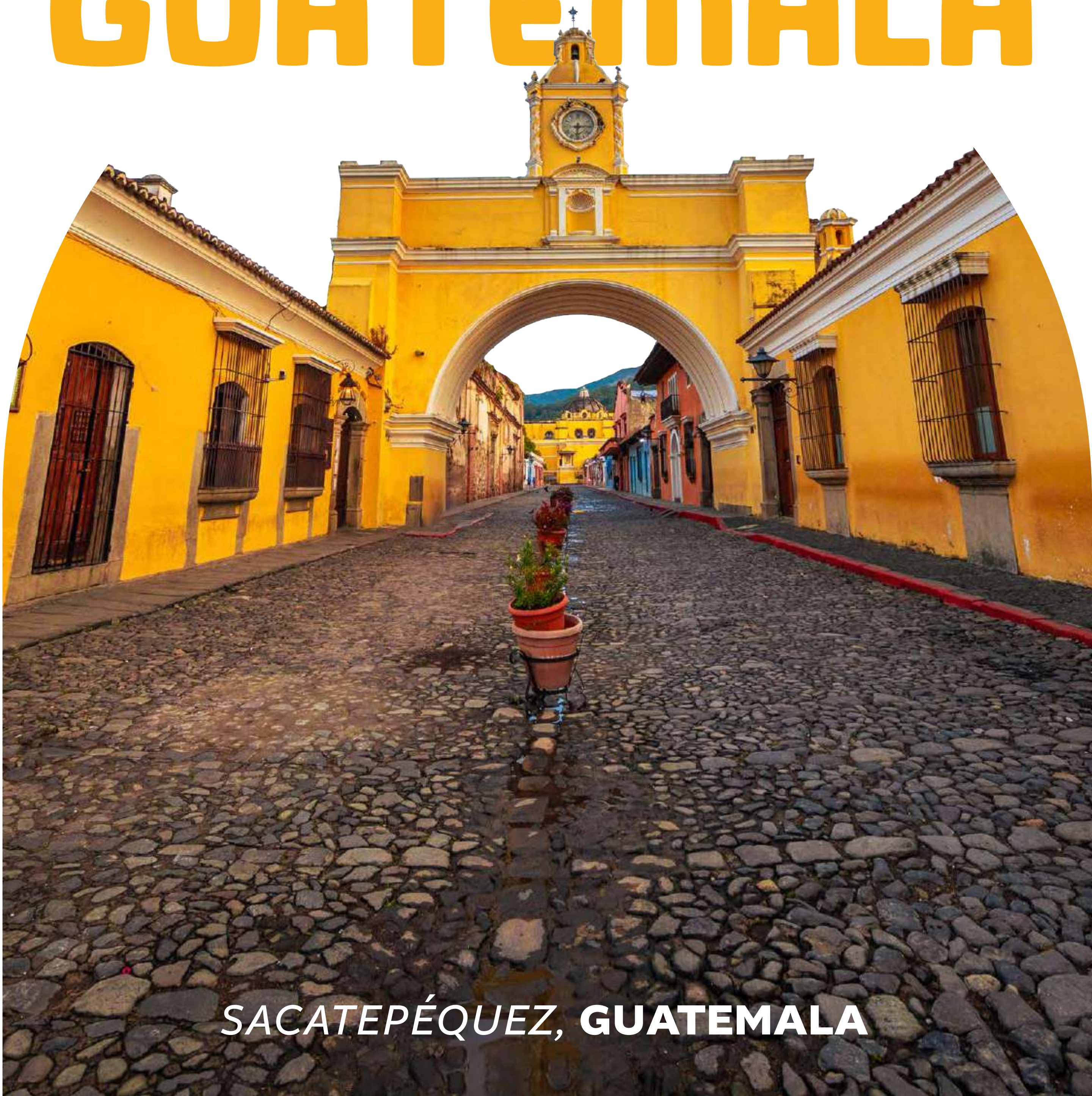




Instituto Guatemalteco de Turismo

*Welcome to*

# LA ANTIGUA GUATEMALA



**SACATEPÉQUEZ, GUATEMALA**





# LA ANTIGUA GUATEMALA

*First Capital of Central America*

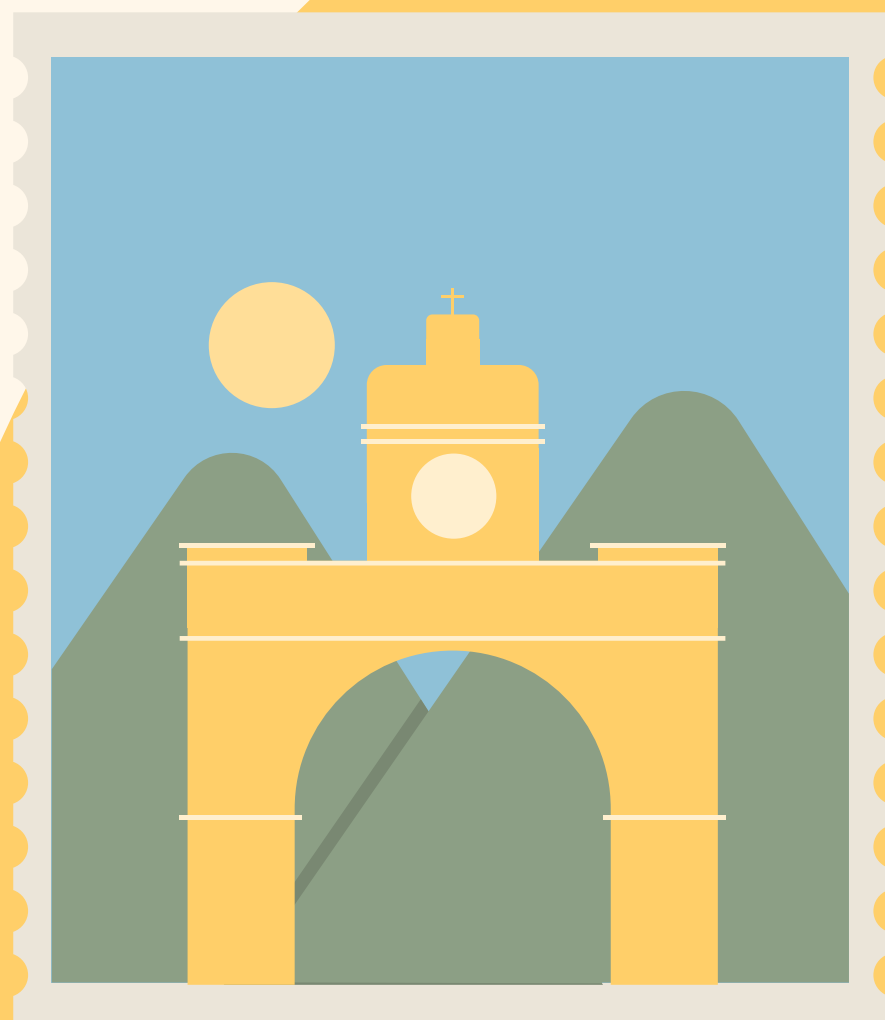
## CULTURE AND HISTORY

This city of nostalgic cobblestone streets represents in its ancient walls the rich heritage of the Hispanic colonial era. Churches, convents, monasteries, and large family houses are a beautiful and evocative architectural monumental complex.

La Antigua Guatemala represents the cultural and architectural richness in which Hispanic and native art merged, giving this collection an experience full of religiosity, mysticism, and tradition.

La Antigua Guatemala was declared a **Cultural Patrimony of Humanity by UNESCO** in 1979.





# PLACES

*you must visit:*

## LA ANTIGUA GUATEMALA

### THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF ART GUATEMALA (MUNAG)

Situated inside the Palacio de Los Capitanes Generales at the north side of Central Park, this museum charts 3000 years of cultural heritage, represented by a number of works of art on show.



