



## TEOTIHUACAN MEXICO

Teotihuacan is an ancient pre-Columbian city located in Mexico, which is known not only for its impressive architecture but also for its historical significance. The archaeological site was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1987. Below you will find a summary of the main stages of the archaeological site, as well as the notable buildings:

### Main stages of Teotihuacan:

1. Preclassic Period (200 BCE - 200 CE): During this phase, the foundations of the city were established, and the first monumental structures were built.
2. Early Classic Period (200-450 CE): During this stage, the city experienced significant growth, and the main buildings, avenues, and plazas were constructed.
3. Late Classic Period (450-650 CE): During this era, Teotihuacan reached its peak as one of the largest cosmopolitan cities in Mesoamerica.
4. Decline and Abandonment (650-750 CE): For reasons still unknown, the city was abandoned and fell into decline.

### Main buildings:

1. Temple of Quetzalcoatl Plaza, also known as the Citadel: It was built in the Late Classic Period and stands out for its sculptures of feathered serpents, the god Tlaloc, reliefs of warriors, and priests. You can visit the Pyramid of the Feathered Serpent there.
2. Pyramid of the Sun: It is the largest structure in Teotihuacan. It is believed to have been built during the Early Classic Period. With a height of approximately 65 meters, it offers a panoramic view of the entire city from its summit. If you're up for it, you can climb to the top of the pyramid.
3. Pyramid of the Moon: Located at the northern end of the Avenue of the Dead, this pyramid was built during the Early Classic Period. It is dedicated to the goddess of fertility, and you can also climb it to enjoy other panoramic views.
4. Temple of the Quetzalpapalotl: This temple is located next to the Plaza of the Moon Pyramid and was built in the Late Classic Period. It is known for its beautiful reliefs of quetzals (quetzal birds) and butterflies (papalotl), symbols of Venus, as well as its architectural details.





5. Temple of the Jaguar-Butterfly: Situated in the underground part of the Plaza of the Moon complex, below the Quetzalpapalotl, this temple was built in the Late Classic Period. Its name comes from the reliefs of jaguars and butterflies that decorate its walls.

In recent years, archaeological advancements in Teotihuacan have revealed new discoveries that shed light on its development and cultural and artistic contributions to Mesoamerica. Here is a summary of these findings:

- **Mural Paintings:** In recent excavations, numerous fragments of mural paintings have been found in different buildings of the city. These paintings offer a unique insight into the ancient Teotihuacan aesthetics and depict a variety of subjects, such as human figures, deities, animals, and natural elements. These findings highlight the richness and sophistication of mural art in Teotihuacan.
- **New Residential Structures:** The exploration of residential areas on the outskirts of the city has revealed the existence of new housing complexes. These structures, consisting of courtyards, rooms, and murals, provide valuable information about the social organization and daily life of Teotihuacan's inhabitants.
- **Cultural Influence:** Archaeological studies have confirmed the broad cultural influence of Teotihuacan in Mesoamerica. Findings in other archaeological sites show the presence of Teotihuacan architectural and stylistic elements, as well as commercial goods and evidence of cultural exchange. This demonstrates the central role that Teotihuacan played in the dissemination of knowledge and practices in the region.
- **Urban Development:** Through mapping and remote sensing techniques, archaeologists have revealed new data about urban planning and the distribution of spaces in Teotihuacan. These studies have allowed the identification of specific areas dedicated to craft production, agriculture, and trade, highlighting the city's complexity and level of organization.

In summary, the most recent discoveries in Teotihuacan have provided a deeper understanding of its development, revealing both the sophistication and importance of this ancient pre-Columbian city in Mesoamerican cultural history.





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