



Colombia

Bogotá - Villa de Leyva - Barichara - Bucaramanga - Cartagena

10 Days



PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Bogotá

- Day 1 Transfer Airport - Hotel
- Day 2 Bike Tour + visit Monserrate
- Day 3 Transport Bogotá - Zipaquirá - Villa de Leyva

Villa de Leyva

- Day 4 Free day
- Day 5 Transport Villa de Leyva - Barichara

Barichara

- Day 6 Free day
- Day 7 Transfer Barichara - Chicamocha Canyon - airport

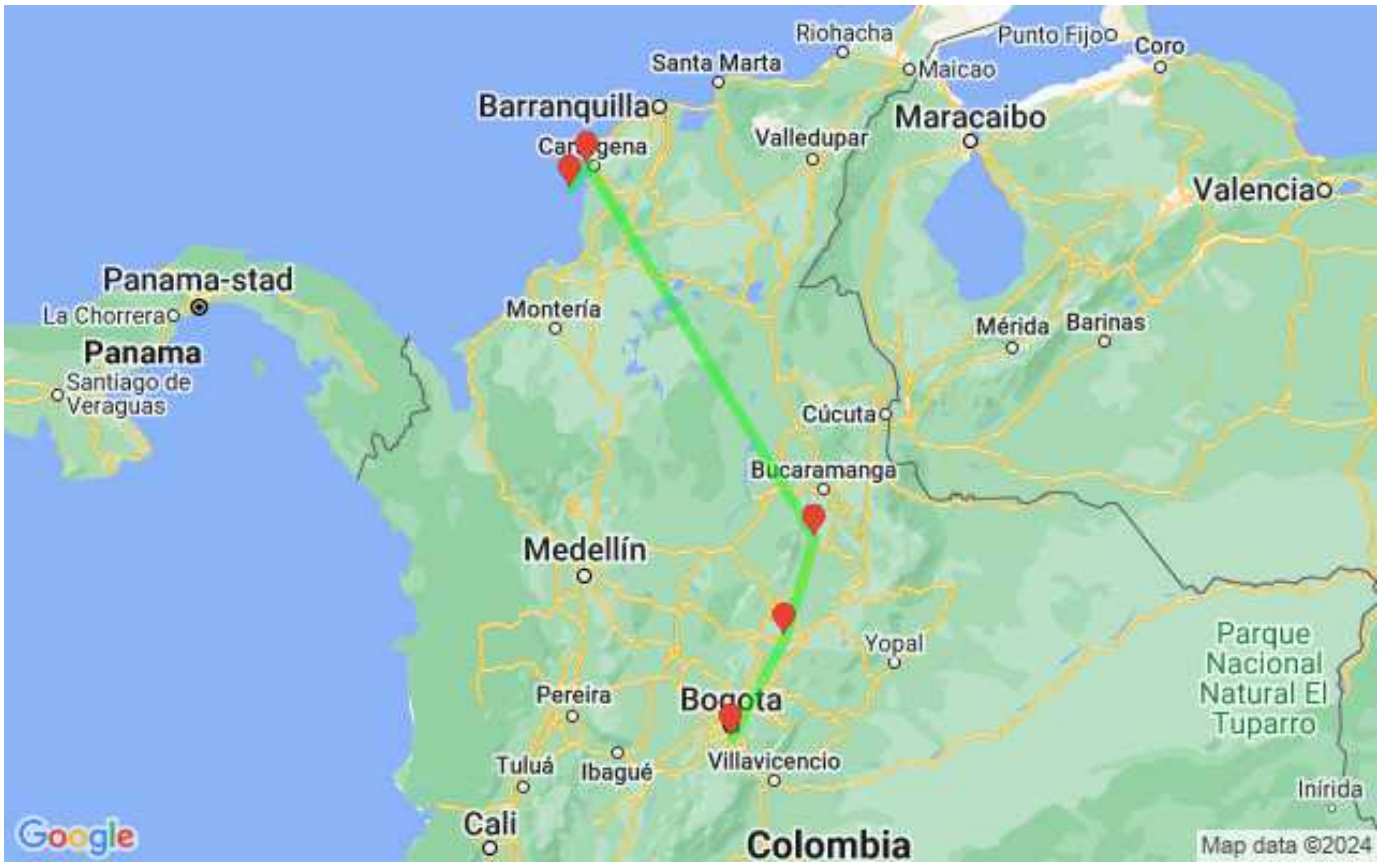
Bucaramanga - Cartagena

- Day 7 Flight Bucaramanga - Cartagena

Cartagena

- Day 7 Transfer Airport - Hotel
- Day 8 City tour
- Day 9 Transfer Hotel - Port
- Day 9 Boat transfer port - island
- Day 9 Tour Islas del Rosario Tour Islas del Rosario
- Day 9 Boat transfer island - port
- Day 9 Transfer Port - Hotel
- Day 10 Transfer Hotel - Airport





ITINERARY

Bogotá

In the Andes, at 2600 meters altitude, we find Colombia's capital, Bogotá, with an estimated 9 million inhabitants. With residents from all around the globe and a thriving cultural scene, Bogotá is a city that a lot to offer. The metropolis has several museums, such as the Gold Museum, the National Museum and the Botero Museum, where you can immerse yourself in Colombian history and culture. In addition, Bogotá is known for its graffiti street art. Amazing murals that often portray a political or historical message can be found throughout the city. Bogotá is also a popular city among cycling enthusiasts: nowhere else in Latin America will you find more bike paths in the city, and consequently the bicycle is a frequently seen means of transport. Most travellers go to the Candelaria district, the beautiful colonial centre of Bogota where it is enjoyable to stroll around the sloping streets with their colourful colonial houses. To the north, there are more posh, modern neighbourhoods, with world-class restaurants, as well as cocktail bars and cafés.

Transfer Airport - Hotel

Day 1

Arrival at Bogotá airport. When leaving, look for a sign with your names. Transfer to your hotel (+/- 40 min, +/- 20 km).

Hotel de la Opera

2 Nights



Hotel La Opera is located in the historic center of La Candelaria, just a few minutes away from the Colón Theater, the Palacio de San Carlos and Plaza de Bolívar. This colonial hotel from the Republican Era has 42 rooms. It has a spa with a swimming pool, sauna, a beauty area and gym. It also has two restaurants: La Scala and El Mirador, which serve a wide variety of national and international cuisine.

Bike Tour + visit Monserrate

