

A civic and artistic tour



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A set of buildings that keep a great artistic, historical and cultural value, where architecture and plastic arts are combined.

The Civic Center is a space that is worth visiting if you visit Guatemala City. Made up of a complex of public buildings such as: the Bank of Guatemala, the National Typography, the Municipal Palace, the Great National Theater (Miguel Ángel Asturias Cultural Center), the Military Museum, the Supreme Court of Justice, the Guatemalan Institute of Social Security, the Guatemalan Institute of Tourism, the Ministry of Public Finance and the Ministry of National Mortgage Credit, among others, which grant great architectural and artistic value, built in the last century and support the title of Cultural Heritage of the Nation.

These buildings illustrate part of Guatemalan history on their facades, thanks to the interventions that artists and muralists carried out.





An open-air museum, which begins in the Banco de Guatemala with a ten-story structure whose façade emulates the Mayan stele of Quiriguá.

In the same building are the high-relief murals by the Guatemalan artist Dagoberto Vázquez. Going through the interior of the Municipal Palace and the Guatemalan Institute of Social Security -IGGS- they have

mosaics inside and outside made by the artist Carlos Mérida.

Likewise, the 12 murals he made to decorate the façade of the National Mortgage Credit.



The architecture of the Great National Theater (Miguel Ángel Asturias Cultural Center), a venue large enough for cultural activities



The space it occupies is around 8 blocks, on the hill of San José Buena Vista, finished by master Efraín Recinos.

Likewise, he designed the open-air theater for two thousand people that was creatively adapted to the old construction of the Fort of San José. An inclined structure, which suggests a Mayan pyramid, a simple but dazzling concept, incorporating the roof of the theater into the landscape of the country, like another volcano that you have to know about.

All these buildings were built relatively close to each other so that the population would have easy access to various public facilities. According to the city's chronicler, Miguel Álvarez, the Civic Center was developed within the concept of the main square that dominated the emergence and evolution of most Latin American cities founded in the 16th century. This concept is based on the fact that the square is the center of the city, not only in a geographical sense but also socially, economically and politically.

After the declaration of Cultural Heritage of the Nation, the General Directorate of Cultural and Natural Heritage, through the Department of Conservation and Restoration of Cultural Assets, has taken measures to protect, defend, conserve and recover this area of the city.

