

Cuernavaca is located in Mexico's state of Morelos, a stunning 60 mile drive on a modern highway through the mountains south of Mexico City. It is a historical, yet modern city, with a definite Mexican flavor and welcoming residents. First settled in about the 10th century by people related to the Aztec's, later infamous inhabitants included Spaniard Hernan Cortes. In the 1500s, after the Spanish conquered Mexico City, Cortes built his palace in Cuernavaca after being granted the land by the Spanish crown. Others too have left their mark on this beautiful city, including Carlotta & Maximilian who resided in Cuernavaca after the French intervention in the mid 1800s.

In Cuernavaca each day there is something new to experience. The city has many museums, haciendas, churches, restaurants, libraries, nightclubs, discos, swimming pools and natural water parks, golf courses, plus more. Pyramids lakes, mountains, and interesting towns surround Cuernavaca. Any month is perfect to visit as Cuernavaca, known as the "City of Eternal Spring" year round temperatures are typically in the 80s with cool nights.

Instituto Chac-Mool is in a mostly residential area of Cuernavaca with just a short stroll to downtown. A beautiful walking city, frequent bus service and inexpensive taxis are plentiful. Shopping, restaurants and services are located close to the school and the nearby host family residences.

HOW TO GET HERE: From the Mexico City airport, there are frequent direct Pullman de Morelos buses to Cuernavaca, tickets are purchased within the airport terminal for about US\$13. From the bus station in Cuernavaca, catch a "Radio Taxi" for a few dollars to you accommodations. A 24-hour private airport pickup and delivery service is also available. Rates are \$80 for 1, \$90 for 2, \$100 for 3, \$110 for 4 and \$125 for 5 - 6 (in one vehicle, one destination).

EXCURSIONS

Full-Day Cultural Excursions are offered each Saturday, plus each Sunday during the summer season. These optional excursions enhance what is learned about Mexican history and culture during the week. Sign up sheets available at the school only the week prior to each event. For excursions not scheduled, feel free to arrange with one of Instituto Chac-Mool teachers to escort you to the destinations you'd like.

Destinations may include: Teotihuacán, Museo de Antropología in Mexico City, Centro Histórico in Mexico City, Ballet Folklórico in Mexico City, Museo Dolores Olmedo y canales de Xochimilco in Mexico City, Taxco, Las Estacas Water Park and the Xochicalco archeological site. The charge is usually US\$40-45 per person, depending on the destination. A guide plus transportation to and from the Spanish school is provided. The fee usually includes entrance fees, with the exception of Ballet Folklórico and Las Estacas which requires students to pay for their own ticket.



**Privada de la Pradera #108
Colonia Pradera
Cuernavaca, Morelos, Mexico
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www.chac-mool.com

***fully accredited by the Mexican Ministry of Education
SEP - Secretaría de Educación Pública***

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**Color photos and frequently asked questions
available at www.chac-mool.com**

[Register online at www.chac-mool.com/enroll.html](http://www.chac-mool.com/enroll.html)

Instituto Chac-Mool began in 1996 as one of Cuernavaca's most innovative Spanish immersion and cultural programs. By 2006 Instituto Chac-Mool became Cuernavaca's highest ranked family-friendly school with an offering of year round Spanish classes to all ages and levels of students. The owners of Instituto Chac-Mool are Julio and Deana Nájera, themselves educators who have professionally trained Spanish teachers and taught in both the United States and Mexico.

Instituto Chac-Mool offers students an intimate environment in which to study, plus unique personal service from the moment of contact. Staff will welcome students and assist with their requests, and teachers will personally get to know each of their students in order to tailor instruction specifically to their needs.

Instituto Chac-Mool teachers participate in continuous training and technique workshops. But first the school's owner carefully chooses only the most qualified individuals to teach at Instituto Chac-Mool, and they must be college educated and native Spanish speakers. During an extensive training course, applicants are continuously analyzed and critiqued, and only those passing a rigorous final test are selected to become an Instituto Chac-Mool instructor.

The facilities at Instituto Chac-Mool are comfortable with mostly outdoor classrooms plus a business office, library, student lounge, large grassy area with swimming pool, and a cafeteria for food and drink.

