SOUTH AMERICA - WONDERS OF COLOMBIA CRUISE | AMAMELODIA



TRIP CODE
AMCOWMC8
DEPARTURE
Select Departures Throughout The Year
DURATION
8 Days
LOCATIONS
Colombia

INTRODUCTION

Experience the magic of Colombia, the "Land of a Thousand Rhythms," as you travel along the stunning Magdalena River. Stroll through Palenque, Colombia's first free city, where the beats of cumbia and vallenato fill the air. Wander the colourful streets of GetsemanÃ in Cartagena, a lively artistic hub. Explore the fusion of Spanish and precolonial influences that have shaped Colombia's music, culture, and identity. Let these captivating destinations and the warmth of the locals immerse you in the soul of this remarkable river.

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

DAY 1: Arrive Cartagena & Embarkation



Arrive in Cartagena, the beautiful capital of the Bolivar region located on Colombia’s Caribbean coast. After settling into your stateroom, 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. Upon returning to your ship, embark on your journey along the magical Magdalena River.

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DAY 2: Gambote - Palenque

In the morning, experience the town of Palenque, the first “free town” in the Americas. Founded by those who fled a life of slavery during colonial times, the spirit and appearance of this town has been preserved through time. In 1713, the Spanish crown issued a Royal Decree that officially freed the people of Palenque from slavery. Immerse yourself in the town’s deeply rooted culture and traditions, which are so distinct that UNESCO declared Palenque to be a Masterpiece of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity. An important piece of their heritage is the music and rhythmic style that was developed in this city, which you will enjoy during a special performance by local musicians. 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 paola (a bicycle taxi for two).



DAY 3: Santa Barbara de Pinto

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 crafts created in the town. In the afternoon, arrive at the island town of Mompox, where you will be welcomed with open arms and lively music during an exclusive jazz performance played by local musicians.



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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

Bid farewell to Mompox before embarking on a scenic cruise down one of the most breathtaking stretches of the Magdalena River – a picturesque part of the La Mojana region – and reaching the town of El Banco, nestled at the intersection of the Magdalena and César rivers. Founded in a strategic location 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 tour 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

Witness the sights, hear the bird calls, and watch the wildlife around you as spend the day docked near 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.



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DAY 7: Nueva Venecia

In the morning, 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. Witness its splendor as you tour the village. 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. Later in the day, venture to the beautiful seaside city of Barranquilla, a vibrant destination home to notable musicians, writers and artists. Immerse yourself in the warmth and culture of the city’s atmosphere as you venture through this magnificent location, where you may visit famous landmarks such as the bocas de cenizas, the point at which the magical Magdalena River meets the breathtaking Caribbean Sea, and the “Carnaval” Museum, which showcases the unique history of this incredible festival. In the evening, enjoy an exclusive “Carnaval” celebration just for AmaWaterways guests as we bring the full traditional experience to our guests allyear round.



DAY 8: Disembark in Barranquilla

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



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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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