

POSTAL DISTRICTS OF MEXICO (1856 – 1883)

By : Enrique Sánchez García

SAN LUIS POTOSI



OFFICES INCLUDED IN THE POSTAL DISTRICT

Office	Old name	Actual name	Location
Main	San Luis Postosi	San Luis Potosí	N 22° 09' 04" W 100° 58' 34"
Sub office	Aguascalientes (1)	Aguascalientes, Aguascalientes	N 21° 52' 44" W 102° 18' 00"
Sub office	Ahualulco	Ahualulco del Sonido 13, San Luis Potosi	N 22° 23' 57" W 101° 09' 40"
Sub office	Alaquines	Alaquines	N 22° 07' 46" W 99° 36' 02"
Sub office	Armadillo	Armadillo de los Infante	N 22° 14' 42" W 100° 39' 19"
Sub office	Arriaga	Villa de Arriaga	N 21° 54' 33" W 101° 22' 58"
Sub office	Catorce	Real de Catorce	N 23° 41' 22" W 100° 53' 14"
Sub office	Cedral	Cedral	N 23° 49' 15" W 100° 53' 14"
Sub office	Cerritos	Cerritos	N 22° 25' 58" W 100° 16' 54"
Sub office	Ciudad de la Concepcion	Fraccion Gral. Enrique Estrada (La Concha)	N 22° 14' 20" W 100° 53' 20"
Sub office	Ciudad del Maiz	Ciudad del Maiz	N 22° 33' 54" W 99° 36' 15"
Sub office	Charcas	Charcas	N 23° 07' 48" W 101° 06' 56"
Sub office	El Salado	Estación El Salado	N 24° 18' 49" W 100° 51' 31"
Sub office	Espiritu Santo	Espiritu Santo, Zacatecas	N 22° 36' 07" W 101° 26' 23"
Sub office	Fresnillo	Fresnillo	N 23° 10' 32" W 102° 52' 03"
Sub office	Guadalcazar	Guadalcazar, San Luis Potosi	N 22° 37' 05" W 100° 23' 55"
Sub office	Jaral	Cerritos de Jaral	N 21° 41' 52" W 101° 01' 31"
Sub office	La Pastora	Pastora	N 22° 08' 02" W 100° 03' 26"
Sub office	Lagunillas	Lagunillas	N 21° 35' 10" W 99° 34' 00"

Sub office	Los Reyes	Villa de Reyes	N 21° 48' 14" W 100° 56' 00"
Sub office	Matamoros (1)	Heroica Matamoros, Tamaulipas	N 25° 52' 47" W 97° 30' 15"
Sub office	Matehuala	Matehuala, San Luis Potosi	N 23° 38' 44" W 100° 38' 37"
Sub office	Mazapil	Mazapil, Zacatecas	N 24° 38' 18" W 101° 33' 19"
Sub office	Mier y Noriega	Mier y Noriega, Nuevo Leon	N 23° 25' 19" W 100° 07' 00"
Sub office	Moctezuma	Moctezuma, San Luis Potosi	N 22° 44' 52" W 101° 05' 10"
Sub office	Pinos	Pinos, Zacatecas	N 22° 17' 54" W 101° 34' 27"
Sub office	Pozos	Villa de Pozos (2), San Luis Potosi	N 22° 06' 28" W 100° 52' 30"
Sub office	Rayon	Rayón	N 21° 50' 37" W 99° 38' 45"
Sub office	Rio Verde	Rioverde	N 21° 55' 55" W 99° 59' 48"
Sub office	Salinas del Peñon Blanco	Salinas de Hidalgo	N 22° 37' 39" W 101° 42' 52"
Sub office	San Ciro de Alberca	San Ciro de Acosta	N 21° 39' 36" W 99° 49' 11"
Sub office	San Nicolas Tolentino	San Nicolás Tolentino	N 22° 14' 44" W 100° 33' 23"
Sub office	Santa Maria del Rio	Santa Maria del Rio	N 21° 47' 51" W 100° 44' 10"
Sub office	Tierra Nueva	Tierra Nueva	N 21° 40' 01" W 100° 34' 22"
Sub office	Tula de Tamaulipas	Ciudad Tula, Tamaulipas	N 23° 00' 10" W 99° 42' 30"
Sub office	Venado	Venado, San Luis Potosi	N 22° 56' 00" W 101° 05' 34"
Sub office	Villa de Guadalupe	Villa de Guadalupe	N 23° 22' 20" W 100° 45' 20"
Sub office	Villa de San Francisco	Villa de Reyes	N 21° 48' 14" W 100° 56' 00"
Sub office	Zamorelia (3)	Zamorelia	N 22° 45' 59" W 101° 25' 58"

(1) Possible use outside the district, (2) This population is currently embedded within the city of San Luis Potosi. (3) This population is currently practically abandoned..