- ❑ At Instituto Chac-Mool we are convinced that using **Sheltered Instruction** and the **Natural Approach** are the best ways to **acquire** a language. This approach allows students to learn to communicate faster, as there is more stress on communication skills and conversational fluency, as opposed to strictly studying the grammatical structure of the language. Students are not lectured to, as learning is active and interactive at Instituto Chac-Mool.
- ❑ Instructors have been specially trained in Stephen Krashen's **Theory of Language Acquisition** and that of the **Seven Intelligences**.
- ❑ Courses begin each Monday throughout the year, and you may study for as short as one week although longer participation is recommended.
- ❑ The program offers 9 different levels, from beginning to advanced, plus private tutoring including for writing, translations, professional terminology, teaching Spanish, as well as courses for Native Spanish speakers.
- ❑ Students will be grouped by ability based on a brief written, auditory and oral placement test given Monday morning prior to beginning class.
- ❑ In the event that a student's ability level falls between 2 levels, at the director's discretion private instruction will be offered to bring the adult student up to the next level.
- ❑ Adult classes are no more than 5 students at the same Spanish level: note July weeks, teen, and children's groups may be slightly larger.
- ❑ Winter months feature 'Young at Heart' programs for mature students.
- ❑ College credit is available.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Staying with a host family is an opportunity to practice the Spanish language in the most natural of settings. Although, Instituto Chac-Mool doesn't require a student use one of the host families located near the school, a 'homestay' does offer benefits such as learning about the culture of Mexico and the potential of life-long friendships. Plus students will have room and board provided at a reasonable cost. Instituto Chac-Mool has a variety of host families, and the registration form will ask for information that will allow the housing director to select the perfect placement for the student.

The host families that work exclusively with Chac-Mool are fully screened and enjoy having foreign students in their homes, often valuing the opportunity as much as the students do. In order to provide a pleasant and rewarding homestay experience, families are required to attend workshops where they discuss the important role they play in the immersion program. Instituto Chac-Mool's staff is in touch with the families frequently to help ensure the best possible experience. At the end of their stay, students are requested to fill out homestay evaluations so that the housing director receives constant feedback of the service provided.

Students will be assigned and notified of their host family approximately one week prior to their arrival, taking into account factors such as: number of rooms needed, private or shared room (shared with a friend or one assigned by the school), smoker or non-smoker, dietary requirement (vegetarian, etc), allergies, etc. During summer months weekend arrival/departures are requested.

YOU WILL BE PART OF THE FAMILY. The host families provide three meals a day, working around the class schedule. For weekend excursions, students may request from the family a bag lunch. Host families are asked to provide purified water at mealtime, a room with one or two beds, a table for studying, and ample lighting. Also provided is bath soap, a clean bath towel twice a week and clean sheets which will be changed once a week. Personal laundry through a local laundry service is available.

2010 HOMESTAY RATES with 3 daily meals (per person)

\$29 per night	Private Room with Private Bathroom
\$27 per night	Private Room with Shared Bathroom
\$24 per night	Shared Room with Private Bathroom *
\$22 per night	Shared Room with Shared Bathroom

*not available for those needing an assigned roommate

CASITAS: Located near the school, some host families offer small private entrance "guesthouses". They include a private bathroom and one or two beds. Units with kitchenettes are limited. Priced as above with 'no meal' discounts. Email us with requirements as there is limited availability. Larger vacation rentals can be seen at www.cuernavacainfo.com.

UNIQUELY OFFERED at INSTITUTO CHAC-MOOL

One-on-One Tutoring: Adults sign up in the morning for a 20 minute tutoring session offered to adults Monday thru Thursday afternoons. No additional fee.

Native Speaker Classes: This private language course focuses on teaching individuals who may have learned Spanish in the home, but may not use the language correctly. Emphasis on reading, writing, and proper communication.

Taller Bilingüe: Tuesday & Thursday (approx. 30 min.) In a group setting a teacher will explain a different grammatical point each day after school.

Workshops for Educators: Upon advance request, we offer a series of workshops especially designed for teachers. Topics include: translations; writing parent letters; family customs and how they relate to a school environment; Mexican holidays. Bilingual teachers may have the opportunity to visit a public junior high and a private elementary school to compare and contrast the educational systems of Mexico and the U.S. or Canada (visits not available during school holidays).

Courses for Professionals: Instituto Chac-Mool offers Spanish courses to help in varying professions, including social work, law, law enforcement, business, and medicine. Please ask for more information for semi-private or private classes. Continuing Education Units of Credit available from a U.S. University.

Certificate of Completion: Students of all ages will receive award on their last day of class.

Courses for College Credit: Instituto Chac-Mool is accredited as a higher education institution by Mexico's Secretaría de Educación Pública and students can earn at least one semester credit per week of immersion study. Transcripts will be issued upon advance request; only a mailing fee is required.

Family Friendly: Separate programs for children and teens are popular during holiday and summer months. Ages 4 – 5 and up are welcome at Instituto Chac-Mool and qualified instructors are specially trained for teaching different ages.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Instituto Chac-Mool feels a strong connection to the community and organizes volunteer opportunities for those who have an interest. Instituto Chac-Mool is especially dedicated to a local orphanage but can also arrange for you to volunteer at other facilities upon advance request.

