



TRAVEL PLANNING GUIDE

COLOMBIA



KONTour
EXKLUSIV REISEN

KONTour - THE COLOMBIA EXPERTS

DEAR READERS,

Colombia is once again an outstanding travel destination, and it's a good thing, too, for it is a country that offers tremendous variety: its climate zones range from tropical heat to eternal ice, with desert landscapes, savannahs, gentle green hills, rugged mountains and impenetrable rain-forest. With their joy, friendliness, music in their bones and charming smiles, the Colombians are eager to show you all that Colombia has to offer.

This manual provides you with a selection of tours and holiday components from which you can compile a programme that suits your portfolio. All trips and components are available as private tours for one or more participants. For most of the trips and components, you have a choice between a standard version in 3-star hotels and a premium version in 4- or 5-star hotels. We will be happy to advise you in the selection of tour routes and to provide you with hotel recommendations. Colombia is a travel destination whose many facets defy inclusion in a single catalogue. If you are unable to find your desired destinations in this programme, please contact us and we will work with you to devise a customised programme for you.

We hope you enjoy planning your Colombia portfolio. Best regards,



Georg Rubin · Managing director

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TAILOR MADE HOLIDAYS

For us, providing a tailor made holiday means making your clients' personal wishes reality. We provide you with professional advice that is based on our in-depth knowledge of Colombia in order to compile a programme that is tailored to the needs of your business. It does not matter if every last detail needs to be planned in advance, or if your guests would rather wait until they are at their destination to decide what they want to do.

In other words, it is customised.




CULTURE & HISTORY

Colonial period · Modern Colombia ·
Incas · Eldorado · Salsa · Cumbia · Markets



RELAX AND ENJOY
flora · Comfortable hotels ·
cuisine · Expansive beaches



ACTIVE RELAXATION

Trekking · Hiking · Horseback riding · Golf · Diving

PERSONALISED SUPPORT

For us, tailor made holidays start with a personal consultation during the planning process. Your guests will have access to English- and German-speaking contacts at all times during their journey who will be able to satisfy their additional requests on location.

CONTENTS

KONTOUR

Introduction

Page 02

COLOMBIA

Impressions

Page 04

Tours

Page 06

Components

Page 08

Hotels & accommodations

Page 13

COUNTRY COMBINATIONS

"In the footsteps of Humboldt" tour

Page 16

"Incas & the Caribbean" tour

Page 17

Useful information

Page 18



COLOMBIA - THE UNKNOWN JEWEL

SECURITY

Tourism in Colombia is currently enjoying a renaissance, and the security situation is either comparable to or better than that in its neighbouring countries. Thanks to the successful efforts of the government and the people, travelling in Colombia now entails almost no danger at all.

You can be certain that our team on location is well informed of the security situation in the various regions of the country at all times, so that you r guests can enjoy their holiday without having to worry.



SUSTAINABILITY

Current developments in the tourism sector in Colombia make it possible to take sustainability into account when developing our programme, as well as to learn from wrong turns in other regions. For us, this means working with partners on location who treat their personnel fairly and conserve natural resources. With the support of our local tour guides, you will be able to enjoy a journey that offers you a variety of opportunities for direct contact with the local people and for experiencing Colombia's natural environment.



CULTURE AND HISTORY

From the mysterious 2,000-year-old statues in San Agustíns to world-famous pop stars such as Shakira, Colombia offers a wide range of cultural and historic highlights. Allow yourself to be enchanted by the gold figures of Eldorado, taken back to the time of pirate raids in colonial Cartagena or immersed in the world of Colombian salsa music.

ACTIVE RELAXATION

Colombia's natural environment is best explored on foot, and there are many ways of doing so, from gentle walks to multi-day trekking excursions. Numerous excursions can also be made on horseback. Golfers will be thrilled by the countless internationally certified golf courses.

RELAX AND ENJOY

The large number of small and very personal boutique hotels offer an ideal location for indulging oneself. One can also lie back and admire the sunset from a hammock with one of the numerous fresh and tasty fruit juices in hand.



GEOGRAPHY AND CLIMATE

Colombia is located directly on the equator, with the Caribbean Sea to the north and the Pacific Ocean to the west. Its Pacific coast is dominated by dense rainforest that is practically impenetrable. The low-lying plains inland from the Caribbean coast are characterised by pastureland and livestock breeding and boast countless rivers and lagoons, which are known as the Cienagas. Before the coast ends on the desert peninsula Guajira in the northernmost part of the country, the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta mountain range rises to more than 5,700 metres in height.

From the border with Ecuador in the south to Venezuela in the northeast, the country is traversed by three ranges of the Andes in which numerous peaks of well over 5,000 metres are found. The capital, Bogotá, is located in the Eastern Cordillera range. The Río Magdalena and Río Cauca rivers flow between these mountains on their way to the Caribbean. The south-eastern part of the country is part of the Amazon rainforest, and borders on Peru and Brazil. As a result of its location, Colombia has a wealth of landscapes that are without rival in Latin America.

Thanks to its location on the equator, there are no seasons in Colombia. In low-lying areas and on the coasts of Colombia, temperatures are around 30 °C year round. In the mountains, temperatures vary according to the elevation, from a spring-like 25 °C to a cool 0 °C in the highest mountains. The driest months are from January to March and from June to August, yet even in the rainy months the sun shines for at least a few hours every day.



