Cost savings guatemala



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These days, I can't scroll through Instagram Reels without seeing someone post about their time in Guatemala! When we visited in March 2021, it seemed like it was a hidden gem. There weren't too many people traveling to Guatemala but in the last year or so – it has exploded in popularity. We totally get why:

We asked ourselves this question before we made the final decision to visit the beautiful, diverse country of Guatemala. Before we even consider a destination, we need to know what the cost of living is like – if it suits our budget and if we'll get value for money here.

Whether you are planning to be a digital nomad in Guatemala for a couple of months or looking to retire – it's an important question to evaluate for yourself. Here's the thing – there isn't one magic number that works for everyone. That's why I'm going to share the average cost of living in Guatemala but..

That's a very common question and something that all our family and friends ask which is completely fine! If you've never been to a certain place – it's reasonable to ask about the safety. Here's the thing – it can be dangerous anywhere in the world and Guatemala is no exception.

In saying that, nothing bad happened to us during our 4 months in Guate and we felt completely safe the entire time. Be wise, use your common sense and don't let the fear stop you from traveling to a beautiful (and worthwhile) country like Guatemala!

If you're a digital nomad traveling full-time or an expat thinking about moving abroad – costs are one of the most important factors you have to consider. You need to know if you can afford the living costs in Guatemala with the kind of lifestyle you're after.

I've created a general cost of living for Guatemala as a whole. After this section, I'll break down our personal cost of living in both Antigua and Lake Atitlan (which is very interesting). Here's the thing – your Airbnb costs can get really high if you live in the city center of Antigua. They can also get really low if you live in a small town on the lake. A lot of it depends on where you stay in Guatemala.

It depends on where you plan to stay but most digital nomads find themselves living in Lake Atitlan and living in Antigua. For these two popular towns in Guatemala, you can expect to pay anywhere from \$850 USD to as much as \$1,300 USD. Yes, it can be that much! The price increases if you want to stay close to the city centers and you want to have a more 'luxurious' space.

Groceries are fairly affordable in Guatemala. I can't say it's cheaper than Mexico groceries

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but it's still not as bad. We only went a couple of times, getting stuff here and there – not really doing a proper grocery shop for the week (that's why you can see our huge dining out budget). Overall, it's not that expensive to do groceries in Guatemala and it can be a great way for you to save some money here.

In Antigua, the biggest grocery store in the city center is La Bodegona. It's a pretty good supermarket and very convenient because it was close to where we lived. If you want specific things like almond flour or any of those health food items – you can take an Uber to Jocotenango, the Supermercado La Torre is only a 10-minute drive.

Well…it depends where you go! For example, it's around 30% less to eat out at restaurants in Lake Atitlan than it is to eat out at restaurants in Antigua. You can get a meal (salad, sandwich or pasta) for around 40Q (\$5.20 USD) to 60Q (\$7.80 USD) in Lake Atitlan and this could cost more like 60Q (\$7.80 USD) to 80Q (\$10.40 USD) if you're living in Antigua.

If you have local food, it will always be cheaper. Our favorite spot was Rincon Tipico in Antigua. However, if you want Japanese, Thai or Italian – you're definitely going to pay more for your meal.

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Web: https://sumthingtasty.co.za/contact-us/

Email: energystorage2000@gmail.com

WhatsApp: 8613816583346

