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# Confidential

SURVIVE AND THRIVE IN THE AGE OF TURMOIL

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## **A Plan B close to home: How to obtain Mexican residency and citizenship**



**This is a redacted preview of our premium report on  
how to obtain residency and citizenship in Mexico**

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Question: With all the negativity in the press lately about drug wars, violence and illegal immigration, why on Earth would you want to consider Mexico as part of your Plan B?

For starters, Mexico's leaders proved to be some of the **very few** politicians who did not completely lose their minds over COVID. The restrictions -- at least in the touristy Riviera Maya area -- were mild.

When other countries went overboard with lockdowns, Mexico served as an escape hatch for quite a few of *Sovereign Man's* friends from all over the world and even a team member.

And aside from lockdown-dodging, Mexico makes a lot of sense for Americans, especially if you're retired. We'll get to the specifics in a moment.

First, though, remember the purpose of creating a robust Plan B, which includes steps such as moving a portion of your savings overseas to a foreign bank account, obtaining a foreign residency and/or citizenship, and holding some gold and silver.

A solid Plan B works no matter what's going on in your home country, good or bad.

Creating one rooted partly in Mexico might make even more sense to those in the United States. You may one day be grateful for the ability to drive right out of the US and straight to your escape hatch.

And a lovely escape hatch it is.

Mexico fascinates. A combination of deep Mayan roots and three centuries of Spanish traditions has created a land notably distinct from its other *norteamericano* neighbors, the US and Canada.

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Mexico's architecture and cuisine draw tens of millions of visitors each year. So, too, do its oceanfront beaches, mountains, deserts and jungles. And so does its culture: Mexico ranks first in the Americas in the number of World Heritage Sites.

Mexico has something for everyone, so it comes as no surprise that it ranks as one of the most visited countries in the world (6th to be exact). More than 39 million tourists flocked there in 2019 alone.

Mexico is also what I call a "real country" – one with a diversified economy and large enough population to create a self-sustainable economy. (The Cook Islands or even Uruguay, in contrast, don't really qualify.)

Currently the 15<sup>th</sup> largest economy in the world, Mexico is projected by some to settle firmly in the top ten by 2050.

But in the meantime, Mexico has some hurdles to overcome.

Violent gang-related crime is something we hear about regularly.

Corruption, especially in the police force, is a problem. In some states, drug lords arguably hold more power than government officials.

Yet, as we will show you in this report, these downsides are not likely to affect you.

The throngs of Americans and Canadians who visit Mexico every year without incident is proof. Most head there for a short vacation. Others choose to spend several winter months or even retire in Mexico permanently, reveling in the rich culture and great food.

## How dangerous is Mexico?

While no country is 100% safe, Mexico suffers from what we'll call the Colombia stigma.

Colombia, as we've written about here, is far, far safer today than it was 20, 15, or even 10 years ago. But because the FARC kidnappings and inner violence ran so rampant for so long, people still largely take a dim view of Colombia's safety.

Indeed, drug violence in Mexico's border cities (and elsewhere) has long been a serious challenge.

Even Acapulco, the glamorous beach city frequented by Hollywood celebrities in the 50s, now ranks as one of the most dangerous cities in Mexico.

And yes, heavily armed police presence is widespread everywhere in Mexico, which is a stark contrast with Chile, for example.

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Still, entire regions of Mexico remain safe.

At face value, Mexico's murder rate is almost four times higher than that of the United States.

But that's just an aggregate statistic, pulled in from widely varying Mexican states.

Aggregate crime statistics also don't apply to the entire US. For example, when it comes to murder rates, Louisiana is ten times more dangerous than New Hampshire. Huge difference.

In Mexico, state-to-state murder rates change even more dramatically.

While states along the US-Mexico border can be very dangerous, Yucatan, for example (where the beautiful colonial city of Merida is located) has a murder rate comparable with Nebraska, Wyoming or North Dakota – places not exactly famous for excessive violence.



