

REVUE

Guatemala's English-language Magazine

DECEMBER 2022 revuemag.com Year 31 No. 10



THIS MONTH IN REVUE

On the Cover

3rd Place Judges Vote
"Lista para destapar
regalos" Quetzaltenango
by Guido De León



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**20th ANNUAL
REVUE PHOTO ISSUE**

January, 2023

ADVERTISER INDEX

*places to go, things to do
and fun to be had*

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REVUE

Guatemala's English-language Ezine

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Now in Antigua **MUSEO NACIONAL DE ARTE DE GUATEMALA**

photos by Ludwing Paniagua and Hada Cruz

Located on the south side of Central Park in Antigua, **Museo Nacional de Arte de Guatemala, MUNAG**, opened its first phase this past September 2021. The second phase in August 2022 and is now expecting the third one to open soon.

With high-tech equipment, the museum offers audio guides and screens, to better appreciate the experience. And, during December **Entrance is Free** ...[page 32](#)

AMALIA'S KITCHEN

by *Chef Amalia Moreno-Damgaard*

THE PERFECT HOLIDAY TURKEY

with a recipe for **PAVO NAVIDEÑO**
Guatemalan Holiday Roasted Turkey

Christmas Eve is more important than Christmas Day in Guatemala. Family and friends have short gatherings at their homes to eat and drink and to deliver presents, blessings, and best wishes. Everyone returns home before midnight to spend this special time with their loved ones

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THE NIGHT BEFORE NAVIDAD

The willful spanglization of a Christmas Classic

It was the night before Christmas, and all through the *casa*, Not a creature was stirring, ¡*Camba!* ¿*Que Pasa?* Los niños were tucked away in their *camas*, some in long underwear, some in *pijamas*.

...[page 66](#)



Places to go, things to do and fun to be had...

