



Colombia

Bogotá - Paramo de Oceta - Villa de Leyva - Bogotá - Tatacoa - San Agustin

12 Days



PROGRAM OVERVIEW

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- Day 2 Transport Bogotá - Monguí

Mongui

- Day 3 Trekking Páramo de Ocetá
- Day 4 Transport Monguí - Ráquira - Villa de Leyva

Villa de leyva

- Day 5 Transport Villa de Leyva - Zipaquirá - Bogotá

Bogotá

- Day 6 Bike Tour + visit Monserrate
- Day 7 Transport Bogotá - Desierto de La Tatacoa

Tatacoa

- Day 8 Tour Tatacoa Desert & Astronomical Observatory
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San Agustin

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Pitalito - Bogotá

- Day 12 Flight Pitalito - Bogotá





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 has 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 BH Bicentenario

1 Night



Hotel BH Bicentenario is a modern hotel located in the historic center of Bogotá, within walking distance of the Gold Museum, Plaza Bolívar and the cable car to the Monserrate mountain. Its spacious rooms have stylish interiors with modern and large windows that provide plenty of light. The hotel has a sauna, terrace and a restaurant with café-bar.

Transport Bogotá - Monguí

Day 2

A driver will take you to the town of Monguí (+/- 4 hours, +/- 250 km) which is characterized by its colonial architecture and also for being a Colombian Heritage Town.

Mongui

The colonial village of Monguí is not only one of the most beautiful villages in the Boyacá region, it is also a place that is still quite unknown to tourists. The village, with its typical whitewashed houses and red tiled roofs, is located high in the Andes and has spectacular views over the valley and the mountains. In the cobbled streets you will see farmers dressed in ruana, the woven white poncho made of lambswool which the Boyacenses wear when it's cold outside. In the surroundings of Monguí you can also hike through the páramo and visit lakes as well as thermal baths.

Hotel Portón de Oceta

2 Nights



El Portón de Ocetá is a simple colonial style hotel located in Monguí, close to the Ocetá páramo. It has views over the town and the mountains, as well as a restaurant and a living room with a fireplace. If required, the hotel can organize a visit to the páramo of Ocetá.

Trekking Páramo de Ocetá

Day 3

A Spanish-speaking guide will pick you up at the hotel and you will start the trek to the Ocetá Páramo. This plateau in the Andes, at an altitude between 3000 and 4000 meters, is considered one of the most beautiful páramos in the world. This special ecosystem is characterized by plants such as the mystical frailejones (espeletia). This woolly plant in the shape of a small palm tree with yellow, white or silver flowers only appears in the páramo. En route to the páramo, you also come along 'Ciudad de Piedra' (City of Stone), a place with strange, fifteen-meter-high rocks. Equally as strange are the so-called Tortelitas (cakes). These are small oval-shaped baths in which the indigenous Muisca supposedly gave birth to their children. The history of the Muisca is one of many myths and legends, about which the guide will definitely tell you more. During the walk you will also come across several beautiful viewpoints where, with a bit of luck, you might spot condors. Snacks and water are included in the tour, which takes a full day and ends back in Monguí.

Transport Monguí - Ráquira - Villa de Leyva

Day 4

A driver will take you from Monguí to Villa de Leyva. a journey of +/- 4 hours (+/- 170 km). Along the way you will make a stop in Ráquira, a village characterized by its striking colors and crafts, after which you will continue to Villa de Leyva.

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 Reserva Casa Guati

1 Night



Casa Guati is a small but very cozy hotel located in the upper part of town, just 10 minutes walk from the main square. It is an ideal place to stay because of its excellent location surrounded by nature and an excellent view of the Yariguíes mountain range and Barichara.

Transport Villa de Leyva - Zipaquirá - Bogotá

Day 5

A driver will pick you up at your hotel to take you to Bogotá (+/- 4.5 hours, +/- 200 km). On the way, you will make a stop at the iconic Zipaquirá Salt Cathedral, built inside a mine 180 meters underground. Once your tour ends there, you will continue to the capital.