*Yucatan peninsula in Mexico*

The state of Quintana Roo (where Cancun, Playa del Carmen and Tulum are located) is a little more dangerous, and is comparable with Alaska.

Bottom line – pay attention to where you go in Mexico. You definitely want to avoid those cities and zones most affected by violence. Outside those areas, however, normal common sense precautions should be sufficient.

## **Why Mexico is appealing: It is familiar and ... cheap**

Mexico has always been known as an affordable place where spring breakers and tourists could go en masse for cheap beer and tacos.

But the past several years have taken that 'inexpensive' dynamic to an extreme.

During a recent trip to the Yucatan peninsula, our SMC reporter kept marveling at how incredibly cheap Mexico has become, especially outside touristy areas.

He paid \$7.50 for a delicious brunch in trendy and hipster Tulum.

And he was hard pressed to spend more than \$10 in the best restaurants of Merida – a

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charming colonial city three hours away from touristy Riviera Maya. Likewise, a room at the Merida Hyatt only set him back about \$85 a night.

Car rental prices are also almost a joke. You can pay \$50 for a four-day rental for a mid-sized car, insurance included. The car's value probably depreciated much more than that in four days of relentless driving.

As you can see, the place is cheap. (And February, when this trip occurred, is considered a high season in that part of Mexico.)

At the same time, there's a sense of familiarity.

Familiarity like eating in a Mexican restaurant... or seeing full-size American SUVs and pickups everywhere... or shopping at Walmart and Home Depot.

Even Blockbuster video stores were available in Mexico for a few years after the last one closed in the US.

In Mexico, you can buy pretty much anything you're accustomed to in the US or Canada, from your favorite brand of cereals to a car (which is likely produced in Mexico, anyway).

## Obtaining residency in Mexico

More Americans have been added to the population of Mexico than Mexicans have (legally) been added to the population of the United States over the past few years, per government data in both nations.

Understandably, many Mexicans still head to the United States and Canada for better education and a higher standard of living.

However, at the same time, quite a few people go the opposite direction and apply for residency in Mexico to experience the rich culture, better weather, and to cut down their expenses. (Today you can conservatively expect to cut your expenses **at least** by half after moving to Mexico from the US, perhaps more if you're abandoning California.)

Frankly, if escaping the harsh winter is all you want, don't worry about residency. Mexico allows any tourist to stay 180 days at a time in the country. That's enough to avoid the coldest part of the year in Minnesota or British Columbia.

(And, as of January 2021, they don't require any kind of COVID test or quarantine to enter the country.)

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*Merida*

I have heard stories of people who did a “visa run” every six months for a whole decade while living in Mexico full-time and raising kids there. Going back home every few months worked just fine for them.

But Mexico has been increasingly cracking down on perpetual tourists, and pushing them to obtain legal residency if they want to live there full-time.

And that’s not the path we recommend at Sovereign Man, anyway.

Obtaining second residency in a foreign country just makes sense, especially in a country where you would be happy to spend significant time.

And in my opinion, Mexico definitely qualifies as a country where one would want to stay longer.

Mexico is very easy to get to. There are literally hundreds of daily flights connecting dozens of different Mexican and American cities.

And Mexico City and Cancun International Airports provide easy access from just about anywhere else in the world.

Or, as I said at the beginning, if flying is not your thing, you can just drive there.

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## Are you officially retired? Go for PERMANENT residency from the very beginning

Donec et accumsan lacus. Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Nulla quis nisi at quam consequat mollis.

Donec nulla nisi, volutates vitae mauris nec, lacus pharetra sapien. Etiam placerat lacus magna. Nulla vehicula tempus dui. Morbi nec magna, efficitur vitae quam id, hendrerit volutpat est.

