims. Other interesting sites are the **El Cerrito** archaeological site, the **San Francisco Galileo Parish**, the **Chapel of la Santa Cruz de Justicia** and the **Schoenstatt Sanctuary**.



El Cerrito.

PHOTO: MELTÓN TAPIA/INAH



San Miguel Concá Mission.

PHOTO: © CPTM / RICARDO ESPINOSA-REO

## Archaeological Sites

Even though, at the time of the conquista, Querétaro was an area occupied by nomadic groups, during most of the Classic Period and until the beginnings of the Early Postclassic Period (AD 200-1000/1100) it was inhabited by sedentary groups. Among places from those times you can visit: **Tanca-**  
**ma**, **Ranas** and **Toluquilla** in the Sierra Gorda – these settlements are related to the mineral exploration of the region – and **El Cerrito**, the alleged political center of the time.



PHOTO: MAURICIO MARAT/INAH



- TOURIST ATTRACTIONS**
- ★ CAPITAL
  - TOWN
  - 🏛️ ARCHAEOLOGICAL ZONE
  - 🌿 NATURAL AREA
  - ✈️ AIRPORT
  - 🛣️ TWO-WAY HIGHWAY
  - 🛣️ FEDERAL HIGHWAY
  - 🛣️ SECONDARY HIGHWAY
  - 🛣️ ROAD

- HIGHLIGHTS**
- |                           |            |
|---------------------------|------------|
| 🌐 WORLD HERITAGE SITE     | 🏛️ MISSION |
| 🌿 MAGICAL TOWN            | M MUSEUM   |
| 🏛️ CIVIL ARCHITECTURE     | 🗿 MONUMENT |
| 🏛️ RELIGIOUS ARCHITECTURE | 👤 FOLK ART |
| 🏛️ CENTRAL SQUARE         | 🍴 CUISINE  |
- Note: The symbols refer to the spots described in this guide.

## Bernal



Among the attractions of this magical town are the so called **Bernal Rock**, the third largest in the world, and the **San Sebastián Parish**. In addition, the Bernal Rock is one of the sacred mountains of the Otomíes Chichimecas, to where annual pilgrimages are made, tradition considered as intangible heritage of humanity.

## El Cimatario National Park



It has lowlands xeric scrublands and desert vegetation. The **Cimatario Hill** is the most representative natural elevation of the area and it is prepared for touristic visits.

## Huimilpan



Town of Otomí Chichimeca tradition. Its main interesting sites are the **San Miguel Arcángel Parish**, the **Hidalgo Garden**, and the former haciendas of **Los Cues**, **Santa Teresa**, **Lagunillas**, **El Vegil**, **Apapataro** and **Carranza**. Among its natural attractions stand out the **San Pedro Dam**, the hills of **La Cruz** and **El Aserrín**.

## Cadereyta



This magical town has several attractions such as the **San Pedro and San Pablo Church**, **La Soledad Church**, the **Refugio Temple**, the **San Gaspar Temple**, the **San Antonio de Boye Temple** and the buildings **El Pilancón** and **Las Fuentes**. Other interesting places are the **Quinta Fernando Scmoll Plant Nursery**, the **Manuel Gonzalez de Cosío Botanical Garden**, the **La Esperanza Grottos**, the **Tecolote**

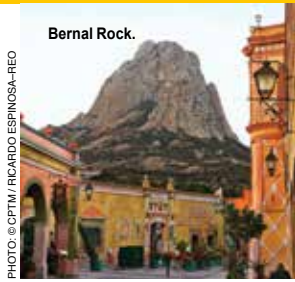


PHOTO: © CPTM / RICARDO ESPINOSA-REO

Bernal Rock.

**Cave**, the **Cerro de la Cruz** and **Cerro El Frontón** hills, the **Maconi Waterfall** and **La Isla** and **El Bosque de las Hojas** ecotouristic centers.

## Pedro Escobedo



Noted for its handicrafts production in quarry. Among its interesting sites are the **Santa María de Guadalupe Temple**, the haciendas **Escolásticas**, **San Cirilo**, **La Lira** and **El Sauz**, the **Ajuchitlancito Bullfighting Museum** and the **House of Culture**.

