

Adventures Ashore Port & Shopping Guide HUATULCO



Look for the All
Ashore Logo for your
Recommended and
Guaranteed Stores.

About your Port Guide >>

This guide will assist you if you are participating in shore excursions or if you are touring independently. Port information is subject to change without notice. For more information refer to your Discovery magazine found in your stateroom.



Mexico At A Glance >>

CAPITAL: The capital of Mexico is Mexico City

LOCATION: Huatulco is 425 miles southeast of Acapulco.

TAXI: Taxis are available

TIME ZONE: Central Standard Time

CURRENCY: Mexican peso

LANGUAGE: Spanish

POPULATION: 23,000

An Overview of Huatulco

Until the area was tagged for development in the 1980s this stretch of coast 300 miles/480 kilometers southeast of Acapulco was cut off from the interior of Mexico by steep mountains. As a result, the original settlers of several indigenous Indian tribes, including the Zapotecs, Mixtecs and Aztecs, traded goods by sea, traveling between the bays in small boats.

Not much is known about the early days, but the origin of the area's name is a colorful part of its past. Huatulco is derived from a Nhuari (Indian) word that means "place where people worship the cross."

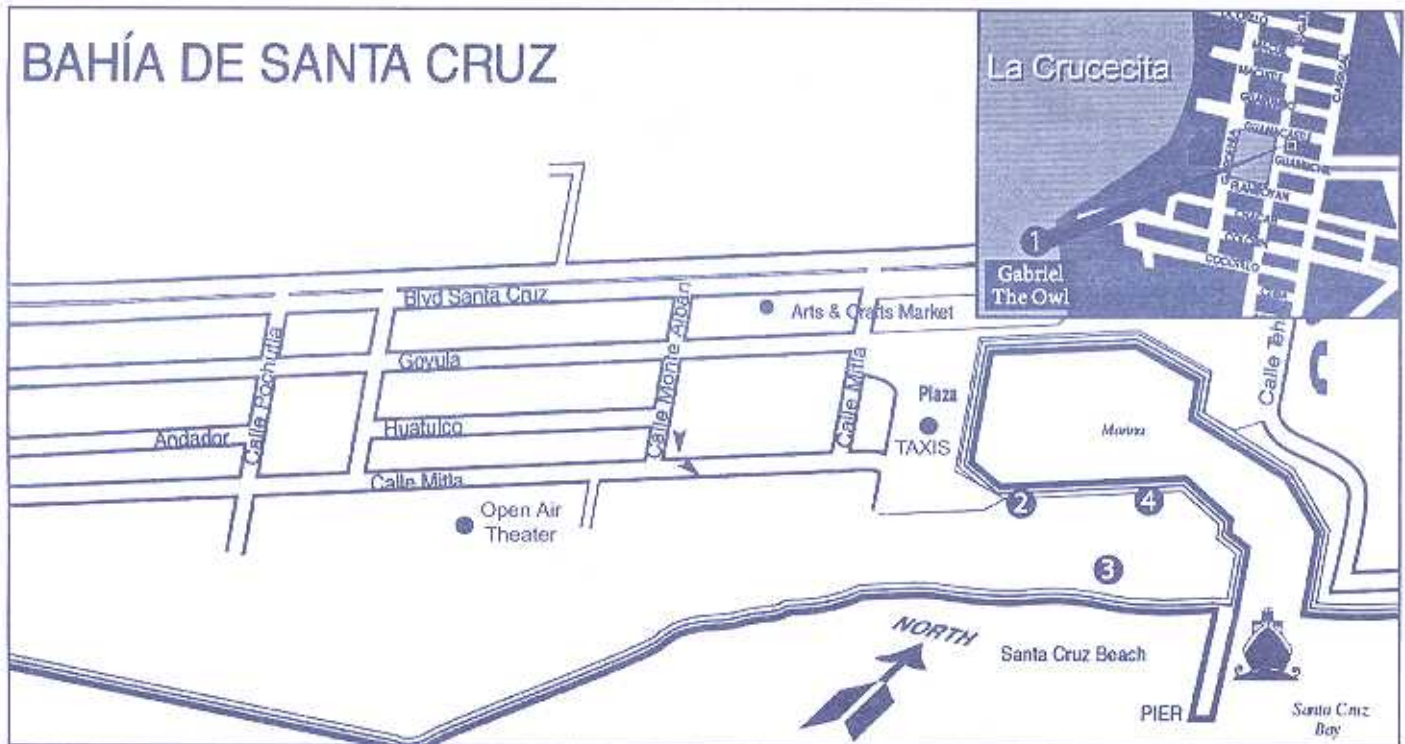
Legend has it that a white, bearded man brought a cross to Santa Cruz many years before the Spanish conquest. Some believe he was one of the apostles. The story goes that he converted the Indians to Christianity and then disappeared.

