

Travel Information

AMIS Annual Meeting — Oaxaca de Juárez, Mexico | May 25–29

This short guide gathers practical information for attendees traveling to Oaxaca for the AMIS annual meeting. Please make sure to confirm travel information relevant to your nationality or airline directly with the relevant authority or carrier before you travel.

1. Meeting Dates & Venue

- May 25–27: paper sessions and committee meetings.
- May 28–29: extended activities — visits to nearby communities to see organs and other historic musical instruments.

Host institution: **Biblioteca Fray Francisco de Burgoa**

Address: Macedonio Alcalá s/n, interior del Centro Cultural Santo Domingo (antiguo exconvento de Santo Domingo), Centro Histórico, C.P. 68000, Oaxaca de Juárez, Oaxaca. Website: <https://bibliotecaburgoa.org.mx/>

Google Maps: [Click here](#)

2. Passport & Visa Requirements

Requirements depend on nationality, so please verify with the nearest Mexican consulate or embassy well ahead of travel. As general guidance:

- Passport must be valid for at least 6 months beyond your arrival date.
- Citizens of the United States, Canada, the European Union, the United Kingdom, and many other countries do not need a visa for short tourist stays (up to 180 days).
- All visitors must complete the Multiple Migratory Form (FMM), now processed digitally and normally issued on arrival by the airline or immigration authority.
- If you need a formal invitation letter to support a visa application, please contact the organizing committee. **Please note that AMIS cannot arrange or sponsor visas for delegates.**

3. Currency & Payments

The currency used in Mexico is the Mexican peso (MXN). As a reference, in early August 2026 the exchange rate was approximately 1 USD $\approx$ 17.10 MXN; rates fluctuate, so check a current source before your trip.

- Credit and debit cards are widely accepted in hotels, restaurants, and shops in central Oaxaca.
- Cash is still useful for markets, street food, small mezcalerías, and taxis; ATMs are available throughout the historic center.
- It is a good idea to notify your bank of your travel dates to avoid card blocks.

4. Arrival in Oaxaca

Most international itineraries connect through Mexico City (AICM) to Oaxaca International Airport, Xoxocotlán (OAX), located about 8 km south of the historic center (around 15–20 minutes by car).

- Shared shuttle (“colectivo”): the standard, economical option, bought at the counter inside the terminal (approx. 135 MXN / ~US\$8 to the historic center); drops passengers at their hotel.
- Private taxi (“taxi especial”): faster and more direct, also booked at an official airport counter (approx. 245 MXN per person to the center).
- Note: ride-hailing apps such as Uber and DiDi do not operate at the Oaxaca airport; please use the official airport transport counters instead.
- Car rental counters (Hertz, Avis, and others) are available inside the terminal for those wishing to explore the region independently.

5. Climate & Altitude

Oaxaca de Juárez sits at approximately 1,555 m (5,100 ft) above sea level. Late May is the transition between the dry and rainy seasons: expect warm, sunny days (around 28–32°C / 82–90°F), cooler evenings, and a chance of afternoon showers toward the end of the month.

- Pack light layers, a hat, sunscreen, and a compact umbrella or light rain jacket.
- The altitude may cause mild shortness of breath or tiredness for the first day or two; stay hydrated and pace yourself.

6. Health & Practical Tips

- Tap water is not recommended for drinking; use bottled or purified water (widely available in hotels and shops).
- Travel insurance covering medical care is recommended, as is customary for international travel.
- Comfortable walking shoes are useful, as the historic center and some conference venues are best reached on foot over cobblestone streets.

7. Safety

Oaxaca City is widely regarded as one of the safer and most welcoming destinations in Mexico for academic and professional travelers. The U.S. State Department currently rates the state at Level 2, “Exercise Increased Caution” — the same level assigned to countries such as France and the United Kingdom. Areas including the Centro Histórico, Santo Domingo, Jalatlaco, and Reforma are considered safe and are frequented by families, students, and visitors throughout the day and evening.

- Stay alert in crowded markets, plazas, and on public transport; keep phones, wallets, and passports in a front pocket or cross-body bag, and avoid displaying valuables.
- Agree on taxi fares before getting in, or use a rideshare app instead.
- Favor rideshare apps over street taxis for longer trips at night, particularly outside the well-lit central areas.
- Arrange a local SIM or eSIM on arrival for reliable navigation and communication.
- Check local news before day trips outside the city; occasional road blockades can occur in rural areas, particularly the Isthmus region, though these rarely affect the historic center.

- Keep emergency numbers on hand: 911 (national emergency line), 951 516 0123 (Tourist Police), and 951 514 3054 (U.S. Consular Agency in Oaxaca).
- Stick to well-known, populated areas after dark, and travel in groups when possible.

8. Cash and Credit Cards

Oaxaca is not a cashless destination, so plan to carry both cash and cards during your stay.

- Credit and debit cards are accepted at hotels, mid-range and upscale restaurants, and larger supermarkets, though a 3–4% surcharge is common; card acceptance drops sharply outside the city.
- Cash is required at markets, street food stalls, small local restaurants, taxis, and artisan shops.
- A practical daily amount is 500–1,000 MXN (roughly US\$25–50); carry more for market visits or day trips to nearby villages.
- Larger bills (500–1,000 pesos) can be hard for vendors and taxi drivers to break; change them at hotels or convenience stores before heading to markets.
- ATMs from major banks (BBVA, Santander, Banorte, HSBC) are widely available and reliable; using machines inside bank branches is recommended for security. Expect a withdrawal fee of roughly 35–50 pesos, plus any fee charged by your home bank.
- Decline “Dynamic Currency Conversion” if offered at an ATM or card terminal, as it typically results in a worse exchange rate.
- Notify your card issuer of your travel dates before departure.
- Consider carrying a backup card and a small emergency cash reserve separate from your daily spending money.

9. Suggested Hotels

The following hotels sit within the Centro Histórico, no more than about a half-hour walk from the venue, and range from upscale to modest without sacrificing comfort or cleanliness.

Hotel	Location	Price
Quinta Real Oaxaca	Calle 5 de Mayo, Centro Histórico — about 8 min walk to the venue	\$\$\$\$
Casa Oaxaca Hotel	García Vigil, Centro Histórico — about 10 min walk to the venue	\$\$\$\$
Hotel Casa Antica	Reforma, Centro Histórico — about 12 min walk to the venue	\$\$\$
Hotel Casona Oaxaca	Trujano, Centro Histórico — about 10 min walk to the venue	\$\$
Posada Don Matías	Aldama, three blocks from the Zócalo — about 15 min walk to the venue	\$

\$ = most economical — \$\$\$\$ = most expensive. Prices are not listed in exact figures, as rates change seasonally; please check directly with each hotel or a booking platform.

10. Venue & Contact

Biblioteca Fray Francisco de Burgoa

Macedonio Alcalá s/n, interior del Centro Cultural Santo Domingo (antiguo exconvento de Santo Domingo), Centro Histórico, C.P. 68000, Oaxaca de Juárez, Oaxaca. Website:
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For more information, please contact: amis.oaxaca@gmail.com

This document reflects information available as of August 2026 and is intended as general guidance only; please verify time-sensitive details (visa rules, transportation prices, exchange rates) closer to your travel date.