

MUSEUM OF GUADALUPE

Zacatecas



HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

The venue of the Museum of Guadalupe was formerly the apostolic school known as the Former College of Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe, founded on January 12, 1707, by Fray Antonio Margil de Jesús. It became a missionary bastion that trained numerous groups of friars as missionaries who worked in northern Mexico and the southern United States. For more than two hundred years, these missionaries established cities along the historic route of the Camino Real de Tierra Adentro (Royal Inland Road).

In 1859 when the Decree of Secularization displaced nuns and friars, the building was used for different purposes: a match factory, an arts and crafts school, stables and a children's hospice. Meanwhile the Franciscan order preserved the church and another part of the building. In 1917 this building became the Museum of Antiquities of the former Convent of Guadalupe and its first director was the painter Manuel Pastrana.

In 1939 it was transferred to jurisdiction of the Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia; and in 2010 it was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site as a Cultural Itinerary that is part of the Historic Route of the Royal Inland Road.



MAIN ATTRACTION

 *The Patronage of the Virgin of Guadalupe* by Miguel Cabrera

The collection of the Museum of Guadalupe is represented by the finest artists of Baroque New Spain. On the Majestic Stairway built between 1750 and 1770 are enormous canvases by artists in New Spain Nicolás Rodríguez Juárez, José de Ibarra, Miguel Cabrera, and José Ríos Arnáez. One of the most representative pieces in this remarkable Baroque space is the painting of the *Patronage of the Virgin of Guadalupe* by Miguel Cabrera.

In this iconic painting, the Virgin of Guadalupe is depicted in the center of the composition, symbolizing Franciscan missionary work in New Spain. The Virgin is upheld by Saint Francis, whose cape shelters the friars who came from Spain, led by Fray Antonio Linás, on the viewer's left; meanwhile, the founders of this school are on the right side, with the group headed by Fray Antonio Margil de Jesús.



HOW TO GET THERE

It is in the municipality of Guadalupe, downtown opposite the Juárez Garden. The City of Guadalupe is 7 kilometers (4¼ miles) from Zacatecas; you can take Boulevard Adolfo López Mateos or else the Arroyo de la Plata Highway.

To get to Guadalupe, you can take a taxi from Zacatecas or public transport that leaves from the city's downtown Historic Center (Transportes de Guadalupe). There are hotels and hostels near the Museum, as well as restaurants.

SERVICES

Temporary exhibition galleries, library of the Royal Inland Road, auditorium, shop and bookshop, guided tours with prior reservation, educational workshops with prior reservation, lockers for coats and bags (deposit a 2-peso coin), elevators, accessibility ramps, Expresarte play gallery, and the Guadalupe Baroque Festival held every September.

ADMISSION

Admission is free of charge.

PHOTOGRAPHY

For the use of any device to make videos, visitors must pay the amount set by the Secretary of Finance. Non-professional photography, without the use of tripods, is free of charge and must be done without a flash.

HOURS

Tuesday to Sunday from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm

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TEXTS

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PHOTOS

Acervo del Museo de Guadalupe

TRANSLATION

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The iconography summarizes the principal Franciscan devotions: Saint Joseph and the Virgin of Guadalupe, patrons of New Spain, while she is also patron of the school; Saint Francis of Assisi, the order's founder; the Holy Trinity displaying the divine unity of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost; and Saint Michael the Archangel, also the patron of the school. It is worth mentioning that the Virgin of Guadalupe in this painting is made on the same scale and proportion as the image of her on the *ayate* (cape) in the Basilica of Guadalupe in Mexico City.

Pause to take in the colossal Baroque paintings in the Majestic Stairway and stroll through the spaces in this emblematic Franciscan edifice to travel back to its glorious past.

COLLECTIONS

Here the invaluable cultural holdings of this museum, one of the foremost collections of viceregal art in the country, are preserved, researched, and promoted. Visitors can feel transported in time by experiencing the spaces filled with work made expressly for the walls of the former College, such as the Cloisters of Saint Francis and the Passion of Christ, the Majestic Staircase, the Choir, and the Monastery Library.

The wealth of paintings reflect the way of life, feelings, and New Spain world picture, based on works by some of the finest painters of the time: Luis Juárez, Juan Correa, Cristóbal de Villalpando, José de Ibarra, Miguel Cabrera, Antonio de Torres, and others. It also houses a unique collection of academic works by Manuel Pastrana, its first director.



SOME FIGURES



More than 20 permanent exhibit halls.



More than 10 thousand objects.



The Monastery Library displays more than 9 thousand volumes dating from the sixteenth to the nineteenth centuries, allowing the visitor to become acquainted with Franciscan New Hispanic thought.