## Tancoyol



Its main attraction is the **Nuestra Señora de la Luz de Tancoyol Mission**, considered a UNESCO cultural world heritage site.

## CUISINE



The cultural diversity of the region is clearly expressed in its traditional cuisine. Insects are a prized ingredient, among them: **ants**, **tantarreas** (insects found in the mesquite), **escamoles** (ant larvae) and **gusanos de palmito** roasted, **enchilados** or steamed. Besides, there are numerous dishes made with **chickpeas**, **nopales**, **cheese** and **cecina serrana** (dried meat marinated in orange juice). Other dishes are the **enchiladas quereitanas**, the **zacahuil** (huge tamal prepared with chiles, meats and corn cooked in maguey leaf), the **chiles quereitanos en salsa verde**, the **lamb barbacoa** and the **mamanxá** (gordita made with corn dough, cheese, sugar, piloncillo and **requesón**, among other ingredients). There

## Arroyo Seco



It has interesting spots such as the **Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe Temple** and the **Purísima de Arista Church**, both built in 1904. Nearby is the **Ayutla Bridge**, the **Las Adjuntas** rest spot and the water parks in the **Ayutla River**.

## Tequisquiapan



It has attractions such as the **Santa María de la Asuncion Temple**, the **Temple of la Magdalena**, the **Nuestro Padre Jesús Chapel**, the **Cheese and Wine Museum**, **La Canasta Museum**, the **Handicraft Market** and the **Hidalgo Garden**.



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Tequisquiapan.

are sweets such as the **pan de las capuchinas**, **biznagas**, crystallized **xoconostles** and **prickly pears**, **pepitorias**, **charamuscas**, **dulce de calabaza**, **pacholes**, **campechanas**, and **cocolos**. Among the beverages stand out the **wines**, the **pulque blanco** and the fruit **curados**, and the **atoles** made with **teja** (with sunflower seed) and **guayabilla**.



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Mamanxás.

## Sierra Gorda Natural Protected Area Biosphere Reserve



It is a complex system of canyons, mountains, caves, valleys and ravines that reaches a height of up to 3000 m. It is considered one of the reserves with greater biodiversity in the country.

## Ezequiel Montes



It has interesting places such as **El Castillo**, the **Animas Chapel**, the **Santa Cruz Chapel**, the **Temple of San Sebastián Mártir**, the **Divina Providencia Parish** and the **Nuestra Señora del Carmen Temple**. Nearby are **La Redonda** and **Villa Progreso** vineyards, where the **Temple of San Miguel** and the **oratorio chapels** are located.

## Amealco



Here are the temples of **Santa María**, **Santiago Mexquititlán**, **San Ildefonso Tultepec**, **San Miguel Tlaxcaltepec** and **San José Itho**. Other attractions are the **Parish of Santa María** and its **Parish House**, the **Convent School of Amealco**, the **Portales** and the **Amealco Paleontology Room: Land of Giants**. Nearby are the **Temple of San Juan Dehedo**, the **Cerro de los Gallos Hill** and the **Servín Lagoon**.

## Landa de Matamoros



In this town are the **Santa María del Agua de Landa Mission**, considered cultural heritage of humanity, and the **Agricultural Art Museum**.



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Sierra Gorda.

## Santa María de Peñamiller



Founded in 1748, it has attractions such as **San Miguel Palmas Mission**, the **Aqueduct** and the **Tembladara Viewpoint**. Besides it has natural spots like the **Extoraz River**, the **El Oasis Spa**, the basalt rocks **Piedras Encimadas**, the **Paraíso Canyon**, the peaks of **La Virgen**, **El Picacho** and **El Campanario**.

## Jalpan



This magical village is the main town of the Sierra Gorda. Here are the **Santiago de Jalpan Mission**, considered cultural heritage of humanity. Other interesting points are the **Sierra Gorda Historic Museum** and the **Principal Garden**. In addition, it has natural attractions such as the **Jalpan Dam**, the **Puente de Dios Grottos** and the **Sótano del Barro**.



PHOTO: SECRETARÍA DE TURISMO DE QUERÉTARO

Jalpan.