Bogotá

Hotel Casa Legado

2 Nights



Hotel Casa Legado is located in the Quinta Camacho neighborhood of Bogotá. It is a family house from the 50s that has been restored with wide and modern spaces, such as its living room with a fireplace, the garden and its open kitchen. The hotel has 7 rooms, it offers Thai and Yoga massage services, picnic baskets and free bike service.

Bike Tour + visit Monserrate

Day 6

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 - Desierto de La Tatacoa

Day 7

Today you will be taken to the Tatacoa Desert located in the department of Huila. From Bogotá this journey takes an average of (+/- 8 hours, +/- 320 km).

Tatacoa

Characterized by its ochre and gray colors, the Tatacoa Desert is the second largest arid zone in the country. It is located in the department of Huila near the Villavieja municipality. This desert is a dry tropical forest that covers a total of 330 km² and has an average temperature of 40 °C throughout the year. Here you can find snakes, rodents, spiders, scorpions and dry land among which cacti grow up to 4 and 5 meters high. Because of its privileged location close to the Equator, from the desert you can perform astronomical observations and see at least 88 constellations, meteor showers, shooting stars, etc.

Hotel Yararaka

2 Nights



Hotel Yararaka is a simple hotel in the center of Villavieja, located at just one block from the main square. The hotel has comfortable rooms, a restaurant-bar and a patio with an outdoor pool in the colors of the Tatacoa desert. It is important to mention that the design of the rooms is open, so the walls do not go all the way to the ceiling, making it easy to hear fellow guests in neighbouring rooms.

Tour Tatacoa Desert & Astronomical Observatory

Day 8

A driver and a local guide will pick you up to visit the Tatacoa Desert. After a 15-minute drive, you will start the hike through the Cuzco canyon, which is the red part of the desert. The guide will explain you about the special geological formations of this area, and about the local flora and fauna. Afterwards, you will visit the surreal lunar landscapes of the grey part of the desert, where you will also have the opportunity to cool off in Los Hoyos, a natural pool in the middle of the landscape. This evening you will visit the observatory in the Tatacoa desert with a local guide. Here you can enjoy an open sky full of stars, in addition, you can observe different stars and planets with the telescope.

Transport Villavieja - San Agustín

Day 9

Transport from Villavieja to San Agustín. A (+/- 7 hours, +/- 280 km) trip through Neiva as well as the Andean landscapes of the department of Huila, passing through various towns and along the Magdalena River.

San Agustin

The town of San Agustín, in the southwest of the department of Huila, is world famous thanks to the San Agustín Archaeological Park, an archaeological site with hundreds of statues of animals, people and monsters carved out of volcanic rock. These statues and tombs are believed to have been made by pre-Columbian people who inhabited this area, somewhere between 50 and 400 A.D. Along with San Agustín Archaeological Park, declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1995, there are two other sites a few kilometers away near the town of Isnos: Alto de los Ídolos and Alto de las Piedras. Further away from these sites there are even more mysterious archaeological sites that you can visit. In short, this area is a must-see for archeology lovers. If that is not enough, you can also admire the second tallest waterfall in Colombia, Salto de Bordonos, which falls from a dazzling height of 490 meters. In addition, the Andean mountain landscapes of Huila are also known for their excellent coffee.

Hotel Akawanka Lodge

3 Nights



Akawanka Lodge is located in the green Andes in San Agustín, a 750-meter walk from the archaeological park of the same name. The hotel is a farmhouse with typical architecture of this region, with white walls, wooden terraces and a tile roof, surrounded by a large garden and forests. The hotel has comfortable rooms and suites decorated in a rustic way with lots of wood and pieces of local artisans, and private bathrooms. Guests can relax in the spa with a sauna and massage treatments, go hiking

on the trails of the hotel's private grounds and enjoy the views with a drink at the bar. Here you will also find a restaurant that uses fresh produce from its own garden.

Tour Archaeological Park

Day 10

A local guide and a driver will pick you up at the hotel for the 15-minute drive to the entrance of San Agustín Archaeological Park. During this half-day tour, you will walk through the Sculpture Forest, which is a cloud forest where various statues have been placed along the way. You will also visit the park's museum and the Lavapatas fountain, where rock drawings were carved into the stone riverbed. You will also walk through different plains with statues and tombs of mysterious pre-Columbian communities, and climb a hill to have a nice view of the entire area. After the tour you will be taken back to the hotel.

