

COLOMBIA - AUTHENTIC COLOMBIA EXPERIENCE



INTRODUCTION

The diversity of Colombia is astounding. Gorgeous beaches, beautiful coffee plantations and colonial cities will have you never wanting to leave this country. Start your 9 day journey in the thrilling capital of Bogota, before exploring the coffee region and natural surroundings.

ITINERARY

DAY 1: Transfer Airport / Hotel in Bogota

On arrival, please make your way to the Arrivals Hall where our representative will be waiting for you to transfer you to your hotel. He/she will be holding a sign with your name on it. Should you not able to locate them, please refer to the front of your itinerary for emergency contact details of our representative office. Please note this service is with local guide.



TRIP CODE

CMTSACE

DEPARTURE

Friday or Saturday

DURATION

9 Days

LOCATIONS

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DAY 1: Bogota

Colombia's capital Bogotá is a vibrant and cosmopolitan city located in central Colombia on a vast plain 2,600m above sea level, cradled by the Andean mountains. The "Old City" of La Candelaria is the historic cultural centre of the city. Its cobbled streets are lined with colonial buildings housing museums, libraries, restaurants, hotels and bars set amongst convents, churches and homes that date back 300 years. Bogotá's most famous museum is the Gold Museum with over 55,000 pieces of gold, bone, ceramic and textiles from the Pre-Hispanic cultures such as the Tayrona, San Agustín, Chocó, Quimbaya, Muisca and Tierradentro.



DAY 2: Bogota City Tour with Monserrate

Today you will visit the historic centre of the city known as La Candelaria with its great architectural and cultural heritage made up of large Spanish colonial buildings. Visit the Plaza de Bolívar, the Cathedral and the Botero and Gold Museum.



DAY 2: Bogota Night Tour

In the evening leave in the company of a local chef to the Andrés Carne de Res. This is considered one of the most famous restaurants in all of Latin America and the most original restaurant in Colombia due to its eccentric decoration and great rumba environment.



DAY 3: Transfer Hotel / Airport in Bogota

Depart from your hotel in Bogotá and transfer to the Airport. (English-speaking Guide)



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DAY 3: Transfer Airport / Hotel in Pereira - with guide

On arrival, please make your way to the Arrivals Hall where our representative will be waiting for you to transfer you to your hotel. He/she will be holding a sign with your name on it. Should you not able to locate them, please refer to the front of your itinerary for emergency contact details of our representative office. Please note this service is with local guide.



DAY 4: Full Day Valle del Cocora & Salento

Driving to Salento, the emblematic town of our coffee region and exploring the cloud forests is a must for many visitors. This is a very active little town that has seen history develop from the days of the conquest. On foot or by vehicle you will witness the magnificent wax palms that were described by Humboldt as “the forest inside the forest”. Some of the options during your visit include trekking for up to 4 hours into the heart of pristine forests in private and public natural reserves. Return to the hotel for dinner.



DAY 5: Hacienda Bambusa - San Alberto Coffee Dive

The coffee region is proud about its greatest legacy to Colombia. This is what so many have come to see: the red beans that turn their seeds into magical moments to share. As you meet some of the most passionate Colombians sharing their experience and knowledge, you understand so many new things about a drink that has been always with us, but from this day after, it will gain a whole new meaning. You will visit one of the most attractive coffee states to witness the daily life at this traditional hacienda. Coffee cupping with an expert will bring your senses to a higher level. This excursion has been specially designed for those who want to dive deep into the cup, while enjoying one of the best views over the Quindio Valley. Enjoy a gourmet picnic during the excursion. Return to the hotel for dinner.



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DAY 6: Transfer Hotel / Airport in Pereira

Departure from your hotel in Pereira and transfer to the Airport (only driver)



DAY 6: Transfer Airport / Hotel in Cartagena - with Guide

On arrival, please make your way to the Arrivals Hall where our representative will be waiting for you to transfer you to your hotel. He/she will be holding a sign with your name on it. Should you not able to locate them, please refer to the front of your itinerary for emergency contact details of our representative office. Please note this service is with local guide.



