



Copper Canyon & Northern Mexico

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Best Places to Eat

- Teresitas (p774)
- Madre Oaxaca (p799)
- La Galería Café (p798)
- Cremería Wallander (p788)
- Bonifacio's (p771)

Best Places to Stay

- Riverside Lodge (p763)
- Hotel San Felipe El Real (p781)
- Hotel Luz del Sol (p773)
- Hacienda de los Santos (p773)
- Méson Verde Oscuro (p792)

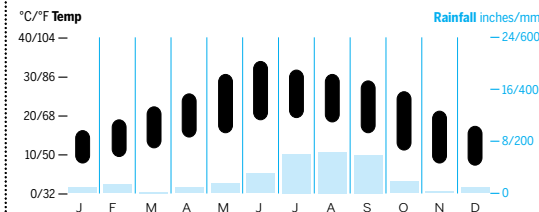
Why Go?

Northern Mexico is the ultimate frontier land: vast cactus-strewn deserts, craggy mountains and breathtaking canyons define this most iconic of regions, familiar to almost anyone from its role in countless Wild West movies. If the landscape is diverse, then the people of the north are equally so: cowboys, revolutionaries and bandits have, over the centuries, left their mark on the region, while the varied and still deeply traditional indigenous peoples of this part of the country remain some of Mexico's least westernized.

Though the narco wars have impacted the north terribly in recent years, it remains a safe place to visit for anyone taking a few sensible precautions, and these days you'll find you have it pretty much to yourself. The Ferrocarril Chihuahua Pacífico (Copper Canyon Railway), Mexico's only remaining long-distance passenger train ride, is the region's most outstanding sight, but its colonial towns, superb beaches and diverse wildlife are other strong lures.

When to Go

Chihuahua



Jun & Jul Heavy rainfall. Key festivals like Las Jornadas Villistas in Hidalgo del Parral.

Late Sep-Oct Pleasantly hot during the day. Good time to visit the coming-into-bloom Copper Canyon.

Dec & Jan Balmy, dry weather on the Pacific coast makes for a popular winter escape.



Copper Canyon & Northern Mexico Highlights

- 1 Riding Mexico's last passenger train through mesmerizing canyon scenery on the **Ferrocarril Chihuahua Pacífico** (p749).
- 2 Checking into a colonial

hotel and taking in the beauty of the exquisite old silver town of **Álamos** (p771).

- 3 Being shocked and awed by Monterrey's **Horno** (p797) museum, a

monument to the city's heavy metal heritage.

- 4 Exploring the canyon's floor and visiting the delightful towns of **Urique** (p753) and **Batopilas** (p761).