

Chaska Tours

code: PV-ENG-01

## Colombia Unveiled: A Cultural Expedition

### Identity card

Tailor-made tour.

Suggested departure day: Thursday (to be in Silvia on Tuesday, market day).

Duration: 12 days

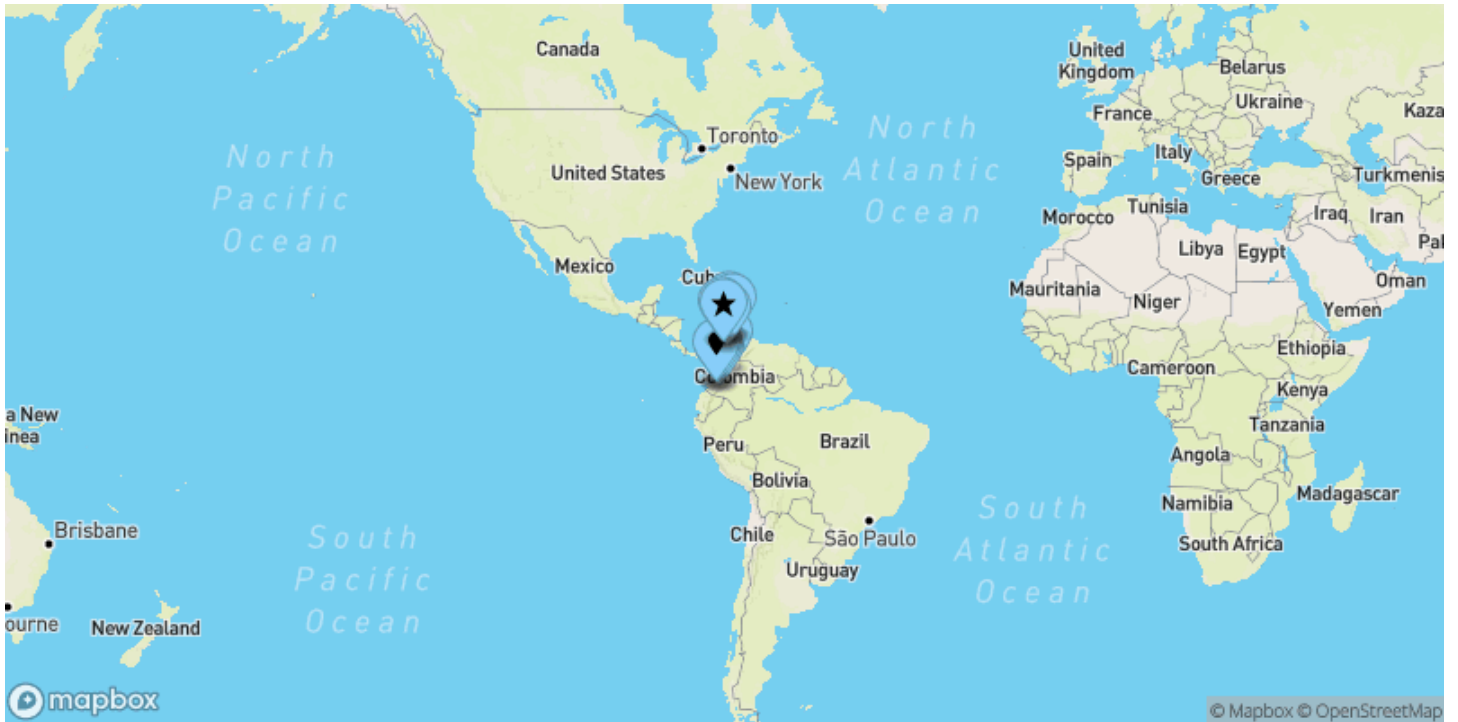
Are you ready for an adventure that takes you on a journey through the heart of Colombia's amazing multiculturalism? Get ready to immerse yourself in the rich history and present of the hundreds of indigenous peoples who have called Colombia home for centuries. From the mystical monoliths of San Agustín to the glittering pieces in the Gold Museum, you'll discover the stories of the Wayuu in La Guajira and the Misak in the heart of the Andes.