TRAVEL INFORMATION

► SHORT DESCRIPTION

This tour takes you from the cool highlands around Bogotá and the legends of Eldorado through the green coffee-growing regions to the tropical warmth of the Caribbean beaches with their mixture of nature, history and music.

► HIGHLIGHTS

- Gold Museum in Bogotá
- Coffee plantation
- Rainforest along a Caribbean beach
- UNESCO – World Cultural Heritage Site Cartagena

► INCLUDED

Domestic flights, overnight accommodation in a double room with breakfast, additional meals as specified in the programme, transfers by car, entrance fees as specified in the programme, German-/English-/French-speaking tour guides, other languages on request

Tourcode COL REI 001



COMPACT COLOMBIA TOUR

1ST DAY

Arrival in Bogotá.

2ND DAY (B*)

Tour of historical Bogotá and visit to the famous Gold Museum. Afternoon free for individual plans.

AN EXTRA TIP

Discover the culinary delights of Colombia and book a tour through Bogotá that includes a visit to the market and a cooking workshop.

3RD DAY (B*)

Journey to Villa de Leyva. Visit to the Salt Cathedral of Zipaquirá en route. Afternoon in Villa de Leyva free for individual plans.

4TH DAY (B*)

In the morning, a visit to the Ecce Homo Convent and Ráquira, the "City of Pots". This is followed by the return journey to Bogotá and a flight to Armenia.

5TH DAY (B/L/D*)

In the morning, a visit to the botanical gardens and a coffee plantation. In the afternoon, a tour in a typical Willys jeep.

6TH DAY (B/L/D*)

Excursion into the Cocora Valley. Hike or ride into the valley, which is home to wax palms of up to 40 metres in height. After

lunch, a stroll through Salento, a typical village.

7TH DAY (B*)

Flight to Santa Marta, from where the journey continues to "Parque Tayrona", a national park located on the Caribbean coast that unites the beach and rainforest in a uniquely beautiful setting.

8TH DAY (B*)

Relaxation on the beach, walks, hikes or rides in Parque Tayrona.

9TH DAY (B*)

Journey from Parque Tayrona to Cartagena. In the afternoon you can wander through Cartagena's old town.

10TH DAY (B*)

A tour of Fort San Felipe and the La Popa Monastery. This is followed by a tour of the historic old town.

11TH DAY (B*)

Day free for individual plans. Explore Cartagena on your own or enjoy the sun, sand and surf at the Islas del Rosario.

12TH DAY (B*)

In the morning: the last chance to go for a stroll in Cartagena.

* B=BREAKFAST, L=LUNCH, D=DINNER

INTENSIVE COLOMBIA TOUR

1ST DAY

Arrival in Bogotá.

2ND DAY (B*)

Tour of historical Bogotá and visit to the famous Gold Museum. Flight to Neiva in the evening.

3RD DAY (B*)

Journey to San Agustín. In the afternoon, a visit to the "Parque Arqueológico de San Agustín".

4TH DAY (B*)

In the afternoon, a walk or ride to the "La Chaquira" platform. Afternoon free for individual plans.

5TH DAY (B*)

In the morning, a journey to Neiva and a flight to Armenia in the coffee-growing region.

6TH DAY (B/L/D*)

In the morning, a visit to the botanical gardens and a coffee plantation. In the afternoon, a tour in a typical Willys jeep.

7TH DAY (B/L/D*)

Excursion into the Cocora Valley. Hike or ride into the valley, which is home to wax palms of up to 40 metres in height. After lunch, a stroll through Salento, a typical village.

8TH DAY (B*)

Flight from Armenia to Bogotá. Journey to Zipaquirá, where you can tour the Salt Cathedral, an impressive church that has been built inside a salt mine. The tour continues through the lush green pastureland to Villa de Leyva, a beautiful village that still retains its 18th century-style architecture in its entirety. During the afternoon there is an opportunity to stroll through Villa de Leyva.

9TH DAY (B*)

In the morning, a visit to the Ecce Homo Convent and Râquira, the "City of Pots". Afternoon free for individual plans.

10TH DAY (B*)

Journey from Villa de Leyva through the Rio Suarez river valley to Barichara, another picturesque colonial village with a strong tradition of arts and crafts.

11TH DAY (B*)

In the afternoon, a walk down the Caminos Reales to Guane. Afternoon free for individual plans.

12TH DAY (B*)

In the morning, a journey through the Canyon del Chicamocha to Bucaramanga and a flight to Santa Marta.

13TH DAY (B*)

Relaxation on the beach, hikes or rides in Parque Tayrona.

14TH DAY (B*)

Journey from Parque Tayrona to Cartagena. In the afternoon you can take your first tour through Cartagena's old town.

15TH DAY (B*)

A tour of Fort San Felipe and the La Popa Monastery. This is followed by a tour of the historic old town.

16TH DAY (B*)

Day free for individual plans. Explore Cartagena on your own or enjoy the sun, sand and surf at Islas del Rosario.

17TH DAY (B*)

In the morning: the last chance to go for a stroll in Cartagena.

TRAVEL INFORMATION

► SHORT DESCRIPTION

On this tour you will be treated to an intensive experience of the contrasts of Colombia's landscape and culture, from the lush green plateaus and forests and the partially dry "Andalusian" landscape near Villa de Leyva and Barichara to the heavily forested slopes lining the Caribbean beaches.

