

# *Casa Adriana*

Calle San Felipe No. 1, Private No. 1, Colonia San Antonio, San Miguel De Allende, Gto., 37750, Mexico

## **Welcome to Our Home:**

We like many before us and many to come fell in love with San Miguel the moment we arrived. That was a short visit in the spring of 2006. We immediately planned a return visit for 3 weeks in the fall and before we knew it, we had seen this house and bought it. Everything seemed so perfect, the house, the neighborhood, the views. And luckily for you we can't spend as much time here yet as we would like, so you get to enjoy it too! Please, make yourselves at home, settle in and enjoy your stay in San Miguel!

## **Safety:**

San Miguel is a quiet, beautiful, and safe place both day and night. Most women feel quite safe strolling around by themselves even at night. Reasonable precautions are still very much called for. Don't leave money, passports or other valuables lying around in sight; lock all doors and windows when you leave; don't leave perimeter gates open and unattended. There is one entrance to Casa Adriana's complex being on Calle Privada San Felipe (small wooden door or Large double wooden gate). The small gate is for private entry to our complex and the larger gates are for vehicle entry. These gates tend to stick due to the rustic construction so when opening, you may have to pull slightly on the door when turning the key.

## **Transportation:**

The walk into the Centro is about 15 minutes, but in fact will take so much longer even if you want to hurry. There are just too many shops and doorways, vistas and other distractions to waylay you. Give in to the distractions!! You're in Mexico and it won't mean a thing to be a bit late. When you are in a hurry or just plain tired and can't walk another block, Taxis are plentiful and cheap, usually 60 to 70 Pesos in Town (small tips are always appreciated). It's normally very easy even to hail a Taxi when leaving the house. Just go out to Calle Orizaba and be patient. The bus stop at the corner right outside the metal gate also goes to the Centro and is only 70 Pesos. Remember where you get off and then take it back for another 70 Pesos. You'll get to know the town best by walking, walking and more walking.

Also, please find below, contact information for our driver Victor Rico and additional shuttle services for hire. Victor can provide your party with private transportation from the airport to Casa Adriana and let you in our main gates if you are arriving late in the evening. We have used him for approx. 14 years, and he is a wonderful contact for exploring San Miguel.

Victor Rico - Tel: 011-521-415-151-9605  
sir\_victorrico@yahoo.com.mx

Bajio Go – [www.bajiogo.com](http://www.bajiogo.com)  
Jesus #11, centro, San Miguel de Allende, Guanajuato, México 37700  
Vonage 1-(202)-609-9905 | Tel: (415) 152-1999 | Email: [info@bajiogo.com](mailto:info@bajiogo.com)

Viajes San Miguel - [www.viajessanmiguel.com](http://www.viajessanmiguel.com)  
Mesones #38 Interior 7, Meson de San Jose, Centro, San Miguel de Allende, Guanajuato. 37700  
Tel: (415) 152-2537/38 | (415) 152-8684 | [info@viajessanmiguel.com](mailto:info@viajessanmiguel.com) | [reservacionesvsm@gmail.com](mailto:reservacionesvsm@gmail.com)

### **Things to know about the house:**

Things will tend to get put away in the oddest places, so it's to your advantage to case the place out, look in drawers and cupboards and discover what's there. We've tried to outfit the place as well as possible, and hope you find everything you need.

You will also notice that there are a dizzying number of lights and light switches and will take a little experimentation to find out which switches control which lights. Please be very careful with the dimmer switches; they are somewhat delicate and break easily if you twist them too hard. The switch for the fountain is to the left of the french doors in the courtyard.

### **Washer and Dryer:**

The stackable unit is located on the first floor in the utility room and is available for your use. The Housekeeper only washes towels and sheets with house detergent. Guest must provide their own detergent for their personal items. Housekeeper is not responsible to wash guest's personal items, although you may make arrangements with Housekeeper for additional fee between you and her.

### **Stove:**

The stove has a propane gas cooktop which auto ignites when the thermostat dial is turned. It is very important to lift the glass cover before igniting. The oven is lit when the knob is turned on, please ask the Housekeeper for assistance if necessary. If you smell gas, do not light Stove, wait until the gas has aired out and has dissipated. If the gas smell remains, please call the management for assistance.

