



# My Guadalajara weekend

Five Tapatíos share their favorite ways to eat, rest, and play in Mexico's second-largest city. Interviews by **Julie Schwiertert Collazo**



Sally Rangel

## ↑ Sally Rangel

IMAGE CONSULTANT

Right now, the best place for anyone to visit has to be University of Guadalajara's Cultural Center (Anillo Periférico Norte 1695). There are so many exciting things happening there, and it's also home to what we consider to be the best public library in all of Latin America. An environmental science museum is in the works, too, scheduled to open in 2019. It's *the* place to go for art and culture in Guadalajara.

**Expert tip:** Join locals for the weekly *Vía RecreActiva* to get a sense of how we live. Each Sunday morning, the city's major avenues are closed to car traffic and we bike, run, walk, or dance in the streets!



Renata (left) and Julia (right) Franco



Albergue Transitorio showroom

## ↑ Julia y Renata Franco

SISTERS AND DESIGNERS AND OWNERS OF FASHION LABEL JULIA Y RENATA

If you want to find yourself among Guadalajara's artsy crowd, head to De La O (Calle Argentina 70) for drinks. This is a new hotspot and its cocktail menu is super interesting, with artisanal, house-made liquors. There's also food – the kind your favorite aunt would serve you if you paid her a surprise visit.

**Expert tip:** For out-of-the-ordinary souvenirs, visit Albergue Transitorio (Avenida de la Paz 2219). We host this pop-up store twice a year in our showroom (two months in summer and two months in winter). You'll find jewelry, clothing, furniture, and contemporary art made by the best independent Mexican designers.

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Guadalajara's *Vía RecreActiva*

VIAREACTIVA.ORG



Benito Santos Ramírez

## ← Benito Santos Ramírez

HAUTE COUTURE DESIGNER

The Hospicio Cabañas (Calle Cabañas 8) is located in Guadalajara's downtown. Back in 1791, it functioned as a workhouse, hospital, orphanage, and almshouse. Today, it's a historical site [in fact, it's on the UNESCO World Heritage list]; visit to enjoy its architecture, art galleries, and the many cultural events that are held there.

**Expert tip:** Lake Chapala is definitely the place to go for a day trip. It's just under an hour from Guadalajara and it's the perfect getaway to enjoy with family or friends. A must-do is taking a sunset sail and eating ceviche – a delicious shrimp cocktail.



Ramírez's Flor de Teresa collection



Lonche de pancita

## ↓ Gustavo Staufert

DIRECTOR OF GUADALAJARA'S CONVENTION AND VISITORS' BUREAU

Something I love about Guadalajara is that you're in the city, but just 20 minutes away is the Spring Forest (Bosque de la Primavera), where you can go mountain biking and enjoy nature. I love to get on my bike, ride around the forest, watch the birds, and decompress. If I have

friends or family come to visit from out of town, we also go to the town of Tequila.

**Expert tip:** I love the flea market on Mexico Avenue on a Sunday. The nearby town of Tlaquepaque is *the* place to go for handcrafts.



Gustavo Staufert



Flea market in Guadalajara

## ↑ Duncan Tucker

JOURNALIST AND CO-HOST OF THE VIVA MÉXICO PODCAST

I've lived in Guadalajara for more than seven years. If I'm meeting friends for drinks, we'll go to one of Guadalajara's many old-school cantinas. La Fuente (Calle Pino Suárez 78), founded in 1921, is a personal favorite. Stepping inside feels like traveling back in time. A dusty bicycle sits above the bar, still waiting to be collected by a drunken customer who left it there in the 1950s. La Fuente is always busy and the live piano music and tequila-fueled sing-alongs make for an inimitable atmosphere.

**Expert tip:** Leafy café P'al Real (Calle Lope de Vega 113) is known for having some of the city's best baristas and mixologists. Be sure to try the *lonche de pancita* – a baguette stuffed with shredded pork belly and salsa verde.



