YOUR MUSEUM MINI GUIDE

Discover Querétaro over centuries of history!

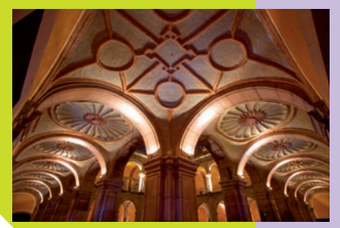
Explore galleries and corridors showing how the region has changed over the course of history. The Regional Museum of Querétaro welcomes you to the majestic former monastery of St. Francis, a monument whose history of faith, art, and resistance speaks for itself.

Pre-Hispanic Querétaro Gallery

Explore the state's three geo-cultural zones:
Valleys: farming settlements with Teotihuacan and Toltec influences
Semi-desert: nomadic hunter-gatherers
Sierra Gorda: Huastec culture (sites such as Ranas, San Rafael, and Toluquilla).

Outstanding pieces
- Polychrome vessel from the Chupícuaro culture (500 B.C. – 200 A.D.)
- Cup made of alabaster (translucent, soft gypsum or calcite mineral rock) from Ranas
- *Atlatl* (dart-thrower) found recently

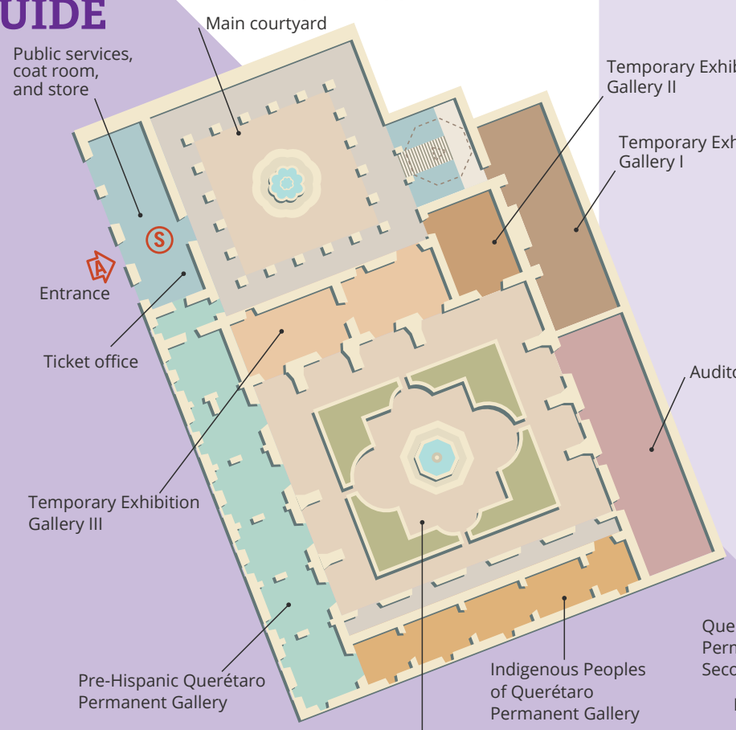




Site Gallery

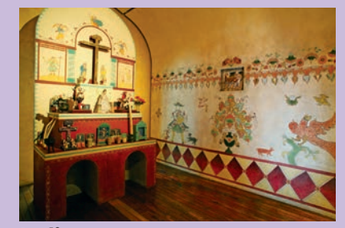
Discover the history of the *Great Monastery of Santiago of Franciscan Observance*, standing at the heart of Querétaro's social, economic, and spiritual life since the 16th century. This gallery reveals its architectural evolution and the monastic life within. Enjoy these noteworthy artworks:
- The *Apostolate* series by Cristóbal de Villalpando (inspired by Rubens)
- Panel of St. Anthony Witnessing the Apparition of the Christ Child by Luis Juárez (17th century)
- Paintings by Juan and Nicolás Rodríguez Juárez (*Life of St. Anthony* and *The Five Martyrs*)

LOWER FLOOR



UPPER FLOOR





Indigenous Peoples of Querétaro Gallery

Celebrate the culture of the state's Otomí and Pame peoples. Through their cultural expressions, you'll discover their profound connection with nature, the agricultural cycle, and community rituals.