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to go to desired page



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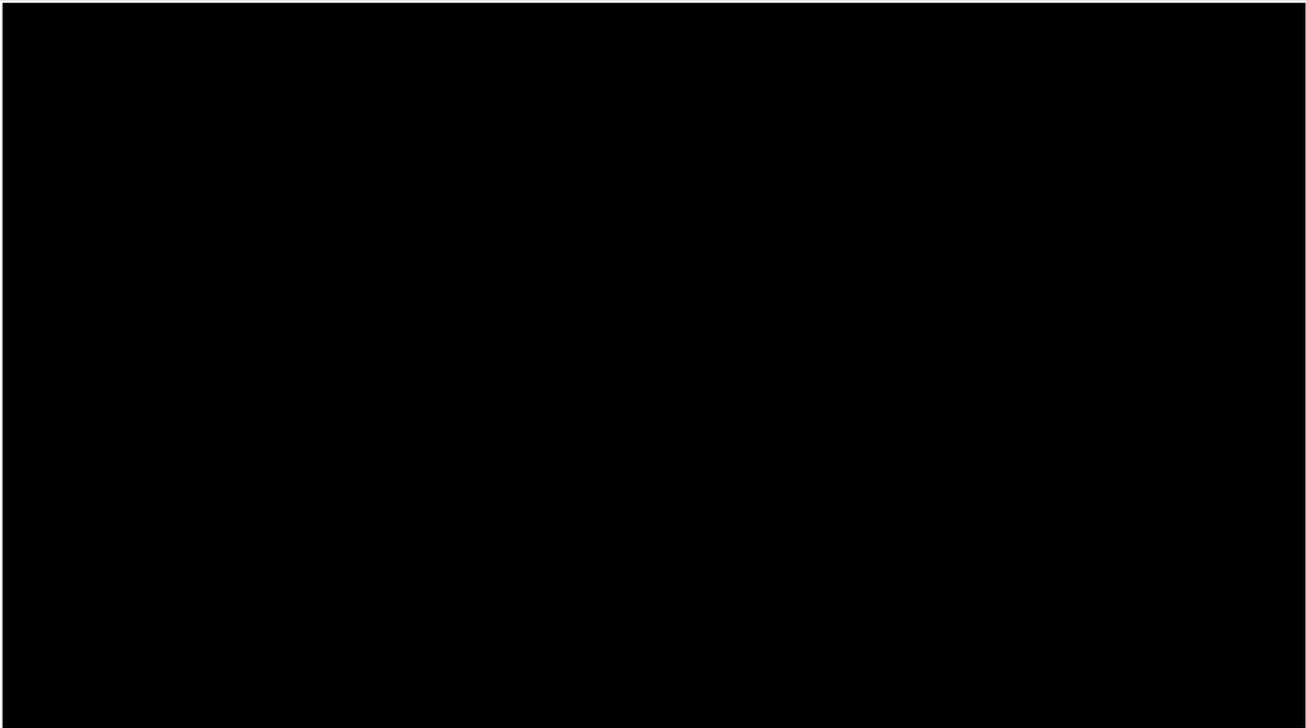
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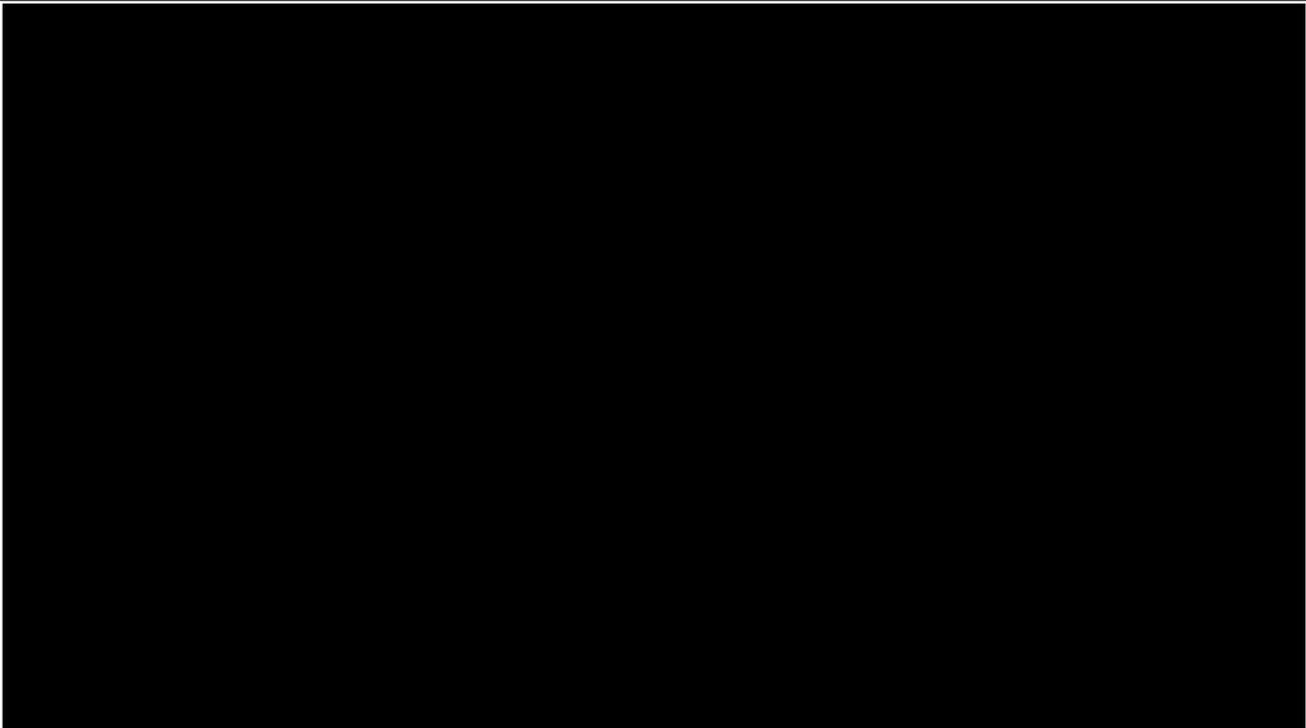