### **Dishwasher:**

There isn't one which makes one less thing to fix. The housekeeper will do the dishes when she comes on Mon, Wed and Fri, and otherwise it's up to you. We do find it's best to dry things rather than let them air dry, due to the spotting from the minerals in the water.

### **TV and DVD players:**

There are two TV's and DVD players, one in the armoire in living room and one in the upstairs master bedroom, the remotes are in the drawers below. Included is a library of DVD for your viewing pleasure. Take one out and enjoy a movie. You will need to change the TV source to AV1 or AV2, etc. for each component being used. Also, we have many online movies available on the TV in the living room, just check the online app source on the remote control.

### **Keys:**

You will be given two keys for your use by Juanita upon arrival. These keys must be accounted for and returned when you leave. When keys are lost or not returned it is a major hassle as it requires the re-keying of all the locks. If you don't return all keys given to you, that re-keying expense will be taken from your security deposit.

### **Water:**

Please don't waste water.... The water in the house is potable. It does still have a mild mineral flavor,

which is because the water is a bit hard. We recommend using bottled water or RO (reverse osmosis) for drinking. Water consumption in the house is metered and as you can imagine is costly. This is a very dry area most of the year and water is a precious commodity, so please be aware of what you are using. Purified H<sub>2</sub>O is from a reverse osmosis system located at the kitchen sink.

All showers in the bedrooms take a long time to get warm. A suggestion: First turn on the Hot H<sub>2</sub>O knob until H<sub>2</sub>O is hot and then adjust with Cold H<sub>2</sub>O to your preference. The knobs in the shower are as follow: Top Knob is Hot and Bottom knob is Cold EXCEPT upstairs bedroom with balcony is reversed - Top Knob is cold and Bottom Knob is Hot.

### **Fireplaces:**

Enjoy and relax next to one of our 3 fireplaces.

The fireplace in the living room is propane and is fairly easy to light.

- Turn the gas valve that is located on the extreme left side of the fireplace so that it is pointing horizontally.
- put the dial switch to the pilot position.
- push in the dial for several seconds and push the igniter button until pilot light is lit and continue to hold for approximately 20 to 60 seconds until pilot light remains on.
- release the pilot knob and adjust flame to the 1, 2 or 3 position.
- to shut the flame off turn the pilot knob to off.

The Two fireplaces' upstairs are also propane. (Instructions located on side of fireplace)

- Turn the gas valve that is located on the extreme right side of wall to the fireplace so that it is pointing horizontally.
- put the rocker switch in the on position (not auto)
- push in the knob that is marked off, on and pilot and turn it to pilot aligning with the little arrow on the right while pushing the igniters.
- once the pilot is lit keep pushing in the knob for about 20 to 60 seconds (until the pilot glows red hot)
- release the pilot knob and turn it to the on position.
- adjust the flame with the hi/lo knob.
- to shut the flame off turn the pilot knob to off, the rocker switch to off and the gas valve down to the off position.

### **Power:**

Another expensive commodity! Included in the rental is \$100 USD per month prorated free of charge. But please again, conserve! Turn lights, fans, computers etc. off when they aren't needed. Your consideration will be much appreciated, by us and the planet.

### **Telephone and Long-Distance calling:**

**Casa Adriana local ph # 044-415-152-0234**

The land line in the house is there for your local landline calling convenience only. Long distance calls are VERY expensive, so please refrain from calling out of town on the land line. Any toll or long-distance call charges will be deducted from your security deposit.

## **Casa Adriana USA Magic Jack ph # 210-390-5302**

Calling from Mexico to the USA: AREA CODE + TEL #

When calling international, we suggest using our USA (Magic Jack) line, or using your cellular phone.

Calls made to the US and Canada are free of charge when calling from the Magic Jack phone.

### **Internet WiFi:**

Wireless internet is provided. The WiFi Network is "casaadriana" which requires a network key.

