

## The 15 best places to visit in Mexico

Save



Rosie Bell

Oct 9, 2025 • 14 min read



Explore Mexico's stunning landscape and see the best the country has to offer © Thomas Barwick / Getty Images

**C** antinas and cathedrals. Art and archaeology. Mariachis and mountains. Ruins and rainbow reefs. Mexico makes for a mesmerizing escape for lovers of adventure, romance, history, culture, food, and fiery [festivals](#).

Then, there are the much-lauded [beaches](#) with clear, blue waters you'll want to step right into and silent paradise islands without a soul in sight. From the deep canyons of Chihuahua to the peaks of Veracruz, these are the best places to visit in [Mexico](#).



Puerto Vallarta has a vibrant LGBTQ+ community © Inti St Clair / Getty Images

## 6. Puerto Vallarta

### Best place for sand, adventure and LGBTQ+ events

With climactic and wild scenery, [Puerto Vallarta](#) is a popular vacation destination for Mexicans and foreign travelers alike. Framed by the Sierra Madre Mountains and the Bahía de Banderas (Bay of Banderas), it's a place where thrill seekers conquer rugged terrain and rappel down waterfalls, and families frolic on sun-kissed beaches – [Playa Conchas Chinas](#), Playa Las Gemelas and [Playa Mismaloya](#) are noteworthy sandy spots.

The city is also popular among LGBTQ+ travelers; there are gay-friendly Puerto Vallarta hotels, beach bars, restaurants, and nightlife establishments. Lovers take to the Zona Romántica (Romanic Zone) for alfresco meals, and strolling along the picturesque Malecón boardwalk, with its numerous bronze sculptures and street performers, is one of the best free things to do in Puerto Vallarta.

There's also plenty going on in the ocean, where you can see humpback whales breaching on the horizon, pods of dolphins rising from the waves, and mother turtles arriving to lay their eggs.

**Planning tip:** The best time to visit Puerto Vallarta to witness a baby turtle release is between July and December. Select hotels like [Marriott Puerto Vallarta Resort & Spa](#) host newborn turtle release ceremonies.