

# COLOMBIA

## 6 Days BOGOTÁ+ CARTAGENA



*Bogotá is the capital district of Colombia and the country's most populated city. It is the most important political, financial, educational, cultural city in the country. It is located at an altitude of 2640masl on a plateau known as the Savanna of Bogotá on the eastern range of the Andean Mountains. It was founded on August 6, 1538 originally named Santa Fe by the 'Conquistador' Gonzalo Jimenez de Quesada who arrived in pursuit of 'El Dorado' gold legend and defeated the native Chibcha in Bacatá, which meant capital of the Zipa confederation. In 1717 the kingdom of New Granada was established here, and in 1819 Simon Bolivar chose it as the capital of the Grand Colombia. Today, Bogotá is a modern city with a bubbling cultural scene and vibrant social life.*

### **Day 1**

You will be welcomed at the airport from your guide and transferred to your hotel.

### **Day 2: Tour Bogotá**

Half day visit to the historic center known as La Candelaria. This antiquated barrio is of great architectural and cultural heritage and is made up of old "stately homes" or large Spanish colonial buildings with iron windows, thick and sturdy wooden doors, balconies and internal patios with beautiful yet hidden gardens. Visit the Plaza de Bolivar, the Cathedral, on the eastern side of the plaza, is constructed on the remains of the first church built in Bogotá in 1539 and houses an important collection of religious artefacts such as textiles and artwork that has built over four centuries. The CapilladelSagrario is located just beside the Cathedral and is a gem of religious architecture and which houses valuable pieces of colonial religious art by Gregorio Vasquez de Arce y Ceballos. The Capitol, built between 1847 and 1926, shows its renaissance and neoclassical influences with its carved stonework and tall columns and, it is the first republican piece of civil architecture. The central area of the Capitol, known as the Salon Eliptico, is where congress meets and is the actual chamber for politicians and the Senate. In the internal plazas are busts of former presidents such as General TomásCiprianoMosquera, president on four occasions, and Rafael Núñez, the composer of the Colombian national anthem. Around the Plaza de Bolivar are the Palacio de Justicia, the Mayor of Bogotá's offices called the EdificioLiévano, the oldest school in the county called San Bartolome and the Casa de los Comuneros who participated towards the end of the XVII Century in some of the first movements towards independence from Spain and the formation of the Republic.

The visit continues with the MuseoBotero (Closed on Tuesdays), a colonial house filled with works of art done by and donated by Fernando Botero in addition to artwork from his own personal collection that includes pieces by Picasso, Renoir, Dalí Matisse, Monet and Giacometti.

Next is the Museo del Oro (closed on Mondays) which has a permanent exhibition of some 32,000 pieces of gold, 20,000 stones, ceramics and textiles all precious to the Quimbaya, Calima, Tayrona, Sinu, Muisca, Tolima, Tumaco and Magdalena cultures. The Museodel Oro is considered as one of the most important museums of its type internationally and it has been functioning since 1939. In 2007 it underwent a complete overhaul to make this an

interactive museum that would awake senses to the objects on display and it belongs to the International Network of Museums (ICOM).

End of the visit is in the Santuario de Monserrate, a symbol of Bogotá. Ride the cable car or funicular up to it, at 500 mts above Bogotá (total of 3140masl). The site offers the incredible panorama of the city on one side and the Andes on the other. Return to hotel.

### Day 3

Today you will be transferred from your hotel with your guide to the airport to your flight to Cartagena. From there you will be transferred to your hotel in Cartagena

## CARTAGENA



*Colombia's most popular city Cartagena de Indias was declared by UNESCO a World Heritage Site because of its colonial walled city; and just walking through to its cozy narrow streets is enough to understand why. It is divided into three sightseeing zones: the Historic Centre with Clock Gate, Carriage Square, San Peter Square, Palace of the Inquisition, The Cathedral, dating back to the 16th century, Santo Domingo Square, the Heredia Theatre and masterpiece San Felipe de Barajas Castle, built between 1639 and 1762 which is the greatest fortress ever built by the Spanish. The San Diego zone, with its enchanting Hotel Santa Clara, formerly Convent of the Saint Claire Order and Las Bóvedas The Vaults by the Santa Catalina Fortress and Getsemani; the zone used to be a slave neighborhood and now hosts Cartagena's Convention Center and popular nightlife clubs. The real joy of Cartagena is exploring it's exhilarating narrow streets by foot or on a horse-carriage, an experience that awakens all senses with the flavors and warm breeze of its sunset, making it an incredibly romantic destination and the most fascinating Caribbean hidden treasure.*

### Day 4: Panoramic & Colonial city tour Cartagena

Tour begins with panoramic view from 'La Popa' Monastery and Church. Continue to "San Felipe" castle-fortress built on "San Lázaro" hill to defend the city from pirate attacks. Walk-around the fortress and see the castle tunnels, underground galleries and passageways. Continue to Walled City, go to 'the Vaults', archways built within the walled-city used until late 1700s to store armament and later as prison in the XIX century. Nowadays, it's an artisans' center to appreciate local handcrafts.

At night, all aboard for a night of partying, Colombian - style. A "chiva" is a large, colorful, open-air bus that features an open bar with a variety of national tropical drinks.

Travel along the coast and through the "movida" areas of the city to experience all the fun of a Cartagena night.

### Day 5

Today is a free day. Optional tours are offered.

## Day6

You will be transferred from your hotel to the airport.

*End of the program*

### Prices Quoted in USD

6 days Bogta- Cartagena	1 pax SGL	2 pax DBL	4 Pax	SGL Supp
Hotel Casa Deco & Don Pedro de Herdia 3*	\$1.511	\$814	\$641	\$256
Hotel de La Opera & Ananada Hotel Butique 4*	\$2.128	\$1.104	\$932	\$582

**This tour can start on any date of 2017 except holidays and congresses and booked for 1 pax or more**

#### THE PRICE INCLUDES:

- ✓ Hotels according to the program or similar
- ✓ Transfers according to the program
- ✓ Breakfast
- ✓ Excursions mentioned in the program

#### THE PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE:

- ✗ International flight
- ✗ Additional excursions
- ✗ Food and drinks not mentioned in the program
- ✗ Tips
- ✗ Laundry service
- ✗ Personal spendings

\*All the hotels can be substituted by a similar class hotel

\*\* This programme availability and prices will be confirmed upon booking

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