► HIGHLIGHTS

- Gold Museum in Bogotá
- Stone sculptures in San Agustín
- Picturesque colonial villages
- Coffee plantation
- Rainforest along a Caribbean beach
- UNESCO – WeWorld Cultural Heritage Site Cartagena

► INCLUDED

Domestic flights, overnight accommodation in a double room with breakfast, additional meals as specified in the programme, transfers by private car, entrance fees as specified in the programme, German-/English-/French-speaking tour guides, other languages on request

Tourcode COL REI 002





HOLIDAY COMPONENTS

EMERALD TOUR

Green, the colour of emeralds, is one of the predominant colours in Colombia, so it should be no surprise that the world's best emeralds come from Colombia. This tour begins with a short walk that follows the trail of the legendary Eldorado to the Laguna de Guatavita. The tour continues over the green hills of Boyacá and into Valle de Tenza, where you will be able to view the emerald mines of Chivor and the La Esmeralda dam.

The next stop is Villa de Leyva, a picturesque colonial village. The Ecce Homo Convent and the astronomical cult sites of the Muiscas offer insight into the various cultures that shaped Villa de Leyva. On the return journey to Bogotá you will visit the impressive Salt Cathedral of Zipaquirá.

► INCLUDED

- 5 Tage und 4 Nächte ab/bis Bogotá
- English-speaking local tour guides
(French, Italian, Polish, Russian and Chinese available on request)
- Accommodation in a double room with breakfast

Tourcode COL BAU 001

MUSIC FESTIVAL

Music is second nature for the people of Colombia, and dancing and singing take place at every opportunity. In addition to the salsa dance that is so popular in Europe, the local favourites include the Vallenato, Merengue and Cumbia. Highlights include the Feria de Cali, the world's largest salsa festival, and the Carnaval de Barranquilla, a Carnival which is in no way inferior to the spectacles found in Brazil.



SAN AGUSTÍN

The area around San Agustín holds some of Colombia's most important archaeological excavation sites. You will explore the archaeological park, the ceremonial "footbath springs" and make an excursion to La Chacquirá, an historic vantage point over the Magdalena Canyon. A walk through the canyon (or a short drive) takes you to the burial mounds at Alto de los Ídolos. On the return journey you will have the opportunity to see how Panela, a typical product produced from sugarcane, is manufactured.

► INCLUDED

- 4 days and 3 nights off/to Bogotá
- English-speaking local tour guides
(French, Italian, Polish, Russian and Chinese available on request)
- Accommodation in a double room with breakfast

Tourcode COL BAU 002

EXPERIENCE CULTURE

The creations of Colombia's artists range from the delicate goldsmith work performed by the aboriginal inhabitants to the powerful sculptures of Fernando Boteros.

The theatre festival in Bogotá enjoys world renown, and Colombian musicians such as Shakira and Juanes are regulars on the European charts as well. A trip to Colombia can be easily combined with one of its many music festivals.



MOMPOX - FASCINATION OF MACONDO

In the past, Mompox was an important hub of trade on the river route from the coast to Bogotá. Today, Mompox is a cosy little town. Take advantage of the opportunity to admire its magnificent churches, walk down the alleyways in the footsteps of Gabriel García Márquez and watch the silversmiths as they create delicate items of jewellery by hand. Following a boat ride through the lagoons and their rich variety of birds, you will experience the sunset and a magnificent display of colour over the Rio Magdalena.

► INCLUDED

- 3 days and 2 nights
- English-speaking local tour guides
(French, Italian, Polish, Russian and Chinese available on request)
- Accommodation in a double room with breakfast

Tourcode COL BAU 003

CIÉNAGAS AND SAVANNAS

Spend a few days at a magnificent hacienda in the midst of expansive savannahs and lagoons. The programme includes boat excursions that provide an opportunity to admire the wide variety of animal life in the coastal flatlands, where there are large numbers of birds, iguanas and caimans. You might also decide go for a ride to test your skills as a cowboy. No matter what, there is also an opportunity to relax by the swimming pool at any time.

► INCLUDED

- 4 days and 3 nights off/to Cartagena or Medellín
- English-speaking local tour guides (French, Italian, Polish, Russian and Chinese available on request)
- Flight and transfer by car
- Accommodation in a double room with full board

Tourcode COL BAU 005

PARQUE TAYRONA

At more than 5,700 metres in elevation, the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta is the highest coastal mountain range in the world. Experience the contrasts between different climate zones in a very small area. In the Reserva Eldorado nature reserve you will have an opportunity to hike through a dense forest of giant ferns 2,000 metres above sea level, followed immediately by a view of the snow-covered peaks. If you are lucky you might even catch a glimpse of one of the rare endemic parrots. Just a few kilometres away, you can relax on a deckchair with a fresh juice while the howler monkeys go in search of their evening meal in the trees of the rainforest.

AN EXTRA TIP

Combination with Cartagena and/or Mompox.

► INCLUDED

- 5 days and 4 nights off/to Santa Marta
- English-speaking local tour guides (French, Italian, Polish, Russian and Chinese available on request)
- Accommodation in the double room (2 nights Reserva Eldorado with board, 2 nights Ecohabs Parque Tayrona with breakfast)

Tourcode COL BAU 004

DISCOVER NATURE

Colombia offers an almost inexhaustible range of opportunities to discover, experience and enjoy nature. From the Amazon rainforest in the extreme south to the Guajira Desert, all of the climate zones can be found here, and they offer an enormous wealth of animal and plant species. The large nature reserves and national parks ensure that this variety will be protected for the future. Discover lagoons, mangrove forests, upland moors, cloud forests, rainforests and dry forests; observe birds, caimans and monkeys; and take the time to savour the variety of fruits and juices that Colombia's natural environment offers.