But that's not all! We'll also take you on a journey to explore the vibrant African heritage in San Basilio de Palenque and the community of La Boquilla in Cartagena, as well as the majestic historic centers of Popayán, Cartagena, Mompox, and Bogotá that showcase the European imprint.

And let's not forget about the food! Colombian gastronomy is an essential part of its culture, and we'll give you the chance to discover the country's cultural diversity through its cuisine. Our street food tours of Cartagena, Popayán, and Mompox will introduce you to delicious snacks such as carantanta, queso de capa, and carimañolas, all with "Honoris causa" designation of origin from these places. And on Bogotá's iconic Fruit Tour, you'll see the biggest avocados and the widest variety of tropical fruits you've ever seen, and taste Colombia's best coffee in San Agustín.

Join us on this journey to connect with the soul of Colombia and the joy of its people. Get ready for the adventure of a lifetime!

## Itinerary map



## Itinerary Summary

- ★ Day 1 - Wednesday : Bogotá
- ★ Day 2 - Thursday : Bogotá
- ★ Day 3 - Friday : Bogotá - Pitalito - San Agustín
- ★ Day 4 - Saturday : San Agustín
- ★ Day 5 - Sunday : San Agustín - Popayán
- ★ Day 6 - Monday : Santa Marta - Tayrona National Park
- ★ Day 7 - Tuesday : Palomino - Tayrona National Park
- ★ Day 8 - Wednesday : Santa Marta - Mompox
- ★ Day 9 - Thursday : Mompox
- ★ Day 10 - Friday : Mompox - Cartagena - San Basilio de Palenque - Cartagena
- ★ Day 11 - Saturday : Cartagena
- ★ Day 12 - Sunday : Cartagena

# Detailed itinerary

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## Day 1: Bogotá

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### Transfer in from Bogotá airport to selected hotel with guide

**Hotel BH La Quinta - Standard Room:** Lodging at BH La Quinta hotel in Standard room with breakfast included.

*Included: transfer in with guide, lodging, breakfast*

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## Day 2: Bogotá

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**Tropical Fruit Safari: Exploring Paloquemao Market in Bogotá:** This tour is the best aperitif to fall in love with Colombia, to discover the flavor of its culture and all that it has to offer.

Thanks to its geographical location, in Colombia it is possible to find a great variety of fruits of all colors, sizes and flavors (if you don't believe us, you can check it in the fruit dictionary that we will give you at the beginning of the tour). In addition to knowing the secrets and history of this market, passing through the colorful "plaza de las flores" and the craft stalls, you can try fifteen different fruits, three shots of fresh juices and two typically Colombian snacks.

During the tour you will not only taste fruits, this is an experience that leads you to have a real contact with the history of this wonderful country through the senses, the kindness of its people and the joy that characterizes them.

The duration of the tour is approximately 2-3 hours and we recommend taking this tour as your breakfast of the day.

**Bogotá's essential city tour:** On this half-day tour we will visit Bogotá's historical center at La Candelaria neighborhood, passing through its main sights. We will visit the Plaza de Bolívar, where the headquarters of national and local government are located, also the Congress and the Justice Hall as well as the city's Catedral Primada. The tour continues walking this colonial area until reaching the Gold Museum, which has an impressive collection of pre-Columbian goldsmiths from Colombia's native communities. We will finish at the Museo de Botero, an interesting art collection that was donated to the city by the renowned Colombian painter Fernando Botero.

Gold Museum is closed on Mondays and Botero Museum on Tuesdays.

**VIP Visit to Monserrate Sanctuary:** Included a visit to the Monserrate Sanctuary. Located at 3.150 m.a.s.l., this sanctuary is accessible by cable car or funicular and apart from being a very famous pilgrimage site in Colombia, it offers a spectacular panoramic view of the city.