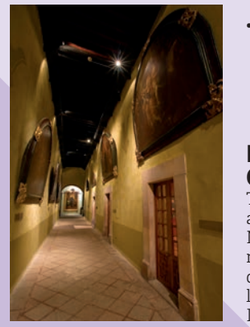
Don't miss
- The colorful ritual costumes from their traditional festivals
- The recreation of **a family chapel from the semi-desert region,** a sacred domestic space declared **Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity**

Querétaro in Mexican History Gallery

Among other events, this gallery tells how Querétaro played a key role in building the nation: from the Bourbon Reforms (18th century) to the Mexican Revolution and the 1917 Constitution. It covers Independence, the Mexican-American War, Reform, the second empire, and the Porfirio Díaz era, illustrating the complex path taken to modernity.



Outstanding pieces
- Monumental picture of the Virgin of Guadalupe painted on glass
- **Table** where the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo was signed (1848)
- Works by contemporary artists that frame the narrative.



Miguel Cabrera Gallery

This displays 15 artworks painted by Miguel Cabrera in the mid-17th century, which depict scenes from the life and works of St. Ignatius of Loyola.

Main Hall

This combines furniture and an outstanding collection of artworks and sculptures from the 16th to the 19th centuries, reflecting Mexico's cultural heritage.





Angels of the Passion Gallery

This consists of 14 novo-Hispanic paintings by an unknown (yet very expressive) hand. The images depict angels carrying the distinctive symbols of the Passion of Christ.

Colonial Querétaro Gallery

Explore complex colonial society: its political and religious organization, the dynamics between social groups, and the impact of the Royal Inland Road. You can also discover the roles played by Cadereyta and the Sierra Gorda.

Outstanding pieces
- Polychrome sculptures and original maps
- Mortuary portrait of José de Escandón by Andreas de Islas
- Contemporary works by Víctor Cauduro and Jordi Boldó that interrogate the past



NOT TO BE MISSED

The provocative contemporary painting "Casa de Juárez" by Daniel Lezama

THE MONASTERY THAT SHAPED QUERÉTARO: FIVE CENTURIES OF HISTORY IN STONE



1531 Founding of Querétaro

1540-1550 Franciscan monastery (1st stage)



1693-1698 Monastery expansion (2nd stage)

17TH CENTURY Querétaro's golden age

1810-1821 Military protection (Independence)

1856 Nationalization (Lerdo Act)



1936 Regional Museum of Querétaro established.





LEGADO Y RENOVACIÓN

Fundado en 1936 por Germán Patiño, quien también lo dirigió con gran visión, el museo es un pilar cultural. Su renovación integral (1995-2009) modernizó espacios, conservó su acervo y amplió su proyección nacional. Hoy une tradición e innovación.

ARCHITECTURE: BAROQUE, NEOCLASSICAL & INHERITED STYLES

This building is a gem of colonial architecture, blending exuberant baroque and sober neoclassicism. The lower floor of the central courtyard connects to the entrance of the church of St. Francis with an austere classical nature (seeking harmony, symmetry, and proportion).

- On the upper floor, the style is baroque: dynamic with striated columns (decorative vertical grooves) whose lines zigzag until they straighten at the top, where they meet the column capitals (crowns) carved in plant shapes.
- Its Franciscan heritage is reflected in its Arab-influenced courtyards with pools of water (cisterns), prominent buttresses (structural supports) for seismic stability, and construction systems that blend indigenous and European traditions. Each element tells a story.



Address
Prolongación Corregidora Sur 3, Centro Histórico, Santiago de Querétaro, Querétaro.