PROGRAMS FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

During the fall and winter months especially, many retirees and mature professionals are traveling to Cuernavaca to escape the cold weather at home and to learn Spanish at Instituto Chac-Mool. Some older students have never studied a language before and others are perfecting their Spanish skills for future travel or retirement in Latin America. For accommodations, Instituto Chac-Mool offers homestays that are an easy walk to the school plus there are guesthouses for a little more privacy. For those 'young at heart' traveling alone, with a partner, or in a group, Instituto Chac-Mool welcomes you! Instituto Chac-Mool's Natural Approach to learning is the easiest way to acquire a new language and no age is too old to learn. It is guaranteed!

PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN

Teens (ages 12 and up) - A special Spanish immersion course just grouping teens together is scheduled for June 14 to August 13, 2010. The first week can be an adjustment, but by week two teens are typically participating more and fully enjoying the activities. Therefore enrollment for 2 weeks or longer is recommended. This teen program is active with events just for teen students.

We recommend that a parent or guardian travel with their teens and we welcome their registration in adult Spanish immersion classes. Solo travelers will be required to sign a Minor Agreement, a parent's signature is also required. Older teens may choose to study in the adult program.

Programa Amiguitos (4-5 and older) - Introduces the child to the Spanish language and culture of Mexico. In this day camp type program, children learn Spanish words and phrases through fun activities. And the thematic approach assures that each student is challenged at their own level. Children will be engaged in age-appropriate activities such as making a piñata, playing a game, and creating a store. Classes are limited to 8 children per qualified children's instructor.

Junior Spanish Program - Created for children who have had previous Spanish instruction, the program offers a balanced 25-hour weekly schedule combining structure and role play activities with workshops, social activities, and sports. It offers academic foundation with a strong emphasis on developing communication skills in Spanish. The size of each group is no larger than 5 to 6 students per specially trained instructor.

Special July event, see www.chac-mool.com for details
Children's classes are the same hours and campus as adult classes

2010 TUITION and FEES

Ask about September and October deep discounts!

Adults & Teens	1-4 weeks rate per week	5 –11 weeks rate per week	12 + weeks rate per week
June, July, Aug	\$235	\$220	\$180
All other months	\$220	\$205	\$180
Private Lessons		Special Courses for Professionals	
Request quote		\$350 semi-private course (\$380 summer) see website for course descriptions	
Plus a life-time, non-refundable US\$100 registration fee. Books \$10-25. CHAC-MOOL GUARANTEES that the student will learn, or their money back			

Children ages 4-12	rate per week
Programa Amiguitos	\$155
Junior Program	\$220
Plus a life-time, non-refundable US\$50 registration fee per child 12 & younger.	

Classes begin weekdays at 8:50 am and end at 1:50 pm:

Adult daily classes are divided into six parts. The first and second modules from 8:50 to 11:40 are structure, consisting of a brief review of the day before, new material and practice. During the third and fourth module from 12:00 to 1:50 the students will attend a conversation working including information about the Mexican culture and how it relates to the Spanish language. During the conversation workshops, students may also have opportunities for reading and writing and Friday cultural outings.

Afternoons from 1:55 to 2:45 - free of charge:

- 20 Minute Tutoring Sessions with a teacher one-on-one. Adults and teens may sign up each morning, excluding Friday.
- Lectures, guest speakers, music, excursion orientation, & more.
- Workshops for teachers and educators (2 afternoons).
- Taller Bilingüe - grammar discussion group (2 afternoons).

Evenings from 5-7 pm:

- Activities including cooking class, Latin dance lessons, arts & crafts, movies. Small materials fee for some activities may apply.

Weekends:

- Saturday – Full day guided excursion. Fee required.
- Sunday - Sunday full-day excursions will also be offered during the summer. Fee required.

ADDITIONAL SERVICES

Pre-trip assistance · WiFi internet access · telephones · long distance calling cards · fax · tourist information research library · swimming pool · cafeteria · doctor on call

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

Classes are not offered on the following holidays, although some hours will be made up with longer class time that same week.

Sorry, no refunds for missed days.

February 5, 2010	Constitution Day
March 19, 2010	Benito Juarez Birthday
September 16, 2010	Dia de Independencia
November 19, 2010	Revolution of 1910

Christmas 2010 is a Saturday so no missed class time

HOW TO REGISTER

Register online at www.chac-mool.com/enroll.html

-or-

CONTACT in the United States:

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