# El Nido 1

# Mexico Guest Guide

#### **Guest Information**

Gracias Mi Amigo's and welcome to El Nido1!

This guide will provide you with an overview of Zihuantanejo and the surrounding area. Contact us anytime with questions or concerns:

To view our video and web page visit www.elnido1.com

Richard or Wendy: <a href="mailto:elnido1mexico@gmail.com">elnido1mexico@gmail.com</a>

**Arrival** Taxis are available and waiting as you leave the airport. It's a good idea to agree to a price before enter any taxi.

**Taxi directions:** Between "Il Mare" Ristorante and Espuma Restaurant 1km past "Hotel Irma" **Escenica La Ropa, El Nido, entre Restaurante Il Mare y Espuma** 

Local Taxi Service Andres Jacintos Taxi WhatsApp 52 755 115 8465

**Google maps Address**: Escenica La Ropa 401B, Playa La Ropa 40880 **Government Address**: Escenica La Ropa 100A, Zihuantanejo 40894

**Terrain** El Nido1 has one of the most amazing and photographed views in all of Zihuantanejo, but being at the top of the bluffs does come with some challenges. The roads to La Ropa & Madera beaches are steep and can pose a problem for guests with mobility issues. Walking to your destination and returning to the condo by Taxi is a good option.

Parking El Nido 1 does not offer parking.

**Communicating / Language** Remembering that Spanish is the national language, it's a great idea to learn a few key words and phrases; bano or banco can be important words to know. Almost all tourism providers in the area speak English. It's fun and appreciated if you practice your Spanish but in most cases the reply will be in English. Google's translator app is a good idea, it works well when shopping and dining.

**Beaches** El Nido1 is situated at the top of the hill between two beautiful beaches each with their own distinctive character.

<u>Playa La Ropa</u> is about one mile long with a gentle surf break. La Ropa has numerous 'toes in the sand' restaurants and water sports available.

<u>Playa La Madera</u> offers slightly larger waves for bodysurfing along with restaurants and picturesque coves to explore.

For a look at all the area beaches, visit <a href="http://www.zihuatanejo.net/beaches.html">http://www.zihuatanejo.net/beaches.html</a>

**Currency** While US dollars are accepted in some locations, the exchange rate is not competitive. We recommend using Peso's. ATMs are available to withdraw Peso's at competitive bank rates. At the airport exit, you will find a selection of ATM's. There are numerous banks in Centro (the neighborhood in Zihuantanejo; is in the city center and near the beach) with ATM's.

**Staff** Lulu (Housekeeping) and Jose (Maintenance Manager) Please remember Lulu & Jose do not speak English. Jose uses google translator to help in communications.

**Smoking** There is <u>no smoking or vaping of any kind</u> anywhere on the property including the parking lot.

**Awning** An electric powered awning will keep your unit cooler in the evenings but <u>must be retracted</u> <u>after sunset</u>. The awning should not be used in strong winds as it can easily be damaged.

**Blinds** Bedroom is equipped with 2 sets of blinds. The sunshade blind does NOT provide night privacy. The black-out blind provides full privacy.

**Air Conditioning** The bedroom of El Nido 1 is air conditioned. Ensure all doors and windows are closed and only run the AC when you are in the room.

**Dishes** In tropical areas like Zihua there are more ants per square mile than there are people on earth. <u>Dishes are the responsibility of the guests</u>, please wash your dishes in a timely manner.

**Toilets** While it is an adjustment for most travelers, the septic system at El Nido and throughout Mexico isn't happy when paper products are introduced, including toilet paper. Please use the small garbage can beside each toilet for all paper products. These are emptied daily, except Sundays.

**Housekeeping & Maintenance** Housekeeping will freshen up your room once during your week stay, fresh towels, water or coffee can be provided as needed. Please feel free to contact Lulu or Jose. **Please give any tips directly to Lulu or to Jose personally, Gracias!** 

**Infinity Pool** The infinity pool on the lower deck is approximately four feet deep with 4 underwater bar stools at the end of the pool; a perfect place to relax and enjoy the view. No glass is allowed in the pool or common area. Kindly refrain from applying sunscreen prior to entry. **Registered guests have exclusive use of the pool deck area - visitors are not allowed in the common area.** 

What to expect in your kitchen, you'll find purified water, coffee, salt, pepper, olive oil, and spices in your fully equipped kitchen. In your suite you'll find several amenities, bath towels, beach towels, hair dryer, shampoo, body wash conditioner, hand lotion and an iron are all supplied.

**Kitchen** Your suite has a fully appointed kitchen including a 4-burner propane gas stove (LIFT the glass cover before lighting), oven, fridge, microwave, kettle, blender, coffee maker, knives, cutlery, pots, pans, dishes and many other small utensils. **The gas shut off valve is on the back wall in the cabinet next to the stove.** 

**Railing** In order to save yourself the "walk of shame" and potential <u>staining</u> of your clothing and our towels you, please refrain from hanging anything on the railing. Wind gusts have been known to take items to the slope below. Please put the bamboo coat rack in shower, to hang damp clothes.

**Internet** El Nido1 provides high speed to our guest, details fiber optic internet provided in the room. Internet: ELNIDO1MEX.2.4 password: TeamChevy1

Building Lighting The stairwell has motion sensor lighting that provides light one level at a time.

