

WHV – Guardians of Teotihuacan

Pre-Hispanic City of Teotihuacan, Mexico

Cultural property inscribed on the World Heritage List (1987)

PROJECT DATES

13 - 24 November 2023

THE SITE - The holy city of Teotihuacan ('the place where the gods were created') is situated some 50 km north-east of Mexico City. Built between the 1st and 7th centuries A.D., it is characterized by the vast size of its monuments – in particular, the Temple of Quetzalcoatl and the Pyramids of the Sun and the Moon, laid out on geometric and symbolic principles. As one of the most powerful cultural centres in Mesoamerica, the influence of the first of the great civilizations of Mesoamerican classic civilizations was exerted over the whole of the central region of Mexico, in Yucatán, and as far away as Guatemala (the site of Kaminaljuyu) during the period of Teotihuacan III. Much larger than the narrow zone of the ceremonial center, the archaeological site of Teotihuacan corresponds to a city of at least 25,000 inhabitants. Teotihuacan and its valley bear unique testimony on the pre-urban structures of ancient Mexico.

OBJECTIVES - The activities will take place for the sixth time in the framework of the campaign, aiming at generating greater interaction for the protection of the World Heritage site and promoting a sense of appropriation among local communities through working with schools, art centers and houses of culture in the region.

ACTIVITIES - Through guided visits of the spaces open to the public and those closed for research, volunteers will gain awareness about the history, relevance and social problems of the World Heritage site and understand the interrelationship of the different social actors involved. They will also participate in the excavation and/or restoration or exploration work ongoing during the period of the project (either in Teotihuacán, Tula or Xochicalco) experiencing the interaction with schools, cultural centers and other social actors in the central region of Mexico.

PARTNERS - Coordinación Nacional de Arqueología INAH, Coordinación Nacional de Desarrollo Institucional INAH, Subdirección de Comunicación Educativa de la Coordinación Nacional de Museos INAH, Colegio Xochicalli. A. C. y Escuela Preparatoria Oficial, Restaurante Mayahuel; Restaurante El Ranchito y Restaurante Huitzilopochtli.

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