

A Very Special Pilgrimage to Mexico

On the Occasion of the Annual “La Romería” Procession of the Virgin of Zapopan in Guadalajara

Romería: A 6 mile procession with the Virgin and 2 million pilgrims!

**ACCOMPANIED BY DAME DEBORAH AND H.E. PATRICK D. POWERS, KNIGHT OF THE COLLAR
VICE GOVERNOR GENERAL - NORTH AMERICA**

3-5 Days (Your Choice):

Wednesday, October 10 to Sunday October 14, 2018

**The Romería events are the evening of Thursday, October 11th and the
morning of Friday, October 12th.**

IMPORTANT – SPACE IS LIMITED

**Indications of your intention to participate in this pilgrimage are due by
August 15 so we can inform the Cardinal Archbishop of Guadalajara of our
participation and make appropriate arrangements. Please send an email
indication of your intention to participate to: vggpowers@gmail.com**

History of the Virgin of Zapopan

Tradition has it that in 1525, a Franciscan friar, Padre Antonio de Segovia, wore an image of the Madonna made of corn husks around his neck. When he brought the image out to a battlefield during the Spanish conquest, the native Indians were afraid of the icon's powers and stopped fighting. From that time Fra Antonio called the image La Pacificadora, “She Who Makes Peace.”

In 1541, Padre Segovia gave the image to the village of Zapopan. In 1653, after careful examination of miracles attributed to the image, the Bishop of Guadalajara issued a decree declaring the image “miraculous” and appointing the eighteenth of December as the annual

celebration of the Feast of Our Lady of the Expectation of Zapopan. It was the first image of the Virgin Mary venerated in the State of Jalisco, Mexico.

In 1721 the city of Guadalajara was confronted with a severe plague, so the Virgin was transported there and the plague ceased. Miracles attributed to her intervention over the years have also included calming the violent weather for which Guadalajara is known. In 1734, she was proclaimed Patroness against storms and lightning. The statue stays in Guadalajara from June 13 to October 12. After Mexico became independent in 1821, the Virgin was proclaimed Patroness of the State of Jalisco. She was canonically crowned on January 18, 1921.

The Pilgrimage Itinerary

WED, OCT 10 or THUR, OCT 11: DEPART THE U.S./ARRIVE GUADALAJARA

Pilgrims can fly on their own to Guadalajara on Wednesday and relax Wednesday evening and Thursday in Guadalajara, or arrive on Thursday by at least mid-afternoon. Wednesday evening dinner is on your own and our hotel is a great place to dine with terrific views. Guadalajara is one of Mexico's most beautiful and historic cities. It is the second largest city in Mexico, and is the home of tequila, mariachi music and the *charro* tradition, (Mexico's ornately dressed cowboys). Taxi or Uber from the airport to the hotel.

THU, OCT 11: WECOMING THE VIRGIN OF ZAPOPAN TO GUADALAJARA

We begin today with a visit of the Cathedral of Guadalajara in the city center, just two blocks from our hotel. Consecrated in 1618, this focal point of downtown is a mix of Baroque, Gothic, and other styles, the result of design and structural modifications during its 57 years of construction. Ten of the silver-and-gilt altars were gifts of King Fernando VII, in appreciation of Guadalajara's financial support of Spain during the Napoleonic Wars; the 11th, of sculpted white marble, was carved in Italy in 1863. In a loft high above the main entrance is a magnificent late-19th-century French organ.

We continue with our walk as we visit this charming city, including the Plaza de Armas, and the Government Palace, with its world famous frescos by José Clemente Orozco, and the Plaza De Los Mariachis, where we are treated to music in this picturesque little plaza complete with cafés and strolling mariachis.

After lunch, we can rest in our beautiful hotel or walk about downtown Guadalajara.

At 5:20P, we will carry our capes and walk from the lobby of the hotel for about 15 minutes to an outdoor Mass celebrated by the Cardinal Archbishop in the Plaza de Instituto Cultural Cabañas to celebrate the arrival of Our Lady of Zapopan. We will have preferred seating and will wear our capes, berets and mantillas. Following the 6:00P Mass, we will process from the Plaza to the Cathedral for benediction (about 30 minutes as we will walk slowly), escorting the statue of Our Lady. She will spend the night in the Cathedral and many pilgrims will spend the entire night in the cathedral with her (not us!) The procession will be followed by dinner and an early bedtime.

FRI, OCT 12: GUADALAJARA: THE ROMERIA OF OUR LADY OF ZAPOPAN

At 5:40A this morning, we will walk to the cathedral to participate in one of Mexico's largest religious festivals, the *Romería* of Our Lady of Zapopan, which begins at 6:00A. The walk is mostly flat and we stroll along slowly. Each year from 1734 up to the present Our Lady of Zapopan leaves her sanctuary on the 13th of June and all through the rainy season, until today, the 12th of October, she visits and protects the citizens and churches in every part of Guadalajara.

