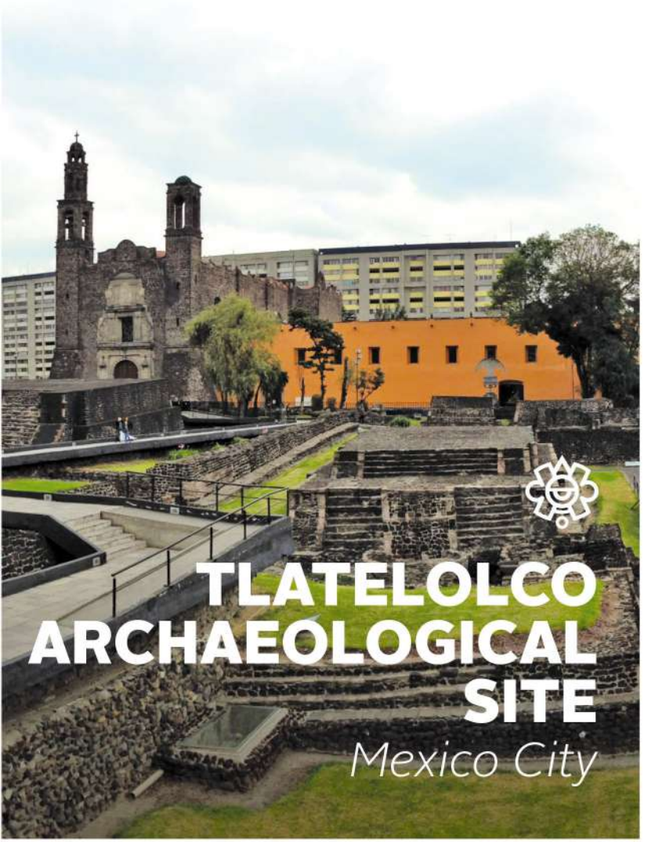


TLATELOLCO ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE

Mexico City

BRIEF HISTORICAL REVIEW

*The origin of the Mexica group is not known with certainty, but most of the chronicles agree they emigrated from a place called **Aztlán**. Several groups arised from there, each with their own cultural heritage, and during their pilgrimage they became unique in the search of their own destiny.*

*The foundation of **Tlatelolco** happened thirteen years after **Tenochtitlan´s**, in A.D. 1337, establishing the beginning of the official historiography. History mentions how both struggled together to extend their dominions, expanding the land limits more and more to be able to bring to the chosen people all kinds of products and feed their god at the expense of the defeated.*

Its armies conquered almost all the existing provinces and towns know at the time. They ruled in the center of their universe.

*The most precious products came to their market: blankets of all kinds, garments for women and warriors, feathers of great beauty, cotton, flowers, plates, pots, gold, black vanilla roses, jewels, all kinds of animals, cacao, all species of corn, and so on. **Tenochcas** and **Tlatelolcas** forged together their splendor at the cost of warfare.*

The Tlatelolcas were characterized by being great merchants and had to control the best routes for their merchandise transit; it was possible to stop paying unnecessary tolls thanks to the military conquest and annexation of newer territory.

TOPONYM	Tlatelolco is a Nahuatl name which means tlatelli "terrace", or is derived from *xaltiloll* which refers to "sandy spot"
CULTURE	Mexica-Tlatelolca
PERIOD	Postclassic
TIMESPAN	1337-1521

GETTING THERE

On the corner of Eje Central Lázaro Cárdenas and Flores Magón, Nonoalco, Tlatelolco; Mexico City. Telephone 5782 2240 and 5583 0295.
www.tlatelolco.inah.gob.mx

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OPENING HOURS

Archaeological Zone
Monday to Sunday, from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Tecpan Museum
Monday to Sunday, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Caja de Agua Museum
From Monday to Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. 365 days a year.

ADMISSIONS

Free entry.

PHOTOGRAPHS

If using any video-shooting device, there must be a payment in accordance with the provisions of the Ministry of Finance; taking non-professional pictures, without a tripod, has no cost.

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CULTURA
SECRETARÍA DE CULTURA