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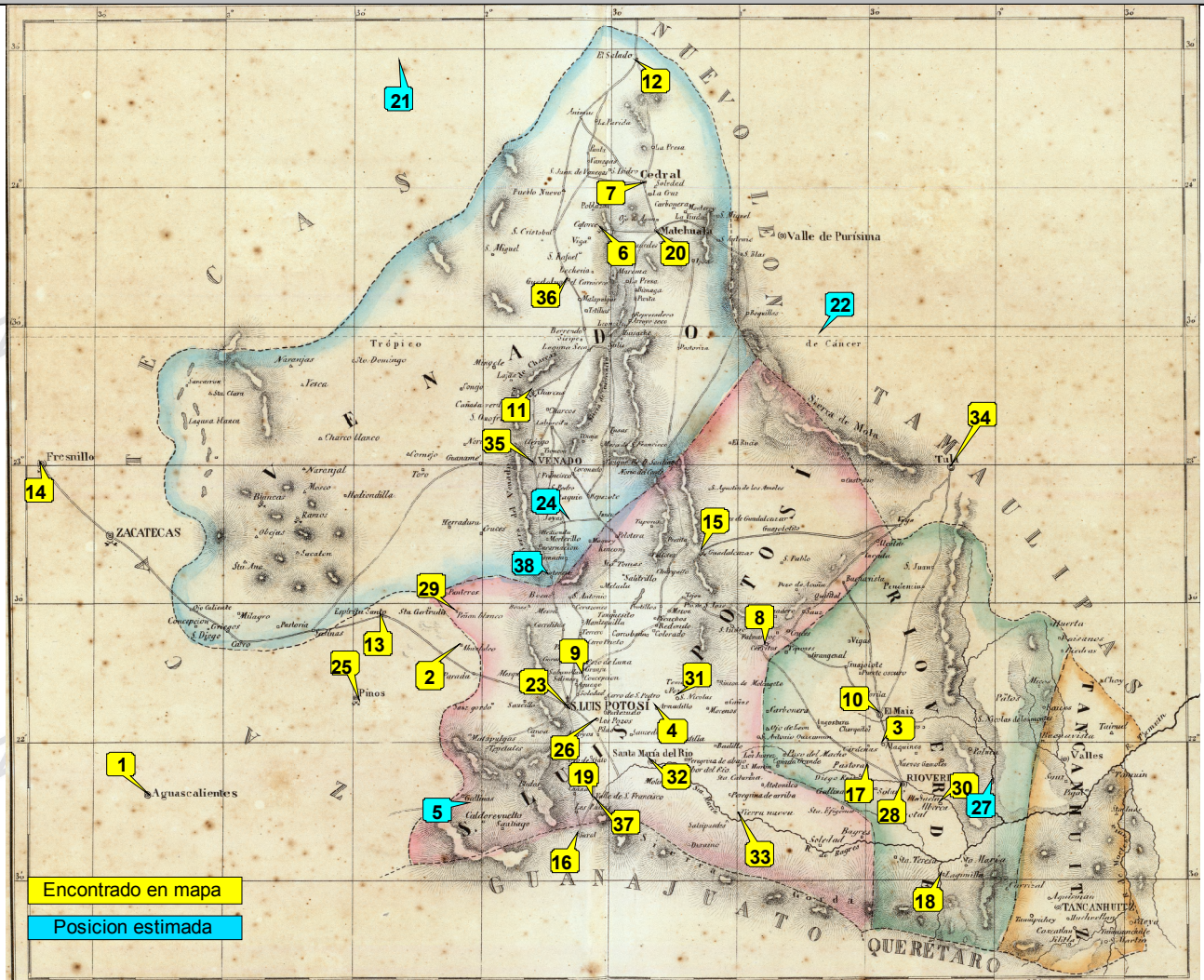
Rio Verde	X	X		X			X	X	X	
Salinas del Peñon Blanco	X	X		X	X		X	X	X	
San Ciro de Alberca									X	
San Nicolas Tolentino									X	
Santa Maria del Rio	X	X		X	X		X	X	X	
Tierra Nueva	X						X	X	X	
Tula de Tamaulipas	X			X						
Venado	X	X		X	X		X	X	X	
Villa de Guadalupe							X	X		
Villa de San Francisco	X	X		X	X			X	X	
Zamorelia							X	X	X	
(1) It was most likely an out-of-district use										