### COLONIAL ART MUSEUM

With great architectural beauty, this building used to be the seat of the San Carlos de Borromeo University. In its hallways and decorated rooms, you can admire paintings, furniture and sculptures from the 16th to the 18th centuries.

## CASA SANTO DOMINGO MUSEUM

A whole cultural journey through several museums installed where once were the temple and convent of Santo Domingo and the Santo Tomás de Aquino School. This place hosts a Pre-Columbian Art Museum, Modern Glass Museum, Archaeological Museum, Silverware Museum, and the Popular Arts and Crafts Museum of Sacatepéquez.



## ARCHBISHOP'S PALACE MUSEUM, SAN JUAN DEL OBISPO

An archiepiscopal palace with architecture of the 16th century. It has corridors, gardens, major and minor cloisters, as well as paintings and sculptures from that period. The place also offers a room with representative samples of handcrafts from the village. Today it is home of the Bethania Sisters.



## HOLY WEEK MUSEUM

It is located inside a XVII century convent commonly known as “Sor Juana de Maldonado”, a branch of the Inmaculada Concepción Convent, the order to which this poetess and writer belonged to. After the 2,007 restoration, it became a space to show the tangible and intangible heritage including the cultural richness of the syncretism of the traditional activities celebrated during Holy Week.



## AECID CULTURAL CENTER & COMPAÑIA DE JESUS

The Compañía de Jesús was a school and temple during the 16th and 17th centuries. In 1992, the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation and Development (AECID, for its acronym in Spanish) began its restoration and opened a school, the Training Center of the Spanish Cooperation, where different cultural activities are held today.

## SAINT JOSEPH CATHEDRAL

It was in 1680 when this cathedral acquired its greatness, whose vestiges we can see today. According to some historians, in its catacombs are the remains of the Conqueror Don Pedro de Alvarado, as well as those of other personalities of the time.



## SAINT CLARE CONVENT

It was originally founded by a group of Clare Nuns from Puebla, Mexico, in 1699. Its façade is finely decorated. Among gardens and corridors of semicircular arches, we can see the remains of a beautiful convent.



## LA CRUZ HILL

This park is a magnificent viewpoint where you can see the city of La Antigua Guatemala. Here you will find the Santiago Square in honor of Santiago Apostle, the patron saint of the Spanish conquerors and patron saint of the city.



## SANTA TERESA DE JESÚS CONVENT

A convent of the order of the Discalced Carmelites inaugurated on April 12th, 1687. The design surely resembles more a parish church than a feminine convent. Since 1980, the National Council of Protection of the city has been working on its restoration in order to use it as a space for events.



## HANDCRAFT MARKET

You can find handcrafted products from all over the country, an amazing palette of colors in textiles, paintings and all kind of products made out of wood, clay, jade, and more.



## PALACE OF THE CAPTAINS

You can find handcrafted products from all over the country, an amazing palette of colors in textiles, paintings and all kind of products made out of wood, clay, jade, and more.



## CITY HALL PALACE

This building governed the ornate of the city and continues with this practice, as it houses the City Council nowadays. On the ground floor are the Antique Book Museum and the Santiago de los Caballeros Museum (Ancient Weaponry).

## SANTA CATALINA'S ARCH

Today it is the icon of La Antigua Guatemala. The arch dates back to the early 17th century, and it was a passageway for nuns of the convent who required not to be seen while crossing the street. Each end and beginning of the year, locals celebrate at this point with a variety of cultural shows.





## SAN JERÓNIMO CONVENT

Its construction began in 1739 as an initiative of La Merced Order, but without the royal permits needed. In 1761, the school was closed by King Carlos III for the lack of such permits. In 1765, the building housed the Royal Customs office. Today, visitors can appreciate a beautiful garden with the traditional fountain of the time, surrounded by thick walls of rock with brick finishes that form rooms that remind the past.