Services
Guided school tours, workshops, courses, talks, store

Opening Hours
Tuesday to Sunday from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
The individual cost of admission is as stated in the Federal Act on Government Fees. Free admission to children under 13, students and teachers with identification, senior citizens over 60, retirees, pensioners, and INAH interns and researchers. Free admission on Sundays to national visitors and foreigners with residency in Mexico.

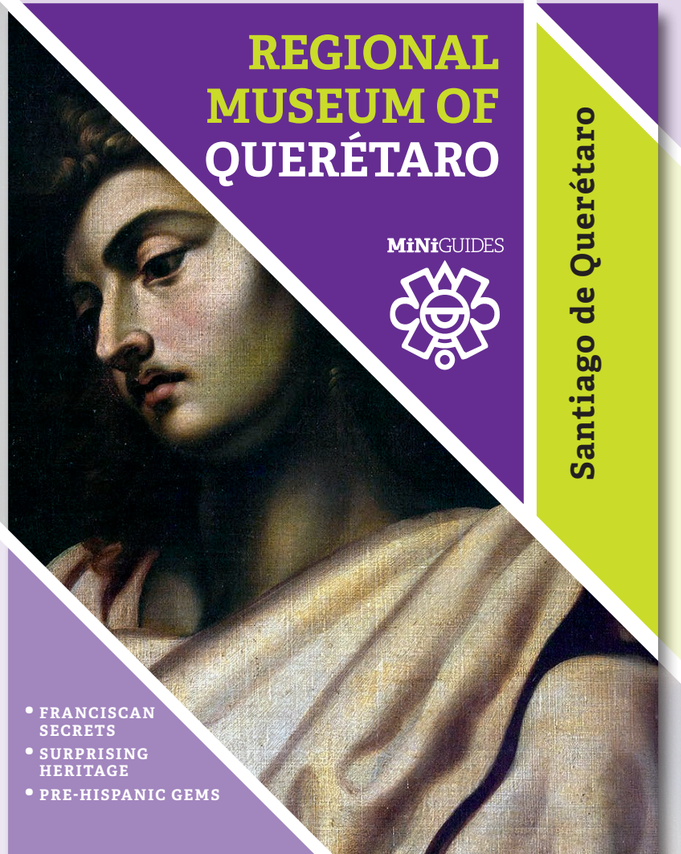
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Cultura Secretaría de Cultura | INAH

DISEÑO MUSEÍSTICO: HISTORIA CON MIRADA CONTEMPORÁNEA

Fusiona el valor histórico de su sede con un diseño expositivo de vanguardia. Su recorrido principal, temático y cronológico, guía al visitante desde la época prehispánica hasta el siglo XX, integrando la historia regional con la nacional. Destacan colecciones de relevancia internacional, y las salas temporales presentan arte y etnografía.
Un espacio que une tradición e innovación museográfica mediante recursos, interactivos y montajes inmersivos.



REGIONAL MUSEUM OF QUERÉTARO

MiNiGUIDES

Santiago de Querétaro

- FRANCISCAN SECRETS
- SURPRISING HERITAGE
- PRE-HISPANIC GEMS



TRANSFORMACIONES

Este convento vivió cambios radicales en el siglo XIX:

- Guerra de Reforma
- Entre 1855-1922 funcionó como la Catedral adaptando su templo y claustro para sede episcopal y administración.
- Su rescate llegó en 1936, con Germán Patiño, lo salvó de usos decadentes para convertirlo en el Museo Regional. En 1939, se integró a la red de museos del INAH asegurando su conservación.

A JOURNEY TO THE HEART OF HISTORY

The museum occupies what once was the Great Monastery of St. Francis in the heart of the city, a building that defined the urban layout in the 16th century and has been transformed over the years.

At its height, it contained a monastery, church, several chapels, a cemetery, an orchard, and vast atrium. Today, its walls tell the story of centuries of faith, art, and memory in Querétaro.