



Mama Tits' Vallarta 2026 Edition

VACAYA
open sea. open mind.

iBienvenido a PV!

Hellooooo, Vacayans!

I'm so excited to share all my favorite things about my adopted hometown of Puerto Vallarta with you. I love the direction VACAYA has taken with their various resort programs - embracing and celebrating the authenticity of the places we all get to visit together. While I love a good afternoon at the pool, nothing beats getting to know a place intimately. I hope you'll find my insider tips about PV helpful and if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to me via the socials. You can find me pretty much everywhere @themamatits. I'll see you soon!

Mama T



The Basics – Getting Around

Getting from Nayarit to Zona Romántica – UNICO 20°105° Hotel Riviera Nayarit is in Nuevo Nayarit, while Puerto Vallarta’s gay beach, bars, clubs, cabarets, and much of the late-night fun are centered around Zona Romántica and Los Muertos Beach. VACAYA will provide buses for the official Friday night Puerto Vallarta excursion, with times and pickup details to come. If you want to head into PV earlier on your own, plan for about **40–60 minutes each way**, depending on traffic and where you are headed.

Uber and DiDi are usually the easiest independent options. DiDi is a rideshare app used widely in Mexico and works a lot like Uber: download the app, enter your destination, confirm the fare, and request your ride. Both Uber and DiDi operate in Puerto Vallarta but wait times and prices can change based on traffic, demand, and time of day. A ride from UNICO to Zona Romántica may run around **220–300 pesos each way**, but treat that as an estimate, not a promise from Mama. Be sure to download and create account for either app before arriving in Mexico.

Taxis from Nayarit to PV are also available, but they may cost more than rideshare for the longer trip. Traditional taxis may quote closer to **400–500 pesos** between UNICO and Zona Romántica. Always confirm the full fare in pesos before getting in.

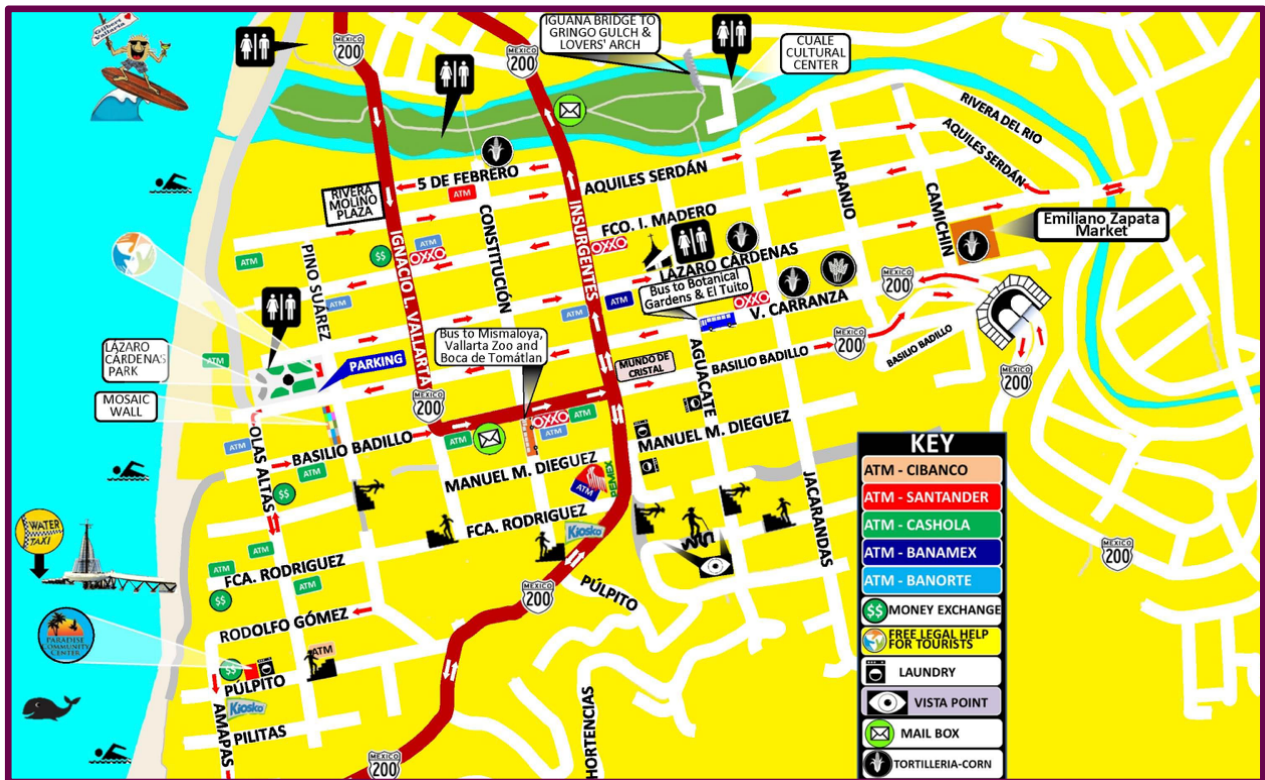
Local PV taxis – Once you are in Puerto Vallarta, taxis are easy to find. Short in-town rides often start around **70 pesos**, with many common city rides around **80–150 pesos**, depending on distance and zone. City taxis generally do not use meters, so always confirm the total fare in pesos before getting in. If the rate feels too high, you can negotiate, take it, or wait for another taxi.

