



JOURNEYMEXICO

San Miguel de Allende

Introduction

The family home of San Miguel's most famous son and namesake, Ignacio Allende, a hero of Mexico's War of Independence, is now a museum. Located on the southwest corner of San Miguel de Allende's Jardín Principal, the Baroque-style colonial mansion dates to the early 18th century. It houses the Museo de Historia de San Miguel de Allende (Historical Museum of San Miguel de Allende) which chronicles the area's past from Prehistoric times up through independent Mexico. Several rooms dedicated to the life of Ignacio Allende and his role in the independence movement; a few are decorated in the style of the period so you may see how it would have looked during Allende's lifetime.

A pleasant hour or so can be spent at San Miguel's toy museum, of particular interest to the young and the young at heart. La Esquina, Museo del Juguete Mexicano (The Corner, Mexican Toy Museum) is located at Nuñez #40 and contains a collection of over 1000 traditional toys. There are three permanent display rooms: one dedicated to dollhouses, another to animals and transportation, and the third room is called "the fair," and shows masks, musical instruments and miniature fairground rides. The ingenuity and creativity that went into the crafting of these folk toys is astounding.

Another museum that is worth a visit is the mask museum called La Otra Cara de México (The Other Face of Mexico). This private museum is owned by the proprietors of Casa de la Cuesta Bed and Breakfast, and can be visited by appointment only. The masks are presented within their cultural context and give an idea of the wide variety of masks created in Mexico and their many uses within traditional cultures. visitmexico.com



JOURNEYMEXICO

Puerto Vallarta
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Cancún

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Recommended Galleries

LA AURORA

Location: Calzada de la Aurora s/n, San Miguel de Allende
Hours: Monday through Friday 10:00am-7:00pm;
Saturday and Sunday 10:00am-5:00pm

Phone: 415/ 152 13 12

Website: fabricalaaurora.com

Fabrica La Aurora is one of San Miguel's most unique destinations, a beautiful art and design center housed in a former textile factory from the turn-of-the century. Explore and enjoy: Working artist studios, contemporary art galleries, ageless antiques, unique furniture, textiles, and home goods, designer jewelry and clothing and gourmet restaurants and cafés.



EZCURDIA STUDIO

Location: Fabrica La Aurora, 9C
Hours: Monday through Saturday 11:00am-3:00pm and 4:00pm-6:00pm;
Sunday 11:00am-3:00pm

Phone: 415/ 154 8286

Website: ezcurdia.com

Juan Ezcurdia was born in Mexico City in 1962. He is a self-taught artist. His first national illustration prize 1997 awarded by the National Ministry of art and Culture. He has worked for several publishing houses: Barco de Vapor, Santillana, FenándezEditores, Cidcli, Trillas, Alteridades (UAM), SEP, among others. His work forms part of private collection in San Francisco, Houston, Toronto, Barcelona, Chicago, Bilbao, BuenosAires, Los Angeles, Mexico City, Bogota, New York y Madrid among others.



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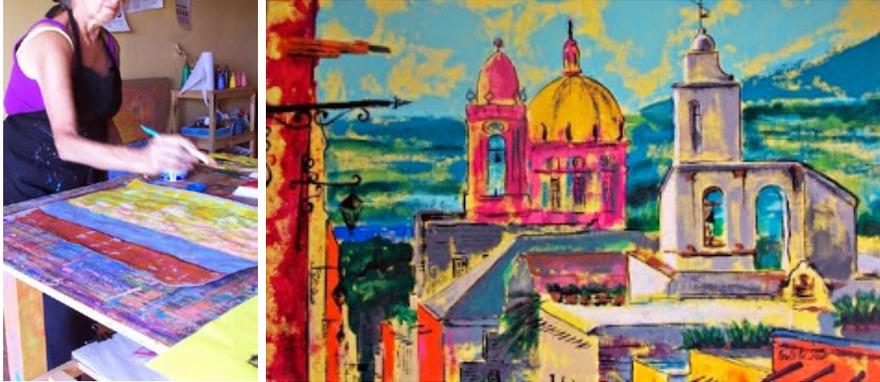
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CRISTI FER ART STUDIO

Location: Federico Montes de Oca 6, Independencia
Hours: By appointment

Phone: 415/ 121 2311
Website: cristiferart.com

CristiFer Art Studio is a unique blend of atelier, gallery and painting classes. Mexican muralist and painter Fernando Gonzalez and Rumanian artist, educator and art therapist Cristiana Marinescu. They relocated their studio to San Miguel de Allende to bring a wealth of experience, outstanding art and 35 years of knowledge as accomplished painters, muralists and educators. They also offer one day to one month workshops for beginner to advanced painters.



ATENEA

Location: Jesus 2, Centro
Hours: Monday through Wednesday, Friday and Saturday 10:00am-7:00pm;
Thursday 10:00-3:00pm; Sunday 12:00pm-3:00pm

Phone: 415/ 152 0785
Website: ateneagallery.net

Atenea Gallery was founded in 1985, the second gallery to exist in San Miguel de Allende. Today, it is one of the leading galleries in the country. In 1995, it was granted the Grand America Award for Quality and Service in its category. It is located in a colonial, 19th-century building in the historic district. It features several showrooms and a beautiful courtyard filled with plants and sculptures. One of the rooms is a showroom of internationally renowned Mexican artist Sergio Bustamante. Over the last 22 years, the gallery has contributed to the artistic and cultural growth of this town thanks to the experience of owners Isaac Uribe and Carlos Acuña, both bilingual and bicultural. National and international shows featuring different art trends are frequently organized at the gallery.



CASA DIANA

Location: Recreo 48, Centro

Phone: 415/ 152 0885

Website: galeriacasadiana.com

Hours: Monday through Saturday 10:00am-7:00pm; Sunday 11:00am-6:00pm

casa-diana.com

The first floor operates as a gallery with regular working hours. The gallery, which has been in operation for five years, offers a wide variety of fine paintings, sculptures and photographs. Tichenor, a photograph by Deborah Turbeville, a painting by Pepe Parra and a painting and a tapestry by Carmen Gutiérrez. Featured in architectural digest, casa Diana was rebuilt by the surrealist artist Pedro Friedeberg, whose work can be found through out the house. A lion face chimney adorns the sitting area, the horse room, takes his name from its three horse stucco chimney and on the second floor terrance there is a life size miniature indian temple (previously Diana's doll house) relief work is found outside of David's room and above Diana's room on the central patio walls.



IZAMAL

Location: Mesones 80, Centro

Phone: 415/ 154 5409

Hours: Sunday through Saturday 11:00am-3:00pm and 4:00pm-8:00pm

Website: artistsofsanmiguel.com

Galería Izamal is an artists' cooperative gallery founded in San Miguel in 1992. Sales are artist-direct, with no gallery commission, so prices are more than competitive. Member artists include painters and jewelers. San Miguel de Allende is a renowned and beautiful colonial town located in the state of Guanajuato north of Mexico City.



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LA BUHARDILLA

Location: Fabrica la Aurora, 4A

Hours: Monday through Saturday 10:00am-6:00pm; Sundays 11:00am-3:00pm

Phone: 415/ 154 9911

Website: noyolaantiquarios.com

The Gallery was founded in Monterrey Mexico, in April of 1971. From the start, our goal has been to satisfy the taste of our most demanding collectors of antiques and modern art. After 35 years of experience, we now give lectures on Antiques and art restoration at the Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores in Monterrey as well as the Center of Design of Monterrey. We are also qualified appraisers in art and antiques.



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