The VIP pass allows faster access to the cable car/funicular and saves time when there are crowds of visitors.

**Hotel BH La Quinta - Standard Room:** Lodging at BH La Quinta hotel in Standard room with breakfast included.

*Included: excursion, bilingual guide, snack, local guide, entrance fees, lodging, breakfast*



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## Day 3: Bogotá - Pitalito - San Agustín

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**Transfer out from selected hotel to Bogotá airport**

**Domestic flight:** Domestic flight from Bogotá to Pitalito.

**Ground transfer from Pitalito to San Agustín. Approximate length: 45 minutes.**

**Coffee tour at Finca La Cabaña:** Coffee is an essential product for both the economy of San Agustín and for other towns in this region, where the best specialty coffees in Colombia are currently produced. On this tour, we will be able to visit an organic coffee farm where we can learn about the bean production process in a very authentic way, from the seed and sowing, until obtaining the final product. Our guide will be Luis Alejandro, owner of Finca La Cabaña, who proudly and humbly shows us the success of his work and that of his father, who began growing coffee here over more than 50 years ago. At the end of the tour, Luis will invite us to enjoy some of his fantastic specialty coffees with all our senses.



**Hotel Akawanka - Standard Room:** Lodging at Akawanka hotel in Standard room with breakfast included.

*Included: transfer out, domestic flight, Transfer in, private transportation, excursion, lodging, breakfast, bilingual guide*

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## Day 4: San Agustín

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**Visit to the Archaeological Park of San Agustín:** Today we'll get to know the famous San Agustín Archaeological Park located just 10 minutes by car from town where we can admire the legacy of a millenary civilization represented by iconic statues, as well as several tombs and monuments. We will visit the small Archaeological Museum, the Mesitas A, B, C and D, the Forest of the Statues, the spectacular Lavapatás Fountain and the Alto del Lavapatás.



The complete route is approximately 3 km long with some ascents of up to 70 m, although it can be adjusted to the interests and available time of visitors.

**Visit to the Magdalena Strait and Obando:** We will visit the Magdalena Strait, the narrowest point that the main river of Colombia exhibits on its way to the ocean and which is surrounded by a beautiful natural landscape of Andean forest. Just a few kilometers from there we find the small town of Obando, where we will see some tombs similar to those of the Tierradentro Archaeological Park in Cauca, as well as a small museum in which pieces, older even than those found in San Agustín, are displayed. The most famous of them is perhaps the "Winged Fish" piece of goldwork, of which a replica is preserved in this museum, since the original was moved to the Gold Museum in Bogotá.

**Hotel Akawanka - Standard Room:** Lodging at Akawanka hotel in Standard room with breakfast included.

**Alternative: Adventure in El Tablón, La Chaquira, La Pelota and El Purutal – Horseback riding**

Today we can enjoy the most famous ride of San Agustín led by an expert local guide who will take us through a circuit that runs through four archaeological sites: we will cross the rural area of the town to arrive first at La Pelota, where we can see three statues located very close from where they were originally found, as well as vestiges of an original mound. A few meters from there is El Purutal, where there are four more statues of which two still retain the original coloration that is believed to have been characteristic to many other monoliths in the area.

Following this, we will continue to El Tablón, an archaeological site where five statues of approximately 2 meters classified as female are exhibited, and where there is a small ethnographic museum organized by the residents of El Tablón township. We will then go to La Chaquira, an archaeological site where there are different human and animal figures carved into volcanic stone that look towards the impressive Magdalena river canyon, one of the most spectacular views that can be seen in San Agustín. To get to El Tablón we will walk less than 15 minutes, while to get to La Chaquira we will descend a hill on foot in less than half an hour, although the ascent back takes about 1 hour.