Local Uber and DiDi – Once you are already in Puerto Vallarta, Uber and DiDi can be useful for moving between neighborhoods like the Hotel Zone, Centro, 5 de Diciembre, and Zona Romántica. For short trips inside Zona Romántica, walking is often easier. The area is compact, but streets can be uneven and cobblestoned, so choose shoes that can survive both cobblestones and cocktails.

Calling a taxi – If you prefer a taxi, ask the resort, restaurant, beach club, bar, or cabaret to call one for you. This is often easier than trying to flag one down, especially at night or when leaving a specific venue. Before getting in, confirm the fare in pesos. If traveling late, it is also smart to note the taxi number.



The Basics



Currency - While some places will allow you to use USD, the currency here is Mexican Pesos and the exchange rate the store gives you is up to them. It's usually far worse than the worst exchange hut out there. Change is always given in Pesos. So, if you pay in USD, expect to get Pesos back in change. Paying in pesos is recommended. Credit cards are widely accepted, however it is still recommended to have cash for taxis.

Language - Most people you'll encounter in Mexican tourist spots speak some English. However, it goes a long way when you try to speak Spanish; that effort shows a lot of respect. Plus, most locals are happy to help should you get stumped. So, dust off that high school Spanish and head on down to that biblioteca.

Safety - Don't do anything you wouldn't do at home. If you're out late night *and* intoxicated, it's best to always travel in a group of 2 or more.

Some safety tips:

- Plan your return ride before going out.
- Share your location with someone if heading out independently.
- Meet new people in public places first.
- Watch your drink.
- Use taxis, Uber, VACAYA buses, or arranged transportation late at night.



Gay Beach: Los Muertos

Gay Beach Clubs

Sapphire Ocean Club and Suits - *Day Pass:* Check current rates before going. Just completed a full renovation, don't skip it. Also, the only queer-owned and operated beach club on Los Muertos, and a longtime sponsor of Mama Tits' shows.

The first beach club you come to when you hit Los Muertos Beach. It's small and chill. This is one of the more upscale beach clubs on the strip, with fabulous food and drinks available. Comfortable lounge chairs with umbrellas and a towel are included with your Day Pass. Also included is access to showers, bathrooms, restaurant/bar, pool and beach. If just eating, a day pass isn't required. The restaurant/bar is open to the public.