STAMPS USED (1)										
Denomination	Hidalgos			Aguila	Max	Prov.	Hidalgos			Juarez
	56 (2)	61 (3)	64	64 (4)	66 (5)	66-7	68 (6)	72 (7)	74	79
½ real	25,268	8,340		8,175						
1 real	66,981	33,584		38,330						
2 reales	76,407	41,834		146,329						
4 reales	3,959	4,930		7,519						
8 reales	3,352	3,009		3,328						
1 cts										1,188
2 cts										1,632
3 cts										
4 cts									2,876	
5 cts									93,017	21,065
6 cts							68,292	40,342		
7 cts					7,050					
10 cts									206,333	2,054
12 cts							166,503	103,461		
13 cts					11,050					
18 cts										
24 cts										
25 cts					19,700		190,304	123,531	672,516	330
50 cts					4,550		15,535	7,613	19,454	65
85 cts										2
100 cts							5,109	3,096	7,893	16
1 peso										

(1) Stamps sent less those returned. (2) Received 23 remittances dated between August 30, 1856, and December 31, 1860, and made returns in 1861. (3) Received 18 remittances dated between April 19, 1861, and April 7, 1864, and made returns in 1864. (4) Received 25 remittances dated between May 8, 1864, and July 16, 1866, and did make returns in 1866. (5) Received 5 remittances dated between August 6, 1866, and December 26, 1866. (6) Received 28 remittances between September 8, 1868, and December 18, 1871, and made returns in 1871 and 1872. (7) He received 18 remittances between April 12, 1872 and March 13, 1874, and he did make returns.

