

¡Viva México! ¡Viva Francia!

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Paris and Mexico City are separated by more than 9,000 kilometers. Air France had been around for 19 years when it decided to provide the first direct flight joining them on April 27th, 1952. Thusly, the first route between Mexico and the Old Continent began operating weekly.



This commercial route enabled both countries to foster an amicable relationship. In fact, General De Gaulle visited our country in 1964. During this memorable trip he addressed the Mexican people in Spanish, with the following remarks "...Nothing is more important than the cooperation of two countries like our own, who yesterday strove for the same ideal, who today follow the same path and who tomorrow feel themselves destined to the same future. This then is what the French people suggest to the Mexican people: Let us walk hand in hand".

The cultural exchange between these nations has only brought them closer together. As we commemorate 70 years of their first airmail, there are many reasons to shout "¡Viva México! ¡Viva Francia!".



Top: Commemorative cover of the first postal flight between Mexico City and Paris. Features Scott 861, C191 and C193, depicting the Dance of the Moors, Emperor Cuauhtémoc and a Mayan bas-relief, respectively.



Below cover: Scott 1376 and C281 showing the Mexican coat of arms and General De Gaulle's state visit to Mexico in 1964. and Parisian coat of arms.

Middle right: Scott 2865 commemorating its 50th anniversary.

Bottom: Scott B128 with the Parisian coat of arms and Scott 2105 portraying the Eiffel tower and Quetzalcoatl, an Aztec deity.

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