Half-day tour San Agustín

i : In the Morning

Day 11

A local guide and driver will pick you up at the hotel for the half-day tour in the surroundings of San Agustín. You will visit the archaeological sites of Alto de los Ídolos and Alto de las Piedras, with images from a slightly later period than those of the San Agustín Archaeological Park. You will also visit the Archaeological Museum of Obando, where you can enter a pre-Columbian tomb among other things. Also included is a visit to the Salto de los Bordonos waterfall, which is the second highest in Colombia and you will also visit the Salto del Mortiño. Finally you will make a stop at the narrowest point of Magdalena, which is the most important river in Colombia. After the tour you will be taken back to the hotel.

Coffee tour

i : In the Afternoon

Day 11

The department of Huila has been recognized in recent years nationally and internationally for being among the best and most extensive coffee production areas in the country. Today a guide and a driver will pick you up at the hotel to take you to a traditional coffee farm in the area, where you will walk through the coffee plantations and learn everything about the coffee production process. You will learn how beans are grown, washed and dried and you will learn about the different methods of making coffee and, of course, there will be a tasting session of this delicious traditional drink.

Transfert à l'aéroport

Day 12

You will be taken from your hotel in San Agustín to Contador de Pitalito airport, which is a (+/- 1 hour, +/- 50 km) drive passing along the Magdalena River.

Pitalito - Bogotá

Flight Pitalito - Bogotá

Day 12

Flight from Pitalito to Bogotá with Clic Air.

Baggage policy:

- 1 piece weighing a maximum of 15 kilograms
 - 1 carry-on piece weighing a maximum of 5 kilograms
 - More kilos will have an additional cost
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ACCOMMODATIONS

Bogotá

1 night Hotel BH Bicentenario [website](#)

Mongui

2 nights Hotel Portón de Oceta [website](#)

Villa de leyva

1 night Hotel Reserva Casa Guati [website](#)

Bogotá

2 nights Hotel Casa Legado [website](#)

Tatacoa

2 nights Hotel Yararaka [website](#)

San Agustin

3 nights Hotel Akawanka Lodge [website](#)

Flight(s):

Datum	Van	Naar	Vertrek	Aankomst	Vluchtnr	Reservering
14-09	Pitalito	Bogotá	12:40	14:10	VE9031	

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.*

GENERAL INFORMATION

Contact information

DE UNA Colombia Tours Cl 99, No 49 -38 Oficina 1003 Bogotá	Office number	+57 350 316 07 07
	Responsible	
	Emergency number	+57 350 316 07 07 (24 hours) (English/Spanish)
	Reservations 1	+57 312 451 89 07 (office) (Spanish)
Emergency number in Colombia		123 / 911
The country code for Colombia is		+ 57

General information

Language

It is important to mention that not all tourist sites and lodging establishments, restaurants or others will be able to communicate in English or other languages (other than Spanish). For this reason, we recommend planning and visiting the activities and tourist sites in the company of an English speaking guide.

Money

You can withdraw money from ATMs with your debit and/or credit card. Please note, however, that it is not always possible to withdraw money in small towns and/or remote areas. When using ATMs, preferably they should be located in shopping malls or on busy streets. When visiting these types of destinations, we recommend that you bring enough cash. It is better to exchange USD, GBP or EUR to the Colombian currency (Colombian pesos) in the big cities, since the exchange rates are the most favorable there. To use a credit card it is important to know the corresponding code. Tipping in Colombia is common and very appreciated. Restaurants and cafes will ask if they can add a 10% tip to the bill. In the services of drivers and guides the tip is not included and you can decide by yourself if you want to give it or not, according to the quality of the service you have received. An indication of tips can be found in the following table. In addition, you may like to help people living on the streets. Our advice is that you can give them money when they offer a service or a product (crafts, chewing gum, etc.). If that is not the case, you can give them a coffee or sandwich, for example.

