

2020 Mazatlán Carnaval!

Schedule of Carnival Events and Calendar

Keep the dates February 20 until February 25, 2020 open

that's Carnaval Week!

Carnival in Mazatlan isn't just about Carnaval Week, it involves an entire year of preparation that becomes heated in the Fall as the holidays draw near and carnival does not seem so far away, and begins to glow white-hot after new year.

Now Carnival is upon us, and mazatlantoday.net would like to wish you a safe and wonderfully fun Carnaval Mazatlan 2020!

Buying 2020 Mazatlán Carnaval event tickets

Tickets for all 2020 Carnival events -- including events held at the Venados baseball stadium -- are on sale at a kiosk outside the Angela Peralta Theater at Plaza Machado from 9am until 3pm and from 5pm until 7pm.

Tickets can also be purchased at Cultura's offices daily from 9am until 5pm..

Pre-Carnaval Events 2020

Velada de las Artes at Teatro Angela Peralta

Saturday February 15, 2020 / 8pm / AP Theater / 350 - 600 pesos

The Evening of the Arts (Velada de las Artes) is a special annual performance staged at the Angela Peralta Theater the Saturday before Carnival.

Sponsored by Cultura Mazatlan, in previous years this exciting event has been conducted by Maestro Enrique Patron de Reuda, and featured performances by Orquesta Sinfonica Sinaloa de las Artes (OSSLA).

Velada de las Artes starts at 8pm, and tickets range from 350 pesos to 600 pesos. Tickets available at the Angela Peralta ticket office.

Muestra Gastronómica food festival at Plaza Machado

Thursday February 20, 2020 / 1pm - 7pm / FREE!

The run-up to the main events of Carnaval week in Mazatlan begin at Plaza Machado at about 2pm Thursday with Muestra Gastronomica, a fun outdoor food fest staged in the heart of the Centro Historico.

Restaurants located on and near the plaza prepare all sorts of special munchies and traditional Sinaloan dishes. It makes a great place to relax into Carnaval and get ready for the coronation of the King of Joy just a couple of blocks away on the Olas Altas Malecon at 7:30pm. Muestra Gastronomica continues every afternoon during carnival.

2020 Mazatlán Carnaval Main Events

King of Joy (Rey de la Alegría) Coronation 2020

2020 King of Joy (Rey de la Alegría) Coronation / Upcoming 2020 Mazatlan Carnival Events

Thursday February 20, 2020 (8:30pm)

Parque Ciudades Hermanas / FREE!

While most people think of carnival in Mazatlan as beginning on Friday, the festivities actually start on Thursday. All day Thursday the 23rd the Muestra Gastronómica -- food fest -- will be underway in Plaza Machado, and after dark the King of Joy will be crowned at Parque Ciudades Hermanas.

Rey de la Alegría, the King of Joy, is the modern name for the El Rey Feo, the Ugly King.

All the way back to the first official Mazatlan carnivals in 1898 and 1899, this carnival character was El Rey Feo. In a strikingly modern attempt at politically correct speech he was re-named the King of Joy in 1965.

To some degree the re-branding didn't really stick: many older Mazatlecos still refer to him as Rey Feo...

The Mazatlan King's coronation is always a Banda Bash, and this year the crowd will be entertained by La Banda Carnaval! Let the street party begin!

Remmy Valenzuela in concert! FREE!

Free Mazatlan Carnival 2020 Concert / Upcoming 2020 Mazatlan Carnival Events

Thursday February 20, 2020 (8:30pm)

Parque Ciudades Hermanas / FREE!

Born in Guasave, Sinaloa, Remmy Valenzuela is a chart-topping singer, songwriter, and accordionist who headlines the first of the four free concerts at the 2020 Mazatlan Carnival.

A groundbreaking advocate of alternative corrido and banda, he has expanded upon the traditions of those genres, creating a style that is unique to modern Northwest Mexico. Visit Parque Ciudades Hermanas and hear this legendary young performer for free!

Floral Games (Juegos Florales)

Concert and Coronation of the 2020 Queen of the Floral Games / Upcoming 2020 Mazatlan Carnival Events

Friday February 21, 2020 (8:30pm)

Estadio Teodoro Mariscal - Venados Stadium / 900 - 2,100 pesos

The big carnival concert -- and coronation of the Mazatlan Juegos Florales Queen -- is staged in the Mazatlan Venados baseball stadium.

Juegos Florales ("Floral Games") is always a well-attended event that centers on literature and culture.

Awards are given to contestants who have written the best "flowery verse", the top prize being the prestigious Clemencia Isaura Poetry Award, a nearly 70 year tradition of honoring the best unpublished work from anywhere in Mexico.

The Floral Games event is also where the Mazatlan Prize for the best literary work published in Mexico during the year that precedes the feast is delivered within the framework of the celebrations of Carnival.

This literary award has gained great prestige within Mexico and internationally, with winners including well-known writers such as Ricardo Garibay, Elena Poniatowska, Hector Aguilar Camin, Juan Villoro and Jorge Volpi.

A concert caps the evening of entertainment at the Floral Games, a beautiful evening and a highly recommended way to begin Carnival!

Reina del Carnaval (Carnival Queen) Coronation

2020 Carnival Queen Coronation / Stadium Event / Upcoming 2020 Mazatlan Carnival Events

Saturday February 22, 2020 (6:00pm)

Estadio Teodoro Mariscal - Venados Stadium / 900 - 2,100 pesos

Carnaval Saturday evening festivities begin with the coronation of the Carnival Queen at the Estadio Teodoro Mariscal / Venados Baseball Stadium.

Karla Rivas was chosen 2019 Mazatlan Carnival Queen, and reigns until the 2020 Queen is crowned.

A truly joyous event, it is well worth going to Venados stadium and experiencing the coronation for yourself. Big-time fun!

