

Welcome To Tenochtitlan!



Travel Brochure By Gabrielle Davidow

Hello and welcome to Tenochtolin! This brochure contains all the information you need to know about the Aztec religion and how they settled on this very island you are standing on, Tenochtolin! There will also be sights to see, places to stay, and more listed here!

How was the island found?

The Mexica was a subgroup that later became the Aztec. They were ruled by the Toltec Empire until 1150 C.E. when the Empire collapsed. The Mexica traveled for about 200 years. They ended their travels when they arrived at Lake Texaco. Someone called Huitzipocholi told the Mexica that they would stop and build a civilization when they saw an eagle upon a cactus, eating a snake. That eagle was in the middle of Lake Texaco, on the island where Tenichtolin is today. Later, Tenochtolin became the capital of the Aztec, which is a city all around Lake Texaco.



This is the eagle on a cactus, eating a snake.

It may or may not have been a larger cactus.

The Aztec is located in modern day Mexico. Here is a map of



Lake Texaco and where Tenochtolan is located.

Their Legacy: The Aztec had many ways of moving around the island, farming crops, and making offerings to the eagle. They created causeways and roads between the mainland and Tenochtolin. It was 6 miles to the mainland and Tenochtitlan itself was 5 square miles. To farm, they sectioned out chunks in the water and put dirt in those chunks, and over time it created... that:



They used boats to get to their crops. They called this the "Floating Gardens" because they weren't on land, they were floating in the water. They grew squash, corn, beans, and cocoa. Every year, every family had to sacrifice something to the eagle. In the picture below, every group is sacrificing something. Houses, food, certain gods, their kills.



Different groups sacrificing different things to the eagle.

The Four Earths:

The Aztec believed that the earth existed four times before, each was created and destroyed. Soon after each was destroyed, another one would form. Each time new earth formed, they called it a "sun".

Sun 1: The people were apparently giants that caused problems. There was a giant god-eating crocodile. The giants were causing so much havoc! Now this is where the jaguars come in! The jaguars somehow ate the giants... And that's how it ends. How did they do it, I don't know! Maybe you will find out by visiting Tenochtitlan's local museum!

Sun 2: Now in this "sun" everyone is back to normal, no giants. But the people started becoming a little *too* comfortable with the

gods and started being disrespectful to them. The gods had had enough of being disrespected, so they turned every one to monkeys! And if that wasn't bad enough, the gods created a hurricane, which blew the monkeys off the face of the earth.

Sun 3: There were mostly obnoxious people living on this earth. I misspoke, *everyone* was obnoxious. In this version of the "sun", the gods banned rain, and that meant no crops. When the people became demanding, the gods couldn't take it anymore and punished them with the rain of fire instead of regular rain and everyone died. The end!

Sun 4: This is the last "sun". Like the 3rd sun, everyone was annoying and obnoxious. What's new?! So the gods punished them by flooding the earth and you probably guessed it! Everyone drowned.

We are currently in "sun" 5, that's what the Aztec believed.

Identifying The Ruins: You can visit Tenochtitlan ruins in the local museum. When you enter, you will find the crops that they grew in their floating gardens and chunks of the boats they used to get around. You will also see pieces of their many sacred temples. The ivy is still growing today! In exhibit number 3, you will find the rubber death ball and the hoops you play with. If you want to know more about deathball, the dangerous game played with a tiny rubber ball, make sure to keep reading! Next, you can see different types of sacrifices they made to the eagle. The most common sacrifice was a heart extraction. They give the eagle

food, houses, their kills, and certain gods, you can see more above in "Their Legacy".

Death Ball: Death ball is a game played with a tiny rubber ball called an Olli and two teams. 4-6 players each. You have to try to



hit the rubber ball into the opposing team's stone hoop to win, but, withOUT your hands. It's kind of like the fantasy sport; Quidditch! If your team loses, you get sacrificed and you die. The teams are made up of prisoners of war.

Hiking: There are a couple of trails you can take that will take you through the amazing sights of Tenochtitlan! If you take this 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ mile trail towards the south of Tenochtitlan, in the desert, there is a giant cactus. On the cactus is the eagle eating snake. But if you dare to approach it, you have to be ready to sacrifice something. The trail maps will be located in front of the local museum gift shop. The temple was almost completely destroyed by the Spanish, but major excavations from 1978 to 1982 revealed great sections of the site, allowing visitors to explore the ruins through a series of walkways. The ruins should be about 20 minutes by floating cloud or 10 seconds by a god.

Hotels: There aren't many places to stay in Tenochtitlan but these are the tourists' favorite 5 star rated hotels! One of them is The Aztec. It accompanies you with a nice spa and your first dinner for free! There is a pool, hot tub, and bar located by the side of Lake Texaco. The restaurants are open 24 hours for any midnight snackers! The most visited hotel would be The Olli; with a kids' craft center, pools on the second floor, bar and restaurant on the first floor and all the rooms have room service with free tickets to see a real Deathball game! Make sure to book your hotel stay on Tenochtitlan's website; www.TenochtitlanisonLakeTexaco.com!



Thank you for visiting! Come back soon!