Services based on 2 persons	Private	Shared
Drivers during short transfers	5 USD/EUR	4 USD/EUR
Drivers for multiple days (day price)	10 USD/EUR	N/A
Guide half day	10-20 USD/EUR	8-12 USD/EUR
Guide full day	20 USD/EUR	14-20 USD/EUR
Doormen (Price per suitcase) or similar services	from 2 USD/EUR	N/A

Passport

In Colombia it is obligatory to be able to identify oneself at all times, if requested by the police. Make sure you have a valid identity document at all times (passport, identity card, driver's license, etc.). The passport must be valid for at least 6 months before the end of the trip. We recommend that you make a copy of your passport so that you can leave the original at the hotel. PLEASE NOTE: As a tourist, you do not have to pay 19% VAT (Value Added Tax). Therefore, this tax will not be charged on the accommodations booked in the program. To be excluded from this tax, it is important that upon your arrival to Colombia you indicate that you will be traveling as a tourist for a maximum period of 3 months. This in order to receive the correct stamp. The required stamps are: PIP-5 and the 'V' visa. For cases in which other stamps or visas are used other than those mentioned above, DE UNA Colombia Tours will not be responsible for any VAT that must be paid in the reserved accommodations. If you are traveling with a Colombian nationality, you are responsible for proving that you are living abroad and that you will remain in Colombia for less than 183 days per calendar year, in order to be excluded from VAT.

COVID-19

Upon arrival in Colombia, the following rule applies:

You must complete the online form of the migration service, [Check-Mig](#). We've created a [10 Step Plan](#), so you can follow all the 10 steps here to avoid doubts and mistakes. You must fill out this form upon arrival in Colombia and upon departure from Colombia, each time 24 hours before the start of the international flight. In addition to this, the use of a face mask is not mandatory anymore.

https://dev.deunacolombia.com/Protocolos_bioseguridad_EN.pdf

There are no further requirements to enter Colombia.

Vaccines

Please ask your general practitioner for information on the necessary vaccinations for your trip, in advance. Required and/or recommended vaccinations depend on the areas visited. In cases where a destination is to be visited that requires some type of specific vaccination, it will be mentioned to you in advance of the trip. Yellow fever is recommended to enter Colombia but not mandatory.

Weather

The temperature in Colombia is very constant throughout the year and has few fluctuations. This depends mainly on the altitude of each region, the higher you are above sea level, the lower the temperature. The seasons in Colombia are characterized by 2 periods of relative drought and 2 periods of rain. The enormous diversity of altitude, the fact that sometimes several climatic zones are visited in a single day and the current unpredictability of the seasons, make it advisable to be prepared for all types of weather.

Accommodation

In the travel program you will find an overview of the booked accommodations. The reservations are in the name of the client. In case of problems during check-in, please mention that the reservation was made by DE UNA Colombia Tours. If coupons are required for certain activities and accommodations, these will be sent separately. In general, only breakfast is included in the accommodation, unless otherwise indicated. **Keep in mind that check-in hours are around 15:00 and check-out hours around 10:00.**

Flights

For domestic flights, it is recommended to be present at the airport at least 1 hour in advance. For international flights it is recommended to be at least 2 to 3 hours before the flight. Baggage policies and other conditions may vary according to the airline. For possible baggage limitations and conditions, we recommend that you consult the baggage information stated in the travel program. With several airlines it is possible to check in online one day before the flight, for which only the reservation code is required. **To avoid overbooking issues with the airline, passengers are required to do the web check-in 48 hours before the flight or as soon as it is available (24 hours in some cases).** If for any reason it is not possible to do so, please notify the agency immediately for review. If notification is not made, DE UNA Colombia Tours will not be responsible for the completion of the flight or for any additional payments arising from any inconveniences with the airline. We recommend that you do so to avoid possible waiting times at the airport and to keep up to date with the latest flight information. E-tickets no longer need to be printed and registration with a valid identity document (passport) is sufficient.

Transportation

The transportation organized by DE UNA Colombia Tours is reserved with different transportation companies. Therefore, it is possible that a driver may not always be aware of the entire itinerary, but only of the service he is currently performing. In case of questions or comments about the transportation, please contact us.

