

## [Important Websites for Guatemala Genealogy](#)

There are two "must peruse" websites for initiating original research in Guatemala. There are a lot of excellent resources well documents found on both **Family Search.Org** for on-line resources and information and **The Family History Guide** for on-line tutorials.

From a single URL cited below on **FamilySearch**, you will find a comprehensive overview of resources for Guatemala that covers the gamut of resources and research tools that you could ever have imagined all from one extended screen display. It is a remarkable guide to Guatemalan ancestry, history, and genealogy with birth records, marriage records, death records, census records, military records and much more. The URL is [https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Guatemala\\_Genealogy](https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Guatemala_Genealogy). The headings are specifically cited below along with their links that you can search quickly

## Guatemala Genealogy

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<b>Guatemala Wiki Topics</b>	
	
<b>Beginning Research</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">Research Strategies</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Record Finder</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Finding Town of Origin</a></li></ul>	
<b>Record Types</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">Census</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Church Records</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Civil Registration</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Colonial Records</a></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">Military Records</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Online Records</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Religious Records</a></li></ul>
<b>Guatemala Background</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">Gazetteers</a></li><li>• <a href="#">History</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Jurisdictions</a></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">Languages</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Maps</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Spanish Word List</a></li></ul>
<b>Local Research Resources</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">Archives &amp; Libraries</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Societies</a></li></ul>	

- [Family History Centers](#)

### Moderator

The FamilySearch [moderator](#) for Guatemala is [Dwsmith2](#)

## [Central America](#)

### Guatemala

Guide to **Guatemala ancestry, family history and genealogy**: birth records, marriage records, death records, church records, parish registers, and civil registration.

## Country Information[\[edit source\]](#)

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Guatemala is a country in Central America bordered by [Mexico](#), [Belize](#), [Honduras](#), and [El Salvador](#). It was formerly a colony of [Spain](#). The official language is Spanish.<sup>[1]</sup>

## Getting Started[\[edit source\]](#)

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### Getting Started with Guatemala Research

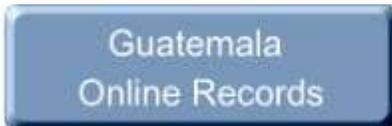
Links to articles on getting started with Guatemala research.

- [Guatemala Research Guide](#)
- [Getting Started](#)
- [Guatemala Quick Start Guide](#)
- [Locating Place of Origin](#)
- [Finding Records](#)
- [Guatemala Resources](#)
- [Improve your Search Results](#)

### Guatemala Research Tools

Links to articles and websites that assist in Guatemala research.

- [BYU Research Outline for Guatemala](#)
- [Websites](#)



## Finding Your Ancestors' Town in Guatemala[\[edit source\]](#)

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- Genealogical records are organized by geographical locality. Civil registration (government birth, marriage, and death records) and church records (christenings/baptisms, marriages, and burials) were kept at the **local level**. To search these records, you must know the town where your ancestors lived.
- If you do not know your ancestors' town, follow the advice in the Wiki article, [Guatemala Finding Town of Origin](#), to search a variety of records that might provide that information.

## Guatemala Clickable Map[\[edit source\]](#)

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Genealogy records are kept on the local level in Guatemala. Click on a department in the map for instructions and links to records for the department. By hovering over the number, you can verify the name of the department.

- 1- Petén
- 2- Huehuetenango
- 3- Quiché
- 4- Alta Verapaz
- 5- Baja Verapaz
- 6- San Marcos
- 7- Quetzaltenango
- 8- Totonicapán
- 9- Sololá
- 10- Retalhuleu
- 11- Suchitepéquez
- 12- Chimaltenango

- 13- Sacatepéquez
- 14- Guatemala
- 15- Escuintla
- 16- Santa Rosa
- 17- Juliapa
- 18- Jalapa
- 19- Chiquimula
- 20- El Progreso
- 21- Zacapa
- 22- Izabal



## Departments[\[edit source\]](#)

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The largest jurisdictions in Guatemala are called 'Departments' (*departamentos*). These are analogous to States or Provinces in other countries. There are 22 Departments of Guatemala.

- [Alta Verapaz](#)
- [Baja Verapaz](#)
- [Chimaltenango](#)
- [Chiquimula](#)
- [El Progreso](#)
- [Escuintla](#)
- [Guatemala](#) (includes Guatemala City)
- [Huehuetenango](#)
- [Izabal](#)
- [Jalapa](#)
- [Jutiapa](#)
- [Petén](#)
- [Quetzaltenango](#)
- [Quiché](#)
- [Retalhuleu](#)
- [Sacatepéquez](#)
- [San Marcos](#)
- [Santa Rosa](#)
- [Sololá](#)
- [Suchitepéquez](#)
- [Tonicapán](#)
- [Zacapa](#)

## Parishes[\[edit source\]](#)

[Parishes in Guatemala](#)

# FamilySearch Resources<sup>[[edit source](#)]</sup>

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Below are FamilySearch resources that can assist you in researching your family.

- [Facebook Communities](#) - Facebook groups discussing genealogy research
- [Historical Records](#)
- [Family History Center locator map](#)

## Research Tutorials<sup>[[edit source](#)]</sup>

- [Search page](#)
- [Introduction to Hispanic Research](#)
- [U.S. Hispanic Immigration](#)
- [U.S. Hispanic Immigrants: Finding their Place of Origin](#)
- [Improve your Search Results in FamilySearch Hispanic Records](#)
- [Reading Spanish Handwritten Records:](#)
  - Lesson 1: The Spanish Alphabet
  - Lesson 2: Words and Dates
  - Lesson 3: Reading Spanish Records
- [Hispanic Online Resources](#)

## References<sup>[[edit source](#)]</sup>

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1. [Jump up](#)<sup>↑</sup> Wikipedia contributors, "Guatemala," in *Wikipedia: the Free Encyclopedia*, <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Guatemala>, accessed 29 April 2016.

## The Family History Guide

The Family History Guide, <https://thefhguide.com/project-9-central-amer02.html> provides a more sequential process of learning consisting of outstanding step-by-step “how to” research tutorials for Guatemala that is organized into four levels offerings in a rather clear and concise format. I particularly like its infrastructure of topics for each level of tutorials.

1: [El Salvador](#) **2: Guatemala** 3: [Panama](#) 4: [Search Records](#)