Blue Chairs - *No Day Pass fee, but you must consume food or drinks*

This ol' gal has seen better days, but she's still got some life left in her. The beach club is the smallest of all the beach clubs in the area, but she packs a punch. The party atmosphere has beach chairs and umbrellas, along with service that includes food options and drinks. Social and flirty fun is how I'd characterize this spot on the sand. Sitting closer to the ocean ensures the best people watching since everyone walks right in front of you. Blue Chairs also has a restaurant area on the beach that's open to public. The hotel offers a rooftop nightclub/bar with strippers and drag queens nightly, but I don't recommend using the elevator to get up to the 9th floor; **STICK TO THE STAIRS.**

Ritmos/Green Chairs - *No Day Pass fee (usually), but you must consume food or drinks*

The largest of the "free" beach clubs, this is a place where you'll see everyone either passing through or setting up camp for the day. Beach Party atmosphere with dance music playing and beach chairs under umbrellas with food and drink service. I recommend sticking to the drinks, but you're an adult and are free to make your own choices in regard to the food.

Mantamar – *Variable Day Pass fee ranging from 500-1500 Pesos (Cabanas Extra)*

Some would say Mantamar is “The Crown Jewel of PV’s Gay Beach Clubs.” This is where the party is always kicking off, and it’s what comes to mind when I think of “Puerto Vallarta gay beach pool party.” It’s a lot of energy and there’s always a guest DJ or some party weekend with stages and Gogo boys and LED walls, fireworks and all!

Mantamar really knows how to throw a beach circuit party. During the day it can be quieter, but don't be surprised if it's not. I've had many an exceptionally fun day poolside here. The food service is great and the food delicious. I actually recommend the sushi. Insider Tip: Go into the restaurant to eat so you're out of the sun for a bit. The pool and hot tubs here are the largest in the area. Overall, this place is HUGE. Depending on what you want to spend, the seating and experience options are many. They even have a VIP cabana loft, with its own glass wall pool above the main pool.

The Pool Club at Casa Cupula – #133 Callejón de la Igualdad – PV's original clothing-optional pool club, open daily from noon.

Cheeky Pool Club – Venustiano Carranza 527 – Clothing-optional courtyard pool, no cover, 300 peso minimum spend.

My Top Restaurant Picks



The following are all centrally located and easily walkable within/from Zona Romántica:

Bonito Kitchen - De Los Tules 325 - One of the best Asian restaurants in town, with authentic flavors and ingredients and the perfect atmosphere. Ask for a garden seat to just sit back, relax, and take in a nice leisurely world-class dinner.

Palmar - Ignacio L. Vallarta - Hip, fun, North American costal cuisine. Delicious, relaxed, and right in the middle of it all. One block from the gay bar strip I call LaLaLand (I'll explain that later).

Tre Piatti - Venustiano Carranza 212- Authentic Italian food. EVERYTHING is made the day of, even the bread! Get a bottle of wine and settle in for an amazing 4-course meal. You'll be glad you did.

The Iguana @ Casa Kimberly - Zaragoza 445 - The Iguana, Elizabeth Taylor's old home, is now a world-class hotel and restaurant. Just a beautiful experience all around. Need I say more than this was Elizabeth Taylor's HOUSE?!?

Marlow's Restaurant - Basilio Badillo 277 - North American cuisine. The food is exceptional, but the space is very intimate, reservations are highly recommended. Plus they have the best chocolate bar in town, in my opinion! Dinner and dessert a perfect combination!

No Sé Nada - Corona 179 - Mexican-international fusion. The food is exceptional, but the space is very intimate with a breezy rooftop terrace, reservations are highly recommended. Tapas and margaritas a perfect combination!

Margarita Grill - Pino Suárez 321 - Don't let the "touristy vibe" fool ya, this is authentic Jalisco cuisine done by a local family in a relaxed party atmosphere. Why not? It's *always* margarita time!

Azafrán - Calle Olas Altas 507 - European cuisine, consistently delicious and the service is truly attentive. The sidewalk terrace is just a lovely place to enjoy the amazing food while people watching the streets of Vallarta.

River Cafe - Isla Rio Cuale 4 - Perfect jungle river daiquiri lunch spot. You'll feel like you just took a holiday in the jungle. This open-air lunch spot is perfect for an afternoon cocktail and nosh while enjoying the abundance of shopping on and around the Isla Cuale.

Don Chava - Venustiano Carranza 212 (same building as Tre Piatti) - Tacos, from the same team.

