

Antigua Religious Tour (Part 2), Antigua





1) Saint Sebastian Church

Saint Sebastian is one of the oldest churches in the city. The church was built in 1565 in honor of Antigua's protector Saint Sebastian. It was then elevated to a parish church at the end of 17th century. Despite the restoration work of several religious orders to save the church from destruction, the infrastructure was once again severely hit by earthquake in the 1770's. The famous Jesuit poet and priest Rafael Landívar was baptized in this...



2) Santa Teresa Church

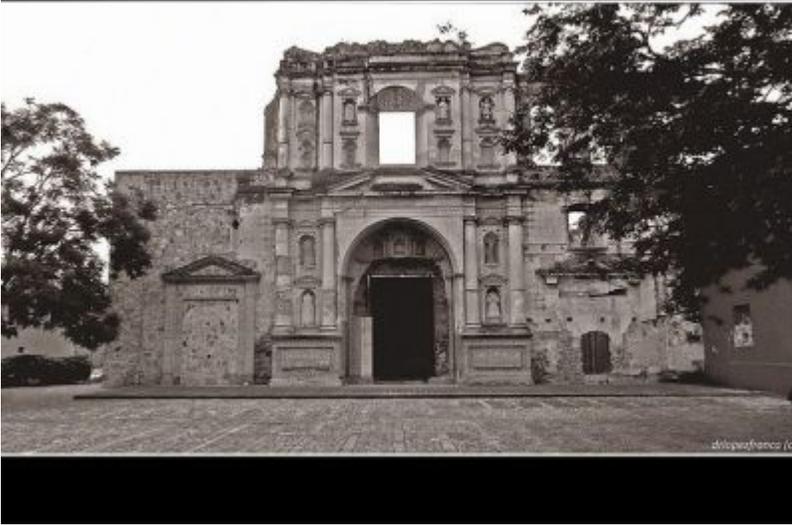
Santa Teresa Church was built at the end of the 17th century by one of the most important architects of Colonial era - Jose Porres. The Order of Barefoot Carmelites made the church its home years before the little that was left of this church became an ancient ruin. Despite the subtle remains, the site still attracts a large number of visitors each...



3) El Carmen Church

El Carmen was erected to honor Lady of El Carmen in 1638. The building itself features stucco-decorated, baroque-style columns, that makes the main entrance truly impressive. El Carmen is also visited for its colonial paintings, statues, and luxurious...

4) Church of the Company of Jesus



Just like many of Antigua's temples, the Church of the Company of Jesus was founded after a Jesuit petition was made to build a school here in 1561. The permission was granted and work began, paving the way, about 50 years later, for both a school and temple. In the beginning of 1990's, an International Education Center was also opened at the site. Today's cultural activities include painting exhibitions, theater, and poetry...

5) Santa Lucia Church



The origins of Santa Lucia Church date back to 1542, the same year as the foundation of Antigua. Santa Lucia was one of the first temples to invite both locals and natives to participate in the church's liturgy. Also, Santa Lucia's twin bell tower design is a bit different than the facades of most of the churches in...

6) Bethlehem Church



The church of the Order of Bethlehem was built in 1666, one year before the most beloved saint of Guatemala (and the founder of this Order), San Pedro died. Once a slaughterhouse, then a hospital, the church has finally transformed into a catholic school titled the "Hostel of Bethlehem." Outside, visitors will discover a statue of Hermano...



7) Sacred Cross Hermitage

The history of Sacred Cross dates back to 1664, when Dominican monks proposed to build a new temple in the neighborhood. The Indian and mulattoes, the main residents of the area, were cared by the mission. They were also the ones who helped restore the...