

Acajutla, Sonsonate, El Salvador

El Salvador's main Pacific port punches above its industrial looks — a day here unlocks UNESCO ruins, volcanic hikes, and the vivid Ruta de las Flores coffee towns.

 Docked at pier  Typical call: 8-10 hrs  USD (no exchange needed)  Spanish  Volcano & archaeology country

🚢 MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: _____	Arrive: _____	All aboard: _____
Excursion: _____	Notes: _____	

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Ships dock at Puerto de Acajutla, a commercial pier — no tendering

Best For: Pre-Columbian ruins, Ruta de las Flores colonial towns, volcanic landscapes

Walk to center: Acajutla town is ~10 min walk, but key sights are 45–90 min inland by bus or taxi

Don't Miss: Tazumal ruins or Joya de Cerén (UNESCO) — El Salvador's crown archaeological jewels

 Getting around:  **Taxi**  \$30–60 USD (round trip)

TOP THINGS TO DO

- **Tazumal Mayan Ruins** — One of El Salvador's most impressive pre-Columbian sites, Tazumal features stepped pyramid structures from the Classic...
- **Joya de Cerén — Pompeii of the Americas** — UNESCO World Heritage site where a pre-Hispanic farming village was perfectly sealed under volcanic ash in 590 AD.
- **Ruta de las Flores** — A winding route through colonial highland towns — Juayúa, Ataco, Nahuizalco — known for colorful murals, artisan...
- **Izalco Volcano & Cerro Verde National Park** — Hike through cloud-forest to the summit of Izalco, once called the 'Lighthouse of the Pacific' for its constant...
- **Los Cóbano Beach** — Closest decent beach to Acajutla — volcanic dark sand, warm Pacific water, diving on a fringing coral reef, and fresh...

BEST WALKS

- **Acajutla Town Stroll** ~30 min • Flat • Low-key — A short walk from the port gate into central Acajutla gives a genuine slice of Salvadoran coastal life — a modest market, small shops...

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

 CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)				 DAYLIGHT &  MONEY	
Mon	High	Low	Rain	Apr 5:46AM–6:12PM · Jun 5:32AM–6:27PM · Aug 5:46AM–6:20PM · Sep 5:48AM–6:00PM · Oct 5:50AM–5:39PM	
Apr	91°	79°	11d	 USD (no exchange needed)	
Jun	86°	77°	24d		
Aug	87°	77°	23d		
Sep	86°	77°	26d		
Oct	85°	76°	23d		

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- USD is the local currency — no exchange needed. ATMs exist in Sonsonate and larger towns, but bring enough cash from the ship.
- Negotiate taxis before you get in. There are no meters. Ask your ship or local operators for current fair rates to your destination.
- Inland sights take time. Tazumal or Joya de Cerén is a 3-hour round trip minimum — factor that into your all-aboard time carefully.

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- A beautiful botanical garden featuring a fountain of flowers.