



MEJDI TOURS

Inside Colombia: A Multi-Narrative Exploration

(Scheduled Departure)

Dates & Pricing:

January 9-18, 2026 (\$4,100 per person, + \$820 single room supplement)
Extension Tour: January 18 - 20, 2026 (\$890 per person, +\$210 single sup.)

July 27-Aug 5, 2026 (\$4,235 per person, + \$850 single room supplement)
Extension Tour: August 5 - 7, 2026 (\$980 per person, +\$225 single sup.)

January 8-17, 2027 (\$4,435 per person, + \$890 single room supplement)
Extension Tour: January 17 - 19, 2027 (\$980 per person, +\$225 single sup.)

Included:

- 10 nights' accommodation at the following hotels or similar
 - 4 nights at The Artisan D.C. Hotel, Bogota
 - 2 nights at Faranda Hotel, Medellin
 - 3 nights at Armeria Real, Cartagena

1 MEJDI-Trained Expert for 10 days

1 Local guide for 9 days

10 days of private bus transportation including private airport arrival and departure transfers

2 Domestic flights - Bogotá-Medellin & Medellin-Cartagena

Meals listed in the itinerary: 9 breakfasts, 5 lunches, 3 dinners

Entrances, sites, and honorariums for speakers

Water on the bus throughout the tour

US-based and local customer service representatives

Not

included:

- International airfare
- Travel insurance- highly recommended
- Single Supplement
- Meals not mentioned in the itinerary
- Drinks at included meals
- Custom Gratuities for guides, drivers and hotel staff
- Anything not explicitly mentioned in the included section



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Overview

Explore the many facets of Colombia at a turning point, emerging from a troubled past into a vibrant present and promising future. Admire the nation's diverse natural beauty, learn of its turbulent history and ongoing transformation, and immerse in a vibrant local culture. Move across stunning landscapes from the mountains to coffee haciendas, mangroves, tropical islands and cobblestone colonial alleyways. Meet local community leaders, connect to neighborhood projects, and celebrate the sustainability initiatives contributing to Colombia's growth.

Itinerary

Day 1: Arrival - Bogotá, Colombia

Arrive in Bogota and transfer to your hotel. Gather this evening for a group welcome and orientation.

Hotel: The Artisan D.C. Hotel, Bogota (N/A)

Day 2: Zipaquirá Salt Cathedral

Tour the majestic underground formations of the Zipaquirá Salt Cathedral and explore the surrounding town. At 180 meters below the surface, move through the largest salt-rock deposit on earth and consider the significance of this Catholic symbol of the local community. After an afternoon at leisure, enjoy a dinner experience fusing Colombia's culinary heritage with contemporary flavors. The famed Chicheria Demente restaurant reimagines traditional Colombia dishes by incorporating fresh, locally sourced ingredients with innovative cooking techniques.

Hotel: The Artisan D.C. Hotel, Bogota (Breakfast and Dinner included)

Day 3: Bogotá Peace Process

Begin the day on a gastronomic Tejiendo Paz, a "Weaving Peace" tour exploring the stories of Colombia's conflict and its peace process. Dialogue with peace leaders, change makers, artists and chefs, who inspire with authentic accounts of personal and communal resilience. After lunch, visit the Banco de la República Gold Museum, which houses one of the most important collections of pre-Hispanic metallurgy in the world.

Hotel: The Artisan D.C. Hotel, Bogota (breakfast and lunch included)



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Day 4: Local Life in Bogotá

Encounter Colombia's mega-diversity through its exotic fruits at Palo Quemao, one of the most amazing farmer's markets on earth. Continue on a Breaking Borders tour, engaging in dialogue with ex-gang members on how they transformed their neighborhood from one of the most dangerous to one of the safest in Bogotá. Wind down with a dynamic music workshop, where a leading pianist, composer and percussionist guide you through Colombia's rich cultural heritage through rhythm and harmony.

Hotel: The Artisan D.C. Hotel, Bogota (breakfast, fruit tour and snacks included)

Day 5: Colombian Countryside and Coffee Experience

Make your way into the countryside beyond Bogotá to La Palma y El Tucán, a coffee farm nestled amongst steep mountains and dense forests. Learn about their commitment to fair trade and eco-farming as well as the local coffee-growing community. Take a guided coffee tour with a local barista, and learn the origins of the most expensive coffee in the country! Enjoy lunch against a backdrop of sweeping mountain views before returning to Bogotá for dinner and an evening at leisure.

Hotel: The Artisan D.C. Hotel, Bogota (breakfast and lunch included)

Day 6: Medellin Comuna

Transfer to the airport for a group flight to Medellín. On your way into town, visit Comuna 13, a neighborhood known now for its graffiti art, murals, and local development initiatives.