## SAN AGUSTÍN CHURCH AND CONVENT

On August 3, 1615, the convent and its church were inaugurated, dedicated to the memory of Bishop San Agustín de Hipona, where the simple Renaissance style stands out throughout the building. Nowadays, inside is located San Agustín Museum that houses more than a millennium of cultural artifacts standing up a wheat mill and around 160 pre-Hispanic, colonial and republican pieces.



## LA RECOLECCIÓN CONVENT RUINS

Built in the early 18th century, this beautiful colonial monument, now in ruins, was the seat of the Order of the Minor Recollect Brothers, an order that lived in poverty and focused on helping indigenous people. They received most of their financial support from donations of the nobility and alms, so the ecclesiastical community supported them economically.

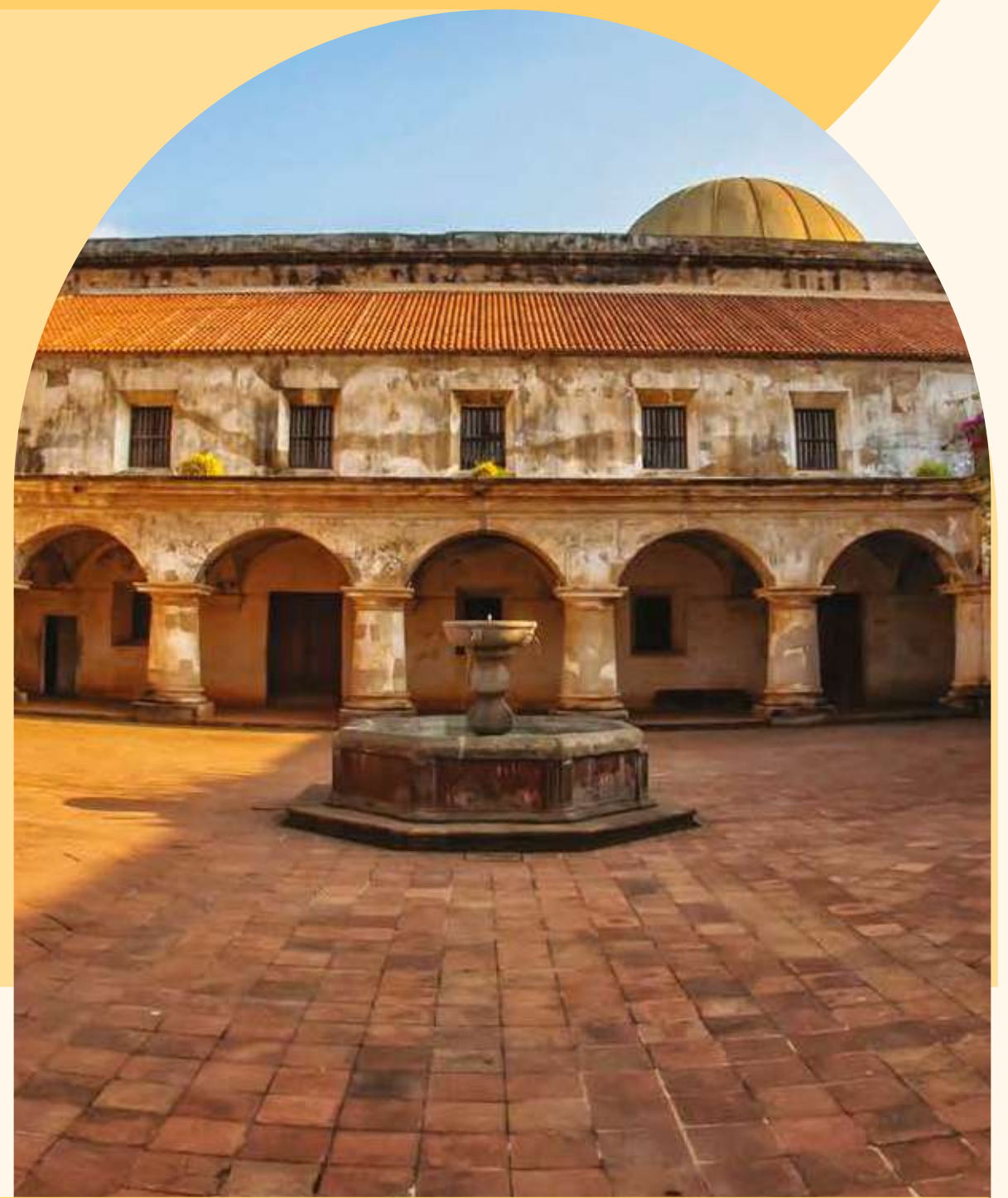


## SAINT FRANCIS CHURCH AND CONVENT

Inside this temple is the tomb that holds the remains of Saint Brother Pedro de Betancourt, who in the colonial period was known for his charitable work of helping the poor, having been attributed miraculous

## CAPUCHINAS CONVENT

This was the last female convent founded in the city. One of its main attractions is the impressive 18-cell circular tower retreat structure. The museum, located on the second floor of the building, displays a collection of imagery and paintings from the colonial era.



## LA MERCED CHURCH AND CONVENT

Its exquisite baroque façade shows an extraordinary ornamental stucco work made by Guatemalan hands. Inside this convent of La Merced Order, visitors can observe one of the largest water fountains in the city.

# PLACES YOU MUST VISIT



## CATEGORY

- Colonial Monument or Religious sites
- Colonial Museums open to the public
- Museum
- Cultural Center
- Handicraft Market