Curabitur sed purus dignissim, volutpat mauris id, pharetra velit. Pellentesque habitant morbi tristique senectus et netus et.

malesuada lacus ac tuncipis eget. Cras aliquet, enim nec cursus lacus, velit nunc efficitur eget lacus, quis porta libero libero at nunc. Class aptent taciti sociosqu.

In hac habitasse platea dictumst. Nam euismod metus ac aliquet vestibulum. Aliquam erat volutpat. Aliquam erat volutpat. Vivamus ante diam, dignissim nec cursus sed, hendrerit sed ante. Arcuam dictum metus sed quam congue, ac volutpatque sapien congue. Praesent imperdiet eros vitae erat lacus.

sed lacus erat mollis. Morbi a dui. In hac habitasse platea dictumst. Donec tuncipis, ac hendrerit.

### PERMANENT RESIDENCY financial requirements:

malesuada lacus, nulla eros mollis eu, a metus tuncipis enim ac nunc. Vestibulum nunc tuncipis, porta erat ac libero eu, accumsan imperdiet sapien. Curabitur ac nunc a nunc id sapien. Maecenas nec dolor tuncipis, ac nuncipis id, eros metus.

Sed vehicula ligula cursus, pulvinar nunc ac.

aliquam ante. Quisque a eu lacus. Quisque tuncipis sapien, congue ac nunc ac, porta ac nuncipis. Pellentesque congue nuncipis quis libero congue pharetra congue nec diam. Integer ac amet tuncipis ac. Praesent ante velit.

facilis vitae tuncipis ac, tuncipis tuncipis nunc. Suspendisse nuncipis magna id nuncipis facilis. Morbi tuncipis sapien elit, ac efficitur ac sapien ac.

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Blonditum, nulla urna mollis eu, auctor fela cum et non. Vestibulum non nunc, porta  
ut et libero eu, accumsan imperdiet eget. Carbitur nulla a non et agerat. Mauris non  
dolor suscipit, nulla nunc et, viverra nunc.

Sed vestibulum ligula curam, pulvinar nunc et.

disquis ante. Quisque a eu lacus. Quisque nunc eget, commodo et nunc et, porta et nunc.  
Pellentesque congue nunc qui libero commodo pharetra congue non diam. Integer et amet  
cummyd ante. Fusce ante nunc.

facilis erat nunc et, interdum libero non. Suspendisse nunc magna et nunc facilis.  
Mauris cum nunc agerat et, et efficitur et agerat et.

Carbitur eget hendrerit nunc. Cum non agerat nunc. Diam qui hendrerit non. Accumsan nulla  
urna fela, et mollis porta viverra non. In et nunc et non pellentesque facilis non non  
nunc. Nam et nunc non. Accumsan non nunc non. Phasellus et nunc nulla, libero diam  
et, facilis non. Nulla accumsan, porta et et

agnus nunc, diam diam auctor nunc, non ligula eget lacus eu non. Cum nunc, nunc  
a commodo diam non, lacus nunc lacus ligula, et imperdiet nunc ligula et amet fela. Integer  
lacus nunc non nunc commodo congue



*Beach in Tulum*

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*Playa del Carmen*

Blondit, nulla urna mollis eu, a mauris fela enim at risus. Vestibulum nunc tempus, praeter  
Canditor eget henditum velis. Cui non agitur quanta. Utinam qui henditum sunt. Aenean vacillat  
varius fela, et molitur parva venenatis non. In id velis in risus pellentesque fucibus non non  
neque. Nam id maximus non. Aenean non urnam non. Phasellus et neque vacillat, lobortium dap  
in, fucibus vel. Nulla accumsan, parva at id

ignem vacillat, dap fela mauris non, non dignum agitur fela in non. Cui utinam, mauris  
a commodo elementum, fela vel fela fela, et imperdiet velis fela et amet fela. In  
ge fela mauris non non non non non

(We have excellent service providers in both places. Let us know if you need assistance by  
writing to us at [clients@sovereignman.com](mailto:clients@sovereignman.com).)

a. Vivamus vacillat non non non non. Utinam dap non, praeter non pellentesque  
maximus non non. Mauris fucibus fela in dignum mauris. Nulla non non, fela et  
fela vel, commodo fucibus velis. Nam non non non non, et fucibus dap non non.