DAY 6: Cartagena - Panoramic City Tour

Today we invite you to venture through the UNESCO World Heritage listed city. Start with a panoramic view of the city from the Monasterio and Iglesia de La Popa, formerly known as the "Popa del Galeon" and famous for resembling the stern of a galleon. Constructed in 1606 this church and monastery are located at a height of 140m above sea level from where one can enjoy 360° views of the city and the sea as well as the port zone, one of the most important in the Caribbean. Continuing to the San Felipe fortress, erected in honour of the poet from Cartagena, Don Luis Carlos López, made famous for his sonnet "A mi ciudad nativa" It was built on San Lázaro hill to defend the city from pirate attacks. Walk around the fortress and learn how the castle was constructed with its engineering feats, tunnels, underground galleries and passageways. Lastly head to the handicrafts zone of the Bovedas, a collection of archways built into the city wall of Cartagena and that were used until the end of the 1700's to house armaments and then later as a prison in the XIX century. Nowadays it's an artisan centre for local handicrafts. Return to the hotel.



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DAY 6: Horse Carriage Tour

In the evening, take a magical tour by night of the walled city, stepping back in time and enjoying the sights from an open horse drawn carriage. The sound of the horse's hooves on the colonial streets, the refreshing breeze, the night colours of Cartagena, the architecture and the beautiful and atmospheric scenery, make the visitor feel as if he or she is part of a film.



DAY 7: Local Market & Cooking Lesson

This morning you will be accompanied to the Bazurto Market Place, the local food market of Cartagena. This is the city's largest market and where one can find all the fresh products available in the Caribbean region. Try some of the exotic fruits and follow this expert, known to the vendors, through this area as they welcome him to their barrio. For this reason this visit feels very much like a true local experience. After the market, return to the city centre where the chef of the "Reducto" restaurant will prepare some of the most well known and typical Cartagena recipes with you. Some examples are "Limonada de Coco" - Coconut lemonade, and Posta Negra (a coconut sweetened beef). After the cooking lesson you will enjoy your own meal.



DAY 8: Palenque (Full Day)

Transfer to San Basillio de Palenque. The village was declared Masterpieces of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity. The local inhabitants retain African influences in their daily routines.



DAY 9: Transfer Hotel / Airport in Cartagena

Departure from your hotel in Cartagena and transfer to the Airport (Private car, Bilingual guide)



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INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

Accommodation	Deluxe
Inclusions	Accommodation as per the program, Daily breakfast and meals as per the itinerary, Private transfers & excursions with bilingual speaking guide, Domestic air tickets. Not Included: Extra expenses not indicated in description. Airport Tax
Difficulty Rating	1 - Easy
Single Surcharge	FROM US\$820 - Subject to season and availability, contact us for more details.
Notes	Contact us for more details
Price Dependent upon	Season and Availability

SUSTAINABILITY

Chimu Adventures undertakes a number of sustainability measures within its operations including:

- 1) Only using local guides and office staff to both maximise local employment opportunities and minimise carbon footprints. Local guides also ensure you benefit from the intimate knowledge, passion and culture of the country you're visiting.
- 2) Where possible, using locally owned and operated boutique hotels to maximise the return to the local community.
- 3) Chimu's "Pass it on" programme has provided funding to hundreds of local community projects in Latin America. Our aim is to empower local communities, helping them to develop their own infrastructure for the future. Since 2006, we have been working with Kiva (a well-known Non-Governmental Organisation), providing hundreds of loans to local businesses all over South America.
- 4) In our pre tour information we provide a range of tips and advice on how to minimise your impact on both local environments and communities.
- 5) Chimu Adventures' offices also take a number of sustainability measures including carbon offsets for company vehicles and most staff travel. Chimu Adventure's internal processes are also structures to create a paperless office and to reduce waste. There are also internal programmes to help staff minimise their carbon footprint such as our staff

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bike purchase assistance plan which encourages office staff to commute to work via bicycle. Currently almost half of our office based staff commute to work via bicycle.

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