

OPURR is a caravan/growing network to assist in the journey moving south of the US. There is nothing illegal about the OPURR efforts. We simply help people travel during these stressful times and usually it is most people's first time driving to Mexico. We help with the paperwork to get your permits and traveling together usually offers some assurance and ease of mind. We do not promise any housing, jobs, financial support, etc. **To join the caravan email Opurr@protonmail.com**

Usual Gameplan Day 1: We all meet at an established location in Texas, cross the border at Laredo, do all of our paperwork together, make our way to Saltillo, have dinner and get a hotel. Day 2: Grab breakfast, head to Morelia, those with alternative destinations go their own way when that time comes, otherwise, we arrive in Morelia, have dinner and everyone goes to their final destination. In the coming days, we show you around the markets and give you a feel for the city and then have a get together with everyone in Morelia at the time.

Permits and Documentation:

Passport Check your local USPS office to find out details and make an appointment. Processing is usually between 6-10 weeks, expedited usually takes 4-6 weeks.

Personal permit you'll need your passport and \$35 - Good for 6 months stay

Vehicle permit (TIP) you'll need your passport and up-to-date registration with your name on the registration, ~\$400 deposit - Good for 6 months stay. Deposit is returned when you cancel your vehicle permit on your way out of Mexico.

If you don't have your registration, bring your title (make sure it's a clean title)

No vehicles with a rebuilt title will be allowed a permit. They do check Carfax.

Can be paid with cash or card.

Mexican Car Insurance: Check with your US car insurance company, they may cover you. Otherwise, Mexican insurance can be purchased online before arriving to Mexico. You can also purchase insurance at the permit facility or at your final destination. The insurance sold at the permit location will not be the best deal.

Cops don't ask for proof of insurance when pulling over drivers.

Menaje de Casa (Household Items) Tax Exemption: If you're traveling with lots of household items, you may consider acquiring this tax exemption form from the Mexican Consulate abroad. Otherwise, you may be asked to pay a tax at the border. The most someone was taxed was \$80. [Learn more here about acquiring the Menaje de Casa Tax Exemption Here](#)

Others have had success traveling through the Colombia border crossing without form.

Traveling with the OPURR Caravan

Apps used for communication: Telegram and Zello (walkie talkie). When available, we will use actual hand held radios.

Tolls: We travel on the toll roads the majority of the time in Mexico and the tolls to Morelia total out to about \$50 - Tolls will be more if traveling with a trailer bigger than a cargo trailer. "While traveling on the Mexican Toll Roads you will get a ticket when you pay the toll. It is important to keep this ticket because it will be your insurance while traveling on the toll road. If you crash, or are involved in an accident, your toll receipt will help you avoid paying road repair and maintenance charges. Also, if your car should break down, your ticket covers roadside assistance. The roadside assistance is provided while driving on the toll roads by the [Green Angels](#), which are the Mexican equivalent of the AAA in the United States." The receipt is not your insurance in case of damaged or stolen vehicle.

Traveling to Morelia

Here's a great article to learn more about Morelia. There's info about traveling to Michoacan and what to expect this winter season.

<https://www.mexperience.com/travel/colonial/morelia/>

Morelia Freedom Cell [Telegram Group](#)

Resources

To Learn Spanish

DuoLingo

[RocketLanguages](#)

[Spanish with Gina](#)

Applying for Residency

Apply in your home country before leaving. You cannot apply once in Mexico for temporary nor permanent residency.

Rosey from [ARoseyRelocation.com](#) helps with residency questions, applications, housing, and more

Adriana on WhatsApp +524434406864 helps with residency questions, applications, housing, and real estate in Morelia, Michoacan.

James Guzman (Healthcare, moving questions, online income, real estate investment, tax minimisation and relocating to Mexico.)

www.borderlessblog.com

www.borderlesshealthinsurance.com

More Info on Vehicles

<http://www.soniadiaz.mx/vehicles.html>

FAQ's

Internet says no crossing except essential travel - Is that true?