/EXHIBITION

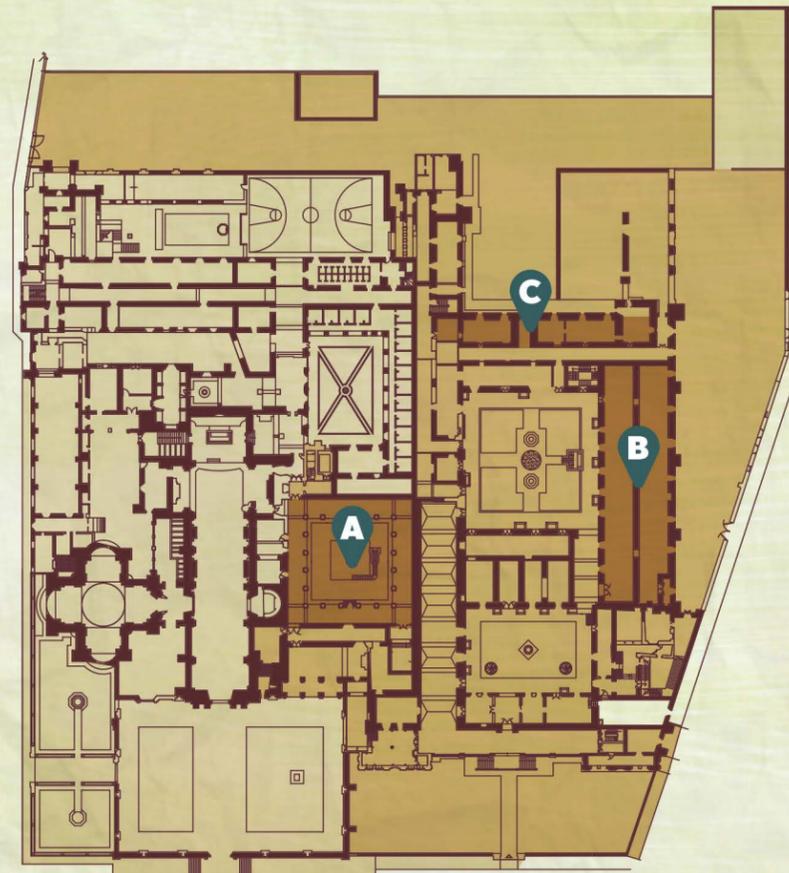
It has more than twenty permanent exhibition galleries, full of surprises, such as:

- The Choir of the former College of Guadalupe, with a sculptural group and exceptional paintings
- The gallery A Look at the Baroque, with emblematic works of art from New Spain, attests to the creative spirit of viceregal Mexico.
- The series on The Passion of Christ by Gabriel José de Ovalle, who did these fifteen canvases for the Franciscans of this school.
- The series on the life of the Virgin Mary by two painters who represent the eighteenth-century Mexican Baroque, Miguel Cabrera and Antonio de Torres.

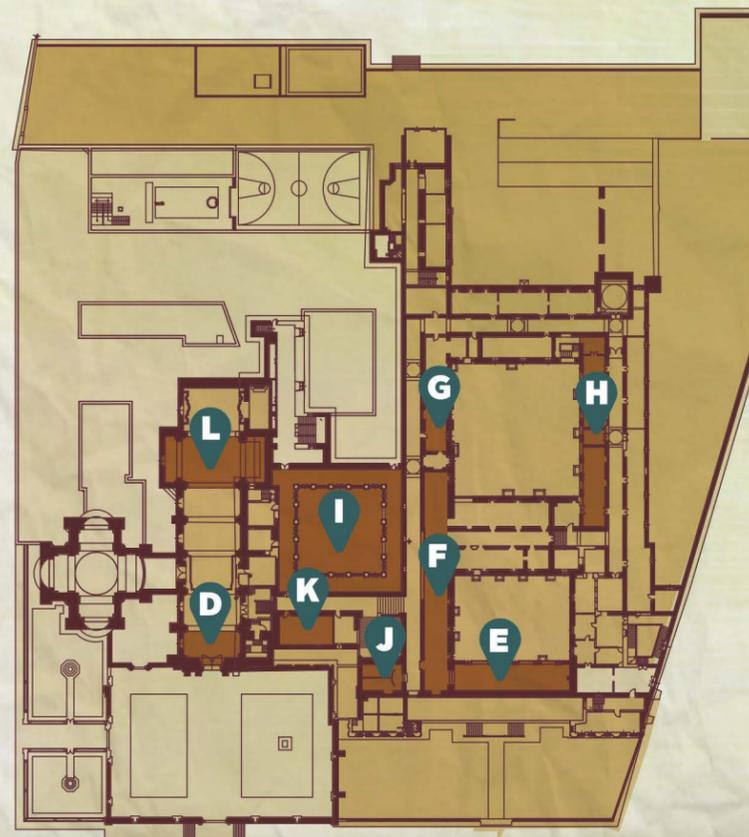


/The Museum of Guadalupe, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, exhibits the Baroque past of viceregal Mexico.

GROUND FLOOR



UPPER FLOOR



ESSENTIALS

GROUND FLOOR

- A** Cloister of Saint Francis
- B** Royal Inland Road
- C** Expresarte Play Gallery

UPPER FLOOR

- D** Choir of the former College of Guadalupe
- E** A Look at the Baroque Gallery
- F** Series on the Passion of Christ by Gabriel José de Ovalle
- G** Series on the life of the Virgin Mary by Miguel Cabrera
- H** Manuel Pastrana Gallery
- I** Cloister of the Passion of Christ
- J** Majestic Stairway
- K** Monastery Library
- L** Former Library



- A space highlighting the museum's first director, the painter Manuel Pastrana, with a collection unique in Mexico
- The gallery on the Royal Inland Road showcases eight historical examples of diverse means of transport dating to the eighteenth to twentieth centuries.