Restaurant Cerro San Cristobal, La Antigua



video courtesy of Mexcal-Rhet

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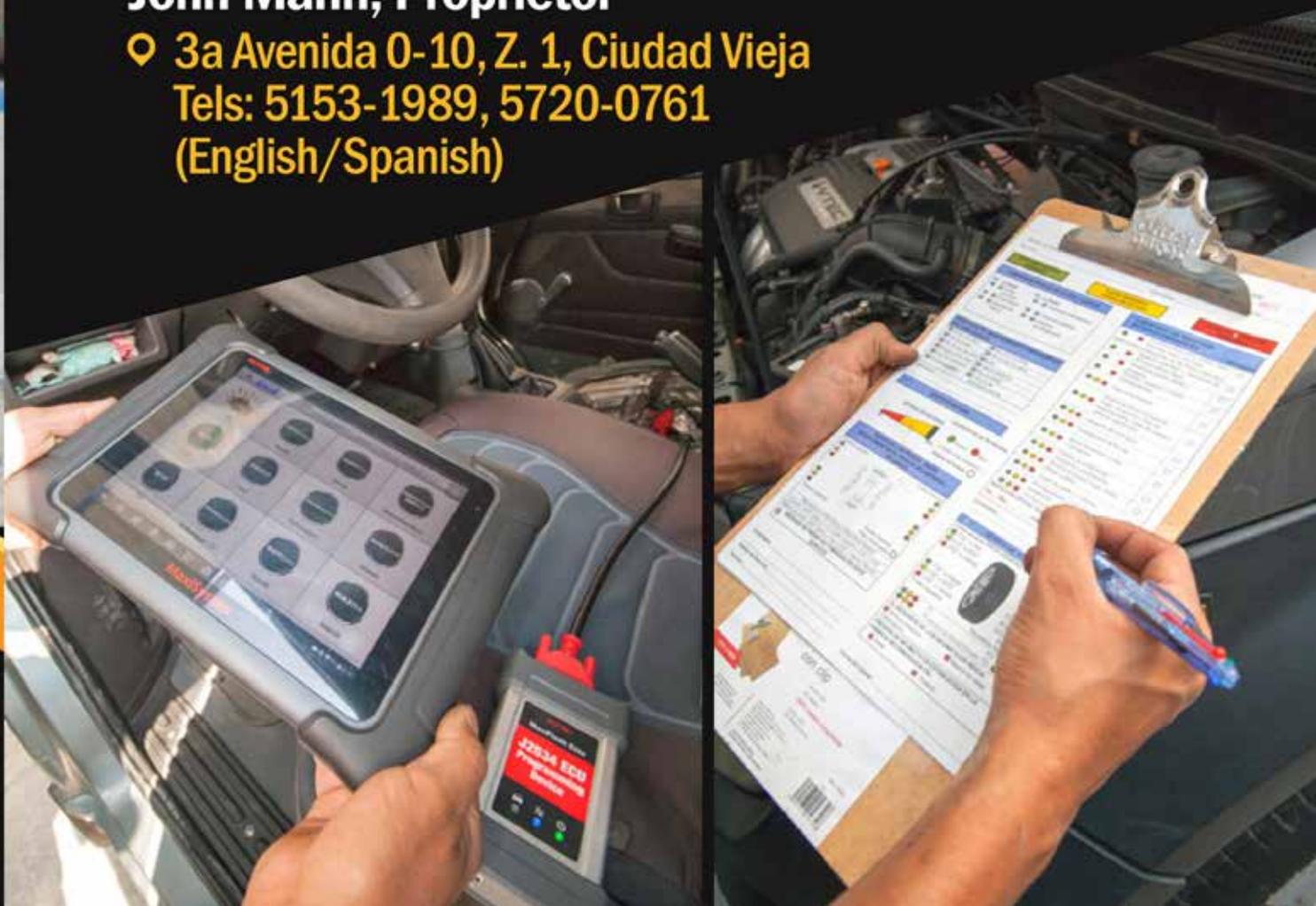
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FROM THE PUBLISHERS

Once again it is that time of year. Everyone wishing everyone Happy Holidays, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