Dressed in a regal gown, placed on a flower-laden float, she begins her journey home from the Guadalajara Cathedral to the Basilica of the Virgin in Zapopan. We join in the procession, in a place of honor, wearing our capes, berets and mantillas, escorting Our Lady to her home, a distance of about 6 miles. Along the route we will witness the devotion of 2 million pilgrims following, praying laughing and singing with us. When Our Lady reaches her home at the Basilica of Zapopan, the archbishop of Guadalajara presides over an outdoor pilgrims Mass. Traditional folk dancers celebrate in the huge Plaza Juan Pablo II for several hours. We'll have an amazing lunch at a nearby hotel at 1:30P. The price will be \$40pp. We then return to our hotel for rest and dinner as you wish.

SAT, OCT 13: RETURN TO ZAPOPAN TO ENJOY FESTIVITIES & LEISURE

After a good night's rest, we enjoy breakfast at the hotel.

At 10:30A we will take the motor coach to nearby **Tlaquepaque**. This charming town is known throughout Mexico for its intricate blown-glass miniatures, exquisite pottery, and fun shops. We will have lunch in Tlaquepaque at a traditional Mexican restaurant.

After shopping and sightseeing in Tlaquepaque, we will return to our hotel for a farewell dinner and our final evening.

SUN, OCT 14: RETURN TO THE USA

Return home early in the morning if you wish, or, leave later and enjoy another day in Guadalajara. Whatever you do, you will want to come back to Guadalajara – perhaps for the Annual General Meeting and Investiture of the Lieutenancy of Mexico on November 30 - December 1!

This itinerary is subject to change regarding events other than the Thursday evening Vigil and the Friday Romería.

IMPORTANT NOTES

Please note that this is not an official pilgrimage of the Equestrian Order or any of its Lieutenancies. We have simply been invited by the Lieutenancy of Mexico to participate in this wonderful and holy event. Deborah and H.E. Patrick Powers participated last year and said it was amazing and inspiring; that you will not believe it until you see it!

The Lieutenancy of Mexico is re-invigorating itself after going almost dormant for about 10 years. They now have new, wonderful leadership and they are making great strides. We can support their efforts by attending the Romería. Patrick and Deborah promised to bring Knights and Dames from North America to the Romeria this year in support to the lieutenancy's efforts. In addition, we will bear witness to Catholics all over the country, as this event is televised and reported on TV and in the news throughout the country. We will have a place of honor in the procession, right behind the Virgin, and all of Mexico will become familiar with the Order and hopefully will want to walk with us in years to come.

The pilgrimage will be informal in that meals will be on your own, however, we will eat most of the lunches and a couple of the dinners together. Some of the transportation will be by motor coach and we will just divide the cost. Taking a taxi or Uber to and from the airport is convenient and inexpensive.

Airfares will probably be about \$250 or so round trip. We will be staying at the NH Collection Hotel, with is just two blocks away from the cathedral in downtown

Guadalajara and it is wonderful. Rooms are only \$101/night for a double with breakfast if you book early. See the attached flyer for booking instructions. This will not be an expensive trip, but it will be wonderful!

Those of you who join us this year are the pioneers in what we think will become an annual event for North Americans. We are looking for 20 - 40 Knights and Dames to join us this year and then return home and spread the word. You are the scouts, so to speak. You are also evangelists for the Order and for our faith in Mexico. Deus lo vult. God wills it!

Please join us and send your indication of intent to participate to Patrick Powers at vggpowers@gmail.com as soon as possible. Gracias!



NH COLLECTION
GUADALAJARA CENTRO HISTÓRICO



jueves, 12 de julio de 2018

Jesús Garibi Hernández
PEREGRINACIÓN ROMERÍA
Mobile. 044.33.34.40.54.47
Email: garibi98@yahoo.com

*Please use booking code :
55499189*

REF: CA PEREGRINACIÓN ROMERÍA

Dear Mr. Garibi,

Kindest regards and thanks for requesting NH Collection Guadalajara Historical Center to host your important event to be held in the city. Below is the proposal for the group.

ROOMS

| Room Type | TARIFA |
|--------------------------------|-----------|
| Single / Double european plan | \$ 77.00 |
| Single room breakfast included | \$ 89.00 |
| Double room breakfast included | \$ 101.00 |

- Rate in USD
- Category superior room
- Taxes (16%) Fees (3%) included.
- Valid Rate from October 11th to October 13th 2018
- Free up grade for each 15 room for nighth

RESERVATIONS

The reservations can be made by this telephone: (55) 52.29.15.00 (Reservation Call Center)
No show policies: each guest can cancel 48 hours before their check in, otherwise the hotel will make the charge of no show wich is the total of the stay.

* Calle Cristóbal Colón # 73 Col. Centro C.P.44100 Guadalajara, Jal, MEXICO
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www.nh-hotels.com. ← book online