Insurance

Every aspect of the tour organized by DE UNA Colombia Tours has a special insurance: hotel insurance, insurance for organized transportation, insurance for the activities and insurance for the flights. However, it should be kept in mind that incidents may occur. For example, an accident, theft or illness. Therefore, we recommend the client to request travel insurance in his country of origin and that it is valid and adjusted to the planned trip in Colombia. This insurance must have coverage for COVID-19. Other insurances, like the cancellation insurance, are the responsibility of the client and DE UNA Colombia Tours cannot be held responsible for this. We ask you to provide us with information about your travel insurance, as well as an emergency contact in your home country (name, phone number and mail).

Security

Nowadays Colombia is a very safe country for tourists, who are kindly received in all regions. However, it never hurts to take precautions as in any place in the world. We recommend always to be aware of the environment, to have common sense when you go to an unknown place. It is not recommended to take cabs in the street, it is always suggested to ask the hotel to request this service. Take care of your personal belongings and avoid carrying your passport, please leave it in the hotel security box and carry only one copy of it. It is recommended that you ask for directions from the police or army in case you are out of place. When using ATMs, preferably they should be located in shopping malls or on streets that have been passed by.

Responsible and sustainable tourism

For DE UNA Colombia Tours, responsible tourism is very important. We not only seek to be respectful of the environment, we are also committed to protecting Colombia's cultural heritage and treating local communities with respect, while seeking to promote the local economy. The (sexual) abuse of children, and the use, purchase or sale of drugs is prohibited and will be reported to local authorities. On the other hand, we try to minimize the impact that the trip will have on the environment, prioritizing our commitment with hotels, restaurants, tour guides and drivers who take the necessary measures for the conservation of resources, the protection of biodiversity and the cultural characteristics of each region. To us, responsible and sustainable tourism means opportunity and commitment. As of 2017 we became members of the TourCert community; we implement and we are certified according to the TourCert

guidelines. Similarly, we see the client as an important ally to address this matter in a responsible and conscious way. To achieve this, we are committed to providing correct and honest information to the client, so that their experience in Colombia is unforgettable.

https://dev.deunacolombia.com/Politica_de_sostenibilidad.pdf

https://dev.deunacolombia.com/Code_of_Conduct_Clients.pdf

Travel without plastic

In order to accomplish our sustainability policies, we recommend you to bring a reusable bottle to use during your trip. Most hotels have a water station, bottle or filter water to fill your bottle with drinking water. When you arrive, ask at the reception where you can fill it for free or for an additional cost. In some destinations such as Caño Cristales, Pacífico, La Guajira, and all the National Parks it is mandatory to bring a reusable bottle because single-use plastics are not allowed.

Plugs and connectivity

Type A and B sockets are used in Colombia. The mains voltage is 110V and the frequency is 60Hz. It is best to bring a world plug that allows you to charge small electronic devices such as mobile phones and cameras. Devices from Europe with higher power consumption, such as hair dryers or straighteners, cannot be used in Colombia due to the lower voltage. They will work, but only at half power. There is free Wi-Fi in most hotels and public places. You can also always buy a local sim card from Claro, Tigo or Movistar upon arrival. In Colombia, people communicate a lot via Whatsapp and almost everyone has a smartphone.

DE UNA Service:

The accompaniment of a DE UNA Colombia Tours tour guide will depend on the agreed upon travel program. The tour guide is the direct contact and the face of DE UNA Colombia Tours. We also use third party services and local contacts (hotels, drivers, local guides, etc.), all of them used to work with foreign tourists, able to offer the service and quality that we represent. In the unlikely event that something goes wrong, or if there are any questions during the trip, you can contact us at the emergency number 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. It is preferable that in the event that something does not go as estimated, you contact us as soon as possible, so that we can work quickly on a solution. During office hours, first call the person responsible for the tour (see contact details). Outside office hours, during weekends and during vacations, you can call the emergency number (second number on the list). If for some reason you do not get an answer, you can still call 'reservations', which can only assist you in Spanish.

For general questions, terms and conditions and other info, please have a look on our website:

<http://www.deunacolombia.com/>

<http://deunacolombia.com/nl/images/stories/de-una-terms-and-conditions.pdf>

DE UNA Colombia Tours wishes you a happy trip!