- Traditional Candies
- Places of interest
- Rural Tourism
- Tourist information
- National Police
- Gas station
- Hospital
- Post office
- Shopping
- ATM or Bank
- Birdwatching

## PLACES

- 01 Handcraft Market
- 02 Santiago de Los Caballeros Museum (Ancient Weaponry)
- 03 Colonial Art Museum
- 04 Casa Santo Domingo Museum
- 05 Archbishop's Palace Museum, San Juan del Obispo
- 06 La Azotea Cultural Center
- 07 AECID Cultural Center & Compañía de Jesús
- 08 Museum Walks
- 09 Holyweek Museum
- 10 Saint Joseph Cathedral
- 11 Saint Clare Convent
- 12 Saint Francis Church and Convent
- 13 Capuchinas Convent
- 14 La Merced Church and Convent
- 15 San Jerónimo Cloister
- 16 La Recolecti3n Convent
- 17 Palace of the Captains
- 18 Santa Teresa de Jesus Convent
- 19 City Hall Palace
- 20 Santa Catalina's Arch
- 21 La Cruz Hill (viewpoint)
- 22 Fabric Museums
- 23 Popenoe House (by appointment)
- 24 Valhalla (Macadamia nut plantation tour)



If you are a visitor, purchase your permit to park in Municipal Parking and outside the safe and pedestrian perimeter.



**MarbEX**  
Marbets Digital

5 San Pedro Las Huertas - 3km  
San Juan del Obispo - 5km  
Archbishop Palace Museum  
Luis de León Museum  
Chocolate Workshops  
Vino de Nispero  
Santa María de Jesús - 11km

Viewpoint  
Handicrafts  
Hiking  
Gastronomy

Acatenango Volcano & Fuego Volcano

Agua Volcano



### TOURIST INFORMATION OFFICE

5.<sup>a</sup> calle Oriente No.11, Casa del Turista,  
La Antigua Guatemala  
Tel. (502) 2290-2800, exts. 6010, 6011 y 6146  
info-antigua@inguat.gob.gt

### INSTITUTO GUATEMALTECO DE TURISMO

7.<sup>a</sup> avenida 1-17, zona 4, Centro Cívico  
Tel. (502) 2290-2800, exts. 1021 y 1022  
info-lobby@inguat.gob.gt




**1500** 

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