MAPS OF THE 19TH AND 21ST CENTURY

MAP PREPARED BY ANTONIO GARCIA CUBAS IN 1856

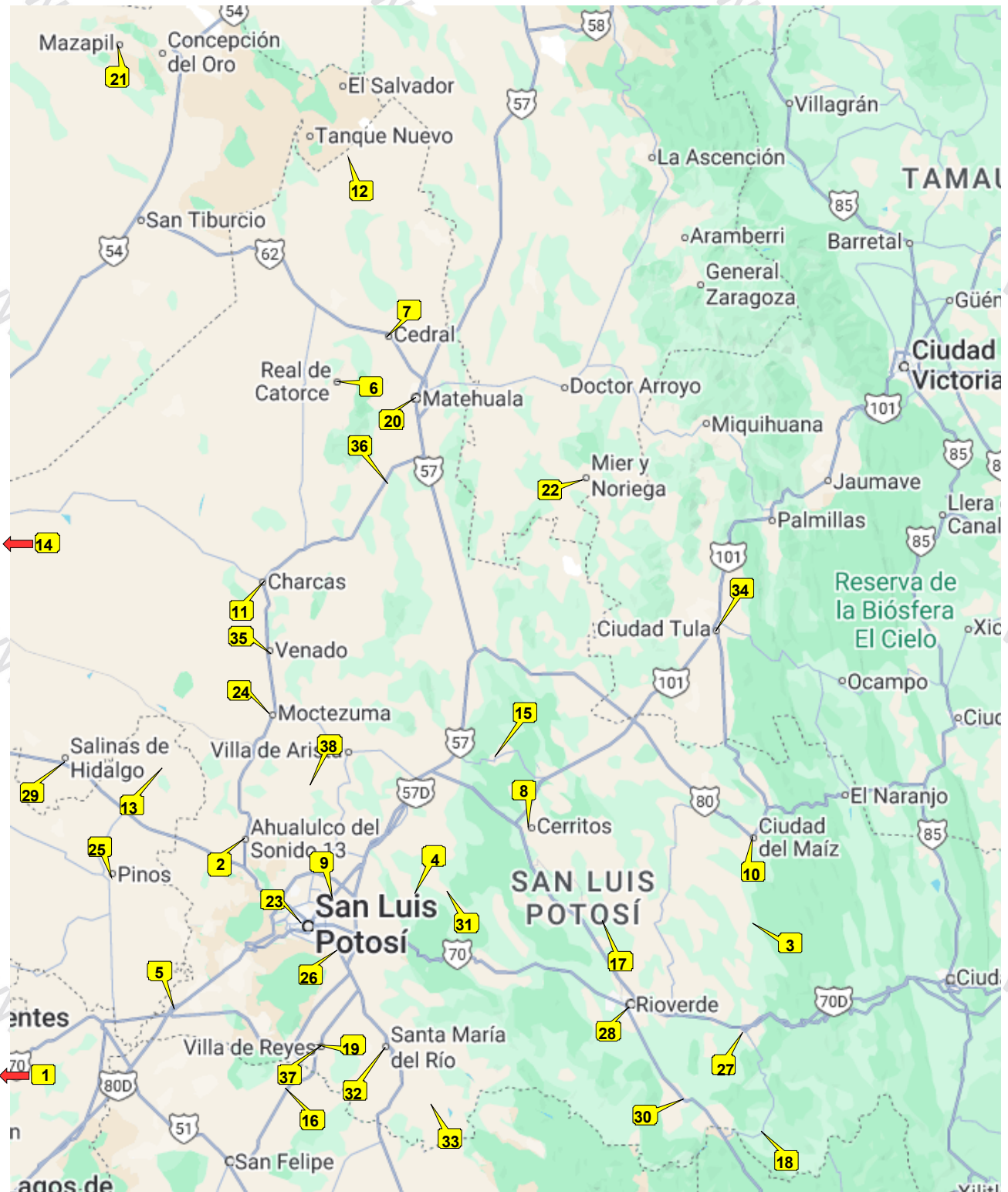


Notes:

Identifier Numbers (old names / alphabetical order): Aguascalientes (1), Ahualulco (2), Alaquines (3), Armadillo (4), Arriaga (5), Catorce (6), Cedral (7), Cerritos (8), Ciudad de la Concepcion (9), Ciudad del Maiz (10), Charcas (11), El Salado (12), Espiritu Santo (13), Fresnillo (14), Guadalcazar (15), Jaral (16), La Pastora (17), Lagunillas (18), Los Reyes (19), Matehuala (20), Mazapil (21), Mier y Noriega (22), San Luis Postosi (23), Moctezuma (24), Pinos (25), Pozos (26), Rayon (27), Rio Verde (28), Salinas del Peñon Blanco (29), San Ciro de Alberca (30), San Nicolas Tolentino (31), Santa Maria del Rio (32), Tierra Nueva (33), Tula de Tamaulipas (34), Venado (35), Villa de Guadalupe (36), Villa de San Francisco (37), Zamorelia (38)

Distance (leagues according to "Itineraries and Routes of 1856") (numbers in parentheses are estimates): Aguascalientes 41, Ahualulco (11), Alaquines (44), Armadillo 9, Arriaga (13), Catorce 50, Cedral (47), Cerritos 29, Ciudad de la Concepcion (3), Ciudad del Maiz 50, Charcas 31, El Salado 72, Espiritu Santo 21, Fresnillo 64, Guadalcazar 25, Jaral 15, La Pastora 26, Lagunillas (52), Los Reyes (11), Matehuala 50, Mazapil (82), Mier y Noriega (57), Moctezuma (18), Pinos (21), Pozos (2.5), Rayon (44), Rio Verde 32, Salinas del Peñon Blanco 28, San Ciro de Alberca 46, San Nicolas Tolentino (15), Santa Maria del Rio 15, Tierra Nueva (16), Tula de Tamaulipas 65, Venado 25, Villa de Guadalupe 41, Villa de San Francisco 12, Zamorelia (13).

CURRENT GOOGLE MAPS MAP



Notes:

Identifier Numbers (old names / alphabetical order): Aguascalientes (1), Ahualulco (2), Alaquines (3), Armadillo (4), Arriaga (5), Catorce (6), Cedral (7), Cerritos (8), Ciudad de la Concepción (9), Ciudad del Maíz (10), Charcas (11), El Salado (12), Espiritu Santo (13), Fresnillo (14), Guadalcázar (15), Jaral (16), La Pastora (17), Lagunillas (18), Los Reyes (19), Matehuala (20), Mazapil (21), Mier y Noriega (22), San Luis Potosí (23), Moctezuma (24), Pinos (25), Pozos (26), Rayón (27), Río Verde (28), Salinas del Peñón Blanco (29), San Cirio de Alberca (30),

San Nicolas Tolentino (31), Santa Maria del Rio (32), Tierra Nueva (33), Tula de Tamaulipas (34), Venado (35), Villa de Guadalupe (36), Villa de San Francisco (37), Zamorelia (38)

