



GOBIERNO DE
MÉXICO

TURISMO

SECRETARÍA DE TURISMO



MEXICAN NATIVE
WEDDINGS



PUEBLA

EL PATRIMONIO DE MÉXICO

INTRODUCTION

Native weddings are important for destinations in Mexico as they seek to rescue the cultural identity, traditions and customs of the indigenous population and of the ethnic groups that still exist. In order to perform these ceremonies, respecting and highlighting the local culture, we need a correct integration of the entire community with vendors. In this way, the local community and companies are tied economically, adding value to the cultural resources, and seeking sustainability and a balance in social inclusion in each of the destinations.

The native people of Mexico are part of its vast cultural wealth, conveyed in its traditions, music, dance, beliefs, symbols, ancestral techniques, clothing, gastronomy, etc. The latter combined with its natural resources, and its specialized vendors, make it possible to perform different types of native weddings. This variety can satisfy the needs and desires of each couple, particularly the new generations that are eager to find, in ancestral traditions, unique experiences worthy of being remembered for a lifetime.

Therefore, the Ministry of Tourism of Mexico [SECTUR] through its General Direction of Tourism Product Innovation division, promotes local culture in Romance Tourism. The focus is not only on the indigenous weddings, but seeking the integration of tourism wedding services and experiences around that special moment. With this initiative, the incorporation of the local community contributes to raising their quality of life.

These catalogs are the result of a coordinated effort between the Destination Wedding Specialist Association (DWSA), local Tourism Boards, Ministries of Tourism of several Mexican states and specialized tourist destination vendors, together with the Ministry of Tourism of Mexico. These entities took on the concerted effort to preserve native weddings and create innovative tourism services aimed at Romance Tourism, differentiating the value that gives them a distinctive touch and identity. This included seeking the benefit to small and medium-sized companies, as well as social development with gender, inclusion and diversity perspectives.

It is important to mention that this work responds directly to the new tourism policy which seeks to have these new activities benefit and strengthen the communities, and to reach more sectors of the population, with balanced development in these regions of the country.

We hope that these documents are not only useful but interesting, and that they contribute to your experience of living, enjoying and falling in love with Mexico.

CEREMONY

Traditional Tochimilca

DESTINATION

Tochimilco

ETHNICITY

Nahua



The union ceremonies of this volcanic region harbor a unique and special syncretism, which characterizes the members of the Nahua communities that inhabit this region. It is an encounter of man and nature with the superior forces that govern the laws of the world.

A Nahua indigenous wedding is a unique ceremony – without legal character – in which a huehuetlactó, an elderly person of great hierarchy in the community, will offer his blessing to the couple that will unite their lives.

This sacred ritual that has the purpose to mark the union of the lives of two young people, it is a ritual of passage in which the transition of two individuals to form a couple is clearly denoted, united in an unbreakable spiritual plane by men.



The celebration of this type of wedding begins with the welcoming of the godparents and guests at the meeting point. They are received with copal, xoxtlamantis -bouquets of flowers, and basins with bread. The ceremony is enlivened with string music for dancing the tlaxcalteco, a symbol of abundance and prosperity in the region. The space is subtly decorated with a bouquet of aromatic flowers hung in the center, from which strips of white paper extend towards the different cardinal points. The altar is decorated with flower arrangements and white paper symbolizing the purity of the union.

The climax of the ritual is when the huehuetlácto gives the blessing in the Nahuatl language to the bride and groom who attend dressed in white. She wears a special skirt called enredo and an embroidered blouse or a white dress with local embroidery and a frayed manta shawl, he wears a white manta suit or embroidered by hand clothing. Both contracting parties must remain on their knees while they are receiving the blessing until the end of the ceremony. The woman must cover her head as a symbol of gratitude when receiving the blessings of heaven and earth. Subsequently, the couple will exchange vows; after receiving the blessings, the couple goes to the spring with a jug from which they will both drink fresh water as a symbol of the union they have just made.



OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Place: Venue near a water spring.

Duration: 30 minutes.

Requirements / Formalities: None.

Elements used: Fire, copal, flowers and water

Dress code: White clothes, it can from the local community embroidered in traditional frayed or pepenados.

Other information:

- The ceremony takes place near a water source.
- During the ceremony the guests are infused with copal smoke to purify the place of the union.
- The entire ritual is takes place in an open space in contact with nature.
- This service can be offered to people with motor and intellectual disabilities.



LA CIENEGA TOCHIMILCO

C. HERIBERTO TÉLEZ

Telephone +52 244 110 2725 / 244 441 0371

auroratelez@gmail.com



The photos published in this document were provided by the companies and suppliers that offer the services stated above. All contents of this document are subject to copyright and intellectual property.



**GOBIERNO DE
MÉXICO**

TURISMO

SECRETARÍA DE TURISMO

The edition and development of this experiences was with the support of:

Secretaría de Turismo del Gobierno de México

Ing. Jorge Vázquez Valdés

General Director of Tourism Product Innovation,
DGIPT

Lcda. Paulina Dominguez Aguilar

Director of Specialized Segments

pdominguez@sectur.gob.mx

Telephone - 5530026300 Ext 6325

Lcda. Adriana Aguilar Gallardo

Sub-director of Specialized Segments

aaguilar@sectur.gob.mx

Telephone - 5530026300 Ext 6307

www.sectur.gob.mx

Secretaría de Turismo de Puebla

www.visitpuebla.mx

Telephone 2221221100 ext. 8203

**Design in collaboration with Destination Wedding
Specialist Association**

info@dwspecialistassn.com

www.dwspecialistassn.com

Mexico City
2022