INAH

DISCOVER IT YOURSELF

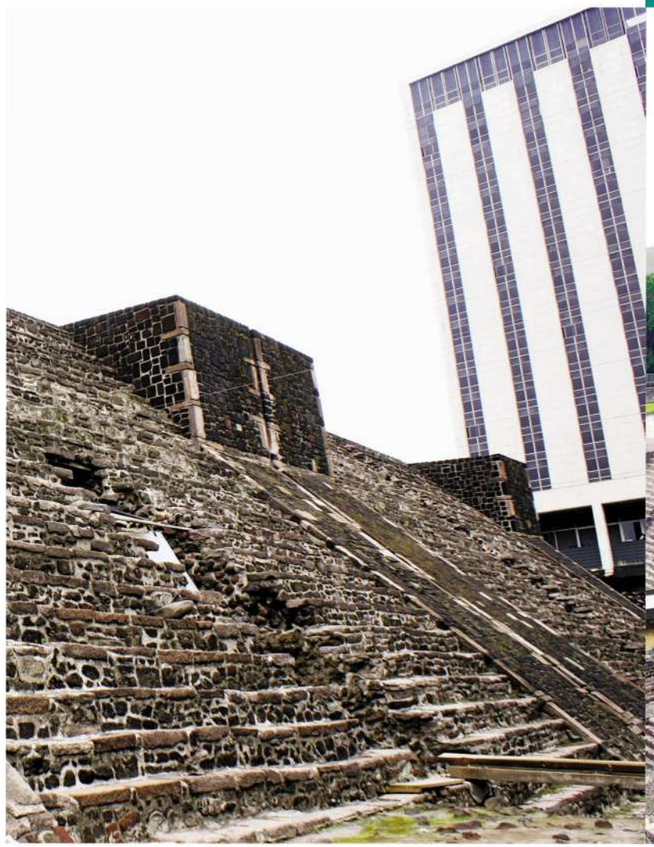
It is the twin city of Tenochtitlan and its Templo Mayor has the same number of constructive stages: seven and two expansions of the main facade.

It has petroglyphs on its side and back facades that decorate its walls, 100 on the south side of Huitzilopochtli and 50 on the north side of Tlaloc.

Temple I or the Great Base is built with pink quarry, emphasizing this construction of the other structures that, while having a similar design, were built with tezontle. Archaeologists believe it was the precinct of the Tlatelolca military elite.

The last battle between Mexicas and Spaniards was carried out there, it was besieged during almost 80 days to finally succumb on August 13th, 1521.

After the Conquest, Tlatelolco became the first Republic of Indians, the Church of Santiago Tlatelolco was built, and the Imperial College of the Holy Cross of Santiago Tlatelolco was created. It has the Caja de Agua (Water Box) Museum, which exhibits a pile of water with unique mural painting, which represents Tlatelolco's daily life.





OUTSTANDING STRUCTURE

Templo Mayor (Main Temple)

Tlatelolco, as the twin city of Tenochtitlan, also has a Templo Mayor. This building represented the center of its worldvision, the axis of its universe and the architectural representation of the hill of maintenance or the sacred mountain.

The extension of the last stage (VII), which can be seen in the northwestern part of the archaeological zone, was the access space for Spaniards just before the Conquest.



ARCHITECTURE

A special feature of the Mexica style buildings is that the access or stairs are flanked by a parallel beam that ends in dice, this is also an inheritance of the Teotihuacan style, which is observed on the Temple of the Paintings.

The most commonly used building materials were pink quarry, basalt and tezontle. It should be noted that the Mexica-Tlatelolcas worked continuously against the instability of the lacustrine terrain where they were settled, so it is not surprising that the buildings had architectural adjustments in order to avoid sinking, as is the case of the calendrical temple.



Tlatelolco is one of the largest archaeological sites in Mexico City, with 67 exposed structures that show the constructive and cultural development of the Mexica culture, which shows the great value this type of constructions has in the country.



MUST-SEE

- A *Temple of Ehécatl-Quetzalcóatl*
- B *Calendrical Temple*
- C *Temple of the Paintings*
- D *Templo Mayor Stage II*
- E *Great Base*
- F *Sacred Enclosure Limit*
- G *Tzompantli Altar*
- H *Caja de Agua*
- I *Tecpan Museum*

DID YOU KNOW...?

- *This archaeological zone has had an uninterrupted occupation since its foundation in 1337. After August 21st, 1521, it was appointed as the first republic of Indians. Later, during the Revolution, the ex-convent served as a military prison; it was later a warehouse of railroads, and in the 60's the Nonoalco Tlatelolco Housing Unit, with its first, second and third section, became an innovative construction during the term of President Adolfo López Mateos.*
- *The recent discovery of a circular structure dedicated to the God Ehécatl, which was found within the ceremonial perimeter, will be an archaeological window for public visit and will be incorporated to the Archaeological Site of Tlatelolco.*





YOU CAN'T MISS...

- The festivities of Apostle James, patron saint of the Santiago de Tlatelolco Church, on July 25th, with hundreds of dancers performing.
- The Fall of the Mexica Empire commemoration, on August 13th.
- It is a traditional meeting place for the commemoration of October 2nd, 1968.



SOME FIGURES

67 There are 67 structures exposed for public view in the archaeological zone.

54 41 burials and 54 offerings dedicated to Ehécatl-Quetzal-coatl were found in the Temple of the god.

13 13 petroglyphs decorate each of the 3 facades in the Calendrical Temple.