THE WORLD OF COFFEE

The mild climate and fertile soil of the volcanic Central Cordillera range offer outstanding conditions for prized Arabica coffee bushes to thrive. Let the coffee farmers show you the secrets of coffee, visit the botanical garden or observe how bamboo has been rediscovered and refined as a building material. A journey in a Willys jeep through the colourful villages and subsequent refreshing dip in the hotel swimming pool round off an eventful day. In the Cocora Valley, wax palms of up to 40 metres in height stand like matchsticks in a mountain pasture. Explore the valley on foot or on horseback, then savour fresh trout on the grill.

► INCLUDED

- 3 days and 2 nights off/to Bogotá
- English-speaking local tour guides (French, Italian, Polish, Russian and Chinese available on request)
- Transfers and entrance fees as specified in the programme
- Accommodation in a double room with breakfast

Tourcode COL BAU 006





HOLIDAY COMPONENTS

TREKKING COCUY

It is one of the most fascinating mountain regions in South America, and this national park's landscape is characterised by crystal-clear lakes, white glaciers and golden brown cliffs. A trekking tour will take you around the Sierra Nevada del Cocuy in six days.

Physical fitness and surefootedness are required in order to master the stages of up to seven hours at altitudes of 4,000 to 4,600 metres. In order to prepare and acclimate yourself to the altitude, you will start with a hike near Villa de Leyva to Laguna de Iguaque (altitude of 3,600 metres). Following this tour, you will have the opportunity to relax in the thermal baths of Paipa. During the trek you will be staying in a tent, with comfortable hotels before and after. January to March and July/August are the best times of the year to travel.

► INCLUDED

- 11 days and 10 nights off/to Bogotá
- English-speaking local tour guides (French, Italian, Polish, Russian and Chinese available on request)
- Accommodation in a double room with breakfast (during the Trekkings tent and board)

Tourcode COL BAU 007

HIKING DOWN THE CAMINOS REALES

On this tour a number of different one-day hikes allow you to discover various provinces of historic interest and attractive landscapes in Boyacá and Santander. Following a visit to the Salt Cathedral of Zipaquirá, you will journey to Villa de Leyva, a lovely little colonial village. The first walk leads through slightly hilly terrain to the Ecce Homo Convent. While underway you will view fossils and "El Infiernito", the astronomical observatory of the Muisca. After your return there will still be sufficient time for a stroll around Villa de Leyva. The second hike leads to Laguna de Iguaque in Páramo at an elevation of more than 3,000 metres. The Muisca believed that Bachué, the mother of life, emerged from this lake. Following an entertaining journey through the green hills, you will arrive at Barichara in Santander. Here you will spend two days hiking on the Caminos Reales, a network of roads that was built in the nineteenth century by von Lengerke, a German engineer. After a journey through the Canyon del Chicamocha, the tour concludes in Bucaramanga. From here you will fly to Bogotá.

► INCLUDED

- 7 days and 6 nights off/to Bogotá
- German/English-language local travel line
- Accommodation with breakfast and walking food supply

Tourcode COL BAU 008



ACTIVE RELAXATION

Colombia's varied natural environment is an open invitation for exploration on foot or horseback or by boat. Numerous tours take place in nature reserves, where it is possible to observe plants and animals without being disturbed. Colombia's bird life in particular is unique, with countless endemic species. The upland moors of Páramos, at an elevation of more than 3,200 metres, feature the giant Frailejóns (Espeletia) in a fascinating ecosystem that is not found outside the northern Andes in this form.

AN EXTRA TIP

HORSEBACK RIDING – Whether it be in the steep valleys of the Andes or the endless savannahs of the Caribbean coast and the Llanos, the horse continues to be an essential means of transport, and riding a widespread sport. Everywhere where hikes are on offer, it is also possible to go on excursions on horseback, along the sea or in the mountains.

GOLFING – Colombia provides golfers with some outstanding opportunities to play on courses in a wide range of settings. Whether it be in the highlands around Bogotá, temperate Medellín, Santander, Pereira or near the warm Caribbean coast, there are beautifully situated golf courses. Colombia's outstanding cuisine provides the perfect conclusion to a day on the links.



GRANITE MOUNTAINS & RAINFOREST

This trip takes you into a region of eastern Colombia that has yet to be discovered by tourists. Its untouched nature and fantastic landscapes amazed Alexander von Humboldt 200 years ago when he was on his research expedition on the Orinoco River. Savannas, rainforest, granite monoliths and broad rivers are found close together, offering a wide spectrum of sights to see. A varied programme includes visits to Amerindian communities, observation of animals and hikes in the rounded granite mountains of Mavecure.

► INCLUDED

- 5 days and 4 nights off/to Bogotá
- German/English-language local travel line
- Accommodation in a double room with full board

Tourcode COL BAU 010

AMAZONAS

The Earth's largest rainforest allows you to immerse yourself in an entirely different world. Discover a distinct microcosm of birds, monkeys and insects from your vantage point on suspended bridges between 30-metre-high treetops. Watch how the pink river dolphins leap around the boat, go fishing for piranhas and let your local guide teach you how to weave various palm leaves to create a backpack. The lodges are a two- to three-hour river journey away from Leticia.