Bad Mood Burning (Quema del Mal Humor)

Traditional Public Carnival Event / Upcoming 2020 Mazatlan Carnival Events

Saturday February 22, 2020 (8:00pm)

Olas Altas Malecon / FREE!

A traditional annual Mazatlan Carnival ritual, the climax of Quema del Mal Humor (Bad Mood Burning) is the incineration of a giant puppet.

Sometimes modeled after an unpopular public figure, sometimes just someone famous, the effigy is hanged and burned -- think massive exploding flaming piñata on steroids.

It is believed that this ritual banishes ill-feeling from Mazatlan.

Quema del Mal Humor / Bad Mood Burning takes place Saturday night of Carnival Week after dark on the Malecon at Olas Altas Beach. The event is very festive and very well attended.

This is a really fun Carnival event: in both 2016 and 2017 the manigote burned at the Mazatlan Carnival was of now United States President Donald Trump...

Naval Combat Fireworks (Combate Naval)

Fireworks at Olas Altas Beach / Upcoming 2020 Mazatlan Carnival Events

Saturday February 22, 2020 (10:30pm)

Olas Altas Malecon / FREE!

This fireworks show is a dramatization of the defense of Mazatlan during the French Colonial invasion of 1864.

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THE BEST OF MAZATLÁN

The pyrotechnics and sounds evoke the cannon fire exchanged during the battle with the French warship La Cordeliere and the British war sloop Charybdis.

Traditional fireworks are now joined by the effects generated by light and laser shows, and this Mazatlan Carnival fireworks show is arguably the most popular event staged at Olas Altas Beach during carnival.

Inaugural Parade (Primer Desfile de Carnaval)

Parade up the Malecon / Upcoming 2020 Mazatlan Carnival Events

Sunday February 23, 2020 (5:30pm)

From the Fisherman's Monument to Valentino's along the Malecon / FREE!

Arguably the most iconic and universally anticipated event within any Mazatlan Carnival calendar, the Inaugural Parade -- sometimes referred to as carriage float parade -- that is held on Sunday is at the top of every list of recommended carnival attractions.

During the Inaugural Parade the Malecon between the Fisherman's Monument and Valentino's is transformed by the ocean of revelers that line the waterfront.

This parade is northbound starting at the Fisherman's Monument. Its sister parade on Tuesday -- Segundo Desfile de Carnaval -- flows south and returns the carriage floats to the Centro Historico.

María José in concert! FREE!

Free Mazatlan Carnival 2020 Concert / Upcoming 2020 Mazatlan Carnival Events

Sunday February 23, 2020 (11:00pm)

Olas Altas Beach / FREE!

María José has been a force in Latin American music since she fronted the super-group Kabah in the 1990s. An accomplished Flamenco dancer -- she got her start as a member of Spanish choreographer Maria Elena Anaya's company when she was just 14 -- she is known to her fans as La Josa. Head on down the Malecon and visit Olas Altas Beach for this unique opportunity to see her perform for free!

Children's Dance (Baile Infantil)

Children's Dance Party and Contest / Upcoming 2020 Mazatlan Carnival Events

Monday February 24, 2020 (10:00am)

Salón Espectaculare / Avenida Camaron Sabalo

What could be more adorable than little children dancing? The Baile Infantil on the morning of the coronation of the Child Queen provides that in spades!

Held at Salón Espectaculare on Camaron Sabalo, this annual event is packed with Mazatlan children enthusiastically dancing to the delight of family and friends.

Lots of prizes are awarded and the creativity of the costumes and choreography is amazing!

Coronation of the Child Queen (Reina Infantil)

Coronation Stadium Event / Upcoming 2020 Mazatlan Carnival Events

Monday February 24, 2020 (6:30pm)

Estadio Teodoro Mariscal - Venados Stadium / 1,100 – 2,600 pesos

The Child Queen (Reina Infantil) is an important part of carnival in Mazatlan, and her coronation is one big party suitable...for...a...queen!

The tradition of a Child Queen dates from 1921, and the modern event is staged at Estadio Teodoro Mariscal (Venados Baseball Stadium).

Banda Los Recoditos in concert! FREE!

Free Mazatlan Carnival 2020 Concert / Upcoming 2020 Mazatlan Carnival Events

Monday February 24, 2020 (8:00pm)

Parque Ciudades Hermanas / FREE!

Giants of Latin musical entertainment, Banda Los Recoditos was founded in Mazatlan, Sinaloa, in 1989 by friends and family members of Banda el Recodo by Cruz Lizarraga. This opportunity to see them play for free on the Malecon is a very special treat!

Second Parade (Segundo Desfile de Carnaval)

Parade down the Malecon / Upcoming 2020 Mazatlan Carnival Events

Tuesday February 25, 2020 (4:30pm)

Starts at the Aquarium and proceeds south along the Malecon / FREE!

The closing parade marks the beginning of the end of the Mazatlan carnival.

Segundo Desfile de Carnaval -- the second and final parade of the Carnaval season -- starts at the Mazatlan Aquarium and flows south along the Malecon to the edge of the Centro Historico.

Far from a time of sadness, this last evening of revelry matches anything that preceded it, and the party continues long into the night!

Danna Paola in concert! FREE!

Free Mazatlan Carnival 2020 Concert / Upcoming 2020 Mazatlan Carnival Events

Tuesday February 25, 2020 (11:00pm)

Olas Altas Beach / FREE!

One of the most exciting pop singers in Latin America, Danna Paola has thrilled audiences around the world. Just 24 years old and star since she began acting at age 4, she has sold-out large concert venues throughout Mexico. Take this rare opportunity to hear her for free at Olas Altas Beach - and end your Carnaval Mazatlan 2020 with a bang!