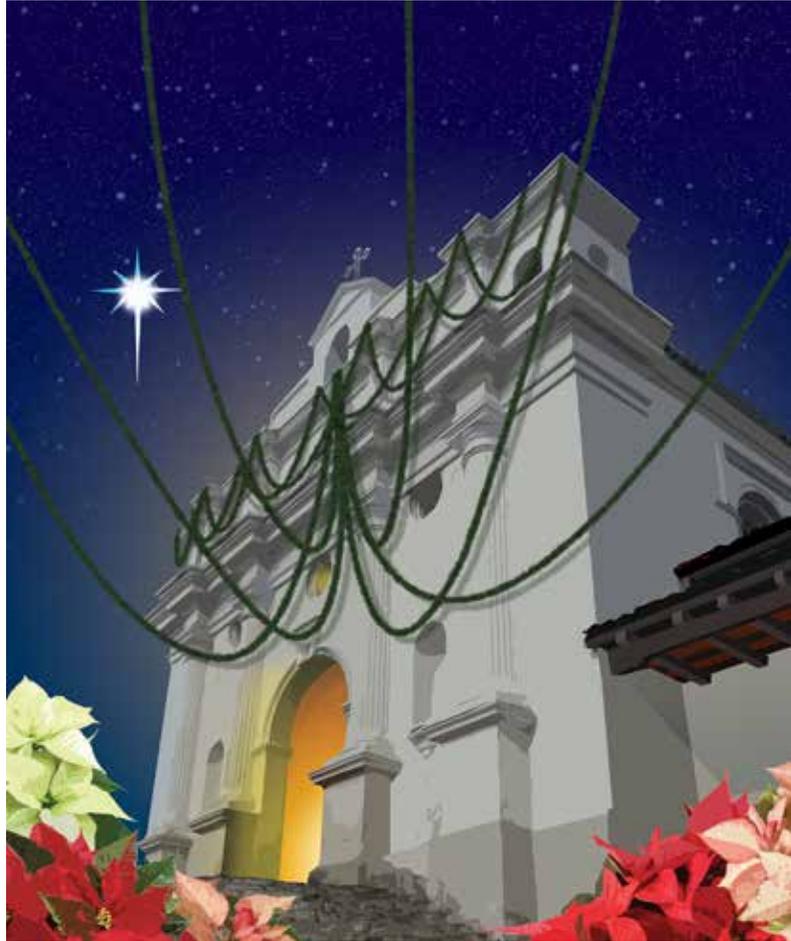
The December issue of Revue is no exception. This month's photo contest theme was **Christmas and New Years in Guatemala**, and we share the lovely photographs to prove it.

For family get-togethers, Chef Amalia shows us how to create **The Perfect Holiday Turkey**, and talks about some Guatemalan Christmas traditions.

NEW IN ANTIGUA, the **Museo Nacional de Arte de Guatemala** has opened 2 of its 3 phases. Hadazul Cruz gives us a tour. Free entrance during December.

All of us at Revue wish all of you the best in December and in the New Year!

—Terry & John Kovick Biskovich



"Hope Shines"
Illustration by Hadazul Cruz

REVUE TEAM

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Webmaster/Social Media JB

Systems Luis Juárez, Luis Toribio

Publishing Company San Joaquin Producciones, S.A.

*A Heartfelt Greeting to all of our
Open Windows Supporters!*



In Guatemala, the pandemic has started to wane, leaving in its wake increased levels of poverty, hunger and malnutrition. Now is your chance to step up and **"Make a Difference"**.

We will again be assembling and distributing Nutritional Christmas Baskets (please see attached photo) which will not only help feed the hungry but will also provide you and Guatemalan families the opportunity to **"Pay it Forward"**. The families working with Open Windows and other selected families will receive two Baskets, one for themselves and a second Basket to give to a family whom they identify as in greater need than themselves. This ability to "empower generosity" within the Open Windows families was well received last season and in many cases, brought tears of joy and gratitude.

Our goal this year is to assemble and distribute 1,500 Christmas Food Bags (last year we received donations for 1,240 Baskets). Please let us know if you are interested in participating and approximately how many baskets you anticipate giving.

- 1 Bag \$35 (Q265) each
- 2 Bags \$33 (Q250) each
- 4 Bags \$30 (Q225) each
- 5 or more \$28 (Q210) each

In spite of rampant inflation of food prices, we have managed to keep our prices very close to those of last year.

Donations for Baskets can be made through PayPal or credit card on the Open Windows web-site: www.openwinfound.org by clicking on the Christmas Basket button on the front page. Or a check to Open Windows Foundation, c/o John Davis, 1268 E. McNair Dr., Tempe, AZ 85283. In Guatemala, a quetzal check to Asociacion Ventanas Abiertas, BAM 30-2011039-6.

Please forward this to friends and family whom you feel would like to **"Pay it Forward"**
This is your chance to **"Make a Difference"**.