When the Spanish arrived in the 1500s, they established a trading post and for a time it was more important than Acapulco. British pirates attacked in the late 1500s, and Thomas Cavendish

burned the port. The cross, however, remained undamaged by ax or fire. Numerous miracles have since been attributed to the relic.

After Mexican independence, Huatulco was largely ignored. Until the 1980s, only about 1,000 farmers and fishermen resided in the small village of Santa Cruz, Huatulco. The only visitors were die-hard surfers who wandered over from Puerto Escondido. Spurred by the success of Cancún, however, government officials recognized great potential for tourism in Huatulco's nine pristine bays. A road linking the coast to the interior was built in 1984. Water, sewage, electric and phone lines were also installed. The influx of construction workers and service employees swelled the local population to about 8,000.

Huatulco Recommended Stores



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1 - GABRIEL THE OWL

Beautiful Sterling Silver Jewelry!

At "Gabriel the Owl" jewelry store, you will find the largest selection of the purest .925 and .950 sterling silver. Each piece is hand crafted by our skilled artisans. You will also find a huge variety of 14kt. and 18kt. gold jewelry. Choose from precious and semi-precious gemstones such as opal, amber, amethyst, topaz, Tanzanite, and others to compliment your custom creation. We also carry an ample selection of original ornamental figurines in onyx, turquoise, and many other natural materials.

2 - JOYERIA SANTA CRUZ

Beautiful Jewelry, Arts & Crafts!

Located within walking distance from the pier, at Santa Cruz Bay, with air conditioned facility, Joyeria Santa Cruz offers you a wide array of silver jewelry with and without stones: serving dishes from Los Castillo renowned Mexican Silversmiths since 1939 and innovators in silver designs and techniques. It also holds a vast collection of ceramic and jewelry whimsical figures by Carlos and Albert, who have received the classification as Master Artisans in their trade. These pieces are made out of porcelain as well as paper mache in exuberant colors as well as sterling silver and 22kt. gold vermeil. About their pieces, Carlos and Albert say they are "creations with a soul". There are silver-plated sculptures, crafts from different parts of the Mexican Republic and some gold jewels, out of which the ones with Mexican fire opals are worth mentioning. Come visit us!

3-VE EL MAR RESTAURANT

Huatulco's Sophisticated Restaurant with a Stunning View of the Sea!

"Ve el Mar" which literally means "See the Sea" is an internationally famous restaurant with a 25-year tradition of dining excellence. "Ve el Mar" is a Huatulco landmark well known for serving the freshest choice seafood to a legion of culinary fans. You will love the fabulous shrimp, lobster, red snapper, and various other seafood creations. For a lighter meal "Ve el Mar" has delicious soups and salads using only the very freshest ingredients. The view of the ocean is almost as good as the food as you will be tempted to sit outside in their natural palm frond covered seating areas. The panoramic view is stunning! English is spoken at "Ve el Mar". "Ve el Mar" always treats you to a free drink with your meal. Enjoy a number of specialty drinks served with a Mexican tropical flair. Eat well, live it up, and see the sea at "Ve el Mar"!

Huatulco Recommended Stores

4- MARIA BONITA

Jewelry, Pottery & Clothing

Welcome to MARIA BONITA JEWELRY, a unique jewelry store in Huatulco (located 50 meters left of the pier, white building with blue columns).

• JEWELRY

The most complete assortment of fine jewelry in 14kt. and 18kt. gold, titanium, and platinum - all with the best Mexican designer jewelry: Sets with Tanzanite, diamond, Caribbean topaz, ruby, emerald, Australian opal, Tahitian South Seas pearls, pink sapphire, and .925 and .950 high quality silver. We have our own collection of silverware, tea and coffee settings, and sculptures in silver and gold. The best price and selection of Mexico's handicrafts in Huatulco.

• "ORO DE MONTE ALBAN" JEWELRY

The State of Oaxaca is justly famous for its beautiful filigree jewelry. Built up using fine wires and mounted pearls, corals, or stones, it appears as earrings, bracelets, pendants, chains, and necklaces with Mexican coin attached. The Mixtecs of Oaxaca were some of the most accomplished jewelers of the ancient Americas.