## San Joaquín



Also known as the “capital del huapango”. In addition to the **Archaeologic and Mining museum**, it has natural attractions like the **Campo Alegre National Park**, the **Herrera Grottos** and the **Aventura Park**, an ecotouristic camping park.

## Cerro de las Campanas National Park



It is a well-preserved forest area with many green areas, an artificial lake and playgrounds. Here, in 1867, Maximiliano de Habsburgo, Tomás Mejía and Miramón were shot. It houses a chapel and the **Magia del Pasado Museum**.

## FOLK ART



Querétaro is a region with a varied traditional craftsmanship, among its products are carved objects in **opal** and **turquoise** of San Juan del Río; the **wicker** and **willow rod** furniture from Tequisquiapan; the multicolored **gorongos** and the **marble** work from Cadereyta; the **carved limestone** of Escobedo; the **embroideries** from Tolimán; the **wool textiles** from Bernal; the **pottery** from Jalpan; the **lapidary** from Peñamiller; the **embroidered manta** from Amealco, and the **saddles** from Arroyo Seco.

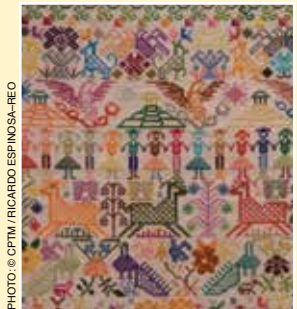


PHOTO: © CPTM / RICARDO ESPINOSA-REO

Otomí Embroidery.

## And don't miss...

- Visit Jalpan, magical town
- Tour around Sierra Gorda
- Enjoy Bernal, magical town
- Visit the Querétaro's Historic Downtown
- Visit San Juan del Río
- Enjoy nature in Pinal de Amoles
- Visit Cadereyta, magical town
- Go to the archaeological sites
- Acquire opal and turquoise crafts
- Have a good *escamoles taco*

### Touristic information

[www.queretaro.travel](http://www.queretaro.travel)

#### Querétaro

Secretary of Tourism Module: Pasteur Norte 4, Col. Centro, C.P. 76000,  
442-238-5000 and 01800-751 1742, [info@queretaro.travel](mailto:info@queretaro.travel)

#### Bernal

Touristic Information Module: Plaza de la Constitución, Jardín Zenea,  
Col. Centro, C.P. 76000, 442-2385067,  
[acorona@queretaro.gob.mx](mailto:acorona@queretaro.gob.mx)

#### Cadereyta

Touristic Information Module: Hidalgo no. #, Col. Centro, C.P. 76500,  
441-276-0057 / 276-0773, [descubrecadereyta@hotmail.com](mailto:descubrecadereyta@hotmail.com)

#### Jalpan de Serra

Touristic Information Module: Plazoleta Hidalgo no. #, Col. Centro,  
C.P. 76340, 441-296-0243, [contacto@jalpan.travel](mailto:contacto@jalpan.travel)

Restaurants and Condimented Food Industry National Chamber  
(CANIRAC): Paseo de las Artes, no. 1531-B, Col. Centro Sur, C.P.  
76090, Querétaro, Qro.

Center of Conventions of Querétaro: Paseo de las Artes no. 1531-B,  
Col. Centro Sur, C.P. 76090, Querétaro, Qro., 442-238-6401,  
[www.queretarocentrodecongresos.com](http://www.queretarocentrodecongresos.com)

#### EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS

##### Querétaro

Red Cross: 442-212-3939  
and 218-1300

Fire Station: 442-218-0300

Police: 442-229-0505

##### Cadereyta

Red Cross: 066

Fire Station: 441-276-0773,  
ext. 264

Police: 441-276 0773, ext. 264

##### Bernal

Red Cross: 442-229-0665

Fire Station: 442-218-1300

Police: 442-212-1507

##### Jalpan de Serra

Fire Station: 441-296-0390.

ext. 123

Police: 441-296-0390, ext. 124



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FRONT COVER: SAN MIGUEL COACÁ MISSION; BACK COVER: RETABLE, QUERÉTARO; PHOTOS: © OPTIM/RICARDO ESPINOSA-REG

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