

# Comfortable Hiking Holidays

Hike an adventure. Rest in Comfort.

## Trip Itinerary: Colombia Holiday

September 10 to 23, 2024

Only 5 spots left!

### Day 1

#### WELCOME TO BOGOTA, COLOMBIA

Upon arrival in Colombia, you will have time to rest, freshen up and explore a little on your own. Later, we shall regroup and do a walking tour ending at a delightful little restaurant for dinner together.

### Day 2

#### LAGUNA GUATAVITA & CATEDRAL DE SAL

This morning, we visit Laguna Guatavita, a sacred site to the Muisca people, who cast elaborate gold offerings into its depths, inspiring the legend of El Dorado and several ill-fated attempts to drain the lake. (Moderate, 2.5km)

After lunch, we transfer to Zipaquirá to visit the Salt Cathedral, a mammoth underground church and one of Colombia's greatest architectural achievements. (Moderate, 2.0km)

### Day 3

#### LA CHORRERA

La Chorrera is the highest waterfall in all of Colombia and the 6th highest in South America, cascading down 590m! The hike starts off as a leisurely walk and then gets a bit more challenging as we near the spectacle of La Chorrera! Afterwards, we will do a stunning little circular hike around another waterfall, El Chiflón. (Moderate-challenging, 8km)

### Day 4

#### COFFEE REGION

We will take an early morning flight from Bogota to Armenia in the coffee region, the heart and soul of Colombia's highly respected and deep-rooted coffee culture. We shall visit a local coffee plantations to learn about the process of cultivation and preparation of this world renowned product, and will do a guided coffee tasting.

Afterwards, we transfer to Salento.

### Day 5

#### COCORA VALLEY

Any trip to Colombia must, must, MUST include a hike through the striking Cocora Valley, where you will see the palma de cera (wax palm), the largest palm in the world & Colombia's national tree. (Moderate-challenging, 12km)

### Day 6

#### PENAS BLANCAS

Outside the town of La Virginia, we will meet Javier. Javier is so passionate about reforestation that he planted 39,000 trees over the last 20 years and plans on planting 10,000 more. Luckily for us, he has opened his land to hikers. (Moderate-challenging, 9km)

### Day 7

#### FLY TO SANTA MARTA

Today is essentially a travel day. We will fly from the coffee region to the Caribbean Coast, arriving in Santa Marta in the mid-afternoon.

### Day 8

#### FOOTHILLS OF SIERRA NEVADA & MARINKA WATERFALL

The Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta is the world's highest coastal mountain range. Today's hike meanders through the foothills, down to the spectacular Cascada de Marinka where a dip is definitely in order! (Moderate, 12km)

## Day 9

### TAYRONA NATIONAL PARK

Tayrona NP is a magical slice of Colombia's Caribbean coast, and was voted one of the world's most beautiful destinations by Conde Nast Traveler Magazine. We shall hike from the park entrance all the way to Cabo San Juan del Guila where we will have plenty of time for both lunch and a swim before heading back. (Moderate, 13km)

## Day 10

### KOGUI TAYKU INDIGENOUS VILLAGE

Today, we have the opportunity to visit with the Kogui, one of Colombia's indigenous tribes. In order to preserve their traditional way of life, this tribe does not often interact with the modern world. This means we have to hike to get there & back, but what a truly unique, cultural experience! (Moderate-challenging, 8km)

## Day 11

### TRANSFER TO CARTAGENA

We will be driving from Santa Marta to Cartagena. Once we arrive in Cartagena, we shall go for a guided tour of the historical heart of the city. Often described as Colombia's "jewel", Cartagena is a living, breathing and pulsating museum.

## Day 12

### LA BOQUILLA & THE NATIONAL AVIARY OF COLOMBIA

La Boquilla is a tiny but thriving fishing community where traditional fishing techniques are still being used. Fishermen weave their canoes through a twisted maze of narrow waterways and mangrove tunnels. This will be quite the experience for us too!

After lunch, we shall visit the National Aviary of Colombia. Colombia boasts the world's most remarkable bird diversity, with more than 1900 species, and the National Aviary reflects this with an essential cross-section of this diversity.

## Day 13

### LEISURE DAY IN CARTAGENA

We have left this day for you to enjoy at your leisure. There is plenty to do on your own in Cartagena plus the shopping is great too.

## Day 14

### HASTA LUEGO COLOMBIA