

Reasons for living in Mexico by Bekka.

I always say to people who are moving to Mexico and ask me my opinion. To make a list of the pro's and con's, as if they are doing it in a relationship that is falling apart.

I say this as many people move here merely for the great weather and low living expenses.

Yes, we have great weather and expenses living in Mexico are on average better on many things. But some things are definitely more.

But the really wonderful thing about living in Mexico is the lifestyle.

Some have a difficult time adjusting to getting up at 6 am as they did in the US and finding everything closed, or things not getting done on time.

But those of us who love the life style of Mexico and moved here to get out of the rat race of the United States and the political & economic situation there. Have adapted to enjoying that we can sleep in and mix business with pleasure.

We show up late, or don't get things done on a schedule as we cannot even walk across town without meeting several people we know and stopping to chat. Business also always starts with first asking about your family and being familiar.

The great thing about living in a X pat community is that you make friends easily and everyone gets along so well. Even when we live in a large city or Puebla in Mexico we are a small town, as we are a town within the town. You find yourself meeting great friends with whom you have much in common. In the US due to Geographic, cultural, social & economic factors you would never have come in contact with them or found the time to know them. This broadens your circle of friends and business partners.

Family is important in Mexico. Neighbors look out for each other. You don't walk down the street looking over your shoulder or worrying about your purse or briefcase or pick pockets.

We have a wonderful health care system, great restaurants, many charity possibilities. The highways are in great shape making travel within this beautiful country great for day trips, weekend trips, week long trips. There is no drive in Mexico that you don't see mountains along your journey. The vistas are magical.

There is always a photo op along your trip. There is no reason to travel anywhere else once you're here, except of course to travel home to visit friends and family in the US. However, they usually prefer to visit us here. Also we travel to shop for those items you cannot find here and cannot live without. That list becomes less and less as you discover other products that are here.

You find yourself healthier here as we eat fresh vegetables & fruits and free range meat. We walk everywhere instead of driving our cars. Everything is within walking distance and each walk you meet

friends and stop to talk. Or you come across a street festival or something that stops you to observe or to photograph. I live in San Miguel de Allende and people ask me what gym I use. I say the hills of San Miguel and at first they believe that is a club.

The country for X pats is like one large Cheers bar. As you're never alone. You may want to spend a night alone or with one special friend, but suddenly it is a party and you run into friends from another X pat community you know.

You find yourself no longer watching TV as your life is full with rich experiences and many friends. There seems to be no reason to be home alone. For me I am a single woman and there is such a support group of strong, independent, self sufficient women to go out with. A friend recently commented to me that women do not move here to meet men. I know that is true as I run a singles site and I know the demographics that there are more women here than men. The reasons are many. We move here for a change of life style and great support system of friendship.

There are people who come here year after year for the same week or month or summer or winter. They all return and they all end up moving here. As Mexico becomes you and calls you back. Here in San Miguel de Allendewe are geographically the Heart of Mexico. But for me I like to think that we people living here are one heart beating as one.

San Miguel de Allende is a artist community. Everyone is either a writer, artist, actor, musician, dancer, jewelry designer, photographer or even produces edible art. I sometimes wonder if San Miguel draw artists to move here or does it bring the artist out in us.

When I got my first drivers license in Jalisco, the person testing me told me that he was Mexican but his parents moved to the US when he was 6 months old. He came back at age 30 on vacation and decided not to go back. He told me that although he makes in one year less than he made in one month in the US, his pay went further so his lifestyle was improved. My son has 4 friends who did the exact same thing and gave up the US for Mexico after all their parents had gone through to move to the US and make sure that they were legal residents of the US.

You find yourself within a new larger family group of many friends here. Life is wonderful.