• MEXICAN FIRE OPALS

In Maria Bonita you find the best Mexican fire opals in the world. We control two mines in Magdalena, Mexico, where it can take two years to unearth unique opals ranging from five to 35 carats of supreme quality. All of these opals are set in Mexican and contemporary designs. The advantage of buying opals with us is that their prices in our shop are 50 percent lower than U.S. or European prices.

• ALCIDES FORTES (TITANIUM DESIGNER)

Fortes is a Dutch jewelry designer born in the Cape Verde Islands, Africa. He studied goldsmithing at the Vakschool Voor Edelsmeden in Amsterdam, majored in jewelry design and has a M.A. in Art History from the Amsterdam School of Arts. In 1995 he won the German Shone prize of jewelry. He has developed a partnership with the famous jewelry designer Jos Peperkamp (winner of the International Diamond Award). Alcides Fortes is the exclusive designer at the Treasure Gallery of Amsterdam.

• BRANDS

Hearts on Fire diamonds

Korite International Ammolite

Roberto Coin

AT MARIA BONITA, SAVE 10% OFF (CREDIT CARD), 15% OFF (CASH), AND GET A **FREE GIFT** WITH PURCHASE.

• SERVICES

Maria Bonita has two marvelous air conditioned floors, clean restrooms, and free drinks (water, Coke, Diet Coke, and the famous Pinky Margarita!)

MARIA BONITA IS AN ACCREDITED G.I.A. PROFESSIONAL JEWELER

More About Huatulco

DOCKING/ANCHORAGE

Cruise ships enter Santa Cruz Bay, and dock at the pier.

SHORE EXCURSIONS DEPARTURES

Please check your tour ticket for the correct meeting time and location for your tour. Your shore excursion team will direct you to your transportation.

TRANSPORTATION

Taxis are the best way to explore. Rates are fixed and reasonable, but it's always a good idea to agree upon a rate before departing.

BANKING

Banks are open Monday - Friday, 9am - 5pm; Saturday, 10am - 2pm.

POST OFFICE

Main Post Office is located at Blvd. Chahue 100 (E of La Crucecita. Monday - Friday, 8am - 7pm; Saturday 9am - 1pm.

AIRPORT

Huatulco International Airport is located 8 miles west of Huatulco.

ACTIVITIES

Golf: Most beautiful course in Mexico is Bahia Tangolunda. Tennis: Tennis is at Tangolunda Golf Course and open to the public. Beaches: There are 36 beaches to choose from, including one near the harbor. Some names are La Entrega and Bahia Cacaluta.

In case of emergency, contact
the Port Agent at:

Turismo Nautico, S.A. De C.V., Av Oaxaca #4,
Santa Cruz, Huatulco, Oaxaca, Mexico. Phone:
011-52-587-0024

SHOPPING PROGRAM PORT SHOPPING BUYER'S GUARANTEE

Shop with confidence at each of the recommended stores. All stores listed on the map have paid a promotional fee and given Princess Cruises' passengers a Buyer's Guarantee valid for 30 days after purchase. This guarantee is valid for repair or exchanges. Please note, the following conditions apply to the guarantee: Buyers negligence or buyer's regret is excluded. **Only appraisals from properly certified, independent gemologists not affiliated with a retail jeweler will be considered.** Electronics and watches requiring service must be returned by the consumer to the respective manufacturer. Price paid for merchandise or verbal claims/agreements between merchant and guest will not be grounds for return. All purchases, including fragile items, must be checked before leaving the store. Do not mail merchandise without prior authorization. Passengers are responsible for postage and appraisal costs. If you need assistance during the cruise, contact your Port & Shopping Advisors (PSA). If you need assistance within 30 days of your purchase, e-mail, contact or write directly (include a copy of your sales receipt) to:

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International Designer Brand Guide

Recommended Super Star International Brands for Superior Style and Duty Free Value!

Ammolite by Korite Intl *Maria Bonita Jewelry*



KORITE
INTERNATIONAL

Blackfoot Indian legend has it that the Ammolite sacred stone was a gift received from the gods. Upon the brink of starvation the Great Goddess directed the indian princess to a brilliantly colored gemstone.

She found the stone hidden in a cave and marveled at its brilliance. It was truly magnificent. Ever since, Ammolite has been commonly referred to as the "buffalo stone," as it signifies wealth and abundance.



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YOUR PORT AND SHOPPING GUIDE



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