*Included: excursion, private transportation, entrance fees, local guide, equipment rental, activity insurance, lodging, breakfast, bilingual guide*

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## Day 5: San Agustín - Popayán

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**Ground transfer from San Agustín to Popayán. Approximate length: 5 hours.**

**Gastronomic tour through the center of Popayán:** Popayán is a city with an interesting gastronomic tradition as a consequence of both the geographical and social diversity, as well as the history of the Cauca department. Its Gastronomic Congress, that has been held since 2003 and brings together more than 30,000 visitors, as well as the declaration granted by UNESCO as a Creative City of Gastronomy (the first in the world, in addition), ratify this delicious facet of the White City.

We are invited to a tour through the streets of the historic center of the city where we will learn more about the gastronomic culture of the Payanese, its festival and the historic UNESCO declaration. Of course we will also try the famous pipián empanadas, hervidos, carantantas, aplanchados, Eduardo Santos (dessert with the name of a former president) and salpicones. Today it is best, if we only have a small lunch!

The tour begins and ends at the hotel in the historic center and is done on foot. If transportation service is required, this must be informed in advance.

**Hotel La Plazuela - Standard Room:** Lodging at La Plazuela hotel in Standard room with breakfast included.

*Included: private transportation, excursion, bilingual guide, snack, lodging, breakfast*

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## Day 6: Santa Marta - Tayrona National Park

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**Visit to the market in Silvia:** We will visit the town of Silvia, located 1 hour and a half north of Popayán, where every Tuesday the Guambiano-Misak indigenous community that lives in the surrounding villages gathers to exchange their products, resulting in a colorful market. These are the children of the indigenous communities that originally inhabited this region and still preserve some of their ancestral heritages.

In the central square of the town we will meet our local host who will take us through the market, telling us a little bit about the customs and history of her community, but also about the interesting variety of colors, smells and flavors of the Andean products that are sold here.

**Domestic flight:** Domestic flight from Popayán to Santa Marta.

**Transfer from Santa Marta to Tayrona National Park. Approximate length: 1 hour.**

**Hotel Villa Maria Tayrona - Standard Jungle View Room:** Lodging at Villa Maria Tayrona hotel in Standard Jungle View room with breakfast included.

*Included: excursion, local guide, private transportation, bilingual guide, domestic flight, lodging, breakfast*

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## Day 7: Palomino - Tayrona National Park

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**Full day Tour Palomino:** Your trip will start early in the morning heading to Los Flamencos Flora and Fauna Sanctuary (SFF), which is 20 minutes from the city of Riohacha and 30 minutes from the village of Palomino. With the Tocomana community, you will walk along the "Mainshirutshi" trail, learning about the medicinal use of local plants.



Find a charming and colourful sanctuary of flora and fauna. Here you can have fun watching and enjoying a variety of landscapes, where you can see pink flamingos, turtles, exotic birds, deer and many others. If you are lucky, you will be able to see sceneries where between 800 and 4000 birds can congregate from the sea, from the cayucos or over the shimmering lagoons.

We then continue with a tour of the Navío Quebrado Lagoon, for an interpretative sighting of flamingos and other birds that inhabit the SFF. You will share a traditional lunch with locals and have some time to relax on the beach.

In the afternoon you will share in the ranchería with the Tocomana community before returning to your hotel.

**Hotel Villa Maria Tayrona - Standard Jungle View Room:** Lodging at Villa Maria Tayrona hotel in Standard Jungle View room with breakfast included.

*Included: lunch, breakfast, entrance fees, excursion, local guide, activity insurance, lodging, bilingual guide*

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## Day 8: Santa Marta - Mompox

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**Transfer from Santa Marta to Mompox. Approximate length: 6 hours:** At the appointed time, our representative will meet you for the transfer from Santa Marta to Mompox. The approximate length of this service point to point, is 6 hours.

