

COLOMBIA - COCORA VALLEY EXTENSION



INTRODUCTION

Journey to the centre of Colombia's coffee region and the town of Salento to fill your cup with experiences. You will learn how coffee is made at a local plantation, taste a drop of Colombia's special brew and venture into the mountains of Los Nevados National Park. There, stare up at the almost sixty foot Colombian wax palms in the Cocora Valley. Finally, you can wander in the footsteps of Simon Bolivar as you explore the quaint town of Salento.

On this all-encompassing personalised itinerary, Chimu will provide travel logistics for your travel party for the duration of your journey, plus expert guides for all the major sightseeing as per itinerary. Each night you will stay in superior accommodation, handpicked by our experienced team for their creature comforts, convenient locations, and impeccable service.

ITINERARY

DAY 1: Arrive in Salento

Forty-five minutes west of Bogota, Colombia's vibrant and cosmopolitan capital, lies Salento. Situated at the centre of Colombia's coffee region, or Eje Cafetero, Salento is the gateway to the snow-capped peaks of Los Nevados National Natural Park where you can find the Cocora Valley. On arrival you will be transferred the one hour journey to Salento to your charming and comfortable hotel that will be your home during your stay.



TRIP CODE

COMASCE

DEPARTURE

Daily

DURATION

4 Days

LOCATIONS

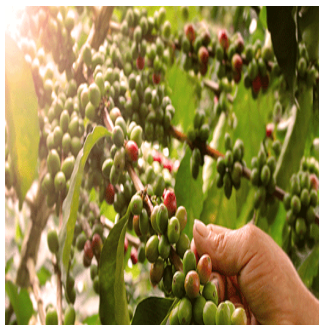
Colombia



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DAY 2: Coffee Process & Tasting Tour

You can't travel to Salento without taking the time to have a sip of the local coffee to start your day. Today you will tour El Ocaso Coffee Plantation where you will learn everything from why this geographic location is suitable to plant coffee to how it's planted and picked by hand. You will also discover the process involved in producing coffee from the beans and how to best prepare a cup that you can then enjoy. The coffee at El Ocaso has a distinct smell and will leave a unique flavour on your tastebuds. The surrounding scenery of the plantation is also breathtaking and several bird species can be spotted while on tour. After your coffee pick me up, you will return to Salento where you can enjoy some free time at the hotel or wander into town and find a restaurant to try the local trout.



DAY 3: Valle de Cocora

Situated within the Los Nevados National Natural Park you will find the Cocora Valley, or Valle de Cocora. Today you will travel to this region and enjoy a local cocktail on arrival called canelazo. This drink is made from brown sugar, cinnamon, cloves, orange and lime juice with Colombian aguardiente, or firewater. You will then take a hike along one of the trails to see the national tree of Colombia, the wax palm. These trees grow to an incredible height of almost sixty metres and are found all over the steep grassy hills of the Cocora Valley. Returning to Salento, enjoy a walking tour through the town, taking in colourful street of Calle Real and the lively square of Plaza de Bolivar. At the centre of the square you will see a statue of Simon Bolivar. It's said the liberator passed through Salento on the Quindio pass after crossing the Andes and ordered an upgrade to the pass, leading the town to grow and flourish. There are many handicraft shops in town where you can purchase a souvenir before returning to your hotel.



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DAY 4: Depart Salento

A transfer will take you to the airport for your departure flight.



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INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

Accommodation	Hotel
Inclusions	<p>Inclusions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Private airport transfers Accommodation with breakfast daily Other meals where stated Sightseeing with local English-speaking guide as detailed in the itinerary <p>Exclusions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> International and internal flights not indicated Visa and reciprocity fees (if applicable) Travel Insurance Beverages Personal expenses Gratuities for tour guides/drivers Any items not mentioned as included
Difficulty Rating	1 (easy adventure)
Single Surcharge	A single supplement surcharge applies and is subject to availability. Please contact us for more information.
Notes	<p>Prices are based on per person, twin share.</p> <p>Prices are correct at time of publishing but are subject to change at any time.</p> <p>All entrance fees are subject to change without prior notice.</p>
Price Dependent upon	Seasonality and availability at time of booking.

SUSTAINABILITY

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Being environmentally accountable is a crucial part of our organisation. Chimu is currently striving towards using less paper, taking several initiatives to do so and tracking our progress along the way. Our goal: A paperless organisation. For this reason, all information given to you will be sent electronically. We encourage those who choose to travel with us to support our aspirations and actions and ask that you reconsider printing out documentation. To view these documents, you can download them to your iPad or portable computer before and during your trip.

Chimu is passionate and dedicated to sustainability measures and understands the crucial part sustainability plays within the tourism industry.

We use local guides and office staff to both maximise local employment opportunities and minimise carbon footprint. Local guides also ensure you benefit from the intimate knowledge, passion and culture of the country you're visiting. Our guides are all highly qualified (most with university degrees) or equip with many years of experience and are paid above the standard wage. Whether it be our knowledgeable local guides, locally produced meals or the transport on tour, we do not use imported goods when local products are available. We aim to minimise our impact on the environment and give as much back as possible to the communities we work in.

While visiting the many national parks, heritage sites, museums and landmarks our travellers are encouraged to explore whilst remaining culturally aware and sensitive. We further encourage you to buy appropriate souvenirs and discourage the buying of anything wrongfully made or taken from the environment i.e. shells and endangered species products. Information on how you can be environmentally conscious, and travel responsibly will be made available in our Travellers Guides and provided during your travels by guides and staff.

For more information on our sustainability policies, including how we are striving towards being a paperless organisation, click [HERE](#)

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