Day 2

A local guide will pick you up at the hotel for a bike tour through Bogotá—the most enjoyable way to explore this bustling metropolis. The tour starts with a short ride through La Candelaria, Bogotá's colonial center. Then, you will go to Paloquemao, a huge indoor market with fruit from all over Colombia, food stalls with tamales, lechona and other Colombian specialties, and many more things to explore. You will also visit a local coffee roasting house, where you can see how the famous Colombian coffee is roasted. Of course you will also have time to taste the coffee. You will also take the cable car up to Cerro Monserrate, which has a great view over Bogotá at an altitude of 3000 meters.

Transport Bogotá - Zipaquirá - Villa de Leyva

Day 3

You will be picked up at the hotel and taken to the village of Zipaquirá (1.5-hours drive). Upon arrival you will visit the Salt Cathedral — a subterranean, Catholic cathedral built in the tunnels of a salt mine at 190 meters below surface. The construction of this cathedral began in 1930, when the miners erected an altar in the salt mine. It slowly developed into the current cathedral, where 3000 people can attend service on Sundays. The tour takes you along the so-called ""Camino de la Cruz"", a path that depicts Christ's last journey and leads to the altar deep down in the mine. After visiting the cathedral, you will have some time to explore the village, after which you will continue to Villa de Leyva (3-hour drive).

Villa de Leyva

Red tiled roofs on top of whitewashed houses that date back to the sixteenth century, bumpy cobblestone streets and a wide town square against the backdrop of the mountains: the village of Villa de Leyva is without a doubt one of the most enchanting colonial villages in Colombia. The village was declared a national monument in 1954 and has therefore been preserved perfectly. Explore the ancient streets of the village, visit the many churches and monasteries, and eat out in one of the traditional family-owned restaurants. There is also plenty to do in the village surroundings. Hike through the nearby páramo, where you can visit the Iguaque mountain lake, a holy place for pre-Columbian Muisca who populated Villa de Leyva before the arrival of the Spaniards. You can also visit El Infiernito, an archeological site of the Muisca. This spot served as an astronomical observatory and tribute to the fertility of the Muisca. Would you like to know what that looks like? We'll leave it up to you to find out!

