

Elegance in the Capital

Tom Krefetz

The 2026 Jaguar Club de México AGM and Concours

Next spring, Jaguar members and enthusiasts will gather in one of the most vibrant and welcoming cities in the world for an incredible concours weekend. The 2026 Jaguar Club of North America will hold its Annual General Meeting, hosted by the Jaguar Club de México in Mexico City, from April 14-19, 2026.

More than just a meeting or a concours, this is an international celebration of the Jaguar spirit where collectors' passion for the marque and community come together. For me, this event holds a special meaning. My relationship with the Jaguar Club de México goes back twenty years, during which I've built lasting friendships with its members and gained tremendous respect for their dedication to the brand. My first trip to Mexico City exceeded all my preconceived expectations with its rich culture, history, and beautiful scenery.

A distinguished host

Since the 1980s, the Jaguar Club de Mexico has been a cornerstone of JCNA's international presence, adopting JCNA-sanctioned regulations for its judging process. To the best of my knowledge, the club joined JCNA around 1985, and since then, its members have shown remarkable enthusiasm in maintaining those standards.

I first attended their concours in the early 2000s after being introduced to the club through my good friend, chief judge, and past club president, Jeff Carlson, whom I originally met at a Barrett-Jackson Auction in Scottsdale back in 2001. Around that time, I was serving on the JCNA board as a Southwest Regional Director, and Jeff invited me to help establish consistent JCNA judging standards within the Jaguar Club de Mexico. Together, we trained and informed members on how to become certified judges, ensuring their cars and competitions met international standards.

That collaboration not only strengthened the club's technical foundation but also built a bridge of friendship between our US and Mexican members. Over the years, I've been joined by fellow JCNA judges, including Brian Blackwell from San Antonio, Pete Rieth, Bob Anderson, Jamie Holbrook, and Harvey Williamson from San Diego, Greg Nels from Arizona, Jeff Snyder from Austin, JoAnn Pruett-Lawson from Florida, and others. It's been a joy to see how a shared passion for Jaguars transcends borders and fosters lifelong camaraderie.

What began years ago as a small regional show has grown into the largest concours d'elegance in Mexico, drawing hundreds of classic cars and thousands of spectators each



year. The event typically takes place at Las Caballerizas, Dos Ríos, Huixquilucan, a scenic polo field in the mountains about 45 minutes from the capital. The drive itself is part of the experience, winding through small villages and into the cool highlands, until reaching the verdant lawns of this former equestrian ranch, now a weekend retreat. It's a true mountain oasis just outside the city, offering a perfect setting for the concours.

What to expect in 2026

The 2026 AGM and Concours will combine JCNA's formal business sessions with the full social and competitive schedule for which the Mexican club is famous. It's always a highlight of the JCNA calendar, and I'm personally excited to return and once again take part in judging and reconnecting with friends.

Tuesday-Friday, April 14-17: Arrival & AGM Business

Delegates and guests will check into the Grand Fiesta Americana Chapultepec, the host hotel in Mexico City. Early arrivals can explore the city's many cultural landmarks, sample world-class dining, or join gatherings organized by Club Jaguar México. This hotel is a destination in itself—safe, vibrant, and close to major attractions.

Midweek will feature JCNA business meetings, judges' training sessions, and receptions. I've always been impressed by the warmth and enthusiasm of our hosts, who are eager to share their country and their cars.

Saturday, April 18: Concours d'Élégance at Las Caballerizas

Saturday features the main event: the concours d'élégance in Huixquilucan's scenic highlands. Jaguars from all over Mexico and beyond park neatly on the lawns. Judging follows JCNA standards, with awards for first, second, and third in each class. Winners advance to a 'Best of Show' area, where final choices are made on Sunday for 'Best of Show – European' and 'Best of Show – Domestic' titles.

Beyond the Jaguars, the general concours features a mix of marques and clubs from around Mexico. Visitors can enjoy vendor booths, admire modern Jaguar and Land Rover displays, and experience local food and live entertainment. Sponsors such as Meguiar's, Katcher, and Jaguar Land Rover México have long supported the event, adding polish and prestige to the weekend.

In previous years, manufacturers have even previewed upcoming models here, a thrill for any enthusiast who loves to see what's next from Coventry.

Sunday, April 19: Awards & Farewell

Sunday's elegant awards ceremony celebrates the concours winners in grand style. There's always a festive spirit with live music, a fashion show, and floral décor that reflects Mexico's artistic flair. Winners drive onto the podium to receive their trophies before fellow enthusiasts and friends, marking the close of another unforgettable concours.

I've seen the joy in those moments firsthand, and the pride that comes from sharing a passion across cultures; it's what makes this event truly special.

Beyond the concours: club activities and culture

The Jaguar Club de México is known not only for its concours but also for a calendar of driving and social events that keep members active year-round. The club organizes Saturday breakfast drives to destinations such as Toluca, Tres Marías, Cuatro Vientos, Ixtapa, and Valle de Bravo, each offering spectacular scenery and motoring. Among their most ambitious undertakings is the Rally de Costa a Costa, a cross-country drive from Veracruz to Acapulco that perfectly embodies the adventure and elegance synonymous with the Jaguar spirit.

Jaguar Club de Mexico also hosts 'The Gran Premio Historico,' a private track day for all types of classic cars at the Autódromo Hermanos Rodríguez in Mexico City. This experience captures the thrill of performance in a legendary motorsport setting. Together, these activities highlight the club's deep passion for the marque and its ability to blend tradition, community, and driving enjoyment.