**La Gloria Hotel Mompox - Standard Room:** Lodging at La Gloria hotel in Standard room with breakfast included.

*Included: private transportation, lodging, breakfast, bilingual guide*

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## Day 9: Mompox

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**Walking Tour of Mompox: Uncovering the Charms of Colombia's Colonial Gem:**

Are you ready to explore the historic and colonial beauty of Mompox? Join our exciting walking tour! We'll start with an introduction that will help you locate yourself geographically and immerse yourself in local history.

Then, we'll visit the sites of interest in ascending order, from the impressive Plaza de la Libertad to the majestic Basilica Minor of the Holy Christ, passing by the house of Candelario Obeso (the famous Black Poet), the Plaza de la Concepción, the Bolivar Stone, the House of the Angels, the House of Culture, the Portals of the Marquess, the church of Santa Barbara, the House of the Te Deum, the Plaza de Santo Domingo, and the National College Pinillos (formerly known as the University College of San Pedro Apóstol). And we can't forget the Municipal Cemetery, a place full of history and mysteries.

During the three-hour tour, we recommend wearing sunscreen, comfortable clothing, and tennis shoes to walk comfortably. Also, don't forget to bring a hat or cap to protect yourself from the sun and repellent to avoid insect bites.

Join us on this unforgettable adventure through the history and culture of Mompox!

## Mompox Culinary Workshop: Discover the Flavors of the Colonial Era

Discover the culinary richness of Mompox with our interactive workshops! Immerse yourself in the mix of cultures that occurred during the colonial era and learn to make delicious dishes with ancestral preparation techniques that have been preserved to this day.

For three hours, we will teach you how to make authentic delicacies such as Queso de Capa, El Kasabe, Dulce de Limón, Almojábana, and Vino de Corozo. Get ready to delight in the flavors and knowledge of this unique region!

Don't forget to wear comfortable clothes and tennis shoes to fully enjoy the experience. We also recommend bringing sunscreen, a hat or cap, and mosquito repellent to protect yourself from the sun and mosquitoes.

**La Gloria Hotel Mompox - Standard Room:** Lodging at La Gloria hotel in Standard room with breakfast included.



*Included: water, excursion, permanent Spanish-speaking guide, lodging, breakfast, bilingual guide*

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## Day 10: Mompox - San Basilio de Palenque - Cartagena

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**Transfer from Mompox to Cartagena. Approximate length: 6 hours:** At the appointed time, our representative will meet you for the transfer from Mompox to Cartagena. The approximate length of this service point to point, is 6 hours.

**Tour to San Basilio de Palenque:** A corner of Africa in America! Benkos Bioho, a runaway slave who, accompanied by 36 other male and female slaves, hid in the area found what is now known as San Basilio de Palenque, the first slavery-free town in Colombia. Their palenquera language and traditions and rituals remained intact since they had no connection with the main road and the city and remained isolated until the seventies when the famous boxer "Kid Pambelé" placed this settlement on the map and brought with him access roads to the village.

Located an hour and a half's drive from Cartagena by road, this African corner, declared by UNESCO as intangible cultural heritage of humanity, offers to visitors a window on Afro-descendant history in Colombia and America.

A guide and private vehicle will pick you up at your hotel and take you comfortably to San Basilio de Palenque, where a local guide will receive us and we will learn a little of the Palenquero dialect, history and culture of this great town. Through craft arts such as the work of the Spinners, who with their strong



movement prepare the corn to feed their families, and the beautiful art of weaving through the hands of artisans who tell their stories through their handicraft we get even closer to the culture. After exploring the village and its surroundings we will enjoy a delicious typical lunch in the palenquera way.

Important information:

1. In Palenque it could be warmer than in Cartagena: Wear an adequate amount of sunscreen, such as hats and sunscreen during the tour.
2. Carry and drink an adequate amount of water.
3. Ask permission before taking photos of the locals.

**Hotel Bantu - Superior Room:** Lodging at Bantú hotel in Superior room with breakfast included.

*Included: private transportation, lunch, excursion, bilingual guide, local guide, lodging, breakfast*

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## Day 11: Cartagena

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**Cartagena's City tour by bike:** We offer a guided city tour by bicycle through the historical center (the walled city), Getsemaní and Manga.