### CANTÚ

Contemporary designs and traditional *talavera* pottery rub shoulders at one of Tlaquepaque's most established ceramics stores, Cantú. Stop by to ogle or pick up products ranging from coffee pots to plant pots and, of course, tiles. **Calle Francisco de Miranda 60**  
[facebook.com/ceramicacantu](https://facebook.com/ceramicacantu)

### EL PARIÁN

No visit to El Parián is complete without trying a *cazuela*, which brings together citrus fruits and tequila in a sizable clay dish. Sup slowly as mariachis play live music from a central bandstand. **Calle Independencia 69**  
[facebook.com/elpariandetlaquepaque](https://facebook.com/elpariandetlaquepaque)



### NUESTROS DULCES

Crossing the threshold of Nuestros Dulces is akin to wandering into a sugary apothecary shop, as glass jars filled with traditional Mexican candy line the walls from floor to ceiling. Try the artisanal *mazapán*, or skip the sweet stuff and pick up a bottle of tequila instead. **Calle Juárez 198A-C**  
[nuestrosdulces.com](https://nuestrosdulces.com)



### GALERÍA SERGIO BUSTAMANTE

You're but a stone's throw from a gallery at any given moment in Tlaquepaque, but few are as impressive as that of Sergio Bustamante, where you can shop for limited-edition jewelry and browse the iconic sculptures of one of Mexico's most instantly recognizable artists in one fell swoop. **Calle Independencia 238**  
[coleccionsergiobustamante.com.mx](https://coleccionsergiobustamante.com.mx)

**Shop for limited-edition jewelry and browse the iconic sculptures of one of Mexico's most instantly recognizable artists**



### ZAGUÁN RESTAURANTE Y GALERÍA

Effortlessly impressive presentation of a deconstructed gourmet Mexican menu set against an art gallery backdrop. Your go-to dessert should definitely be the lava cake, accompanied by either an artisanal beer or one of the creative shots. **Calle Juárez 5**  
[facebook.com/zaguan.restaurante.galeria](https://facebook.com/zaguan.restaurante.galeria)

## DETOUR

# TLAQUEPAQUE

This Guadalajara town in Jalisco is known for its beautiful pottery, arts, crafts, and outstanding Mexican cuisine, as **Lauren Cocking** discovers

Once merely a slightly sprawling Guadalajara suburb, tricky-to-wrap-your-tongue-around Tlaquepaque (pronounced *tuh-lah-keh-pah-keh*) has, in recent years, cleverly meshed its trademark familial atmosphere with a range of upscale wining, dining, and retail options.

In modern-day Tlaquepaque, luxe boutiques and chic restaurants mingle with retro candy shops and live mariachi music joints, all set against the backdrop of a Colonial historic center dotted with churches and strung with *papel picado*. Art installations line thoroughfares and infiltrate restaurants, and former family abodes-turned-*artesanía* stores cement the zone's long-standing handicraft reputation along the length of Pasaje Independencia.



ALAMY

### MUSEO REGIONAL DE LA CERÁMICA

Tlaquepaque is derived from the Nahuatl for "place above clay land," so the pottery past of the place is practically a given. A visit to the excellent Regional Ceramic Museum, where you can take a glimpse at numerous examples from Jalisco, including *barro bruñido* from Tonalá, is obligatory. **Calle Independencia 237**  
[artesaniasjalisco.gob.mx/team-view/museo](https://artesaniasjalisco.gob.mx/team-view/museo)

### CASA LUNA

As much worth visiting for its incredible interior as for its food, Casa Luna is the place to go to experience Mexican cooking at its best. All your favorites are here, including chicken in *mole poblano* with cinnamon, as well as lesser-known dishes, such as duck taco. Casa Luna's hefty margaritas are also worth a visit, and the restaurant is regularly praised for its excellent service – sometimes the waiters even dance. **Calle Independencia 211**  
[facebook.com/casalunarest](https://facebook.com/casalunarest)



### ADOBE FONDA

Practically no dining experience rivals that of the newly relocated Adobe Fonda and its creative take on Mexican classics. The excellently eclectic decoration is something to admire: dine beneath suspended star lamps, surrounded by brightly painted tin hearts from San Miguel de Allende. **Calzada del Ejército 42**  
[adobefonda.com](https://adobefonda.com)