La Cruda - Basilio Badillo 229 - Cocktails and small plates, happy-hour focus, great vegan options.

Daiquiri Dick's on the Beach - Olas Altas 314 - Beachfront restaurant on Los Muertos, opposite end from Mantamar/Blue Chairs, queer-owned by Chef Wayne Elias and Chris Diamond.

For the more adventurous (Versalles):

Tosca, Versalles - España 323 - In the middle of Vallarta's hot spot neighborhood along a street filled with amazing options stands this Italian gem. Open air, relaxed, and just a wonderful night out.

Barrio Bistro, Versalles - Berlín 122 - Another in the same hot spot neighborhood, yet this is the one that started it all in the area. This is a true Vallarta locals' gem. Curated by Chef in his own home and now expanded into 2 neighboring properties, this outdoor dining experience is different each night, as Chef finds the best ingredients that day and creates his menus for the night. Chef comes to each table to explain the menu and he's just a hoot!

ITA by La Tienda Grande, Versalles - Viena 159, Contemporary Mexican cuisine from Chef Salvador Carrillo, formerly of acclaimed La Tienda Grande in Ixtapa. Creative, chef-driven dishes served in an intimate converted Vallarta home and garden. Highly recommended for a more adventurous dining night.

Rest and Relaxation

Some people may be shocked to learn that Puerto Vallarta is extremely sex positive and there's a variety of ways it's expressed. Mama recommends that you just be smart and remember to not put yourself in dangerous situations. PV has massage places on nearly every corner (they're as common as Starbucks in The States) and there are two distinct types of experiences here:

Option One: Professional massage at a nice place with typically-trained masseurs

Option Two: "Massage Amigo," meaning with a happy ending

Now you may find yourself in a place that offers Option Two in a place you thought was solely Option One, but a simple "no gracias" will be sufficient.

Should you prefer Option Two, here are a few things to keep in mind:

- Consent is always required
- You must keep everything discreet, but make sure you always clarify price before any fun is had; it will save you from any surprises later.
- Know that any "extra" fees must be paid in cash only. Some places may take cards, but that's only for the "Massage" service, the "extra" is between you and your masseuse. Or so I've been told. 🙄



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Gay Sauna

Gay sauna/bath house Spartacus is the Prime Men-Only Sauna complex in Zona Romántica. This 4,000+ sq ft sauna complex is spread over 4 floors, with a large rooftop terrace, pool, and palapa. Check current hours, pricing, and house rules before going.

Spartacus offers:

- Dry Sauna
- Steam Room
- Vapor Room
- Jacuzzi with massage jets
- Showers
- Relaxation Cubicles
- Video Room
- Lockers
- Private rooms
- Massage
- Free WiFi
- Cine Lounge
- Relaxation Room
- Bar
- Sun Deck with Nude Sunbathing
- Palapa
- Pool
- Smoking Area

Clubs and Bars

Anonimo - Rodolfo Gómez 157 - Locals style tall bar, 3 floors of queer fun with a fabulous terrace on the 2nd floor.

One Six One - Rodolfo Gómez 161 - This cute hip lounge in PV has become a favorite, with great drinks, a comfortable atmosphere, and plenty of indoor/outdoor seating to enjoy.

Blondies & Los Otro Blondies - Basilio Badillo 258 - The adult slushy heaven! They're good, decently-strong and come at a great price. Just be careful... the sugar content can be a killer!

La Chachalaca - Francisca Rodríguez 136 - Chill locals hangout with some nice bar nibbles and drinks. A perfect stop for after the beach.

Apachies - Olas Altas 439 - Tiny neighborhood locals bar, right in the heart of Calle Olas Altas. This tiny place packs a punch and makes everyone feel like family.

Reinas - Lázaro Cárdenas 361 - This place is probably one of the most unique places I've been. Completely themed out for royalty! This is a true locals Mexican queer bar. Painted with glitter gold paint and crimson, this place is dripping in jewels and costumes. You can even try on many of the fabulous hats, costumes, wigs and such, but remember the crows are off limits!

