

## TRAVEL

# Skip Cabo: Mexico's Most Underrated Destinations to Visit This Summer

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Don't get me wrong -- Cabo is great. Who *doesn't* like being treated to epic sunsets and fabulous food in luxury **five-star resorts**? No one. No one does not like that. Los Cabos is popular for a reason, as are all the other stars in Mexico's line-up: **Mexico City**, San Miguel de Allende, Cancún, Playa del Carmen, **Puerto Vallarta**, we could go on.

According to the US National Travel and Tourism Office, Mexico remains the most popular country for Americans to visit -- 3.7 million visited in December 2017 -- despite this administration's efforts to skew our perception of Mexico as a country of "bad hombres," criminals, and rapists. **Visitors will not be deterred.**

Don't be afraid to break away from the pack. You'll have to go off the beaten path -- and outside your resort -- to experience what this country is all about. The list of under-the-radar cities in Mexico is a long one, but I promise, a visit to any one of these hidden gems will be infinitely more rewarding than the weekend you spend doing electric-colored shots at **Cabo Wabo**.



Guadalajara | Luis Alvarado Alvarado/Shutterstock

## *Guadalajara*

### ***Mexico's "second city" is a welcome alternative to CDMX***

We would never tell you to "skip" Mexico City -- it's one of our favorite spots for a **weekend getaway** and the food is bonkers-good. But when you're ready to go beyond the confines of Condesa and Roma Norte, snag a flight to Guadalajara.

Mexico's "second city" is a dynamic cultural capital in its own right, appealing to the artistic, creative, and tech-savvy (read: millennials). Business is booming -- over 15 new hotels are planned for GDL in the coming year, which means we'll soon have to remove it from this list.

Guadalajara is everything you love about Mexico City -- just on a smaller scale. Leave room in your suitcase for traditional handicrafts from Tlaquepaque, or visit the massive Mercado Libertad, one of the largest in Mexico, for souvenirs and local eats. A legit beach getaway is just four hours away in **Puerto Vallarta**; also nearby, the small town of Tequila. I'll let you guess what its famous for.