The tour starts in the historical center: We will ride by all the main attractions and landmarks and we will stop several times in order to take photos and listen to our guide's stories about Cartagena.

The tour goes on to Getsemaní, the neighborhood where Florentino Ariza lived. He's the main character in the worldwide known novel *Love in the time of Cholera* that is written by Colombian Nobel Prize winner Gabriel García Márquez.

Then, we will go across the Roman Bridge, towards Manga. We will pass the beautiful Villa Roman. We will then visit the cemetery of Manga, the oldest cemetery in Cartagena. We continue along the seafront to finish our tour in the city center.

Subject to change. The itinerary of this tour can vary depending on the condition of the participants.

Our guide will pick you up if your hotel is located in the Historic Center or Getsemaní.

**A Culinary Journey through Cartagena's Historic Center: Discovering Local Street Snacks:** Bring your appetites and an adventurous attitude. We hit the streets to experience food the way Cartageneros do. Whether you are searching a stopover snack or something more substantial, a healthy start or a sweet dessert, Cartagena's streets provide everything! One of the very best ways to gain an insight into the daily lives and culture of the locals is to experience their culinary culture.

The 2 hour tour will get you up close and personal with the real Cartagena as the street sellers fill our bellies with their delicacies and warm our hearts with their hospitality

Now some examples to stimulate your appetite:

- Exotic tropical fruits like lulo, granadilla, nispero, papaya and guayabana
- Fried arepas, papas rellenas, empanadas, caribañolas
- Bollo de mazorca





- Agua de coco
- Raspao
- Cocadas, arequipe and enyucado
- and much more!

**Hotel Bantu - Superior Room:** Lodging at Bantú hotel in Superior room with breakfast included.

*Included: equipment rental, excursion, bilingual guide, local guide, snack, lodging, breakfast*

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## Day 12:Cartagena

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**Transfer out from selected hotel to Cartagena airport**

*Included: transfer out*

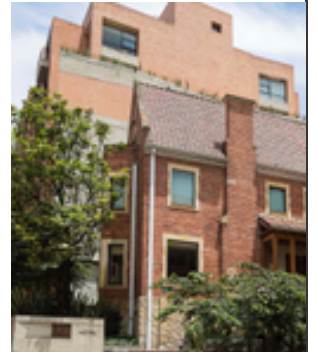
# Hotels

## Hotel BH La Quinta

Cra. 5a # 54-42, Bogota

<http://www.bhbicentenario.com/default-es.html>

Bogotá



## Hotel Akawanka Lodge

Vereda El Tablón, San Agustin

<http://hotelakawankalodge.com/>

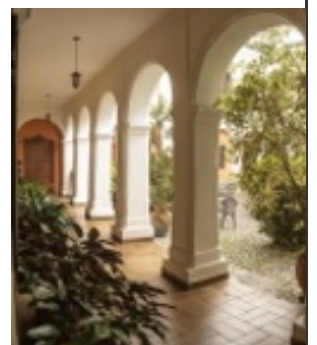
San Agustín

## Hotel La Plazuela

Calle 5 # 8-13, Centro Historico, Popayan

<http://hotellaplazuela.com.co/>

Popayán



## Hotel Villa Maria Tayrona

Tayrona National Park

Troncal del Caribe Km 34, Parque Tayrona, Santa Marta

<http://kalihotels.com/villa-maria-tayrona/>

## Hotel La Gloria

Mompox

Cra. 3 #14-137, Mompox

<http://bespokecolombia.com/es/hotel-la-gloria/>



# Hotel Bantú by Faranda

Cartagena

Calle de La Tablada, 7 - 62, Centro Historico, Cartagena

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

## Included

Domestic flights as mentioned, private transfers airport/hotel/airport, bilingual guides (English-speaking / other languages such German, French and Italian are available subject to availability in each destination / price can slightly change too), entrance fees to the sites described, accommodation with breakfast in the hotels listed or similar category, meals as indicated in the itinerary.