Nullam non non non non, vel vestibulum non commodo vel. Cui agitur vacillat non non  
fela non non non non non non, non non non non non. In id non vel dap non non non  
non at non non. Vivamus qui blandit a

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memoria horum quae uel uelle. Pauci uero liberos habent. Utantur alienis quae in, in liberos habent. Sibi tempus agit. Utantur liberos uelutque placeat. Multis alienis et in et pollicetur. Cum alienis uel uelle.

ali et locum putant accipere. Suspenditur elementum aquae neque, vel etherae sibi per  
homogenei sed. Ut in dictum neque, et aetheris neque. Praesent nulla erit, incertum nec.

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Vivamus aculis conseruatur uni, nec tempus uni. Utamur die uni, prout nec pulvum et, maximus nec enim. Maximas facilis hanc in dignitate auctus. Nulla enim enim, hanc in hanc tempore per conditio nostra, per incipit hanc. In et uni vel diu conseruatur dignum et nec puto. Vivamus qui blandit a

dit. Suspensio conseruatur in nulla egi fragor. Utamur blandit facilis enim, conseruatur enim conseruatur enim.

Nullam egi vixit hanc. Puto et uni dignum, dignum vixit in, hanc enim. Auctus hanc dicit a hanc conseruatur, in hanc die dignum. Utamur in maximis hanc, in diu enim. Puto

And here is a step-by-step procedure to follow and an approximate timeline of the process:



Vivamus aculis conseruatur uni, nec tempus uni. Utamur die uni, prout nec pulvum et, maximus nec enim. Maximas facilis hanc in dignitate auctus. Nulla enim enim, hanc in hanc tempore per conditio nostra, per incipit hanc. In et uni vel diu conseruatur dignum et nec puto. Vivamus qui blandit a

Vivamus aculis conseruatur uni, nec tempus uni. Utamur die uni, prout nec pulvum et, maximus nec enim. Maximas facilis hanc in dignitate auctus. Nulla enim enim, hanc in hanc tempore per conditio nostra, per incipit hanc. In et uni vel diu conseruatur dignum et nec puto. Vivamus qui blandit a

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Vivamus scelerisque consectetur nisi, nec tempus nisi. Donec duis nisi, pretium nec pulvinar et, maximus nec enim. Maecenas facilisis lacus in dignissim arcu. Nulla eros enim, lacus ac lacus vel, commodo facilisis tellus. Nam suscipit turpis urna, ac fermentum duis viverra ac.

Nullam congue nulla urna, sed vestibulum erat suscipit per conubia nostra, per inceptos hymenaeae. In et erat vel diam interdum dignissim ac suscipit. Vivamus quis blandit a



*Tulum*

Ali. Suspendisse interdum in nulla eget frugae. Duis blandit facilisis erat, congue rutrum vel nibh condimentum non.

Nullam eget varius lacus. Fusce et sem dapibus, aliquet tortor in, lacus urna. Arcuam lacus dolor a lacus interdum, ac lobortis duis aliquet. Morbi ac malesuada lacus, in dictum urna. Pellentesque interdum

elit ac lacus pulvinar accumsan. Suspendisse elementum augue acque, vel volutatis feli per malesuada quis, pellentesque ac sapien. Morbi pharetra, quam eget congue congue, lacus quam accumsan tortor, ac varius erat massa vel elit. Phasellus nibh magna, auctor id feli in, suscipit scelerisque urna.

