

WHV – Ancient Monastery of Calpan

Earliest 16th-Century Monasteries on the Slopes of Popocatepetl , Mexico

Cultural property inscribed on the World Heritage List (1994)

PROJECT DATES

29 June - 12 July 2025

THE SITE - The Earliest 16th-Century Monasteries on the Slopes of Popocatepetl is a serial property with 15 component parts located in the states of Morelos, Puebla and Tlaxcala in Mexico, built as part of the evangelisation and colonisation of the northern territories of Mexico. They are in an excellent state of conservation and are good examples of the architectural style adopted by the first missionaries – Franciscans, Dominicans and Augustinians – who converted the indigenous populations to Christianity in the early 16th century.

OBJECTIVES - The project, implemented for several years in Calpan, aims at raising awareness among all citizens about the importance to preserve the World Heritage sites, demonstrate the value of international volunteering as a development tool, inspire young people to follow the restoration career and to generate strategic partnerships with international, national and regional stakeholders.

ACTIVITIES - Volunteers will do restoration and painting work with traditional techniques and materials and will run awareness-raising activities with the local population: they will prepare the lime paint and learn cleaning techniques in order to continue the work done in previous editions of the program in Calpan, and will run a series of presentations to the other volunteers and to the local population about World Heritage sites in other parts of the world.

PARTNERS - National Institute of Anthropology and History Centro INAH Puebla; Secretariat of Culture of the state of Puebla; Municipality of Calpan; Guardianes de Saberes y Sabores; Mexican platform of volunteering.

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