Thank you, Cynthia and Laisa
(cburski@gmail.com)



1st Place Judges Vote
"Christmas in Guatemala"
Guatemala City by Henry Cukier



2nd Place Judges Vote "Quemando al Chamuco"
Guatemala City by Javier Alvarez Vassaux







"Family Hand-Made Christmas Gift Exchange"
Jocotenango by Ludwing Paniagua

2nd Place Popular Vote "Festivus"

Guatemala City by Lo Reyes





"Paz y amor de Niños Natalie y Dorian Iguardia"
Parque de Antigua by Daniel Iguardia

***"Your success and happiness lies in you.
Resolve to keep happy, and your joy and you
shall form an invincible host against difficulties."
—Helen Keller***



"Nacimiento"
Jocotenango by Hada Cruz





Now in Antigua
**Museo Nacional de
Arte de Guatemala**

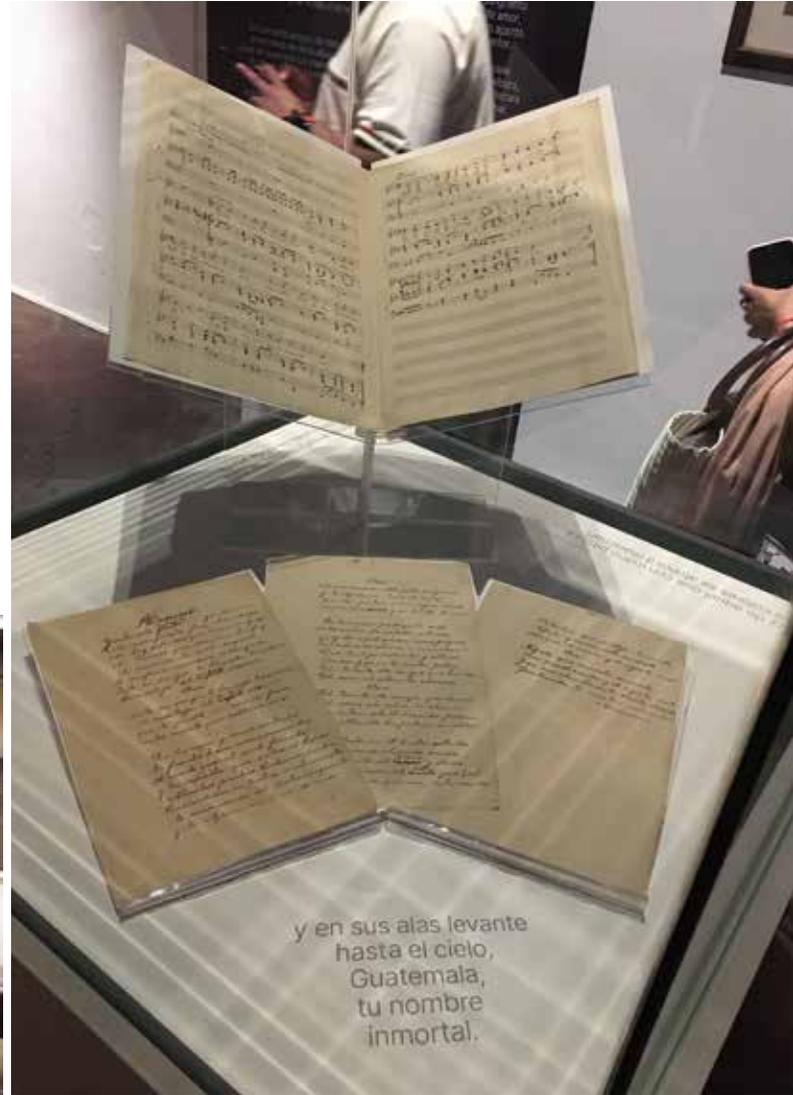
photos by Ludwing Paniagua and Hada Cruz

Located at Real Palacio de los Capitanes Generales, on the south side of Central Park Antigua, Museo Nacional de Arte de Guatemala, MUN-AG, opened its first phase this past September 2021. The second phase in August 2022 and is now expecting the third one to open soon.

Different exhibition halls are divided according to specific periods, starting with the **Época Contemporánea** exhibiting pieces by Efraín Recinos, Enrique Cay, Joaquín Orellana, Sipagná de León and María Dolores Castellanos.