Distance (Kilometers according to Google Maps): **De San Luis Potosi a:** Aguascalientes 167, Ahualulco 52, Alaquines 207, Armadillo 50, Arriaga 60, Catorce 254, Cedral 220, Cerritos 105, Ciudad de la Concepcion 15, Ciudad del Maiz 205, Charcas 131, El Salado 288, Espiritu Santo 88, Fresnillo 245, Guadalcazar 93, Jaral 13, La Pastora 149, Lagunillas 243, Los Reyes 50, Mathuala 192, Mazapil 384, Mier y Noriega 267, Moctezuma 87, Pinos 100, Pozos 12, Rayon 206, Rio Verde 173, Salinas del Peñon Blanco 99, San Ciro de Alberca 210, San Nicolas Tolentino 70, Santa Maria del Rio 49, Tierra Nueva 77, Tula de Tamaulipas 191, Venado 108, Villa de Guadalupe 195, Villa de San Francisco 50, Zamorelia 60

San Luis Mexquitic was officially founded on November 3, **1592**, by the Spanish, although a settlement of Huachichil and Tlaxcalan Indians called Mexquitic already existed, and silver mines had been exploited by the Spanish since **1522**. Later, it was named Villa de San Luis Potosí, adding the word Potosí to compare its mineral wealth to that of Potosí in Bolivia. The exploitation of the mines led to the development of a significant population center and the construction of stately buildings that still stand today. Combined with its location, connecting the south and center of the country with the north, and its proximity to the Gulf of Mexico, San Luis became an important distribution center for products arriving at the Gulf ports.

In the second half of the 19th century, the city was a key location in national events:

On May 31, **1863**, President Juárez, unable to remain in Mexico City any longer due to the imminent arrival of the French, marched toward San Luis Potosí, arriving on June 9 and declaring it the capital of the Republic. He remained there until December 22, when he departed for Matehuala to evade the imperialist general Tomás Mejía. Republican forces evacuated San Luis on the night of the 23rd, and although they returned on the 27th to attack, they were defeated. Thus, on January 4, **1864**, San Luis proclaimed its allegiance to the Empire. The first French troops to set foot in San Luis Potosí were the brigade of General Armand Alexandre de Castagny, commanding more than a thousand men, on January 13, **1864**.

During the imperialists' stay in the city, the conservative newspapers La Restauración, El Correo del Comercio, La Magistratura y la Judicatura del Departamento and El Álbum de las Señoritas Potosinas were published, and in **1865**, the satirical illustrated newspaper El Cronicón and the conservative La Razón; the telegraph line from San Luis Potosí to Mexico was inaugurated on January 1, **1866**, and the construction of the Cathedral was completed.

In January **1867**, the Republican army, under the command of General Mariano Escobedo, entered the city of San Luis Potosí, and President Juárez returned to the city on February 21 of the same year. San Luis Potosí was named the capital of the Republic for the second time. President Juárez was in this city when Maximilian was taken prisoner, and his defenders and some friends came to plead for his release.

In the late **1870s**, a series of uprisings erupted in the Huasteca region of San Luis Potosí. The numerous plans proclaimed at that time have been given the generic name of "agrarian communism." The centers of the rebellions were Tamazunchale and Valle del Maíz. From **1879 to 1883**, some 3,000 Indigenous people, labeled "anarchists," kept the eastern region of the state in constant agitation. Shouting "Land for the farmer," they attacked the properties of the state governor and other large landowners. Also in **1879**, the Indigenous man Juan Santiago took up arms demanding the restitution of lands for communities holding ancient titles; the revolt was suppressed in August of that year. Almost simultaneously, another rebel movement was promoted by the Socialist Directorate, whose program proposed the enactment of an agrarian law and the creation of a democratic and social republic.

In late **1880**, the indigenous leader Juan Santiago initiated a second agrarian revolt in the state of San Luis Potosí, the culmination of those that had arisen in San Antonio, Tanlajás, Tancanhuitz, Aquismón, San Vicente, and Tamapatz, attributed to the abuses committed by government agents against the indigenous populations. In 1883, in Ciudad del Maíz, Father Mauricio Zavala called for an agrarian revolution from the pulpit. Once the dissenters were subdued, the fragmentation of community lands facilitated their concentration by large landowners.

By the end of the 19th century, San Luis continued to be an important crossroads of major land transportation routes, mining diversified, and trade expanded.

Today, the city is a very important industrial center for the country, and its historic center was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in **2022**.