► INCLUDED

- 5 days and 4 nights off/to Bogotá
- German/English-language local travel line
- Accommodation in a double room with full board

Tourcode COL BAU 009

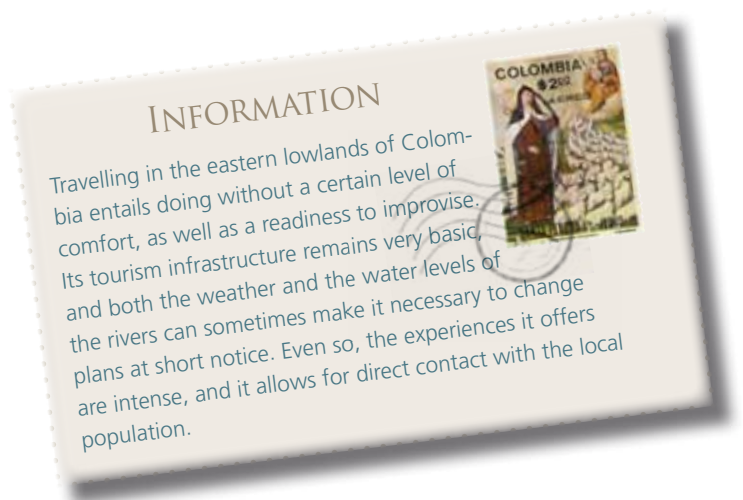
COLOURFUL RIVERS

The southern part of the Sierra de la Macarena is traversed by the Caño Cristales, a crystal-clear river whose algae cloaks it in a rainbow of colour. Shorter walks allow you to experience this natural wonder on foot, while also offering you the opportunity to swim in the river or enjoy a view of the small waterfalls. With a bit of luck, you may even see caimans, turtles and numerous birds during your journey along the Río Guyabero.

► INCLUDED

- 4 days and 3 nights off/to Bogotá
- German/English-language local travel line
- Accommodation in a double room with full board

Tourcode COL BAU 011





HOLIDAY COMPONENTS

CARTAGENA & THE SEA

Cartagena is an enchanting city offering a mix of the colonial period and modernity, the Caribbean and the Andes, and Africa and the Americas. Its old town is a UNESCO World Cultural Heritage Site. It has been the setting for countless films, venue for numerous cultural events and offers culinary variety that is without rival. Combined with some time relaxing on one of its quiet beaches a little ways away from the city, Cartagena is perfect for a short relaxing trip or as the concluding highlight to a Colombia holiday.

EVENT TIP

HAY FESTIVAL CARTAGENA

Late January

Every year, a colourful mixture of readings, concerts, panel discussions and exhibitions brings lovers of culture from around the world to Cartagena. www.hayfestival.com

► INCLUDED

- 3 nights in the city and 4 nights on the beach from/to Cartagena
- Tour of the city with a German-speaking tour guide
- Accommodation in a double room (3 nights in Cartagena with breakfast, 4 nights in a beach hotel with full board)

Tourcode COL BAU 012

PACIFIC COAST

Colombia's Pacific coast holds a unique combination of rainforest and the sea. Large secluded beaches are an open invitation to enjoy the sun, sand and surf, while the rainforest is ideal for hikes in which one can admire nature's variety, from colourful poison dart frogs to exotic orchids. From July to October you can watch the humpbacked whales who come into the bays to calve. There are many outstanding sports for diving enthusiasts, particularly for those looking to observe large fish. Did you know that the South American surfing championship is held in Nuquí?

► INCLUDED

- 5 days and 4 nights (Monday – Friday) from/to Medellin
- Flight to/from Medellin
- Accommodation in a double room with full board, all inclusive

Tourcode COL BAU 013

AN EXTRA TIP

Spend a few days in a private villa on the beach, chat with the fishers and let the chef prepare you a meal of fresh fish with exquisite coconut rice. Relax in a hammock with a Cocoloco cocktail direct from the coconut.

RELAX AND ENJOY

With both a Pacific and Caribbean coastline, Colombia offers a wide range of opportunities to enjoy the sun, sand and surf. The best options are usually somewhat quiet and out of the way, yet their crystal-clear water, secluded beaches and friendly hosts make the journey worthwhile.



CAPURGANÁ

A car-free fishing village that can only be reached by plane or boat, Capurganá is located on the border with Panama. In addition to the sun, sand and surf, there are also a number of excursions that can be undertaken, including into the rainforest, to the Kuna Indians on the San Blas Islands or simply walks along the beach. Fish and shellfish are prepared fresh right on the beach, while a gentle breeze carries the salsa music from the village square to the waterside. It is hard to imagine greater relaxation.

► INCLUDED

- 5 days and 4 nights (Monday to Friday) from/to Medellin

Tourcode COL BAU 014

HOTELS IN COLOMBIA

Colombians people are extremely hospitable, something which is particularly evident in the smaller hotels. We have selected some of Colombia's best hotels for you, each of which is distinguished by its location, individual furnishings and personal service. In addition to the establishments we have listed here, we also offer other hotels throughout Colombia. Just ask us.



BARICHARA - LA NUBE POSADA

This small hotel in picturesque Barichara (Santander) has been restored in the traditional style and lovingly furnished. There are numerous small stores, galleries and artisan workshops in the direct vicinity. Its quiet garden is a relaxing place to enjoy a fresh fruit juice or a glass of wine.