## Not included

International flights, meals and expenses not specified, tips, travel insurance.

## Useful links

- [Consult here our Terms & Conditions](#)
- [Our Comfort & Difficulty levels Guide](#)
- [Download here our Travel Guide to Colombia & Our Code of Conduct for Travelers](#)
- [COVID-19 Biosafety Protocol](#)

## Legal

Rates and availability of services are subject to change without notice.

Chaska Tours SAS, abides by Law 679 of the Congress of the Republic by publishing in its products and tourist information, the provisions that are given to prevent and combat exploitation, pornography and sexual tourism with minors. According to these provisions, everyone must prevent, avoid and

denounce the exploitation, storage, use, publication, distribution of images, texts, documents, audiovisual files, use of global information networks or any other telematic link related to pornography or allusive to the sexuality of minors. Failure to comply with these regulations may result in criminal liability and/or administrative action.

Colombian law applies. Please refer to our Terms and Conditions form.

Chaska Tours S.A.S. is subject to the liability regime of Law 300 of 1996, Decree 53 of 2001, Law 1101 of 2006, Decree 2438 of 2010, and other regulations, where its quality of intermediary as a Travel Agency is indicated.

Chaska Tours S.A.S. is committed to Sustainable Tourism in compliance with Law 17 of 1981 and Law 1333 of 2009 whose purpose is to prevent illegal trafficking of species of flora and fauna, as well as the laws Law 63 of 1986, Law 1185 of 2008 on Illegal Trafficking of Cultural Property, Law 2811 of 1973 on the National Code of Renewable Natural Resources and environmental protection, Law 0584 of 2002 where wild species that are endangered in the national territory are declared and Law 379 of 1997 General Law of Culture that respectfully manages information on the different attractions and activities related to the cultural and natural heritage of the country.

#### Seasons

Prices are valid for the specified travel dates. In case no travel dates are specified, prices are valid for the low season of the current year.

Low season: travel start date between 1 February and 30 November, excluding Easter week (Semana Santa in Colombia), 1 July to 1 September and local holiday dates which may vary at each destination.

For travel dates in high season, please consult us for prices and availability of services before booking.

On COVID-related travel requirements/restrictions:

Please check the entry/departure restrictions and requirements between your home country and Colombia prior to your trip. We recommend this site which provides up-to-date information on these: <http://apply.joinsherpa.com/travel-restrictions>

By booking with Chaska Tours Colombia, you are agreeing to the regulations and practices set out in our Biosafety Protocol regarding the prevention of the spread of the COVID-19 virus. Your medical data will be treated only for the purpose allowed and required by Colombian law, which is to monitor possible infections during the provision of our services. If you have any questions about how your data will be treated or about the hygiene and social distancing practices that you should observe during your trip with us, please contact your Chaska Tours representative.

Please check the entry/departure restrictions and requirements between your home country and Colombia prior to your trip. We recommend this site which provides up-to-date information on these: <http://apply.joinsherpa.com/travel-restrictions>

If you inform us well in advance, we will be happy to assist you in any way we can regarding laboratory information, test transfers and similar services in Colombia, but we cannot be held responsible in case you have not verified the information regarding entry/exit requirements in your country, if you do not receive your test results on time and/or if you cannot board your return flight because you do not meet these requirements. Please note that test results usually take up to 24 hours, even longer when the test falls on Sundays or holidays, and some laboratories only receive payment in cash in Colombian pesos.

#### Acceptance

By accepting this quotation and making the corresponding payment/deposit for the reservation of the services described herein, the passenger/client declares to know and abide by the Terms and Conditions of Chaska Tours and declares to know and accept the Code of Conduct for Travelers of the company.

Chaska Tours

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*Viajar lo cambia todo*