No. We've had many experiences between our friends' circle travel by car, bus and air and not one was asked to show proof of emergency or "essential" travel, show any proof of negative tests, or answer any covid related questions entering Mexico. Borders between Mexico and US have continued as usual.

Do you guys have experience with children crossing?

Yes. There's children, families, crossing everyday. We've had friends cross with their children without issues. As a parent, you need their birth certificate.

Is it more difficult to cross with an RV?

You get a 10 year TIP with an RV, which is obviously far longer than a regular vehicle, so that actually might be perfect for some people! Buses and sometimes vans and trucks can also be registered as an RV in the US and again might be a beneficial option to extend the TIP for some.

RV's are recommended to cross at the Colombia border. Those we know who've crossed in an RV at Colombia have done so with no issues.

Other resources for your research [Sonia Diaz](#) and [A Rosey Relocation](#)

Would you recommend purchasing travel health insurance / car insurance?

We don't have any experience purchasing travel health insurance. Here are some resources to contact for your research.

[A Rosey Relocation](#) and [James Guzman Borderless Health Insurance](#)

Are there advantages to driving vs flying to CDMX and then taking buses?

As far as restrictions go, when flying you'll have to wear a mask and deal with temp

checks and hand sanitizer, masks are required taking a bus, and none apply for driving.

Mexican propoganda

I've read on the various government pages that the federal government is fining, jailing, and/or deporting foreigners that aren't following covid policies such as social distancing and mask wearing. Morelia says specifically they are watching for social distancing and mask wearing in cars. That's just scare tactics?

Complete scare tactics. Every state in Mexico is different but no one is fining, jailing, or deporting foreigners. There are some that have stay at home orders and are enforcing them and others who may or may not and are not enforcing them either way. We have been to the following locations without any issues: Morelia, Michoacan, Monterrey, Nuevo Laredo, San Luis (These are places we'll drive through), San Miguel de Allende (temp scans when arriving into town up until 6pm), Guanajuato, Zihuatanejo, and have had friends in Guadalajara where none of the scare tactics are enforced.

What about dogs?

You can cross with men's best friend without any issues.

Can you buy a car there easily?

You need to have a Temporary Residency or Permanent Residency to obtain the required tax ID/voter ID # to purchase a vehicle. [Sonia Diaz has more info on her site](#)

Are there any ride-share services in Morellia (Uber/Lyft)?

Yes! Uber and it is readily available to get to and from places. A ride is usually about \$2-\$3. There is also local public transportation and we know a few places to purchase used bikes to get around if that's an interest.

Any information on banks that are small and local near Morelia?

Haven't looked into this since we haven't considered getting a mexican bank account. Although, as a tourist or expat you can open a bank account in mexico. I would suggest searching online or contacting Rosey <http://ARoseyRelocation.com> She's an expert in lots of things Morelia.

How is it there for African Americans?

The few that are out here in Mexico say they haven't been harassed or mistreated.

Any info on mandatory vaccinations?

Derrick did a video and an article on this recently. Check it out.

<https://theconsciousresistance.com/are-mandatory-vaccines-coming-to-mexico/>

<https://www.thelastamericanvagabond.com/bill-gates-and-carlos-slim-are-on-a-mission-to-bring-covid-19-vaccines-to-mexico/>

What do you think about bringing a bus across?

Do some research. It may be that you'll have to drive to Colombia but maybe not. We haven't had friends drive a bus across only RV's and they were successful.

<http://www.soniadiaz.mx/vehicles.html>

Shipping Documents from US to Mexico

I'm wondering about if I don't have a passport yet if there's an address I can use to have it sent to me once it's processed?

If you somehow made it across the border without a passport, I suggest you get the address of your final destination in Mexico and use that. We've had documents shipped without issues using 2-Day shipping with UPS. Amazon delivers out here as well.

Hypothetical situations

What if you are still waiting for your passport when you cross?

The officers mentioned there is a fee you can pay with them of about \$100.

What would happen if they don't take the "fee"? prison, or deported back to US?

If you get asked to show documentation you don't have, it would happen at the first checkpoint and at that moment you would get turned around.