► BODY & SOUL

The hotel-restaurant is one of the best restaurants in the area, offering outstanding cuisine that combines fresh local ingredients with Mediterranean flair for a flavourful experience. Guests can

indulge themselves in the wellness area while savouring the view of the broad valley of the Río Suárez.

► AMENITIES

Country-specific rating ***
Shower/WC, television, room safe,
Wellness area, restaurant.

TourTourcode COL HOT 003



PEREIRA - HOTEL SAZAGUA

This boutique hotel near Pereira (coffee-growing region) is ideal for travellers who, after excursions into the picturesque villages and natural surroundings, are looking to enjoy the comfort of a modern, appealingly furnished small hotel. There is also a golf course nearby which can be used.

► BODY & SOUL

The restaurant, which has won multiple prizes, is a great place to eat, serving dishes that combine Colombian and European flavours in the most exquisite manner. The park is an open invitation

to spend a day relaxing by the pool or enjoying the wellness area.

► AMENITIES

Country-specific rating ****
Shower/WC, television, room safe, pool,
Wellness area, restaurant.

Tourcode COL HOT 002



CARTAGENA - HOTEL ALFIZ

This carefully renovated colonial house is located right at the heart of Cartagena's vibrant old town. Every one of its eight rooms has been individually furnished to tell a chapter of Cartagena's rich history.

► BODY & SOUL

After a stroll through the old town, the small roof terrace offers a great place to relax with a drink. Thanks to its central location, this hotel is but a short walk away from some of Cartagena's many outstanding restaurants. Friendly staff

provide are happy to provide assistance in choosing a restaurant, obtaining tickets for one of the many cultural festivals or organising a beach excursion.

► AMENITIES

Country-specific rating ***
Shower/WC, television, room safe, pool,
restaurant (breakfast only).

Tourcode COL HOT 001

HOTELS COLOMBIA - BOGOTÁ AND MEDELLÍN



CASA DE LA BOTICA

As a result of its location at the heart of the old town, all of the sights and museums are only a few minutes' walk away. The courtyard in the colonial house is an ideal location for enjoying a coffee away from the hustle and bustle of the city.

► AMENITIES

Country-specific rating ****
Shower/WC, television, room safe,
Wellness area, restaurant.

Tourcode COL HOT 004



BH EL RETIRO

Located in the northern part of Bogotá, just a few minutes' walk from the Zona T with an outstanding selection of restaurants, bars and shops, the bh EL Retiro is the ideal base for spending a few days in Bogotá. The rooms are comfortable and modern.

► AMENITIES

Country-specific rating ****
Shower/WC, television, room safe,
restaurant (breakfast only).

Tourcode COL HOT 005



MEDELLIN ROYAL

This comfortable hotel is located in the modern part of Medellin. The Parque Lleras, home to numerous bars and restaurants, is but a few minutes away, and numerous shopping opportunities can be found in the direct vicinity.

► AMENITIES

Country-specific rating ****
Shower/WC, television, room safe, pool,
restaurant.

Tourcode COL HOT 006

HOTELS COLOMBIA - COFFEE-GROWING REGION



FINCA GALICIA

This cosy coffee finca, located south of Armenia at the foot of the Central Cordillera range, is situated in the middle of a huge garden by a small creek. The owners personally see to the wellbeing of their guests, and are happy to take them on a tour of their orchards.

► AMENITIES

Country-specific rating **
Shower/WC, room safe, pool,
restaurant.

Tourcode COL HOT 007



HACIENDA SAN JOSE

The Hacienda San José is a magnificent colonial house in a large park near Pereira. An ideal starting point for excursions into the coffee-growing region.

► AMENITIES

Country-specific rating ****
Shower/WC, television, room safe, pool,
restaurant.

Tourcode COL HOT 008

HOTELS COLOMBIA - CARTAGENA



QUADRIFOLIO

The Quadrifolio is located at the heart of Cartagena's old town, yet this luxurious hotel still boasts a quiet location. It is an oasis of calm and luxury in which one can obtain the ultimate in relaxation after a stroll through town, with a roof terrace that offers an amazing view of the sunset.

► AMENITIES

Country-specific rating ****
Shower/WC, television, room safe, small pool, restaurant (breakfast only).

Tourcode COL HOT 009



CASA QUERO

Located in a quiet side street in the historic old town, this is a pleasant and extremely comfortable guest-house. The bright rooms do justice to their names, for each is named after a noble colonial overlord – and guests are treated like one.

► AMENITIES

Country-specific rating ****
Shower/WC, television, room safe, small pool, restaurant (breakfast only).

Tourcode COL HOT 010



MONTERREY

The Hotel Monterrey is located across from the clock tower in the city wall by the "Camellón de los Mártires" park. The historic old town is only two minutes away.

► AMENITIES

Country-specific rating ***
Shower/WC, television, room safe, pool, restaurant.

Tourcode COL HOT 011

HOTELS COLOMBIA - BOYACA



POSADA DE SAN ANTONIO

The small colonial-style hotel is located one block away from the large Plaza Mayor Villa de Leyvas. It has been lovingly decorated with numerous items of historical memorabilia.

► AMENITIES

Country-specific rating ***
Shower/WC, television, room safe, restaurant.