Bar Frida - Francisco I. Madero 418 - Chill neighborhood hangout. Lots of expats.

Corner Bar – Basilio Badillo, Esquina con, Insurgentes 339 – Fun, hip, and just the right amount of naughty. The cocktails are craft and served with perfection from scantily clad sexy boys. But be careful... this place is no bigger than a postage stamp so she fills up fast. And while you're there, check out the men's room... there's a fun, unexpected surprise.

La Catrina Cantina – Lázaro Cárdenas 315 – A cross between a gay bar and show venue, you can grab food and drinks while enjoying local queer performance art and music.

STUDS Bear and Leather Bar – Basilio Badillo 283 – PV's Three-level Bear and fetish bar. Jockstrap Night every Friday! Has dark room.

Elixir – Basilio Badillo 419 – PV's 1st Lesbian bar!!!

Kevin's Hideaway – Olas Altas 443- A – This lounge is tucked away above Apaches Martini Bar. Cocktails and music are flowing!

Cheeky Lounge – Lázaro Cárdenas 311C – Air-conditioned happy hour spot, noon to midnight.

Banana Factory – Lázaro Cárdenas 341 – PV's newest gay bar.

Sanctuary PV – Venustiano Carranza – Replaced the former Los Amigos, same corner.

Social Club PV – Basilio Badillo 447 – Speakeasy jazz lounge, programmed entertainment all season.

Boys PV – Ignacio L. Vallarta 264 & Lázaro Cárdenas – Berlin-inspired cruising bar, public bar plus men-only area.

Club Jets – Insurgentes 330 – All-male club, maze of dark corridors and private rooms.

Diablitos Cantina – Francisco I. Madero 235 – Popular Bear bar with clothing-optional back patio.

The famous *Gay Corner* clubs and bars I call “LaLaLand” are:

La Noche – Lázaro Cárdenas 267D – 3-story club with sexy Gogo Boys and Drag Queens on the 1st floor. The 2nd and 3rd floor are open air roof terraces that make you feel like you're in your own oasis right in the heart of PV gay nightlife.

La Cantina Margarita – Lázaro Cárdenas 257 – A fun tequila themed cantina with fabulous drinks – full of fun bartenders and pop music.

Mr. Flamingo – Lázaro Cárdenas 247 – The corner tiki bar where you can see EVERYONE either dancing inside, standing along the sidewalk, or simply passing by. This is the kick off spot for LaLaLand!

CC Slaughters - Lázaro Cárdenas 254 - The city's big nightclub, open on weekends until 6am. Dancing, GoGo boys, and cocktails! Oh my!

