SOUTH AMERICA - MAGIC OF COLOMBIA CRUISE | AMAMELODIA



TRIP CODE
AMCOMC8
DEPARTURE
Select Departures Throughout The Year
DURATION
8 Days
LOCATIONS
Colombia

INTRODUCTION

Embark on an unforgettable journey through the heart of Colombia with the Magic of Colombia river cruise, an immersive voyage along the majestic Magdalena River. This enchanting itinerary blends rich cultural traditions, vibrant music, and breath taking landscapes, offering a deeper connection to the soul of this captivating country. Discover colonial treasures like Cartagena and Mompox, both steeped in history and charm, while engaging with the rhythms of cumbia and vallenato in lively riverside towns. Experience the warmth of local communities, from the stilted village of Nueva Venecia to the historic streets of Palenque, the first free town in the Americas. Along the way, indulge in regional cuisine, witness stunning natural beauty, and celebrate Colombia's dynamic spirit with exclusive performances and authentic encounters. Let the Magic of Colombia cruise transport you to a world of wonder, where every moment is infused with history, adventure, and cultural richness.

On this all-encompassing cruise, Chimu Adventures 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.

Please contact us for more information and available dates.

ITINERARY

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DAY 1: Arrive Barranquilla

Arrive in Barranquilla and settle into your stateroom as you prepare for your journey along the Magdalena River. In the evening, enjoy a special Carnaval celebration, bringing the full traditional experience exclusively to AmaWaterways' guests allyear round. Widely considered one of Colombia's most important folkloric celebrations, the Carnaval of Barranquilla has also been declared a UNESCO Masterpiece of Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity, and you will get to revel in this truly authentic experience as you learn the Carnaval's motto: Quien lo vive, es quien lo goza (Those who live it are those who enjoy it).



DAY 2: Nueva Venecia

Visit the Floating Village of Nueva Venecia. A charming town filled with inviting locals, Nueva Venecia, or "New Venice," can only be navigated by boat. With its beautiful colonial houses, vivid architecture and local sanctuary protecting the native flora and fauna, this town highlights the beauty and warmth of Colombia. While here, explore this village and learn more about the lives of its people during a guided tour. Enjoy the traditional crafts and art that is on display, learn about the techniques the fishermen of Nueva Venecia use, and taste the local delicacies as you embrace this village and its unique culture.



DAY 3: Santa Barbara de Pinto - Mompox

Spend your morning in Santa Barbara de Pinto, located on the banks of the Mompox arm of the Magdalena River. Enjoy a walking tour through this traditional town, where you may see local landmarks such as the Santa Barbara Church and enjoy intricate handmade craft created in the town. In the afternoon, arrive in the island town of Mompox, where you will be welcomed with open arms and lively music as local musicians treat you to an exclusive jazz performance.



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DAY 4: Mompox

A town frozen in time, Mompox embodies the appearance of what many villages looked like during colonial times. Founded in 1540, this remote village became an important Spanish trading post. Some Spaniards found Mompox to be a haven for keeping gold and other treasure protected from the pirates that pillaged coastal cities like Cartagena, and with this precious metal and the work of skilled artisans from Spain came beautifully crafted artifacts. Since then, the town has become famous for its incredible filigree jewelry, which you can learn more about during your tour of this town. While visiting the largest inland island in Latin America, journey through the beautiful wetlands, exploring the massive lake that is home to a variety of flora and fauna native to the region, with opportunities to birdwatch at sunrise, early morning and sunset. In either the morning or the afternoon, you can choose to take a stroll through this storied town on a guided walking tour. With stunning colonial churches, breathtaking nature surrounding the town, and delicious local delights such as capa cheese and butifarra, Mompox is sure to be a highlight of your journey along the magnificent Magdalena River.



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DAY 5: Mompox - El Banco

Bid farewell to in Mompox before embarking on a scenic cruise down one of the most breathtaking stretches of the Magdalena River – La Mojana Region – and reaching the town of El Banco, nestled at the intersection of the Magdalena and César rivers. Founded in a location strategic for both the native people and the Spaniards, the town was repeatedly destroyed in their struggles and then rebuilt atop its ashes. In 1749, a freed black slave named José Domingo Ortiz led a group of settlers to this special location, carrying with him a statue of the Virgin Mary, staking this place as their new home. Because of this connection, the Virgin of Candelaria, a special invocation of the Virgin Mary, is specially venerated in this region. Embark on a guided walking of this incredible destination and learn more about its history as the birthplace of cumbia, an iconic genre of music and dance that has now been popularized around the world. What began as a courtship dance practiced by African slaves later incorporated American steps and European and African instruments has become a worldwide sensation, which is especially popular in the Andean region of Colombia. In the evening, enjoy an exclusive cumbia performance by locals.



DAY 6: Magangue - Calamar

Witness the sights, hear the bird calls, and watch the wildlife around you as you spend the day in Magangue. Immerse yourself in the presence of Colombian nature surrounding this city on a birdwatching tour, giving you a unique opportunity to see birds only found in this specific part of the country. Later in the day, visit Calamar. Located at the entrance of the Canal del Dique, this town was first settled in 1840. Witness historic sites such as the Iglesia de la Inmaculada Conception as you tour this beautiful destination by paolo (a bicycle taxi for two).



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DAY 7: Cartagena

Take the day to delight in the beautiful coastal city of Cartagena. Many Spaniards flocked to this location when they heard tales of gold found in the tombs of indigenous leaders, expanding this small port into a thriving city. Start your day with a tour the city, you may witness iconic landmarks such as the Catedral de Cartagena or the stone walls built to protect the city from the plundering of pirates. In the afternoon, witness the incredible UNESCOdesignated San Felipe Castle, the fortress that defended Cartagena from French and British attacks. You will also enjoy a tour through the breathtaking Getsemaní neighborhood. With the vibrant colors of the homes and street art as well as the mouthwatering local delicacies that can be found throughout the area, this historic neighborhood will delight all your senses.



DAY 8: Depart Cartagena

Bid your ship and crew farewell as you disembark and prepare for your flight home.



INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

Accommodation	Cabin On Board Ship

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Inclusions	**INCLUSIONS** All meals on board, plus a special dinner on shore in El Banco Wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner Sip & Sail cocktail hour with complimentary wine, beer, spirits and soft drinks 24/7 Colombian coffee and tea station Fresh water replenished daily Immersive excursions in every destination A knowledgeable guide who will accompany you along your river cruise journey Nightly entertainment including cultural performances High-quality Wi-Fi Port charges **EXCLUSIONS** International or domestic flights Airport transfers unless specified Visa fees and reciprocity fees (if applicable) Travel insurance Personal expenses Gratuities for guides and crew Any additional bar consumption Any meals not mentioned Any items not mentioned as included
Difficulty Rating	1 (Easy)
Single Surcharge	A single supplement surcharge applies and is subject to availability. Please contact us for more information.
Notes	Prices are based on per person, twin share (unless otherwise stated). Prices are correct at time of publishing but are subject to change at any time. Itinerary is subject to change depending on weather conditions, river conditions and/or government regulations.
Price Dependent upon	Seasonality, fuel surcharges, currency fluctuations and availability at time of booking.

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SUSTAINABILITY

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