Network Key: enjoycasaadriana

### **Housekeeping:**

Sarah will come on Tuesdays and Thursdays from approximately 1:30 pm till 5:30 pm (except on holidays). She will wash the dishes, clean up the kitchen, clean and tidy the bathrooms, sweep the floors, and do the house laundry. If you would like her to iron, she will do so for an extra charge; check with her. She'll also change the bedding once a week unless instructed otherwise. Sarah waters the potted plants, but if you notice any of them drying out and you're inclined, please feel free to water them too. I've tried to do the planting as dry tolerant as possible, but the plants are always up for a quick drink. **It is customary to tip the staff and a rough rule of thumb is 200 Pesos (\$10 USD) a week per guest in the house.**

### **Emergencies and info:**

We are reachable by phone or e-mail quite readily, but obviously can't get over there very quickly. San Miguel Home Care is the house manager and is the one to call if you have any problems that you can't solve on your own.

Our contact info:

Norma Torres

San Miguel Home Care:      Movil (415) 151-0212      arqtorresgn01@gmail.com

Casa Adriana      US# 210-390-5302      casaadrianamx@gmail.com

Adriana Bickerstaff      US# 210-909-5678      [adrianabickerstaff@gmail.com](mailto:adrianabickerstaff@gmail.com)

Greg Bickerstaff      US# 210-849-4091      gregbickerstaff@gmail.com

### **Supplies:**

We have left the house with a small supply of essentials, ie. toilet paper, soap, etc.. Also, Saran Wrap, salt pepper and other kitchen basics are available to you. Please help yourself to what's on hand and replace items as you need them. It's nice to arrive and not have to rush out for all these things. When you leave, please either dispose of all the perishable foods or feel free to give them to the housekeeper. Any non-perishables you'd like to leave for the house please make sure they are sealed well and if you could, just write a date on them.

The tienda (little grocery store) on the corner is really great for the essentials and they have great popsicles when it's hot and you need a treat to cool off with. On Tuesdays if you go out the metal door and turn left, the first or second house down sells fresh produce from their car port, the door will be open. We like to support the neighborhood stores as much as possible. Make sure you buy lots of oranges and squeeze fresh juice for yourself, it's worth the effort. The juice squeezer in the pantry works really

well and is great for the lime juice for your Marguerites as well!

Be sure you disinfect all the fruits and veggies you buy with the iodine solution in the blue bottle in the kitchen under the sink; the directions are on the bottle. It's also available at all the big grocery stores. There are 4 big stores in town, Bodega Aurora which is owned by Wal-Mart, and is a short walk away just past the Bus Station; Soriana, which is in the shopping mall at the top of the hill as you enter town; and the City Market and La Comer (owned by Costco) on Ancha de San Antonio.

We like The City Market the best. There are taxis waiting at all stores for you when you leave so you don't have to lug all your purchases back to the house.

The Tuesday Market, which is not to be missed, is behind the old Gigantes Mall across the street from the Soriana. The Tuesday market is a travelling market which sets up in different towns each day of the week. You can buy almost anything there, is great for produce, chicken and fish. It's all very fresh!! They have great honey there too but it's very natural, as in tiny bee wings legs etc. in the honey. It really is delicious though. Be sure to go and leave lots of time to wonder around.

The barbecued rotisserie chickens you can buy almost anywhere are great if you're tired and want a cheap easy dinner. They usually come with potatoes, chilies and tortillas.

There is a little very simple restaurants close to the house, El Rinconcito, turn right on Refugio and up the hill and on the left at No.7. The owners speak English and make great margaritas and food and are very nice. It has odd hours which are posted on the front, so wonder up and find out when they're open and go. You won't be disappointed and it's very inexpensive, but great and spotlessly clean.

There are enough restaurants in Centro to keep anyone busy for months. If you go to the Aurora Fabrica, the old cloth mill which is now artist's studios and very trendy shops, there is a cafe in the centre of it which serves lovely lunches, coffees, and cold drinks. There is a fancier restaurant as well at the entrance which is very nice.

We have put some business cards of restaurants that we have visited that we enjoyed. Please feel free to take a card but kindly either replace or pick up a new one from the restaurant to replace it with.

There are lots of reading material on San Miguel, as well as other books. Please feel free to use it all, but please leave it for the next guests too.

When you find little treasures of places around town feel free to pass it on in the blank pages of this booklet. Go have fun and enjoy yourselves!!!!

Additional information may be found on our website: [www.casaadriana.com](http://www.casaadriana.com) or visit us on our Facebook page [www.facebook.com/pages/Casa-Adriana/390518047655641](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Casa-Adriana/390518047655641)