Next, pieces from the **Época moderna**, a period of time where Guatemalan artists recovered their freedom.

The **Época Republicana** hall exhibits samples that at the time gave a sense of belonging to the homeland, like original musical scores of the national anthem, military uniforms, and ceramic pieces among others.



The most important hall without question is the **Época Prehispanica** exhibit. It contains several important works including Dintel II that belongs to Temple III from Tikal, and the offerings made for King K'utz Chman's burial which is the oldest tomb found in Mesoamérica.





La abstracción de la iconografía se basa en la forma de bulto del dije de jade encontrado en el rey Kutz Chimán, uno de los hallazgos arqueológicos importantes en Meximaltepec.

Cinco círculos irregulares representan a Las Doncellas de Tak'alik Abaj, localizadas también en este grupo Central y está basado en el concepto del color que se refleja en el uso de los puntos cardinales para la disposición de los edificios.

And finally, there's the beautiful hall where you can appreciate the masterpieces - mostly religious art - by the great artists of the the **Época Colonial**. Feast your eyes on beautiful wooden sculptures, large format paintings by Cristóbal de Villalpando and Tomás de Merlo, goldsmithing pieces, and













There are three thousand years of Guatemalan art and cultural heritage that you won't want to miss. With high-tech equipment, the museum offers audio guides and screens to fully appreciate the experience.

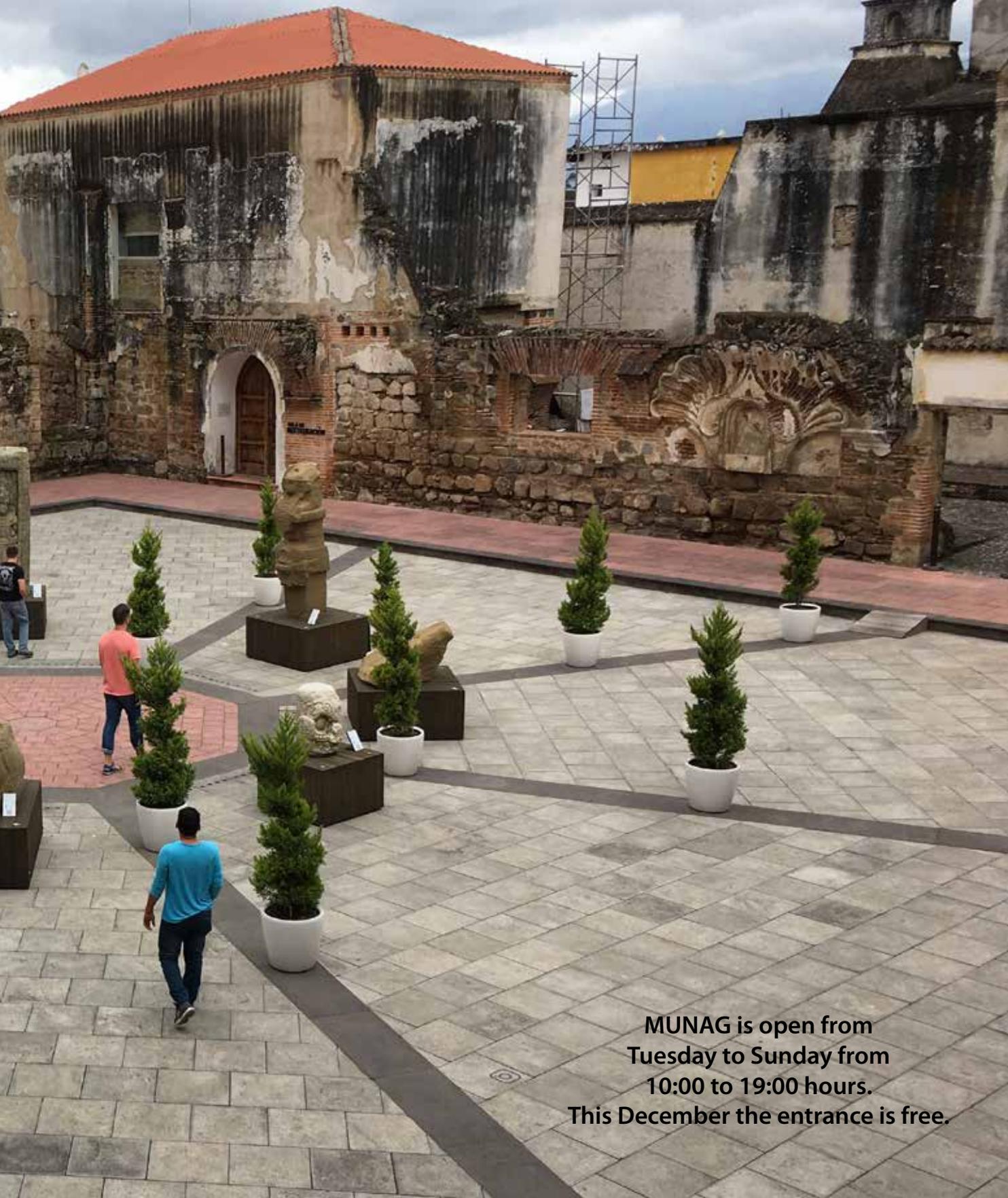
MUNAG is open from
Tuesday to Sunday 10:00am to 7:00 pm
This December the entrance is free.