Tourcode COL HOT 012



HACIENDA BAZA

The large Hacienda Baza can be found somewhat off the beaten track, in an idyllic little valley in the Eastern Cordillera range. An ideal location for hiking and relaxation.

► AMENITIES

Country-specific rating ***
Shower/WC, television, room safe, restaurant.

Tourcode COL HOT 013



TRAVEL INFORMATION

► SHORT DESCRIPTION

Follow in the footsteps of Alexander von Humboldt from the Caribbean coast to the Chimborazo. During the second phase of his journey through the Americas, this great researcher travelled through Colombia and Ecuador performing particularly in-depth geographical studies.

► HIGHLIGHTS

- Colonial Cartagena
- Eldorado and the Gold Museum
- Magdalena Valley
- Historic Quito
- Alley of the volcanoes

► INCLUDED

Domestic flights, overnight accommodation in a double room with breakfast in four-star hotels, additional meals as specified in the programme, airport and overland transfers in private cars or minibuses, excursions as specified in the programme, German-speaking tour guides.

Tourcode KOM REI 001



IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF HUMBOLDT

1ST DAY

Country combination – In the footsteps of Humboldt

2ND DAY | (B*)

A tour of Cartagena, including Fort San Felipe and the La Popa Monastery. This is followed by a tour of the historic old town.

3RD DAY | (B/L*)

Flight to Bucaramanga and a journey through the Canyon des Chicamocha to Barichara.

4TH DAY (B*)

A short hike down the Caminos Reales and a visit to the artisan workshops in Barichara.

5TH DAY (B*)

Journey to Villa de Leyva and a visit to the Ecce Homo Convent.

6TH DAY (B/L*)

From the Villa de Leyva via the Laguna de Guatavita and the Salt Cathedral of Zipaquirá to Bogotá.

7TH DAY (B*)

Tour of historical Bogotá and visit to the Gold Museum.

8TH DAY (B*)

From the plateau, the tour heads into the hot valley of the Río Magdalena to Honda and Mariquita, where Humboldt met the renowned botanist Mutis.

9TH DAY (B*)

Following a steep journey over the Andes, a coffee finca is visited on the way to a hacienda near Pereira for an overnight stay.

10TH DAY

The journey continues by plane from Pereira to Quito.

11TH DAY (B/L*)

Following a visit to the equator monument, a tour of the historic old town of Quito.

12TH DAY (B/L/D*)

In the morning, a visit to a hat manufacturer, followed by a journey past snow-covered volcanoes to a hacienda in Patate in an idyllic location.

13TH DAY (B/L/D*)

Journey through the narrow gorge of the Pastaza River to Baños, the city of the baths. This is followed by a journey to Riobamba which passes by Chimborazo, a peak which Humboldt tried to be the first to ascend.

14TH DAY (B/L/D*)

The day is marked by the contrast between one of the most extensive collections of religious art in the Americas and Ingapirca, an Inca fort.

15TH DAY (B*)

Walk through the colonial old town of Cuenca and its famous hanging houses. End of the programme.

EXTRA-TIPP

Top off this fascinating trip with a stay on the Galapagos Islands.

* B=BREAKFAST, L=LUNCH, D=DINNER

INCAS & THE CARIBBEAN

1ST DAY

Arrival in Lima.

2ND DAY (B*)

Tour of the old town of Lima.

3RD DAY (B*)

Flight to Cusco and journey into the Urubamba Valley, the Sacred Valley.

4TH DAY (B*)

Tour of the ruins of Pisac and Ollantaytambo. Depending on the day of the week, a visit to the traditional market in Pisac.

5TH DAY (B*)

Journey with the Vistadome train to Aguas Calientes. This is followed by a visit to the Inca fort Machu Picchu. In the afternoon there is time to take a dip in the thermal springs.

6TH DAY (B*)

A choice of climbing Pusikusi Mountain across from Machu Picchu or exploring the hotel's giant botanical gardens with a knowledgeable guide. In the afternoon, a return journey to Cusco.

7TH DAY (B*)

Tour of Cusco and its blend of Inca structures and colonial architecture.

8TH DAY (B*)

This day is free for you to discover more of Cusco.

9TH DAY (B*)

Train journey through the plateau of Altiplano to Puno on Lake Titicaca.

10TH DAY (B*)

Excursion to the floating reed islands of the Uros on Lake Titicaca.

11TH DAY (B*)

Flight from Puno to Cartagena via Lima.

12TH DAY (B*)

A tour of Cartagena, including Fort San Felipe and La Popa Monastery. This is followed by a tour of the historic old town.

13TH DAY (B*)

This day is free for you to discover more of Cartagena on your own.

14–17TH DAY (B*)

Enjoy the ultimate in relaxation on the beach on the Islas de San Bernardo.

18TH DAY (B*)

Flight to Bogotá.

19TH DAY (B*)

Tour of historical Bogotá and visit to the Gold Museum. End of the programme.



* B= BREAKFAST

TRAVEL INFORMATION

► SHORT DESCRIPTION

The "Incas and the Caribbean – Peru and Colombia" tour invites you to take a very special holiday, as it combines the variety these countries offer with your individual holiday wishes: whether it be hiking in the mountains, relaxation on the beach, visiting the colonial city of Cartagena or the Inca fort Machu Picchu, you have the opportunity to get to know different sides of Latin America.