Hotel Casa Terra

2 Nights



Hotel Casa Terra is a boutique hotel and is located two blocks from the central square in Villa de Leyva. The hotel has 9 luxurious rooms with contemporary design furniture, lots of light and a nice view of the hotel garden. Breakfast is served in the hotel's green garden called Patio de la Fuente.

Free day

Day 4

Enjoy a free day in Villa de Leyva. Explore the lovely village, where you can stroll through the charming streets or visit one of the museums to dive into Villa de Leyva's history. Or explore the vicinity: visit an archaeological site of the pre-Columbian Muisca, or the sacred mountain lake Iguaque, where the first Muisca came to Earth according to the legend. But you could also just take a nice walk through the village's beautiful nature.



Transport Villa de Leyva - Barichara

Day 5

Transport from Villa de Leyva to Barichara, a (+/- 5.5 hours, +/- 206 km) drive through the beautiful landscapes of the Boyacá and Santander regions.

Barichara

Barichara is considered one of the most beautiful towns in Santander and Colombia. The town is located on the edge of the Suárez River canyon. This place has a history of more than 300 years. It is characterized by having a colonial architecture, with stones as its main building material and preserving the style of construction with rammed earth and / or bahareque. The houses are low with whitewashed walls, green painted balconies and narrow cobbled streets. One of its main attractions is the Catedral de la Inmaculada Concepción in sandstone located in the town square. Barichara is a great attraction for tourists from all over the world thanks to its picturesque character as well as its mild and dry climate. During your stay do not forget to visit the different artisan workshops.

Hotel Casa Barichara

2 Nights



Casa Barichara Boutique is located at the top of the hill in Barichara, overlooking the town and the mountains. The boutique hotel, in a renovated colonial house, has been decorated with attention to detail, with fine wooden furniture, beamed ceilings and copper taps in the bathrooms. The six bedrooms are spacious and open onto a large patio with a pool. It also has a room with a library, a hammock room and a terrace overlooking Barichara. Breakfast is served in the hotel's dining room

with views of the mountains.

Free day

Day 6

Enjoy a free day in Barichara. Stroll through the cobbled streets with colonial-style sandstone constructions, visit the multiple artisan workshops, where you can make different artworks or buy unique souvenirs made by the artisans of this town. Visit the sandstone cathedral in the central plaza and gaze at the Suarez River from the Parque de las Artes. If you like, you can walk along the old Camino Real, created hundreds of years ago by the Guane indigenous people. This path will take you to the Guane town at a distance of nine kilometers.



Transfer Barichara - Chicamocha Canyon - airport

Day 7

A driver will pick you up at a hotel in Barichara and take you to Bucaramanga airport (+/- 5 hours, +/- 160 km). During the trip you will have a view over the Chicamocha Canyon with its cliffs and dry tropical forest, and you will also make a brief stop at the viewpoint to enjoy the beautiful scenery.

Bucaramanga - Cartagena

Flight Bucaramanga - Cartagena

Day 7

Flight from Bucaramanga to Cartagena with a stop in Bogotá. Operated by Avianca.

Baggage policy:

- 1 piece weighing a maximum of 23 kilograms (50 pounds)
 - 1 carry-on piece weighing a maximum of 10 kilograms (22 pounds)
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Cartagena

Cartagena de Indias is by far the most beautiful city in the Caribbean. Its centuries-old walled-in city center, that has been declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site, seems to have been made for people to wander around for hours. It's maze of colorful colonial houses on narrow streets and alleys ending in shadowy squares where, in the afternoon, street musicians and dancers show the best of the swinging Caribbean culture. But there is also plenty to do outside the city walls. The archipelago Islas del Rosario is at an hour's boat ride from the port city. And of course they have the pearl white beaches and turquoise-colored sea that the Caribbean is famous for. Even closer are the beaches of Cartagena, where you can end the day with a swim in the sea and by watching the enchanting sunset.

