

Tenochtitlan

Tenochtitlan was the capitol of the Aztec empire. The legend is that the Aztec sun god Huitzilopochtli told his people to settle and to create a city at the site where an eagle which was perched on a cactus was eating a snake. When they saw exactly this, the Aztecs built their capital. Until the Spanish arrived, Tenochtitlan was the largest and most powerful city in Mesoamerica. It was also one of the largest cities on the planet. Many of the palaces, pyramids, and temples built by the Aztecs still exist today. However, most of it was destroyed when the Spanish conquistador Hernan Cortés attacked Tenochtitlan and conquered some of its city-states in 1521. Cortés then began building modern day Mexico City, which stands today on the site which was once Tenochtitlan.

1. The capital of the Aztec empire was called:

A. Tenochtitlan

B. Huitzilopochtli

2. Which of the following was NOT part of the sign that the Aztec sun god gave the Aztecs about where to build their city?



3. The Aztec empire fell when the _____ arrived.

4. What stands at the site of Tenochtitlan today?
