



CHINO VALLEY
UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Adult School

What is Cinco de Mayo?

Cinco de Mayo is a Mexican holiday. In English, "Cinco de Mayo" means the 5th of May. On this day in Mexico's history, something special happened.

Watch the video to learn more!



Puebla, Mexico



**Can you
spot Puebla
on the map?**

Once you spot Puebla, identify 3 bordering states.



Puebla is one of 31 states in Mexico. Puebla is well known for three significant reasons. First, Puebla is known for developing Mole poblano (a sauce) during the 17th century. Second, Puebla is known for its beautifully crafted and designed Talavera ceramics. And third, Puebla is known for its success in defeating the French Army in the Battle of Puebla on May 5, 1862.

A History of Mexico

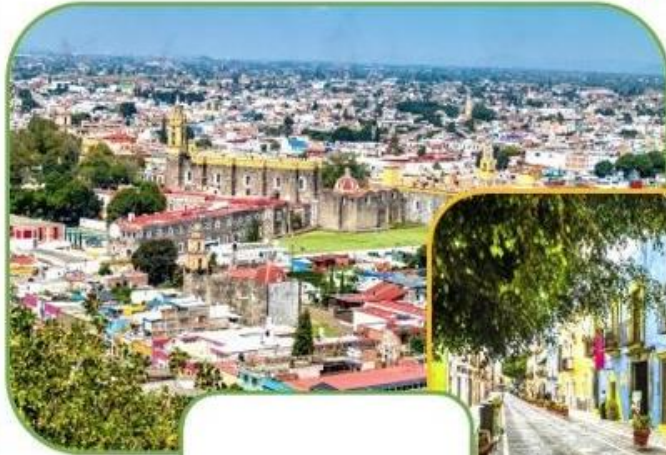
Mexico has a rich history. The mighty Aztecs were in control of Mexico until the arrival of Europeans in 1517. Francisco Hernández de Córdoba was the first to visit. He had three ships and about 100 men. The local natives and the Spaniards had a conflict, so the Spanish governor sent a larger group of explorers to Mexico. Hernán Cortés led that voyage in 1519. He marched to the Aztec capital. Cortés was welcomed because he was mistaken for a god. He easily took over the city for Spain. Cortés built Mexico City on the ruins of the Aztec empire. This paved the way for colonization.

Mexico engaged in a move for independence in the 1800s. After a series of failed rebellions led by priests, Mexico finally gained freedom from Spain in 1821. Disputes over Texas, California, and New Mexico in the 1830s-1840s led to the United States declaring war. Mexico refused to admit defeat. The U.S. sent troops to capture Mexico City. This was accomplished on September 14, 1847. Peace was finally reached the following year. The Rio Grande became the southern border of Texas. California and New Mexico were handed over to the U.S.

A new Mexican constitution was made after the war with the United States. Certain groups did not like the constitution. That led to a civil war within Mexico that lasted three years. In 1910, the Mexican Revolution began after people grew tired of a dictator ruling them. They wanted change. Over one million people were killed in this conflict and others fled to the United States. After the revolution ended in 1917, political and social change happened. The change was limited, however, and not everyone was satisfied with the results.



About Puebla



The city of Puebla is the capital of Puebla! It is the largest city in the state and the fourth largest city in all of Mexico! The city is located in a large valley surrounded by the Transversal Volcanic System. The city is home to many beautiful museums, lots of great schools and colleges, and several cathedrals and churches.



Iztaccihuatl

In the northeast, the Sierra Madre mountain chain claims the land. The rest of the state is crossed by the Transversal Volcanic System, which is a chain of volcanoes. Iztaccihuatl (to the left) and Popocatepetl (to the right) are two volcanoes in Puebla.



Popocatepetl

Talavera de Pueblo: The Importance of Art



MEXICO

TALAVERA POTTERY

The image shows two flags flying against a clear blue sky. The Mexican flag is in the upper left, featuring vertical stripes of green, white, and red with the national coat of arms in the center. The American flag is in the lower right, showing its characteristic stars and stripes. The flags are attached to poles and are captured in a low-angle shot, making them appear to rise towards the top of the frame.

In the video you will see next:

- * What does Cinco de Mayo celebrate?
- * Explain the first Cinco de Mayo celebration in the U.S
- * What is the difference between Cinco de Mayo and Mexican Independence Day?

A photograph of two women in traditional Mexican folk costumes, likely from the state of Puebla, dancing. They are wearing large, full skirts with wide, multi-colored ruffled borders in yellow, blue, green, and pink. The woman in the foreground is wearing a yellow top with a white ruffled collar and a large blue bow in her hair. The woman in the background is wearing a light blue top with a white ruffled collar and a large pink bow in her hair. The text "Cinco de Mayo" is overlaid in a large, white, bold font with a black outline.

Cinco de Mayo

Mexican Dance Cultural Traditions: Two ways to celebrate

- **Folklórico**



- **Mariachi**



Celebration Foods for Cinco de Mayo:

- Puebla Food



- American Food





Cinco De Mayo Celebrations



Within Mexico, Cinco de Mayo is primarily observed in the state of Puebla, where Zaragoza's unlikely victory occurred.



Traditions include military parades, recreations of the Battle of Puebla, and other festive events.



In the United States, Cinco de Mayo is widely interpreted as a celebration of Mexican culture and heritage, particularly in areas with substantial Mexican American populations.



Chicano activists raised awareness of the holiday in the 1960s, in part because they identified with the victory of indigenous Mexicans (such as Juárez) over European invaders during the Battle of Puebla.



Today, revelers mark the occasion with parades, parties, mariachi music, Mexican folk dancing, and traditional foods such as tacos and mole poblano.



Feliz Cinco de Mayo