Transfer Airport - Hotel

Day 7

Arrival at Rafael Núñez airport in Cartagena. A driver will be waiting for you at the exit to take you to the hotel, a short 15-minute drive.

Nácar Hotel, Curio Collection By Hilton

3 Nights



Nácar is a luxurious boutique hotel in the center of Cartagena. Housed in a restored historic landmark, the hotel features two towers offering an authentic, colonial ambiance as well as a modern elegance. It also has a rooftop terrace, swimming pool, spa, meeting rooms, Wifi and restaurant.

City tour

Day 8

An English-speaking guide will pick you up at the hotel in the morning, after which you will start exploring the old, colonial town centre on foot. You will pay a visit to the Castillo San Felipe de Barajas, the biggest colonial fortress ever built by the Spaniards. Visiting the huge, stone fortress with a maze of dark alleys, towers and cannons is an adventure in itself. You could easily imagine that you've traveled a few centuries back in time. You will also be visiting Parque Bolívar, Las Bóvedas, Santuario de San Pedro Claver and Plaza de los Coches. It can get quite hot in Cartagena, so bring along a bottle of water and protection against the bright sun. The city tour takes 4 hours.

Transfer Hotel - Port

Day 9

A driver will pick you up and take you to the port, a short drive of +/- 20 minutes. After registering your name and passport, you then take the boat to the island of your choice.

Boat transfer port - island

Day 9

Traslado en barco muelle - isla

In the morning you'll take the boat from the port of Cartagena to the the island del Rosario, a trip of +/- 1 hour.

Tour Islas del Rosario Tour Islas del Rosario

Day 9

In the morning you will be picked up from the hotel to be taken to the port from where you will go to the Rosario Islands by boat. Once there, you can relax on the private beach. There are several optional activities, such as snorkeling, which can be organized on site. The typical Colombian lunch is included as well as towel service. In the afternoon, you will return in the same boat to Cartagena where the driver will be waiting to take you to the hotel.

Note: You will go to Hotel XX. You have to be present at the port of La Bodeguita at 8:00 am. From the port to Isla Grande by boat it takes about 45 minutes.

You will be picked up from the hotel to be taken to the port from where you will depart to the Rosario islands by boat. Once there, you can relax on the private beach. There are several optional activities, such as snorkeling, which can be organized on site. The typical Colombian lunch is included as well as towel service. At the end, you will return in the same boat to the harbor of Cartagena where the driver will be waiting to take you to the hotel.

Note: You will go to Hotel XX. You have to be present at the port of La Bodeguita at 8:00 am. From the port to the island by boat it will take about 45 minutes.

Boat transfer island - port

Day 9

Traslado en barco isla - muelle

Today you will take the boat back to Cartagena, it is a trip of +/- 1 hour. The hotel will inform you of the exact departure time the same day, because the departure time depends on the sea condition.

Transfer Port - Hotel

Day 9

You will be picked up at the port and brought to your hotel, a short drive of +/- 20 minutes.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Bogotá

2 nights Hotel de la Opera

[website](#)

Villa de Leyva

2 nights Hotel Casa Terra

[website](#)

Barichara

2 nights Hotel Casa Barichara

[website](#)

Cartagena

3 nights Nácar Hotel, Curio Collection By Hilton

[website](#)

Flight(s):

TRAVEL CONDITIONS

Including:

- National flights
- Accommodation in private double rooms (standard, if not mentioned otherwise) with breakfast
- Meals as mentioned
- Transfers and transport as mentioned with Spanish-speaking drivers
- Tours and activities as mentioned with entrance fees and English-speaking guides
- 24/7 assistance

Not included:

- Services mentioned as optional
- International flights
- Insurance
- Meals and drinks not mentioned
- Voluntary tips for guides, drivers, etc.
- Personal expenses

** Please note that the price might have to be adjusted, depending on the constantly changing USD-COP exchange rate, flight prices, availability of services, etc.*

***If domestic flights are included in the booking, regardless of the time of cancellation 100% of the flight price will be charged.*

****Hotels are only suggestions and will only be reserved at the time of booking. If there is no availability, a similar or equivalent alternative will be offered.*