**Laundry** There are no guest laundry facilities in El Nido1, a bamboo coat rack is provided and can be placed in the shower area to hang wet clothes. Laundry can be dropped off at any "Lavendaria" for same day service which is inexpensive and includes folding and ironing. The closest "Lavendaria" is near Plaza Kioto.

**Packing – What to Bring** Casual attire, including flip flops & sandals are acceptable everywhere in Zihuantanejo, including fine dining. Consider comfortable footwear for walking & trekking, high heels are not recommended. Remember your camera and binoculars! Many guests reported needing only HALF the clothing they packed, and regret not having room for souvenirs. This is a tropical climate – pack light clothing.

**Restaurants** There are hundreds of wonderful restaurants in Zihuantanejo, many within walking distance of El Nido. The food scene in Zihua is vibrant and these are just some of our favorites:

Bistro del Mar: exceptional fine dining on Madera beach. Casual elegance and great service.

<u>\*El Manglar</u>: off the La Ropa beach Great food and service, you can sit in the shade and watch some wild life. Crocodiles, iguanas and turtles are sometimes found table side.

El Jardin de la Abuela: A beautiful restaurant with wonderful breakfast right on Adelita Street.

<u>Il Mare</u>: right next to El Nido, our first meal on arrival is always here. Family owned with long term staff; they are Italian specialists.

\*Jungle Pizza: thin crust from a stone oven and the best (and biggest) margarita in Zihua.

<u>La Perla</u>: mid-point on La Ropa, toes in the sand and a great pina colada. It's a great place to spend a day swimming, tanning and eating. Most sports events are televised here.

\*Puerto del Sol: one block from El Nido, Jorge's a chef who thinks he's a rock star! Making salads and flambee entrees tableside are his specialties. If you show interest, he'll put on a show for you. Gaby runs the kitchen and is an accomplished chef in her own right.

## **Tipping**

**Grocery Store** – the people who bag your groceries at the check-out make no salary. Five to ten pesos is an appropriate tip, depending on how many items you have.

**Restaurants** – 10% is the norm, more if something exceptional was done on your behalf. Many waiters earn no salary and are 100% dependent on tips for their income.

**Taxi's** – tipping is not expected unless you were assisted with luggage or groceries.

**Security** A state-of-the-art video system covers the entire perimeter of El Nido. Should a situation arise please let us know so we can capture and retain a copy.

**Telephone** A Mexican SIM card with unlimited North American calls & texts plus a gig or 2 of data is relatively cheap. Any Telmex location can assist you with your phone. There is a phone available in the office for local phone calls in Mexico.

**Shopping** The big three are tequila, coffee and vanilla.

Good tequila has more nuances than scotch, and incredible varieties of tequila can be found in at tequila shops throughout Centro.

Our favorite fresh-roasted local coffee comes from beans from Atoyac, Guerrrero. Iced Expresso is a wonderful cool treat that can be enjoyed at Café Caracol.

Vanilla, ground and whole bean coffee is available to take home from various Café Caracol locations. **Groceries** The one stop shop for groceries and alcohol is the chain store Mega (Soriano's). It is a 20 minute walk or approx. 50 -60-peso taxi ride. If you prefer markets, the Mercado is a 15-minute walk, approx. 50-peso taxi ride or 10-peso bus ride. The Mercado is an authentic Mexican market that provides shopping with hundreds of specialty stalls offering everything except alcohol.

**Television & Sporting Events** There is a television in the bedroom, however, chances are you would rather check out the amazing panoramic view instead of TV! If the big game is a must see we recommend La Perla Restaurant on Playa La Ropa or Bandito's in El Centro. Both carry almost any game on request and most are available in English.

**Towels** Bath and beach towels are provided to use in El Nido1 the common area or the local beaches. Please be sure to shake them out well before returning.

### **Transportation**

**Bus** – a fun, safe and inexpensive way to commute, the "micros" (MEE-kros) and combi's (KOM-bee's) run from the south end of Playa La Ropa to downtown "El Centro" from 7am until just after sunset. The cost is approx... 10 pesos per person. From Centro you can catch another bus to Ixtapa or many other destinations. Flag a bus down anywhere on the side of a road, but in Centro they only load and unload at official bus stops.

**Rental Cars** – We do not recommend renting a car in Mexico. It is expensive, insurance is confusing, and the rules of the road are unclear at best. If you do rent a car, El Nido1 does not have an assigned parking spot. If you want to explore the area, reasonably priced tours are easily arranged.

**Taxis** – are plentiful, relatively inexpensive, and convenient. It is important to provide your destination and agree to a price before you enter the taxi.

**Walking** - Cars have the right of way in Mexico, even when you have the walk signal in a crosswalk. Stop signs are often referred to as "stoptional." BE CAREFUL

**Vendors** From Mexican silver jewelry to hammocks, fresh cheese to ceramics, the vendors stroll public beaches and Centro selling just about everything. While it can take getting used to, it is a part of everyday life in Zihuantanejo. A polite "gracias no" along with eye contact goes a long way, unless something catches your eye. No vendors have access to El Nido.

**Visitors** Your visitors are welcome (within reason) in your suite from 10am to 10pm. As registered guests, you are responsible for your visitor's safety and behaviour while they are at El Nido. Registered guests have exclusive use of the pool deck area - visitors are not allowed in the common area.

**Reply** at <a href="mailto:elinido1mexico@gmail.com">elinido1mexico@gmail.com</a> to join our Mi Amigo Club where members receive discounts on future stays booked directly with us.

Saludos and Welcome!

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