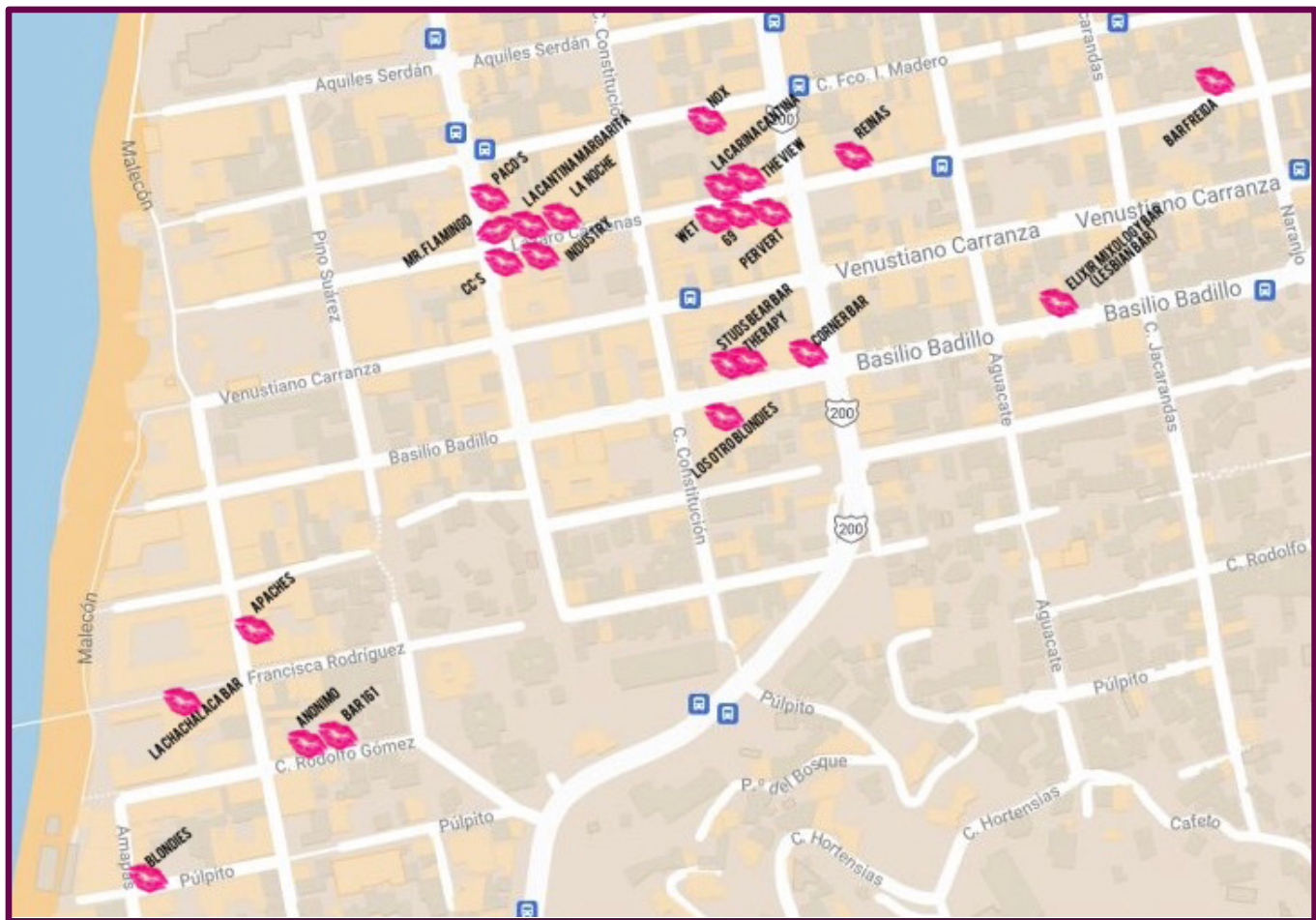
Industry - Lázaro Cárdenas 258 - Industry is the biggest of all the clubs and offers a debaucherous experience for the late-night party crowd.

Paco's Ranch - Ignacio L. Vallarta 278 - The original and most local of all the nightclubs, this is more PV-centered. This is where you'll find the late-night drag shows that are a tradition in this town.

Strip Clubs

Sixty Nine / B-Mine / Wetdreams - clustered around Lázaro Cárdenas 316 - Each is uniquely different, and they all offer sexy men ready to dance for you... for a price. They just might surprise you by dropping some meat in your hands. Remember, though... if you engage in the playfulness, you gotta tip the boys.

MAP OF PV BARS/CLUBS



Cabarets and Live Entertainment

The Palm - Olas Altas 508 - Vallarta's #1 and longest running Cabaret space. 3 shows nightly 7 days a week from some of the best artists on the circuit.

Coco Cabaret by The Palm - Francisco I. Madero 289 - The sleek new sister venue to The Palm, keeps the party going with a nightly lineup of drag comedy, pop music tributes, and acrobatics. It's also where I will be doing my show!

Act 2 PV - Basilio Badillo & Insurgentes 339 - PV's largest cabaret complex with multiple stages and nightly shows 7 days a week, including community theater productions of well-known Broadway shows.

Garbo - Pulpito 142 - A small intimate piano bar. A throwback to the piano bars of the past, and you never know who might pop in to sing a song or two.

La Catrina Cantina - Lázaro Cárdenas 315 - Also has regularly programmed entertainment.

Social Club PV - Basilio Badillo 447 - Programmed entertainment throughout the season.