► HIGHLIGHTS

- Lima – the former capital of Spanish South America
- Machu Picchu – mysterious Inca fort
- Cusco – the Inca metropolis
- Lake Titicaca – a 'sea' at an elevation of more than 4,000 metres

► TERMINE

- Every Thursday and Sunday

► INCLUDED

Domestic flights, overnight accommodation in a double room with breakfast, transfers by private car, entrance fees as specified in the programme, German-/English-/French-speaking tour guides, other languages on request

Tourcode KOM REI 002

EXTRA-TIPP

Spend an extra day in Bogotá and follow the trail of the legendary Eldorado to the Laguna de Guatavita.



USEFUL INFORMATION FOR THE JOURNEY

► ENTERING THE COUNTRY

A passport that is valid for at least another six months is required to enter the country. Most EU citizens and Swiss citizens do not require a visa and are able to remain in the country for as long as 90 days (183 days in Peru). If a connecting flight is required, it is still necessary to take baggage through customs and to go to the check-in counter for the connecting flight. We recommend making copies of identification documents and credit cards and leaving the originals in the hotel safe. Passports should also be left in this safe, and a copy should be carried at all times. Identification checks are very frequent for overland journeys by bus or car.



► FOOD AND DRINK

Health and hygiene standards are relatively high in the cities and in tourist areas. In order to spend a trouble-free holiday, however, there are a few rules that should be followed: only drink water from sealed bottles, eat only food that has been sufficiently cooked/fried and avoid unpeeled fruit



and salads. These restrictions do not apply to the food and drink on offer in good hotels and restaurants.

► FLYING

The free baggage allowance on domestic flights is generally smaller than on inter-continental flights. Usually the limit is one item of luggage weighing no more than 20 kilograms. On some regional flights the limit is only 15 kilograms. These restrictions will be specified on the ticket.

► MONEY

Credit cards and debit cards (EC cards, Maestro) are the best way to obtain money from automated teller machines (ATMs). Credit cards are accepted in all major cities, restaurants and shops. Travellers cheques are secure, yet using them can be difficult in some cases. Cash can be exchanged without difficulty in currency exchange offices.

► ALTITUDE SICKNESS

When trips into the high mountains are carefully prepared, there is only a slight risk for healthy individuals of suffering from altitude sickness. Good recovery is also possible. You should allow enough time to acclimate yourself to the altitude, particularly for higher destinations in the Andes such as Cusco (3,360 metres) and Lake Titicaca (3,827 metres). We recommend that you avoid physical strain during the first few hours, avoid alcohol, eat only light meals and drink a lot of liquids. The risk of altitude sickness for healthy adults is relatively equal (the same for smokers and non-smokers, fit and unfit, old and young). Those with cardiovascular or pulmonary ailments are advised to avoid spending time at altitudes of over 2,000 metres. If you are uncertain, please consult your physician in advance.

► VACCINATIONS

The following vaccinations are recommended: diphtheria, tetanus, polio, typhoid, hepatitis A/B and yellow fever. There are no mandatory vaccinations at the current time. There is only a slight risk of malaria in the areas visited by tourists. Please consult with your physician before your departure, and consult the websites of the German Foreign Office (www.auswaertiges-amt.de) and German Institute for Tropical Medicine (www.dtg.org) for more information.

► PROTECTION AGAINST INSECTS

The rainforest in particular holds mosquitoes and other biting/stinging insects. Proper protection helps to prevent not only itchy skin rashes, but also the transmission of diseases such as malaria and yellow fever. Choosing the correct clothing is of decisive importance. Wear long trousers, long sleeves and tightly-woven socks. You should also utilise mosquito repellent. While in the rainforest, make sure that you have a mosquito net over your bed which can be completely closed.

► INTERNET

There are numerous internet cafés. As a rule, the hotels have a 'business centre' or 'computer corner' where it is possible to access the internet. If you have your laptop with you, you will find that there are many places where you can utilise wireless internet; in many hotels this is free of charge.



► SECURITY

In general, you should follow the following rules:

- Do not wear any expensive-looking jewellery or watches..
- If it is necessary to carry important documents, do so in a money belt or in a belt with a zippered compartment on the inside.

- Dress as inconspicuously as possible.
- Carry any cameras or camcorders as inconspicuously as possible.
- Always order taxis by phone (or have this done for you); there are taxi ranks at shopping centres.
- If you are uncertain whether it is safe to enter a specific area, enquire at the hotel.
- If you need to get money from ATMs, do so in shopping centres or at the bank if at all possible.
- Contact with drugs and the export of living or dead animals and antiquities is strictly forbidden.



► ELECTRICITY

110 volts, with flat plugs (as in the USA, bring an adapter).

► TAXIS

In the cities there are a large number of taxi firms for whom it is possible to order a taxi by phone or through the hotel. At restaurants and hotels you should ask them to call a taxi for you. In some cities the taxis do not have meters; in such cases you should negotiate the price in advance.

► PHONES

The country Tourcode for reaching Colombia from abroad is +57. If you have a mobile phone, it is a good idea to purchase a local prepaid SIM card. This makes it possible for you to make arrangements with local tour guides at short notice, make restaurant reservations or obtain information on journey times. High roaming fees are charged for European mobile phones.

► TIME ZONE

Colombia is five hours behind UTC, six hours behind Central European Time (CET) and seven hours behind Central European Summer Time (CEST).



KONT@UR

THE COLOMBIA EXPERTS

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