For more information:

facebook.com/munaggt
culturaguatemala.com





**MUNAG is open from
Tuesday to Sunday from
10:00 to 19:00 hours.
This December the entrance is free.**



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The Perfect Holiday Turkey

Turkey is quite possibly the most delicious main dish of the holiday kitchen. In the United States, it is consumed year-round in sandwiches and other preparations and it reaches a higher status at the Thanksgiving table.

In Guatemala, turkey is the key ingredient of Kack Ik, a Mayan stew from the region of Coban, and of festive meals during the year-end celebrations.

Christmas Eve (December 24) is more important than Christmas Day (December 25) in Guatemala. On Christmas Eve, Guatemalans await the birth of baby Jesus at midnight. Throughout the day of December 24, family and friends have short

gatherings at their homes to eat and drink and to deliver presents, blessings, and best wishes to their relatives and close friends. Everyone returns home before midnight to spend this special time with their loved ones.

As soon as the clock marks midnight, everyone rushes to hug each other and say, “Feliz Navidad!”. Neighborhoods erupt with joy as people light fireworks in the streets nonstop for about an hour. The fireworks create a loud, smelly environment, and a smoky haze lingers for hours afterward. Dogs bark or hide. You may wonder about safety. Surprisingly, the incidents that make it to the news as a result of a firecracker going astray into a home, factory, or store, are few.



Guatemalans dine on any one or a combination of foods immediately after midnight. This is a very intimate time for family, during which peace and love reign. People exchange gifts and best wishes right after dinner. On Christmas Day, they continue celebrating by visiting other family and friends. Firecrackers start again at noon and are repeated again on New Year's Eve and New Year's Day. It is such a deeply ingrained tradition, that it seems that everyone is

following an atomic clock to start at the right time.

The foods include Tamales Navideños (Christmas Tamales with red sauce and pork or turkey); Tamales Negros (sweet Christmas tamales with mole sauce garnished with almonds, raisins and prunes and can contain turkey, chicken or pork); Pavo Navideño (Guatemalan holiday roasted turkey); Ponche de Frutas (fresh pineapple and dried fruits hot holiday punch spiked with rum for the adults); and uvas, manzanas y nueces (red grapes, Washington apples, and a variety of nuts in the shell). This is the only time of the year these latter items are purchased by almost every home in Guatemala City.

For a Guatemalan style holiday celebration, it would be appropriate to choose any combination of the foods above. I choose Guatemalan Holiday Roasted Turkey because it is delicious and super easy to make. After all, turkey (aka pavo, chumpe, chompipe or chunto) is a classic food as is it native to the Americas, readily available and reasonable in price, especially during the holidays.

Here is a recipe to spice up your menu.

PAVO NAVIDEÑO

Guatemalan Holiday Roasted Turkey

By Chef Amalia Moreno-Damgaard
(AmaliaLLC.com)

Serves 8 to 10 people

One 10 to 12-pound turkey,
rinsed and patted dry

1 tablespoon canola oil

2 tablespoons ground achiote
(or use fresh paste if available)

3 teaspoons nutmeg

2 tablespoons guaque (guajillo)
chile powder

Kosher salt and freshly ground
black pepper

Preheat oven to 325°F. Rub
the turkey with the oil and all of
the spices and salt and pepper.

