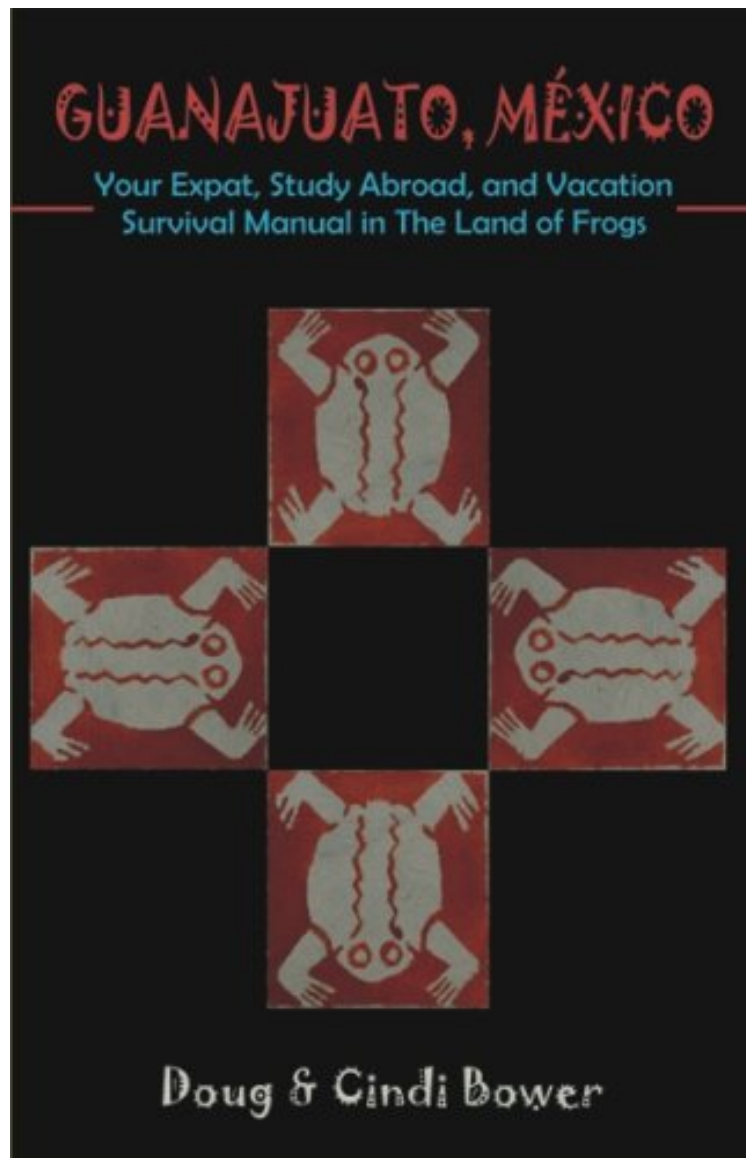


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Guanajuato, Mexico: Your Expat, Study Abroad, and Vacation Survival Manual in the Land of Frogs

Doug Bower, Cindi Bower

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Doug Bower, Cindi Bower : Guanajuato, Mexico: Your Expat, Study Abroad, and Vacation Survival Manual in the Land of Frogs before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Guanajuato, Mexico: Your Expat, Study Abroad, and Vacation Survival Manual in the Land of Frogs:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. illiterate!By vburnsThis book is terrible. Just a few of the problems here:--tendency to use all caps, as if authors are writing an email, not a book.--a continual theme (the major theme perhaps) is that Americans who come to Mexico are dumb and naive. Perhaps so--but does the reader have to be hit over the head w/ this point on every page?--somewhere the authors write that they have lived in Guanajuato for a limited time. Given that, maybe they should have held off on writing this book until they had learned more.--frequently--either out of laziness or ignorance--the authors 'cut and paste' long quotes from real books. For example in the frontmatter, on page vi, begins a long quotation on the history of the city. I guess this is the authors way of saying they really don't know anything about the history of G. BTW, the long passage isn't blocked and indented.30 of 31 people found the following review helpful. Guanajuato, MexicoBy Donald J. MackayIt is rare to see a book prefaced with a disclaimer (but not an apology) for its misleading subtitle. The authors should have extended the disclaimer to the very title of the book. They may have written it in Guanajuato, but the city itself isn't the main theme of the book. A more appropriate title might have been "Ignorant Gringos" or "Learn Spanish!"This book is about the authors' dismay at the reluctance of Americans living in Mexico to learn Spanish and their tendency to live together in colonies. I agree with the authors criticism, but this was supposed to be a book about Guanajuato. Instead, over and over again, we get criticism of fellow expatriates that live in what they describe as the "gringo-infested" cities of Guadalajara, Puerto Vallarta, or (God forbid) San Miguel de Allende. There is advice that could apply to living anywhere in Mexico. But detailed information that would serve a newcomer to the city of Guanajuato is limited. You will be ambushed in nearly every chapter by an attack on gringos who fail to learn Spanish. You began to wonder if the point it isn't selling books on learning Spanish. In one chapter, Mr. Bower laments that you can't get your hands on his latest learning Spanish book, because he can't find a publisher. Fine and good, but we paid good money for what we thought was going to provide insight about living in Guanajuato. Never do we get a well organized outline about living there. Most of the information could describe any city in Mexico. The limited city-specific information does not warrant its title. There is not even a map of the city in the book. Where should we live, for instance? None of the sectors of the city are identified or ranked in terms of desirability, except to note two that should be avoided and the joy that there is no American sector. We do get a crybaby account of noise, buses and rental practices in Guanajuato, but this could apply to anywhere in Mexico. You would do better buying Don Adam's "Head for Mexico" or Mike Nelson's "Live Better South of the Border in Mexico" if you want a Mexico guide. These authors are experienced Mexico hands.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Let's have lunch.By Mr. The book has some good information in it. I just recently moved to Guanajuato and thankfully avoided many of the common pitfalls other x-pats experienced. My good luck came in the form of a local becoming my girlfriend. I'd love to meet Doug and Cindy Bower. If you're reading this review please contact me. :-) Let's have lunch.

Living in the city of Guanajuato is nothing like living the Gringo Landias or Gringo Gulches of San Miguel de Allende or Puerto Vallarta. No information exists in book form to guide the potential expat to a new life in central Mexico. Expatriating to Guanajuato is different and unique. Unlike San Miguel de Allende or Puerto Vallarta, there is not a huge gringo community here that acts as a support buffer for "newbies". Nor is English as widely spoken as it is in other areas where expats live. Doug and Cindi Bower spell out the differences between living in Guanajuato and living in other areas where expats have traditionally congregated. They offer a survival manual for the potential expat.

About the AuthorDoug Bower is a freelance writer, Syndicated Columnist, and book author. His most recent writing credits include The Atlanta Journal-Constitution, The Houston Chronicle, The Philadelphia Inquirer, Associated Content, Transitions Abroad, International Living, Escape Artist, and The Front Porch Syndicate. He is a columnist with The American Chronicle and more than 21 additional online magazines. He is also a writer with EzineArticles.com where his articles have been syndicated in more than 840 online publications. His article and column writing is a major platform from which to publicize his books. He is co-author of The Plain Truth about Living in Mexico (.com), Guanajuato Expatriation Guide, You Can Learn Spanish No Matter Your Age or Disposition, and Blogging South of the Border: Notes from a so-called Third-World Country. He lives with his wife in Guanajuato, Mexico.