Hotel: Faranda, Medellin (breakfast included)

Day 7: Medellin, Pablo Who?

Hear multiple perspectives on how Medellín endured through a dark period when the cocaine boom impacted local politics, conflict, social norms and even fashion. Understand how narco-trafficking defined the community, and trace the remarkable social transformation that made Colombia internationally known. Immerse yourself in the lush beauty of Jardín Botánico de Medellín, a green oasis showcasing Colombia's rich biodiversity and tropical forests of native plant species. Enjoy a thoughtfully curated lunch at In Situ, the garden's renowned restaurant, where fresh, locally inspired flavors complement serene surroundings. After an afternoon at leisure, enjoy a group dinner experience at the intersection of food, health, and the environment.

Hotel: Faranda, Medellin (breakfast, lunch and dinner included)



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Day 8: Cartagena Flavors

Transfer to the airport and fly to Cartagena in the morning. Upon arrival, experience the warm embrace of Cartagena's hospitality - a captivating blend of culinary artistry, vibrant music, and historic allure. After lunch, head to the charming Getsemani neighborhood for a unique rum and chocolate tasting experience showcasing the flavors of celebrated local industries dating back to the 16th century.

Hotel: Armeria Real, Cartagena (breakfast, lunch and rum tasting included)

Day 9: Waterways

Take a canoe trip through the lagoons of a remote fishing village just beyond Cartagena in Ciénaga de la Virgen, a lesser-known gem for bird-watching and rich culture. Hear first-hand stories from local fishermen while slowly navigating the intricate natural channels formed by the mangrove forest. Wonder at this exuberant biodiversity over lunch, then join an ancestral drum workshop and jam at La Boquilla beach. Enjoy an evening at leisure.

Hotel: Armeria Real, Cartagena (breakfast and lunch included)

Day 10: Walled City Tales

Hear awe-inspiring stories of pirate attacks and heroic feats, delving deeper into Cartagena's rich history on an extended city tour. Visit the Palace of the Inquisition, an iconic site revealing the city's colonial past through artifacts dating to the Spanish Inquisition. See an impressive clock tower and stop in the cathedral at La Plaza de Bolívar in the heart of Cartagena's historic core. Stroll colorful streets, grand plazas, and architectural gems, enjoying an afternoon at leisure to discover hidden corners of the UNESCO-recognized Old Town. Return to the hotel and prepare for a group farewell dinner at Mar y Zielo.

Hotel: Armeria Real, Cartagena (breakfast, dinner included)

Day 11: Departure

After breakfast, check out of your hotel and head to the airport for departing flights.

Overnight: N/A (breakfast included)



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Optional Extension (Minimum of 2 Travelers)

Las Islas

Included:

2 nights at **Hotel Las Islas Barú** (Treetop Bungalow) or similar (double occupancy)
Private land transfers to/from Cartagena port
Shared roundtrip speedboat transport
Use of hotel facilities (pool, gym, private beach, towels, beach beds)
Meals listed in the itinerary: 2 breakfasts
US-based customer service representatives

Not included:

International airfare
Travel insurance-highly recommended
Port taxes (~\$6 USD / COP \$25,000 – cash only)
Single Occupancy Supplement
Meals not mentioned in the itinerary
Optional excursions (snorkeling, spa treatments, massage, etc.)
Gratuities
Anything not explicitly mentioned in the included section



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Itinerary

Day 1: Cartagena to Rosario Islands

Private transfer from your hotel in Cartagena to the boat dock to board a shared **speedboat**¹ for a scenic **1-2 hour ride** to the **Rosario or San Bernardo archipelago**.

Upon arrival at **Hotel Las Islas**, you'll be welcomed and guided through a short orientation.

The remainder of the afternoon is yours to settle in and begin exploring the island at your own pace.

Hotel: Las Islas Barú

Day 2: Full Day at Leisure

Today is free for rest, exploration, and self-care. Take advantage of the resort's pristine beach and wellness offerings, or opt to paddle through mangrove forests and observe local marine life. Sample traditional coastal cuisine featuring fresh seafood, coconut rice, and Colombian sweets.

Whether you choose an afternoon massage, a guided nature walk, or time to journal in the shade, this day is designed to recharge and reflect after a powerful cultural journey through Colombia.

Hotel: Las Islas Barú (breakfast included)

Day 3: Return to Cartagena

Enjoy one final breakfast at Hotel Las Islas before boarding your shared boat back to Cartagena.

Upon arrival at the pier, you'll be met by private transfer and taken to your hotel or the airport, depending on your departure plans.

(breakfast included)

¹ Please note a port tax of COP \$25,000 (~\$6 USD) is required in cash at boarding.