Morbi quam erat, vulputate ac lobortis eget, tempus nec nibh. Suspendisse maximus nulla vel tellus varius pharetra. Curabitur ultrices massa tempus lobortis dignissim. Vestibulum id erat a elit efficitur

## Obtaining Mexican citizenship

volutatis eu in quam. Duis varius lacus erat tellus egeta ornare. Duis congue dolor nibh, id gravida massa dictum vel. Nulla facilis. Suspendisse pellentesque frugae quam quis rutrum. Fusce et amet enim elit.

Nulla eu massa, scelerisque quis pharetra non, varius vel nisi. Nullam quis quam vel massa con accumsan imperdiet quis vel du. Quisque nec lacus ac lacus gravida accumsan egeta vel enim.

Nulla facilis dignissim odio, vel tempus tellus blandit eget. Integer et amet erat tellus. Duis ac porta augue, a lacus urna. Suspendisse egeta lobortis erat ac imperdiet. Aliquam aculis, urna ac pharetra dictum, magna erat blandit turpis, vel vulputate libero feli a leo. Quisque feli

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*Playa del Carmen*

## Having a baby in Mexico

The United States is still the most popular destination in the world today for birth tourism. By far. And indeed, it seems very logical for parents from impoverished nations to wish their children a better education and higher standard of living that US nationality may bring. (If you ask me, I personally think Canada is a better option for them due to the US's worldwide taxation of its citizens.)

However, having a baby in a foreign country is not only for Malawians, Haitians or even Mexicans. It makes sense for anyone.

A second citizenship is a great asset and definitely one of the greatest gifts you can give to your newly-born child.

Mexico is a great candidate for this. It is one of those countries that grants citizenship to anyone born on its soil.

Moreover, having a child in Mexico can also be beneficial for those parents seeking a second citizenship themselves – they become eligible for naturalization in the country after just two years of residency instead of the standard five.

We have a great service provider in Cancún who can help with the entire process, from choosing a hospital, to applying for a passport for a child and residencies for parents. Let us know if you would like a reference.

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*Cancun*

Namque eget varius lacus. Prae et ante dignitas, dignus tunc in, lacus ante. Arcuam lacus  
dolor a lacus tunc, et lacus lacus dignus. Moris et mollis lacus, in lacus ante. Per  
lacus tunc

et in lacus lacus lacus. Lacus lacus lacus lacus lacus, et lacus lacus lacus  
lacus lacus lacus lacus lacus. Moris lacus lacus lacus lacus lacus lacus lacus lacus  
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Moris lacus lacus lacus lacus lacus lacus lacus lacus lacus lacus lacus lacus lacus lacus  
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## Immigration service providers in Mexico

First, you don't necessarily have to use any legal help. There are many people who go through the entire residency process by themselves and this very document is a great starting point if you're a DIY-type person.

However, using legal help can make a lot of sense for those who don't speak at least basic Spanish. Navigating Mexican bureaucracy can also be quite daunting.

During a recent trip to the Yucatan peninsula, we met with a number of lawyers and service providers. We were astonished with their competitive pricing.

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## Final remarks

Mexico is a big and diverse country with warm weather, great food and very welcoming people.

Yes, crime is a factor in many areas of Mexico, especially along the US border, but the rest of the country remains much safer. And you shouldn't be overly stressed about safety anywhere on the Yucatan peninsula at all.

If you don't have a trip planned to Mexico yet (even just for a short vacation), I recommend you start working on it. For one thing, Mexico is seriously cheap.

But it's not cheap beer and affordable hotels that got me excited about Mexico in the first place.

Obtaining residency in Mexico is easy and can be a no-brainer for just about anyone, especially for those who can qualify for permanent residency from the very beginning.

All you need to do is submit your application at the nearest Mexican consulate. It works the same way whether you are an American in Texas or a German, thousands of miles away from Mexico.

You don't even have to come to Mexico until you are fully approved.

A Plan B is an essential part of your freedom package. The more places where you are welcome, the more options you have. For many Americans, one of the most viable options might just be a road trip away.



*Yucatan peninsula*

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