Transfer the turkey to the
oven and roast it until done
(3 to 3-1/2 hours), or when a
meat thermometer reads 165°F.
Because of carryover heat, the
turkey will continue to cook
outside of the oven. Its internal
temperature will rise about 10F,
bringing it to the proper and
safe temperature of 175°F. If
you wait until the thermometer



reads 175°F to take the turkey out of the oven, it
will be overcooked and possibly dry.

Serve the turkey with stuffing on the side and
drizzle both with the cooking juices. Pair with your
favorite Guatemalan or personal favorites.

Amalia's Note

I prefer not to stuff turkeys before cook-
ing them because this increases the cooking
time and tends to dry out the meat.

For a deeper marinade, rub the turkey with
the spices 2-3 days before cooking day. In-
crease the intensity of the spices according
to your taste. Carefully lift the skin over the
breast and rub spices in between the top and
under the skin.

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1st Place Popular Vote "Víspera de Navidad en Xela"

Parque central de Quetzaltenango

by Luis A. Soto S.



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"Pastorela" Teatro Don Juan, Zona 1, Ciudad de Guatemala
by Juan José Rodas González





"Retrato de ilusiones"
Ciudad de Guatemala by Diego Gordillo Quintana





"Reflejo Navideño"

Chiantla Huehuetenango by Hugo Rodriguez





"Gloria a Dios en las Alturas"

Iglesia la Merced Ciudad de Guatemala by Francisco Hernandez





“Una Navidad de pelos”

En un pequeño parque de Mixco by Daniela Carranza

**"Rockin' around
the Christmas
tree"**

Plaza Obelisco,
Guatemala City
by Sara
(Manzana)
Morales





The Night Before
Navidad





It was the night before Christmas
and all through the casa,
Not a creature was stirring –
Caramba! ¿Qué pasa?
Los niños were tucked
away in their camas,
Some in long underwear,
some in pijamas,

While hanging the stockings
with mucho cuidado
In hopes that old Santa
would feel obligado
To bring all the children,
both Buenos and malos,
A nice batch of dulces and
other regalos–

Outside in the yard
there arose such a grito
That I jumped to my feet
like a frightened cabrito.
I ran to the window
and looked out afuera,
And who in the world
do you think that it era?

Saint Nick in a sleigh
and a big red sombrero
Came dashing along
like a crazy bombero.
And pulling his sleigh
instead of venados
Were eight little burros
approaching volando.

I watched as they came
and this quaint little hombre
Was shouting and whistling
and calling by nombre:
“Ay Pancho, ay Pepe, ay Cuco,
ay Beto, Ay Chato, ay Chopo,
Macuco y Nieto!”

Then standing erect
with his hands on his pecho
He flew to the top
of our very own techo.
With his round little belly
like a bowl of jalea,
He struggled to squeeze
down our old chimenea,

Then huffing and puffing
at last in our sala,
With soot smeared
all over his red suit gala,
He filled all the stockings
with lovely regalos–
For none of the niños
had been very malos.

Then chuckling aloud,
seeming very contento,
He turned like a flash
and was gone like the viento.
And I heard him exclaim,
and this is verdad,

***Merry Christmas to all,
and Feliz Navidad!***

The willful spanglishization of a classic (www.autobahn.org)





3rd Place Judges Vote
"Lista para destapar regalos"
Quetzaltenango by Guido De León



20th ANNUAL PHOTO ISSUE

REVUE 2023

Submit your photo now



E'
FOTOGRAFIA



ALERT TO ALL PHOTOGRAPHERS

We invite you to submit your favorite Guatemala Photo for the **REVUE 20th Annual Photo Issue** (January 2023)

Send 1 **HIGH-RES** photo to photos@revuemag.com before December 19, 2022

ATENCIÓN FOTÓGRAFOS

Los Invitamos a enviar su foto favorita de Guatemala para la 22ava Edición Anual de Fotografía **REVUE enero 2023**

Enviennos 1 fotografía en **Alta Resolución a: photos@revuemag.com** antes del 19 de diciembre 2022

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