Tips for attending



- **Reserve early:** Special offers are limited
- **Plan for travel time:** Get your passports and airline reservations now.
- **Embrace the culture:** Enjoy the cuisine, art, and hospitality that make Mexico City unforgettable.
- **Bring your enthusiasm:** Whether you're competing, judging, or spectating, this will be an unforgettable JCNA cultural experience.

Exploring Mexico City

For visitors, the 2026 AGM is also an opportunity to explore one of the world's most fascinating capitals. Polanco, the district where most participants will stay, is known for luxury hotels, designer shopping, and exceptional dining. Nearby are iconic landmarks like Museo Soumaya, the Angel of Independence, and Chapultepec Castle.

Those extending their stay might venture into the Centro Histórico, visit the Palacio de Bellas Artes, or take scenic drives into the mountains surrounding the city. In past years, club members have organized informal post-concours rallies to Valle de Bravo or Acapulco, continuing the celebration on the open road.

An Invitation to experience more

The Jaguar Club de México's annual concours has always been more than a display of polished chrome and perfect paint – it's about people, friendship, and a shared devotion to the marque. For 2026, that spirit takes center stage on the JCNA calendar.

Mark your calendar for April 14-19, 2026, and join fellow enthusiasts for an unforgettable celebration in Mexico City. If you haven't been to Mexico, you owe it to yourself to experience it and create the same wonderful memories I have. From the elegance of the concours lawn to the vibrancy of the capital, this event promises to honor Jaguar's heritage with warmth, sophistication, and style.



AGM REGISTRATION UPDATE

Online registration is open. For registration help, please email Ron Wallis at ronaldawallis@gmail.com.

Please register early. **Registration will close on January 31, 2026.** The listed prices for the dinners and tours are special offers for a limited number of seats. After this limit is reached, the prices will increase.

The early registration hotel rate will expire December 31, 2025. Thereafter, rooms are \$225/night. The limited, special-offer dinner and tour prices will increase when limits are met.

Registrations may be modified until January 31, 2026. Thereafter, cancellations, refunds, late registration or other registration modifications will be in Club Jaguar Mexico's sole discretion.

To register visit: <https://www.jcna.com/annual-general-meetings>



Hotel Reservations and 2026 AGM Event Registration available now!

Visit: agm-jaguar.miandm-services.com/

All hotel reservations and registration costs must be made through Club Jaguar Mexico's Registration website. This has been set up for convenience, safety, and to keep the group together for scheduled activities through a custom transportation package to avoid the need for driving or rideshares/taxis.

The AGM will be located at the host hotel, the Grand Fiesta Americana Chapultepec.

Early bird hotel room rate ends January 15, 2026.

Room Options

- King bed (single bed for 1-2 people)
- Queen bed (two beds for 1-2 people)

Official Event Dates

AGM Dates: April 14–19, 2026

Extended group rate available:

- Early arrival: Monday, April 13
- Late departure: Monday, April 20

Note: There is no additional cost to attend the Grand Concours on Sunday, April 19, for those departing on Sunday evening or Monday.

Registration Process

To begin, click the 'Reserve Now' button in the upper right corner of the main page:

agm-jaguar.miandm-services.com/

Step 1: Room Selection

Choose your room type (king or double) and number of guests (1 or 2), then click 'Next.'

Step 2: Guest Information

Enter guest details along with check-in and check-out dates.

Flight Information: If you have booked your flight, you may enter arrival and departure details. If not, leave this section blank; our host club will provide instructions for submitting flight information. The purpose is to assist with airport shuttles for safety, staying on schedule, and convenience.

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Step 3: Add-Ons (Optional)

If you are attending the AGM on Friday, do not schedule a tour

Select additional activities to enhance your experience:

- **Tuesday:** Evening welcome cocktail (free to registered guests)
- **Wednesday:** City tour by bus and an authentic Mexican evening dinner
- **Thursday:** Pyramids tour OR Anthropology Museum tour (choose only 1)
- **Friday:** Walking Tour Polanco museums option (for non-AGM attendees) OR Business Meeting attendees; Evening awards banquet
- **Saturday:** Gran Concurso and festivities
- **Sunday:** Gran Concurso day 2 with final judging and festivities

Step 4: Payment Summary

Review your reservation details and confirm all selected add-ons are reflected in the total amount due.

Payment Options: PayPal, credit card, or debit card

Important: All payments are processed through PayPal. A 5% fee applies to international transactions per PayPal's published policy. Refunds are at the club's discretion on a case-by-case basis. For example, the death of a close family member is understandable. Choosing to use a different hotel from the group and running late for excursions such as the concours, which is located about half an hour away. Please do not plan to use Uber and taxis. We are being provided with transportation services to keep the group together, safely, and on time, from the host hotel.

Join us for the 2026 JCNA AGM and Grand International Concours d'Elegance

APRIL 14 - 19 • Mexico City



Photo: Tom Krefetz, Classic Showcase



Schedule of Events

- Tuesday • Welcome reception with cocktails
- Wednesday • Tour of Mexico City and authentic Mexican buffet dinner
- Thursday • Choice of pyramids or anthropology museum group tour
- Friday • Morning AGM and evening awards banquet
- Weekend • International Concours d'Elegance, shopping, and sightseeing

For registration, excursion pricing,
and additional information,
scan the QR code below or visit

www.jcna.com/annual-general-meetings

Host Hotel:
The Grand Fiesta
Americana Chapultepec

The JCNA room block is available from
Monday, April 13 to Monday, April 20

**APPLY
FOR OR
RENEW YOUR
PASSPORTS
NOW!**

See you in Mexico!

